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BENGOUGH'S COSMOPOLITAN SHORTHAND WRITER.

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

VOL. III.

TORONTO, FEB.-MARCH, 1883.

Nos. 10-11.

GLIMPSES OF GOTHAM.

A long cherished desire of the Conductor of the WRITER was gratified last month, when he paid a flying visit to New York and Brooklyn. Some points noted in connection with the shorthand profession are deemed worthy of record.

THE GENIUS OF PHONOGRAPHIC UNITY.

A visit to New York would be a failure if the phonographic visitor did not see and converse with the "Genius of Phonographic Unity"—Mr. D. L. Scott-Browne, the publisher of the "only professional" shorthand journal, and the best text-book on phonography in the world; the manager of a bureau which is the headquarters in New York city for stenographic help; the only publisher in the profession who rejoices in a double name, one-half of it—presumably the better half—having been part of the marriage settlement from his wife. Entering the Clinton Street headquarters, we asked if Mr. Browne was within, and in a few moments there appeared, from behind the wall which separates the business office from the students' room, a small, spare, hollow-chested Illinoisian, who in his earlier days had reversed Horace Greeley's advice and "gone east." Making a physical effort to look prodigious, we asked Mr. Browne if he recognized a "Canuk." Upon reading our card he looked up and expressed himself delighted to see his old enemy, remarking, however, that, judging from the pugnacious character of the articles contained in the COSMOPOLITAN in reference to himself, he expected to see a great big Irishman with a shillelagh over his shoulder. He had some pretty hard things to say of the International Association, chiefly because they were not sufficiently careful in admitting only first-class men. He admitted, however, that the organization is now in better shape than at first, and was careful not to reflect on Canada as a place unworthy of the presence of that august body. We have reason to hope that when he reaches Canadian shores this summer he will be perfectly satisfied with the composi-

tion of the Congress. He grew enthusiastic in speaking of his new text-book, and exhibited some specimens of the genus *studenstenograficus* who had reached a speed of 100 words per minute after thirty lessons. While admitting this to be a very good exhibit, we were not content to allow an American to walk away with the laurels so easily, and therefore stated a little fact, namely, that for several months past we had been addressing mixed audiences in various Canadian towns, and teaching them to read shorthand sentences after half an hour's instruction. The topic was at once changed. The respective merits of the type-writer and caligraph were briefly discussed—Mr. B. favoring the latter, though he uses and sells both machines. Two caligraphs and a type-writer were ranged along the wall, while the furniture necessary for students occupied the room. In the rear is Mr. Browne's private office and the tuition room. The business is managed by a lady assistant, Mr. Browne confining his attention chiefly to teaching. Mrs. Browne was away in North Carolina, recruiting, so we missed the anticipated pleasure of looking upon the beautiful face of the author of the "hel-hook," and the valuable assistant of the genial genius who presides over the headquarters. Mr. Browne is very free in his manner, and a stranger would at once feel at home with him. We do not wonder that he has gathered about him a host of students and writers. As one of them remarked "Mr. Browne has got hold of the wires, and he has made this the headquarters. He has put me in a half-a-dozen positions, and offered me more evening work than I could do."

THE OTHER AUTHORS.

Time did not permit a visit to Graham, Munson, Burns, Lindsley, and the lesser lights. Readers of New York stenographic journals need not be reminded that the best of feeling does not exist between the exponents of some of the rival systems. A joke current around Browne's will illustrate.

It is to the effect that as he calls his place "Headquarters," a well known stenographer who is not an author, has proposed to open an establishment and call it "Hind-quarters," while an existing establishment is called "No-quarters"—the latter having the double signification that the transactions are never so large as to require any coin but nickle, and that "no quarter" is allowed to any other system. This is a fair illustration of the keen competition that exists. We know of nothing like it in any other part of the continent, notwithstanding that *Brown's Monthly* sometimes protests vigorously against the throat-cutting practice of the Chicago fraternity.

THE TYPE-WRITER BUSINESS.

The firm of Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict, organized last August, are doing a rushing trade in type-writers,—the sales being confined almost exclusively to the number two "Standard." Mr. Seamans is the resident representative, and manages the manifold details of an intricate business with marvelous tact, promptitude and exactness. It would have been but little trouble "to make an editor outen o' him," for he possesses in a marked degree the necessary "cheerfulness, courage and vim," besides being able to "keep things in apple-pie order, and do half a dozen at once." He keeps three lady "typers" busily engaged with dictated letters, circulars, etc., and yet personally supervises all the details of sales, shipments, repairs, etc. Looking at a photograph taken a year ago we should judge him to be a man of thirty-five, but since then he has stepped back into life half a score of years apparently, owing to the sudden and unaccountable loss of every vestige of hair from his face. The doctors are puzzled over the case, having never seen anything like it, but Mr. Seamans does not seem to worry over it. Mr. Wyckoff and Mr. Benedict are now, as they have been for many months, busily engaged in organizing their American agencies. Mr. W. is a man of the jovial type, with immense powers of endurance. His manner is very affable, and his organizing faculty peculiarly strong, hence the great success with which he met in his profession as stenographer, from which he has now retired in order to give his whole time and attention to the type-writer business. He was agent for the type-writer in Central New York while resident in Ithaca, and made more sales by far than any other agent. The story was told us last summer that at Remington's headquarters a complete model of a type-writer on an altogether new plan had been put out of harm's

way on the shelves of the establishment. There seems to be no foundation for this story. All the suggestions that have been made for the improvement of the type-writer have been adopted when found really valuable, and though there are other machines in course of invention which introduce new applications of principles, the type-writer of to-day may be taken as the sum of practicable invention in this direction to date. In this connection we may add that several improvements were first tested and then suggested by Mr. Wyckoff, and incorporated with the machine now on the market.

THE WRITING MACHINE ENTHUSIAST.

We had the good fortune of meeting and conversing with Mr. Charles Densmore, who spent \$13,000 in money, and five years in time, to produce the first working model of a type-writing machine. He has been intimately connected and identified with writing machines from their inception, and contributed what the inventors lacked in capital and patience. Let us honor the ingenious inventors who spare neither brain nor hand in the endeavor to produce a mechanical substitute for the pen and copying press; but equal honor is due to the man who stands behind and furnishes the means for the testing and perfecting of the innumerable and intricate parts. It is easy to grow enthusiastic on the manifold merits of the machine which has rendered such aid to our profession; but few men can bear the strain upon nerve and pocket of failure after failure as Mr. Densmore did. His faith in the future of the type-writer was unbounded, and no one will grudge him the satisfaction of pecuniary profits which he now enjoys from the successful completion of his plans. He is now retired from active pursuits, but still takes a lively interest in the caligraph and the type-writer, from both of which he draws royalties. The statement having been made in Canada that Mr. Yost, the manager of the caligraph company, was the inventor of the type-writer and had developed the caligraph as the superior instrument, we asked Mr. Densmore what Mr. Yost's connection with the type-writer had been, and in reply he wrote the following list upon a slip of paper, remarking that these names of the inventors of the type-writer were placed in the order of time.—C. Latham Sholes, Samuel W. Soule, Carlos Gliddon, Matthias Schwalbach, Walter J. Barron, Ernest R. Barron, Jefferson M. Clough, William R. Jenne, George W. N. Yost, Lucian S. Crandall, Byron A. Brooks. Mr. Brooks invented the

mechanism of the sliding carriage and double-letter arrangement for capitals, now in use in the type-writer. It would require a lengthy article to describe the gradual development of the mechanism of the various machines.

YEARS AND YEARS AGO.

On the return journey we had the good fortune to meet on the train our friend—or, as the Society reporter would say, *compagnon du voyage*—Mr. E. R. Stimson, who is travelling in connection with the Foreign Exhibition to be held in Boston in September. Mr. S. was, we believe, one of the earliest Canadian agents for type-writers, having been in partnership with Mr. Arthur Harvey, an insurance agent. Investment in type-writers was in those days—1874-5—very costly and very doubtful. What is now looked upon as the commonest machine—the plain No. 1, at that time very crude in comparison with the poorest machine to-day—sold at retail at \$150, and so difficult did the agents find the sale or them that they were forced to cut down the prices to less than cost, so that they actually lost money as well as time. Worse, even, than that, was the opposition which was excited by their introduction. Engrossing clerks in law offices feared the machines would leave them like Othello, and they therefore took the precaution to get the letter-bars distorted, or the mechanism generally out of gear, so that “the old thing wouldn't work.” This conduct—or the result of it—while it delighted the students, disgusted the employers, demoralized the business, and disheartened the agents. When we began an active agitation in favor of writing machines in this city about a year ago, we met many instances of the spirit alluded to. Happily, there is not much left of it now. Mr. Stimson took a machine to Australia on one occasion, but found that the fear of competition was too great for its general introduction there.

A SUCCESSFUL CANADIAN.

The time not devoted to sight-seeing was spent at the home in Brooklyn of our old friend, Mr. Walter S. Oliphant, now confidential secretary to the manager of the Hanover National Bank. Mr. Oliphant was, some twelve years ago, one of the most active members of a Toronto literary society, whose roll contained the names of Mr. Albert Horton, of the House of Commons *Hanover* staff; Mr. Arthur Wallis, now in the gallery at Ottawa for the *Mail*; Mr. James Boyle, formerly of the *Mail*, now of St. Louis; and the writer. We hope the day is not far distant when the shorthanders of Toronto, at all events, will organize a like society. The exercises of the one in question included essays, newspaper articles and discussions, debates, readings, and the conduct of business (each member in turn being chairman). The members owe a very large share of whatever success they have since attained to the incentives thus offered, and the prac-

tice thus afforded, to mental effort. Not only so, but the friendships thus formed in those days of youthful enthusiasm can never be broken. Chattering of these old times, the Brooklyn host and his guest passed many pleasant hours. Mr. Oliphant has all the earthly comforts any heart could wish, and thoroughly appreciates all. Among his household treasures is a handsome oak cabinet containing an elaborate service of silverware, valued at over \$350, the gift of the employees of the Grand Trunk Railway, along the whole line from Portland to Sarnia. Mr. O. was for nine years secretary to the Mechanical Superintendent, and was almost constantly on the road. When he graduated from the Toronto *Globe* job-room as a printer, his longhand was a grade below “fair to middling” in quality. He determined, however, to overcome this great bar to progress, and he wrote, literally, miles of *m's* and *n's* and other letters and combinations. After the most painstaking labor, he acquired a style which—didn't suit, and therefore set himself anew to the task, this time with more success, until finally he reached the perfection of a bold, round, symmetrical style, as legible as print, and more beautiful to a business man's eye than copper-plate. Writing machines are now being generally introduced, and the steno-grapher is gradually being transformed into a steno-typer, so that the call for good longhand is less urgent, as a rule, than formerly; but still the fact remains that the wretched caligraphy of the average shorthander is one of the most serious obstacles to his success. The time and labor expended by Mr. Oliphant in mastering his present style have been well repaid, for it was his longhand writing which first attracted the attention of his employer. Now he has a position worth \$1800, with splendid prospects of advancement, and he enjoys the unlimited confidence of his chief. This may be gathered from the single significant fact that though he holds the only power of attorney for the Bank, and uses it in the regular course of his duties to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars, he has not been asked to furnish a single dollar's worth of security.

THE ART LEAGUE—A SUGGESTION.

One of the most enjoyable and inspiring visits was that to the Art League, accompanied by the writer's brother, Mr. Wm. Bengough, who is perfecting himself in his art with the Hatch Lithographic Company, on Vesey-street. The League was organized some seven years ago by a few young artists, with little money but unlimited enthusiasm and intense desire to become thoroughly proficient in their special vocation. The institution gradually added members and appliances, and is now self-supporting, offering to young men and women of artistic taste exceptional advantages in the prosecution of their studies. The Cooper Institute offers free tuition in art, and during the school year closing last May 2,217 young men

and 756 young women were admitted to the Art classes. There were 1,400 applications by young women, but nearly half were rejected because the school was full. This unaccommodated surplus must find somewhere what they seek, and hence they crowd into institutions like the League and pay the nominal fee. Is there not in these facts and figures a suggestion of usefulness to those interested in our art-science? The members of our profession should not ignore, but should rather seek to encourage—within proper restrictions—the growing desire for skill in shorthand. If many of the young men who are now coming into the profession are “incapables”—which some experienced reporters affirm, but which we deny—it strikes us as fair and feasible, in the interests of both experienced and inexperienced—which are mutual—that the former should aid the latter in obtaining a proper conception of their duties, and in securing the training required for their satisfactory discharge. We believe, and have facts to endorse the belief, that there is plenty of room for all who properly prepare themselves for shorthand work. Our art differs from that of the painters in that it is more utilitarian; it is a necessity, while theirs is a luxury; it is practical, while theirs is esthetic. The field for our art is therefore wider—and will be so for many years, at least in Canada, while the work of organizing and producing wealth is going forward. The future of our art in this country depends very largely on our conduct in the present; and if the market is glutted with “incapables,” the members of the profession will not be entirely guiltless in the matter. That the tendency may be to an over-production of useless shorthanders we are quite free to admit, arguing from the experience of other professions; but the constant impressing of the necessity for thorough preparation—the furnishing of facilities for the necessary training—the fixing, as near as may be, of a standard as to qualifications and remuneration—and the general “toning up” of the ambitions and tastes of the young men and women who are entering the profession—all these will materially aid in the development of the valuable, and the dwarfing of the useless, limbs. Here is work for the Canadian Shorthand Society, and we hope they will rise to the importance of it and set themselves to the task.

SOME CONSIDERATIONS IN REGARD TO REPORTING EVIDENCE IN NARRATIVE FORM.

BY E. E. HORTON, OFFICIAL REPORTER,
HIGH COURTS OF JUSTICE.

According to the present system, the evidence given in the Common Law Courts of Ontario is transcribed in narrative form; and, with a view to saving expense to suitors requiring copies of it, and of time to

judges and others by whom it is afterwards reviewed, the narrative form is probably the best, as a rule, in which to give it. But my experience has shown me—and I find that that is also the experience of other old reporters—that in order to take down evidence in narrative form throughout, the person who attempts the work must, if the answer be at all indirect, if it amount to anything more than a simple “yes” or “no,” in the first place construe the language of counsel and witness taken together, and thus exercise, in a measure, a most important judicial function. And this construction must be done on the instant, in order that the reporter may be free to take down what immediately follows. If a judge be recording the evidence himself, and anything ambiguous be said, he can interrupt the examination in order to have an explanation. For a reporter to do so would be, at any rate, unseemly; and therefore it appears to me that the best course open to him is to take down both the question and answer, and if, on writing out, some other circumstance in the case have not caused the ambiguity to disappear, to transcribe both the question and answer, and allow the responsibility of construing them to fall upon others. Following are some illustrations of the desirability or necessity of reporting the evidence sometimes in the form of question and answer. It was only recently that it occurred to me to take note of any such examples; otherwise I should now have been able to have cited some that would have illustrated this point more clearly.

Often a counsel in examining a witness puts questions in such a way—it may be unintentionally—that to report the testimony at that point in narrative form, would be to represent the witness as saying something quite different from what he evidently intended to convey.

Sometimes a lawyer puts a question, and then, without giving the witness time to answer it, adds another on the same point. Perhaps in the majority of such cases the witness directs his answer to the latter of the two questions alone; but a person reporting his testimony in narrative form, his mind too fully occupied with the various mental operations a reporter is obliged to perform to weigh the probabilities with any degree of nicety, would not unlikely report him as having replied to both questions with the same “yes” or “no” when perhaps if the witness were required to answer each question separately, his reply to one would be affirmative while to the other it

would be negative. A case of this kind recently occurred, and the evidence being reported in narrative form, there was a difficulty about it on the argument in Term.

Not unfrequently a counsel will begin a question with: "Now, you say that—" and then go on to state something which the counsel has wrongly *inferred* that the witness has stated, and which the witness would deny if the lawyer stopped there; but the latter, merely intending his misquotation as a preface to his question, proceeds without stopping, "and you also admit, if I understand you rightly, that—" and then states something to which the witness readily assents. Here again there is great danger of a report in the narrative form doing serious injustice to testimony by assuming the answer to have referred to both parts of the question.

The case sometimes occurs of a witness being asked a question, in which he is told something that another witness has said, or is informed of some other fact which causes him to make a statement in regard to that particular point which is a modification of something he has said earlier in his examination. This variation, if the question be not given, may, in the mind of a person who afterwards reads the evidence without having heard it from the witness' mouth, cast undeserved suspicion on his credibility, through the reason for the modification not appearing.

A witness says in the course of an examination "I did not pay him for the piano." He is then asked, "you were worthless financially at that time, weren't you," and his reply is, "I failed." A question at once arises in the reporter's mind, "does the witness mean that he failed to pay for the piano, or that he did not pay for the piano because he became insolvent?" The reporter must not stop to debate the point with himself, as he has to be attending to what follows, and as he is supposed to give as nearly as possible the *ipsissima verba* of the witness, he will, reporting him in the narrative form, probably record this passage, thus:—"I did not pay him for the piano; I failed," leaving the meaning doubtful, where, if both question and answer were given, it might be clearly perceived in the light of some other portion of the testimony.

When a witness replies directly to a question, as to which of two alternative circumstances or sets of circumstances was the one actually existing at a certain time, the full spirit of the interlocution is not preserved in the record if his answer, simply as given, without any allusion to the

other alternative, be all that is noted; e.g. Question—Was it more because you were afraid of him, or because you did not want to hurt him that you refrained from striking him? Answer—Because I did not want to hurt him.

It is doubtless in no small degree owing to depositions taken by special examiners being usually recorded in narrative form, that we so often hear witnesses denying, in court, that the words attributed to them therein, convey the meaning which they had intended to express.

If, then, it be necessary that evidence be sometimes taken down in the form of question and answer, it is essential to its being done accurately that the reporter be most expert in the art of shorthand writing. Were it practicable to take it down entirely in narrative form, a much less practised reporter should be able to do the work than one who would be competent to record it in the form of question and answer. But when it is considered that, as is well known, the utterance of interlocutory discourse is a good deal more rapid at times than that which is heard in the majority of set speeches,—in which volubility is restrained, in a measure, by the necessity of keeping the mind directed toward a train of reasoning,—it will at once be seen that a very high rate of speed is indispensable to the reporter who is to take down evidence in the form of question and answer as fast as spoken. Even in cases in which the evidence is being reported in merely narrative form by a shorthand writer, witnesses will sometimes make long statements in the course of which they will speak so quickly that unless the reporter be a man fully competent to take down testimony in question and answer on occasion, he may, while sketching the general outlines of the narrative with a reasonable amount of fidelity, omit, in his endeavors to keep pace with the speaker, some expression which he may not at the time consider of any consequence, but which, taken in connection with some particular circumstance in the case, perhaps as yet undeveloped, amount to very important evidence.

If, as frequently happens, a very long question be put which contains a reference to several different circumstances, all of which it is necessary to note at that particular time for some purpose of identification, it would be utterly impossible for the swiftest shorthand writer in the world to wait until he heard the answer, mentally reduce the question and answer to narrative form, and then record it with full assurance that he was doing so accurately,

the more especially if the answer embraced a long explanation. To do this would sometimes involve the keeping in mind until they could be noted of more than a hundred words, at the same time that the reporter was memorizing other words which were being uttered as the case proceeded.

Notwithstanding, however, these illustrations of the danger of adhering too closely to the narrative form, I think it would be possible to take advantage of it very fully if each reporter adopted for his guidance a series of rules and examples—such as any observant reporter who was also an efficient shorthand writer would be able in a short time to deduce from his practice—covering all cases in which it would be necessary or advisable to report evidence in question and answer. I would suggest, with a view to the more efficient discharge of their duties by shorthand reporters in the courts, whether a special curriculum, embracing, among other things the reading of works on evidence, might not be prepared, in which they should be required to pass an examination.

NEW BRUNSWICK SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

There are excellent prospects for the introduction of an official system, similar to that in vogue in Ontario, in the Courts of New Brunswick. We fear the standard of speed—120 words per minute—is too low for satisfactory work from the officials to be appointed. It should be at least 150.

The following is the report of the special committee of the Society:

COURT REPORTING :

The above committee, appointed at a recent meeting of your Society, desire to report that they have, in pursuance of the directions given to them, made further investigations in respect of the matters referred to them, with the following results :

1. That they are of the opinion that immediate steps should be taken by this Society to induce the Government of this Province to take action for the appointment of official shorthand writers in the circuit and equity courts of the Province.

2. That the number of reporters which it is at present deemed advisable to recommend to efficiently conduct the said business of the said circuit and equity courts should be at least four in number, two to be delegated specially for duty at St. John, one at Fredricton, and one in the county of Westmoreland. All or any of such reporters, however, to be liable to be called upon, as the chief justice or presiding judge may determine, to perform duties at any circuit or equity court held in this Province.

3. That no person shall be eligible for appointment as official shorthand writer without he is a member of this association, and further, that a certificate duly signed by the president and board of examiners of the association, and countersigned by the secretary, be granted to any proposed official reporter, testifying to his capacity to take verbatim reports at the rate of at least one hundred and twenty words per minute.

4. That in order to secure competent reporters for the performance of the work required, it will be necessary that they receive a salary of at least \$1,200 per annum, and in addition thereto, be further paid the sum of \$2 per day for hotel expenses on all occasions on which they are required to travel away from the particular district, and also the actual amount paid by them for travelling expenses. That for the said salary of \$1,200 per annum, the said official reporters shall make one longhand transcript of their notes for the use of the court, and that in the event of either party in any action or trial requiring transcripts of said official shorthand notes, the said official shorthand writer shall make such longhand transcript, for which he shall be paid an additional remuneration of ten cents for every folio of 100 (one hundred) words, such remuneration to be secured or paid in advance by the party ordering the same.

5. That it is impossible to get any competent person to give up the permanent positions in which they are now engaged if they are offered a lower salary than \$1,200 per annum.

6. That such official reporters should be appointed for life, or during good behaviour, unless incapacitated from performing their duties. Your committee have interviewed several reporters capable of performing the duties of court stenographers, and find none of them willing to accept an appointment at a less guaranteed salary than \$1,200 per annum.

7. Your committee have investigated thoroughly the appointment of official shorthand reporters in the Province of Ontario, and also in the various States and Territories of the United States of America, and they find that in no case where the reporters have been employed at a lower remuneration than \$1,200 per annum has the work been satisfactorily performed.

8. Your committee are enabled to submit the following table, showing the remuneration paid to shorthand writers in Canada and the United States, as far as they have been able to obtain them.

District.	Remuneration.	Extra.
Ontario,	\$4,500 per annum	
State of Alabama,	\$10 per day	5c. per folio.
California,	\$10 per day	20c. per folio.
Georgia,	\$15 per day	10c. per folio.
Indiana,	\$10 per day	10c. per folio.
Colorado,	\$10 per day	20c. per folio.
Iowa,	\$ 7 per day,	10c. per folio.
Kansas,	\$ 6 per day,	10c. per folio.
Kentucky,	\$ 5 per day,	20c. per folio.
Louisiana, Civil,		35c. per folio.

District.	Remuneration.	Extr.
New Orleans, Police,	\$1,80 per annum	.....
State of Maine,	\$ 5 pr day	..... 10c. per folio.
		6c. per mile travelling.
State of Maryland,	\$2,500 per annum,	..... 10c. per folio.
City of Baltimore,	\$8pr day,	..... 10c. per folio.
Orphan's Court,		
Massachusetts,	\$2,000 per annum,	..... 7c. per folio.
Michigan,		
Detroit City,	\$1,200 per annum,	..... 10c. per folio.
Minnesota,	\$15 per day,	..... 15c. per folio.
New Hampshire,	compensation at discretion of judge.	
Nebraska,	\$1,500 per annum,	.....
New Jersey,	\$10 per day,	..... 10c. per folio.
Court Chancery,	\$10 per day,	..... 20c. per folio.
New York,	remuneration ranges from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per annum.	
Ohio,	\$10 per day,	..... 8c. per folio.
Pennsylvania,	\$10 per day,	..... 15c. per folio.
Rhode Island,	compensation at discretion of judge.	
South Carolina,	\$2,500 per annum,	..... 10c. per folio.
Texas,	\$10 per day,	..... 10c. per folio.
Vermont,	compensation at discretion of judge.	
Wisconsin,	remuneration ranges from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per annum,	..... 10c. to 20c. per folio.
Arizona,	\$10 per day, equal to \$3,000 per annum,	..... 15c. per folio.
Dakota,	\$10 per day,	..... 15c. per folio.
Montana,	\$ 8 per day,	..... 15c. per folio.
Washington Ter.,	\$10 per day,	..... 15c. per folio.
Wyoming Ter.,	\$2,500 per annum,	..... 15c. per folio.
		10c. mileage.

9 Your committee have ascertained that it is the unanimous opinion of judges employed in the courts of this Province, and also the opinion of prominent members of the legal profession, that it will be a great economy of time and expense in the administration of justice if official shorthand writers are appointed in the circuit and equity courts.

10. Your committee recommend that a copy of this report be forwarded to the Honorable the Attorney-General, and that he be respectfully requested to prepare a bill embodying the recommendations of this report, and that the said bill be forthwith laid before the House of Assembly.

W. J. WALLACE, Pres.
F. H. RISTEEN,
W. C. EVERETT.

Report unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. H. W. Longeville, seconded by Mr. Arthur Porter, a vote of thanks was passed to the committee for their exertions in collecting information for the report.

For the WRITER.

DETAILS OF AMANUENSIS WORK.

BY CHAS. A. MARCH, CHICAGO.

A shorthand clerk in the employ of the Law Department of the Penn. Company gave me some excellent advice on the subject of clerk work in a law office, two years ago, upon my taking such a position. I give it *verbatim* as he wrote it, in the hurry of business. The advice, of course, is intended only for one who is already willing and anxious to do his best to fill his new position satisfactorily. An important point touched upon is that the clerk should do all he can to lessen the detail work

of his employers. He should make such a study of the duties of his position that he will often anticipate the wishes of his employers, facilitating their business and ministering to their comfort and convenience in ways of his own invention. If he aspires to be a "confidential" clerk, he should make himself such a master in his own department that his employers will feel that all the petty details of office management are safe in his hands, as much so as in their own. Such a clerk they can really lean upon and defer to in many important matters. These are old-fashioned truths, which can be uttered without fear of contradiction.

"I can appreciate your position. You are in an entirely new field, and are zealous of doing as much as can be done by one of experience in a like situation. You fear you are not doing this, and that, consequently, you are not doing your full duty, or giving satisfaction to your employers. The contemplation of this fact makes you nervous and excited—a condition in which you are unable to do the best you are even now capable of doing. Speed and facility can only come with practice. Accuracy and elegance of style can only be acquired and maintained by writing at a speed which you can do with ease, taking care to guard against slight irregularities which, if uncorrected, soon become habitual. From what I can learn, you are trying to do more than you can do well. Go a little slower at first, keep cool, and do all you can do, well. No one will complain at this, and you will soon get a better style and greater speed. You should do no more than you can do properly. You can soon do properly all that is laid upon you, and more too. You should do all in your power to lessen the detail work of your employers. You are expected to be the custodian of papers, and to file them in such a way that you can at any time turn to the file and hand out the papers relating to a particular case or subject. For this purpose I should be loath to abandon the old system I have adopted of placing all papers relating to a certain case or subject under a single cover, and giving it a number. An alphabetical list of these cases or subjects, with a reference to the number of the envelope or cover, renders the finding of the papers child's play. I should like to see how this plan would work in even a more extended office than the one I am in. It works admirably there. The dockets will also be under your charge, and the files of cases will, of course, correspond to numbers on the dockets. All these matters will come to you with ease in time, and will be much easier than you imagine. You will find that system is indispensable in an office such as you are in. Certain hours should, if possible, be devoted to certain work. This lessens work."

My friend, who wrote me the above letter, is a trusted clerk in the General Counsel's office of the Penn. Co., and on one of the State Committees of the International Shorthand

Association. Judging from my own short experience in a law office, I think a detailed account of the mode of procedure in garnishee cases would be welcomed by at least a few clerks in law offices who have to attend to that department. I was with the Chicago attorneys of the Penn. Company for some months in 1881, but, of course, could not now write up such a subject as well and easily as one who has had a longer practical acquaintance with the subject. I don't know whether there is an actual demand for such an article, but I make the suggestion.

As to copying letters in the letter-press, my friend, referred to above, has an excellent opinion of the wet-box arrangement, which is a zinc-lined box in which the blotting pads are kept, and occasionally sprinkled with water, so as to be always in a thoroughly dampened condition ready for use in copying letters. The pads, as laid in the wet-box, are separated from each other by oiled or rubber sheets. When sometimes copying letters myself I find that I am more sure of a clear, legible copy if the book is left in the press as long as five minutes. For copying type-writer letters, unless the ribbon is a fresh one, I wet the pads more thoroughly, and only moderately for pen letters. When taking the dictation of a number of letters, etc., where telegrams are dictated which are to be sent off as soon as possible, I make use of a waving line (the shorthand symbol for "laughter") to call attention to the telegram, so that it will catch the eye when glancing over the dictation afterwards. I don't know that any one else uses the sign for that purpose, but it is simple and convenient.

I have been in the habit of writing a number of postal cards on the type-writer, and for some time was bothered by the cards slipping out of position on the roller. Accordingly I thought of making a paper frame of the width of the roller for holding the card. I made it, and have used it with much satisfaction and convenience for several months. [The postal card attachment furnished with the type writer is cheap and thoroughly efficient.—Ed.]

Several weeks ago I was shown the mode of filing law papers in the solicitor's office of the C. & N.V.R.R. here in Chicago. Instead of filing away, according to the title of the case, all the papers belonging to the cases of a certain county are put together, and the box (or several boxes) labelled with the name of the county.

JOTTINGS FROM OVER THE WATER.

(From Our English Correspondent.)

The principal event in the phonographic world so far this year is the publication of the new Dictionary by Mr. Isaac Pitman. Phonographers all over the world have been looking forward to the publication of this work with interest. It was promised for publication in

November last, but owing to the great amount of work in connection with it, it has only lately come to hand. It is indeed a splendid production, and will, no doubt, have a very extensive sale all over the world. Already it is announced that 2,000 have been disposed of. It is all that the printers can do to supply them fast enough for the demand. The new edition is a great improvement on the other one, containing nearly 60,000 words, whereas the other one contained only about 25,000. A happy idler is that of Mr. Isaac Pitman's appending at the end of the work 5,000 proper names. This will be welcomed by all phonographers. At the end of these proper names will be found some half dozen sheets of ruled note paper, evidently for phonographers who wish to make any remarks or wish to make a note of any particular phrases they may come across. The book is very elaborately got up in style, and the price is only four shillings, a sum no person can justly begrudge, considering the amount of labor that must have been expended over it. Intending purchasers will do well to obtain their copies at once, or they will, as many did last time, apply when the work is out of print. The last edition ran out of print in a very short time, and some of the last copies were sold at more than double the price.

By the time this will have reached you the compilation of the first list of the Phonetic Society will have ceased, and the new list for 1883 will have been published. Judging from the great number of new members recorded each week in the *Phonetic Journal* during the last six months, the list should be greatly in advance of last year's in point of numbers. Mr. Pitman may be said to have gathered quite a happy family round him since last year.

The death is announced of Herr Leopold Ahrends, who, as the author of a published system of shorthand, may be called the Isaac Pitman of Germany. He was born in 1817, near Wilna, in Russia, and was educated at Riga, and studied science and philosophy at Dorpat and Berlin.

Messrs. C. & J. N. Bennet, shorthand writers, of Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, having dissolved partnership, the business will in future be carried on by Mr. L. C. Bennet.

The usual meeting of the "Shorthand Society" was held at the City Club, Ludgate Circus, on the 3rd of January. Mr. C. Walford, F.S.S., F.I.A., presided. Mr. Pocknell exhibited a manuscript of the book of the Psalms of David, written in Rich's system in the seventeenth century; also a manuscript copy of Timothy Bright's "Characterie," a unique copy of which is in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Mr. T. B. Rundall read an interesting paper on a new system of shorthand for schools, being a joined-vowel system. A discussion followed.

Mr. F. Pitman has recently published a work

entitled, "Phonography adapted to the French Language," by A. J. Lawson, who hails from America. It has been well spoken of by some magazines, and is without doubt the best work published yet of its kind. Phonographers may rely on this if they want a good treatise on the above subject. Another work issued from the Phonetic Depot is a book for the use of reporters. It is called "Pitman's Sixpenny Note Book," and contains 200 pages of really good quality paper and ruled with single or double lines. This book has had a tremendous sale. An edition of 10,000 copies was sold in a little over a fortnight. Mr. F. Pitman has also in the press a work by himself entitled "Learning to Report."

A public Lecture was delivered at a Belfast Shorthand Writers' Association on the 4th ult., on "Shorthand and Shorthand Writers," by Professor Everett, before a large audience. The chair was occupied by Alderman Haslett, J.P., who briefly introduced the lecturer. Professor Everett traced the history of shorthand from the earliest times at which there was no record of its use to the present time, and also explained the details of his own system, for which he claimed superiority in the essential particulars of speed of writing and legibility of reading. The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Professor for his able and instructive lecture.

Extensive preparations are being made by Mr. O. McEwan, F.S. Sc., the renowned shorthand teacher, and manager of the new Metropolitan School of Shorthand, London, for the forthcoming shorthand examinations in connection with the Society of Arts. It is understood that a great number of candidates will present themselves for examination. The examinations will be held at Mr. McEwan's School of Shorthand, in High Holborn.

A special article by T. A. Reed, Esq., is announced by Mr. F. Pitman to appear in the *Shorthand Magazine*, entitled "Speakers and Speaking from a Shorthand Writer's Point of View." The American agency for this magazine is, I see, at the office of your paper, 11 King street West; may it long flourish in America!

The Scotch Shorthand Writers' Association have, with the commencement of the new year, issued a shorthand periodical, *The Scottish Shorthand Journal*. The price is 4d. It is partly in the ordinary print and partly in shorthand. This is the only shorthand magazine that hails from Scotland. The wonder is that none has started before. Specimens of Phonography, Aethography, and Legible Shorthand are to be found in its columns. The editor is Mr. James Simson, of Ayr.

Mr. E. Govett, a Victorian journalist, has invented a stenographic machine which is said to be capable of reporting speeches verbatim at the rate of 275 words per minute! So, at least, the *Australian Typographical Journal* says.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SHORTHAND PROFESSION IN CANADA.

The reckless assertion made in *Browne's Monthly* that Canadian stenographers could not organize anything, will very soon be without a shadow of foundation. When the remark was printed, last August, there was being organized in Toronto a Society which, of itself, is sufficiently important in its numbers, in its character, and in its aims, to cast serious discredit upon the prophecy of the Seer of Gotham. But the Canadian Shorthand Society has had an important bearing upon the profession in this Dominion, not only because of what it is in itself, but also, and rather because of what it has already done and what it is doing, in inciting to organization all along the line.

In view of the International Congress to be held on Canadian soil next August, we feel sure that all our readers—Columbian as well as Canadian—will be interested in learning of the latest developments in the direction of shorthand organization in Canada.

When the C.S.S. was organized last summer, the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association was in a moribund condition, and the younger organization therefore undertook to fill its place, by enlisting the professional stenographers in its membership as Seniors. The more immature element was also recognized, under the name of Juniors. A Convention was held, attended by about seventy-five shorthand writers, comprising a considerable number of Seniors; papers were read bearing upon various phases of the profession in Canada, a conversation in the City Hall was attended by nearly three hundred persons, comprising our first citizens; the newspapers gave very full reports of the meetings, and the new organization was ushered into existence and started on its mission with the blessings of the whole fraternity.

The Society was so named in deference to the wish of the President of the C.S.W. A., who insisted that the Association was neither dead nor moribund. Having in view the possibility of its revival, the Society inserted in its Constitution a clause giving to its Council—the governing body—power "to take such steps towards affiliation with other societies as may be deemed wise."

The new organization was freely discussed among shorthand writers individually, and the experiment of comprising Seniors and Juniors, Reporters and Amanuenses, First-class and Second-class men, in one organization, was watched with interest. Some

Seniors, who had been elected as constituent members of the Council, demurred; others held aloof. Finally, in January of this year, President Richardson issued the following circular, addressed to members of the old Association. It contains several references to the new Society (without, however, mentioning it) which will be understood in the light of the above remarks.

"CANADIAN SHORTHAND WRITERS' ASSOCIATION.

"OTTAWA, January 13th, 1883.

"DEAR SIR,—During the last Session of Parliament, several meetings of the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association were held, and a Committee was appointed to frame a new Constitution, with a view of infusing fresh life into the Society. The Committee was not able to report until a period of the Session when the press of Parliamentary duties on the members prevented the holding of a full meeting. The work then commenced will be completed at the approaching Session, and it is on that subject that I now address you.

"It is not unknown to you that the C.S.W.A. has in the past rendered very important services to the members of the profession which it was designed to aid. For a few years, however, no subject of consequence appeared to demand attention, and the Society became, to a certain extent, dormant. The number of efficient shorthand writers in Canada largely increased during the interregnum, but the claims of the Society were not placed before them, and they either remained in ignorance of it or believed that it had ceased to exist.

"I believe that you will agree with me that the maintenance of a society exclusively confined to first-class men is of the greatest importance to shorthand writers as a body, and that the opportunities for such a society to prove its usefulness are greater than ever. The business of shorthand writing has of late years assumed such importance in this country that a strong association is essential to the protection of the interests of competent men, but, while we should all be glad to afford assistance and encouragement to our younger brethren, it appears clear that our objects cannot be satisfactorily obtained by a society which includes all professed shorthand writers, no matter what their ability may be, and that any attempt to divide the members of the same organization into grades or classes can only be misleading. Such a society as the latter case, in any case, hardly come into competition with our Association, as, though it may aim generally at the same end—the advantage of the profession—the particular objects it has in view, and the means by which it proposes to attain them, must be essentially different from the purely business ends for which the C.S.W.A. was established.

"The maintenance of the standing of the profession is peculiarly in the hands of the

first-class men, who in pursuance of the maxim that 'Union is strength,' should heartily and unanimously agree in the formation of a strong permanent organization which cannot fail to be of benefit to every member. To this end the Association must be put in such a shape as to be of the most practical service to its members, and all first-class men should be made aware of its benefits and induced to join its ranks. With this object, your co-operation is invited.

"Please send me as soon as possible the names of any candidates you may desire to propose for admission, so that the necessary preliminary steps may be immediately taken towards their election. I would also request you to forward me any suggestions you may desire to make in reference to the Constitution by which the Association should in future be guided, and any other matters connected with its welfare. These suggestions will be referred to a Committee consisting of Mr. Geo. C. Holland, Mr. A. M. Burgess and myself for consideration and report to the Association.

"Meetings will be held as often as possible during the approaching Session. The first will take place here on Saturday, the 10th February, and the regular Annual Meeting three weeks later, namely, on Saturday, 3rd March, by which time it is hoped everything will be ready to start the Association on its new course.

Yours truly,

"THOS. JNO. RICHARDSON,
"President."

The meeting definitely announced in the above circular for Feb. 10th had been shadowed in our December number, in which we took occasion to remark that the question of amalgamation of the two Societies would probably be discussed. The *Ottawa Free Press* copied the paragraph, which elicited from Mr. Richardson the following letter, to which we replied as under:—

CANADIAN SHORTHAND WRITERS' ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the *Ottawa Free Press*.

SIR,—A paragraph in your issue of this evening with reference to the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association and the Canadian Shorthand Society is evidently founded either on a misapprehension of the relative positions and aims of the two organizations or on incorrect information. The C. S. W. A., which has been in existence for more than seven years, has for its principal object the maintenance of a high standard of efficiency. Its membership is exclusively confined to shorthand writers of the first rank, and, as admission can only be obtained by men who prove their thorough efficiency by passing a rigid test of a high standard, the fact of belonging to it is a certain guarantee of the ability of its members. The Canadian Shorthand Society, which was formed last summer, is an organization which includes all or any shorthand writers, from the experienced

Parliamentary or law reporter to the mere tyro. It is true that there is a division into grades, those of greater efficiency taking higher rank than the beginners, but the public will be slow to recognize the distinction. The aims of the younger society appear to be largely of a social character, and are doubtless very praiseworthy, but they neither clash nor compete with those of the older association, which are purely professional and practical. The C. S. W. A. is naturally not much before the public as it does not hold open "conventions," but private business meetings. At the same time, the public should be aware of its position and of the Hall mark which membership in it sets upon any shorthand writer. We have no desire to oppose the new organization in any way, but, as our objects and the means by which we seek to attain them are essentially different from theirs, amalgamation is not in question. There is as much difference between the two as between the Law Society and a Legal Debating Club. Both are good in their way, and in their respective spheres, but no one would think of uniting them in one. Will you permit me to add that the next meeting of the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association will be held in the House of Commons on Saturday, February 10th, at 11 a.m., and the annual meeting in the same building on Saturday, March 3rd.

Yours, etc, THOS. JNO RICHARDSON,
President C. S. W. A.

Ottawa, January 19th, 1883.

THE SHORTHAND PROFESSION IN CANADA.—REPLY
TO MR. RICHARDSON.

To the Editor of the Ottawa Free Press.

SIR,—I have read the letter of Mr. T. J. Richardson in your issue of yesterday, and as a representative of the Canadian Shorthand Society, wish to make a few remarks as to its relation to the older organization, called the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association.

1. The new society includes all the points which the old organization covered. Its senior members must be all first-class men. Its president is the chief of the Hansard staff. Its secretary was one of the constituent members of the C. S. W. A., and is still a member in good standing. Its standard, so far as senior membership is concerned, is equally high with that of the C. S. W. A., and provision is made for as rigid a test.

2. It is not correct to say that the C. S. S., organized last summer, includes mere tyros. Junior members can be elected only after having successfully passed a test including the ability to at least write one hundred words per minute and legibly and accurately transcribe the same.

3. The C. S. S. was organized to meet a real want in the profession in Canada. During the last session of Parliament, although efforts were made to revive the C. S. W. A., no actual progress was made, and when summer arrived the general feeling among the stenographers, at least in this section of Ontario, was that the

old association was in a moribund condition. No meetings had been held for years, except, as I have since learned, some informal ones at Ottawa during the session.

4. While the new Society aims to do work similar to the old organization, its constitution is more comprehensive, and it recognizes the new element which has developed since the old organization ceased actively to exist. It recognizes this new element by admitting them to membership in the senior class, if the newer men have shown their ability to write at least one hundred and fifty words per minute, or into the junior class if they cannot reach that standard.

5. The new society has been doing active work in introducing an official system of reporting in the courts of New Brunswick and Quebec. The inauguration of our society here has led to a similar organization in St. John, which is doing important work for the profession. Our membership includes at present a large proportion of the first-class men. Through the instrumentality of the new society, the International Association of Shorthand Writers for the United States and Canada will hold their Congress in Toronto next August. This latter fact would be of itself a sufficient justification for the existence of the new Society, if any were needed, for the International Association at present includes the head and front of the profession in the United States, and will be the occasion for the assembling of three or four hundred stenographers from every part of this Continent.

6. The admission of Mr. Richardson, that the C.S.W.A. "is not much before the public, as it does not hold open conventions, but private business meetings," is one of the strongest points in favor of the younger society. Mr. Richardson thinks that notwithstanding that the old Association has been thus quiet in its movements, "at the same time the public should be aware of its position and of the Hall mark which membership in it sets upon any shorthand writer." I should like to have Mr. Richardson's reasoning as to why the public should be aware of the standing the association gives its members; but I have every reason to believe—and I think the experience of most of the members of the old Association would accord with mine—that the public have been ignorant of the objects and standing of the old Association, simply because its movements have been so silent. I venture to say that the new Society has done nearly as much work in its six months' existence as the old in seven years, in "bringing before the notice of business men, the legal profession, educators, judges, legislators, and the public generally, the value of shorthand as a method of saving time and securing accuracy and expedition in the recording of discussions, the reporting of public statements and the despatch of correspondence,"—one of its objects, as defined by its constitution.

7. I am sure all the members of the C.S.S. will be pleased to have an expression of opinion

from the President of the C. S. W. A. that the latter has "no desire to oppose the new organization in any way." I do not agree, however, with Mr. Richardson's view that the "amalgamation is not in question." If, as he argues, the new society is chiefly social and literary in its aims, I think it behoves the members of the C. S. W. A. to recognize the fact that the social and literary element will bring strength to the new Society, and that strength may at some future time mean opposition—opposition, too, which will be all the more dangerous, because (arguing from Mr. Richardson's standpoint) the new and stronger society will represent the immature element—these whom he terms [in his circular] "professed shorthand writers."

While the grading of members may cause some confusion in the public mind, I take it that it is a question of two evils, and I consider it far the least of the two: the other one being the evil of allowing immature men—those who form the junior class of the society—to organize on their own bases and methods, and formulate, publish and operate a tariff which, in the nature of the case would be much lower and less professional than that of an organization which was controlled by the professionals, as the Canadian Shorthand Society is, or as the amalgamation Society would be. Yours fraternally,

THOMAS BENGOUGH, Sec. C. S. S.

Toronto, January 23rd, 1883.

The meeting of Feb. 10th was duly held, and though the discussion took a turn rather in the direction opposite to that of amalgamation, the relation of the two organizations was the chief topic. We had not the good fortune to be present, but understand that the efforts put forth in connection with our Bureau in popularizing the shorthand art were deprecated. On the following Wednesday, however, by the courtesy of the President and Secretary of the C. S. W. A., a special meeting was called for the purpose of conferring as to the best method of dealing with the vital question of organization.

Mr. Bradley as President and the writer as Secretary represented the interests of the new Society, and hoped to be able to convince our professional brethren that the true basis of organization was that upon which our Society stood—called, for convenience, the "double basis," as indicating the two classes of members. We had thought that, having convinced them of the advisability of adopting this basis, and of the feasibility of working upon it in company with the Juniors, the next step would be to have a committee appointed by the C. S. W. A. to meet with a committee of the C. S. S., and make minor amendments to our constitution as might be desired,—thus securing the full co-operation of all the professional stenographers of the Do-

minion, in view of the Congress; and at the second anniversary of the Society, to be held this summer, to engraft into the constitution the suggested amendments, appoint strong committees, and enter vigorously upon the work of organizing the whole Dominion. A careful perusal of the following report—necessarily brief and fragmentary—of the two hours' discussion, will show that we "counted without our host," and that the amalgamation must be upon another basis.

THE DISCUSSION OF THE RELATIONS OF THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS.

A general meeting of shorthand writers, chiefly members of the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association, was held in the Upper Press room, House of Commons, on the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 14, to discuss the relations of the Canadian Shorthand Society and the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association.

There were present, Mr. Richardson in the chair, Mr. Albert Horton (of Hansard), Acting Secretary, Messrs. Wallis and Matheson, Mail, Campbell, *Globe*, Bradley, Abbott, Marceau, Duggan, Eysel (Commons Hansard), Geo. C. and Andrew Holland (Senate Hansard), Waters and Curran (Government Stenographers) and Bengough, of Toronto.

After the reading of the draft report of the Committee on Constitution,

Mr. RICHARDSON read a statement of the position of the two organizations, touching upon the points developed in his published letter and circular, after which he called upon

Mr. THOS. BENGOUGH, of Toronto, as the representative of the Canadian Shorthand Society, who went fully into the arguments in favor of the recognition of Juniors in the membership of the professional Association. [The main arguments will be found in the published reply to Mr. Richardson's letter. Others were added, to wit:—The importance of the Junior element numerically; the advisability of preventing friction and opposition by recognizing this element; the advantage of the "double basis" of membership as a method for securing the best results to the profession and the community; the high sense of honor which had already been manifested by the Juniors, in asking the Secretary of the C. S. S. for a rate—proving the last-mentioned argument; and, lastly, the desirability, in order to show a united front to our visitors at the International Congress to be held in Toronto in August, of concerted action and not division.]

Mr. GEO. HOLLAND, alluding to a remark of Mr. Bengough's, that no amalgamation could be effected except on a basis which would recognize the Junior element as the C. S. S. did, stated that the Committee consisting of Mr. Richardson, Mr. Burgess and himself met before this meeting and arrived at the decision that Juniors should not be admitted.

Mr. ANDREW HOLLAND thought that the two associations have two entirely distinct objects.

The new society has been formed for social reasons. In Montreal lawyers employ their amanuenses on a small salary and then charge their clients full reporters' rates for transcripts. He objected to anything in the shape of trades-unionism. A feeling of honor is the only thing that binds shorthand writers. If an amanuensis can get hold of a first-class job, he is not going to tell the man who employs him that he is not capable of doing it. And the people who employ him don't know the difference between a first-class man and a poor one.

The Chairman, in answer to a question, stated that there are now twenty-five active members in the C.S.W.A. and eleven in process of passing the regular test.

MR. DUGGAN said that as far as he knew in Montreal it did not matter whether a man was good, bad or indifferent, so long as he had sufficient *aplomb* to push himself forward. If a report is short, it is only a saving of so much in the law costs. He thought there was a good deal in what Mr. Bengough had said in reference to recognising shorthand writers of two classes from that very fact. If we can only have an organisation so perfect that only those who are first-class men would obtain certificates, and second-class ditto, and provide some means by which the public would be made acquainted with the names of the first-class and second-class men, each class would obtain its fair share of work. It was a question whether a public recognition of second-class men would not be better served by bringing them in and forming them into the second-class.

MR. RICHARDSON said the object is to belong to an association which shall best protect our interests as first-class shorthand men. How are you to bind the public to accept a tariff which is agreed to by the association? You cannot bind the public to accept any tariff. The only indirect means you can employ is by taking a leaf out of the book of trades unions, leaving out the offensive features, namely, persecution and prevention of working by persons who do not belong to the organization. You can adopt the beneficial part by making it an object of interest to every efficient man to belong to the organization; then agree upon a regular rate for which work should be done and no other, as far as circumstances permit, and so enforce it upon the public. If you admit inefficient men into an association of efficient men, the only way in which you can possibly influence them is as in the case of the Junior members who applied for a rate and were told they could not do the work at all. Is it reasonable that any inefficient man will long stand by any society which takes work out of his hands? What good is the Society to them that they in return are to agree to be bound by rules which are altogether in the interests of the first-class men? On the other hand you simply give them a standing they otherwise would not get. What use are they to make of that standing? The only compensation they can get is this standing. How will they use that? Clearly to in-

terfere with the first-class man. It seemed to him the best thing is to exclude everybody who cannot pass the test. All tyros don't become experts. All who write 100 words per minute get into the Society, and fifty per cent. will never become first-class men. It is not likely, if a society exists which is known to include a great many if not the whole of the shorthand writers of Canada on the one side, that the Juniors would organize an altogether different society in which no first-class man would, for the sake of his reputation, enter. There is not a man why would venture to give good work to any member of that association. The men who are likely to go to the amanuenses are men who don't know good work, or who cannot pay for it. A much greater danger would arise from recognizing Juniors than from excluding them. We don't exclude them in any offensive sense. Where an association of men for a specific purpose chooses to uphold the highest standard of shorthand work it gives a guarantee to the public that the association contains no one who does not come up to that standard. The public conventions don't raise the rate or prevent people from cutting under. The practical results of this new Society, which was heralded with great *eclat* and style, up to the date on which this slip was printed, were only some thirty Senior and five Junior members. What great influence is to be brought to bear upon the world of amanuenses by bringing five or even fifty amanuenses within the control of the Society? The amanuenses out-number the first-class men by ten to one. Unless you have all these men in, what good do you do? And you still gain the evil that you give the second-class men a standing they would not otherwise have.

MR. BRADLEY: Last session we had two meetings of the C.S.W.A. We endeavored to get two other meetings. George Holland and Albert Horton attended, and we failed to get a quorum. The Colonization Scheme did not prevent; the meetings were called right early in the Session. They were adjourned from time to time. If there had been an active interest taken in the Association at that time the Constitution which has been drawn up would have been passed, new officers would have been elected, and there would have been something done. The consequence was we all left Ottawa with the idea that the Association was dead. (No, no.) How comes it that there has been only an original election of President, or perhaps one since? (The Chairman: Twice since.) There have only been three annual meetings in seven years. When does a society go out of existence? (Mr. Holland: "It is not dead, but sleeping.") The promoters of the new organization were certainly justified in promoting a new one. Something should be done to control these young men. It is an undoubted fact that, at the present time, there are not a dozen active members of the old Association. He did not consider Mr. Burgess or some of the other gentlemen of the departments really active members. Mr. Holland takes the ground that if the

Committee had not arrived at that decision with regard to the exclusion of the Juniors, the question of amalgamation would have been open—

Mr. HOLLAND: No; I said as far as I was concerned that was my view of it, if Mr. Bengough had not expressed himself committed to that idea of incorporating the Juniors Mr. Bengough said anything else but that could be harmonized, but that idea must prevail.

Mr. BRADLEY: The whole question has not yet been considered by the old Association. The old tariff has entirely failed. It is better to take the juniors in and try and regulate them. They can be regulated. It is much better to try and regulate them somewhat than to have them run an association of their own, or run in opposition to us. It is very well for gentlemen in Ottawa, where the profession is a close corporation, to speak of high rates. The Hollands have Government work and Mr. Richardson does Government work. It does not pay for first-class men to go into shorthand writing in Toronto. We should try and get hold of the Juniors there, and induce them to hold the rates up. He favored the amalgamation of the societies, and suggested a conference.

Mr. A. HORRAN said he had started at the consideration of this question perfectly unbiassed, and with a desire to know what was the best course to pursue. In Toronto Mr. Bengough had put to him what he admitted to be a very strong case in favor of admitting Juniors, that if they were not admitted to our Association they would be a constant source of annoyance to us by forming an association of their own. He had come to the conclusion emphatically that our interests will be best served by two courses, firstly, including in our membership every efficient shorthand man that we can get, within the bounds of this Dominion, and in the second place by excluding just as rigidly every man who does not come up to our standard of efficiency. The old Association formed a tariff and did a great deal to establish the system of report writing in Ontario. Its members worked under that tariff right along. [Mr. Holland: "And gentlemen who were not members were governed by its rates."] Last year we met, but for the causes which have been mentioned already the Association did very little more than meet and appoint a Committee to revise the Constitution. The Committee held a number of meetings in Mr. Holland's room, and worked very laboriously over this Constitution. We ought to control these young fellows and keep them in their place. We ought to include them in our membership as soon as they come up to our standard. Would not these men be controlled by having this Association select, in the professional sense, composed strictly of first-class professional shorthand writers, and making it an object of ambition to every learner of shorthand and every amanuensis to become an associate of the professional shorthand writers of Canada in their Association? Would there be any danger of these men form-

ing themselves into an association or doing anything to injure us if we shut them out and made them bite their tongues off just to get into this Association? They would not be doing anything to cut us under; on the contrary, they would be doing everything to fit themselves to get into this Association;

Mr. BRADLEY: They have not been biting their tongues off during the last four years.

Mr. HORRAN: Because this Association was almost defunct all these years. A Committee was appointed last session to revise the tariff, and Mr. Bradley was a member of it. The young men's ambition to be associates of the best shorthand writers in Canada would prevent them from forming an association or taking any steps which will interfere with our interests in any way. This Association was started solely for a financial purpose, for a money-grubbing, sordid purpose. This was why the speaker had joined it. We should not flaunt it before the public. We should devise a tariff, as high as we could fix it, and then work under it. Another purpose of the Association is to limit the number of shorthand writers coming into the profession. The narrower and closer we can keep this thing, the better for ourselves. He felt just as purely selfish as he could possibly feel. This is a close corporation, and ought to be a close corporation. The only example on which to base such an association is the trades union. We are formed to cook up a tariff of rates. We want to get as much money out of the public as we can (at least the speaker did), and that is just what trades unions do. Do they admit apprentices into their societies? The apprentices feel it of importance to get into the union. It takes them five years to get into the union.

Mr. HOLLAND: In case of a strike they are most perfectly in sympathy with the strike.

Mr. HORRAN: You cannot compel these Juniors to accept your terms, even if they belong to the society. This is a free country. Neither can trades unions compel apprentices to keep out of shops. How will the public distinguish between Juniors and Seniors? He did not think it at all probable that the Juniors would form an association. We are quite competent to do our share of fighting in the matter, and sustain our own views. Will the public distinguish better by putting them in the Association or by keeping them out of it? He was heartily in favor of amalgamation in view of the Congress that is to meet in Toronto. He should be very sorry to see any spirit of disunion among shorthand writers. He thought that a conference ought to be held or something ought to be done with a view to bringing about amalgamation. If Mr. Bradley would make a resolution in favor of a conference of the two societies with a view to amalgamation he would have the extremest pleasure in seconding the motion and supporting it. He thought in view of the large number of shorthand writers who were coming to

Toronto next year from the States, it would look very ungraceful if they should find two societies in antagonism to each other.

A MEMBER : There is no antagonism.

MR. BRADLEY : There will be two tariffs.

MR. HORTON : There cannot help but be antagonism if these societies go on working under their constitutions, because although you may say that the new Society has only a social object to serve, if we read its constitution, it is plain on the face that it has another object to serve, and if it is worked efficiently, as it will be with the vigorous intellect of Mr. Bengough, it will be a success. You will have one set of shorthand writers working under one tariff and another under another. Last Session the old Association was on the rising wave, and during the summer the new Society sailed in on the crest of this wave. The organization of the new looked like an attempt to snuff out the old.

MR. BENGOUGH explained that his statement that amalgamation could only be effected on the basis of recognizing the Juniors, was not an official utterance, but voiced his own strong views on the subject,—those views being held also by active members of the C. S. S. As to an attempt to snuff out the old Association, the impression of nearly every member of it was that it was dead, and could not be resurrected; but in order to avoid any subsequent difficulty, the principal members resident outside Toronto were communicated with, and all, with the exception of Mr. Richardson, approved of the new organization.

MR. HOLLAND admitted having sent a letter approving of the new organization.

MR. EYVEL : Did you know when you wrote that letter what the basis was to be?

MR. HOLLAND : No. [Mr. H. forgets that the letter to which he replied fully explained the "double basis" as to membership, and that in the reply he expresses sympathy with the objects "as described by you in your letter."]

MR. HORTON thought that a conference would end in the absorption of the Senior members of the new Society into the old, and then the Junior members of the Shorthand Society might take whatever course they chose, we representing to them what we consider to be right in their interests as well as our own. He had no doubt they would consider it best for their interest, if they do form an association, simply to form it for social purposes, and not to interfere with the tariff at all.

MR. ABBOTT considered this the most important meeting of Shorthand Writers that had ever been held in the Dominion. We have here the best half-dozen men that are in Canada. This is the best place to discuss the means of forwarding our profession. For himself he was independent, as he was not a member of either Society. He would frankly say that if these two societies continue to exist, as much as he desired to become a member of some society, and to see the shorthand writers of Canada banded together in an organization, he should decline to become a member of either, because

it seemed to him quite absurd to suppose that two shorthand societies could exist in this country with so few shorthand writers. It seemed to him absurd that they could work on parallel lines without coming into antagonism. He was very strongly in favor of amalgamation. He wished we might devote the entire discussion to that single point while we are all here together, as we may never have another such occasion. Montreal has frequently been referred to. He thought they would very soon have official appointments throughout the Province of Quebec, and consequently the evils that had been complained of would no longer exist. With regard to the question of two classes, he was free to confess that before his acquaintance with the new Canadian Shorthand Society, his judgment would have led him to pronounce in favor of a society with only one class of members, with a very high and rigid test—(Hear, hear,)—perhaps at least 150, and let the circumstances be such as to show clearly that the applicant who passes that test is really a first-class man. But our friend Mr. Bengough has brought forward some very strong arguments, and they have been very ably supported by Mr. Bradley; still the weight of the arguments he had heard to-night had been in favor of having only one class of members, and he thought, therefore, he would take the responsibility of pronouncing himself in favor of a society with only one class of members. He thought the interests of the profession would best be advanced by having such a society, and by excluding rigorously all men who are not able to pass the test. We will not be doing them any injustice. As soon as they are able to pass the test we will welcome them with open arms, and it will be an object to make themselves efficient in order to enter our Association. He was glad the question of amalgamation had come up.

MR. EYVEL said he had considered this subject before, and though he was prepared to hear reasons that would change his mind, he had not heard them to-night.

MR. WATERS said he was rather strengthened in his conviction that if a shorthand society is to mean anything palpable and tangible and valuable in this country, it should be held to mean that the members of that society, each and every one of them, if the occasion demands, can come forward and do the work which is required of them. He did not consider that any but a first-class man can do that. We may have a specified test of 150 words, and yet a man who may be able to meet that may be utterly incapable of doing first-class work on the great majority of occasions. Feeling that, he thought the society should only be composed of men who could do that and more than that. Such being the case he did not think that Juniors had any place in such a society. We have heard to-night that the old Association is composed of thirty, and it has been shown that this Association has been composed of as many first-class men as the new Society in Toronto, which has been spoken of so generally and advertised

so largely. If Mr. Bengough, representing that new Society, can go back to Toronto and express to the Society, that amalgamation would be favorably considered on the basis of having only one class, he thought the Society would, after considering the matter, send representatives here to meet the Association, so that the matter might be amicably arranged. For his part he was really grateful to Mr. Bengough for indirectly being the instrument of this matter being brought forward.

MR. MARCEAU said there were three or four good French reporters in Montreal. The English ones are efficient, as a whole. Among the French reporters are over fifty. In fact almost every student writes shorthand, if he is not a shorthand writer. (Laughter.) While he is in the college he knows if he intends to study law that it will be an advantage to study shorthand. And he studies it for perhaps three months and then can write perhaps fifty or sixty words per minute. There are very few who can write one hundred. They come before the judge, the *enquete* is supposed to be taken verbatim, and still they seem to take everything down. (Laughter.) They decline the test of 130 words per minute.

MR. HORTON proposed that there should be a meeting, so that a vote might be taken of Senior members of the new Society, and all the members of this Association, and that both should agree to abide by the decision of the vote. He had no doubt how the vote would result.

MR. ABBOTT moved, "that this meeting of members of the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association and of the Canadian Shorthand Society, and other shorthand writers, are of opinion that it is desirable in the interests of the profession and of the public to have an amalgamation of the two societies named, on the basis of having only one class of members, to be composed of first-rate men."

After some discussion the motion was remodelled by Mr. Holland, seconded by Mr. Eyvel, and passed as follows:—

"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that there should be but one association of shorthand writers in Canada, and that a conference between the two existing societies should be held with a view to consider the question."

On motion of Mr. Eyvel, seconded by Mr. Watters, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bengough for his attendance and explanations, and the meeting adjourned.

On our return we called a meeting of the Council of the C. S. S., which was largely attended. After a full and free discussion it was decided to suggest that the election of officers of the C. S. W. A. be postponed until the new members then in course of election should have been duly received—it being thought that the officers should be Toronto men. It was suggested

by one councillor that in view of the revival of the C. S. W. A., the C. S. S. should disband; by others, that the offices of the C. S. S. be declared vacant, so that a perfect amalgamation might be effected. To this it was answered that the C. S. S. is, of the two organizations, the most thoroughly alive and active in the meantime; that the officers were elected for a year; that the International Congress comes on invitation of the C. S. S., not of the C. S. W. A.; that the constituents of the C. S. S. have rights in the matter, which a vacation of the offices would ignore; that there is important work for the C. S. S. which the C. S. W. A. will never undertake; and, finally, that the members of the C. S. W. A. will sympathize with and support the younger society on certain conditions. These conditions may be gathered from the letter of Mr. Richardson, and the remarks of the members of the C. S. W. A., and may be briefly stated as follows:—That the C. S. S. leave the questions of Tariff and Legislation to be dealt with by the purely professional Association; that the "double basis" of membership be dispensed with; that members be received simply as shorthand writers, interested in the art-science; that no tests be required for the admission of members; and that the aim of the Society be to form a social bond of union among shorthand writers, with a view to carrying out the clause of its constitution relating to the "promotion" of shorthand interests—leaving the "protection" of those interests to be dealt with by the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association.

The suggestion that the C.S.W.A. delay the election of its officers was adopted at a meeting of that body on the 7th March, the election was fixed for the 31st of March.

At a meeting of the C.S.S. Council on the 15th March (Mr. E. E. Horton, V.-P., presiding), the following resolution was, after full discussion, moved by Mr. F. L. H. Sims, seconded by Mr. Tyson, and carried:—

That the negotiations for the amalgamation with the C.S.W.A. by this Society be discontinued, and that the representatives of this Society to the C.S.W.A. be instructed to that effect, and that they further state at the same time that the feeling of the Council of this Society seems to be that, in view of the continued existence of the C.S.W.A., and its taking up the questions of Tariff and Legislation, these questions be dropped by this Society, as well as the question of Tests, and the distinction as to Senior and Junior members.

GLIMPSSES OF GOTHAM.

Isaac Pitman's Easy Reporting Style.-(Key on page 129.)

Handwritten shorthand notes on the first set of lines, including a large initial letter 'M' and various symbols.

Main body of handwritten shorthand notes on the remaining lines, consisting of multiple lines of cursive shorthand characters.

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