

PHONETIC PIONEER.

Mr. Andrews wishes to know if the *Magazine and Reporter* are yet published, and their price.—The former is still published, at 75 cents per annum, but the latter was discontinued two years since.

Mr. HENRY SCHROEDER, of Portsmouth, writes: "I am happy to inform you that the Phonetic Reform is taking quite a hold in this place. I have already experienced enough to prove the value of personal effort. I am fully convinced, that the subject lies only to be properly brought before the public to gain for it that attention which it deserves. I have used what little influence I have among my friends, and have enlisted a few in the good cause. I have generally found that the feature which takes the deepest hold is its adaptability for rapid correspondence. The very idea of having a superior method of communicating with our friends seems to spur them up and enlist them in this great reform. Its benefit to us depends, in a great measure upon the speed with which the reform spreads; for the more it comes into general use, the more opportunity will we have of using it. I enclose \$8 for which I wish you to send me, post-paid, twelve sets of the *Manual and Copy-book*."

DANIEL HOLBROOK, Esq., one of the leading citizens of Charleston, S. C., who has practiced Stenography for many years, has recently become acquainted with Phonography, and in sending \$30 to Benn Pitman for a complete set of his publications, in the best style of binding, writes:—"There are few things in which I have taken more interest than in this (the phonographic) system of chirography. I would have given much to have known it years ago. I consider it, for the literary and intellectual man, as great and useful an invention as the discoveries made in the application of steam have been to the laborer and the artisan."

HENRY S. OLVER, of Mich., in writing to the Phonographic Magazine, says that his belief is that the time is not far distant when Phonography will be taught in all the schools of Michigan.—The Superintendent of Public Instruction, he says, is favorable to the reform.

THE CANADIAN PHONETIC PIONEER.—This neatly printed monthly paper has often appeared before us, and as often have we negligently omitted to notice it. It is published by Mr. Wm. H. Orr, of Oshawa, O. W., and is devoted to furthering the cause of Phonography. For the purpose also of disseminating so important a reform, the publisher is prepared to sell the "Manual of Phonography" and the "Phonographic Copy Book," sent by mail free to any part of the Province, for the small sum of \$1. Mr. Orr is an indefatigable worker in the art, and judging from the number of testimonials published in the Provincial press, his skill as an instructor of the system, ranks high. The "Manual" is guaranteed to learn Phonography to any one who can learn, so that the student with moderate application, will be able to pen the words of a speaker in a few months.—Address Wm. H. Orr, Oshawa, O. W.—*St. Catharines Post*.

Gold Pen and Holder Lost.

Some time in January, last we folded up a Gold Pen and Holder to send to a person at Draken-son's Landing, but instead of putting the right address upon it we put that of some other correspondent, whose name was familiar to us. The package was taken to the post office before we discovered the mistake, and we have not since been able to recollect to what address it was sent. Upon discovering the mistake, we sent another to the person who had ordered the pen. It is quite probable that the party to whom, by mistake, we sent the first Pen and Holder, is a reader of the *Pioneer*. If so, he will ascertain, from this notice, to whom the stray article belongs, and if he does not wish to purchase it, he will oblige by returning it, by mail, at our expense.

THE NEW PHRASE-BOOK.—At last we have this long-expected work on hand and ready for sale. We must confess ourselves extremely pleased with the manner in which the Phrase-Book is got up. Its plan is different from that of the Reporter's Companion. Instead of the engraving and the print occupying the leaves alternately, the engraving is all by itself, in the first part of the book, and the key also by itself. This is a great saving of cost to the publisher, in the binding department, and hence we have the Phrase-Book well bound in cloth for the same price that the Companion is furnished in paper. It contains 159 columns of engraved Phraseographs, besides several engraved introductory pages, containing directions for practice, etc., and 53 pages of Phraseograms—being a key to the Phraseographs. In the latter portion of the book, also, there is a quantity of double and cross ruled writing paper, for practising Phraseography upon. Phraseography is the most beautiful and attractive part of the whole system. Perhaps some of our readers, who are only just commencing the study of the Phonographic art, do not fully understand the meaning of Phraseography. Our definition of the word is:—the writing of phrases. "Phraseogram" signifies the phrase itself, when written or printed. A phrase, everybody knows, is a collection of words—a part of a sentence. We will illustrate by giving a few of the Phraseograms contained in the new Phrase-Book—each of which, in Phonography, are written without lifting the pen or pencil from the paper:—"And when there is not sufficient," "Because there is nothing more," "From their own confession," "I have every reason to think you will not have their," "Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ," "Many circumstances are mentioned," "Of such is the kingdom of God," "Peculiar circumstances of the case," "There is another point of view," "With which it may nevertheless," "With respect to the manner in which it is," &c., &c.

A thorough knowledge of Phraseography increases the reporter's speed about one quarter, and greatly reduces the arduousness of his task, when a rapid speaker is encountered. We send the Phrase-Book, bound in cloth, postage free, for \$1.

About Postage.

We must again remark, for the information of a few, that all letters addressed to this office, must come to hand postage free, to receive the required attention. Our expenses for postage are very great, and increasingly so, and if letters continue to come to hand, as they have been doing of late, without the postage being paid, we shall have to decline taking them out of the office. In that case they will immediately be sent to the Dead Letter Office by the postmaster, and in the course of time go back to the sender. We do not wish to go to that extreme, however, if we can conveniently avoid it. Our efforts to spread a knowledge of Phonography throughout the British Provinces are put forth at a heavy expense, both in time and money, and unless we look carefully after the various items, nothing but an empty cash box, instead of the partially full one with which we commenced, will be the reward of our toil.

But hold; we commenced to write about postage. Our friends "across the line" should remember that the postage on letters between the United States and Canada is ten cents per half ounce, instead of three, as they are accustomed to paying. And further, the putting on of a three cent stamp, or any amount less than ten, is only throwing it away, for we have to pay the full ten cents, if it is not fully prepaid. Our friends in Canada, too, should remember this, when writing to the United States. To California, the postage is fifteen cents per half ounce. Another thing to be remembered is that very little weight can be put into a letter without making it more than half an ounce, in which case the postage is doubled.—Fifty cents in silver may be enclosed in a light envelope, with very little paper, without increasing the weight, but anything more than that seldom passes. In case a person "across the line" should take a sheet of heavy post or foolscap, enclosed even twenty-five cents to us, and pay ten cents postage upon it, we should, in all probability, have to pay twenty cents to get the letter, because no less sum than the full amount of postage is counted as anything, when coming from the U. S., or vice versa.

Then as to Papers. Regularly issued Periodicals can be sent free of postage from the office of publication in Canada to the subscribers, but when a subscriber happens to live in the U. S., he (the subscriber) must pay one cent on every paper. Subscribers to American papers who live in Canada, have to pay one copper on each paper, and either they or the publisher must pay the American postage of one cent per ounce also. Canada is a little ahead of the U. S., in newspaper postage, though behind on letters. All transient papers sent by mail in Canada, whether to places in Canada or the U. S., must bear a half-penny stamp, otherwise the postmaster throws them into his waste basket without further ceremony.