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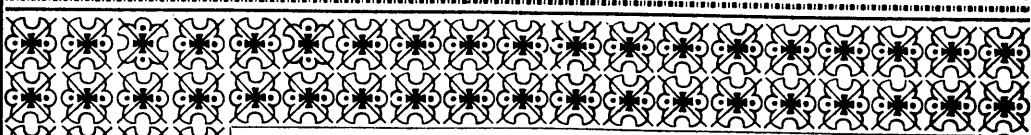
NOV.-DEC., 1894.

No. 7.

THE

Canadian Shorthand Review

AN
ILLUSTRATED
MONTHLY
MAGAZINE



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THOMAS MCGILlicuddy.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

THOS. MCGILLICUDDY, private secretary to the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Toronto, was born in Ireland about thirty-eight years ago, at the foot of a mountain range which bears his name. He came to this country with his parents when but a year old, and at the age of fourteen entered a printing office and learned the business. At the early age of eighteen he joined his brother in starting a country newspaper, in the village of Brussels, where they remained for seven years. The brothers then sold out and purchased the *Goderich Signal*, the leading paper of the county, and there, in 1883, Mr. McGillicuddy started to learn shorthand. A full report of one of Justin McCarthy's lectures brought out favorable notice from the country press, and soon the *Signal* became noted for extended reports of sermons and political addresses. In the spring of 1887 Mr. McGillicuddy was appointed by the Ontario Government to the position which he now holds, and removed to Toronto. He took an active interest in the proceedings of the old Canadian Shorthand Society, (being elected President in 1889) and has been a contributor to leading shorthand journals. We hope to publish something from his pen at an early date. It was Mr. McGillicuddy who, at a shorthand convention, held in Toronto in August, 1885, first proposed the Phonographic Jubilee. He is a writer of Isaac Pitman's system, but delights to see and hear all styles of shorthand writing discussed. His other hobbies are Sunday-school work and temperance. Of late years he has become widely known as a popular lecturer, his talk on "The Small Boy," winning most flattering press notices from all parts of the Province. This lecture has already been delivered more than a dozen times in Toronto, which goes to show that Mr. McGillicuddy has certainly "caught on" in his new field.

THE RESULT OF OVER-PRESSURE.

THE recent death of Lafayette B. Young, of Toronto, brought from *The Mail* the following editorial comment on the subject of the duties of the official stenographer:

"By the death of Mr. L. B. Young, one of the official court stenographers, the attention of the public and of the legal profession has been directed to the importance of shorthand

work in the law courts and to the pressure under which it is conducted. Mr. Young was an admirable note taker, and there can be little doubt that the constant strain of his duties so weakened his constitution as to render his battle with disease when it overtook him altogether vain. Of the value of stenography in the courts there can be now no question. In the old days legal proceedings were long drawn out and sometimes with no very satisfactory result, owing to the difficulty experienced in recounting testimony and in presenting it a second or third time for the consideration of the tribunals to which appeals are taken. Now trials are conducted with speed, which is a matter of considerable moment to the litigants, for the expenditure is thus materially reduced. Furthermore, when for any purpose the evidence, the arguments, or the judgments are required, all the records are reproduced with such accuracy as to facilitate and render more satisfactory than otherwise could be the case, the ultimate decision. Stenography, in a word, is a part and parcel of the legal procedure. It is essential, and cannot now be dispensed with. It is as necessary in criminal as in civil cases, for while in the latter it aids justice in its work, it is required in the former to guide the action of the authorities in respect to the carrying out of the sentences that have been pronounced. The weight attached to testimony as taken down and transcribed by the stenographer casts great responsibility upon the note taker. An error in the evidence, and a very slight one at that, may affect the result of the trial. It may involve serious injustice to litigants or it may have calamitous consequences upon freedom and even upon life. An inefficient court stenographer is a positive danger. He is calculated to do far more harm than good. Efficiency, however, to be of service in the task of recording evidence, is not restricted to the science of note taking. Technicalities arise in all cases. Sometimes the technicalities are those of the engineering world; sometimes they are medical; sometimes they are legal. A stenographer must understand the evidence and all the technicalities it contains as thoroughly as does the judge or the counsel; otherwise his transcript is misleading. A wide range of general, and, indeed, scientific, knowledge is required of the expert man, in addition to his knowledge of the mysteries of his own particular art. Furthermore, in tak-

ing down evidence a great deal of care must be exercised. for the decision frequently turns upon points which the casual or non-expert attendant at the courts fails to observe. This care necessitates a very close watching of every case, and it sometimes happens that at the critical juncture the remarks of witnesses and counsel, always rapid in this country of rapidly speaking people, are anything but clear. Witnesses unaccustomed to the formation of sentences cannot always make their evidence perfectly plain, while counsel in the excitement of the moment forget to be deliberate. The trouble is especially noteworthy where two or three people, the judge, the counsel, and the witness are speaking at one time. Every word the stenographer has to take, and it is easy to understand that the speed, the confusion, and the technicalities at a time when so much depends upon a word intensify the severe nervous strain upon the reporter. And this is not by any means the entire story. The courts, more particularly outside of Toronto, sit for long hours. It is the desire of the judges and of the profession, in the interests of witnesses and litigants, to push the trials through in short order and without a break. The ever-changing series of lawyers come fresh to each case in its turn. But it is different with the solitary stenographer. He sits from nine until six and sometimes away into the night, taking down the words as they fall from the lips of judge, counsel, or witness. The strain, even for a short time, is heavy enough, but prolonged as it is for a period which in journalism would be considered unreasonable it is especially wearing to the constitution. After the assizes comes the period of transcription, when all cases to be appealed have to be transcribed from the notes for the use of the bench and the bar. Transcription is heavy work and in order to prevent delay it has to be done at tip-top speed. Thus the stenographer is up early and takes bed late in order that the demands of the courts for evidence, arguments, and charges or judgments may be satisfied in time. The responsibility, the long hours, the difficulty of note taking, the haste and labor of transcription, all combine to make the stenographic work extremely heavy and to render the duties such that many stenographers gladly avoid it. The pressure is understood by shorthand writers, who know what others cannot well appreciate, namely, that note taking equally with transcription is

not a mere mechanical operation, but on the contrary, a distinct and continuous mental as well as physical effort. That the pressure in our courts is too heavy its effect upon Mr. Young has made very clear."

THE DUTY OF THE STENOGRAPHER AS A SPEECH REPORTER.

By M. ALPHONSE DESJARDINS, of the Official Parliamentary Reportorial Corps, Ottawa, Canada.

(Continued from page 85.)

IN ANOTHER answer he went much farther—too far, as many favorable to his general view might consider. In speaking of the *Times* giving shorter reports of the speeches, he said: " * * * the members would be better served if they had their opinion given. The words are immaterial—except, perhaps, in a few cases; I beg pardon, I am thinking of such men as Canning and Plunkett: *there* it was material; their language was so beautiful.

"I suppose there are a few members in the House of Commons whose speeches you profess to report verbatim in the *Times*?—No; not verbatim, I hope; I do not think there is anyone who is reported verbatim. You see a speech done at great length, and you are not conscious of any little alteration—improvements in the language or the construction of a sentence; it should be done, and I trust it is done; that is the reporter's duty.

"What kind of reporting do you call that?—I call that full reporting; accurate reporting. Verbatim reporting the speaker would think far from accurate.

"I was simply wishing to know how you characterize the fullest reports of the speeches of any members?—A *full* report. Verbatim reporting has never been known in a newspaper.

"Literally verbatim reporting you mean?—Yes." And here it must be borne in mind that "Hansard's Parliamentary Debates" are mostly made up with the reports of the very same newspapers' report, and are considered, in England as well as elsewhere, as accurate reports as can be had; they do not bear the official stamp, but nobody thinks of denying them the same authority as if they were official, and they are quoted the world over.

In another answer, Mr. Ross explained his views by giving some reasons. He said:

"I object to parliamentary reporting now as being too full, as giving much that might

be omitted, and omitted with advantage to the speakers; I would give all the arguments of the speaker, and his opinions. You must be aware that a speaker must necessarily go on speaking; that he cannot stop; he must say the same thing not only twice, but sometimes three or four times; that does not add to the strength of the argument when you come to read it; it may impress it upon the minds of the hearers, and that is the excuse that is made for the iteration of counsel; but when you have it in print to refer to, you do not want all those repetitions.

"It is the individual reporter who, in point of fact, edits, if I may so speak, the speech which he reports?—Yes; he is responsible for that.

"Does that involve the possession of considerable education, as well as of talent, on the part of the reporter?—It does.

"But is it not the case that shorthand writing, as a mechanical art, may be learned mechanically by any person who can read and write?—Yes.

"But *reporting*, whether in shorthand or in longhand, is a totally different thing?—Quite different."

Although I shall, later on, touch that point, I may be permitted to draw attention to the fact that in the above answers Mr. Ross declares that the *editing* duty of a parliamentary reporter or shorthand writer, involves the possession of considerable education as well as of talent on his part. That is why in every county, where there is an official reporting bureau for the recording of the debates of Parliament, it has been found necessary to require a high educational qualification from those forming such a bureau.

Mr. John Lovell, a man of considerable and practical experience as manager of the Press Association for ten years, was, of course examined by the committee; and what is, according to that gentleman, a "*verbatim*" report of a speech? Here is what he said on the particular point we are now examining:—

"But is your idea of an historical record, that it is to be a *verbatim* report, or at any rate, what has been described as a *full* report?—I think it should be a *verbatim* report; I do not see any other cause.

"Leaving out the repetitions?—Yes; of course it should not be slavishly *verbatim*."

Mr. William Saunders, manager of the "Central News," and formerly proprietor of

the "Central Press," being examined, said:—

"How far would the official report that you contemplate, be in the nature of a *verbatim* report, or an edited report?—It would be a *verbatim* report, with the exception of obvious repetitions, and such matter as could be obviously omitted without detriment to the report."

Mr. William Henry Gurney-Salter, of the firm of Messrs. Gurney, shorthand writers to the British Parliament for a great many years, testified as follows as to what is, in his opinion, a *verbatim* report of a speech, and what is the duty of an intelligent shorthand writer in transcribing his notes:—

- "That it should be a *verbatim* report, you mean?—However the report might afterward be revised or abridged throughout or in particular parts, I think the basis should be a *verbatim* report, subject to the corrections of any grammatical errors, or any such slips as most speakers occasionally fall into. Sometimes a speaker adds to a sentence, by way of an afterthought, a clause which obviously should be introduced at an earlier stage;—an intelligent shorthand writer would correct that when it was copied out."

So much for the enquiry held in 1878. In 1880, the House of Lords appointed a select committee to complete the enquiry made in 1878, and amongst others, Mr. Gurney-Salter, who had appeared before the preceding committee, completed his first testimony on the particular point I have in view, by the following words, which have a great bearing on the question I now discuss. Asked if there was anything else which he would wish to add with reference to the necessary qualifications of a shorthand writing staff, he answered:—

"I think it will be evident that, considering the great importance of the subject-matter to be reported, and also the extreme importance of having an official or even a semi-official record perfectly accurate, so that the words spoken may be quoted with safety at a future time, the highest shorthand writing qualifications should be brought into the service of the report, and that for that purpose not only technical skill, that is to say, rapidity and accuracy of shorthand writing (which are qualifications by no means so common as is often supposed—very much the contrary), but also familiarity with public questions, and indeed general education, a university education if possible—should be possessed by the shorthand writer. It is evident, too, that it would

be a work of very great responsibility. A shorthand writer in such a position must be a man who will not be negligent, and who will not be induced from any cause to depart from his strict duty. There must be no inaccuracy, either by accident or design, in his report."

(To be continued.)

THE QUESTION OF INCOMPETENCY.

F. R. McLAREN.

THE Scotch had a homely old proverb which ran as follows: "It's an ill bird that fyles its ain nest." We would commend the consideration of this sage remark to that army of croakers who are continually crying "Incompetency! Incompetency!" whenever a beginner enters the ranks of the shorthand profession.

We will admit that there is an ever-increasing number of incompetents; we will admit for the sake of argument that ninety per cent. of those who enter the profession are failures. Would it not be better to let the unfortunates rest for a few weeks and say a word or two of encouragement to the lonely few, who, by patience, perseverance and invincible determination have succeeded in winning a livelihood, and at the same time giving satisfaction to their employers?

There are some men who are utterly worthless; afflicted with an hereditary, congenital attack of being "no good," which is not affected by time, place, or circumstance. You will find them on the farm, in the store, in the law office, in the pulpit; as doctors, as teachers, even, sometimes, as editors of shorthand papers. You have seen them, you have met them, you know them; but because of this should we debar a man from trying to farm, or become a merchant, or fill any of the positions by which men earn their daily bread—and sometimes a little concomitant butter—for the sole reason that others have failed at it?

While human nature is weak and human judgment fallible, just so long will men and women make mistakes in choosing an occupation by which to earn a living.

Said Burns, in his address to George III:

"But faith; I muckle doot my Sire!
You've trusted ministrations
To chaps who in a barn or byre (cowstable)
Had better filled their station."

Discussion on this point is unnecessary. The facts are self-evident; yet when we see a failure in law, medicine or theology, do we

hold the schools responsible? Do we not rather say that the failure is in spite of, and not because of, the training received? Yet, if any schools should be held responsible surely it should be those whose GRADUATES are alone allowed to practice. Nevertheless, an unthinking public, led too often by an unthinking shorthand press, denounces shorthand schools and holds them responsible for the misfits in that profession, without reasoning that a diploma is not necessary to the practice, or attempted practice, of shorthand.

Right there is the difficulty. We can lay down a thorough course of study; we can refuse to graduate a student unless a rigid examination is passed; but no power in the school or in the state can compel a student to pass that examination, and no power is, as yet, exercised to prevent those not graduates from practicing. Where, then, is the remedy? Chiefly, I assert, not in the schools (the majority of which do their duty), but in the employers of stenographic labor. And there is the reason that it is so difficult to raise the standard of efficiency. "We speak that which we do know and testify that which we have seen." It is not the graduates of our schools who bring us into disgrace, but the QUITUATES.

In spite of these discouragements shorthand teachers should aim at the highest possible degree of excellence. A teacher who fails in this duty is building unwisely for the future. From our schools must come the future office help of America, and it is safe to say that how poor soever may be their training, it will be vastly better than that of the self-taught or office-taught stenographer, in the majority of cases.

Another fact that must not be overlooked is that the judges of incompetence are often incompetent judges. Poor indeed, must be the training of that amanuensis who does not excel in English education fifty per cent. of the men into whose offices they come. An illustration of this came under my personal observation a few days ago. A young lady came to me asking which was correct, to say, "he ought to go," or "he ought *too* go;" "I am inclined to think," or "I am inclined *too* think?" I pointed out the correct expression, and she said that she had so written it for the man for whom she was working, but that he had compelled her to rewrite her letters because "too think" was the correct form! You who have had experience in office work can remember

instances equally as absurd. We boast that the schoolmaster is abroad in the land, but ignorance dies hard.

HUMOR OF THE COURT ROOM.

[Key to shorthand plates in this number. Osgoodby system.]

AT THE General Term, in the fourth department of New York. Mr. Benedict, in arguing the Weismiller case, referred to the great mass of testimony contained in the printed case, and said: "There are a great many very important questions of fact in this case. It would be impossible to make your honors understand them all; and for that reason, also, we ask that the nonsuit be set aside, and that the case be submitted to the judgment of twelve intelligent men!"

Similar to this, was the statement made by Mr. Maxson, in submitting to the jury the case of Tucker v. Ely, in the Monroe County Court, before the late Judge Morgan. He said: "The plaintiff and the defendant are both lawyers; all the witnesses who have been sworn in the case are lawyers; the counsel, of course, are lawyers:—in fact, every one in any way connected with the case is a respectable member of the bar of this county, with the single exception of His Honor on the bench!"

Justices Barker, Dwight and Adams had been in consultation upon some cases submitted to the General Term. At the close of the consultation, Judge Dwight started to leave the chambers, when Judge Adams called to him: "Judge, I think you have taken the wrong hat." "I guess not," said Judge Dwight; then removing the hat and examining it, "Why, yes, I have. It fitted me so well, that I didn't notice the difference." "I thought, by the way you two agreed on these cases, that your heads must be about the same size!" said Judge Barker, drily.

Judge Balcom, while charging a jury, noticed a man sitting just outside the bar, whose apparent interest impressed the judge so much that he elaborated considerably upon the subject for his especial benefit. After the jury had retired, the man came up to the bench and stated that he was drawn as a juror, and after apologizing for being late, said he wished to be excused from serving. "What is your excuse?" asked the judge. "I'm deaf," was the reply. "What!" exclaimed the judge; "didn't you hear my charge to the jury that

just went out?" "Yes, your honor," said the juror, "I heard it, but I couldn't make no sense out of it!" Of course, he was excused!

Judge Danforth, of the Court of Appeals, came into "The Club," a well-known literary society of Rochester, one evening, bringing a large roll of legal cap paper, which he said contained an opinion that he had written in a very interesting case recently submitted to the court, and which he proposed to read to the club. Noticing that several of the members glanced rather anxiously at the bundle, he said: "Don't be alarmed at the size of the roll; it is only written on one side." "Of course," said Mr. Bacon; "we understand that your opinions are always written on one side!"

Before Judge Danforth's elevation to the bench, he was at one time trying an important case before the late Judge Johnson, at Rochester. After a very lengthy cross-examination of an old lady, he was interrupted by the judge, with the remark, "I think you have exhausted this witness, Mr. Danforth." "Yes, judge," exclaimed she, eagerly, "I do feel very much exhausted!"

After the noon recess, at one of Judge Barker's circuits at Lockport, it was noticed that the chair of one of the jurors, who was late, was occupied by a small dog belonging to another juror. The judge came in and took his seat, and directed the trial to proceed. Mr. Laning, one of the counsel in the case, objected, and said to the court, "We have no objection, your honor, to trying our case with a Barker on the bench, but we cannot submit to having a barker on the jury!"

JANE C., wife of Mr. Thomas Allen Reed, the veteran English stenographer, and editor of the new *Phonographic Quarterly Review*, died at her residence, Grove Road, Surbiton, England, on 8th October.

THE CANADIAN SHORTHAND REVIEW is the title of a new periodical published at Toronto. The REVIEW is attractive in matter and printing, but we are surprised to learn that it is the only shorthand magazine published in Canada. That country is held up to us as being so much in advance of poor benighted Australia, that we are inclined to think we are not so very much in the rear after all.—*Australasian Stenographer*, Melbourne, Australia.

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THE REVIEW is published in the interests of shorthand, typewriting, and allied arts. The publishers are not connected in any way with any school of shorthand or typewriting machine; have no supplies of any kind for sale, and are not wedded to any particular system of phonography; therefore, all systems, all machines, all schools, and any and everyone in any way connected with the profession will be treated with like impartiality.

The columns of THE REVIEW will be open at all times to correspondents, and we shall be pleased to publish matters of interest to the profession in any branch.

TORONTO, CANADA, NOV. DEC., 1894.

APATHY OF STENOGRAPHERS.

RECOGNIZING the fact that "Every man owes a debt to his profession," as Dr. Samuel Johnson once said, the editors of several shorthand publications have arrived at the conclusion that it is high time that many members of the profession stenographic were making slight efforts to settle this long-standing account, and are printing under the above head some very pointed remarks. We take the liberty of quoting from recent articles in two of the leading American journals, and also print a letter from the pen of one of our prominent Canadian writers.

Mr. Rush, of *The National Stenographer*, Chicago, is of the opinion that teachers are to

a great extent responsible for this apathy, and closes a long article with these words:

"We know of teachers who are making it a point to induce each of their students to subscribe for one or more shorthand magazines soon after entering school. We know of many others who are just as positive in asserting that the magazines are all right, who think it time enough for students to subscribe after they have left school. They sometimes present for an argument the fact that students have no extra money to spend while in school, and cannot afford to subscribe for magazines. This is false reasoning. Our personal observation has demonstrated to us that those who are most interested in shorthand literature are the ones who become interested early in their school work or upon commencing the study. We have further found that those stenographers who have been working for years without knowing there is a magazine published could not be induced to read one, say that they have no time, and anyway that they know all there is to be known about shorthand. We have further observed that these stenographers are no further along in salary, etc., at the end of the fifth than at the end of the first year. As to the claim that students can not afford it, that is the merest nonsense. One dollar is such a small matter in comparison with the good a student may receive from a magazine that it rather should be said that he can not afford to do without it rather than he can not afford to have it."

The editor of *The Shorthand Educator*, (New York), in commenting on this same article, says: "It is our deep-seated conviction, from a quarter of a century's observation and experience, that the editor neither argues from false premises nor states fiction for fact.

Stenographers, as a rule, are undeniably apathetic regarding their professional welfare. Many causes have conspired to produce this effect; yet we believe in the ultimate eradication of these causes.

The stenographer who achieves prominence is versed in the theory, history, and literature of the beautiful art he practices. He is not bigoted. He does not claim that there is but one worthy system, from which in fundamental principles all others are essentially different. He does not consider that the *ne plus ultra* of shorthand is included in his text-book. He does not claim that his author is the embodi-

ment of perfection, and comprehends and comprises all shorthand knowledge.

Such a stenographer is, however, in the minority. The great majority are either devotees of that pernicious partizanship which has been a distinguishing characteristic of shorthand authors and writers for centuries, or they belong to the army of baneful apathists. They do not read the proceedings of international, national, state, or local associations. They do not examine other text-books to ascertain the truth or falsity of any statement made in the one from which they studied this art-science. They do not endeavor to make themselves more efficient stenographers in order to elevate the profession.

Still there are indications, though faint, of a reaction. A ray of light is penetrating this Stygian darkness. May it not prove an *ignis fatuus*, but break out into noontide glory. Earnest teachers, students, and practitioners can improve the situation, and can cause the word "stenographer" to awaken respect and to become a synonym for competency and intelligence. How? By reading magazine literature and the proceedings of societies, by organizing associations and becoming active, zealous members, by forming shorthand libraries, by critically examining various systems, by becoming stenographers not only in name but in reality. What will you do? Which will you be?"

We have also received the following letter from Mr. E. S. Williamson, Toronto, with the request that we give it space. It was written to the journal mentioned after reading the article already referred to.

"Nothing that has ever appeared in *The National Stenographer* pleased me more than the editor's article under the above caption in the August number. There is no subject on which I feel more strongly, and my own experiences perhaps justify me in saying something on the same line more directly concerning Canadian writers.

I have always loved shorthand. Had it not been so I never would have labored so hard to master the art, and were it not still the case I certainly would not continue to make pot-hooks for a living. Therefore when, a few years ago, I became agent for certain shorthand publications it was with the belief that the great majority of stenographers shared my feelings with regard to their work, and that magazines devoted to the interests of the profession would

be eagerly subscribed for by them. It is perhaps needless to say that this illusion was short-lived. Notwithstanding all effort to push the sale of the journals—by advertising in cotems., the liberal use of circulars, etc.,—it is well within the mark to say that my receipts in the way of commissions from this source have not in the aggregate exceeded my actual outlay in advertising and postage. From this it would seem that one is not likely to become a "blawsted millionaire" by taking an agency for shorthand magazines. But I make no complaint on this score. While one of course has no objection to adding a few dollars to one's income by any legitimate means, "filthy lucre" has never been my principal object in shorthand work of this missionary character. The pleasure I have always had in doing what little I could to bring about a spirit of fellowship and fraternity amongst shorthand writers, and in helping to advance the profession by aiding in the circulation of good shorthand literature, amply repays me for time devoted to agency work.

At various times I have taken up and pushed energetically, in so far as I could, different shorthand publications, in which I hoped I had found something that would appeal to my fellow scribes. My latest effort in that direction was made with the Report of the Congress of Stenographers. Personally I was delighted with the book. It seemed to me to bring within its covers in concise form such a vast amount of information and advice of value to shorthand writers in the various branches of the profession, as to be practically a necessity to all who wished to keep abreast with the progressive ideas of our ablest stenographers; and I had still sufficient confidence remaining in the shorthand fraternity to believe that individually they would be glad to give evidence of their appreciation of the enterprise of *The National Stenographer* in publishing such a volume. We now know what the result to date has been, and that the editor of this magazine is a very large amount out of pocket by reason of his faith in the profession. He is certainly warranted in giving strong expression to his feelings and raking us over the coals.

We Canadians flatter ourselves that we are progressive and well to the front in most things, but my experience has certainly been that stenographers in this country are suffering from just as severe an attack of dry-rot as our American cousins. Even the Report was

not effective in rousing up any number of scribes in this country. I mailed special circulars respecting the book, setting forth its contents in detail, to hundreds of writers in the principal cities and towns of Canada. Despite previous failures I had strong hopes that this direct appeal would bear some fruit. I am almost ashamed to tell the result. In all I received about a dozen orders, more than half of which were from personal friends in the civil service, most of whom I believe gave their subscriptions more because they wished to get rid of my solicitation than because they wanted the Report. From the great city of Montreal, with its thousands of shorthand clerks, I received *one order*; from Toronto, outside the service, two or three; and one each from London, Stratford and Hamilton. As a result of writing to the shorthand colleges throughout Canada for information which would be of service to me, I received one order, but in the majority of cases was not even favored with a reply to my letter, although stamps were enclosed for that purpose. I hope the shorthand principals of these colleges are not still dissipating upon their ill-gotten three-cent stamps, and that all their correspondents are not treated with quite the same degree of courtesy that I was. With this latest experience fresh in mind, is it any wonder I say amen, with heartiness, to the remarks of the editor?"

DETAILS.

Paper No. 3—Report of the Proceedings of the World's Congress of Stenographers, held at Chicago, 1893.

[Printed by permission of the publishers, National Stenographer Co.]

PREPARED BY
O. C. GASTON, Tabor, Iowa, U.S.

THE mole hill we tread upon is not beneath our notice. The songster that comes with the shadows, the minute but mighty mosquito, must not be disregarded and will not be so discourteously treated. The "ticks" of phonography, like the ticks of the clock, so small and fractional, still materially contribute to the duration of our existence professionally.

How some people detest details! With what scorn they maltreat them! "Why should such insignificant things so pester our lives?" say they. "Let them pass; It is enough for us to

pay attention to the generalities of life." This sentiment was once uttered in my hearing by a gentleman of apparent experience, and endorsed by his companion, evidently a man of equal qualities. It grated harshly on my sensibilities, and the thought came immediately that they were certainly not stenographers and, furthermore, never would be. The true stenographer delights in details. His work, like his life, is made up of little things. None are so lacking in importance that they can be omitted. An attempt to ignore the little things will leave an error in the transcript and a void in life.

Studious application to the minutiae in the construction of any intricate piece of mechanism is the secret of the inventor's success. It is the last grain of weight upon the pendulum that, removed or applied, gives to the grandest time-piece accuracy and consequent usefulness. It is the train despatcher's strict attention to the details of his business that enables the many human souls to whirl, in most trustful confidence, over the iron highways of the world. How quickly the sensitive ear notices with agony almost, a discordant note of music struck by the negligent touch of a would-be artist who has not been careful of the minute matters in practice and training. And have you never observed the half-finished life training of the individual whose college days were spent in the pursuit of "glittering generalities?" Did you ever see a much sadder sight than the "might-have-been" power thus thrown away?

In our profession—and a right noble one it is!—we learn well the valuable lesson of careful, scrupulous attention to details. If we do not we are not permitted, and do not deserve, an entrance. The painstaking effort of learning begets the diligent observance of like methods in all our transactions. If it does not, we have failed in our comprehension and have not appreciated our tuition.

Careful analyses gives the logician power. Judicious discrimination bestows upon the grammarian superior command of language, upon the artist the superb blending of color, and upon the physician success in the use of remedies. He is *not* a stenographer who cannot or will not strive to acquire the habit of close investigation into all things pertaining to his desired profession. He is most truly a stenographer who realizes most the value of small things as the constituent elements of the

greatest achievement. All means, properly applied, contribute to one end—success; improperly applied, all unite in producing most woeful failure. From contemplation of this truth we come to esteem knowledge as the worthy guide and advisor in matters yet to be in our experience. Success oftener comes from failure than from accomplishment, for in the failure we learn what little things we overlooked, and increased knowledge with carefulness brings subsequent reward.

"Trifles make perfection; perfection is no trifle," some one has well said. When we look upon a building massive in its proportions, magnificent and beautiful in its design and architecture, we seldom stop to consider the days, months and years spent in laborious study by the man whose educated mind conceived, whose artistic eye foresaw, and whose skillful hand wrought out the design and plan of the noble edifice; neither do we stop to contemplate the vast amount of money required to erect it, evidencing the toilsome labor for weary days by many struggling individuals. We stand in awe at the sight of the grand total; the units too often are forgotten. In this same manner we view with admiration the man of large experience and learning. Complacent, confident and consciously strong, we do not imagine that difficulties, failures or sorrows have come within his experience, though these may have been his making. We watch, with amazement almost, the man whose active brain and dextrous hand enable him to place upon the written page the words of an eloquent and rapid speaker. Stenographers, surely, ought not to observe such an accomplishment without thought of the arduous mental effort, the constant manual training, and the persevering application necessary to bring about this perfection. But do we not? We applaud the performance when we should applaud the past. The present success may be great, but how much greater and grander the work that has been the precursor of it!

"Patience and patience, we shall win at the last," says Emerson. It is not the rush and roar that makes the river, but the aggregation of silent drops that, uniting, cause the tumult and produce the force that inspires awe. So it is the slow accumulation of strength by patient training of brain and hand that brings to our best men ability, skill and power. These men are men whom "the king delighteth to honor," men of quality, character and

conscience. Envy does not touch them. They are the objects of an envy devoid of ill-will, an admiration replete with devotion. They have not been elevated to their high position by the machinations of politicians or the purchased applause of the rabble, but

"—they, while their companions slept,

Were toiling upward in the night."

Our profession is a peculiar one: Peculiar in its separateness, yet very dependent; requiring a high standard of education, but continually renewing and augmenting the mental store; bringing us into intimate contact with the minds of the low and exalted, the ignorant and cultured, the stupid and the expert, it furnishes such stimulus as can be found nowhere else; surrounding us with lowly and lawless, feeble and strong, sinners and saints, it touches the sympathies, broadens the mind, awakens the heart and ennobles the soul. "Let no man despise thee" because thou art a stenographer. His despite will turn upon him. Let him not imagine that his littleness will escape the scrutinizing eye of the stenographer, practiced to observe and to regard small things with a view to determining their real value or worthlessness!

Herein lies both our encouragement and our success: We win by patient labor, by diligent investigation and careful scrutiny, by the contemplation of the noblest from the standpoint of its humblest but prerequisite elements. As the scientist, from contemplation of atoms, comes to a more full comprehension of the Infinite One, so we can attain the highest degree of professional excellence only by devotion to DETAILS.

A LAWYER, who had been married for only a year, sent word to his wife that he had been suddenly called to Milwaukee. "I will be back to-morrow," he wrote. "Don't worry. My stenographer goes with me."

But she did worry. When he reached home that evening her eyes were red from weeping, and as soon as she saw him she broke down again. "Oh, how could you?" she sobbed.

"What's the matter?" he demanded.

"Your stenographer——" she began, and again she sobbed.

"What's the matter with him?"

"Him? Was it a man?"

"Why, yes; I fired that girl a month ago."

"Oh, dearest! I never believed it for a moment anyway."—*Chicago Record.*

OSGOODBY'S PHONETIC SHORTHAND.

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HUMOR OF THE COURT ROOM.—Key on page 98.

THE SHORTHAND SCHOOLS OF CANADA.

NO. 3—SPENCERIAN SCHOOL OF SHORTHAND,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

IN OUR Dominion there are but few schools where shorthand is the exclusive study, and where it is taught by experienced teachers who are themselves expert reporters. Montreal comes to the front with a school conducted by men who are stenograph-



R. S. WRIGHT.

ers of long experience. The Spencerian School of Shorthand, of that city, is a new claimant for public patronage. It is located in the magnificent Young Men's Christian Association building, situated on Dominion Square. The location is conveniently central, but sufficiently removed from the clatter and commotion of the business section to render quietude and comparative seclusion possible to its students without depriving them of any legitimate city advantages.

The proprietors, Messrs. R. S. Wright and J. P. McDonald, are experts in their line, and have had, until recently, control of two of the largest shorthand schools in the United States. Mr. Wright needs no further introduction than the fact that for the past three years he has been Principal of the celebrated Spencerian School of Shorthand, Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Wright's knowledge of shorthand, however, is not confined to mere theory; he is one of the few teachers who is also a practical reporter, having had an experience covering a period of ten years as teacher and reporter. While in Cleveland he was specially engaged to report the most difficult lectures delivered

at the Western Reserve Medical College—those on dermatology. For several years previous to his connection with the Cleveland school, Mr. Wright had charge of the shorthand department of the Dominion Business College, Kingston, Ont., his native city, in which city he also served his apprenticeship in reporting in the law office of Messrs. Walkem & Walkem.

The other member of the firm, Mr. J. P. McDonald, is also a Canadian, his native town being Perth, Ont. On completing the commercial and penmanship courses in the Kingston Business College, he was engaged as teacher of penmanship and bookkeeping, and remained with that institution three years. We next find him instructing the classes in bookkeeping and penmanship in Chaffee's big shorthand school, Oswego, N.Y., where, in addition to the performance of his regular work, he mastered shorthand, and was soon able to make a practical use of the art. He left Oswego to accept a position as Principal of the shorthand department of the College of Commerce, Detroit, Mich., where he remained until the spring of 1893, when he went to Louisville, Ky., to take charge of the shorthand and typewriting departments of the Spencerian College of that city. Mr. McDonald is a practical



J. P. McDONALD.

stenographer, and one of the kind who believe that every teacher of shorthand should possess a practical as well as a theoretical knowledge of the subject.

Messrs. Wright & McDonald resigned their positions in Cleveland and Louisville to go to Montreal to establish an exclusive shorthand

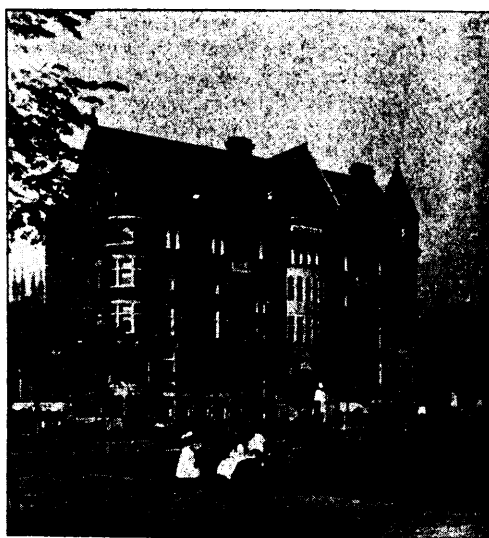
school. In August last, they purchased the Curran Phonographic Institute, which has since been known as the Spencerian School of Shorthand. Since locating in Montreal, they have succeeded in building up the largest exclusive shorthand school in that city.

Graham's Standard Phonography is taught, but by methods very different from those usually employed in shorthand schools. The joint efforts of Messrs. Wright & McDonald have resulted in the compilation of a series of easy and progressive lessons, setting forth in the simplest possible manner those principles

"BLUNDERS."

A VERY amusing paper on the above subject was read before the Indiana State Stenographers at their last annual meeting, by Mr. J. D. Strachan, of Brazil, Ind.

Opening his paper with a quotation from Holmes, Mr. Strachan proceeded: "It is altogether human to err, whether we report, print, telegraph, or whatever field we engage in. Mistakes, even of single letters, are sad things sometimes. Mr. Strachan is correct. It is so very "human to err" that in publish-



SPENCERIAN SCHOOL OF SHORTHAND.
Y. M. C. A. Building, Montreal.

which it is absolutely necessary to use. Their aim has been to make these lessons so plain and easily understood that any person who can read the English language can obtain a knowledge of the art of shorthand. That they have been successful in this respect is evident from the fact that children twelve to fourteen years of age have mastered the principles and learned to apply them to the extent of becoming competent stenographers. A general reporting business is also conducted in connection with the school. The typewriters used are the Caligraph and the Daugherty.

ing his own paper in the *National Stenographer*, the sense of the opening quotation is sadly maimed by the misprint, not of a letter, but of a whole word. This is how it appeared:

"One trivial letter ruins all, left out;
A knot can choke a felon into clay:
A knot can save him, spelt without the *k*;
The smallest word has some unguarded spot,
And danger lurks in *i* without a *dot*."

Anyone reading the verse intelligently must observe that the last line should be: "And danger lurks in *i* without a *dot*." The amusing thing is that this misprint should occur

at the beginning of a paper on "Blunders," in a verse setting forth what havoc small mistakes may cause, and that the error should be made by two shorthand magazines, *The National Stenographer*, (Chicago), and *The Southern Stenographer*, (Charleston, S.C.)

Probably Mr. Strachan will now feel that "It is altogether human to swear" as well as to err.

E. S. W.

OBITUARY.

YOUNG.—On November 15th, at his residence, 80 Brunswick Avenue, Toronto, Lafayette Benjamin Young, Official court reporter, in his 35th year.

L. B. YOUNG was born in 1859, near the city of London, Ont. His youth was spent in Western Canada. After becoming a proficient writer of the Graham system of shorthand, he came to Toronto in 1880, and engaged in stenographic work. Received his appointment as one of the official reporters about eight years ago, and was considered one of the best of the Government staff. Mr. Young was also an associate of Mr. John Agnew, barrister and solicitor; the firm did a general stenographic as well as law business. Deceased leaves a widow and two children.

THE GRAHAM MEMORIAL.

The following circular has been handed us for publication, and we not only willingly give it space but shall be glad to learn that the Graham writers throughout the Dominion are prepared to contribute to this worthy work:

OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE
OF
THE ANDREW J. GRAHAM MEMORIAL FUND,
199 MONTAGUE STREET,
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

AS YOU may be aware, the friends and followers of the late lamented Andrew J. Graham, at the suggestion of *The Phonographic World*, have undertaken the erection to his memory of a memorial that shall be in some degree commensurate with the great service he has rendered the phonographic cause. In response to requests made through that journal, a fund of about \$300 has already been contributed for this purpose by popular subscription. It was thought by supporters of the movement that the success of the fund would be best promoted under the manage-

ment of a committee of three, selected by the subscribers from their own number. Accordingly, all who had contributed were invited to vote for the persons they preferred to have serve on such committee, and the undersigned were chosen for that duty.

Realizing, as we do, the responsibility of the trust thus laid upon us, and desiring to fulfill its obligations to the satisfaction of all concerned, we ask your co-operation, influence, and personal assistance, and would be thankful for any suggestions you may make looking to carrying the undertaking to a successful completion. In our judgment, at least \$1000 is needed. Your own contribution, of any amount, would be appreciated, as would also any contributions you may secure from your friends and acquaintances.

It is our earnest hope that as large a number as possible of the thousands of stenographers throughout the country, who, as teachers and practitioners, are reaping the advantage of the beneficent labors of the distinguished author of Standard Phonography, will participate in paying to his memory the proposed richly-merited tribute.

Your response, at an early day, addressed to the Chairman, at this office, will be thankfully received.

Fraternally yours,

Committee: { T. J. ELLINWOOD, *Chairman*.
E. N. MINER.
WILLIAM ANDERSON.

WE HAVE been favored with a copy of "The Commercial Dictation Book," for stenographers and typewriters. This work is compiled by Mr. W. L. Mason, principal of the Metropolitan School of Isaac Pitman Shorthand, New York. It contains business letters, legal forms, and miscellaneous matter, counted off at various rates of speed on such a simple plan as to enable anyone to use it at sight in increasing his rate of speed in shorthand, and is a practical manual for writers of all systems. 104 pages. Fowler & Wells Co., Publishers, 27 E. 21st street, N. Y. Price 25c.

Shorthand writers and typewriter operators who have half a loaf at home in the East will do well to stick to it, instead of changing for no bread here; for there is a dreadful stagnation of work, and many smart men all over the West are hungry.—O. C. Boss, Victoria, B. C.

Review Department

SHORTHAND JOURNALS.

EACH month we purpose giving, under this caption, a synopsis of the leading features of our cotems, all over the world, distinguishing, where necessary, the system of which each is the exponent. It is hoped that this department will prove of value to our readers and enable them to keep abreast with matters stenographic both at home and abroad. Enquiries regarding any of these journals will be cheerfully answered. Communications and publications for review should be addressed to E. S. WILLIAMSON, Dept. of Crown Lands, Toronto.

AMERICAN.

The Stenographer, (Philadelphia; all systems; \$1 a year). This magazine maintains its usual high standard. Mr. John B. Carey contributes a very amusing skit to the November number, on "The F(?)utility of the Phonograph as a Stenographic Amanuensis." The following extract from "Colonel Schnell-schreiber's" address may be quoted as one of Mr. Carey's characteristic touches:

"Hope deferred had made my heart sick when I heard the magic word 'phonograph,' and its still small voice, as the voice of conscience, whispered in my ear in muffled tones, like truth which, it is said, lies at the bottom of a well." The speaker was here interrupted by a pale young man, who desired an explanation of how truth could lie at the bottom of a well, and if so, why so, and whether if it lied there or any place it were the truth. The speaker answered: "The truth hides itself for the reason that if it were found in public it would be trampled to death, so it remains in such a place because it is well." (Applause).

The Typewriting Department is ably conducted by Bates Torrey.

THE November number of *The Illustrated Phonographic World* (New York; \$1 a year) contains an excellent half-tone portrait of Miss Grace Eleanore Towndrow, also a portrait of Mr. Dudley H. Pope, mounted on his typewriter-cycle, with an interesting account of this novel invention. Mr. Pope has ridden his cycle throughout twenty-eight mimic battles, without a single hitch occurring. The typewriter is instantly detachable, rendering the cycle available for the speedy transmission of any message or order. The editor is collecting a fund for an Andrew J. Graham Memorial, to which nearly \$300 has thus far been sub-

scribed. Graham writers in Canada should lose no time in forwarding their contributions.

The National Stenographer (Chicago; \$1 a year) has in press its December number, which, it is said, will be the finest issue of a shorthand magazine published in America this year.

The Phonographic Magazine, (Cincinnati; Benn Pitman; \$1 a year). Mr. Howard expresses regret in his issue of Nov. 1, that Sir Isaac Pitman has "thrown up the sponge, and the much needed elimination of the large initial l-hooks from English phonography will not be made;" Messrs. Ernest and Alfred Pitman, with whom the decision rested, having announced that they do not propose to introduce the suggested alterations into the instruction books. Mr. Howard continues: "And so again must be defeated the hopes of those enlightened English phonographers who, like Wm. Relton and Thomas Allan Reed, have lived under both phonographic *regimes*—the old and the new—and whose wide experience and broad phonographic grasp entitle each of their votes to weigh against a thousand of the de Bears and Bunburys and like talented but juvenile reporters who are so paraded in England nowadays. Perhaps some of the veterans may live to see the dawning of a brighter phonographic day in the mother country, but it now seems evident that that day will never come till years after the epitaph of the great inventor of phonography is written and that wonderful copyright which began in 1837 reaches its term." This number also contains a portrait and sketch of Miss Lillian E. McColough, of Halifax, and the usual liberal instalment of Benn Pitman notes.

The Shorthand Educator, edited by Norman P. Heffley, (New York; 50c. per annum) gives first place in its November number to an editorial on "Shorthand Societies." Its other contents are varied and interesting.

Pernin's Monthly Stenographer (Detroit; \$1 per annum). Oct.-Nov. number of this publication contains nothing requiring special mention. The notes in Pernin's system are a model of neatness.

A JOURNAL devoted to the interests of "stenographers now on earth" should have a wide

circulation. This is the field *The Western Stenographer* (Kansas City, Mo. ; \$1 a year) lays out for itself. The October number—last received—is very bright.

Frank Harrison's Shorthand Magazine (Boston ; 50c. a year) continues its crusade against the high priced typewriter and the Typewriter Trust. The November number is largely given up to the advocacy of Mr. Harrison's views on this subject.

Munson Phonographic News and Teacher (New York ; reduced from \$2 to \$1 a year).

The Southern Stenographer, (Charleston, S. C. ; 50c. a year). October number is last copy to hand.

La Stenographe Canadien. (Montreal, P. Q. ; \$1 a year).

ENGLISH.

The Reporters' Journal, (London ; 4s. 6d. per annum). The November number of Mr. Ford's excellent publication opens with an interesting sketch of Mr. John Foster Fraser, of "The New Weekly," of Manchester, with portrait. Being asked "What is your advice to the young man anxious to gain a foothold in journalism?" Mr. Fraser replied: "That is a question I am constantly being asked, and it is one I never answer. Advice is never acted upon, so what is the use of giving it? If a young man wants to be a journalist he will try to be one despite all advice to the contrary. No man ever hides his light under a bushel in journalism." There is also an entertaining account of how the "Central News" secures its despatches of the War in the East. "Hints to Junior Reporters" is concluded.

The Reporters' Magazine, edited by Edward J. Nankivell, (London ; 4s. 6d.) is one of the best shorthand journals published, though with the editor's views one cannot always agree. The November issue contains, among other good things, a contribution from F. J. Hallett on "The Prefixes and Affixes," and an interesting sketch of Mr. Robert Buchanan.

The Shorthand Magazine (London ; 4s. 6d. per annum) gives in its November issue a letter to the editor from Sir Isaac Pitman, on the proposed alterations in his system. The

same subject is discussed in "The Phonographic Forum," and the controversy as to "The Commercial Value of Shorthand" is continued. This number also contains a facsimile letter from a young lady who gained Pitman's Theory Certificate *in sixteen days*; and shorthand news from Scotland and Ireland.

ALTHOUGH only a year in existence, *The Phonographic Review*, edited by Mr. G. H. Wright, (London ; 3s. per annum) is rapidly taking a front place amongst English shorthand periodicals. The November number is interesting from cover to cover, and not only interesting, but instructive to all Isaac Pitman writers. "The influence of vowels upon Outlines," is a valuable contribution on this subject.

The Phonetic Journal and *Pitman's Weekly* continue to occupy a high position in phonographic journalism. They are both excellent publications in their particular sphere, and, we believe, have the largest circulation of any shorthand periodicals published. The weekly editorial comment in the *Journal* is alone worth many times the subscription price.

IRISH.

The Pitmanite (Belfast ; 2s. 6d. per annum) is one of our brightest exchanges.

AUSTRALASIAN.

THE latest number we have received of *The Australasian Stenographer* (Melbourne and Sydney ; 6s. per annum) is that for September. It is made up of twelve pages neatly lithographed in Isaac Pitman's shorthand, and four pages of ordinary print.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE stenographers' fees question has not, as yet, been settled. Meetings have recently been held to consider it.

AMONG the awards at the Lyons (France) Exposition, this year, was a gold medal to the Caligraph Typewriter.

THE Wellington Typewriter, a new \$50 candidate for favor, is soon to be placed on the market. It is to be manufactured at Salem, Mass.

A. P. LITTLE, of Rochester, N. Y., has recently opened an office for the sale of his now

celebrated Typewriter Ribbons, Carbon Paper, etc., in London, Eng.

WE HOPE to be able to make an announcement of the initial meeting of the Sherbrooke, (P. Q.) Stenographers' Association in our next issue. It would be a pleasure to hear from other towns and cities in this way.

MR. H. J. EMERSON, Toronto, has been appointed official law reporter to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Young. Mr. Emerson is well qualified for the post, and his appointment is approved of by all concerned.

"WELL, Charles," said the proud father, "you are to be graduated in June. What are your ideas as to selecting your profession?" "I think I'll be a lawyer, father. I am fond of ease." "Ease? Do you consider the lawyer's profession one of ease?" "It certainly is at the start. Young lawyers never have much to do,"—*Harper's Bazaar*.

WE HAVE recently had an opportunity of examining the Vetter Typewriter Desk, placed on the Canadian market a short time ago. It has many points of excellence, and anyone requiring anything in this line will do well to look into the merits of this article before purchasing. Office Specialty Manufacturing Co., 118 Bay Street, Toronto.

"THE hardest thing to acquire, miss," said the dramatic teacher, "is the art of laughing naturally, without apparent effort."

"Oh, I've got that down fine," said the would-be soubrette. "I typewrote three years for a man who was always telling me funny stories about his little boy."—*Indianapolis Journal*.

A FEATURE of the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, held at Victoria, B. C., this year, was a typewriting contest, which attracted a great deal of interest and was won by Justin Gilbert, public stenographer, on a Densmore machine. There were a great many entries, but several dropped out of the contest for various reasons, and Mr. Gilbert had a walk-over.

WHAT is a great love of books? It is something like a personal introduction to the great and good men of all past times. Books, it is true, are silent as you see them on their shelves; but silent, as they are, when I enter a library I feel as if almost the dead were present, and I know that if I put questions to these books they will answer me with all the

faithfulness and fullness which has been left in them by the great men who have left the books with us.—JOHN BRIGHT.

THE Correspondents and canvassers are wanted in every city and town of importance in Canada to forward news items of interest to stenographers, canvas for subscriptions, etc. etc. To those who are willing to undertake this work we are prepared to offer special inducements. There is not a city or town of importance in Canada where ten, twenty, fifty or one hundred subscribers could not easily be secured with very little exertion. Don't you want to help in this good work, and at the same time put a few extra \$\$\$\$ in your own pocket? Let us hear from you.

AN APT SCHOLAR.—David Christie Murray, the English novelist, who is at present on a lecturing tour through Canada and the United States, learned shorthand when quite a youth, and has used it as a stepping-stone to the position he now occupies.

His Scotch father was the proprietor of a small printing office at Westbromwich, about four miles from Birmingham. David was put to work on the case, and from the time he was fourteen until he was twenty-one years old, his paternal relative demanded that he should use the composing stick or take his turn at the press during nine hours of each day except Sunday. But when the precious evening hours came, David was to a large extent his own master, and when he was not thrashing some bully who had made himself obnoxious by his treatment of the weak and unprotected, or fighting, "just for fun," in the dark lane at the back of his father's house, he was reading Defoe, Byron, Scott, or Shakespeare.

As he grew older his taste for reading grew stronger, and he joined a Mutual Improvement Society that was held at the church which his father attended. It was in connection with this society that the event occurred which changed the course of his life. George Dawson, of Birmingham, a noted lecturer on literary and historical topics, came to Westbromwich to lecture. At that time, Dawson had just been appointed chief editor of the Birmingham *Morning News*, a paper which was destined to have but a short existence of three years, and on which during that time its proprietors spent \$450,000. At the close of Mr. Dawson's lecture, young Murray, a big, awkward youth, more than six feet high, and

of correspondingly broad shoulders, came up and told him he wished to be a newspaper man.

"Do you know shorthand?" asked Dawson.

"No, but I can learn it."

"Learn shorthand, and then come and see me," was the reply.

David Murray went home, and for six weeks he worked at shorthand for sixteen hours a day. In two months he presented himself at the door of Dawson's editorial room.

"You told me to learn shorthand, and then to come and see you. Here I am," he said.

The editor looked at him incredulously. "You can't have learned shorthand yet," he said; "why, it seems but yesterday you spoke to me after that lecture."

"Try me," said Murray, in his laconic style.

Dawson tried his powers, and the upshot of the matter was that the young man was engaged as a reporter at a small salary. He soon made his mark, and it so happened that a few weeks afterwards some miners' riots broke out in South Wales. By this time a certain strong directness in his manner and speech, and a readiness to turlu off with ease any "copy" that was wanted, combined with the evidence of keen perceptive faculty had made their impression on his chief, and when the riots broke out, the latter sent for Murray. "I want you to go down to South Wales, and write us some good letters about these riots. Have you any preparations to suggest?"

"I shall want a collar, a tooth-brush, and a £5 note," said the "cock-sure" young man.

"Provide the collar and tooth-brush, and get the money from the cashier," said Dawson, "and stop as long as you think well."

This was Murray's first start into the world as a newspaper man. Young Murray made the best of his opportunity at the riots, and described the disturbed districts and their inhabitants in graphic style.

His letters were copied into other papers, and they caught the eye of the editor of the *Scotsman*, the chief Scotch paper. When the Russo-Turkish war broke out in 1877, the *Scotsman* sent for him, and made him its war correspondent, despatching him to Turkey with a carte-blanche to do whatever he liked. Murray's letters from the seat of war, where he had many hairbreadth escapes, were among the best that were written, and he came home to find himself moderately famous. Among other things he had done to distinguish him-

self was the saving of a young Turkish boy from his brutal Russian captors. Two soldiers were maltreating the boy, and Murray shot one and knocked the other senseless. On returning to England he gave a series of lectures on his adventures, which were highly popular, and which brought him large returns. After this he settled down to literary work in London, contributing many papers to Edmund Yates' paper, the *World*, and other journals. His first novel, "A Life's Atonement," was published in *Chambers' Journal* in 1879.

Other works followed with some rapidity, and he was recognized as a clever and even brilliant novelist. "Hearts," "The Primrose Path," "The Way of the World," "Wild Darric," "The Bishop's Bible," are among his best efforts, and he has also been a voluminous contributor to the daily journals. In a graphic description of the Staffordshire people, among whom his early years were spent, and in satirical thrusts at certain aspects of London society, Murray has abundantly evinced the possession of a powerful pen. A couple of years ago he made a tour in Australia, where he became connected with a dramatic company, and appeared on the stage in a play of his own writing. A certain amount of Bohemianism seems inseparable from his nature. He is fond of freedom, and likes to observe life and things in his own way, and without restraint. Yet, notwithstanding his nomadic habits, he for years succeeded in making an income of from \$10,000 to \$12,000 a year by his literary labors. Murray is a genial companion, a brilliant conversationalist, and in every sense an accomplished man of the world.—THE FLANEUR, in *The Mail*.

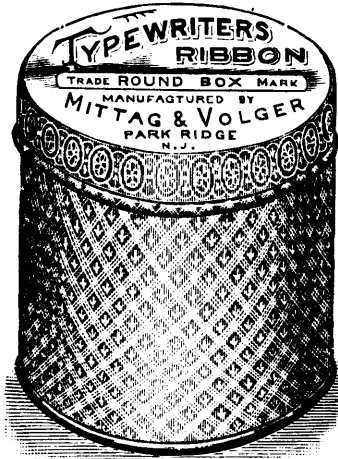
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WE HAVE no particular apology to offer for the issue of Nov.-Dec. under one cover, apart from the fact that as our preceding issues have been somewhat late, and with our present arrangement there seemed to be no other prospect of getting a firmer grip on the forelock of Father Time, and with the expectation

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of having the REVIEW ready at the beginning instead of the end of the month, after duly deliberating, we considered this the only course open. This arrangement will in no way affect either subscribers or advertisers.

Some changes, with the view of improving our journal, may take place at an early date, not only in make-up but in editorial management. An announcement was made in the September number that with this issue would end our first volume. With the January number will commence Volume II. Our efforts up to date have been entirely experimental, but judging from the flattering notices and kind words received our work has been as good, if not better than the average shorthand journal during the first six months of its life. It is our desire that the REVIEW shall be second to none in its line, and there will be no trouble in this way providing we get the support we expect from the profession in Canada. Anyone receiving a sample copy will agree with us that the work is worth the amount we are asking for it. One dollar is a very small amount to the individual subscriber; five or six thousand subscriptions received before the

end of the present year would be of great importance, and enable us to produce a journal Canadian shorthand writers would be proud of. Without any inconvenience to yourself you can help us. Try it. See that your own subscription has been sent in, and if your acquaintances in the ranks are not already on our lists, kindly aid us in securing their names. Short articles, newspaper clippings, etc., etc., relating to the profession, thankfully received at all times.

With a view of extending our circulation and bringing the REVIEW into closer touch with stenographers in the various sections of Canada, we intend appointing local agents or correspondents in the cities and important towns. In Guelph, Hamilton, Halifax, Montreal, Stratford and Winnipeg we have already secured representatives, and are in correspondence with St. Thomas, St. John, N. B., Vancouver and Victoria, B. C. We would be glad to have prompt replies from those we have written in this connection, and to hear from points other than those named, so that we may be able to print a complete list of agents in our next issue.

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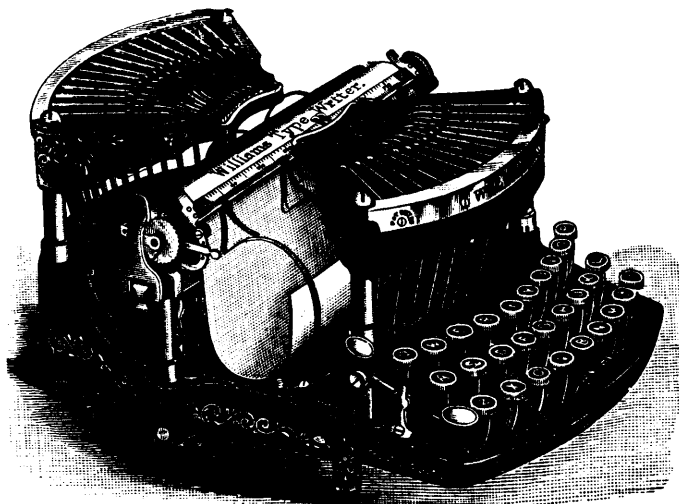
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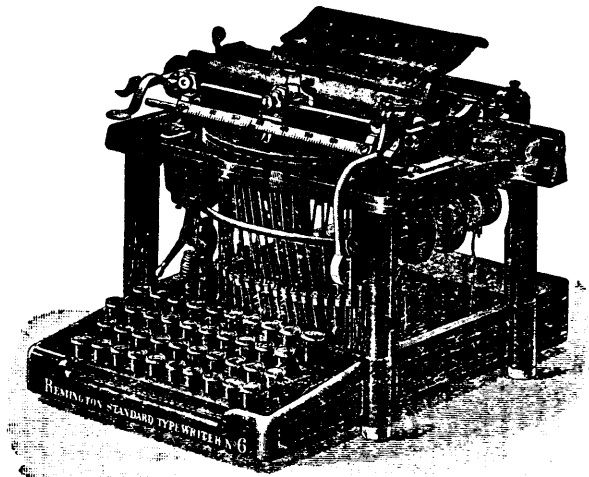
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