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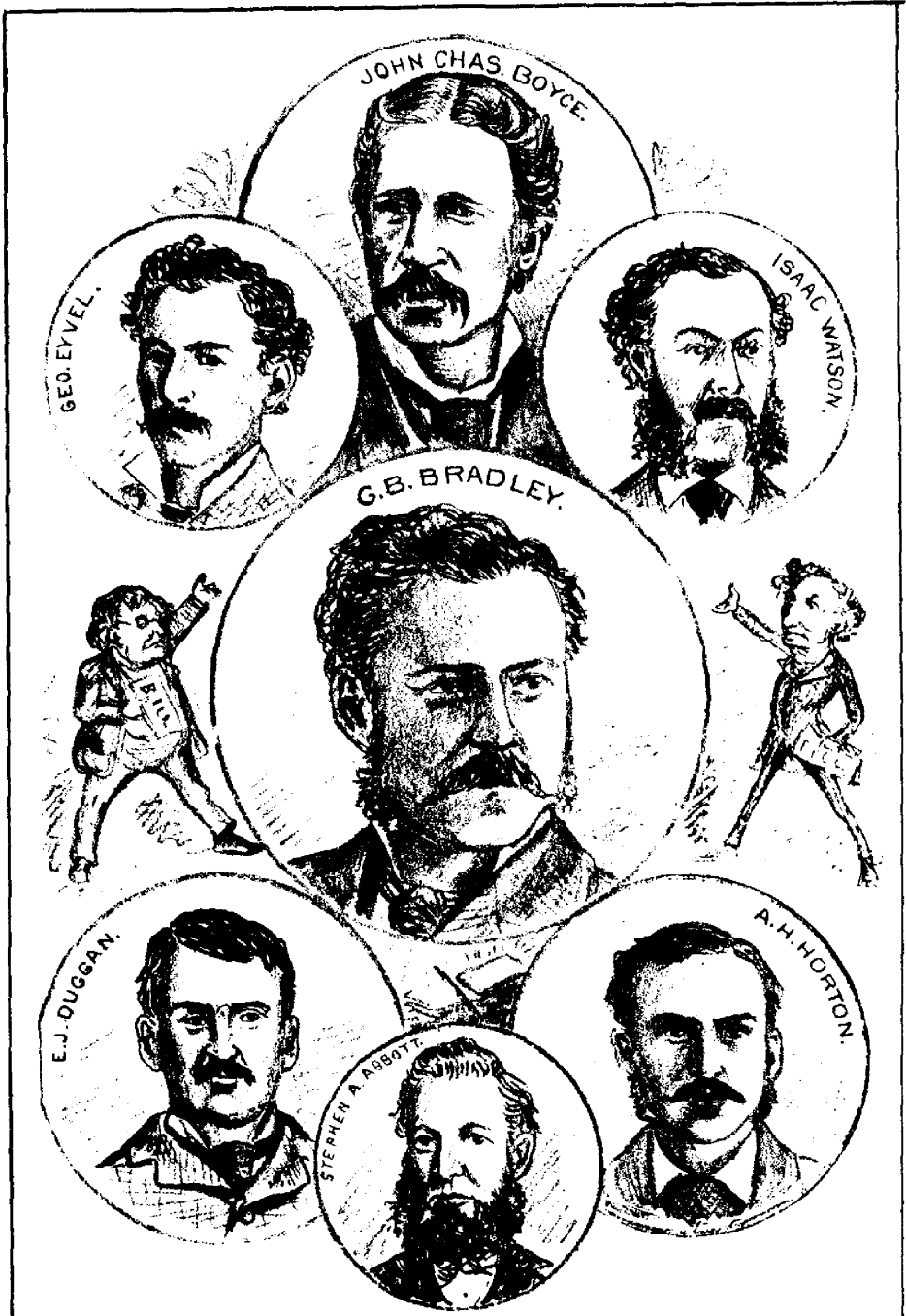
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JULY, 1880.


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THE HAISARD STAFF.

Reporters of the Canadian House of Commons

THE CANADIAN

ILLUSTRATED

SHORTHAND WRITER.

VOL. I.

TORONTO JULY, 1880.

No. 3.

Editorial and Contributed.

OFFICIAL PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS.
The Commons Staff and its Work—Biographical
Sketches of the Hansard Reporters.

WE publish in this number portraits of the members of the Official Reporting Staff of the House of Commons. Under the new system they become officers of the House and hold their appointments direct from Parliament, in contradistinction to the contract system. The salaries to be paid during next session will be as follows: Chief reporter, \$1,500, assistant reporters, \$1,000 each; assistant to the chief reporter \$500. The *Globe* in commenting on the capabilities of the gentlemen composing the staff, recently said they included probably all the best talent, but it was doubtful whether they could be retained for any length of time at the salaries named. There is no doubt much force in the warning thus given. The gentlemen have accepted the positions in the belief that the drawbacks which have hitherto attended the publication of the official debates may be altogether removed and success achieved. Instead of the reports being three or four weeks in arrear at the close of the session, it is resolved that a daily issue shall be made and that bound volumes be ready a few days after prorogation. In order to accomplish this desirable result the form of the *Congressional Record* has been adopted, and other measures have been taken to insure rapid publication as well as accurate reports. When these combined results are obtained the official reports will become not only valuable as a permanent record, but extremely useful to the public journals, especially country weeklies, desiring to publish *in extenso* the speeches of the representatives of their particular districts. That they will be secured by the adoption of the new system, under which able and experienced reporters familiar with Parliamentary work have been brought together under a competent and popular Chief, is already assured.

We subjoin brief notes on the "reporting" lives of the members of the official corps.

MR. G. BRADLEY, Chief Reporter. Son of the late George Bradley, Esq., of Newcastle on Tyne, a leading newspaper proprietor in the North of England, and a talented writer and reporter; also inventor of a system of shorthand. Was trained for the press under his late father, and subsequently held positions on English daily and weekly journals. Having received a liberal offer to join an American daily, Mr. Bradley crossed the Atlantic to investigate the journalistic field in Canada and the United States. His cis-atlantic engagements have included reportorial and editorial appointments on the *Mail*, the *Globe*, the *Montreal Gazette* and the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*. Was associated with Messrs. Burgess, George Holland and Samuel Hutchinson in issuing the first official reports of the House of Commons debates, in 1874. Was subsequently a partner with Messrs. Richardson and Lumsden in the publication of *Hansard*. Reported officially many Commissions, Investigations, &c.; and was appointed by the Governments of Great Britain, United States and Canada, to report the evidence and entire proceedings of the Halifax Fishery Commission, during its four months' session. Mr. Bradley has filled the positions of Secretary and President of the Reporters' Gallery of the Ontario Legislature. In 1873 he was Secretary of the Parliamentary Press Gallery, Ottawa. Last year he was unanimously elected its President, a post which he still occupies, and which was held during his early years in the Gallery by his then employer, Mr. Thos. White, M.P. Mr. Bradley is in his thirty-fifth year.

MR. ISAAC WATSON was born in the County of Armagh, Ireland, in the year 1839, and reared in Belfast. Being attracted to the press, he began to learn shorthand, not long after his arrival in Montreal, and in 1858, was qualified to write a sketch for a newspaper or report a speaker of moderate speed. In 1859, he became reporter for the *Commercial Advertiser*, that has been succeeded by the *Star*, working for the *Advertiser* three

years, when he joined the staff of the *Montreal Gazette*. Mr. Watson did nearly all the shorthand reporting for this newspaper till the fall of 1865, being the only stenographer in its employ. In this year he went to Ottawa, to act as reporter and sub-editor of the *Times*, just started, which situation he quitted in the following summer, for similar employment on the Quebec *Chronicle*. While attached to the *Gazette*, however, Mr. Watson was allowed to form Sessional engagements with the proprietors of the Quebec *Chronicle*, and in August, 1863, he essayed Parliamentary reporting, continuing as the *Chronicle's* shorthand representative in the gallery till Ottawa became the seat of Government. The events of the closing years of the old union were, as most will remember, extremely important; parties were nearly equal in strength, each boasting many able, earnest and energetic men. Mr. Watson reported with Mr. Edwards, now of the *Congressional Globe* staff, for the Toronto *Globe* the first Session of the Dominion Parliament, at Ottawa, shortly after which, as already mentioned, he became a member of the Quebec *Chronicle* staff, being promoted to the editorial chair in the Summer of 1867. He edited this journal till the fall of 1872, when he left it for some rest and travel, for the benefit of his health. He worked for it as editorial correspondent at Ottawa during the Session of 1873, becoming also, about the middle of that Session, official reporter for the Senate, as successor to Mr. Bourinot. He remained with the Senate throughout the Session of 1874 and 1875, receiving the latter year only any assistance, and that, chiefly, from S. A. Abbot, whose useful services were retained some time after the Houses assembled. Among other professional work of late years, he has edited the *Ottawa Times*, reported for Law Courts and conducted the *Prescott Telegraph*, which he sold to Mr. G. A. Mackenzie, in 1878. He has been farming in Compton, the last two years, largely for the benefit of his health, but worked on the House of Commons' *Hansard* throughout the Sessions of 1879 and 1880, receiving an appointment on the staff lately formed. Among the political and social events which, in times "a good way off," this gentleman has described and reported at full length, only a few may be mentioned now for the interest of younger professional gentlemen; the contests and principal English speeches from the days of the Sandfield-Macdonald-Dorion Government, to the late George Brown's last speech at the end of the Session of 1865—made on Saturday; Sanfield's pathetic speech, resigning office in 1864; Hon. Mr. Cockburn's speech in the attack on the Macdonald-Dorion Government, before its fall; Confederation speeches, including Judge Dunkin's and Sir Geo. Carter's efforts, of two days each; the great banquet to the Provincial delegates (Confederation) in Montreal in 1866; G. H. Cameron's address to the Ottawa Orangemen in the same year; a large share of the three-hours' speech of Sir A. T. Galt in 1865, at Sherbrooke; the whole of first Quebec Provincial Bud-

get speech—Judge Dunkin's, eleven *Chronicle* columns; Sir John Young's important speech at Quebec, containing reference to the possible change of Canadian "allegiance" (the Gladstone-Bright Government being then in power); dinner-speeches of leading public men, besides financial speeches, etc., in great number. Mr. Watson writes the old British system of stenography, considerably improved, however, as he thinks, by himself, to suit his wants and tastes.



ALBERT HORTON is a native Canadian, having been born on Wolfe Island, opposite Kingston, in 1853. When he was ten years old his family moved to Kingston, where he obtained most of the little schooling he ever got. Circumstances over which he had no control compelled him at the early age of twelve, and against his own inclinations,—as he was first boy in the school over many older than himself—to leave school, and begin the battle of life on his own account. After being for about a year employed in various ways—as farm boy, mill boy in a saw-mill, and message-boy in a dry-goods store—he was apprenticed to the printing trade in the Kingston *Daily News* office. He shortly afterwards moved to Belleville, and thence to Toronto, where he served the greater part of his apprenticeship in the jobroom of the *Globe*. Like many others of the same craft, his fancy turned to thoughts of journalism, and by means of a debating society and private study in the evenings he sought to fit himself for that profession. He acquired Graham's phonography, and at the age of twenty, began as a reporter on the *Montreal Witness*. After remaining there for about nine months, he was employed on the *Mail*, and afterwards assisted in the same capacity to bring the *Evening Telegram* into life. It was while on the *Mail* that Mr. Horton became responsible for the publication in the *Montreal Witness* of the famous heretical sermon of the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, which created such a fuss in ecclesiastical circles three or four years ago, and which he reported conjointly with Mr. Thomas Bengough, now a Court reporter. In 1876 Mr. Horton retired from active business with the intention of taking a course in Arts in Toronto University, but the pressure and inducements of the journalistic world were too great for him. In the fall of 1877 after spending two years at college, he was offered, and accepted, a position on the *Globe's* parliamentary staff, where he remained until he was appointed a member of the *Hansard* staff at the close of last session of the House of Commons. Mr. Horton, though a Grahamite, is by no means a servile or bigoted one; he has made several modifications of his own upon Graham, and, acknowledging that we can find some superior merits in all of the leading systems, believes that each may perhaps borrow something beneficial from the others.

JOHAN CHAS. BOYCE, assistant to the chief, was born in London, in 1844. First went to the printing profession in 1858. He came to Canada in 1866, being engaged for some time on the *Montreal Witness*, but returned to England the fall of the same year, and after acquiring considerable experience in various newspaper offices in London, he determined once more to cross the Atlantic, having accepted an engagement with Mr. I. B. Taylor, in 1870, then Parliamentary and Departmental printer. A short time after his arrival in Ottawa he was elevated to the position of manager of the English Parliamentary branch of Mr. Taylor's establishment, which position he creditably held for nearly two years, relinquishing it to again return to England. Being of a restless disposition he decided to visit New York in 1873, from which place he was invited by the Holland Bros., of Ottawa, to a position on the *Citizen*, with whom he stopped until the fall of 1875, at which time he purchased a half share in a paper in Northern Michigan. This speculation turning out a financial failure, he returned his steps once more to Canada, and accepted a position on the *Ottawa Times*, remaining on the paper until the demise in 1877. During the last three years he has held a position on the editorial staff of the *Hansard*, under the directorship of Mr. Richardson. He was appointed to a similar position last session on the official staff.

STEPHEN A. ABBOTT was born in Stanstead County, Province of Quebec, in 1844. Has been three years a reporter for the *Montreal Witness*, and for three years subsequently one of the official stenographers in the Superior Court, Montreal. In 1875 Mr. Abbott did his first Parliamentary work in assisting Mr. Isaac Watson in reporting the Senate. During the sessions of 1879 and 1880, was English and French reporter on Mr. Richardson's House of Commons *Hansard* staff. Mr. Abbott uses Benn Pitman's system, which he adapted to the French language four years ago. He is the only phonographer in Canada, exclusive of half a dozen French Canadians, who takes notes in the French language and transcribes them in the same. He is well known as a reporter who possesses ability combined with indomitable industry.

GEORGE EYVEL was born near Elgin, Scotland, in 1850; was educated in the Canadian public schools, and at the London High School. In 1873-4 he was assistant editor of the *St. Thomas Journal*, and in October of the latter year joined the Parliamentary staff of the *Toronto Globe*, taking his first "term" in the gallery, during that year's session of the Ontario Legislature. In 1875 he was appointed to the position of chief Parliamentary reporter to the *Toronto Liberal*. Upon the demise of that journal he resumed his old place on the *Globe* staff, where he remained

until December 1878, in which year, in company with Mr. Harry Gorman of the London *Advertiser*, he purchased the *Sarnia Observer*. He is at present one of the editors and proprietors of that old, well known and prosperous weekly. Last session he accepted an offer of a sessional engagement upon the *Globe* Parliamentary staff, and while at Ottawa was appointed a member of the *Hansard* staff under the new system of reporting officially the debates of the House. Mr. Eyvel writes Benn Pitman's system. He requires a good deal of elbow room when note-taking, and his phonographic forms are very large, but the ease with which he reads his notes compensates for the rapid disappearance of graphite.

EJ. DUGGAN, Montreal, first worked on the *Hansard* in the session of 1878; continued on the staff the following session, has since been attached to the *Montreal Gazette*, and was appointed a member of the official *Hansard* staff as constituted last session.

HANSARD.

By James Crankshaw, Montreal.
(Concluded.)

One reason for abolishing the contract system was the delay which existed in getting out the printed speeches. The *Debates Committee* in one of their reports recommended that, to render the official reports of the debates of real utility, they should be printed and laid on the desks of members of the House in the afternoon after the delivery of the speeches. At the time when this recommendation was made by the Committee, the *Hansard*,—so far as the printed sheets were concerned,—was three or four weeks behind time. This was certainly not for want of copy; for the reporters had written out their notes into longhand right up to date. The blame was not unreasonably attributed to the contract system; and subsequently the Committee recommended and the House sanctioned the appointment of six official reporters,—five at a salary of \$1,000 each, and a chief at \$1,500,—with the view of *verbatim et literatim* reports of the debates.

Now it seems to me, that under these conditions, the work to be done by these six reporters will be too heavy, especially as the chief reporter, Mr. Bradley, cannot,—considering his important duties in editing and generally superintending the reports,—be expected to take his turn regularly with the other reporters. I have no doubt, however, that the new system will work well, and that when the Government see that a decided improvement has commenced they will not hesitate to add one or even two extra reporters to the staff.

The great trouble under the contract system has been that in order to make as much profit as possible, the contractor would naturally enough employ as few men as he could to hurry

out the work. The staff of five on whom he has hitherto relied has been too small to do the work otherwise than hurriedly.

During a comparatively recent investigation made by a Committee of the English Parliament, Mr. Hansard, whom they examined, in the course of the investigation deposed that if a full report of the debates of Parliament were prepared, the service of sixteen or eighteen reporters would be required, besides a good staff of superintendents. William Saunders, conductor of the Central News Agency, also stated that about twenty reporters would be required to give a full report of the debates, and that the reporters would need to be relieved every five or ten minutes. Sir John Rose, who was also examined by that Committee, stated that the Canadian House of Commons sat very much the same number of hours as the British House of Commons. It is therefore only reasonable to infer that the daily work required to be done by Parliamentary reporters at Ottawa is as heavy as at London. It is well-known that the London *Times* employs fifteen reporters in the British Parliament. Up to eleven o'clock at night these fifteen reporters take fifteen minutes turns; after eleven the turns are reduced to ten minutes; after twelve they are reduced to five minutes; and, after one, to two and a half minutes. Seeing therefore that fifteen to twenty men are only considered a reasonable staff to do efficiently the Parliamentary reporting (for both Houses of course) in England, it cannot surely be wondered at that five reporters, however competent they may be, should find it a most laborious task to turn out good *verbatim* reports of all the debates of the Canadian House of Commons, day by day.

PROF. DAN BROWN.

DAN BROWN was born at Huntington, Pa., in June, 1841; in 1844 his parents moved to Fairfield, Iowa. Prof. Brown began the study of Benn Pitman phonography while in the army, in October, 1862. In May, 1863, he commenced practicing as a shorthand clerk in a Military Court at Corinth, Miss., and in September, 1863, he associated with him, in his court work, Frank E. Nevans. In October, 1863, he was detailed as a reporter for a military commission at Memphis, Tenn., where he remained until the close of his three years enlistment in May, 1864. After a short visit at his home in Iowa, he reported during the Presidential campaign of 1864, in Illinois, and Missouri, and spent the winter of 1864 in the office of the Adjutant General of the State of Missouri.

In January, 1865, returning to his home, he commenced reporting in the sixth, and other Judicial Districts, of Southeastern Iowa. In 1870, with John T. Bell, of Omaha, John Hall, and John Gray, now of Chicago, he assisted in reporting the impeachment trial of Gov. Butler of Nebraska, and the proceedings of the constitutional convention of the State of Nebraska.

In 1871 he accepted a position in the office of the general passenger agent of the "Burlington Route" at Burlington, Ia., and in 1872 he went to Chicago as corresponding clerk for Henry Starring, general baggage agent, C. B. & Q. R. R., and other railroads. In April, 1874, he commenced teaching phonography for the Chicago Athenaeum, where, with one assistant, he has instructed 620 students in the phonographic art. In 1878 he organized the Chicago Bureau of Phonography. Although he teaches and practices the Benn Pitman system of phonography, he is familiar with, and reads, most of the published systems.

CHAS. A. SUMNER.

(See Portrait in June Number.)

CHARLES A. SUMNER is a son of Judge Sumner, and was born August 2nd., 1837, at Great Barrington, Mass. He was educated at colleges in Chester, and Hartford, Conn. After leaving college he studied law, and about this time became interested in phonography. In 1855-6 he was a newspaper reporter in Washington. In the latter end of 1856 he went to California, and was engaged on the *Sacramento Union*, and reported the Legislature for that paper. It was through him that shorthand was introduced into the State Courts of California. For a few succeeding years he edited and published several newspapers. He served through the civil war, and was Colonel of the 1st Nevada Infantry. In 1865 he was elected Senator for Nevada, and in 1866 was chosen president of that body. Returning in 1868 to California, he again edited the *Times* and *Herald*. In 1870 he was appointed reporter of the San Francisco Municipal Court, and is now reporter of the Supreme Court of California. Mr. Sumner is not only known as a phonographer of high standing, but as an orator, statesman, and poet, he is favourably mentioned by the press. Here is a specimen of his poetic muse:—

THE SHORTHAND REPORTER.

The man of words! I know him well; his every form and feature,
Present to me in simple guise, a most familiar creature.
While prominent upon the list—by general concession—
The actual act of public talk is not in his profession.
In short—for short is his address—his business is the writing
Of speeches in the proper shape from very poor inditing.
He takes a threadbare piece of cloth; reweaves it, clean
and shining;—
Ah! mysteries and miseries of his acute refining!
Who knows of his alchemic toil? who thanks him for his study,
O'er crucibles of ugly signs,—expressions rank and muddy?
Evolving from a jumbled mass some thoughts of useful meaning;
From loads of innutritious chaff, some wheaten kernels gleaming.
Is gratitude for such a work from wordy men expected?
Where toughest skill is exercised, least debt is recollected.
I've seen unnumbered Solons gloat, in halls of legislation,
Because the text constituents quote enhanced their reputation:—
Until their fame collapsed in shame from one good,
square translation!

STENOGRAPHERS' NOTES AS EVIDENCE.

MMR. JUSTICE RAMSAY in the Court of Appeals in Montreal, the other day, pronounced an elaborate judgment as to the admission in evidence of a Stenographer's notes. The case was one sent up from the Court of Queen's Bench. The defendant committed perjury as a witness in the Superior Court. His evidence there was taken by a stenographer, who was sworn, but with regard to whom the Court had not been formally desired to take the evidence. The stenographer in the trial for perjury had also been examined as a witness with his notes, and established from memory that the accused swore to the effect set forth in the notes. Now the points to be decided by the Court of Appeals were, 1st. Whether the stenographer was properly sworn; 2nd. Whether the notes of evidence can be used in the manner described; 3rd. Whether the stenographer can be examined as to what the accused said.

As to the first point, it was admitted that the stenographer had been sworn, and the objection that the Court had not been desired in writing to have the evidence taken was not in this case of any point. Secondly: If the offence were committed there must be the means of proving it. The record was not null. It produced all the effects it was intended to have, and its authenticity was quite as great as if the formality of a demand in writing had been made. It was then said that if it was the record of the oath, it was proof alone, and the evidence of the stenographer should not have been taken. It seemed that the dictates of the most ordinary common sense left no reason to doubt that the evidence of the stenographer was not only admissible, but was absolutely necessary. To admit these unsigned notes alone would be to permit the establishment of a new rule of evidence in criminal matters without the authority of Parliament. The defendant, therefore, was rightly convicted.

Justice Monk dissented on the first point, holding that the stenographer had not been properly sworn.

Chief-Justice Dorion concurred in the conviction because the perjury had been established by witnesses.

We may add that in this Province the testimony of a stenographer is admitted as verifying the transcript of his notes, and the transcript, or any portion of it, bearing on the case in point, is thus made a part of the case. The question does not arise as to whether the stenographer has been sworn, for the testimony is given, not as that of an expert who, because he has been sworn, can do no wrong, for official reporters enjoy no such immunity as doth hedge a king. The stenographer takes the stand as a witness who has both heard and written the statements made, and which are in question in the case; and no witness who had not written down the statements as he heard them could effectually break down the testimony given by the scribe. It is premising, of course, that the scribe be an

honest, faithful one, as all—well, nearly all—actually are.

The position of a stenographer in the witness box is somewhat new in this Province, but the view taken in our Courts is that "common sense" one referred to by Justice Ramsay, that the transcript of the notes without the stenographer's oath to stamp and approve them are absolute y'va'neless.

We do not now allude to proceedings in the Court in which the notes were taken, for the rules provide in such cases that the written certificate of the stenographer stamps the transcript with authority, and he is not, therefore, called and sworn.

Many cases which the stenographer is called upon to report, involve life or liberty and hence his position is one of great responsibility. Each present and would-be reporter may profit by considering this feature of his work.

REPORTING AND THE TELEPHONE.

The London, Eng., correspondent of the Toronto Globe says:—The Times has succeeded in making a practical use of the telephone. Owing to the late hour at which it has become the practice to deliver important speeches in the House of Commons, it has been found impossible to give more than a very hasty and brief abstract of the addresses spoken by hon. members in the early edition of the Times, published about 4:30 every morning to send away to the country. To try and remedy this state of things, type-setting machines, by which 100 lines an hour—or more than double the rate of hand work—can be set up, have been made use of for some time. But the latest addition to the appliances in use is the telephone special electric wires, which are laid down between the Times office and the House of Commons. Belle's loud speaking telephone is employed. The reporter in the House takes down the speech in his note book and then reads it slowly through the telephone to the compositor in the Times office, who sets up, by means of the machine referred to, every sentence as read, and in this way the Times is able to give full reports of speeches delivered in the House as late as 2 a.m. A short article appears in the leading journal to-day on the subject written by Mr. Mowbray Morris, and he concludes his *communique* by stating his opinion that before long it would be possible to use the telephone for reporting speeches in every part of the Kingdom. "Our predecessors," he says, in former times endeavoured to supply early intelligence by methods which before long will be superseded, and it seems not unlikely that the fully written manuscripts of the experts may be gathered before long to the special steamers and the relays of post-horses which were the instruments of the greatest enterprise of the last generation." The Times also receives news through Reuter's agency and sets it up by the composing machine in the same manner.

Another correspondent says:—The type matter of the London Times is now largely set by

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means of machinery, instead of hand labor. The most skillful workman, setting up type by hand, does not exceed a general average of about 40 lines per hour, or a *maximum* rate of 50 lines per hour during short periods of great pressure; but the machine used by the *Times*, in which the types are brought down and placed in position by striking upon keys something like those of a piano or organ, enables a fair workman to obtain an average speed of 100 lines an hour even when composing from manuscript, which he has to read for himself; and this speed can be doubled, or nearly so, when the operator is assisted by a reader, and thus composes from dictation. The original form of the machine was introduced soon after the Franco-German war, and has ever since been undergoing such modifications in detail as experience has from time to time suggested, until it has now reached a state of very great efficiency.

CROSS'S ECLECTIC SHORTHAND.

The "Eclectic System of Shorthand" is the title of one of the modern American systems of Phonography cast upon the tender mercies of a critical phonographic world, its author being J. George Cross, A. M., of Chicago, Ill. The instruction book, a well-printed work of 300 pages, explains and teaches the system in a very lucid manner. Mr. Cross claims for his alphabet that as it is deduced from the inclined ellipse the characters are the easiest possible lines to execute. They represent the same powers as the English alphabet. No heavy lines are used, except for *r*, which is added to any other line of the alphabet by making it heavy, thus combining two letters in one line. Both vowels and consonants are represented by full lines. The oblique lines are capable of being written either upward or downward, thus preserving the horizontal character of the writing. The system comprises three styles of writing: the full corresponding or business style, the abbreviated corresponding style, and the reporting style. The latter possesses a comprehensive series of prefixes, affixes, abbreviations and phrases, which, Mr. Cross says, will answer the fullest demands of *verbatim* reporting. This system, although comparatively new, can boast of a respectable number of adherents, some of them being experienced reporters, who speak in high terms of its advantages. S. C. Griggs & Co., Chicago, are the publishers of "Eclectic Shorthand," and the price is \$2.

AMONG THE MAGAZINES AND BOOKS.

A Synopsis of Standard Phonography is another work just issued by Mr. Graham. It is adapted to the use of classes and private students of the Standard system. In addition, it contains reading exercises, and lists of words, signs, contractions, phrases, etc.

The Shorthand Review is a spicy little quarterly published at Cleveland, Ohio, by Wolfe & Fracker, in the interest of Scovill's system. It contains some interesting reading matter in

common print, together with several pages of lithographed shorthand.

Brown's *Phonographic Monthly* for June contains a portrait and sketch of J. W. Love, lately of Edinburgh, together with a *fac simile* of his reporting notes; a number of interesting communications, and a variety of excellent reading matter.

Prof. A. Melville Bell, of Brantford, Ont., has favoured us with his works on his system of stem-phonography published in Edinburgh a few years ago. An excellent series of books were issued explanatory of his system.

Brief Longhand is the title of a recent work issued by Andrew J. Graham, Bible House, New York, the author of *Standard Phonography*. As its name implies, it is a system of longhand contractions, and will be found to be a very useful expedient for speedy transcription.

Among the English magazines we have received, we find the *Phonograph*, a weekly shorthand literary magazine. This shorthand is well printed, and the articles are very readable and interesting. The publisher is M. Hurst, 23 Church street, Sheffield. *The Phonographer's Herald* is a monthly production, containing high-class literary articles. A portion of the *Herald* is written in the briefest style of Isaac Pitman's system. It is issued by J. Butterworth, South Shields. *The Meteor* is the only illustrated monthly issued in Great Britain in shorthand. The articles (all original) are cleverly written, and the illustrations are attractive. C. J. Payne, 24 Ambrose street, Derby, is its editor.

ANCIENT WRITERS AND AUTHORS.

By James E. Munson.

It is said that the first shorthand writer was one Marcus Tullius Tiro, the freedman of Cicero, and that by means of his invention some of the finest specimens of Roman oratory have been preserved to us. Seneca, the Stoic phonographer, who lived a century later, is said to have added five thousand characters to those of Tiro. Two hundred years after that, Cyprian, the Bishop of Carthage, put the finishing stroke to it by the addition of many notes, which rendered the work "much more useful to the faithful." For more than five hundred years, "Tironian notes" were in great favour with the learned, but they finally died at the hands of an emperor. The great Justinian "forbade the text of his Codex to be written by the catches and short-cut riddles of signs," although it is believed by some that the Tironian shorthand was superior to anything we now have. The fact is that it is very doubtful if it was capable of doing any very rapid *verbatim* work. I infer from a passage in the "Life of Cato the Younger," that, in order to get a full report of a speech, it was necessary to have several writers taking notes at the same time, so that what was lost by one could be caught by another, and that the combined notes of all the

writers were used in making up the report. If however, the Roman stenographer could do that which the poet Ausonius told one who practiced his art 1500 years ago, that the less we say about our skill the better: "Fly, young and famous stenographers" he said, "prepare the tablets on which thou dost express, with simple points, entire discourses. I dictate volumes, and my pronunciation is as compressed as the hail, yet nothing escapes thy ear, though thy pages fill not, and thou dost embody my ideas before they have passed my lips. Is it possible that I cannot think as rapidly as you write! Tell me, who has betrayed me, who has revealed to thee my thoughts. For this gift thou art indebted to nature and the Gods."

Well, I think Ausonius had just been to a stenographer's dinner and was over-full of wine and gratitude when he wrote that.

HAPPY HARRIET.

A Young Californian Shorthand Writer.

(See portrait.)

We have received the following sketch of little Harriet Graham from her father, W. H. H. Graham, of Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Graham is the author of a system of phonetic spelling, and we give the article as written in his system:

"Harriet Graham, none az Hapi Hariet, woz born in 1873, Oktober 7th. She haz had koleri infantum, mumps, diphtheria, hooping-kauf, meazlz, and sum uther formz ov sickness, all ov hwich went veri ljt with her. She haz been abl tu play evri day and sleep good evri nyt sins her

berth. She iz temperate in her habits, having never uz l eni tea, kofi, tobako or medisen. She is a perfek tom boy tu romp and pla in the sunshyn. She iz generali veri hapi, lyvle and noizi.

Sins she woz fyv yearz old she haz bin egzibited kwyt a number of tymz in shorthand ryting. Her father iz preparing to egzibit her and her lil bruther in sum ov the larjer townz and sitiz ov the Unyted Stats.

A FORTUNE-ATE FRIEND.

DETROIT, JUNE 15TH, 1880.

DEAR BENGOUGH:—Please excuse delay in acknowledging receipt of sample copy of the new CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED SHORTHAND WRITER. I like it very much, and hope all shorthand writers of every "school" will take a personal interest with you in making this new enterprise a permanent success.

I have pleasure in enclosing you herewith *ten dollars*, and the names of ten subscribers in this region, also a list of fifteen Canadian shorthand writers in the Eastern and Western States, to whom please send sample copies, upon receipt of which I have no doubt many, perhaps *all* of them will promptly respond with the necessary greenbacks.

May "*Bengough's Own and Only Greatest Illustrated Cosmopolitan Phonographic Magazine on earth*" receive many a hearty "grip" from the fraternity.

Yours very truly,

J. W. FORTUNE.

Phonographic Gossip.

CANADA.

Judge Duff, of St. John, N. B., wants Court reporters appointed.

The Huron County Court had a Shorthand Reporter at last June sittings.

Mr. Martin J. Griffin acted as the *Mail's* Ottawa correspondent last session.

Mr. James Crankshaw, of Montreal, reported the Argenteuil election case, held at Lachine.

Duploye's French system has been adapted to the English language by Prof. Manseau, of Montreal.

Mr. Albert Horton of the *Toronto Globe*, has been appointed secretary of the Press Gallery Association.

Mr. J. W. Travis, late sheriff of Queen's County, N. B., is now making a practical use of shorthand in New York.

Mr. Earl, late of the Grand Trunk Railway Office, has taken a position in the C. B. & Q. General Freight Office, Chicago.

Mr. J. T. Hawke has been engaged by the *Globe* Printing Company as their special Ottawa correspondent for a period of three years, at an increased salary.

Hon. Mr. Anglin in his younger days used to report the proceedings of the local legislature for the *St. John Freeman*. He never accustomed himself to taking notes of any kind, and his reports were wonderfully full and accurate.

Imagine a phonographer to whom the name was strange, coming across the word Scugog, the name of one of our Ontario lakes, in the course of rapid reporting, and endeavouring by vocalizing it to assure his being able to read it when his notes had become cold.

Mr. George J. Smith, late shorthand writer to the General Freight Agent of the G. T. Railway, and more recently with the Toronto Reaper and Mower Co., has left this city for Boston to accept a position with the General Manager of the National Despatch Line, Central Vermont Railway. His address is 260 Washington st., Boston, Mass.

UNITED STATES.

Joseph L. Blundell, an expert New York court reporter, died a short time ago at the age of sixty years.

Connecticut paid \$3,900, or \$300 each, to thirteen reporters for reporting the proceedings of her Legislature in 1879.

The first annual dinner of the California Association of shorthand reporters was held in San Francisco a short time ago.

Charles A. Sumner, the San Francisco reporter, has taken down in shorthand, during the last four years, over seven millions of words.

Prof. T. J. Ellinwood, the reporter for the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A., teaches Phonography in the Summer Institute at Martha's Vineyard.

Mr. W. S. Gomph, one of the leading phonographers of Springfield, Mass., is connected with the *New England Homestead*, published in that city.

A Bill for the appointment of stenographers for Texas will be presented at the next session of the State Legislature. It will be championed by leading attorneys.

A correspondent writing from Chicago says:—"You might warn Canadian shorthand men not to make for Chicago to look for work in that line, for it is getting over done."

W. George Waring, jr., formerly of Tyrone, Pa., has been appointed an official stenographer at Denver, Col. Mr. W. is an Isaac Pitman writer, and was at one time editor of the *Phonetic Magazine*.

The Western Union Telegraph Co., during the Republican Convention which met at Chicago, sent away daily 196,251 words by special newspaper reports, and 158,714 words by the Associated Press.

FOREIGN.

Shorthand has been adapted to the Welsh language.

Isaac Pitman's *Phonetic Journal* has a weekly circulation of over 12,000 copies.

Isaac Pitman's system of shorthand is used in Cyprus, chiefly among the English residents.

The stenographer's fees in the Tichborne case, on the side of the prosecution, amounted to \$20,000.

Stenography has been introduced in the curriculum of the Lycee Louis le Grand, Paris. This is its first introduction into French public schools.

The Derby, Eng., *Daily Telegraph* recently published, an hour after its utterance, a seven column report of a speech delivered in that city by Sir William Harcourt.

Prof. Zeibig says that Gibbon was the first to observe that a speaker who speaks the English language quite fluently would utter 120 words per minute. Of Italian orators, De Foresta spoke sixty, and others ranged from 90 to 200.

L'Unité Stenographique is the title of a French shorthand publication, and is the special organ of the Prevost Delaunay method, which is founded on Taylor's English system. The conductors are at present attacking the opposition system—Duploye's.

Three German shorthand writers, Drs. Zeibig, Weiss and Rotzsch, report that during the recent session of the Reichstag, especially during the debates on the tariff and the budget, speeches were spoken at the rate of two hundred words a minute. Such is the length of many German words that two hundred of them in an ordinary oration are as long as three hundred English words.

Editorial Notes.

A number of interesting "questions and answers" will appear in the next number.

We were in error in saying that the new *Hanward* staff were appointed by the Government. They were appointed by the House.

We beg to thank Mr. William Buckingham, of Stratford, for the originals of two letters written by Isaac Pitman and Thos. Allan Reed thirty years ago. That of Mr. Pitman will be found lithographed on another page.

Mr. Ed. I. Connolly, of the *Taunton Gazette*, Somerset Co., Eng., has kindly volunteered his services as English correspondent to the *WRITER*. Our readers may look for items of interest from his pen in future numbers.

The *WRITER* has been received with marked favor by the leading professional phonographers of England, the United States and Canada. Its cosmopolitan character has been recognized, and it has already been accepted as "the organ

of the profession" in the sense of being the medium through which any member of the profession, be he ever so humble, no matter to what "school" he belongs, may express his views. As we predicted in our introductory article, we find the utmost harmony prevailing among the contributors, representing the many systems of phonography and stenography. This is as it should be, though it is not, we regret to say, as it has been—if we may judge from expressions made in private letters and press notices. The *WRITER* marks the commencement of a new era of united, fraternal progress, the strange device upon the banner being that euphonious word "Cosmopolitan." Couldn't some of our poetically-inclined readers give us a steno-phonographic poem after the style of Longfellow's "Excelsior," playing on the word "Cosmopolitan"? We promise a prize for the best poem on this world-wide topic—provided, of course, that it be superior to Longfellow's.

REPORTING AND THE TELEPHONE.

Written in Benn Pitman's Reporting Style by Thomas W. Gibson, Toronto.

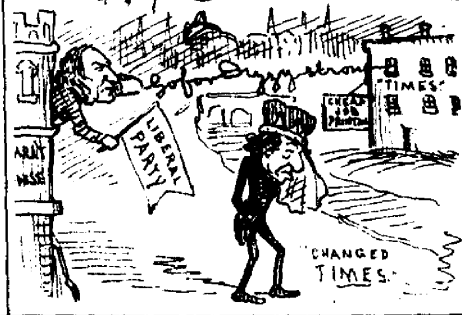
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[The rest of the page contains dense shorthand notation in Pitman's Reporting Style.]

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BALD-HEADED TROUBLE.

Written in Graham's System by T. Pinkney, Toronto.

Handwritten shorthand notes in Graham's System, consisting of various symbols and lines.



Handwritten shorthand notes in Graham's System, consisting of various symbols and lines.

Handwritten shorthand notes in Graham's System, consisting of various symbols and lines.



Handwritten shorthand notes in Graham's System, consisting of various symbols and lines.

Leaves from Reporters' Note Books.

FACSIMILE OF THE REPORTING NOTES OF J. W. PARKS, COURT OF CHANCERY REPORTER, TORONTO.
WRITTEN IN MUNSON'S SYSTEM.

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