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THE CANADIAN PHONETIC PIONEER,

A bi-Monthly Journal, Devoted to the Spread of the Writing, Printing, and Spelling Reform.

William H. Orr,

[“Had this art (Phonography) been known forty years ago, it would have saved me twenty years hard labor.”—*Hon. Tho's H. Benton.*]

Publisher.

VOLUME III.

OSHAWA, C. W., JULY, 1861.

NUMBER IV.

A FRESH STOCK.—We have just got in a fresh lot of the following, viz:—Graham's Hand-book, 1st and 2nd Reader, Synopsis of Standard Phonography, Biography of Dr. Stone in Phonography, Phonographic Numerals, Pitman's Phonographic Pencils, Double-ruled Note Paper (small, 15 cts.) Pitman's new Instructor, Pitman's Reporter's Companion.

THE HAND-BOOK.—We have now in stock a large number of copies of Graham's Hand-Book of Standard Phonography, at \$1 50 each, postage pre-paid, or \$1 25 un-paid. Twenty per cent discount from these prices when half a dozen are ordered at one time, cash with the order.

FIRST STANDARD PHON'G READER.—A good supply of this work on hand. It is designed to come next after the Hand-Book, and after it the Second Standard Phonographic Reader. When the student has read and copied all the exercises in the two readers, he must be a natural dunce if not then able to hang out his card as a Phonographic Reporter.

THOSE TRACTS.—Don't forget the offer we made in the March number to send 150 Phonographic Tracts to any address, gratis, on receipt of 10 cts to prepay postage. Nor the fact that we send 50 numbers of the 1st and 2nd volumes of the *Pioneer* for 20 cts, post free. We have plenty on hand yet, though a goodly number have been ordered.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE.—For the sum of One Dollar we will send, to any of our present subscribers, Forty Copies of each of the Eight remaining numbers of the present volume, for distribution among their friends;—making 320 sheets, of four large pages each, or 3240 columns of phonetic matter, postage free, for the small sum of \$1 00. This is very far under cost price, but when we have the type up we may as well strike off a large number of copies as a small number, if we can get the friends of the Reform

(and we hope every subscriber to the *Pioneer* is such) to pay the cost of the white paper, and help distribute them where they will be of service in opening the eyes of the public to the importance of Phonetic principles.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.—Mr. Arthur Brown of Farmersville, O. W., sends us a list of 21 new subscribers, for which he will please accept our thanks. Who will forward the next club? A few dozen such enterprising friends of Phonography as Mr. Brown, would assist amazingly the progress of phonetic principles in Canada. Mr. Brown is a teacher in the Farmersville County Grammar School, of which J. B. Holmes, LL.B., an able Phonographer, is Principal.

CANADIAN PHONETIC ASSOCIATION.—Our next number will contain a list of members of this Association. Persons wishing to join before the final publication of the list will have a copy of the Constitution and Rules sent them gratis, from this office, by writing for it. The name of every Phonographer in the Province should be found in the list, but we fear that not a quarter of them will have been received. Will our readers who are not sure that their names are enrolled, see to it that they are enrolled during the next six weeks?

SPECIAL PREMIUMS.

To each person sending us a club of 3 subscribers to the present volume of the *Pioneer*, with 50 cts. we will send prepaid 2 quires of our double-ruled Reporting Paper, price 35 cts. For a club of six subscribers to different addresses, or eight to one address with \$1.00, we will send five quires ditto, price 75 cts.

—ALSO—

To each person sending us an order for Six sets of the Manual and Copy book, and \$5.00, we will send 10 quires double-ruled Reporting Paper, half for pen and half for pencil practice. An order for 12 sets and \$8.00, will secure a premium of 10 quires Reporting Paper, or 10 copy books, as may

be preferred, and 200 numbers of the *Pioneer* free of postage. Send along your orders and the cash. We want the latter article to pay bills due for Phonographic books and stock now on our shelves, and are willing to give away the goods on the above terms to secure a settlement of claims upon us.

Second St. Phon. Reader.

Here we come with one of the most beautiful works on Phonography ever issued. It is Andrew J. Graham's Second Standard Phonographic Reader. Brief, compact, clear, beautiful, correct, complete, and fitting terms with which to express one's ideas on glancing over the first forty-eight pages of this Reader, which are occupied with Phonography. The remainder of the work contains a key to the forty-eight pages, and innumerable notes and references, in plain print. Every difficult-looking word in the Phonographic portion has a small figure placed to the key ward corresponding to it, which figure denotes the No. of the foot-note, wherein the principle involved is explained, either in so many words, or by a reference to the paragraph of the Hand-Book in which the principle is first introduced. This arrangement of references to the Hand-Book is an admirable one, and renders it impossible for the student to go through the book, and follow up the references, without becoming thoroughly acquainted with every principle of the whole system.

To show the amount of Phonographic Reporting exercises contained in this work, and their exceeding brevity, we give the Roman key of one single line of Phonography—the first one upon the 12th page—selected at random:—

[“materials to work upon. Hence some of them, among whom was Aristotle, asserted that the world was eternal, both as to its matter and form. Others, though they believed that the gods had given the world its form”]

There are twenty such lines to each page. The Key and Notes occupy 106 pages.

A very good method of testing the supe-

riority of Graham's over Pitman's system of Reporting, is to contrast the amount of matter contained in a line of the one, written the same size, with that which a line of the other system contains. The lines of Benn Pitman's Reporter's Companion are the same length as those of Graham's, and the characters are somewhat larger, there is the same number of lines in a page. The following is the contents of a line of the Reporting Exercises, selected at random, near the back of the Companion.

[He cannot be too well educated. He must also possess the valuable qualification of being able to"]

We can sell the Second Reader for \$1.15 prepaid, or \$1.00 otherwise.

The Reporter's Companion.

At length we have the long promised new edition of this work before us, written and published by Benn Pitman, Cincinnati, O. And it is a new edition, truly, for it is totally different, in contents, arrangement, and manner of execution, from the preceding one. The first fourteen pages are occupied with an explanation and illustration of the principles of Phonography, and various expedients to facilitate speed as well as legibility in reporting; in which department, several of the improvements of Graham's Hand Book are incorporated. Then follow seven teen pages of easy progressive exercises in Phonography, designed for copying by the student until they can all be written with perfect ease. Next come sixteen pages of Reporting Logograms, or words which can be expressed in Phonography by a single character, without the use of vowels, and without lifting the pen. The fifty-six next pages contain a vocabulary, arranged according to the old alphabet, one page having the words in common print, and the opposite one containing the words in Phonographic style, just as they should be written. By reference to this vocabulary, the Phonographer can, in a moment, ascertain the correct method of writing, in the Reporting Style, almost any word with which he may meet. Sixty pages of new Reporting Exercises completes the book. Each page of the whole work, throughout, is accompanied by a key in the common print. So different in this edition of the Reporter's Companion from the old one, [which was written nearly ten years ago] that it will undoubtedly command a large sale among old Phonographers who have the previous edition. The progressive exercises which it contains are all new, and in them are incorporated all the improvements of the past ten years. Those who have Graham's series of works, should have the Reporter's Companion on account of these progressive exercises, and all phonog-

raphers, no matter who they may be, should possess a copy on account of the many new and interesting exercises which it contains, not to mention the valuable Vocabulary.

The price is the same as formerly, \$1.00, sent post free. Send in your orders as speedily as possible, for our present stock is limited.

Reporting in Congress.

Phonographers, who intend to become reporters, frequently write to us to ask how long we think it will take to qualify themselves to fill "first class situations,"—as though it were possible for us to know. All such will do well to read the following: It is a lively sketch by a friend of ours, of what some reporters have to encounter. That anything like a presentable report of such proceedings is daily made, shows what clever, collected fellows the reporters in Congress must be. These are lively times for good reporters, abundance of work and excellent pay.

"Accounts, in general and in detail, of the House of Representatives have been published, but they have not given satisfactory ideas of its turbulence and lack of dignity; nor can any pen present a vivid picture of it to the mind's eye. In theory, it is a grave and dignified body, to whose hands, in reality, are committed the fortunes and destinies of over thirty one millions of people.— You would say that two hundred and thirty-three "gentlemen" selected to represent such a mighty mass of intelligence, would be careful to conserve their dignity, and anxious to stand acquit before their country of all the duties of deportment and action, which devolve upon them. Generally, a member is selected by his fellow men for his real or supposed superior qualifications of mind and character, and the supposition of his constituency is, that he bears himself away from home, at least as decently as he does among his neighbors. But alas, the spectator of the people's Representatives in Congress assembled, is rudely brought to a realizing sense of the vast difference between promise and fulfillment; the immeasurable distance between theory and practice. Looking down upon the House, when exciting questions are pending, one would be sworn that the constitutional duty of a member is to swagger and bully, or devote himself to the chief end of modern legislators—seeking an unfair advantage of a political opponent. The man who can accomplish this often, is lauded a rising "statesman" and able politician; so corrupted has become our latter day vocabulary.— But let us look down upon ordinary scenes. The Speaker, with gravity and dignity, occupies the Chair, with gavel constantly in hand, impressing you with convictions you had once upon a time, when the school-

masters were accustomed to whirl the ferule at your head. If you didn't know better, you would suppose, from the turmoil and unrest of the chattering and disorderly throng, he surveys, that he was watching an opportunity to hurl his gavel at some unlucky "mog" which appeared to be open widest, and emitting most sound. While he sits there to "preserve order," you are struck with the singular misuse of terms, and wonder if this is "preserving order," what in the name of propriety *preventing disorder* would amount to? Down below him, on another terrace, a half dozen clerks are busy as time, keeping "minutes" of the proceedings, and you are wondering again how human faculties can struggle up through the din of two hundred tongues, or more—rattling in loud conversation—and catch the thread of mysterious weaving in that intolerable confusion, which we call legislation. None on earth but practiced clerks and reporters can do it. Now the "Gentleman from Somewhere," shouts like a Stentor, "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker!" Down in front of him is the "Gentleman from Anywhere," with shrill voice, singing out in sharp alto, "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker!" Another "Gentleman from Nowhere," sonorously bellows, "Mr. Speaker! Mister Speaker!" A half a dozen other "gentlemen from miscellaneous places," are popping up at the same time, each of them ranging the gamut with varying intonation, but all of them in spasms—"Mr. Speaker, Mr Speaker!" while in every direction "gentlemen" are chatting and laughing audibly, and other gentlemen are clapping their hands, and a score of pages are racing through the aisles, attending their wants. The Speaker recognizes the "gentleman from Somewhere," and the "gentleman from Somewhere" says "Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose"—and a half dozen more "gentlemen from miscellaneous places" pop up and interrupt him, with—"Mr Speaker, I hope the gentleman from Somewhere will give way"—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind the gentleman from Somewhere, with his permission"—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to call attention to the fact"—"Mr. Speaker! I believe, according to the rules, the special order"—"Mr. Speaker, I call the gentleman to Louisiana from order"—and the Speaker poises his gavel—you're sure he'll hit somebody—brings it down "thwack, thwack."—"Does the gentleman from Somewhere yield the floor to the gentleman from Nowhere?"—"The "gentleman from Somewhere" demurs slightly, is subdued by courtesy, yields the floor to the "gentleman from Nowhere," that the "gentleman from Nowhere" may make an explanation, and the "gentleman from Nowhere" makes a speech of a half hour, to explain a little motion he "believes to be in order." So it is, all day long, a standing experience, the Speaker hammering at his

dusk as if he were driving a perpetual nail, and the "gentlemen from miscellaneous places" yelling "Mr. Speaker!" like so many Oavers asking for more. During this time, you hear a steady predominating strain of noise, like a human voice in distress, which is, sound, and nothing out a sound," and upon investigating the subject, you are astounded at the discovery, that the "gentleman from Everywhere," or some other gentleman, has been making an eloquent speech, which will be blazoned in the *Bumzillicum Blower* as a "master piece of oratory," and "altogether unanswerable. Sure enough, it would be "unanswerable" if printed according to delivery. The wonder isn't that so little business is done, and it is by no means surprising that so many lobby schemes "go through." How the House looks in one of its frantic moods, I may have an opportunity to describe—in its *working* moods it as like unto bedlam's self. W. D. B.

Manchester Phonographic Union.

The English *Phonetic Journal* contains an interesting account of the sixth quarterly meeting of this association. Mr. Henry Pitman, of the *Manchester Courier*, President, in the chair. We make the following extract.

In introducing Mr. J. B. Marsh, of the "Manchester Examiner and Times," to support the resolution, Mr. Pitman said that he was the author of the best life of Garibaldi that had been written.

Mr. Marsh remarked that one of the most difficult tasks for a reporter was to condense a six column speech to a column and a half. Since being in Manchester he had reported a great many meetings and he had lately reported a butchers' meeting, and he must say that the butchers spoke uncommonly well. Indeed they might have been phonographers, they condensed their speech so well. He learned Phonography a long time ago, when Messrs. Benn and Henry Pitman were at Chester. He heard a lecture they delivered there, and immediately desired to learn the art. An elder brother of his having paid the fee for being taught, received a course of lessons, and he tried to learn as much as he could from his brother. One day Mr. Pitman came into the office where he was practising Phonography, and seeing what he was doing, offered to give him lessons freely if he would come to the class along with his brother.—The learning of Phonography required more patience than he at that time possessed, and after having allowed several years to go by without making any use of it, he at last resolved, in order to get rid of an irksome situation, to become a reporter. In course of time he got appointed on the *Chester Courant*, and used every means to perfect himself in the art of Phonography; he took every sermon he heard, and wrote out one

every week. After being at Chester some time, a fearful accident occurred,—the wreck of the Royal Charter, and he was sent down to report the occurrence on the spot. His reports appeared in the Manchester papers, and as he had a capital offer he came to Manchester. He learned Phonography because the bias of his mind was to study, and unless that was a bias, it was useless for persons to become reporters. Another phase of the reporter's occupation, was that they were brought into the company and conversation of men who are most talented and learned. Another phase was it enabled them to travel. He had a dear friend in the United States who had latterly, eaten and reported his way all over the vast continent. He was engaged some time in Washington reporting the debates, he was also engaged at Concord. At the close of the session of Legislature there, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the reporters, and his friend's name was mentioned first. He afterwards followed the Prince of Wales in his tour in America, and was present at most of the levees. Many of his letters had appeared in the Manchester papers, which they had no doubt read. At the present time he had accepted an engagement in the House of Representatives at Sacramento, and was then on his way thither. By the money he had received he had visited every place of interest in America. With respect to Phonography and Phonotypy, he would earnestly recommend them. He should be glad when they became necessary branches of education, when every child at school was taught them. He had a very high regard for the phonotypic art, and for some time taught it to a school of ragged children. In his own private letters he found Phonography of very great assistance. Mr. Pitman had alluded to a pamphlet of his. He would say for the instruction of others, that he had written the greater portion of it in Phonography, in the few minutes they always spent before public meetings commenced; and he thought those parts of it, written under those circumstances, were the warmest and appealed most to the heart and feelings. He heartily went with the resolution that had been moved. The resolution was unanimously carried.

Mr. Pitman said that the friend to whom Mr. Marsh alluded was Mr. Marsh's brother, and he felt it an honor to have taught such a youth. He was a credit to the art. He was now correspondent for the *Manchester Guardian*, and was latterly reporting his way through the United States.

[The elder brother referred to (who is only about twenty years of age, we imagine) was for several months engaged on the *Gazette* in Cincinnati, and after earning sufficient to pay his expenses, started with the best recommendations, and the good wishes and respect of all who knew him, for California.—

He is bent on seeing the world and all the noteworthy things in it, and he has sufficient to do it. Mr. Marsh is an able reporter, and has acquired the habit of doing with ease and grace that which many reporters find so difficult, *condense*,—a valuable acquirement in a newspaper office. Mr. Marsh is an able, conscientious, steady worker,—(in the privacy of a parenthesis let us say, for the benefit of young reporters, that he neither smokes, spits, chews nor swears,) he is modest and unassuming, and is sure to make friends wherever he goes. His place on the *Gazette* is filled by Mr. J. B. McCullagh, an excellent Phonographer, who has the enviable reputation of being the youngest reporter, and the fastest writer in the city.—*Phonographic Magazine.*]

The Medical and Surgical Reporter. (Phila.)

The leading editorial in this valuable periodical for Feb. 16th, entitled "Mental Hygiene and public education," recognises the claims and importance of a philosophic system of spelling, and deploras the mischief that is necessarily wrought in endeavoring to impress falsity and contradiction as truth, upon the mind of the child, while attempting to master the perversities of English orthography. We scarcely looked for phonetic arguments in a medical journal, but finding them, we confess we attach more importance to a physician's argument for true spelling, than we should to a schoolmaster's. Phonetic spelling, from a schoolmaster's point of view is worthy of consideration, inasmuch as it presents a better instrument for mental culture, but a "physician's certificate," as to the mischief of romanian spelling, and the truth and beauty of the phonetic method, is authoritative, and will be likely to have effect with many minds who would not be influenced by the same dictum supported only by the teacher's authority.

"A man with a memory for dates may be able to tell the exact time of every historic event, from Alexander the Great to this day, and yet know less of history than one who cannot remember a single date. It is not memory—the sentence cannot be so often repeated—that makes true knowledge, but understanding. The *why, how, whence, whither*, are the real motor springs of the intellectual organism, and unless education and instruction are based upon these, unless the child is taught to inquire for itself, and think over what it learns, to interpret phenomena, and solve questions, all mere memory-knowledge will be of no avail.

There are essentially two methods of instruction and education. One is the *natural method*; the other the *artificial* or *unnatural*. The one is in accordance with the laws of mental hygiene; the other violates

PHONETIC PIONEER.

them, and is followed, like every transgression of the laws of nature, by punishment, as irrevocable as these laws are permanent.

It is, however, at the very commencement of instruction, of intellectual education, that we find the unnatural, the artificial system in grossest form. The child opens a book and reads. "The letters of the alphabet are signs for certain sounds in speech." Its teacher ask it to spell *house*, aitch-o-you-ess-oo. The child has been taught that sounds are the elementary, component parts of words, but here it uses fourteen letters or representatives of sounds to analyze a word which really has but three, and if it analyzes the first sound it finds H Aitch - A eye tea sea aitch. Now, if the child is taught that the letters of the alphabet are signs for certain sounds in speech and the elements of words, one of two things happens, either it will know what is meant by these terms "sounds" and "elements," or not. If the latter, then instruction is a failure, and if the former, the child is rounded at every "spelling lesson" that it has been taught a *lie*, for the letters of the alphabet, according to this old *unnatural* spelling system, do not represent sounds and are not the elements of words.

The phonetic method, the construction of words by their true elementary sounds, should be commenced with, instead of the mechanical a-bee-see-spelling-system, by which so much valuable time is lost.

We cannot tell what influence upon the intellectual and moral hygiene of children this unnatural system of spelling may have and has had. It continually calls things by their wrong name: nearly every letter of the alphabet is made a cheat, while every word forms a hiding place for nearly as many lies as it has letters. If the child is thus early taught to think one thing and say another, is it not probable that some of that habit will remain always, after a boy has "ess-pea-ee-el-ee-dee" his way through school for six or eight years? At any rate, as the end of all knowledge which education can give is *truth*, would it not be well to start *truthfully* in spirit and form?

Phonography in the Philadelphia High School.

On Saturday afternoon a meeting of the High School Committee was held at the rooms, Sixth and Adelphi streets, with the object of making some investigation into the propriety of reducing the time now allotted to the study of phonography in the Central High School, out of concerning that study entirely. Messrs. Homage, Smith, Adams, Matcham, and Riche were present. Messrs. Townsend Sharpless, Robert Paterson, T. Cooper, editor of the *Christian Instructor*, John J. McElhone and G. A. Townsend, of *The Press*, and Professor Maguire, were present. The

five last named were present to testify to the importance of the study and the necessity of its continuance. Mr Cooper exhibited copies of two newspapers, the manuscript copy of which was, he stated, written in phonography and set in type from the same by phonographic compositors. Mr Sharpless recapitulated a number of interesting cases wherein penitentiary convicts had learned the art, and gone out into the world to practise it. He had visited Isaac Pitman, the author of the system, whose brother, Benn Pitman, resides at Cincinnati. Isaac Pitman had gone thro' Walker's Dictionary three successive times, with a view to obtaining all the phonetic sounds in the language. His system was philosophic, and calculated in the fullest manner to combine rapidity, comprehensiveness, and elegance. The art needed diffusion to make it a desideratum, and public institutions should be the primary means of making it known.

Mr. McElhone stated that most of the reporters for Congress were High School graduates. In replying to a remark that the art was forgotten as soon as acquired, he said that on one occasion, after traveling abroad for seven months, he returned to Washington, having been without practice in the interim, and followed a fluent speaker with the greatest ease.

Prof. Maguire was anxious to confine Phonography to a term for each High School class, and to teach the same only the last quarter of each hour set apart for it. The matter will be considered by the committee. — *Philadelphia Press*.

A Rough-and-Ready Reporter.

I was for years prejudiced against Phonography and the Phonetic movement. This prejudice arose from my own indolence and ignorance. I had bungled at stenography for years, and had been taught Templeton's system of shorthand by a gentleman of literary eminence connected with the metropolitan press. It was little utility to me as a commercial or a literary auxiliary. About eighteen months ago, I attended a series of public meetings and lectures in a town in the west of England, and amused myself by taking notes for the press. One evening, a queer looking individual came into the meeting and seated himself beside me near the platform. He took a book out of his pocket and placed it on his knee, and commenced sharpening his pencil. I looked at the man from head to foot. His hat was dingy and shabby, his coat was old and threadbare, and his trousers and shoes appeared as if he had been all his life in a heap of mortar. The lecturer commenced his oration and my companion appeared to catch his words with rapidity and ease. He appeared to me either a farm laborer or a mason's laborer. I felt

convinced that the honest fellow was my superior because he had adopted a perfect and rational system of stenography. I was placed in an invidious position, and the people stared at us in such a manner that I closed my book perfectly disconcerted. He however pursued his task with perfect calmness and indifference. At the close of the lecture, I entered into conversation with the noble fellow. I inquired, "Whose system do you write?" He replied "Isaac Pitman's." I felt perfectly ashamed of myself that I had not acquired the system. I said, "I am resolved to abandon the old bungling system, and to learn your system." He honestly confessed that he was not a very fast writer. He wrote in the reporting style and could not exceed 120 words per minute. He walked away with a verbatim report of a lecture delivered by the talented son of an eminent bishop. I felt that this was a glorious achievement for a laboring man after the toils of the day. When I took a melancholy retrospect of the time I had wasted, I almost wept. I resolved to learn Phonography. It is a pleasing and a glorious system, and I only regret that I had not met with the mason's laborer ten years before. — *From the (English) Phonetic Journal*.

Editor of *The Crisis*, Indiana, says: "This beautiful art appears to be extending itself widely. We have used it entirely for the last six months; every word has been put into type from Phonographic manuscript during this time, and with no increase of blunders in the proof sheet. It is what it claims to be, a perfectly legible system of writing, combining ease and accuracy. The time is fast coming when those unacquainted with Phonography will be behind the age."

CATALOGUE.

American Manual, 75c. Pitman's Manual 75c. Phonographic Copybook, 25c. Hand Book of Standard Phonography, \$1.50. Pitman's New Phonographic Reader, 30c. The Teacher, \$1.15c. Phonographic Chart, \$1. Phon. Pencils, 15c. Reporting Paper in books of from one to five quires, 15c single, 5 quires, 75c. Phon. Note Paper (small size) per quire, 20 cts. Reporting Covers, with 2 quires of Rep. Paper enclosed, 75c. Phon. Envelopes, per package, 20c. Phon. Magazines, each 10c. Graham's Standard Phonographic Reader, 87½ cts. Graham's Synopsis of Phonography, 25c. Biography of Dr. Stone, in phonography, 25c. Phonographic Numerals, 20c. Graham's Brief Long hand, 50c. Benn. Pitman's new Phonographic Instructor, 30c. Graham's Phonographic Gold Pen, \$2— with silver extension holder, \$3. Graham's Second Standard Phonographic Reader, \$1.15. Pitman's Reporter's Companion, \$1.00.