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# THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED SHORTHAND WRITER.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1881.

No. 9.

## Editorial and Contributed.

### THE RELATION OF STENOGRAPHERS TO THE BENCH, BAR AND PRESS.

BY W. E. PAYNE, OF ALBANY, N. Y.

**T**HE art of shorthand writing is to-day a recognized profession, and its members are scattered far and wide throughout the country, standing side by side with members of other professions in the battle of life. From being the property of theorists, it has become the means of livelihood of practical business men. Though the merit of age may be claimed in its behalf, a system of shorthand writing having been in use by the ancient nations of the earth, it remained for the nineteenth century, which has seen reduced to practical working the steam engine, the telegraph, the telephone and many other equally valuable and labor-saving inventions, to perfect a method of committing to paper the language of man as it falls from the lips, adding nothing thereto and subtracting nothing therefrom. Its growth, like the growth of all arts, was at first slow. Many obstacles had to be met and overcome, many prejudices removed, many "old fogy" ideas disposed of ere its representative, now bearing the title of "Stenographer," found himself in the busy whirlpool of active business, the trusted and valued assistant of the judge, the lawyer and the editor. Older members of the profession love to detail their experience, the trials and tribulations that befell them in their efforts to obtain recognition at the hands of the very class of men who to-day extend to them and the profession they represent, a cordial and hearty welcome. Those pioneers in the cause deserve and should receive the thanks of this association for the good work they have done.

There is no profession with which the stenographer comes into such close contact as that of the law; and, next to that, journalism. The bar and the press, the lawyer and the editor stand in much the same relation to the stenographer that the consumer does to the producer. They furnish us with employment, and take the article that we produce, paying us the compensation to which we are entitled. Without those professions the stenographer's occupation would be gone, and he would be forced to turn

his attention to other branches of business for a livelihood. The lawyer has to-day no more active and valuable assistant than the stenographer; and this is true to a certain extent of the newspaper man also. Whenever it becomes necessary to preserve with accuracy, testimony which the learned and skillful opponent of the law has spent many an anxious hour in collecting and arranging, he calls to his aid the professional stenographer, relying on him to carry out his wishes. The work is not only done accurately, but it is done speedily. It also relieves the lawyer of all drudgery, as the work of hurriedly committing the matter to paper soon becomes, on his part. His mind is free to occupy itself with the merits of the question at issue. He can thus decide at once upon the best mode of presenting his case, supply points that he may have overlooked, and detect and expose any errors on the part of his opponent. While he is bending all his energies to the task before him, he knows that the nimble-fingered Knight of the Pen is quietly and silently writing the record that is being made. For the matter itself the lawyer is responsible; but the task of recording is the stenographer's, and the accuracy of the record lies with him.

Perhaps no one sustains a closer official relation to the judge than the stenographer. In the stenographer is found one who is able and willing to take upon his own shoulders the task of keeping the minutes of the court, thus lightening the labors of the judge. According to the statutes of this state, which recognize those of the court, they become the official record of the proceedings. It is necessary to the maintenance of that cordial relation that should exist between lawyers and stenographers, and more especially between lawyers and stenographers, that there should be a feeling of respect and confidence between them. No judge or lawyer would accept as correct and conclusive the report of a stenographer who did not inspire him with a feeling of confidence in his ability and integrity. It is as necessary for him to possess the confidence of the judge and lawyer as it is that the judge should possess the confidence of lawyers and litigants, or that the lawyer should possess the confidence of his client.

The responsibility resting upon the stenographer is very great. All of us know what it is to record proceedings affecting the property of our neighbors; many of us have realized the fact that a human life might be lost through a mistake of the pen. The lawyer serves his client's interests entirely, and it is right that he should. The judge on the bench, or the officer before whom judicial proceedings are had, weighs the evidence and decides the issues upon his best judgment, but from his decision and judgment there has wisely been provided a method of appeal, in case either party to an action deems the decision unjust. In the case of the stenographer, upon the correctness of whose minutes may rest all that is important in the case, there is no appeal, except to the memory of the judge, a power seldom invoked and rarely exercised.

It is doubtful if this question of responsibility receives at the hands of the young aspirant for stenographic laurels, who thinks himself qualified, after six months' study, to fill any position, the consideration which its importance deserves. Let him face this question fairly and squarely, and give it the consideration it is entitled to, and the chances are he will decide to spend a few more weeks at least, in fitting himself for the grave and important part which he will be called upon to play.

Members of the bar, as do also members of the journalistic profession, require at the hands of the professional shorthand reporter the exercise of all the ability which he possesses in the work they call upon him to perform. It is principally to those two professions that we look for encouragement and support. They furnish us with the means of livelihood, and they have a right to expect much of us. As consumers of the product of our labor, in this age of competition, they, in common with all other classes, demand the best article that can be produced. It should be our object to make our work of such a quality as to command their admiration and appreciation. They are men quick to recognize merit, and we can trust them to reward it as it deserves.

It is customary with many stenographic reporters to look only at the commercial value of their services, and to leave out of sight the fact that they represent one of the noblest and most elevating of arts. Few take into consideration the importance of stenography as an educator. Is there one among us who can say that he has not acquired, in the practice of his profession, much information, valuable and useful, to fit him for the discharge of the duties of a citizen and a member of society? In that respect our profession approaches that of the lawyer and the editor. As the lawyer acquires a new fund of knowledge from the study requisite to the preparation of his cases, and the newspaper man in the collection and arrangement of the matter for his leaders and paragraphs, so the stenographer, in the practice of his profession, lays away in the store-house of memory very much that will be of value to him in the future.

Stenography deserves to receive, as it is receiving, the consideration of thoughtful, earnest men. It is not a trade. It is a profession, and its members, after a life-time of active service, are willing to acknowledge that they have yet very much to learn. It calls for no eloquence or oratory on the part of its representative, no brilliant display of literary powers, but an honest, conscientious discharge of his duty to the best of his ability. The press educates and enlightens the people; the law protects them in their rights and privileges; and at the side of each, rendering valuable aid and assistance, stands stenography, a modest but useful handmaid. Quietly and silently she performs the task allotted to her, asking and expecting no honors and receiving no reward except such as is due to a faithful servant.

#### SOME AMERICAN PHONOGRAPHERS.



We give below a further number of biographical sketches of members of the N. Y. S. Stenographers' Association. The first instalment appeared in the December issue of the WRITER:—

**CHARLES F. EARLE**, was born in Tompkins Co., N. Y., in 1857; four years ago removed to Syracuse; received an academic education; learned Graham's system at Ithaca, and has been engaged in general reporting since removing to Syracuse.

**W. M. GAGE**, is 30 years of age; learned Graham's system eight years ago; was secretary for Howe Sewing Machine Co. for five years; was in the employ of Tinsley and Morgan, for one year, and is now shorthand secretary for the N. Y. State Agency of the Travellers' Insurance Co.

**T. D. SCHOOMAKER**, was born in Orange Co., N. Y.; was educated at district schools; in 1852 he mastered Pitman's shorthand; gave up the study and practice of it in 1854 for 15 years, and in 1868 took up Graham's system; has been official reporter of the Orange Co. Surrogate Court for ten years, and of Dutchess Co. for five years.

**ALBERT P. LITTLE** was born at Riga, N. Y., in 1848; prepared for college at Lima Seminary; graduated at University of Rochester in 1872; studied phonography while at school; has been reporting since 1872 in different courts; writes Benn Pitman's system with some of Munson's expedients; is assistant stenographer in the Supreme Court.

**HENRY L. BEACH** was born at East Springfield, N. Y.; attended common and High Schools for a number of years; in 1876 he commenced the study of Graham's system at the Ithaca Institute; commenced reporting for the sixth Judicial District, under W. O. Wycokoff, in 1878; located in Binghamton, N. Y., in 1879; still uses Graham's system.

W. B. CRITTENDEN, born in Deerfield, Mass., in 1851; afterwards lived for twenty-six years at Rochester, N. Y.; was taught shorthand by his father—Graham's system; went to Boston in 1872 and occupied a position as a shorthand reporter on the Boston *Journal* for two years; went to Washington in 1874 as a private secretary; in 1876 was admitted to the practice of law and is now engaged in that profession.

HENRY M. GARDINER was born at Nunda, N. Y., 1847; received a common school education; was a telegraph operator from 1864 until 1872; began studying shorthand in 1866; commenced to follow it as a profession in 1874; was admitted to the bar in 1877; is now official stenographer of the fourth Judicial District of Pennsylvania; claims to write 190 words per minute. Originally learned Graham's system, but now writes Munson's.

COE MULLOCK, was born in 1846, in Orange Co., N. Y.; attended several Institutes and Academies up to 1868 when he graduated; he then acted as teacher for a few years, when he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1873; learned Graham's system of Phonography in 1872; in 1878 he began reporting in Lancaster, Penn., and soon secured the position of official reporter of Lancaster and York Counties, which positions he still holds.

DANA A. ROSE, was born in Tompkins Co., N. Y., in 1845; received a common school education; entered the U. S. service as a member of the 50th N. Y. Engineers at the age of nineteen; at the close of the war he accepted a position on the Erie Railway; studied Graham's system in 1873 with W. O. Wyckoff, of Ithaca; afterwards entered his employ as teacher and assistant. For the last two years Mr. Rose has confined himself solely to the teaching of the phonographic art.

Mrs. HELEN J. PALMER, was born in Delaware Co., N. Y., April 17th, 1849; commenced the study of phonography in 1872; studied alone, with occasional assistance from Messrs. Wyckoff and Rose; in 1874 she attended the Phonographic Institute at Ithaca, devoting six weeks to the study of notes taken in actual reporting, and soon after commenced reporting for several N. Y. County Courts and also for the Oneida County Surrogate Court, which positions she now holds. Mrs. Palmer is a very fine writer of Graham's system of Phonography.

GEO. H. THORNTON, of Buffalo, N. Y., was born at Watertown, N. Y., in 1852; received his education at the University of Rochester, from which he graduated in 1872; commenced studying shorthand while at college, and reported considerably during the last two years of his course; went to Buffalo in 1873 and formed a partnership with W. H. Slocum; is the official stenographer of the Supreme Court of the Eighth Judicial District and the Niagara County Court; has reported several important cases, among which were nineteen murder cases; Mr. T. is the Secretary of the N. Y. S. S. A.

FREDERIC M. ADAMS, born in New Hampshire in 1840; was preparing for Harvard College when he joined the army in 1862; was in the 14th N. H. Regiment for three years; studied shorthand while stationed at Savannah and Augusta; had both Pitman's and Graham's books and combined both; in 1867 he went into partnership with Edward H. Underhill, of New York; was one of the three official reporters in the Beecher-Tilton trial; reported the Vanderbilt and Stewart will contests and several important conventions and trials; is a member of the Bar, and hopes soon to live by that profession alone.

### JAMES E. MUNSON.

(See portrait on page 143.)

**J**AMES E. MUNSON, the author of the "Complete Phonograph r." is a native of Oneida County, New York State. He began the study of phonography in 1852 with Webster's Phonographic Teacher, which was first published in that year. In January, 1857, he left school and went to N. Y. and entered upon the practice of the shorthand profession, making his first essay at verbatim reporting on a murder case in New York. He published his first work in 1866, and his dictionary in 1874. Mr. Munson has made practical law reporting his chief occupation. He writes his notes with unusual precision, and has for several years had his notes of trials transcribed by others directly from phonography, without their being dictated to an amanuensis.

### KEY TO T. W. GIBSON'S REPORTING NOTES

Mr. Gibson's notes, a *fac-simile* of which we give on page 148, are extracted from a report by him of a sermon by Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, of St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, based on Romans 13th chap., 11th to 14th verses. The transcript is as follows:—

The man who is trying to be independent of God is in an utterly wrong attitude. The right attitude is that of dependence, childlike dependence on God our Father, who has come nigh to us in His Son Jesus Christ, and who has cast His infinite perfections into finite moulds, that we might be able to copy them. Put on, then, the Lord Jesus Christ. Put Him on as your covering from God's wrath, and as your hue and glorious dress. If you have put Him on, then put Him on more and more, drink in more of His spirit, be more conformed to His image; that is God's method of making you holy. Christ has brought unto us wisdom and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. We have everything in Him that we need for pardon and for holiness, everything that we need for the past, and the present and the future—for the past and its sins, the present and its duties, the future and its heaven. "Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." In a general sense all sins are works of darkness, but I do not know that we can say always that in the sight of God the gross vice which a man slinks out of the sight of friends and kindred to perpetrate is worse necessarily, than the more refined sin which a man may commit in the face of the world.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

A number of correspondents have asked us to answer the following questions, and we will reply to them collectively.

Q.—“What speed does a person require to attain to in order to procure a situation?”

A.—Professional reporters should have a speed of 150 words per minute as their minimum rate, and be able to extend that speed when occasion requires to 160 or 170. The test rate of admission to a majority of the Stenographic Associations of the States and England ranges from 140 words per minute upwards. Of course, for amateurs work a less rate would suffice, but we are of opinion that an amateur shorthand writer should not accept any position in which his knowledge of shorthand is likely to be used unless he can write and keep up a speed of 120 words per minute. Nearly every business man will rise to that speed and often go beyond it in dictating letters to his shorthand secretary, and if that secretary, can only write 100 he has to trust to Providence to be able to read the characters he flings on his note-book when thus pushed. Incompetency to meet the requirements of a position by the exaggerated estimate the occupant has put upon his shorthand ability, serves to bring the art and the use of it into disrepute among those who are likely to need its services.

Q.—“What salaries are paid to shorthand writers?”

A.—Court reporters in Canada receive salaries of about \$1,200; in the United States courts they vary considerably, ranging all the way from \$1,000 to \$6,000. The latter figure is only reached by a few of the most expert and accomplished in the art. In Canada, shorthand clerks in wholesale houses and large establishments receive on an average about \$600 a year; the same figure would also apply to writers in law offices. Private secretaries range higher; the Government writers receiving about \$1,000 a year.

Q.—“Is there a demand for shorthand writers in Toronto?”

A.—We can answer that there is, but this demand has given rise to an evil, and that evil is that mere students who cannot write over seventy-five words a minute apply for these positions that require a speed of 120, as we have pointed out in our answer to the first question. While there are a large number of applicants who allow their zeal and energy to outrun their ability to fill these offices, first-class writers, who, in addition to a thorough knowledge of shorthand, possess the other necessary qualifications that go hand in hand with phonography, such as good penmanship, a sound education, and a fair knowledge of commercial business—find no difficulty in procuring positions at salaries of from \$600 to \$1,000 a year.

Q.—“On page forty-two of Isaac Pitman's ‘Manual’ the position of words in reporting is

determined by their vowels, as *ah, a, e, av, o, oo*. These are the long vowels. Does the same rule hold good for the short vowels? A. E. F., Simcoe, Ont.

A.—It refers to the short vowels as well. See for example the grammalogues “other,” “that,” “particular,” “put,” etc.

Q.—“What other qualifications do I require to enable me to hold a situation at a salary of \$800 or \$1,000, besides being competent to report a rapid speaker verbatim? I am desirous of working my way up to be a reporter.”—A. J., Bowmanville.

A.—In order to become a successful reporter on a daily paper, a sound education, embracing a knowledge of every subject that he will likely be required to handle, is requisite, in addition to being an able phonographer. Physical qualifications are also necessary, to enable the reporter to stand the wear and tear of night work on his system and on his brain.

## FAST REPORTERS.

CATONSVILLE, Md., Jan. 20th, 1881.

To the Editor of the WRITER:

“Mr. Moody utters 200 words per minute, but I can report Mr. Moody, therefore I write at that rate.” This is how it was put by a crack reporter to a friend of mine recently. Mr. T. A. Reed is certainly not going to continue forever to be the fastest reporter in the world, but those one minute tests, the matter of which a person might readily memorize, are not to be compared to his 185 words done in the course of his reporting practice. Mr. Holland's statement, though brilliant, by no means settles this question. Who else, besides Mr. Reed, has reached to a certainty 185 words per minute by the half-hour? We hope to hear of at least one on our side of the water.

OUTSIDER.

## REPORTING IN THE LAW COURTS.

QUEBEC, Jan. 1st, 1881.

To the Editor of the WRITER:

In the last number of the WRITER there is a very good article on “Reporting in the Law Courts.” The writer suggests that in taking evidence both question and answer be written. This has always been done in our Courts in Quebec, and it has been found to work well, time being saved, and the reporter's work being made much lighter. It is true that the judges of the Supreme Court have taken objection to the great number of useless questions and answers that appear in depositions, but that defect is being fast removed as lawyers become better accustomed to our mode of reporting. As an example of the great amount of time saved by this system, I may state that I have on one occasion reported 53,000 words in one day from 9.15 a. m. until 8 p. m.; no discretion having to be exercised by the reporter, the attorneys having asked that everything be taken down.

JOHN CAREY.

## A WISE JUDGE.

**J**UDGE Chadwick, in his charge to the Grand Jury assembled at Guelph, Ont., a few days ago, made the following remarks anent the appointment of a shorthand writer for the Wellington County Court:

"I am happy to be able to inform you that what is decidedly a step in our progress has been made in this county. I allude to the fact that the county and city have joined in obtaining the assistance of a shorthand writer for these courts. In doing so, they are following the experience of other counties and of other courts in this country. There can be no doubt that a more perfect administration of justice can be arrived at, where the evidence of witnesses is taken fully and accurately in their own words. If the Court on application for new trials or motions of that kind, or a Superior Court dealing with a case on appeal, have the evidence before them as it was given, they of course are in a better position to form an opinion upon it. Questions cannot arise as to what a witness said or did not say, and the true meaning of what is said can be more readily understood. This will lead witnesses to be more cautious in their statements and to avoid contradictions and statements which they know may be refuted. Besides, the rapidity with which evidence can be taken will be a great benefit to those who have the misfortune to be engaged in law suits as parties or witnesses. Cases will be tried in much less time than formerly, and people will be free to go and attend to their own affairs instead of waiting about the court at inconvenience and expense.

It will also I am confident effect a great saving in the cost of the administration of justice

as no doubt the duration of the court will be decreased, and, every day saved is a clear gain in expenses of about 70 jurors fees, etc."

## REPORTING AT OTTAWA.

**T**HE Ottawa correspondent of the *Oshawa Reformer* says, "I was much interested in watching the reporters at work. Theirs is a very laborious business during the sitting of the House. They retire into the arms of Morpheus after the public arise from their slumbers. The newspaper reporters' gallery is directly overhead in rear of the Speaker's chair. The "Hansard" reporters one at a time enter to report the debates. Two tables and chairs are provided for them on the floor of the House facing the Speaker. The "Hansard" staff is supposed to be a thoroughly competent one this session, being composed of experienced journalists, and the language to be used and the subjects discussed is quite familiar to their ears, as they have studied the politics of the country daily. Mr. Geo. Eyvel (one of the "Hansard" staff) who is also one of the proprietors of the *Sarnia Observer*, appeared to be the swiftest writer. Watching his pencil from the gallery, I came to the conclusion that he was never (well, hardly ever) behind, no matter how fast the orator of the occasion spoke. Further in the matter of reporting I wish to add that Mr. Blake is the most rapid speaker in the House. Mr. Holland, official reporter of the Senate, &c., reported Mr. Blake for ten minutes on Thursday evening, and he told me he gave utterance to 1,960 words in that time, or an average of 196 words per minute. Enough said as to the reporting, the value of which, I am of the opinion, is not fully considered by the outside world."

## Phonographic and Literary Gossip.

## CANADIAN.

Mr. Joseph C. Crosskill is one of the leading Nova Scotian reporters and newspaper men. He is now at Ottawa, engaged in reporting.

Mr. Phillips Thompson, a clever Canadian journalist, has joined the *Globe* staff. Mr. Thompson is known to the public as "Jimuel Briggs," of Cobocock University."

Archibald Forbes was dined by the Toronto editors and reporters on the 28th of December. Prof. Goldwin Smith presided. Appropriate toasts were given, the one alluding to the shorthand writers being replied to by Messrs. G. B. Bradley and E. E. Horton.

An animated discussion took place at a recent meeting of the Ottawa Press Gallery on the

question of interdicting smoking in the press rooms. A reporter says: "common sense finally prevailed, and it was decided that the lovers of the weed should not be interfered with."

The new Hansard staff at Ottawa is giving great satisfaction to the Government. This is owing to its being comprised of six of the best reporters in Canada. A full report of the Parliamentary proceedings of the day previous is printed and laid before the House every afternoon at three o'clock sharp.

The death is announced of Mr. Charles Bedford, which occurred at Ottawa a short time ago. He was for some time connected with the Toronto press, and ranked as one of the oldest journalists in Canada. He commenced newspaper life as a reporter on the now defunct

*Leader* in 1857. He soon rose to the position of assistant editor. In 1871 he accepted a similar position on the *Mail*, which had just then been started. For seven years he labored hard in this capacity until he was completely broken down in health, from which he never recovered to any extent. The deceased leaves a wife and five children to mourn his loss.

#### AMERICAN.

Isaac Pitman's system is taught in the Bryant and Sadler Business College in Baltimore, Md.

Eli Perkins claims to be able to write shorthand—"a system of his own."

Garfield can write with both hands at once, his left handwriting being from right to left. So says an American paper.

Mr. A. H. Winton delivered an address at the Scranton, Pa., Institute last week on phonography, and interspersed his remarks by writing specimens of shorthand on a blackboard.

Sarah Bernhardt has engaged two stenographers to report the ministers and lecturers who denounce her in violent terms, with the intention of prosecuting them.

#### BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Miss Braddon's husband publishes her novels

A new press club has been organized in London.

Two hundred systems of shorthand have been invented.

The London, Eng., Y. M. C. A. has a shorthand class of 170 members.

Mr. Thomas Carlyle, the veteran author, is now in his eighty-sixth year.

Mr. J. E. Bailey, of Manchester, is engaged on "a History of Shorthand."

The British Post Office Department has ordered 20,000 Bell Telephones for the postal service.

Jules Verne, who has written so many improbable things, has received as his reward \$250,000.

Sir Walter Scott had an income for several years of from £10,000 to £15,000, being his receipts for actual writing.

The reporters in Ireland are having a hard time. They have to be protected by policemen at the Land League meetings.

London reporters in the vicinity of Fleet St. patronize the coffee restaurants instead of the saloons. So *Jayez* says in the *Meteor*.

Shorthand writers are in demand and obtain good salaries in India and New Zealand. The natives are not capable of mastering the art.

The United States has 179,204 miles of telegraph wire; Great Britain 108,000; Russia, 31,000; France, 25,000, and Germany 19,000.

London is overstocked with phonographers. Applications for positions by writers "of long experience" are quite numerous in the daily papers.

Dickens left \$400,000, and a considerable slice of this came from books, but it was his "readings" which made him affluent, and so, too, with Thackeray.

Isaac Pitman's system of shorthand has been chosen by Messrs. Ward and Locke for their "Universal Instructor," and Mr. Pitman will be asked to compile the lessons.

Whittier, the American Quaker poet, had his first poem published in the *Free Press*, a weekly paper owned by Wm. Lloyd Garrison. The poet was then in his nineteenth year.

Cotton Mather owned a Bible which contained a queer typographical error. The 161st verse of the 119th Psalm was made to read, "Printers have persecuted me without cause!" instead of "Princes have, &c."

Mr. Henry Pitman was one of the reporters engaged on the report of the meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance, recently held at Manchester. Mr. Pitman had his turn of twelve columns transcribed in ten hours after reporting it.

Mr. Henry Pitman has used the same reporting pen for twenty-five years. It is made of genuine gold, and is not much the worse of wear. Mr. Thomas Allan Reed has also a similar trusty friend which he has used for a quarter of a century.

Dr. Parker, of the London City Temple, is a phonographer. Mr. Henry Pitman says that in a letter he received from the Reverend Doctor, he said, "I use shorthand every day, and could not do without it. It is simply invaluable to me in every department of my work."

Lord Beaconsfield received \$16,000 for "Eldymion," or at the rate of fifty cents a word. This represents the largest amount ever given in England for any work of fiction. Scott received \$40,000 for "Woodstock," and George Eliot the same amount for "Middlemarch."

Lord Macaulay must have been gifted with an extraordinary memory if we are to believe that he once repeated the whole of "Paradise Lost" while crossing the Irish channel; and while waiting for a post chaise he read from a newspaper "Reflections of an Exile," and "A Parody on a Welsh Ballad," both of which he repeated forty years afterwards, although he had only read them once.

## Editorial Notes.



Mr. F. O. Popenoe, Topeka, Kansas, would like to join an ever-circulator written in Graham's system.

G. W. Loomis, formerly with the Kansas Loan and Trust Company, has accepted the position of secretary to A. E. Touzalin, General Supt., B. & M., Omsha.

"The Relation of Stenographers to the Bench, Bar, and Press," by Worden E. Payne, of Albany, N. Y., will be found to be a most readable and interesting article, and worthy of careful perusal.

We read in a recent issue of Dr. Zeibig's *Literatur-Blatt*, published at Dresden, that "Kartellverbandes gegenwartigen stenografischen bei den augenblicklich zuruek geschlagenen auslautconsonanzen uebereinslimmany." We merely give this as an item of news.

The December number of the *Reporter's Magazine* presents a rich bill of fare, composed of journalistic incidents, literary notes and comments, phonographic news, etc. The lithography is excellent, although the writer makes use of a good many queer outlines. It is published by Edward J. Nankivell, 80 Fleet street, E. C., London, Eng., at 4s. per annum.

The *Phonographic Review* has gone where all the good shorthand magazines go. The editors claimed they had sufficient pecuniary support to sustain its publication, but other engagements of a more important and perhaps more remunerative nature prevented their giving the necessary attention to the compilation of the *Review*. It was a most readable and entertaining magazine, and we will miss it from our editorial table.

On the question of using phrases the editor of the *Reporter's Magazine* is of opinion that "the best outlines in the hands of unsuccessful workmen are always misused, but in the hands of the skillful workman they naturally aid in the production of good work. An unsuccessful writer should stick to the rough outline of tortuous length, but to a practiced reporter the judicious use of phrases and contractions will be to him so many laps over the hedge to cut

off the corner. Their use at all times, however, should be guided by a sense of what is safe."

"Graphy" seems to have been a favorite affix for titles of systems of shorthand, or of works relating to writing. In 1597 Peter Bales issued "The Art of Brachygraphy;" in 1695 "Stenography" appeared; Wm. Cartwright issued a work on "Semigraphy" in 1642; "Steganography" was printed in England in 1812, while other peculiar titles, such as "Pterygraphy," "Cryptography," "Edeography," "Semigraphy," "Radiagraphy," "Tachygraphy," "Zeiglography," and "Tachybrochography," are among those numbered with the systems that have died a timely death.

MR. WILL S. JORDAN, Sec'y of the Topeka, Ks., State Stenographers' Association, dropped into our sanctum the other day. He presented us with a fine photograph of the officers of that Association, for which they will accept our best thanks. We will take pleasure in reproducing them in a future number of the WRITER. WILL reports phonographic business brisk in Topeka, and says the "boys" are delighted with the WRITER. We are proud of the good opinion of such Associations,—to their kindly assistance in the past much of the success of the WRITER is due. Phonographers generally can be of great service to us by sending items of interest from time to time.

*Coo-e-e* has again arrived from Australia, it having taken steamers and railways and post-offices nearly two months to lay it on our sanctum table. The number before us is dated "March, 1890,"—only ten months behind time. Its editor, however, announces in the same number that he will take an immense stride and overtake Father Time by skipping over six months. This is certainly an easy way to get even again. Mr. Ralph D. Christie, its editor and publisher, seems to make good use of his shorthand, as he not only reports lectures, sermons, etc., but is "visiting master" to no less than twelve colleges and schools, and conducts city and suburban evening classes, and ladies' classes in shorthand.

## Clippings from our Exchanges.



### THE ADVANTAGES OF THE NOBLE ART.

James Henry Lewis, in a work entitled "An Historical account of Stenography," published in 1816, says: "Of all the numerous advantages of stenography, its regency over the memory is one of the most sublime and valuable attributes. It also allures and draws out the powers of the mind, excites invention, improves the ingenuity, matures the judgment, and endows the retentive faculty with those superior

attributes of precision, vigilance and perseverance. Assisted by this art, Hortensius, the celebrated Roman orator, so improved the extensive powers of his memory that he was enabled to report a whole oration, without committing it to writing. Seneca, the philosopher, and instructor of Nero, by a knowledge of the stenographic art, so exercised and strengthened his memory as to be able to repeat two thousand names in any order after once hearing them."  
—*Shorthand Review*.

## ISAAC PITMAN ON "PHONOGRAPHY."

Isaac Pitman delivered an address on "Phonography and the Spelling Reform" a short time ago at Bri-tol, in which he said he knew of nothing which more heightens the joy of life than discoveries and inventions—something new and true and useful, and especially when we have a hand in it ourselves. Almost everything has been made anew within the memory of the present generation. The egg of this new age (or this new order of things), was laid in the middle of the last century. In about seventy years it was hatched; the young eagle came forth, and from about 1820 to the present day those of us who were born in the first twenty years of this century have been wondering at one new phase of life after another, and saying, "What next?" Shorthand has been known and practiced in England for nearly three hundred years. The art is, indeed peculiarly the product of English soil and of the English mind. He merely brought before them a good, and he would now add, a popular system, based on the principles of phonetic science, and harmonizing with the latest deductions of philosophy.

## THE REPORTERS' GALLERY IN LONDON.

If the old generation of gallery men who relied much on their literary capacity and very little on their shorthand notes, could only pay a visit to the scenes of their old triumphs they would think that times had very much changed indeed. The close paddock, which they guarded with jealous eyes, has been invaded by associations and combination corps, telephones and telegraph instruments have been brought within the sacred precincts, and the gallery has lost nearly all of its distinctive features which endeared it to the old veterans who look on this as of quite another race of beings. It may be said that the facilities given in the new Houses of Parliament, and the introduction of improved systems of shorthand, give the *coup de grace* to the old order of things. Under the new apportionment it is said that Mr. Goodyear, who was leader of the *Daily Telegraph* corps last session, will form a corps for Scotch work. Four of the *Standard* men have died recently—three from heart disease, and one from apoplexy. The conditions under which London men work are not favourable to longevity. Some of the best assurance offices will not take a pressman's life, except at an advanced premium.—*The Reporter's Magazine*.

## THE BENEFITS OF SHORTHAND.

We clip the following extract from an address delivered by Mr. Gordon Fraser, of Galloway, which appeared in the *Phonetic Journal*: "A long time ago the need was felt of a rapid system of recording thought, and we are told that Cicero, the great Roman orator, was on one occasion attended in the Forum by a body of shorthand writers. There were other indications that rapid writing was not unknown about the beginning of the christian era. Dur-

ing the middle ages but little trace of it was to be found. Soon after the invention of printing, however, the art came forth from its obscurity, and during the last three centuries more than two hundred systems of shorthand have been given to the public. Now we have phonography, which combines the brevity and ingenuity which is necessary for *verbatim* reporting. The acquirement of this art is sure to improve the taste and increase the sum of knowledge of those who should master it. Its characters had all the charms and fascination inseparable from "lines of beauty," while it improved pronunciation, strengthened the memory, and induced habits of neatness and precision. By its aid, the thoughts of the great and wise might be gleaned from their writings, and the burning eloquence of the orator faithfully secured by its winged characters. Science, art, commerce, and religion itself were indebted to it."

## JOURNALISM IN THE FAR EAST.

In the British colony of Hong-Kong, and the treaty ports of China and Japan, there are eleven English newspapers, all of them, with the exception of two, being published daily. In Hong-Kong there are two dailies, the *Daily Press*, and the *China Mail*. Each paper employs shorthand reporters, who find plenty of work to do. The circulation of these papers are necessarily limited, the result being that they are high-priced—£5 per annum. The Chinese, of whom there are about 130,000 in Hong-Kong, do not read the foreign journals to any extent, but few of them being able to read English: still the leading Chinese merchants patronize them. One little Chinaman was employed in translating and reporting on the staff of the *China Mail* for about ten years. He was able to write a paragraph or report a speaker with singular nicety and accuracy. He did not learn any system of shorthand, but he wrote an abbreviated longhand with great rapidity. The native press in Hong-Kong is represented by Chinese issues of the two papers mentioned above, and by a Chinese paper called the *Herald*. It is a startling fact that among the four hundred millions of people in China, there are only three newspapers published—one at Shanghai, and two at Pekin, and yet three-fourths of the male adults are able to read. The *Shanghai Sin Poo* is run by a Mandarin. The *Pekin Gazette*, said to be the oldest paper in the world, is merely a record of memorials to the throne and the Imperial decrees. Shanghai also possesses two English papers, the *Daily News* and the *Courier*. In Foochow we have the *Herald* and the *Shipping Gazette*. The press has advanced considerably in Japan. There are four daily papers published at Yokohama, three English and one French. It has also an illustrated *Punch*, edited by an Englishman. Unlike China, Japan possesses a large number of native newspapers, and they are fairly representative of a people who are energetically engaged in the work of national progress.—*The Journalist*.



NEW YEAR, 1881. FATHER TIME, THE MOST RAPID WRITER OF ALL.

SOME AMERICAN PHONOGRAPHERS.

WRITTEN IN MUNSON'S SYSTEM.

Two columns of shorthand notation in Munson's system, consisting of various symbols and numbers on a ruled background.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

WRITTEN IN BENN PITMAN'S SYSTEM.

The first column contains handwritten shorthand notes in Pittman's system, including various symbols and abbreviations such as "1200", "1700", "1400", "1000", "100", "10", "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".

The second column contains handwritten shorthand notes in Pittman's system, including various symbols and abbreviations such as "1200", "1700", "1400", "1000", "100", "10", "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".

THE MARINE TELEPHONE

WRITTEN IN BENN PITMAN'S SYSTEM.

The second column contains handwritten shorthand notes in Pittman's system, including various symbols and abbreviations such as "1200", "1700", "1400", "1000", "100", "10", "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".



PROF. BELL'S DISCOVERIES.

WRITTEN IN ISAAC PITMAN'S SYSTEM.

JOURNALISM IN THE FAR EAST.

WRITTEN IN ISAAC PITMAN'S SYSTEM.

The first column contains a series of approximately 25 lines of shorthand. The characters are highly stylized, consisting of various loops, curves, and straight lines, typical of Pitman's shorthand system. The text is dense and fills most of the page's width.

The second column contains a series of approximately 25 lines of shorthand, mirroring the style of the first column. It also consists of dense, stylized characters. The lines are well-organized and follow the same vertical flow as the first column.

A REPORTERS LIFE IS NOT A HAPPY ONE.



THE RELATION OF STENOGRAPHERS TO THE BENCH, BAR, AND PRESS.

WRITTEN IN GRAHAM'S SYSTEM.

Stenographic shorthand text in Graham's system, consisting of approximately 15 lines of symbols on a ruled background.

Stenographic shorthand text in Graham's system, consisting of approximately 15 lines of symbols on a ruled background.

SPOOPENDYKE AND THE TOWEL.

WRITTEN IN ISAAC PITMAN'S SYSTEM.

Handwritten shorthand notes on ruled lines, corresponding to the first illustration.



SPOOPENDYKE IN AGONY.

Handwritten shorthand notes on ruled lines, corresponding to the second illustration.

Handwritten shorthand notes on ruled lines, corresponding to the first illustration.



SPOOPENDYKE RELIEVED.

Handwritten shorthand notes on ruled lines, corresponding to the second illustration.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 145)

THE RELATION OF STENOGRAPHERS TO THE BENCH, BAR, AND PRESS.

WRITTEN IN GRAHAM'S SYSTEM.

Stenographic shorthand in Graham's system, consisting of numerous lines of cursive symbols on a four-line grid.

THE AMATEUR REPORTER.

WRITTEN IN ISAAC PITMAN'S SYSTEM.

Stenographic shorthand in Isaac Pitman's system, consisting of numerous lines of cursive symbols on a four-line grid.

