

THE NEEDLE AT THE NORTH POLE.

No one knows, and therefore no one can explain the precise reason why a magnetised needle does not point to that mysterious spot on the coast of Bothia Felix; and strange as it may seem, there was in 1831 no visible trace of anything by which that spot could be recognized not even so much as a small hillock in the immediate neighborhood, and the only means of proving that the magnetic pole had been reached was by the total inactivity of the compass at that spot, coupled with the almost vertical position of the dipping needle, says a writer in the *Cornhill Magazine* for April. On this most interesting point, the very words of Sir James Ross himself shall be given: "The amount of dip as indicated by my dipping needle was 89 degrees 50 minutes, being thus within one minute of the vertical; while the proximity at least of this pole, if not its actual existence where we stood, was further confirmed by the action, or rather by the total inaction, of the several horizontal needles then in my possession. These were suspended in the most delicate manner possible, but there was not one which showed the slightest effort to move from the position in which it was placed, a fact which even the most moderately informed of readers must now know to be one which proves that the center of attraction lies at a very small horizontal distance, if at any.

THE COMMERCIAL PHONOGRAPH.

What is known as the commercial phonograph is now used in many of the leading offices in the United States. The persons who desire to dictate their letters, essays or statements, simply place the cylinder on the drum of the machine, adjust it ready for talking, and dictate at their leisure, letters or essays. Should the dictator at any time while dictating desire to stop and think about various points, all he needs to do is to touch a little button on the machine and cease making a record. When the thought is ready to be talked to the machine, the recording is continued.

The phonograph gives this special advantage to the person who is dictating. It is a silent stenographer and is always ready to take your record—will take it exactly as you repeat it, word for word—and the only care required is that the person who is talking to the machine should give articulation. The various letters having been dictated to the machine, the dictator drops them back into the box one by one on the cylinders on which they have been placed, and then the typewriter simply takes the cylinders out in the order in which they are numbered, and copies the records with the use of the typewriter.

The special advantage to begin with is that the person who copies the letters always has time to continue his work without having to stop and take the record from the person who is dictating it. There is no question as between the dictator and the person who copies the records, for the record itself decides. Should you desire to have the record copies in long hand, it may be done in the same way. It has been

GILMORE & McCANDLESS.

The only store in the city where you can secure a first-class outfit. :- :- :- :-
CLOTHING, GENTS' FURNISHINGS,
HATS, BOOTS AND SHOES. :- :- :-

Telephone Call 563.

35 & 37 Johnson Street.

BLOUSES ! BLOUSES ! BLOUSES !
IN GREAT VARIETY AND STYLES.

Muslin Blouses.

Silk Blouses.

Print Blouses.

Challie Blouses.

Oxford Blouses.

Fauntleroy Collar and Cuffs.

Boys' Shirt Waists, white and colored.

MANCHESTER HOUSE.
88 YATES STREET.

found by using this machine that the average phonographer will copy about double the work of the average stenographer in the various offices where comparisons have been made.

Another advantage is that the clerk or proprietor may dictate the letter at his own home, and send them to the office in a box to have them copied there. Three or four different offices may each of them have a phonograph, dictate their records, and have one phonographer copy all their work and bring their letters back to them at an appointed hour. It is believed that by this arrangement, in many of the smaller places where they cannot employ a phonographer the entire time, that persons will be able to procure machines and give work for about two hours in a day, and by clubbing together, have all their letters neatly copied upon the typewriter. It will be especially desirable to have what is known as "phonograph exchanges" established in the smaller towns where there are but few offices that can afford to employ a phonographer the entire time.

The court stenographers find the commercial phonograph of special advantage to them. When their records have been taken for the day, they are able to dictate rapidly to the phonograph enough work to start two or three phonographers at once, and by late bedtime their records taken in the courts for the entire day are all ready either to put into the hands of the printer for the night, or in typewriter form for the use of the attorneys or judges for the next morning.

The Home Journal is copied every week by over 100 papers in Canada and the United States.

DELMONICO HOTEL

107 & 109 Government St.

WELL VENTILATED THROUGHOUT.

ROOMS TO RENT AT REASONABLE RATES

CHOICE WINES and LIQUORS AT THE BAR

PETRIE & JACKSON

PROPRIETORS.

S. F. McINTOSH,

ROCK BAY

Coal and Wood Yard

Telephones 470 and 512.

THE VICTORIA

HOME JOURNAL,

\$1.00 PER ANNUM.