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COSMOPOLITAN
SHORTHAND WRITER.

Conducted by THOMAS BENGOUGH, Official Reporter, York County Courts.

VOL. III.

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1883.

No. 9.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTING FOR QUEBEC.

The Province of Quebec was the battleground on which Canadian stenographers first fought and conquered the time-honored long-handed usages which still prevail in some of the Canadian Provincial Courts. But there has been retrogression instead of progression in the Quebec Courts, owing to the lack of system in the education, encouragement, and control of efficient stenographers. The late lamented Samuel Hutchinson—one of the best reporters who ever wielded a pencil in Canada—at one time had a flourishing practice in Montreal. At a later date the brothers Holland, now Senate reporters, piloted the Courts through tedious litigation so efficiently as to leave the judges nothing to do but sit and watch the proceedings with interest and amazement.

But the very efficiency of the Hollands' management of the business injured it. It happened in this wise:—At a particular juncture during their administration of stenographic justice there was an appalling plethora of business which confused and confounded the judges. To relieve their despair, the Hollands proposed that, instead of having the evidence of each witness read from the stenographic notes and corrected by the witness in open court—a cumbrous proceeding required by Quebec law—they would arrange to have two reporters, so that the one who had stenographed the evidence of a witness might retire with the witness to an ante-room and there in private read over and correct the notes, while the relieving reporter would be engaged taking the evidence of the next witness. This plan worked admirably in accomplishing its immediate object—the clearing of the docket—but it proved a boomerang to the Hollands; for, immediately, the way was open to less skilled reporters to step in and take advantage of this private correcting process, which enabled them to cover up their defective work of note-taking. The newly-fledged reporters were quite willing—even anxious

—to accept less remuneration than the old hands demanded. The results were: a sudden development of stenographic skill on the part of the freshmen; a demand for their services by the attorneys, who were in some cases the principals of the shorthand law-clerks; and a stampede of the Senate stenographers in the direction of Ottawa.

These events happened several years ago. Since then there has been a lively demand for stenographers, and a pretty general appreciation of their services in saving time and expediting business; but there has been no standard of efficiency, and the rate of remuneration has been lowered from 30 cents to 20 cents per folio. Mr. James Crankshaw, formerly of the House of Commons Hansard staff, has now come to the rescue, and has submitted to the Council of the Bar of Montreal a scheme for the maintenance of a staff of official court stenographers. The judges and members of the Bar are quite favorable to the idea. Ex-Judge Loranger, who was deputed by the Provincial Government of Quebec to make an official report embodying radical changes in the judicial system and laws of the Province, recommended, among other things, "that the existing system of taking evidence be changed, and a sufficient number of competent official stenographers be appointed in every district, whose duty it shall be to take evidence in all cases, to the end that all the Superior Court cases may be tried in the presence and under the direction of the court; that the stenographers' record be extended only in cases of appeal or at the request of either party at their own expense, and then at the original expense of the appellant, who shall be bound to print a case for appeal, the rest to be re-imbursed in the event of judgment being reversed."

There is every reason to hope that the scheme as outlined in the following circular of Mr. Crankshaw will become part of the Quebec judicial system:—

MR. CRANKSHAW'S SUGGESTIONS.

To the Council of the Bar of Montreal :

The length of depositions taken by stenography is a constant source of annoyance ; first, to lawyers and litigants, by reason of the expensiveness of the evidence and the impossibility of calculating beforehand the cost of stenography in a case ; and, secondly, to the Honorable Judges (in Appeal as well as in the Superior Court), whose labors might be considerably lessened if the evidence were placed before them in narrative form, as shewn by the following comparison :—

EVIDENCE AS NOW TRANSCRIBED.

Q. I think you were formerly the Secretary of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of the County of Joliette, the Plaintiff in this case ; were you not, Mr. Dickson ?

A. Yes, I was.

Q. Have you the Minute Book of the said Company with you here in Court ?

A. Yes, I have.

Q. You are in charge, at the present time, of the office of the said Company (Plaintiff), are you not ?

A. I am.

Q. And you have the custody of the books of the said Company, have you not ?

A. Yes, I have.

Q. Have you here in Court with you all the books of the said Company ?

A. No, I have not all the books of the Company here with me. I have a portion of them here ; I have the Minute Book of the Company here in Court.

THE SAME IN NARRATIVE FORM.

I was formerly the Secretary of the Company (Plaintiff). I am now in charge of the said Company's office, and have the custody of its books.

I have not all the Company's books here, but only a portion of them ; I have the Company's Minute Book here.

So far all efforts to have the evidence thus transcribed in narrative form have failed, for the simple reason that, the stenographer being paid by the length of the depositions as transcribed, he has a decided objection to condensation in any way. The only practical remedy is the appointment of Official Court Stenographers on salary. Such an idea is not a new one in Montreal ; but, hitherto, there has seemed to be a difficulty as to how the salaries are to be raised ; and the object of the present communication is to point out what seems to me to be a very easy means to that end.

At present, every inscription for *Enquete* and *Merits* must be accompanied by a deposit of ten dollars by the Plaintiff's Attorney ; and the Defendant's Attorney on opening his *Enquete* is required to deposit a like sum, thus making a total deposit of twenty dollars, towards stenographic fees in each *Enquete* and *Merit* case. This deposit, however, is far from being sufficient, in many cases, to cover the actual cost of stenography, which often runs up to as much as \$40, \$100, and even \$150 in a single case.

My suggestion is, that with each inscription either for *Enquete*, or *Enquete* and *Merits*, the Plaintiff's Attorney should pay in, say \$8.00, and that the Defendant's Attorney should pay in a like sum at the opening of his *Enquete*,

thus making a total payment of \$16, to be carried to the Stenographers' Salary Fund. That this sum of \$8.00 should cover the cost of depositions to the number of six witnesses ; but that whenever a plaintiff or a defendant, as the case may be, shall examine more than the limited number of six witnesses, he shall stamp the deposition of every witness, beyond that limited number, with a \$2 stamp, to be also carried to the Stenographers' Salary Fund. Under such a system, the cost of stenography in a case would be a matter that could be calculated ; and even in a large case of 50 or 60 witnesses, it could be kept within the reasonable bounds of about \$100, while in ordinary cases, with twelve or a less number of witnesses, it would be only \$16.

Now, it appears that there are some 3000 cases a year taken out in the Montreal Superior Court. Of these about one-third are contested, and require the services of a stenographer, either at *Enquete*, or *Enquete* and *Merits* ; but taking 800 as a safer estimate, these, at \$16 each, would give \$12,800 to meet the salaries. There might be four English and four French Stenographers appointed to do the work of reporting on the evidence in the Montreal Superior Court ; seven of these officials to be paid a salary each of \$1,500 a year, and the eighth (either a Frenchman or an Englishman, as might be decided), at a salary of \$2,000 a year, to be placed in the position of chief, taking his full share with the others in the actual work of reporting, but taking also the responsibility of superintending and regulating the members of the staff in the proper discharge of their duties, as in the case of the Official Staff of Reporters of the Parliamentary Debates at Ottawa.

Let each stenographer be required to take full shorthand notes of the evidence (by question and answer as at present), and give a transcript in narrative form, and let him be required to index and file his notes, so that, at any time, either party in a case may obtain a full transcript of the whole or any part of the evidence, on payment, however, to the stenographer, of ten cents per 100 words for any such FULL transcript.

Applicants for these official positions should, of course, be submitted to an examination, testing not only their speed as shorthand writers but also their general education, and particularly their special fitness for law reporting.

Trusting that the foregoing may meet your approval, and that you will take steps to obtain the introduction of some such improvement as is herein indicated,

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours, very respectfully,

JAMES CRANKSHAW.

The Montreal stenographers may count upon the hearty support of the Canadian Shorthand Society in every possible way

in introducing this scheme. The secretary has, upon Mr. Crankshaw's request, forwarded details as to the working of the system in Ontario.

CANADIAN SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL—IMPORTANT BUSINESS—
THE MINIMUM FOR AMANUENSIS WORK—
ENCOURAGING REPORT OF PROGRESS.

The Council of the Canadian Shorthand Society met on Thursday evening, January 11th, 1883, at the Secretary's office, 11 King-st W., Toronto. Present—Alderman Taylor, Honorary President, presiding; Messrs. Tyson, Crawford, F. Sims and Bengough, and Miss G. A. Fraser, Junior Associate.

The Secretary, on behalf of some ten or twelve members, explained their absence on account of pressure of professional duties.

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and confirmed.

REPORT OF PROGRESS.

The Secretary read a report detailing the progress of the Society since its inauguration in August, 1882. This report mentioned as encouraging features of the work:—

(1) That in four distinct cases the Secretary had been officially requested to fix a rate for shorthand work. These questions came, in all cases, from junior members, who thus gave evidence of thorough loyalty to the Society, and of a disposition to abide by its rules and rates, not only in adhering to the tariff so far as it affects work which they are entitled to perform, but also in declining work open only to Senior members.

(2) Correspondence had been carried on with the stenographers in St. John and Montreal with a view to the introduction of an official system (similar to that which has been in operation in the Province of Ontario for several years past) into the Provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec.

(3) The stenographers of the State of Ohio have recently organized an Association and adopted one distinctive plank of our platform, namely, a mixed membership, the two classes whom we call Seniors and Juniors being called, by their Constitution, Reporters and Amanuenses respectively.

(4) A movement has been inaugurated by the Junior members in favor of an increase in the salaries at present paid, and a petition has been drafted for submission to the Council, requesting that the latter should fix a minimum rate for amanuensis work.

(5) A Shorthand Society similar to ours has been inaugurated in the city of St. John, and is in successful operation. They are likely to accomplish important reforms in the introduction of an official system into the Courts of New Brunswick. An agitation is also being made for a similar Society in Halifax.

The Secretary reported that a movement had been made with a view to the formation of a Literary and Social Club for shorthand writers in Toronto, and that several well-known lecturers had offered their services.

In addition to the present membership, numbering nearly forty, we have fifteen applications for Junior membership, and have received letters from nearly fifty other shorthand writers throughout the Province, the great majority of whom will become members. In addition to these there are from seventy-five to one hundred shorthand writers in Toronto who are eligible as Junior members. These Juniors claim the Council's attention in everything that can be conducive to the general good of the fraternity; first, because they are by far the more numerous class, and second, because in a few years hence they will be the first-class stenographers of the Dominion. In the broad view of the question the interests of the Seniors and Juniors are not antagonistic but mutual. A large Junior membership will be a source of strength, and not weakness, to our Society.

The Tariff and Legislation Committee will have many difficult and knotty points to settle, especially with regard to the tariff. The tariff of the old Canadian S. W. Association is now practically unworkable. Since it was formulated the official court reporting system in this Province has materially altered the relation of the stenographers to their clients, and the new tariff must be more elastic than was the old.

All the matters in which legislative amendments are desired are under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Parliament, and a movement should be made to have these amendments incorporated with the statutes at the approaching Session.

The International Association of Shorthand Writers for the United States and Canada will hold their Congress in this city in August next. In view of this fact there should be a vigorous and united movement all along the line among Canadian stenographers.

The relation of the old Association to the present Society should be defined. A union of the two organizations is very desirable, so that if possible we may show a united front to our visitors at the Congress, who will number between two and three hundred.

A suggestion was made to the members of the Press Association at its meeting last summer that Senior members of our Society should be eligible for membership in that Association, by virtue of their standing in our Society, but the proposition was not discussed for lack of time. In view of the possibility of difficulty in dealing through the medium of the Press Association, it would be better to make application on our own behalf to the railway authorities for a special rate of travel; and, judging from the co-operation manifested by the various railway managers in connection with

our Convention last summer, there is little doubt that our request would be granted.

The question has been discussed among individual members of the Council as to whether a scheme for life insurance could not be arranged with some first-class company, on such a scale as to insure to all members of both classes of our Society, irrespective of place and residence, throughout the Dominion, such a reduction as to prove a substantial benefit. The Committee on privileges can deal with this matter.

The proceedings of our first Convention have not yet been printed in pamphlet form, chiefly on account of the difficulty of convening a Council meeting, and arranging a feasible scheme for their publication without financial risk or loss. Estimates have been procured from first-class printers, and it is believed that a scheme can be devised when the Committee is organized.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

On motion, the following committees were appointed, the President and Secretary being members *ex-officio* of each.

On Membership and Correspondence: Messrs. Crawford, E. E. Horton, Tyson, F. L. H. Sims and Gibson. Three to form a quorum.

On Tariff, Legislation, Affiliation and Privileges: All the members of the Council. Three to form a quorum, but no tariff to be adopted without submission to the whole Council and the vote of the majority.

On International Association, Printing and Entertainment:—Alderman Taylor, Messrs. Butcher, Bruce, E. E. Horton, W. F. Maclean. Three to form a quorum.

FINANCES.

The Sec.-Treas. read a report as to the financial standing of the Society, showing receipts from paid-up membership of \$32, and expenses to date, \$74.38. The balance due the Treasurer, \$42.38, will be liquidated by the payment of fees by members now on the roll.

PAYMENT FOR AMANUENSIS WORK.

A petition was read, signed by H. J. Wickham and a number of Junior members from Toronto, St. Catharines, Ottawa and Belleville, suggesting that the Council express its opinion as to what salary should be the minimum that an amanuensis competent to pass the test for Junior membership should be asked to accept—the sum of \$9 per week being suggested as a reasonable figure for such minimum. After discussion of this petition, in the spirit of which the Council concurred, it was referred to the Membership Committee.

JUNIOR MEMBERS ON THE COUNCIL.

A By-law was read a third time and passed, enacting that in all matters of general interest five of the Junior associates should be notified to be present at the Council meetings and have the right of participating in the discussions.

A SOCIAL MEETING.

The suggestion that a social meeting be held about the beginning of February, prior to the departure of the newspaper and Hansard reporters to Ottawa, was referred to the Entertainment Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

GEORGE BRADLEY, *President.*

THOMAS BENGOUGH, *Secretary.*

NEWS NOTES.

CANADIAN.

Mr. Wm. Perkins, official reporter for the Manitoba Courts, spent Xmas holidays with his folks here. He reports plenty of hard work.

Mr. Harry J. Lee, a Brantford Steno., who left Blake & Co.'s law firm here to enter into partnership with his brother in Chicago as Attorneys and Law Reporters, has recently added an "annex" to his business, known as the "Chicago Shorthand Institute." The Institute is to be incorporated.

Mr. Albert Horton, editor of the Manitoba *Free Press*, writes down that he will arrive in Toronto from Winnipeg about Jan. 25; and spend two weeks in this city resting, before he tackles his duties on the Hansard staff at Ottawa. He is bringing a "big scheme" down with him. When he comes it will be on view in *The World* office.—*Toronto World.*

A man who went to Manitoba a few months ago has sent only one letter home. It said "send me a wig." And his fond parents didn't know whether he was scalped or married until they bethought themselves that it was the best paper in Kingston that he wanted.—*Whig.* This shows once more what trouble people get into by dropping their h's.

We are pleased to record the success of Mr. J. A. Albright, now with A. H. Harris, Son & Co., agricultural implement manufacturers, as stenographer in their Winnipeg office. Mr. A., while attending the Normal School last winter, took a course of evening lessons from us, and, though he knew nothing of shorthand when he commenced, and had scarcely any time for practice while in Toronto, he made the best use of his vacation, and is now enjoying the fruit of his labors.

Mr. R. Gray, agent of the Grand Trunk Railway at Acton, has invented and patented a new telephone. The instrument has been in successful operation over a three mile circuit at Acton for some time, and although it has received no greater test so far, its utility for this distance leaves no doubt as to the possibility of its successful operation over longer stretches. The chief feature of the new telephone is that you can hear a message in an office without putting your ear to the instrument, and that it does away with the necessity of using a bell to call the person up with whom you wish to speak.

The question having been asked by a scribe lately from England as to how long copies of letters made from type-writing ribbons were legible, we have made inquiries with the most satisfactory results. Mr. W. S. Battin, deputy Manager of the G. N. W. Telegraph Co., has shown us letter books in which copies made from ribbons saturated with purple ink, in which aniline plays a most important part, are quite legible after being filed away since 1878. The impressions do not seem to have faded in the least, though the ribbons of those days were very inferior to the Underwood ribbons of today. Stenotypers would score a point by mentioning this fact to their principals.

A Quebec, and following it, a Montreal, newspaper, are deploring the too common use of the English tongue by French Canadians. At public meetings, even when there is a majority of the French element, deference is paid to the English speaking part, and these papers regret to hear their French compatriots speaking the English language when they should be speaking in French. What Parliament cannot effect by one of its potent acts may at length be brought about by letting things work out their own course. That Canada will ultimately have but one language, and that the English, is manifest. But what the present generation would like to see is a step taken in that direction as soon as possible, by having only one official language and one printers' bill to settle yearly.—*Toronto World*.

The *Globe* has had a violent revolution, resulting in the deposition of Mr. Gordon Brown,—who was connected with the paper from its inception, and since his brother's death was Managing Director,—and the appointment, as general manager, of Mr. John Cameron, for twenty years connected with the London *Advertiser*. Mr. Cameron was the head and front of the *Liberal*, which had a brief but very useful career in 1875. He is one of the most genial journalists, and possesses in a very marked degree the faculty of enthusing the members of the staff. He is a friend to all who are in any way connected with the profession, and hob-nobs with the jocular *Telegram* editor (Mr. Alex. F. Pirie) in a way which either of the G. B.'s would abhor. He deserves success, and we hope he will win it; but it is no joke to run a daily newspaper which for nearly half a century has been strongly stamped with the individuality of two opinionated journalists like George and Gordon Brown. Mr. John T. Hawke, one of the best news editors in Canada, if not the best—a phonographer who graduated from the printer's case not many years ago—retires from the *Globe* in consequence of the change in the management.

On the last week-evening of the old year a very pleasant soiree was given by the *Grip* Publishing Company to their employees, in the St. Lawrence Coffee House. About seventy-five guests were present. Nothing stronger than

water was used in toasting—a feature which is rapidly losing its singularity. The toast of the "Press" was accorded its appropriate place—near the head of the list, contrary to custom. Another original feature was that the toast of the Ladies was responded to by themselves—Mrs. Curzon, associate editor of the *Citizen*, and Miss G. A. Fraser, being the speakers. Some interesting facts relating to the early history of *Grip* were for the first time made public by the conductor of the *WRITER*, who had the honor of helping in the hatching of the talkative Raven whose name is now so familiar to Canadians. The first issue exhausted the funds of the youthful publishers (some \$27.50, all told), and, despite the motto which had been adopted—"Never Say Die,"—*Grip* certainly would have died but for the timely nursing of a friendly publisher. The bird has now lived for ten years, and is more vigorous than ever. It is worthy of remark that although its artist-editor, Mr. J. W. Bengough, never, or hardly ever, was assisted with suggestions for cartoons, his pencil has not been idle for a single week during the whole period.

AMERICAN.

Mr. Charles Carleton Coffin, author of a new American history, entitled "Building the Nation," gives the derivation of "Yankee," not as the usually accepted Indian attempt at "English," but as a corruption of a nickname conferred by the New Amsterdammers upon the New England Puritans. Among the latter John was a very common name—whence "Jankins," the Dutch called them in derision, and the name, transmuted into "Yankee," stuck.

The Ohio Stenographers' Association aims to establish and promote a standard of proficiency in the profession. Provision is made for the election of honorary members by a unanimous vote of the members present at any annual meeting, and for a practical membership upon passing a test of 150 words per minute for the "Reporting" class. "Amanuenses" are subjected to a test of one hundred words per minute. The test may be waived in the case of a well-known stenographer whose competency is sufficiently vouched for.

Governor-elect Butler is not one of those orators who complain because the reporters do not get into print every word they utter, or because they sometimes change a word here and there, for the better or the worse. "You workmen of the press," said he at a dinner of a Boston Reporters' Club, "always do your duty thoroughly, and that I have received any portion of the applause of my fellow-citizens comes from the fact that I have received from you accurate and truthful reports of what I have said. And for that fidelity, which has never faltered, whether from men opposed to me or in my favor, I beg to return to each and all of you my most grateful thanks."

Mr. W. O. Wyckoff, for fifteen years one of the official stenographers of the Sixth Judicial

District of New York, has tendered his resignation, to take effect on the first of January, 1883. Mr. Wyckoff retires from the reporting business, in order to devote his entire time to the type-writer business, of which Messrs. Wyckoff, Seamans, & Benedict now have the sole charge and control. We regret to lose Mr. Wyckoff from the profession, and wish him that success which he so well deserves in this new field of labor, for perhaps no one man has done more to bring the type-writer to its high state of perfection, or to introduce it to the public, than Mr. Wyckoff. It is understood that Mr. Graham, of Hartford, Ct., will succeed Mr. Wyckoff in his old position.

Mr. W. P. Kent, a stenographer of Chicago, gives the following as a sample of the information usually received from railway officials after disasters on their lines: "You're a reporter, are you, and want to know about the accident? Well I'll tell you in a nutshell, if you've got your note-book ready. You see nearly every passenger in that train is a sleeper. Now, a sleeper is that which carries the rails which carry the 'sleeper' which carries the sleepers, and while the sleeper sleeps in the 'sleeper,' the 'sleeper' carries the sleeper over the sleeper under the 'sleeper,' until the 'sleeper' which carries the sleeper runs off the *sleeper* and wakes the sleeper in the 'sleeper' by striking the sleeper under the 'sleeper,' and there is no sleep for the sleeper in the 'sleeper' on the sleeper. That is all I can tell you. G-o-o-d morning."

Public Printer Rounds is chuckling audibly at having defeated the plans of several enterprising correspondents to steal the President's message. Among the army of workmen employed at the Government printing office there have always been some to whom a bribe of \$50 to \$100 for a proof of the message was a temptation too strong to be resisted. Mr. Hayes' last message was printed by these means 24 hours before its delivery to Congress. A New York journal had offered \$1,000 for an exclusive copy of it. Several enterprising correspondents swore they would have it or die; but they did neither. Mr. Rounds conferred with his chief clerk and the foreman of printing as to the best means of securing its safety. It was finally agreed that these gentlemen, together with two clerks in the office, all of whom are practical printers, should set it up in the *Record* room after the employes retired for the day. This they did for several hours each night, Mr. Rounds doing a fair share of the type setting, in addition to correcting the proof. The work was so well done that not a single error was visible in its 12,000 words. Fourteen copies were taken, all of which were delivered to the President by Mr. Rounds himself the night prior to the assembling of Congress. "The President was greatly pleased," said Mr. Rounds, who tells the story with great gusto, and complimented me no less on the excellent character of the work than

on the fact that I had outwitted the sharpest and shrewdest set of news gatherers on the face of the habitable globe."

The retirement of Mr. T. Connery from the management of the New York *Herald* is one of the most recent changes in editorial life. This is solely due to ill-health, and hence (agreeably to Bennett's rule) it is accompanied by half-pay for life. Mr. Connery, however, hopes to resume his station at the lapse of a year, but this is hardly probable. His severe application to duty has so impaired his constitution that complete recovery will require a long time. Mr. Connery's connection with the *Herald* began at the very bottom of the ladder, but he eventually reached primacy over the entire staff. Thirty years ago the senior Mr. Bennett had a reporter commonly known as Ned Connery, who was glad to earn \$20 a week. How little did he then imagine that his son would become the manager of the establishment with the salary of \$12,000 a year! Such, however, proved to be the case. Young Tom Connery helped his father to report the petty details of city life, and gradually rose to his recent elevation, which he has held for a dozen years. He is not an educated man, as the term goes, but he has what is better than mere learning—the tact necessary to make a first-class newspaper. Personally speaking, he is of plain and unassuming appearance. He is tall and thin, with a slight stoop and a careworn brow. His countenance, though deficient in culture and of plebeian aspect, is marked by penetration and good sense, but it bears no indication of that important position which he has so long and so ably filled. His successor is the versatile Mr. Flynn, who has held several important situations on the *Herald* staff, and was at one time city editor. Mr. Bennett changes the employment of his best men in order to test their varied ability, and since the office of managing editor must be supplied from his own staff, he is thus studying their capacity, in order to provide against any emergency.

BRITISH.

At Mouffet's Hotel, Newgate-street, London, a large audience assembled to hear a lecture by the well-known shorthand writer, Mr. Thomas Allen Reed, his subject being the technical one of "Phraseography," the art of writing stenographically common phrases consisting of several words without lifting the pen. The lecturer's long experience was brought to bear upon the subject in an interesting and instructive address. After the lecture, a testimonial—projected originally by the readers of a shorthand periodical, *The Phonographic Reporter*, on Mr. Reed's recent retirement from the editorship, a post which he had held for upwards of thirty years—was presented. The testimonial consisted of an illuminated address, signed extensively by journalists, reporters, and shorthand writers, and handsomely bound

in book form, and was presented by Mr. Thomas J. Woods, who in a suitable speech expressed his pleasure at making the presentation. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. Mullins.

Mr. Justin McCarthy, one of the most industrious of the hard worked class of journalists and authors, and a writer of great and varied gifts, is still properly credited with a good deal of the incisive editorial matter in the *Daily News*. Novelist, journalist, historian, lecturer, Member of Parliament, Mr. McCarthy is a representative man in all the branches of literature and politics, which he has essayed with courage and success. Some of his friends lament that he has been drawn into the whirlpool of Irish agitation; but, despite his thirty years' residence in England, he is Irish, "native and to the manner born," and, master of his own destiny, it is not for friends or admirers to limit or select the field of his labors, or the political and personal objects of his sympathies. Journalistic London has reason to be proud of counting among its ranks men whose talents command alike the respect of friends and foes.

Mr. T. J. Woods (president of the London Shorthand Writers' Association) after congratulating the members, at their recent annual meeting, on the continued unanimity which had prevailed in the association since its formation in 1866, spoke at some length on the question of rival systems of shorthand, pointing out that the association was not pledged to any particular system, but always welcomed well-considered improvements in the art. Referring to a proposal to teach shorthand universally in schools, Mr. Woods expressed a decided opinion that, apart altogether from any objection the ratepayers may entertain to the teaching of accomplishments in rate-supported elementary schools, the attempt to impart a knowledge of shorthand in Board and elementary schools would be a great mistake. A very small percentage of students of shorthand ever attain real proficiency in its practice, and supposing the highest success attended the efforts of the teachers, a large proportion of the scholars in the Board schools would not derive the slightest benefit from a knowledge of the art, while on the other hand the time necessary to teach the signs might be far more profitably spent in more suitably equipping the scholars for the position they will probably be called on to occupy in after years.

SHORTHAND REPORTING IN OUR COURTS.

(*St. John, N.B. Daily Sun, October 6th.*)

There was one thing which the recent election trial in King's county brought very prominently before the eyes of the public—or at all events that portion of the public who were present at the Court last Monday afternoon, and that was the quickness with which the evidence was disposed of by the employment

of shorthand writers. In about two hours' time four witnesses were heard, one of them being examined at great length, and comparing the rate of speed of examining him with that of witnesses in other trials where shorthand writers were not employed, it is safe to say that in all probability had the evidence been written by the Judge in the ordinary way on trials in the Supreme Court, Mr. Travis would not have left the stand before Tuesday afternoon at the earliest. And if such a saving of time, and consequently of expense, was effected in one day, how great would have been that saving if the crowd of witnesses called by the petitioners had been heard. This proves, as have all the cases tried before our courts where the evidence was taken by shorthand writers, the great necessity there exists for the introduction of shorthand reporting into our Supreme Court at all events. The public and suitors could afford to pay a liberal salary to the official reporter, for, with the lessening of the costs of trials in the way of jury fees, witnesses' fees, &c., all parties would be the gainers, and the shorthand writer would, in effect, more than pay for himself. And there are other advantages which were clearly apparent at the trial referred to above. Mr. Gilbert was enabled to press the examination of his witness without being constantly interrupted to have the evidence taken down. His Honor the Judge was freed from the drudgery of several hours of hard writing, and was therefore enabled to give his undivided and undistracted attention not only to the evidence itself, but to the manner of the witnesses in giving it, and the opposite council could also watch the trial more closely—all parties knowing that the evidence was being taken down word for word, and that they could get it afterwards if they wanted it. The Opposition are calling out for reform and retrenchment in public expenditures. Here is a chance for Attorney General McLeod to institute a radical change which will commend itself to the public generally and inaugurate a system which, if ever adopted, would not be given up. Shorthand writers are employed in the courts of the United States and the Province of Ontario, and New Brunswick should no longer be behind the age in this respect. If it should be deemed unwise to make such a radical change without experimenting, let the Legislature give the judges the same power to appoint as is done by the Dominion Controverted Election Act of 1874. All that is necessary to commend the system to the public is a fair trial.

The first printing press in the United States was worked in 1620.

The first daily newspaper appeared in 1802. The first newspaper printed in the United States was published in Boston on Sept. 25, 1790.

A FRESH YOUNG MAN AMONG THE WAX-WORK FIGGERS.

HOW HE WAS "INTERVIEWED,"—A LOVE AFFAIR—THE CLIMAX.

BY T. W. BELL.

A Society Novelle, written specially for this Journal.

Hoisting anchor in the way of pulling on a tight pair of Wellington boots, (size twelve) I set out from my London lodgings at an intensely previous hour in the morning. I was going to visit Madame Tussaud's celebrated wax ghost gallery, the whereabouts I calculated by the rule of three would take me some time to discover. Passing under the wire about forty-seven boat lengths ahead of my usual success in the way of street hunting, I found myself in the presence of the wax figger factory, about one hour and a half before I was due there. Presuming that the place was conducted on the police station plan, namely: doors open at all hours for new arrivals, I walked right in through the main entrance, and following the direction of a guide board I ascended a staircase which led me into an anti-room, and at the same time into the presence of a very genteel-looking middle-aged person, whose face to me seemed as familiar as that of the man in the moon. I thought I could read in his features the name of an old photographic acquaintance, but what that name was I could not just at that moment fish up to the surface. Being myself unacquainted with any of the fraternity on this side of the Atlantic, I hastily concluded that the shorthand man in whose countenance I detected deep traces of familiarity must be a fellow-countryman. I was almost in the act of surrendering to the overjoy with which I was seized consequent upon coming so suddenly and unexpectedly in contact with a Canadian maker of magic stringlets, and was just about to holler out "Hallo, my covy! what brought you so far away from home?" When, remembering that such things as cases of mistaken identity have frequently occurred since the opening day of the world, I decided not to allow my-self to be too fresh on the present occasion. Observing that my friend occupied a position at the inner door which made him appear to be the collector of admission fees, I approached him with an inquiry concerning the dimensions of the price of admittance. I was just about preparing to inaugurate a wondering over the fellow's stupid silence, when a love-forsaken-looking damsel of forty summers of single agony appeared upon the scene to inform me that the exhibition would not be open for another hour, and that the party whom I was addressing was Charles Dickens in wax. The contents of a quart bottle of Carter's blue black writing fluid and a pillow case of goose quills could not photograph my feelings as well as they can be imagined. However, I found a few blades of comfort in the fact that my

cranium was perfectly plumb so far as the shorthand was concerned in the recognition, for, those who are acquainted with the early days of the noble-minded novelist, will remember that he laid the corner stone of his glorious career in a bed of stenographia chicken tracks.

Making my exit I returned again after an hour's shop window gazing, deposited my shilling and proceeded to look around. Having exhausted pretty thoroughly the contents of the principal room I walked up to a policeman whom I saw standing at a short distance from me, and invited him to be so good as to direct me to the "Chamber of Horrors," a room which as its name implies contains model portraits in wax of distinguished tight rope performers. Finding my inquiry treated with that silent contempt which I had been subjected to at the hands of Charles Dickens, I did not occupy many hemidemiquavers of time in coming to the conclusion that this officer of the law, too, was a wax institution.

Proceeding through the building by the shortest overland route I could find leading to the aforesaid chamber, on entering I lost no time in nailing my mind to the determination never again to appear before the world as the author of such silly blunders as I had just been committing. The forming of such a resolution was, however, no guarantee against the blundering of other visitors, and I'll tell you why. First of all it will be necessary to explain that the wax figures are indexed by means of numbers, which are placed before them at their feet. By referring to a catalogue, which is obtained at the door, the visitor, by turning to the corresponding number, at once comes into possession of the biography of the creature of wax. While I was standing with my back towards the assassin of President Garfield, gazing steadily upon the face of Lefroy, whose wax remains occupy a position opposite those of Guiteau, and wondering what in the name of phonography ever possessed him, a newspaper man and shorthand reporter, to commit that crowning act of crime, murder,—whilst I was thus standing, staring and wondering, unconscious of the fact that in my close proximity to Guiteau I was intervening his figure and its brass number on the floor, a lady visitor approached, and surveying me through her eyeglasses from base to summit she consulted her catalogue, and on looking up the number agreeing with that at my feet she turned to her daughter, a charming young miss of about sixteen summers, and with a very ruffled air remarked as follows: "The very idea, Florence my dear, of so handsome and intelligent looking a young man trying to pass himself off on the good people of the United States as a fool that he might escape the gallows, to me, and I don't pretend to be half as clever as American judges and experts ought to be, seems almost too ridiculous for anything."

"Why, Mamma!" exclaimed the pretty young lady, "that is not a wax figure at all. See, he breathes, and he has just been making eyes at me. He's a real nice young fellow, and I'll jolly soon bet my bloomin' little boots on it too."

Almost before the pulse of an eight day clock could have had time to beat again, the old lady had me all covered over with apologies. After enjoying ourselves in a good old English laugh, accepting their pre-sing invitation to dinner, we left L' Institution de Madam Tussaud together.

Florence is now taking lessons in Standard Phonography, having placed herself under the guidance and instruction of a handsome and intelligent looking young man. Please reserve space in your next for a marriage notice.

THE CANADIAN SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

It is rather early to say anything definite as to the second meeting of this Society, to be held in August of this year. If possible the date must be arranged coincident with that of the International Congress. As the latter will not convene till Thursday, 16th August, it will probably be deemed best to hold the Canadian Convention on Wednesday, 15th August. There will no doubt be important business to be transacted. This cannot be done entirely by committees; neither, in justice to the International Congress, should it be discussed on one of the days set apart for the Congress. The plan which seems to us most favorable, therefore, will be to devote Wednesday to the Canadian meeting. Business can be condensed, and contributions in the form of "papers" can be handed over to the Congress. The eloquent essayists will be much more highly honored by having the opportunity of reading their productions to the assembled Congress, than if the audience were confined to Canadians.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.

PREPARATIONS FOR A LARGE ASSEMBLY—A VERY PLEASANT AND PROFITABLE TIME ANTICIPATED—CANADIAN STENOGRAPHERS ACTIVE.

The dates for the sessions of the International Congress of Shorthand Writers for the United States and Canada, are:—Thursday and Friday, August 16 and 17, 1883. The place of meeting: Toronto—the Queen City of the West—the centre of the Canadian Shorthand world—the home of the official reporters of the Ontario Courts—the city of refuge, in the heat of summer, from the scorching glare of the American sun. Here our American Cousins will find Rest, Relief and Refuge, from the Scorching, Sweltering Sunshine of the South. The Canadian Committee who have in charge the arrangements for the meetings, aided by the energetic Secretaries, Brown and Holland, of Chicago,

will, it is hoped and fondly expected, be able to offer very special railway and steamboat rates, special hotel fares, and a list of attractions that cannot fail to draw a very large number. We are planning for a company numbering 300. There were 175 at Cincinnati, last year; but Toronto is as far ahead of Cincinnati, as Canada is ahead of the United States! (Pardon this seemingly uncosmopolitan expression, but remember that it is written on the north side of Lake Ontario.) If our American friends only add 25 to the Cincinnati quota—and they can easily do that without any effort—they will send 200 delegates; and Canada will furnish at least 100 more. Last summer, at the meeting for the organization of the Canadian Shorthand Society, we had 75 delegates, and we shall be surprised if twice that number do not attend the second meeting. It would be safe to estimate on a larger number than 300; but three hundred live stenographers would form a highly respectable assembly, and would impress the Ontario metropolis—and therefore the whole Continent—with the importance of the stenographic profession.

Attractions will be multiplied to a tempting extent; but of these we shall have more to say in later issues.

The Rossin House, in which the sessions of the C.S.S. were held, will doubtless be the headquarters of the Congress.

Representative stenographers from England and the Continent are expected to be present.

Reader! arrange your vacation so that you can take in the Congress. Don't forget it!

HOW THURLOW WEEB DRILLED HIS MEMORY.

[Stenographers, who must remember names, dates, phrases, and facts relating to every subject, will be interested in this experience of the veteran journalist and politician—Ed.]

"You seem to remember as well as ever," a friend said to him one day.

"Better than I did once, I hope," he answered with a smile. "If I had not cultivated my memory I should have been a dismal failure."

"Did you make a systematic effort to improve in the regular course of affairs?" "I had to adopt a regular method," he said, "and I hit on one that was very effective. I will tell you about it for the benefit of other young men. I got married in 1818, when I was working in Albany as a journeyman printer. In a few months I went into business, establishing a newspaper for myself, and some of my friends thought I was 'cut out for a politician'—that is, I probably impressed my views strongly on those about me. But I saw at once a fatal weakness. My memory was a sieve. I could remember nothing.

"Dates, names, appointments, faces—everything escaped me. I said to my wife, Catherine, 'I shall never make a successful politician for I cannot remember, and that is a prime necessity of politicians. A politician who see a man once should remember him forever.'

"I recalled what had been said of Henry Clay: that he could go around and be introduced to fifty persons, and then on mingling with the company, call every man by his right name.

"And I thought also of the colored fellow who officiates at the grand hat-rack in the vestibule of the United States Hotel at Saratoga, and who, as the hundreds of guests flock out of the dining-room, hands to each one instantly the hat, shawl, fan or whatever has been deposited there an hour or two before.

"My wife told me," continued Mr. Weed, "that I must train my memory. So when I came home that night I sat down alone and spent fifteen minutes trying silently to recall the events of the day. I could remember little at first: now I remember that I could not then remember what I had for breakfast. Finally I found I could recall more. Events came back to me more minutely and more accurately. After a fortnight or so of this, Catherine said, 'Why don't you tell it to me? It would be interesting, and my interest in it would stimulate you.'

"Then I began a habit of oral confession, as it were, which I followed for over fifty years.

"Every night, the last thing before retiring, I told my wife everything that I could recall that had happened to me or about me during the day.

"I generally recalled the very dishes I had had for breakfast, dinner and tea; the people I had seen and what they said; the editorials I had written, and an abstract of them; the letters I had sent and received, and the very language used as near as possible; when I had walked or ridden—everything in short, that had come within my knowledge. I found I could say my lesson better and better every year, and instead of growing irksome it got to be a pleasure to run the events of the day in review. I am indebted to this discipline for a memory of somewhat unusual tenacity, and I recommend the practice to all who expect to have much to do with influencing men."

EVERY MAN HIS OWN STENO- GRAPHER.

Another addition has been made to the many scientific wonders of recent years. Herr A. Gentilli, of Vienna, has invented an instrument called by him the glossograph, consist of an ingenious combination of delicate levers and blades, which, placed upon the tongue and lips and under the nostrils of the speaker, are vibrated by the movements of the former and the breath flowing from the latter. The vibration is transmitted to pencils which transcribe the several signs produced by the action of tongue and lips and the breath from the nostrils upon a strip of paper moved by a mechanical arrangement. Similar to shorthand, a special system of writing, which may be fitly termed glossography, is produced, based upon the principle of syllable construction and combination of consonants. It is especially suitable for those languages the orthography of which differs least from the phonetic record of the apparatus. A

wide vista is opened to the instrument for its practical application in recording speech. Independently of the fact that by its means we shall be enabled to write four or five times as quickly as hitherto by shorthand, the new apparatus requires no preliminary study and no special practice. It is self-acting in the fullest sense. Moreover, its application involves as little fatigue to the speaker as severe attention on the part of the person transcribing. In reporting proceedings in Parliament or courts of law it is not necessary that the speaker should use the apparatus himself. Anybody may articulate it by repeating in a low voice the words of a speaker, which is sufficient for recording the signs. The glossograph may be recommended to those orators whose efforts to be heard are consistently ignored by reporters, and who will thus be enabled, by simply adjusting the instrument under their nose, to report their own speeches in spite of those objectionable persons. Seriously speaking, however, the glossograph may play an important part in telegraphy in the near future.

BRILLIANT NEWSPAPER FEAT.

ONE OF THE THINGS REPORTERS HAVE TO DO TO
KEEP UP.

(From *The Parisian*.)

One of the most brilliant feats of French reporting is the following. It happened at the time when the great Troppmann murder case was agitating Paris and France, and when everybody was eager for details. A reporter who had the matter in hand left Paris for Cernay, where the father of Troppmann resided. He arrived, called upon the Justice of the Peace and the Commissaire de Police, invited them to follow him to the Maire, took his seat in the Judge's chair, and there, with unparalleled audacity, ordered the garde champêtre to go and bring before him the assassin's father. The officers did not say a word; the reporter had conquered them by his air and demeanor. When the father of Troppmann was brought before him the reporter interrogated him as though officially commissioned to do so. The result of the cross-questioning was that the son had written to his father on the eve and on the day of the crime. "Monsieur le Commissaire," said the reporter, "please go to the witness's house and seize these letters."

The functionary obeyed; the letters were brought, the reporter read them, found them full of evidence of Troppmann's guilt, copied them carefully and with a solemn air. Then with respect, he handed over the originals to the Justice of the Peace, asked him to seal them carefully and keep them for the future use of the court. The reporter put the copies into his pocket, saluted the gentlemen and left. It was 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and the train that was to bear his letter to Paris would not leave before evening. If he sent his precious report by that train it would be too late for the morning edition of his paper,

Besides, he met two other Paris reporters who had just arrived, and who would soon learn the news at Cernay and send it on to Paris at the same time he did his report. What does he do! He goes up to his brother reporters and says: "I am dying of hunger my friends. Let us breakfast together. You go to the tavern there and order a good *dejeuner*, with plenty of wine you know, and I'll come presently." The two reporters did as he bade them, while our friend jumped into a wagon, had himself driven to the station; after hard begging, and giving money, was allowed to leave on a luggage train, then about to start caught a passenger train for Paris at a junction further on, and arrived at the office of his paper late at night. He communicated his information, and the first page, which was already "closed up," was completely reset. The next morning 80,000 copies of the paper were sold.

LEFT-HANDED SHORTHANDERS.

(*Correspondence in the Reporters' Magazine.*)

The interesting description given in the *Reporters' Magazine* of a left-hand shorthand writer recalls a similar instance of a young phonographer of my acquaintance who is now living in South Wales, who has written the system with the left hand for a long time. In early life he had the misfortune to permanently injure his right hand, but continues to use it to write longhand and occasional shorthand. His general practice is to write phonography with the left hand, being able to write thus, when I last saw him several years ago, at a speed of about 70 words per minute. This I know from the fact that he used to be one of my advanced pupils, and as it is evidently much more laborious than ordinary to obtain facility in writing shorthand under such unusual circumstances, I could not but admire his patience and energy. As may be expected, the style of writing of this young phonographer is not so even or regular as that of ordinary phonographers of equal experience. But I had little difficulty in reading the notes, having had frequent opportunities of seeing them. It is also his habit to take notes of letters and business memorandums almost daily by means of the left hand. Of course he continues to write so, not only because of relief for the other hand, but because with it he can grasp and hold the pen and pencil better for writing shorthand than with the right.

In last month's issue you mention what seems to have been to Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle a most peculiar characteristic in the phonographic world, namely, a left-hand shorthand writer, who has, by individual exertion and utterly against the laws of nature, accomplished the extraordinary feat of training the left hand to perform the work of the right, without apparently little or any more trouble than would have been necessary in training the right hand to the path of duty, and without experiencing any of those vexatious troubles known only to the long experienced writer, namely, writers' cramp.

I wish to state in answer to these remarks that I have been a shorthand writer for five years, and that I have never up to the present time written a single outline of the phonographic alphabet with my right hand, nor do I intend to so long as I have my left, which enables me to perform the task with more ease and with as perfect accuracy as the right hand.

When I was very young I was so unlucky as to receive a paralytic attack which almost deprived me of the use of my right hand for writing ever since. Yet, notwithstanding this, I used my right for doing some things until about nine or ten years of age, when I was advised that I ought to use my left always, seeing that in that hand I had the most strength. I followed the advice given me, and have ever since then used the left hand for all purposes.

I believe, however, that if I had trained up the right hand, little by little, I should not have been so backward as I am at present, but should have been able to perform with the right hand some work which I now do with the left hand.

The thought occurred to me in the end of 1877 to endeavor to get the right hand to do its proper work, and until the middle of 1878 I practised longhand writing with it. I succeeded in doing some work with it, but finding I was unable to write with sufficient dexterity I abandoned the attempt as a failure, and since that time, from want of practice, I have lost what dexterity I had, and I could not now write half so well or so quickly as in the years 1877-8 with my right hand.

When I took up the study of shorthand writing I commenced by using my left hand to form the characters, and have found it suit all my requirements in the practice of the art, although I was told many and many times over at that time that I should never be able to perform the task of training the left hand to take notes verbatim. Yet I felt persuaded that if I only practised I should accomplish that feat in the end. I kept fast to the study and soon began to mend my pace; indeed I had no more difficulty in gaining speed than any individual would have had with all the powers of the body fully developed. I began to practice early and labored long and assiduously until I was successful, and I never once felt what is known as writer's cramp, though I have taken notes for several years, hours in succession.

I have read in American shorthand periodicals that it was impossible to train the left hand to do the work of the right, and that left-handed men could never become proficient note-takers. They said that the left hand was more subject to writer's cramp, because it was not so glib, and that the tendons were not so strong as in the right hand. I have found these arguments to be absurd, for although I have been often continually writing from early morning until late at night I have never felt tired; and in my opinion the left hand is not so susceptible to writer's cramp as the right hand. At least I have never experienced any pains in the wrist.

COMMUNICATIONS.

PRESENT AND FUTURE OF PHONOGRAPHY.

To the Editor of Bengough's Cosmopolitan Shorthand Writer.

SIR,—Your journal of July, just received, (Oct. 24) has brought to my notice for the first time the remarks of the editor of the *Reporters' Magazine* (called by itself the "organ of the reporting profession") on your observations in your article entitled "Phonography versus the New Systems."

We have long been accustomed on this side of the water to read in that journal, which arrogates to itself pretensions which it would be difficult to prove itself entitled to, inuendo and abuse of opponents when it cannot deny facts, therefore I was not surprised at the way the *Magazine* has dealt with your remarks.

The editors of bigoted phonographic journals here not infrequently try to put the intelligent truth-seeker off either with a profession that they cannot understand some new system which may cross their path, and therefore insinuate that it is worthless, or with some misrepresentation of the facts if they happen to be unpleasant to Mr. Isaac Pitman and his servile journalistic followers. The servility of the *Reporters' Magazine*, as well as its bigotry in the cause of Mr. Isaac Pitman's phonography, is proverbial among at least some of those whose organ it professes (I believe it is only a profession) to be. Another practice they adopt also—gathered from the tactics of the *Phonetic Journal*—is to allow no reply to their opinions, or rather *dicta*, in their own journals. "I am Sir Oracle!" they seem to say, "and when I open my mouth let no dog bark!" Fortunately for the new systems, however, there are one or two shorthand journals where at least both sides of a controversy can be stated, and one or two social newspapers are becoming alive to the importance of shorthand to the community, and are allowing their columns to be used for free discussion, notably *The Bazaar*, *Exchange and Mart*, which, for the benefit of your readers who may like to read a controversy which has been going on weekly since June last, I may say is published at 170 Strand, W. C., price 2d. per copy.

With this introduction I will refer to the replies of the magazine in question. It "sees no indication 'whatever that Mr. Pocknell's pamphlet foreshadows a struggle; already it is almost forgotten here.'" We have a proverb that there are none so blind as those who won't see. When danger approaches the ostrich, it is said he buries his head in the sand, in order not to witness his own execution. The reply of the magazine is weak; and besides that, it is untrue to say that my system is almost forgotten. The correspondence going on in the *Bazaar* will, if the editor of the *Magazine* will read it, enlighten him considerably in regard to his own ignorance.

2. The journal insinuates that the Reviewers of Legible Shorthand form a Mutual Admiration Society; and that no competent authority pronounced my system "The Shorthand of the Future." This is an insinuation worthy of the journal. It is quite untrue and a libel on the profession which the journal professes to represent. It is a fact well known among English newspaper men who have had any experience, that, as a rule, newspapers do not regard with favor, but the contrary, any literary or inventive work brought out by a newspaper man. The editor of the *Magazine* has seen the system described in full detail, and been unable to answer any point. He prefers a carping general statement to discredit the work of a rival, and while he denounces men who, as he says, "throw mud" at Phonography, he himself uses pitch in the hope that some of it will stick.

The journals which pronounced Legible Shorthand to be the shorthand of the future were the *Derbyshire Courier* (England) and the *Daily South-West* (Durango). It would be curious if the Mutual Admiration Society had its ramifications in two hemispheres.

I am not concerned to defend Professor Everett's system, but I will say that the answer of the journal burks the assertion you made, and which I believe to be correct.

In regard to the division in the ranks of phonographers, the editor of the magazine again refuses to see facts which lie under his very nose. To my knowledge the editor has heard statements made at meetings of phonetic shorthand associations in regard to Mr. Pitman's phonography which a few years ago would have been regarded as heterodox and a disqualification for membership. I have explained publicly that I do not write my system for want of time to practise it, being called on to do verbatim shorthand daily. To be constantly repeating the fact only shows the editor has no better weapon of attack.

As to the future guardianship of phonography, I have no concern with the editor's opinions; and he is welcome to hug to his breast any absurd opinions that he chooses. One thing is quite certain, that tactics such as the *Reporters' Magazine* and the *Phonetic Journal* condescend to, are not calculated to keep the ranks of phonographers together, but rather the very reverse. Phonographers here have got beyond the days of "leading strings," and the intelligent among them decline to accept the dogma of the infallibility of Phonography, either at the hands of the one journal or the other. The "new systems" are signs of the revulsion of feeling, and the *Phonetic Journal* leading the *Reporters' Magazine* is an instance of the "blind leading the blind."

Yours, etc.,

EDWARD POCKNELL.

64 & 65 Imperial Buildings,
Ludgate Circus, London, Eng.

Handwritten shorthand symbols on a ruled line, including a series of loops and a small 'x' at the end.

Handwritten shorthand symbols

Handwritten shorthand symbols on a ruled line, featuring various loops, curves, and a small 'x' at the end.

Handwritten shorthand symbols on a ruled line, including a series of loops and a small 'x' at the end.

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SHORTHAND IN NEW BRUNSWICK COURTS.

Unvocalized Reporting Style—Key on page 115.

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