

THE CANADIAN PHONETIC PIONEER,

A bi-Monthly Journal, Devoted to the Spread of the Writing, Printing, and Spelling Reform.

William W. Orr,

[Had this art (Phonography) been known forty years ago, it would have saved me twenty years hard labor.—Hon. Tho's H. Benton.]

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The British American Phonetic Association.

Below we give the names of the Phonographers of Canada who have become members of the British American Phonetic Association, together with some who have not yet sent in their names as members, but who, no doubt, would have done so if they had deemed it of sufficient importance to have attended to the matter. The list embraces all the names heretofore published in the past volumes of the *Pioneer* in connection with the Association. It will be seen that we have dropped the system of classification by figures heretofore used, because to place very many of the members who are now good Phonographers, in the classes in which they reported themselves two years ago when they had just begun to study, would convey a wrong impression of their present standing. Besides, experience has proved that the classification adopted two years ago was not just the thing. Many members asked to be placed in class 2 because they feared if they were put in class 1 they might be besieged with letters from students, asking difficult questions and soliciting the correction of exercises. But we venture to say that no student of phonography in Canada has been troubled in the slightest degree with letters from fellow students, because scarcely any have been sent. Each student has his "Manual" "Hand Book" or "Companion" before him, containing all the information which he needs for the time being, and hence he does not take the trouble to apply to a neighbor for what he has in his own possession. It is very proper, however, that beginners should send exercises for correction to older students, and we hope that the publication of so large a number of names of good phonographers resident in every section of the Province, will have the effect of causing a good many of such letters to pass through the mail. We shall print an extra quantity of paper this month, so as to send a copy of the *Pioneer* containing the list of names to all new students of phonography, as well as to those who may hereafter resolve to become such, and we recommend all who receive it to write, as soon as they are able

to do so in the simplest manner, to some one or more of those phonographers whose names appear in the list with an asterisk (*) prefixed, enclosing a sheet of double ruled paper with a phonographic writing exercise written upon every alternate line, leaving the intermediate lines for corrections. We hope this piece of advice will be followed by every beginner in phonography who reads it, and if it is, there will be many more good phonographers in Canada a year hence than there will be if it is not followed. But none of our *Star* phonographers need fear of being troubled with too many exercises to correct, even if all beginners apply to some one of them for assistance. The exercises generally, as we know from experience, will be brief, and some of them will need scarcely any correcting. The expense for postage will be nil, for young students will, as a matter of course, enclose stamps for the return letter, or not feel disappointed at not getting an answer when they neglect to do so.

Finally we hope the publication of this list of names will lead to the cultivation of a closer acquaintance between the phonographers of Canada, by means of correspondence. Phonographers should write often one to another, and so keep each others' minds stirred up by way of remembrance to a lively appreciation of phonetic truth. There is scarcely anything so interesting to a phonographer as the perusal of a phonographic letter from a fellow student of the art, and nothing in phonographic dress which he will try harder to decipher, if it happens to be written in too advanced a style for him.—He will not give it up until he reads it, if he has to carry it in his pocket until he studies all the way through the Companion or Hand Book. There is also a fellow feeling between phonographers binding them together in bonds more strong than those of Odd Fellow or Mason, and the more they correspond with each other, the stronger will the bond become. It is sufficient for a phonographer to learn that a stranger whom he meets is a phonographer to call forth towards that individual a feeling of respect and love which a knowledge of no branch of study taught in even our Provincial University could awaken, and no better introduction

for a stranger to a phonographer resident in any part of the world, no matter what his position in society, need be wished for, than simply the penciling of address and business in the comparatively unknown characters of phonography.

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* Miss LOIS TABER, " " "

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