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THE CANADIAN

ILLUSTRATED

SHORTHAND WRITER.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1880.

No. 6.

Editorial and Contributed.

EVER-CIRCULATORS.

WE have a subscriber out in Kansas who wants to know all about Ever-circulators, and as there may be others who are interested in the subject, now that the winter evenings are approaching, we shall tell how to conduct them.

A number of phonographers who write the same system, agree to contribute a letter or article regularly to a phonographic manuscript magazine. A conductor is appointed, who procures a substantial portfolio of convenient size (say that of the WRITER), and, having engaged on the front inside cover a list of the members or contributors, with their addresses, writes an article or letter, fastens it between the covers by means of an elastic string or similar contrivance, and forwards it by mail to the member whose name is next on the list. This member, on receiving the portfolio, reads the conductor's article, writes one himself, fastens it on another elastic string next to the conductor's, and then despatches the "ever-circulator" to the next member, who goes through the same form, as do all the others, until the member who foots the list returns the portfolio to the conductor again. The latter withdraws his former article and puts another in its place, (first having read the contributions of the other members and written suggestions and criticisms), and again forwards it to the second member, who in turn sends it to the third, and so on: thus the portfolio becomes an "ever-circulator."

The number of members may be large or small, according to the time they have at their disposal for reading and writing. The conductors should supply the members with paper uniform in size, and neatly ruled. A small subscription, say 50c. per year, may be charged, to cover cost of paper, portfolio and incidental expenses. Each member pays the postage in forwarding. In this country such magazines are allowed through the mails at printed matter rates; but there must be no correspondence enclosed.

There is nothing in the phonographic world which is more interesting or furnishes a more easy and pleasant method of becoming acquaint-

ed with the fraternity than ever-circulating magazines; and when the members are in earnest, and strive for profit as well as pleasure, such magazines may be made exceedingly useful to learners. They excite and encourage that enthusiasm which helps the student over the passages at which he is liable to despair, while they lead to friendships which are in many cases life-long.

The conductor of the WRITER, while on the staff of the Guelph *Mercury*, organized an ever-circulating magazine, called the *Rambling Reporter*, which now lies before him, filled with contributions from the sixteen members scattered all over Canada. The sight of the portfolio brings up happy reminiscences of the days when all the members were six years younger than they now are; but, though the magazine ceased its rounds when the enthusiastic period was past, the friendships then formed are abiding.

FACSIMILE REPORTING NOTES.

OUR FRIEND BROWNE, of New York, is very solicitous of the welfare of the WRITER, as can be seen by referring to the notice he published in his *Monthly*, commenting on this publication. Another evidence of his anxiety is to be found in the following extract from a lengthy article in which he has been tracing the origin of *facsimile* reporting notes, and the history of their development:—

And now we have a worthy rival called *The Canadian Illustrated Shorthand Writer*, in facsimile notes as made a feature. We cannot tell yet what course the editor will take before he gets done illustrating the peculiar beauties of Isaac Pitman's fonography in reporting praktis. But we do believe he will learn a lesson of which he little dreams just now. We might predict what it will be, but perhaps that would be unkind.

It was cruel of friend BROWNE to predict extinction because we "dipped into shorthand engravings" extensively; but this latest extract makes us feel worse, because it doesn't predict. Here we are, going on smoothly, fearless of danger, never dreaming of the awful fate which he believes will soon overtake us, and yet he won't "predict what it will be." Oh, come, now,

friend BROWNE, do "predikt"! It is unkind for you thus to keep us in ignorance.

Happy thought—we must ask friend BROWNE for a specimen page of his reporting notes, so as to show the world a *facsimile* of them. This will be something original in the history of phonographic literature; it will mollify friend BROWNE; and—best of all by half—it will settle beyond all debate the vexed question as to the usefulness of shorthand specimen notes, by giving the phonographer "a standard by which to measure his own progress." If we can secure a specimen of friend BROWNE's actual reporting notes, we will be well repaid for the anguish his critical coolness has caused us to suffer; for no one is—or ought to be—more competent than the editor of the *Monthly*—the Genius of Phonographic Unity—to write a specimen that will be unique and truly original. We might venture to predikt the result of our request to friend BROWNE—but perhaps that would be unkind, so we will reserve comments meantime.

EASIER EXAMPLES.

BY ALDERMAN TAYLOR, TORONTO.



WHILE it is desirable that a shorthand writers' journal should interest its professional readers, yet I am of the opinion that the first object should be to harmonize and bind together the unity of the rising generation in the mystic brotherhood. They want counsel and encouragement until they get past the "sticking point." The man whose life's labor is reporting, can scarcely consider it a relaxation to decipher specimens of the briefest reporting style in any system. As it is in commercial life, so it is in this—he doesn't care to talk (or read) "shop" out of business hours—hence I commend more examples of corresponding style in your interesting magazine,—something that can be read by three fourths of your subscribers instead of one fourth. In sympathy with this idea, how would it do to invite questions pertaining to the art from learners of moderate proficiency—question and answer to be in an easy corresponding style? We all remember the plan adopted years ago by beginners, of starting a text, as it were, in phonography, mailing it to a shorthand writer, who would add his views, mail to another, and so on until a bulky manuscript of phonographic matter returned to the original sender, after having proved profitable reading to the round of correspondents. And here let me say to beginners that facility in writing is always ahead of facility in reading. The telegraphic pupil can learn to despatch messages in a week, but it takes months and years to become proficient in writing from a sounder. So it is in phonography. You want twice as much practice in reading as in writing. If you are an enthusiastic student you will be mentally writing every hour of the day—at the dinner table, in church, or in passing rapidly beneath the shadows of business blocks in your everyday employment.

The very chit-chat of the most trivial conversation is taking form on the invisible tablet of your mind. So it becomes necessary that you should read everything phonographic that you write, and an abundance that somebody else writes.

Though somewhat of a digression, allow me to say that there is ample room for all the competent reporters that can graduate in this country for some time to come. Commercial houses are only waking up to the value of the shorthand clerk, to whom the principal can dictate answers to his morning mail in a few moments, and devote his own time to the more important and less mechanical affairs of his business. A knowledge of shorthand will command a material increase in salary as well as the sustained confidence of the principals.

The most melancholy Canadian now admits the promising future of his country—its small towns become large ones, and large towns grow into cities. This means business development, and thus the way is clear for the incoming crop of full fledged reporters. For this class of office reporting it is not necessary to attain a speed of over a hundred words a minute—grammatical and phrases peculiar to the business, supplying the difference. Yet a position of this kind should only stimulate the pupil (for he is a pupil to his grave) to increase his speed and acquaintance with the art, which has been happily described as beautifully useful and usefully beautiful.

TO PHONOGRAPHIC STUDENTS.



SHORT time ago I noticed an article in the SHORTHAND WRITER taken from "Hill's Manual" stating that no person could become proficient in shorthand unless his whole time and attention was given to it; that is, no person who follows another business would ever make a good phonographer. Now, it struck me at the time that many a young man just beginning the study of shorthand and struggling through the hooks and circles Charles Dickens found so hard, would be discouraged, and perhaps give up in despair on reading the above mentioned article. Perhaps a short sketch of my experience in the "noble art" will be of some benefit to my brother learners. About a year ago, a friend and I began to study Isaac Pitman's system of shorthand. We had to work from ten to twelve hours per day. Our work was very laborious, yet we stuck to it, and went through the "Teacher," then the "Manual," and are now busy at the "Companion." We studied at night after work, some nights getting two hours, sometimes one, and often not being able for two or three nights together to do anything at it, yet we can now read anything written in Pitman's style, and write about fifty words per minute. We expect after a while to take down a speech *verbatim*. Of course I know that one will learn it (or anything else) far quicker by giving all the time to it, but to say that no one will make a good

phonographer and attend to another business at the same time, is, in my humble opinion, far from being correct. Thousands of young men who are studying shorthand at the present time are compelled to labor for their daily bread, and they need all the assistance and encouragement they can get. In connection with this subject I would like to say a few words about your SHORTHAND WRITER. In my opinion it is as near perfection as a work of the kind can be. It benefits the student in many ways. Reading is as necessary as writing, if not more so, for by it the student will get a true idea of the formation of various words and besides be able to read his own notes with greater ease. Your journal also brings the student in contact with shorthand writers, of whose very existence he would remain forever in ignorance were it not for it. Its cosmopolitan character ensures that I would not be without it for twice the amount of the subscription. My earnest wish is that it long may flourish, and be the means of spreading more and more the grandest study in the world, namely—

PHONOGRAPHY.

THE REQUIREMENTS OF A REPORTER.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* asks that journal a number of questions relating to reporters, and the following answer is given:—As there seems to be something many men out of the whirl of a newspaper office do not understand, we give space to this knowledge-seeker's letter. A reporter's duties are so numerous and varied that only the most careful and constant reader of a daily journal can appreciate the many-sided characters of the service. Here is a paper with the hasty history of the day. We find politics, city and country affairs, military matters, religious conventions, government news, social events, criminal notes, interviews, articles on special topics, court proceedings, market reports, marine intelligence, sporting news, such as base ball, cricket, races both running and trotting, archery contests, pedestrianism, sprinkled in with commencement exercises, railroad subjects, together with the almost endless record of the day; the musical and dramatic criticisms, the great range of correspondence, and so on *ad infinitum*. Nothing is said and nothing can be given of the way this news is obtained, the short time to prepare long and important articles for the columns of the paper for the next morning; nothing of the reporter as a detective, critic, judge of evidence, or of his discrimination as to the value of news. These things come to the newspaper man only after prayer and fasting—sometimes a great deal of the latter. If any young man, with journalism in his eye, thinks that he could cut any sort of figure beside other men who are "up" in these several branches, why, he has probably a better opinion of himself than a city editor would have after a month's trial.

We won't add a word as to the hours of work: A reporter's work is done when it is finished;

in other words it is never done. To-morrow is the same as to-day; it may be late to night, and early in the morning. His work is on public exhibition every day. It is compared with the work of accomplished journalists at every edition of his paper. When the reporter writes, his paper speaks. He is unknown. His personality is hidden. With all other work the laborer receives the credit. With a reporter, the paper he represents is the gainer, and of course to a certain extent he is, too. But the work is the wheel, moving round and round until the tire comes off, or the hub weakens, or the spokes break, or the axle gives way; then a new wheel is at hand to take its place. Reporters are gentlemen of intelligence, good social position, well read, hard working, inventive, shrewd, of unusual culture, and yet are generally indifferently well paid. On the monetary side, the profession is not attractive. It is not an easy matter to secure employment without experience in the many duties it entails. Our correspondent will see what breadth of reading and study the work demands. The subjects written upon in a daily paper are the only answers to his inquiry under that head.

FONETIKS.

MR. W. H. GRAHAM, of Los Angeles, California, is an enthusiastic advocate of Spelling Reform. He sends us an elaborate table exhibiting his system, and energetically adds:—

Let us all assist in the work of reforming the old t^hm^{wa}isting h^woperj^{aw}d konfounded roten roman arbitrarⁱ abominashn.

The f^hv old vowels, i e a o u, shud be uzd most frekwentli in thar most komon short soundz, in akordans with the wel none prinsip^l ov alfabetik filosofi, hwich represent: the simplest form ov the vowel az a short sound, and the shaded or hevier form ov the same az the koresponding long sound.

The Fonetik Armi iz growing stronger everi day. The t^hm haz kum hwen each popular Periodikal wil profit b^x introducing intu it a small speling reform department.

The people ar now in advans ov the paperz, k^onsekwentli an argument in favor ov speling reform, hwen printed in the old speling, wil hav but litl praktikl baring. It iz the duti ov all ov our r^hterz for the paperz to assist in the work ov improving the English Orthografi, but no wun haz a moral r^ht tu uze it az it iz.

No wun haz a r^ht tu uze S for Z, y for short i, ed for f, ph for f. C for k s or sh, c s t^oe o i s e si ti ch chs sc sch sci &c. for the komon sound ov sh; ch for k, x for both ks and gz, qu for kw, wh for hw, pn or kn for n, uze dubel leterz for elementeri soundz, or praktis uth^r such lyk infernal desepshn upon the m^hndz ov inosent children.

Let us konshienshusli consider the r^ht koars tu persue in theze materz and then enter upon our dutiz akordingli.

STENOGRAPHIC MATTERS IN FRANCE.

MR. W. George Waring, Sr., in an interesting letter to us, furnishes the following information on shorthand matters in France, which we take the liberty of publishing:—

The June number of *L'Unité Sténographique*, (*système Prevost Delaunay*), says that M. Cateau successfully won, over seventy competitors, a place as shorthand reporter in the House of Deputies, making them all writers of that system in the Chambers, besides those who use the old Prevost method. Some have been promoted to the position of revisers. These have a salary of 7,000 francs—the actual reporters have \$3,000. They work in corps of twelve to fifteen, so that each one's turn at writing only lasts about five to ten minutes. In the *Times* office, London, a similar relay method is used for reporting important speeches. Each writer on being relieved steps to an adjoining room and reads his notes to a compositor in the *Times* office, who sets up the words by means of a type-setting machine. In a very short time after the close of the speech, a printed proof is in the speaker's hands for revision, if he desires to examine it before the final printing off.

Ever-circulators have just been introduced into France for the first time. The best account of them that I have seen has been given lately in a French paper, by M. Boutillier, under whose conductorship the *Courier Sténographique* has been launched as a manuscript circulator. There are nine co-writers, and they write under four

heads. 'Informations,' 'Questions Sténographiques,' 'Mélanges,' 'Concertations.' Each writes at least one page or up to three in one or several of these departments. A second section of the circulator is being arranged for the working of the first having given much satisfaction.

The circulation of these manuscript magazines, so useful to the student who cannot attend school has been obstructed in the United States by the rulings of the officials, who have had 'phonographic paper' on their lists of 'third class matter,' in imitation of a copy of English regulations, but who have persisted in refusing to let phonographic paper go as third class rates. Lately they have become more liberal to the poor home student, and they allow exercises to mutual comment or correction—although in script—short or long—to pass at third class rates, if the heading is printed, and the matter has the appearance and character of a periodical.

I should have mentioned, in connection with reporting in the French Chambers, that it is made imperative that the candidates be 'Bachelors of Science.' This is a degree not easily attained, and excludes many who, as writers, are more skillful than any 'bachelors' that can be found.

There is much said and done towards the desired end of preserving the actual 'first entry' notes of all debates, and also towards deciding on some one system which all shorthand writers must at least be able to read, and will be expected to use. This feeling extends to Germany, where the adherents of the old and new 'Stolze' methods (used at Berlin) are about fusing, seeing that in union there is strength.

Phonographic Gossip.

CANADA.

MR. FRANK YEIGH has issued a second edition of his Canadian Phrase Book.

MR. G. F. TAYLOR, of Chatham, has been appointed reporter for the Kent County Court.

MESSRS. HORTON & MACLEAN'S lively little sheet, the *Evening World*, has reached a regular circulation of 5,000 copies daily, though only about five weeks old.

THE *Printers' Miscellany* has a kindly reference to the visit in St. John of the conductor of the WRITER. The friendly expressions are heartily reciprocated.

MR. W. L. FAIRBAIN, of Brockville, is preparing an article for the WRITER, entitled "Reporting in the British Parliament Sixty Years Ago." It will be looked for with interest.

THE young man who can write 145 words a minute, shorthand, called on us this morning. And he is still rising.—*Evening World*. If he will call at the office of THE WRITER we will give him a lift.

A LADY recently advertised in the Toronto *Globe* for an engagement, stating as a recommendation in her favor that she was an accomplished shorthand writer. Can't some young man accommodate her? Such an appeal should not be made in vain.

MR. J. W. MICHIE, formerly in the service of the Northern Railway Company here, has joined the exodus and removed to Chicago, where

he has accepted a position on the Illinois Central Railway. Mr. M. is an enthusiastic student of shorthand, and bids fair to make an excellent writer.

MR. T. J. BELL has resigned his position as city editor of the *Hamilton Spectator*, and has assumed the proprietorship of the *Dundas Standard*. On leaving Hamilton he was presented by his friends with twenty-four volumes of Scott's novels and Shakespeare's complete works.

MR. ARTHUR L. JAMES, formerly in the Dominion Bank in this city, and an accomplished Man-on-writer, has accepted a position in the Allan Steamship office, Boston, as shorthand writer, at a good salary. Mr. James has been a devoted student of phonography, and has acquired a good rate of speed in a comparatively short time.

THE Ontario Government staff of shorthand writers comprises L. V. Percival, Secretary to the Hon. S. C. Wood; Frank Yeigh, to the Hon. A. S. Hardy; William O'Neil, to the Hon. O. Mowat; M. Wilson, to the Hon. C. F. Fraser; H. Hayes to J. W. Langmuir, and T. W. Gibson, who has been recently appointed as the Hon. T. B. Pardee's Secretary.

MR. JOHN F. HENNINGER, an enterprising reporter attached to the St. John *Daily Telegraph* staff, has got out a very full and correct report of the trial in the "Brothers' Pride" ship-scuttling case. The report makes a pamphlet of 200 pages. It is illustrated with portraits of

Chief Justice Allen and of all the counsel concerned in the cause, as well as of Capt. Tower and Mr. Thomas. The report is a valuable record. The more important parts of it are official, or semi-official.

MR. T. WM. BELL, the conductor of the Phonographic Department of the *Printers' Miscellany*, is an ardent Grahamite, but not nearly so wicked a youth as his frequent caustic remarks about Mr. D. L. Scott Browne, of New York, would imply. He has an innate love of mischief, but is one of the most genial companions. In his recent trip to the Maritime Provinces, the writer was received with the utmost cordiality, and Mr. Bell expressed his great pleasure at seeing a "live phonographer"—which phrase may have been intended as a compliment to the visitor, but more probably was suggested by the fact that Mr. Bell's phonographic friends are unseen ones, with whom he keeps up connection through the medium of written signs.

THE *Printers' Miscellany*, referring to the appointment of a Committee of the Barristers' Society on the subject of shorthand reporting in the Courts of New Brunswick, says:—"We understand that the special object for which the Committee was appointed was to ascertain the mode of shorthand reporting in use in the United States and Upper Canada, and to report what was, in their opinion, the best system to adopt in this Province. The Committee consist of Messrs. George G. Gilbert, A. A. Stockton, and S. R. Thompson, all gentlemen standing high in the estimation both of the profession and of the general public, and all, moreover, fully impressed with the great advantages in the administration of justice which the introduction of shorthand reporting in the law courts would confer. They have been making enquiries in various parts of the States and Provinces, and there is no doubt but that when the proper time comes they will be prepared to present to the Society a feasible scheme for the performance of the work. It would only remain, then, to make arrangements for the carrying out of the scheme, and as the Government have, we understand, the necessary authority, and as there are now in this city a sufficient number of competent shorthand writers, we do not see why there should be any delay, and why the system should not be introduced at the next sitting of the Supreme Court in this city. Once let the experiment be tried and we have no doubt the result will be such as to preclude any thought of a return to the old system. We hope, therefore to see shorthand writers at work in our Supreme Court at the November sitting."

UNITED STATES.

MR. T. J. TILLEY, Court reporter in Topeka, Kansas, has been seriously ill.

MR. W. S. JORDON has been touring in the wilds of New Mexico and sublime Colorado. He reports that he had a glorious time.

MR. E. T. HALL, Stenographer in W. F. White's office, G. P. A., A. T. & S. F., Topeka, has returned from an extended tour through the East.

THE official reporter of the Courts of Wasington County, Ohio, is a woman. This is the first case of a lady's being appointed to such an office in the States.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK'S shorthand secretary is seriously ill, caused by being blood poisoned through a package received by mail, which was intended to injure Mr. Comstock.

BROWNE'S *Phonographic Monthly*, for August, gives a sketch and portrait of the late Henry P. Comegys, the circumstances of whose suicide have been published in the WRITER.

MR. S. M. GOODENHISE, late of the office of the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Co., St. Louis, is now with his Topeka brethren as Stenographer in Mr. J. F. Godard's office, G. F. Agent of A. T. & S. F. Railway.

DR. J. M. COMEGYS, of St. Albans, Vermont, the father of Harry Comegys, who committed suicide in Topeka, Kansas, has been in the city with the object of meeting his deceased son's friends and associates. A grouped photograph was to be taken of the Topeka Stenographic fraternity, for Mr. Comegys.

ONE of the Kansas Stenographic boys went out to Arizona a short time ago, and during the progress of a certain murder trial he was shot through both arms by a Mexican to prevent him from taking testimony. It is unnecessary to say he made tracks for home. This our informant emphatically avers, is a *positive fact*.

The sermon reporter hinks himself particularly fortunate if he can obtain the manuscript of a discourse after it has been delivered. It saves a deal of hard work—Sabbath-breaking, it might be called—in following the speaker closely for an hour to get a column of condensed matter. One of the most enterprising of such reporters, to lighten his task, recently called on the Rev. Mr. Milburn to secure the manuscript of the sermon which was to be preached during the day. The request was so ridiculous that the great blind preacher laughed heartily.

THE *Chicago Tribune* says: "William F. Herman, for many years past with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, leaves that road to-day to accept the position of private secretary to George H. Daniels, General Ticket Agent of the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railroad at St. Louis. Mr. Herman is an accomplished shorthand writer and a young man of integrity and ability. Mr. Daniels may congratulate himself on having been able to secure the services of so efficient a private secretary." To which the *Hamilton (Ont.) Times* adds:—"The subject of this complimentary notice is a son of William Herman, of Hamilton, and his many friends here will be delighted to hear of his promotion. At one time Mr. Herman was in the service of the G. W. R. Company here."

A CORRESPONDENT from Cincinnati, who visited the Decorative Art Rooms in that city, says: "Among other articles of *virtu* was a dainty little *tele-u-tele* set by Miss Agnes Pitman. I did not see Miss Pitman, but was introduced to her father, who is known as a shorthand man and author of a manual on that distracting pastime, phonography, but now better designated as the Professor of Wood-Carving in the School of Design, and as the one who had his wife cremated. He is an elegant gentleman, small, dark-eyed, and snowy-haired; dresses faultlessly, converses well, and has an eye that takes in every turn and curve of beauty. He lives, with his only daughter, in a pleasant home in the suburbs, and the pair are devoted to Art and Art-work."

FOREIGN.

The *Reporter's Magazine* has appeared in London, Eng. It is edited by E. J. Nankivell, F. R. H. S.

The *Yorkshire Phonographer* has suspended after issuing four numbers, owing to the ill-health of the editor, Mr. J. Rhodes.

Prof. Dr. F. W. ZEIBIG, of Dresden, Germany, has sent us a file of the *Correspondenzblatt* of the Royal Stenographic Institute for 1880. It is printed in German, and consists of reviews of the various new schemes of Stenography that are ever coming to the front, and the general conclusion is that none of them is equal to Gabelsberger's—the orthodox.

At a recent Land League meeting held near Dublin some Government reporters were detected on the platform. A number of men leaped upon the structure, seized the unfortunate quill-drivers and threw them to the ground. A riot ensued, during which several shots were fired, but no one was hurt. At length, the constabulary formed a ring around the reporters with fixed bayonets, while they continued taking notes.

THE PHONOGRAPH.

THE EXPERIENCE OF MR. WM. W. OSGOODBY, AS RELATED AT THE N. Y. STENOGRAPHERS' ASSOCIATION.

It is well known that this invention of Mr. Edison was heralded with many prophecies of its usefulness, and not the least of its benefits to mankind was that of putting Stenography among the lost arts; and should that prove true, the dire result would be that all Stenographers would be forced to seek some *honest* means of livelihood. Upon enquiry, I learned that it was intended that on the first day of October the company controlling the patent should put upon the market the immense number of seventy thousand machines, and every man was to be his own reporter. The prospect

was discouraging to the last degree, but remembering that the first blow is half the battle, I determined to purchase and become familiar with the wonderful instrument and its use in the court-room, hoping that when the day should come in which we should be compelled to lay down our pens, I might be able to secure a monopoly of the new business in my district. After an immense wear and tear of my patience, to say nothing of the many expensive experiments and contrivances which became necessary, I not only became satisfied that there was no substantial reason for our apprehensions, but I had the pleasure of discovering an entirely new application of the machine, and one which had rendered me independent of further labor in the Stenographic profession. For the purpose of relieving you from any future fear in regard to the threatened danger, I now proceed to make you acquainted with the result of my experiments. In regard to the important discovery which I have made, I trust that for the present you will consider whatever I may say as strictly confidential.

After an extended correspondence with the inventor, and considerable impatience on my part, I at last received the instrument, and at once set myself to work to learn its peculiarities and use. It would be a needless waste of your time to detail the many little annoyances which arose at this stage of my experience; it is sufficient for me to say that after a careful examination of the thing, and a patient perusal of the instructions sent with it by Mr. Edison, I thought I might venture with it into court. I did so, and, arranging the machine for work, I waited in breathless anxiety for the commencement of proceedings which should test its usefulness in actual reporting. The trial began, and the clockwork of the machine was started, and I sat back in my chair confident that I had at last discovered an easy way of doing hard work. Within six or eight minutes, however, I saw that the tin-foil on my cylinder was full—a difficulty I had never once thought of providing against. Here was an insuperable obstacle to my hopes for that day, and the only thing I could do was to chuck the thing under the table and resume my pen.

The next morning saw me again at the machine, provided with an abundance of foil sufficient, I thought, to last through the entire session—though I must confess that I began to feel dubious at the prospect. In a few moments it was necessary to ask the Judge to suspend until I had a new layer of foil in place on the cylinder. This done, I again started up, and it seemed that but a moment passed before I was again under the necessity of stopping the proceedings for the same purpose. This was too much, and again the instrument was put away, and I took up my pen, resolved to at once abandon the attempt as impracticable.

But I kept up a thinking. It seemed to me that there ought to be some way to make the thing work, and at last I solved the problem, as I imagined, and I ordered from the inventor a

cylinder long enough to run four hours without changing. The first cylinder, which was twelve inches long and five in diameter, could not be relied upon for more than eight minutes' work; and to run through a session of three or four hours the cylinder must be correspondingly enlarged. By consulting Mr. DABOLL I found that three hours' work would require a length of not less than twenty-three and a half feet. To provide against a longer session I had my cylinder made thirty feet long, running it out of the window near the witness-stand, and providing ropes from the roof with which to sustain its weight. With this arrangement, which, as you will readily perceive, had its drawbacks, I was not perfectly satisfied, but you can scarcely imagine the pride with which I watched its operation, or the high anticipations I entertained of its future usefulness to me. As a test I started it before the term of court at which I expected to first use it, and employed CHARLEY PALMER, who is a good reader, to read the new code for the instrument to "take down," while I watched its operation. The trial was successful in the highest degree, and CHARLEY declared that, if it would stand that, it ought to be able to stand anything.

I ought to mention in this connection that I at once filed a caveat in the Patent Office, broadly covering the use of a cylinder more than a foot in length; or one run out of a window and sustained by guy-ropes or their equivalent.

But this arrangement in reality proved far from satisfactory. It required great care in the adjustment of the foil on the cylinder, and I found that clockwork was not equal to the business. To supply power, I purchased a small steam-engine, and had much difficulty in getting the consent of the authorities to use it; and when consent was at last obtained, I found more difficulty still in the operation of the machinery. It was especially hard to be obliged to pay an engineer out of my own pocket for running the engine. However, I still entertained hopes that in time I should find that my labor had not been altogether in vain, but that I should make it a success and thus be delivered from the drudgery of stenography. Indeed, at the first session of court, where I tried the new arrangement, everything was lovely, and for two weeks everyone was congratulating me on the success of my undertaking. At last, however, there came a change. In the midst of the very last trial in the term, the counsel got into one of those periodical disputes on which I ought to have calculated, and I was called upon to read my notes. I was in a quandary. No man, could ever, by any amount of practice, become able to read at sight the microscopic shades of depth in the continuous line traced upon the foil. Nothing could be done but to turn back the cylinder to the commencement of the trial, and let the machine repeat what it had taken, until the portion of the evidence in question was reached. I tried to hurry it, by putting on more speed, but as soon as that was attempted the voice was trans-

formed into a series of most unearthly screeches. I let it run at the same speed as at first, and sat back waiting for the counsel to tell when the spouted point was reached, for I had become so confused that I had entirely forgotten it. And now came another cause of confusion. While every question and answer had been taken down with the utmost accuracy, every imaginable sound besides seemed to have got into the thing—sounds which had been scarcely noticed during the progress of the trial were reproduced with the most alarming distinctness; and the ears of the court were regaled with the barking of a dog, the crying of a child, the quarreling of the attorneys, and coughing, sneezing, stamping, slamming doors and rumbling of wheels over the pavement outside, and an infinite variety of other sounds. The uproar of laughter which followed this exhibition of the perfection of reporting was sufficient to destroy everything like the dignity of the Court or the decent gravity which should characterize judicial proceedings. I must say, I had never before realized as I then did how necessary a quality in a judge is patience. Lawyers, of course, are not expected to have any,—or, if expected to have any, they *don't*; and the lawyers in that particular case, I am sure will never forgive me for the ridiculous reproduction of the spicy remarks with which they had interspersed the proceedings.

This experience, as you may well imagine, closed my use of the phonograph in Court. But my troubles were not ended; transcripts were ordered in nearly every case tried at that term. I set my copyists at work on them, but it was at once discovered that the machine could not be made to talk at less speed than it was run at when the proceedings were taken. The consequence was, of course, that I was compelled to sit for two mortal weeks reporting in shorthand the trials which I had before so proudly reported with the phonograph.

There is little use in commenting upon these experiments; and the very thought of my disappointment puts me in a frame of mind entirely unsuited to the task. The use of the instrument was abandoned, and it was put out of sight.

I now pass to the recital of more pleasant experiences. After some little time had passed, I again got out my small phonograph, thinking I had struck upon a new and important improvement upon it. After considerable study, and before fully deciding whether my changes in it would be a success, I heard the clock strike the hour of midnight, and I retired to dream over the subject, leaving the instrument upon the table in my library. Early in the morning I again set it running, and was treated to a most marvellous sight. As the cylinder slowly moved along, to my utmost astonishment a number of kittens crawled out of the funnel! Upon investigating the matter, I found that during the night a cat had entered by an open window and attempted to make a lodging place in the funnel, her movements jarring the

machine, and setting the clockwork in motion and the result was a lit er of kittens was stereotyped upon the foil! Before I had recovered from my surprise, the cylinder had run through its length and the table and floor were covered with them. I had the annua removed, and again started the machine, and again it poured out kittens. Every time I repeated the operation, the result was the same. Here was a discovery—not only of a new and improved method of stocking a city with cats, but I saw at once that if they could be stereotyped and produced *ad libitum*, other and more valuable things might be. Of course my wife was called in to see the wonderful sight, and as she was in the height of the annual canning and preserving business, she suggested that we pour a quart of strawberries into the funnel. This was done, and I awaited the result. It was successful! The instrument was turned and run until every dish in the house was filled. Then I sent out and bought up all the berry-boxes that could be found, and by offering the berries at a somewhat lower price than was charged by farmers. I found a ready market for all I could turn out. Here was a for une; and I continued to supply dealers until the farmers were driven from the market, and until long after the natural crop had been exhausted. At last, everybody seemed to have been berried to their heart's content, and it became necessary to "turn" the machine to other uses. All the small fruits were furnished in their turn, in the same manner, and not only did I supply my own city, but several other cities easy of access were also flooded with the products of my wonderful discovery. The profits were immense. In all the banks of the city I deposited the fruits of my business, to the utmost limit allowed by their charters, and stocks and bonds of every description were purchased, until at last I became greatly troubled to find not merely places for the profitable investment of my accumulations, but even to keep it in safety. To give you an idea of the extent of my profits, I will state that the magnificent brown stone front in which I reside was paid for entirely from the proceeds of the strawberries.

Another use to which the machine was put, I perhaps ought to mention, though the value of it consists more in its convenience than in its being pecuniarily profitable—though it has merit also on that score. After various experiments, which need not be stated in detail, my wife succeeded in using the phonograph in preparing various dishes for the table. To this the ingredients to be used were compounded carefully, and poured into the funnel, and generally with excellent results, though she met with some failure. It was discovered that anything poured into the machine, which caused a vibration of the diaphragm, could be readily transferred to the cylinder, and wherever such articles were used the experiment was successful. It will be perceived that in this manner we have been able, with but little labor and at trifling expense, to abundantly supply our table

with a great variety of luxuries; and we have the further advantage of having them at all seasons of the year and at a moment's notice.

But by far the most important use of this invention remains to be told,—and this was also discovered by accident. The machine had been put aside for a time, and when I again attempted to use it, I discovered that one of my children had been using the funnel as a receptacle for her small change, and, of course, I found the coins transferred to the cylinder! I do not know why the idea had not before suggested itself to me, but I at once took advantage of it, and now I am able at will to produce money from the foil, in any desired quantity. Of course, I have abandoned all other use for it, and having an unfailling source of supply for all earthly needs, I have no idea of ever again resuming the reportorial pen. I trust, however, that the Association will not deem it necessary to drop my name from its list of members, as I shall always feel the most lively interest in all that concerns the profession with which I have been so long connected.

MR. BRADLEY'S SHORTHAND SYSTEM.

In reply to enquiries, Mr. G. B. Bradley, Chief Official Reporter, House of Commons, writes the following:—

"DEAR BENGOUGH:—The system of shorthand I write is one adapted by myself based on that published by my father many years ago. Its characteristics are simplicity and freedom from the distinction drawn by other systems between thick and thin lines, hooks, &c. It would, indeed, be impossible for a slovenly longhand writer like myself to use effectively such a system as that of Graham.

"In my humble judgment a perfect, or anything like a perfect, shorthand system hasn't yet been published. I purpose at some future date giving to the world a system which shall have no thick or thin distinctions, and by which a whole sentence can be legibly written without taking the pen or pencil from the paper and yet have each word distinctly indicated, which is not the case with phrases united by the Graham or other systems, of which I have some knowledge."

AMONG THE MAGAZINES AND BOOKS.

The Phonograph, a weekly shorthand magazine, published by M. Hurst, Sheffield, Eng., contains some very interesting reading, the article, "My Shorthand Experience," being particularly well written.

We have received a copy of the *Canadian Phrase Book*, from its compiler, Mr. Frank Yeigh. It contains nearly five hundred very useful and practical phrases and word-signs for the use of law and general reporters. They are adapted to Isaac Pitman's System. The price of the book is twenty cents, which may be obtained from Mr. Yeigh, Box 2499, Toronto.



PHONOGRAPHY, THE HANDMAID OF THE PRESS AND THE BAR.

THE PHONOGRAPH.

Written in Munson's Phonography by A. Jaidine.

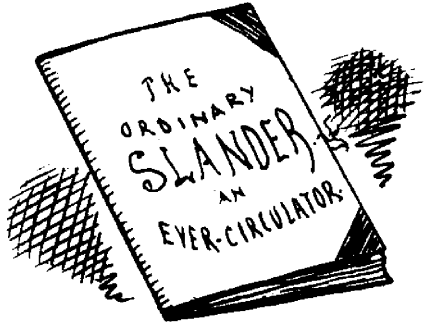
Handwritten phonographic symbols in the left column, consisting of various loops, curves, and straight lines.

Handwritten phonographic symbols in the right column, continuing the sequence of symbols from the left column.

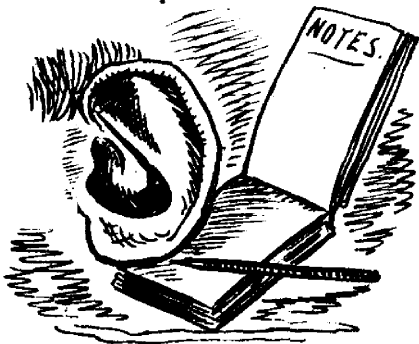
THE PHONOGRAPH (Continued).
By A. Jardine.

A dense column of shorthand symbols, including various strokes, loops, and dots, representing a continuous stream of phonetic notation.

A second column of shorthand symbols, similar in style to the first, but with some distinct differences in stroke formation and spacing.



AN EVER-CIRCULATOR TO BE DISCOURAGED!



SOME "REQUIREMENTS" OF A REPORTER.

EVER-CIRCULATORS.

Written in Benn Pitman's System by T. W. Gilson.

The first column of shorthand text contains approximately 25 lines of cursive shorthand characters, representing a continuous passage of text written in the Ever-Circulators system.

The second column of shorthand text contains approximately 25 lines of cursive shorthand characters, representing another passage of text written in the Ever-Circulators system.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A REPORTER.

Written in Isaac Pitman's System by Frank Veigh.

The left column of the page is filled with dense, handwritten shorthand symbols in Isaac Pitman's system. The symbols are arranged in approximately 25 horizontal lines, each containing a variety of characters including straight lines, curves, dots, and crosses, representing a continuous stream of text.

The right column of the page is also filled with dense, handwritten shorthand symbols in Isaac Pitman's system. The symbols are arranged in approximately 25 horizontal lines, similar to the left column, showing a continuous stream of text.



TO PHONOGRAPHIC STUDENTS.

Written in Isaac Pitman's System, by Frank Veigh.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

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SHORTHAND IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.