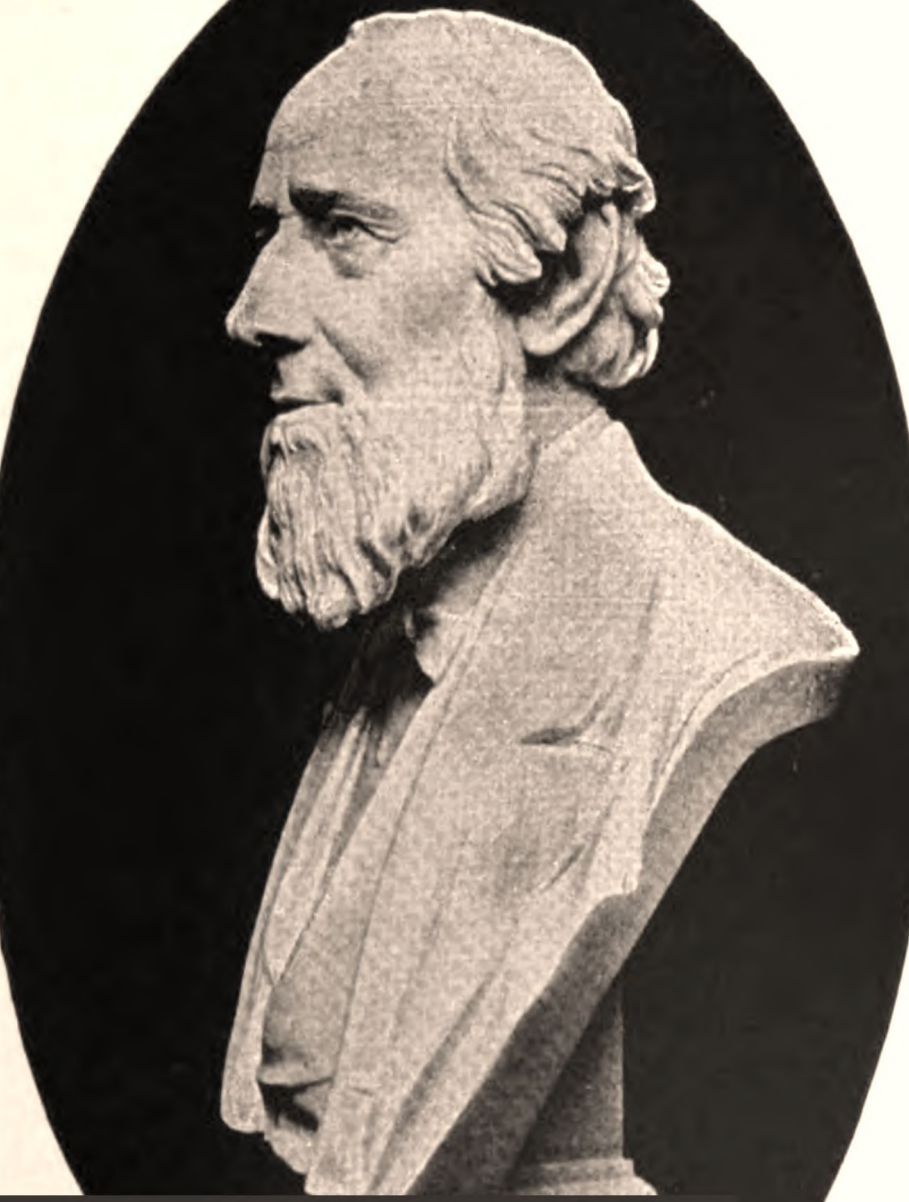


Transactions of the first International Shorthand Congress, held in ...

International shorthand congress

PRESENTED TO

The Phonographic Magazine.

BY

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

OF THE

International Shorthand Congress,

LONDON, 1887.

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

FIRST INTERNATIONAL

SHORTHAND CONGRESS,

HELD IN LONDON

From September 26th to October 1st,

1887.



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NOTE.—In this Table of Contents it has not been thought necessary to give particulars of Discussions, Speeches, and Toasts, or to indicate the pages devoted to them. These will be found in the Index.

PREFACE.

THE International Shorthand Congress of 1887 was convened to celebrate two interesting events in the history of shorthand, and to give an opportunity to writers of various shorthand systems and belonging to various nationalities to discuss some of the many questions in which they have a common interest. The two events commemorated were the Tercentenary of the origination of Modern Shorthand by Timothy Bright in 1586-8, and the Jubilee of Mr Pitman's Phonography, which was first published in 1837.

A large and influential Committee was formed to bring about the Congress, and it subsequently appointed two executive subcommittees for carrying out the details of the Tercentenary and Jubilee celebrations respectively. The names of the Members of these Committees are given on pp. vi-viii. An invitation was sent to all the principal shorthand writers throughout the world whose addresses were known to the Committee; and, as will be seen from the "Transactions," it was accepted by a considerable number of representative men in different countries of Europe. Unfortunately only one representative was able to attend from America, owing mainly to the fact that the time appointed was an inconvenient one for professional shorthand writers in the United States. It was, however, impossible to choose a date that would have suited all countries. The week chosen, from September 26th to October 1st, was decided upon after careful inquiry as to the time that would be most generally convenient.

The "Transactions" are the official record of the Proceedings of the Congress, and include the whole of the Papers and the Discussions. The subjects are numerous and important, and for some of them the time allotted proved inadequate, although five entire days were occupied with the Conferences. The volume also contains the report of the Committee on Longhand Contractions.

The Catalogue which concludes the volume refers to the interesting and valuable Exhibition of Shorthand books and documents, type-writers, etc., lent by members of the Congress. This Exhibition was very successful, and would have been still more useful if it had been open for a longer period than the Congress week. The authorities of the British Museum kindly exhibited a large number of shorthand works, which remained on view for a considerable time.

It will be seen from page 435 that the next International Shorthand Congress is to meet at Munich in August, 1889.

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The following paper, prepared by Dr Westby-Gibson for the Committee, was alluded to by Lord Rosebery in his opening address, and afterwards distributed to the members and visitors:—

THE ORIGINATION OF THE SHORTHAND CONGRESS.

By John Westby-Gibson, LL.D., Hon. Sec. of the Congress.

The services of Shorthand to society in all its aspects are so well known in our day that we need no assessor of its value at this Congress. The fact of men of different nationalities and of various positions in life being gathered together from far and near to celebrate the three centuries of modern Shorthand and the half-century, or jubilee, of Phonography is a practical response to any question on the subject.

As, however, there has never been (in the full sense of the title) an International Shorthand Congress—I mean a World's Congress—before, it may be asked what concatenation of circumstances has brought about this celebration of 1887; and, as the originator of the movement, I have had a desire to say a few preliminary words on the matter, and the Committee, recognising the justice of the claim, have sanctioned this brief address, as a record of what may be called "the why and the wherefore" of its origination.

Although I am not by profession a reporter or shorthand writer, I have been a practical writer of it nearly fifty-five years, and a lover of its literature from my very boyhood. While collecting materials for my "History of Shorthand" (still unpublished), and my "Bibliography of Shorthand" (recently published, as far as the English portion is concerned), the necessity, of course, arose to group my facts and dates chronologically, and I very soon observed that we were very near the end of the tercentennial cycle of modern shorthand, as well as of other interesting periods. This was full in my mind in 1884, when I read a paper to the Shorthand Society on the manuscripts of Timothy Bright's system in the British Museum, which I had lighted upon and of which there had been no previous account by any author.

The first of these manuscripts was Bright's "Whole Book of Titus," written vertically, Chinese fashion, in eighteen lines of his quaint, arbitrary, "Characterie," and enclosed in a letter from Vincent Skynner, of Enfield House, to Michael Hicke, Secretary to Sir William Cecil, Lord High Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth, March 30th, 1586, recommending to his notice Dr Bright, then practising in Medicine in Little Saint Bartholomew's, Smithfield, who was desirous of teaching his art [of shorthand] to Master Robert [Cecil], afterwards Lord High Treasurer to James I. If I

took the date of this manuscript as a starting-point, a tri-centennial period would end in 1886. Bright's Book of "Characterie," however, was not published until 1588, the Queen's patent, still existing in the Patent Office, being granted 26th July, 1588; this cycle would, therefore, run two years later, or to 1888. Two other periods loomed before my view—(1) That of the great Samuel Taylor, whose book, "The Universal System of Stenography," issued in 1786, had been the parent of so many English and foreign works; and whose system was still popular—this would have its centenary epoch in 1886; and (2) the fifty-year period of Mr Isaac Pitman, which to so many shorthand writers of this Victorian age constitutes the grandest cycle of all, and which I had no doubt would have its jubilee in 1886 or 1887.

At length I excogitated (as the good old word is) the idea of an International Shorthand Congress, to be held in 1887, 300 years after the mean date of Bright's two works, 1586-88. The year 1887 could be reasonably fixed also as the joint goal of both Samuel Taylor's and Isaac Pitman's cycles, with little violation of chronological truth.

I had hinted from time to time at the Shorthand Society's meetings that when that institution (a baby then, somewhat older now) was a little stronger and richer we ought to convene a Shorthand Congress, and, growing out of this remark, some enthusiastic shorthanders wanted to start a Congress *per saltum* in three or four months, without any idea of my cyclical scheme, and certainly with no definite object in view except to fight out the battle of the systems, and crown the Utopian victor, the inventor of the shorthand of the future. This crude idea of an International Congress, however, soon died out; and in 1884 my scheme was again referred to, but with reticence as to the tercentenary and other cycles, except to a few friends—the late Mr Cornelius Walford, first President of the Shorthand Society, at the time of his trip to America; Mr Thompson Cooper, of *The Times*, and Mr Alexander H. Grant, M.A., with four or five other literary friends. Towards the end of 1885 I drafted out the constitution and bye-laws of such a Congress as I had planned, and afterwards printed the same. Meanwhile Mr Pitman's followers commenced a movement to celebrate what is called the "Jubilee of Phonography," when I put forward my own views in two articles—the first ever printed in longhand on the subject—one advocating a cosmopolitan celebration of Mr Pitman's jubilee by writers of systems throughout the world, as being the desert of a man who, I believed, had done more for shorthand than anyone living; the other projecting an International Shorthand Congress, to celebrate the origin of modern shorthand, or the revival of the long-lost art in the days of Timothy Bright, and its course and development through the following centuries, and to do

honor to the celebrities of the past, as well as to the worthies who are still with us and working in our midst.

The object was two-fold—to bring about an expansion of the Pitmanite scheme the instant it was actively commenced, and to celebrate the tercentenary, so as to hold the two celebrations concurrently in the autumn of 1887. On the 3rd March, 1886, the Council of the Shorthand Society, at my instigation, unanimously carried a resolution sympathising with the movement for a jubilee for Mr Isaac Pitman, and desiring Mr Reed to represent it on any committee that might be formed. I then proposed that an International Shorthand Congress should be held coincidently with the Phonographic Jubilee, to celebrate the Tercentenary of Shorthand, and to do honor to Dr Bright, and all the successive shorthand writers down to our own times; and I satisfactorily explained my theory of the various important cycles which converged about the year 1887. This resolution was seconded by Mr Reed, and carried unanimously. The paragraphs above mentioned, and these resolutions were printed in the magazine, *Shorthand*, early in March, and subsequently reproduced in Mr Pitman's *Phonetic Journal*. The chief Shorthand Writers' Associations in Westminster, London, and Manchester adopted similar resolutions in March. The *Academy* (April 3) and other London papers, the *Birmingham Gazette* (March 25), *Manchester Guardian*, and other provincial papers, and the American and Continental papers and magazines, "kept the ball rolling." Mr Isaac Pitman wrote me (March 25, 1886) offering me every assistance. Letters from Continental authors, especially from Professor Zeibig, showed that they were also *en rapport* with these views.

At a meeting of a few friends on the 2nd April, 1886, to confer on the Tercentenary and Jubilee, a resolution proposed by me, seconded by Mr Cope, and carried, was to the effect that the committee to be formed should work the two celebrations jointly; and a joint-committee was thereupon formed, the first committee that ever took up the matter in any shape. On the 10th of April this committee elected Mr Reed Chairman, and myself Hon. Secretary.

My original prospectuses so fully embody my views, that I need only refer to them to explain the objects, operations, and special purposes of the projected International Shorthand Congress. The outcome of the labors of the joint-committee, and of its sub-committees, which had to be formed, is embodied in the programme which is to occupy us this week, and it comprises all the important features which I had planned and circulated, both at home and abroad, for the arrangement of my originally intended Congress, such as the reading of Papers on Historical, Literary, Parliamentary, and Educational Subjects, discussions on practical matters, a memorial for Mr Pitman, a conversazione, British

Museum Exhibition of rare and curious Books and Manuscripts, an exhibition from Private Libraries, a display of Type-writers, etc. There was one special suggestion, however, which the committee of this Congress have not seen their way to adopt. It was desired by myself and others who had the best interests of Shorthand at heart, that by membership fees and donations, funds should be provided, after paying all expenses, to enable the International Shorthand Congress, as a *permanent association*, to rent a hall, or suite of rooms, in a central place in London, for the use of members of the Congress, and for all Shorthand Societies in London, the provinces, and abroad, who might desire to affiliate with them, and so to create a useful and official centre for all the shorthand writers of the world.

I see no reason, however, why something should not be done to set this scheme agoing for the benefit of Shorthand generally, so that in addition to the pleasures of the flying hours of a memorable week we may be able to point to *substantial* and *permanent* services rendered to the Shorthand world for years to come—as the result of this Congress.

We have eminent English and foreign shorthand writers among us, also men of eminence in literature, science, and art, sympathising with this grand celebration. Surely, during the intellectual amenities of the week, or in "after-dinner talk across the walnuts and the wine," they (or some of them) will warm towards so praiseworthy a project as that of giving Shorthand a home or abiding place (however small) in London, its birthplace three hundred years ago. They will then help to make the International Shorthand Congress "a thing of life," like other great International gatherings, which have long existed and done good work, and which are still likely to keep a strong foothold of the future, and benefit mankind at large, long after our own days have passed away.

INTERNATIONAL SHORTHAND CONGRESS

Held in LONDON in 1887.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

The reception of Members and Delegates took place in the afternoon in the Theatre of the Geological Museum, Jermyn Street.

In the evening the Congress assembled at the same place to hear the opening Address of the President, the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosebery. The Members and Visitors numbered about four hundred.

The EARL of ROSEBERY, who on rising to speak was much cheered, said:—Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel myself, though not wholly unaccustomed to public speaking, in a somewhat embarrassing position on this occasion. I feel that I owe an apology to you for being here at all, but that apology, if it is made, must be made by your managing committee, who invited me in terms so cordial and yet so insistent, that I did not feel able to refuse. But at any rate I sail on this occasion under no false colors, because nobody, either now or at the time the invitation was made to me, ever suspected me of knowing anything about Shorthand. (Laughter.) I have indeed had at various moments of my career glimpses of that tremendous tribunal before which every public speaker has to appear, who sharpen their pencils as if they were poniards, and whose record there is no angel whatever to blot out with a tear. (Laughter.) But otherwise, ladies and gentlemen, I am absolutely innocent and guileless, and I ask your pity on that ground, and that ground alone, because we have always understood and we know well by experience that the sudden appearance of a single reporter, unexpectedly, will appal the very boldest speaker, and we know by the very famous line the terrors that are inspired by the fact that there's

"A chiel amang ye takin' notes."

(Laughter.) What then must be the feeling of a person who addresses an audience entirely composed of such "chiels" (renewed laughter

and cheers), he being painfully conscious that he himself is the only person unequal to compete with them in that art? Now, gentlemen, if I may say so, I think that that ignorance has a certain advantage, because it proves that one is absolutely unconnected with any one of the systems of shorthand, and that therefore one cannot be suspected of any dangerous leanings which might be provocative of any form of civil war. (Laughter.) I do not know how many systems there are, but I read the other day in one of those sources of information which one consults on occasions of this kind, when one is absolutely ignorant, that between the system of Willis in 1602 and Pitman in 1837 there were 201 systems, and that since that date there have been 281 more. (Laughter and cheers.) Well, I think, then, it is almost a relief to feel that one is absolutely ignorant of each and all of those systems. (Laughter.) But I believe that I may go a little further than that, and say that the discussion of the respective merits of these 481 systems, more or less, is no part of the business or intention of this Congress (hear, hear); that the Congress is rather one for practical utility; and that it aims at comparing and garnering and exchanging the experience and wisdom of this and other conntries in the matter of Shorthand: and in connection with that I may say that an admirable account of the origin and prospects and the intentions of this Congress is to be found in the small pamphlet prepared by the honorary secretary of the conference, Dr Westby-Gibson. (Cheers.) Well, we are here, nominally at any rate, to celebrate the Tercentenary of Shorthand, which we date, I think, a year prematurely, if my text books are not at fault, from the publication of the work of Dr Timothy Bright in 1588. I believe the Congress anticipated that date by a year largely in consequence of the fact that the Jubilee of the venerated father of one system of Shorthand, Mr Pitman, happened to coincide with that date. (Cheers.) Well, we, then, subjects of the British Crown, and those foreign visitors among us whom we so cordially welcome to our shores (cheers), are met here to celebrate the Tercentenary of the publication of that treatise. And so far as my researches enable me to form an opinion, the publication of that treatise has in some respects an interesting historical origin, which is that it was in consequence of the Reformation—of the eagerness that was shown at the Reformation to take down and record the sermons that were preached and the discourses that were preached on an event which moved the nation so deeply that the study of Shorthand was systematically and enthusiastically pursued. But, after all, if I may humbly say so, the fact of the Tercentenary of Dr Bright's treatise is not to me the most interesting feature of this occasion. If we had to celebrate any centenary or tercentenary, or any date connected with the origin of Shorthand, we should have to go back a much longer way than Dr Timothy Bright; we should have to go back to

the period when Martial was writing epigrams and Cicero was instructing his librarian in the practice of the art; and how much further we should have to go back we have no means of knowing at the present time; though I greatly doubt if the invention of stenography only dates from the time of Cicero. But, in my opinion, all that is inferior to the real interest. The real interest of this meeting, the real interest of Shorthand at this time, lies not with two or three centuries ago, but with the present century, because it is the present century that has witnessed the real triumph of Shorthand. (Cheers.) I do not deny that in the last century, over the body of the shorthand writer there were fought great battles, and that he was the subject of great contention; but in this century it has been reserved for him not to be the subject of victories, but to be the conqueror himself. (Cheers.) To realize that fact, and to realize the position of the art at this moment, it seems to me that you must enter upon the work of comparison. Compare what the state of shorthand writing was in the last century and what it is in this. To begin with, the absolute want of reporting at the commencement of the last century lost us the speeches of Bolingbroke, who is supposed by many, including Lord Chatham, to have been the greatest of English orators. Well, then, it is quite true that the great debates which led to the fall of Sir Robert Walpole were ably and eloquently reported; but they came to us through the medium of Dr Johnson, who, so far as we know, never for the purposes of reporting entered the House of Commons at all. (Laughter.) We all know the story of that dinner party where Dr Francis, the translator of Demosthenes, extolled one of Lord Chatham's speeches as being superior to anything that Demosthenes ever composed; and when the torrent of eloquence had nearly expended itself, a single burly voice was heard from the corner, "That speech," said Dr Johnson," "I composed in a garret in Exeter street." (Laughter.) And he went on to relate that at that time he had never been but once in the House of Commons; but that the people who were connected with Cave the publisher, and Cave himself, had got the softer side of some of the doorkeepers of the House of Commons, and in that way they were enabled to get the order of the speakers as they spoke, and an outline of some of the arguments, and from that to sketch a framework of those animated and interesting debates that we read were composed by Dr Johnson. Well, that is magnificent, as they said of the charge of Balaclava; but it is not reporting. (Cheers.) And I confess that whether it be magnificent or not, it does inspire the speaker of the present day with a pang of envy; because it seems to me that to have to make speeches is never a very agreeable task, but to have to make speeches which would be composed for you by Dr Johnson would be the most agreeable form of the art, even although he always took care to say that he gave no particular favor to the party to which I belong.

(Cheers and laughter.) Well, then, proceeding a little further in the history, not of Shorthand but of reporting—for we must take reporting as the criterion of comparison, and not mere Shorthand—there was Sir James Caldwell, who reported the debates of the Irish Parliament for some time. Sir James Caldwell was a man of memory; who was so impressed with the ability of the strenuous debates that he heard in the Irish House of Commons at that time that he felt constantly impelled to commit them to paper; and as he committed them to paper he found not merely that the order of the arguments came back, but even the very words of the speakers themselves; so that without any exercise of the art which we are this evening celebrating, he produced very creditable and excellent reports of the Irish debates of that time. Then, and in the same category, we may put the reports of Sir Henry Cavendish, who from his place as a member of the House of Commons, reported the debates of what is called the unreported Parliament, which he happily and secretly saved from that reproach. I believe that Sir Henry Cavendish did report in Shorthand. I believe that he reported in what was then, and I believe is still, called the Gurney system of Shorthand. (Cheers.) As to that I cannot speak with any absolute certainty, though I believe it to be the case; but what I can say with absolute certainty is this, that the non-publication of Sir Henry Cavendish's reports is a great disgrace to us as a nation. We have only published one or two volumes. The publication leaves off in the middle of a sentence; and there are no fewer than forty-eight volumes pining for publication in the archives of the British Museum. (Cheers.) Then came the American war; and by the time that war was on foot the battle of free reporting of debates had practically been won. (Cheers.) There had been the great struggle with Miller, the publisher, which dragged the City of London into its vortex; which even involved the imprisonment of a Lord Mayor. (Laughter.) But even then the publication of debates was only winked at, and was not absolutely tolerated. The most authoritative collection of facts relative to the authorisation and the publication of debates, or the reporting of debates that we have been able to find, comes from Lord Colchester's Diary—the Speaker, Lord Colchester—and his memoirs are a great repertory of information of all subjects connected with Parliamentary practice. He notes:—"Mr Gurney, the shorthand writer to the Lords Committee, told me to-day that their first appearance was in the House of Lords in 1786, upon the slave trade inquiries; and in the House of Commons in 1792 at the Bar of the House on Eau-brink Drainage. In the House of Commons in 1802 by M. A. Taylor's Bill they were introduced upon Election Committees. House of Commons, 1806, on Lord Wellesley's Impeachment Committee, Mr Gurney, jun., attended to take down the evidence at the Bar of the House." Well, that, so far as I can make out, is the most authoritative exposition of the real origin of

licensed shorthand reporting in the House of Commons. But after all, when we do compare the reporting of this age and the reporting of the last, it is only fair to say that some speeches were well reported even before that time. There was the famous speech by Mr Fox on the Scrutiny, which was either his first or second greatest speech; critics are divided on that point—but it was so well reported, I know not by what means, that Lord Holland, his nephew, used to say, "I think, in reading that report, I seem to hear the tones of my uncle's voice." Well, then, there was the case of Lord Chatham. I do not mean the speeches of Lord Chatham that were composed by Dr Johnson, but the speeches of Lord Chatham that in some fragmentary form have survived to us as delivered by himself. His son, Mr Pitt, as we are told in Butler's "Reminiscences," once lamented to a gentleman, who was probably Butler himself, that no specimens remained of that eloquence by which Lord Chatham had gained his great ascendancy in Parliament. The gentleman replied that he did not agree with him; that he thought that if Mr Pitt were to read slowly and deliberately to himself some of Lord Chatham's speeches on the repeal of the Stamp Act, and imagine to himself something of the air and the voice and the majesty with which Lord Chatham would have delivered those speeches, he would be able to form to himself a true and favorable idea of their eloquence. Mr Pitt tried the experiment and acknowledged that the man was right. Well, then, we have the case of Mr Pitt himself—the younger Pitt. Lord Grenville, who was his colleague, sent a reporter, a shorthand writer, to try to report Mr Pitt's speeches; but the notes were so imperfect and confused that they altogether, or nearly altogether, failed. And the reason Lord Grenville gave was rather a curious one. He said it was because "the reporters were against us, and their misrepresentations were with us a constant source of complaint." But it is not quite clear that the failure was so complete as Lord Grenville made out; because Lord Colchester, in the work to which I have referred records that he "dined at Hawkins Browne's with Montague and others. Montague told me that Pitt's celebrated speech upon the Budget of 1792 was taken down in shorthand by Montague himself, at the desire of Lord Grenville and Lord Mornington, and corrected afterwards by Pitt himself for the press." I do not know if Mr Montague was a member of the House of Commons, or a shorthand writer by profession; but I suspect he was the former. At any rate that seems to prove that in that particular case we have an authorized and a valuable report of the speech of Mr Pitt. Well, gentlemen, by what process these reports were taken down you are much more competent to decide than I am. But I confess I think that if this Congress has any spare time at its disposal it would be a very interesting point to raise a discussion how these reports, imperfect as they were, were actually produced. (Cheers.) I have alluded

to all this for the purpose of contrast. What a change there is now! Compare these fragmentary, imperfect, doubtful, very often spurious, reports of the great orators of former days, and think of what almost the meanest of public speakers may expect at this time. Why, as a public speaker leaves a meeting at which he has been speaking he will have thrust into his hand an evening paper with a verbatim report of the speech which he has been delivering. (Laughter and cheers.) If anybody leaves the House of Commons and puts himself into the night train to go to Glasgow, or Edinburgh, and for all I know Dublin—but I have no experience of Dublin (laughter)—he will find in the morning paper handed to him on his arrival as full and as correct a report of the proceedings in Parliament on the evening he left as the report that he will obtain in the London papers—a report entirely passed over the wires, over the same route that he has himself been passing over in the night. (Cheers.) But I am not sure that we cannot even surpass these wonders by the fact that, owing to the difference between our time and that of America, a speech may be sold in the streets of New York which, speaking according to time, has not been delivered in this country. (Cheers and laughter.) A speech may be delivered at 5 o'clock in the House of Commons and with perfect ease be sold in the streets of New York at 3 o'clock the same afternoon. (Laughter.) I am told that some printed speeches have never been delivered at all (great laughter); but that is a matter with which shorthand writers have had nothing to do, so far as I understand it, and that does not come entirely within the province of my topics here to-night. But, after all, I think I can put the change into a nutshell—into a much closer and more compact form than even that of comparison. I believe that 100 years ago the world would have got on tolerably well without shorthand, and did get on tolerably well; but at this moment, suppose we can fancy by any autocratic and natural power the suspension of shorthand throughout the natural world for even a week, I want to know how the universe would get on under circumstances of that kind. My imagination cannot grasp the idea, but I daresay there may be among the audience persons more gifted in that respect than myself. (Laughter.) For, after all, Parliament is only one field for this interesting and useful art. (Cheers.) I have alluded to Parliament, chiefly because I am myself more conversant with that field of its operations than with others, but, after all, in the Courts of Law the operation of shorthand has been most important. The Courts of Law, indeed, recognized shorthand long before the High Court of Parliament recognized it. (Hear, hear.) We have printed a record of the trial of a man who was hanged in 1737, which was taken down in shorthand, according to the statement of the reporter. But I believe that Mr Reed, who has given much attention to this subject (cheers)—I do not know if I am stealing one of the plums out of his

own particular pudding—told me that after careful research he had come to the conclusion, or actually ascertained as a fact, that the first authorized shorthand reporter in a Court of Law was appointed at the Old Bailey Court in 1740 or thereabouts. Well, and as we know from what I have already cited that the first authorized reporter in Parliament was in 1802 in the House of Commons, we come to a very considerable difference between the appreciation of the Courts of Law and the appreciation of Parliament. And after all, whatever the antiquity or whatever the precedence of the Courts of Law may be in point of time, we who read the papers have read, owing to the efforts of shorthand writers, verbatim reports of great trials which have been as stirring and as solemn as a great tragedy. (Hear, hear.) I do not suppose there is anybody here who cannot recall trials—I certainly can—within the last five years, of which we read every single word, question and answer, as they came from the pen of the shorthand writer. I think we have reason to be thankful to the art for that alone. Well, then, there is another field. There are those public meetings that we are all of us called upon to attend, and where the shorthand writer appears as the visible conscience of the public man. (Laughter.) It is too painful a subject for me to dilate upon. (Laughter.) Perhaps you will forgive me for passing on to another point. Then there are the scientific meetings, where the shorthand writer has not merely to know his art accurately and well, but a great deal of science also, and that seems to me to be a combination of talents which would not have been met with in the last century. I do not think, ladies and gentlemen, I need deal any longer with this aspect of the question, because it is one which is so perfectly obvious to you all that it would only be a waste of time. After all, we know perfectly well that shorthand pervades all public life. It is intimately connected with the operations of public life in this country; but it is connected in a very intimate and increasing degree with the operations of what may be called private life also. I venture to say that there is not an important merchant's, or lawyer's, or banker's office in London that does not utilize the services of shorthand-writers, and in my belief that private sphere of the usefulness of shorthand is likely to be indefinitely increased. I offer it as an opinion, not as an absolute certainty, but in my humble view the choice of a private secretary is second only in importance to the choice of a wife (laughter), and I am inclined to think that those gentlemen, and they are many, if we may judge from the applications that are received, who aspire in future to the position of a private secretary will find themselves very seriously handicapped if they cannot add to their other qualifications the intimate practice of Shorthand. Well, this leads me to a subject which is very near my heart, because it is a practical point connected with the administration of this country. In my opinion we grossly and flagrantly

neglect the use of Shorthand in our public offices in this country. (Cheers.) I cannot conceive any greater advantage to the public offices of this country than to have in them men of high character, deserving and capable of confidence, who are versed in the practice of Shorthand. We hear a great deal of public economy at this time —and I am always glad to hear of public economy—but public economy, as it is always meant, means the economy of public money. That is an important branch of public economy, but it is not the whole. There is a great economy in public offices which might be looked after as much at least as the economy of money, and that is the economy of time (hear, hear), and as long as we neglect and pass by the obvious economy of time that is to be effected by the greatly increased use of Shorthand in our public offices, I say we are flagrantly neglecting our duty to our country in this respect. (Cheers.) I can easily understand an objection which you will raise to my argument. You will say,—"That is very well to say when you are in Opposition; but why did you not utilize Shorthand when you were in office?". My answer to that is twofold. In the first place I aver that I did put my principles in practice, that I did rely greatly on Shorthand, and that without Shorthand I do not know how I should have been able to proceed. (Cheers.) But in regard to the second objection I should offer a second vindication, and it is this. That Government was a short Government. Lord R. Churchill lately remarked with great truth and great felicity, that the late Parliament must have been one of those which the gods love because it died young. (Laughter.) Well, the last Government to which I belonged was coeval and coextensive with that Parliament, and it cannot therefore have been less loved by the gods, and it certainly died young, and therefore it will be left to the historians of the future to speculate upon what were the great schemes of human improvement that died stillborn in the bosom of that Government. (Laughter and cheers.) Well, after all this desultory talk, you will see I am coming to a practical point, the utility of Shorthand in our public offices, and, as I have already hinted, the Tercentenary of Shorthand as commemorated by the achievement of Dr Timothy Bright, an achievement by the bye that I am given to understand is not clearly a triumph of Shorthand at all, because it was a long vocabulary of arbitrary symbols, and therefore it is not strictly to be considered Shorthand at all,—I say the Tercentenary of this treatise is the least important part of this celebration because, besides a century of triumph that I think you may congratulate yourselves upon, you have an almost unlimited future before you. What are the tendencies of this age? I hardly ever heard a speech made in my life without hearing that question asked,—What are the tendencies of this age? The answer is very varied. But I believe one answer is absolutely true—that the main tendency of this age is towards the economy of time

and of strength, owing to the conditions of this age. Let us consider the case of letter-writing alone. What is the case of letter-writing? We all know the letter of the past—that document which occupied a week in composition, which had some of the features of a daily paper, which was written on a quarto sheet, and which commenced, "I snatch a few minutes before the departure of the post." (Laughter.) The letter of the past has disappeared; the quarto sheet of paper on which it was written has given place to a duodecimo; and the duodecimo has given place to a postal card. I think I can very easily illustrate what I mean by taking the names of three eminent and capital letter-writers of their day. Take the letters of Lord Chatham, the Duke of Wellington, and Mr Bright. Lord Chatham wrote diffuse and florid letters on quarto sheets of paper. The Duke of Wellington wrote very laconic business-like notes on duodecimo paper, and those notes are, many of them, an absolute model for anyone who wishes for a summary style of writing. Mr Bright, who is fortunately still with us, writes at this moment letters that are very often as clear cut and concise as an epigram. I say in those three men you see representative great statesmen, letter-writers of their various days, and they illustrate the change that has come over that interesting art. Well, but after all, what are these various characteristics to which I have called attention? The telegram, the telephone, the postal card, are nothing but the signals of distress of an over-strained civilization. (Hear, hear.) The American people economize time and strength more than we do. They are very quick to appreciate the symptoms of the age, and I believe in that respect they are quicker than we are ourselves, and they economize their time and strength with less necessity in one sense than we have, because their State is self-contained, and ours is dispersed over the whole habitable globe, and involves all sorts of colonial and foreign relations, which make a much greater tax on the public spirit of this country than is required from a citizen of the United States. With us it is a matter of prime necessity, and I believe our first economy must lie in the direction of a much greater employment of Shorthand. We must make it perfectly clear that if economy is to be practised in public matters, one of the first economies that must be practised is in the use of Shorthand in our public offices. (Hear, hear.) In the next place, in these days of rigid and anxious competition in economical matters, we must make it understood to all our growing lads that an almost indispensable condition of a commercial education is a knowledge of Shorthand. (Cheers.) And in the third place we must make it understood that to all those who aspire to secretarial and clerical posts a knowledge of Shorthand is at least equally indispensable. In the days when women are loudly and justly calling for increased and enlarged employment, Shorthand offers to them a pursuit which they are eminently qualified to excel in, and in which their experience with the typewriter clearly shows they

have a great right to expect excellence. (Cheers.) I shall go a little further than even these points. I am told that there is a language being formed called Volapük, which is to supersede the more homely dialect to which we have hitherto tuned our tongues. I regard it with awe and with ignorance—which are very often the same thing. (Laughter.) I do not know that this language will upset the very unfortunate arrangement which took place at the Tower of Babel (laughter), but I do believe this, that within a century correspondence between persons of the same tongue will be carried on more or less in some form of shorthand. I regard that as a certainty for this reason, because I believe the stress and the pressure of civilized life will make it an absolute necessity whether we wish for it or not. I do not know whether I shall live to see it; I am certain I shall not live to benefit by it, because I am told that after a certain age the joints become too stiff for anyone to learn Shorthand. But whether that be so or not, I hope with all my heart, that Shorthand will penetrate every cranny and crevice of our civilized life. (Cheers.) I need not further indicate to you every form and every detail in which Shorthand may be utilized in the coming days. That I leave to you, who are much more competent than myself to indicate these various methods; but what I do say is this, that it is as representing a great practical agency in the present, and an agency that is likely to be tenfold more useful in the future, that I pay homage, however ignorantly, to your Congress of to-day. I pay homage in that spirit to your lithe and noble art, which has added largely to the power and economy the present day, and is likely to add to them indefinitely in the future; and I pay homage to it further for this reason, that in the past it has recorded the speeches of a Cicero and a Cæsar, and I think in the coming days historians will not be ungrateful to it for having recorded the speeches of a Gladstone, a Disraeli, and a Bright. (Loud cheers.)

Mr A. W. Kitson stated that letters of apology had been received from the Duke of Westminster, the Earl of Selborne, Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., Sir John Lubbock, M.P., Mr Childers, M.P., Mr W. H. Smith, M.P., Mr Ince, Q.C., Mr Waddy, Q.C., M.P., the Lord Mayor, Mr John Morley, M.P., Professor Max Müller, Mr W. S. Caine, M.P., Mr J. Collings, M.P., Mr Henry Matthews, M.P., Lord Morley, Earl Cadogan, Sir Henry Holland, M.P., Viscount Cross, etc.

Mr T. A. Reed:—My Lord, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—As Chairman of the General Committee of the Congress, it is now my duty to supplement the Inaugural Address, for which we are under such deep obligations to your lordship, by a few words of explanation as to the objects that have been contemplated by the promoters of the Con-

gress, and the manner in which it is proposed to carry them into effect. We meet as a body of shorthand writers assembled from various parts of the world to celebrate the tercentenary of the birth or re-birth of our art, and to take counsel together on the many matters in which we have a common and a lasting interest. We meet on a wide platform and welcome among us not only the professional practitioners of every system of Shorthand that has been fortunate enough to secure practitioners, but amateur writers and disciples of such systems, their historians, biographers, bibliographers, and expounders. We invite them to meet us not so much with a view of comparing system with system—which cannot be done to much purpose in a large public gathering—as to give an opportunity of friendly conference on the numerous details connected with the application of Shorthand to daily work, to talk a little about the history and the literature of the art, to discuss somewhat the general principles on which Shorthand should be based, and to enjoy the advantage and the pleasure of personal intercourse with those whose names are familiar to us all, but whom we have never before had the privilege of meeting in the flesh. A very few words will suffice to tell the story of how the Congress came about. The first practical steps taken in the matter were for the celebration of the Jubilee of Mr Pitman's system of Phonography, in which many of us take so deep an interest; but it was thought by several of our friends that as the Tercentenary of Bright's Shorthand was co-incident with the Jubilee, the two events might be celebrated concurrently. Hence the Committee over which I had been asked to preside had its functions enlarged, and found itself charged with the duty of making the necessary arrangements for a joint celebration. It was considered, and I think with reason, that no time could be better chosen for such a gathering as that which we are now inaugurating under your lordship's presidency. In the first place, there never was a time when Shorthand was so extensively practised as it is now, and its employment is increasing with remarkable rapidity. In almost all civilised countries its help as a time-saver is being more and more recognised, and it has come to be regarded not merely as the instrument of a comparatively few professional shorthand writers and reporters of public proceedings, but as a means of materially expediting the daily routine work of commercial and literary life. Then, again, a more tolerant feeling has grown up among the disciples of the various shorthand systems in use. Your lordship will hardly believe it, but there was a time when the advocates of different methods could only meet as deadly antagonists. A good deal has been said and written of the *odium theologicum*; it was nothing, my lord, to the *odium stenographicum* (laughter); and if the sentiment did not culminate in an Inquisition or an Act of Uniformity with tremendous pains and penalties, it was for want of the power and not of the will.

But we are progressing; we have come so far on the road of toleration as to believe that a man may write another system than the one we practise, and yet be a respectable member of society. (Laughter and cheers.) Even rival inventors can give each other a friendly greeting, and we have invited many of them to join us in our consultations and our festivities without the slightest apprehension of a breach of the peace. Then, beyond our immediate deliberations and rejoicings, we have had certain other objects in view of a more or less public character. One part of the scheme has been to make a public recognition of the services of a gentleman whose name has long been, and will, I doubt not, always be, connected with English shorthand—I mean Mr Isaac Pitman. (Cheers.) But as this part of our program is to be carried out in more detail on Wednesday next, I need not dwell upon it further than to say that it affords phonographers the greatest gratification to find that the disciples of all systems have united with us in so friendly and cordial a way to acknowledge the efforts which Mr Pitman has made to place Shorthand on a scientific basis, and to increase its practical utility. Another part of our project has been to do something for the promotion and cultivation of Shorthand generally. This, perhaps, may be considered a rather vague and formless statement, but it will become a little less amorphous as we proceed. There are many ways in which the desire of the committee can be accomplished, and the choice must necessarily largely depend on the amount of pecuniary and personal support which may be forthcoming. As these objects are, as I have said, of a somewhat general and public nature, the committee have not hesitated to appeal to the outside public, especially to the friends of education, and those who desire to promote in our country the cultivation of useful arts, to assist us in our efforts. As treasurer of the Congress fund, it is my special duty to refer to this matter on an occasion like the present. We have collected among ourselves, and from the public, about £700. The fund is not yet closed. It will remain open during the Congress; and the secretaries, or myself, or any member of the committee, will be only too happy to receive any contributions that our friends may be inclined to make towards it. I need hardly say that the expenses connected with the Congress, the publication of its Transactions, and the like, will be considerable; and if we are to have a respectable surplus you must kindly come to the aid of your Chancellor of the Exchequer in the matter of ways and means. I have now on the part of the committee, and of the shorthand writers of England generally, the pleasure of offering to our friends from foreign countries a very cordial welcome to this Congress. (Cheers.) We have received many letters from distinguished members of our profession in almost all parts of the globe—America, Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Norway, and elsewhere—expressing the

deep interest which they feel in our movement. From some of them we have received interesting contributions to our proceedings, which will in due time be read and discussed. Some have honored us with their personal presence, and we are delighted to see them this evening in our midst. (Cheers.) I can assure them in your name that if they will kindly take part in our conferences, anything that they may say will be listened to with real interest and respectful attention. Several gentlemen appear among us as delegates, and are therefore entitled to our special regard. Foremost among them I ought to name Prof. Zeibig, of Dresden (cheers), whom I think I may call the historian of Shorthand. He is one of the very few who have united the practical work of shorthand writing with laborious and intelligent research into all that pertains to the history and literature of the art. He comes as the representative of the Ministry of Saxony and the Corporation of Tachygraphy of Barcelona. He is accompanied by Herr Domvicar Alteneder, who represents the German Gabelsberger Confederation of Bavaria. We have then four gentlemen from France, representing the Institut Sténographique, Dr Weber, M. Mayeras, M. Victor Schœnmehl, and M. Depoin. Then we have here Herr Mehlhaus, who represents the Stenographic Society of Berlin; Herr Benscher, who is a delegate representing the Arends' system in Germany; Herr Otto Jespersen, representing the Gabelsberger Stenographic Society of Copenhagen; Dr Gantter, from Frankfort, representing the Gabelsberger Shorthand Society; and Mr Dornbusch, connected with the Volapük, of which your Lordship spoke to us just now, who comes here not in that capacity, but as representing the Stolze system of Germany. There are, I think, some other delegates, whose names we have not received These, my Lord, are the delegates that we have amongst us; and I have further to announce that a telegram has just been receivcd from the Stolze Stenographic Society of Cologne, desiring to convey their hearty greeting and salutation to this Congress. (Cheers.)

Dr ZEIBIG: My Lord, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—It affords me the highest degree of satisfaction to have been welcomed in this country in so cordial a manner; and I can assure you that I consider it a privilege to be here to present you with the sincerest compliments and best wishes of the Saxon Ministry, and also of the Royal Stenographic Institution at Dresden, and the Corporation of Tachygraphers at Barcelona, who have done me the honor of appointing me their delegate at this Congress. There is no doubt that shorthand systems are competitors, but I regard it with the utmost gratification that the sons of Albion have so well understood the objects of this competition as to convene a congress in a thoroughly cosmopolitan spirit. (Cheers.) I do believe, therefore, and trust, that the great efforts which have been made in this behalf will not only not have been use-

less, but will tend to promote the true interests of our beloved art, and to strengthen the bonds of union which exist between the representatives of all systems and all nations. (Cheers.)

Dr F. WEBER: My Lord, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I hope you will not look upon me as an intruder if I venture to address to you a few words after the eloquent speeches which have been delivered by his lordship, by Mr Reed, and now by the world-renowned Professor Zeibig, of Dresden. There is one feeling which to-night impels me to speak to you. I want to tell you how glad we are, even how astonished to a certain extent we are, to be received in so cordial a manner; and to say that the welcome which has been tendered to us is received by us in the same cordial manner. There is one feeling that I hope animates all of us, namely, that to-day Shorthand has overstepped the limits which hitherto have held back its extension. Shorthand writers are and must be friends. (Cheers.) They are friends. (Cheers.) Two years ago I went to Berlin, where I was received really as a friend. I came from France; and I was told before I went there that French stenographers coming to Berlin would not be received in a cordial manner; but this was not true. (Cheers.) Before coming to London I was told the same; but I know by experience that the English know enough of the art, and of the progress of Shorthand in this special case, to receive their brethren from abroad in the manner we have witnessed this night. (Cheers.) In the name of the Institut Sténographique des Deux Mondes—there lies much in that word, because it signifies a link between the different nations of the world—of which I am the representative, I thank Mr Thomas Allen Reed, and the President of this present gathering, for the hearty words they have given us. (Cheers.)

Sir CHARLES RUSSELL, Q.C., M.P.: Ladies and Gentlemen,—I find myself honored with a call to propose to you a vote of thanks to our distinguished chairman. (Cheers.) This duty is not exactly one which calls for brevity, although it is a duty that may be briefly discharged; and as this is a Shorthand Congress, probably at this stage of the proceedings you will be content with a shortened speech. (Laughter.) We have on this very interesting occasion listened, I am sure you will all agree, to a most interesting address (hear, hear, and cheers), an address in every way worthy of the occasion (cheers); and it is perhaps as high praise as I can give it if I add, worthy of the man who delivered it. (Cheers.) I have had the pleasure of hearing Lord Rosebery on many occasions, and I am not sure that I have heard him upon any occasion upon which he has been more happy than upon this. I think he has in a very admirable manner given us a history of the progress of the art of Shorthand, and entwined it with the history, a suggestive though sketchy history, of our own national

progress and the progress of the world. He has dwelt, not at too great length, but I think as the subject deserves, upon the important part which shorthand has already taken, and upon the still more important part which in all human probability it will soon occupy, and he has adverted to one part which to my mind as a lawyer is a gratifying one, namely, that the stenographers were received and recognized as persons worthy of encouragement in Courts of Law before they were so received in the High Court of Parliament. The explanation is not far to seek. It is this, that the publication of proceedings in Courts of Justice are by the law of the land within the competence of any man who chooses to enter the public Courts and publish them, and he has in all time, unless the Courts for special reasons enjoined to the contrary, been free from punishment, free from any ill consequences to himself in so publishing the proceedings. It has not been so in the High Court of Parliament. In former days, as you have heard, narrow views prevailed, and it was considered forsooth a high breach of the privileges of Parliament that stenographers should enter within its walls with the view of reporting, and that he should report its proceedings. Happily all that is past now. Stenographers are recognised according to their true deserts, and the services which they render in the diffusion of information throughout the world are only secondary in importance, if indeed they be secondary importance, to the delivery of the statesman-like speeches which are now and then delivered in Parliament (laughter and cheers), and through the stenographers reach the outer world. Practising barristers like myself recognise the peculiar claims of the shorthand writers upon our regard. They are our safeguards and protection against the Bench (cheers), for although there is only one Court, so far as I know, of those in which I practise in which there is a recognised official shorthand writer, and that is the least savoury of our Courts, the Divorce Court; nevertheless, the value of shorthand writing in taking down the judgments of judges or the still more frequent interlocutory observations of judges during the arguments of Counsel have again and again proved of almost invaluable importance to the interests of justice. I think they have helped the Bar, I think they have helped the suitors, and I think the judges themselves, to their credit be it said, recognise that it is on the whole a very great advantage that their human infirmities—for even judges are human and have infirmities—may be corrected and reviewed in the light of the more clear record of the shorthand writers. (Cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen, I feel that if I were to go on in this way I should be making what I said I should not make, something in the nature of a long speech, and I will therefore conclude by asking you to give, as I have no doubt you will, a very hearty vote of thanks to Lord Rosebery for the very admirable and enlightened address with which he has inaugurated this Congress. (Loud cheers.)

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Ladies and gentlemen, as one of those to whom was entrusted the very agreeable duty of asking his Lordship to be good enough to preside over our Congress and to deliver the opening address, I beg leave to second the motion which Sir Charles Russell has so ably proposed. It would not be at all becoming in me to enter for a moment into those questions with which Sir Charles Russell has dealt, much less would it be becoming in me to expatiate upon the many admirable reasons which induced the committee to request Lord Rosebery to preside over their deliberations. I will merely say that the committee had in view when it became their duty to consider who should be President of the Congress, that it was desirable that the first International Shorthand Congress should be introduced to the world by a statesman of high position, and at the same time one who had shown an interest in progress in various forms, and was widely known throughout the world for his interest in subjects affecting all classes of the community. (Cheers.) They accordingly resolved—and I am sure there is no one present who does not feel that they wisely resolved—to ask Lord Rosebery to undertake the important office. They knew that if his lordship would accept it, while his presidency would honor the Congress, any observations which his sagacity and experience of public life might suggest could not fail to be of particular value, and at the same time that tolerance, fairness, and good feeling which he never fails to infuse into any body of men with whom he is associated (cheers), would give to our proceedings, at the very outset, that tone which alone could conduce to their success. I need not for a moment say a word about the interesting address which we have all listened to. There was much in it which I think even those of us who are more or less experts in the craft found to be new; there was much that was interesting about it in its suggestiveness as well as in its information. It is quite as superfluous for me to enlarge upon this as it was upon the other matter. I will only say that his lordship, in disclaiming any knowledge of the art of Shorthand, could not divest himself of an ability to criticize its results equalled probably by hardly any other man: for surely there can be few mornings during the Session when his lordship may not read one of his speeches in the newspaper or see in the minutes of some committee a record of his utterances. He, therefore, is in as good a position to judge of our work by its results as anyone possibly could be. As I have alluded to this, I may venture to add what is perhaps hardly out of place in speaking to shorthand-writers, that I know from personal experience that every shorthand-writer finds in Lord Rosebery in connection with those Parliamentary Committees, a uniform courtesy, kindness, and appreciation in his work. I think, then, we must all feel that there are many reasons—and they might be multiplied—for thanking his lordship for coming amongst us this evening and delivering the

address to which we have listened. I cannot but add, what must be present to the minds of many, that there is a special reason for our gratitude when we remember that rather than disappoint us he has set aside certain private and domestic claims in order to preside at this meeting, and when I add to that what I know of my own knowledge, that at a time when a home-cloud was weighing upon him and pre-occupying his mind with a sad anxiety which we are all glad to know is now dispelled, his lordship was at that very time making Shorthand and the history of Shorthand and its various developments the subject of his earnest study. I am sure I must apologize for detaining you so long on a matter on which so little need have been said; but perhaps as reference has been made to the various quarters from which we have delegates, I may add one more, and that is, that little Bulgaria is particularly anxious not to be omitted, and has sent us a most valuable paper descriptive of the proceedings in its rather infantile Parliament. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

The Earl of Rosebery: Sir Charles Russell, Mr Salter, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I am extremely grateful to the mover and seconder for the speeches in which they have moved and seconded this vote of thanks, and for the manner in which you, ladies and gentlemen, have received it. I was not altogether surprised at the kindly way in which I was spoken of by the mover and seconder. The mover is my neighbor in the country, and as a country neighbor he has, I have no doubt, found that in our parochial politics we are not wholly in disagreement. (Laughter.) And with regard to Mr Salter, all I can say is that I have looked on him with awe and terror. I sat under him on the first committee on which I acted in the House of Lords, and I still have a lively recollection of his agile pen which paralyzed my questions almost before I ventured to ask them. But it is not impossible that there may have been other reasons not merely for speaking kindly of me to-night, but for inviting me to the totally unexpected honor of becoming your president. In the first place, it may have been known to the Congress that there are two persons in the world for whom I feel an absolutely unbounded envy and an absolutely unlimited compassion:—one is the reporter of a public speech, and the other is the Speaker of the House of Commons. (Cheers and laughter.) I do not know which is the most simultaneously to be envied and to be pitied, because, though I envy the skill which makes the shorthand writer, and though I envy the position of being first commoner in England, I confess I think that both have to pay a high price for those positions. But I am not sure that there is not another reason. I was the victim—I consider myself the victim—of a rather remarkable mystery this year. I asked a question in the House of Lords—an

innocent, guileless question (laughter)—and I was answered in an innocent, guileless manner (renewed laughter); but the result was that a dialogue appeared in the papers, which for wit and point has rarely been surpassed, but which had a somewhat remarkable termination. I asked a question of Lord Salisbury, with respect to our late plenipotentiary at Constantinople, Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, and the question was put that I asked if we were to understand that he was "in a state of suspended animation," to which Lord Salisbury, with equal point and readiness, was supposed to have replied—"No; rather in a state of animated expectancy." (Laughter.) Well, all went well. The leading papers praised this happy turn of repartee, and I should have been quite satisfied personally to let the matter rest there, but Lord Salisbury felt that the language he was supposed to have used was disrespectful to Her Majesty's plenipotentiary, and at the next sitting of the House of Lords he disclaimed in a most emphatic manner, and with the utmost truth, his having used any such expression. Well, then I was left on one leg, so to speak (laughter), having made a remark of great interest to which no reply was recorded to have been made, and I felt that the interest of the dialogue would be ruined if I remained in that position, because I had as great a right to contradict my part of the affair as Lord Salisbury had; so at the next sitting of the House of Lords I got up and said I felt it my duty to say that I had not used the expression attributed to me, and therefore all this brilliant play of fancy and repartee came abruptly to a conclusion. Well, when I got the invitation—I forget, by the bye, whether it was before or after this event—but it has since occurred to me that it was very possibly for elucidating this mystery that I was going to be called upon (laughter)—they said, "Here is a man who knows nothing about shorthand; he must make a speech about something; and having this rich quarry of material ready to his hand, it will be the devil and all if he does not work it." (Renewed laughter.) Well, ladies and gentlemen, I am far from wishing to disappoint you on so interesting an occasion. I will recall exactly what passed; and I shall endeavor to ascertain afterwards—it might be a subject of discussion at the Congress—which of the 481 systems of stenography it was that produced this amusing result. (Laughter and cheers.) I said to Lord Salisbury—he having had a few intelligent questions put previously—as a wind up I said, "Are we to understand, then, that Sir Henry Drummond Wolff is in a state of agitated expectancy?" to which Lord Salisbury replied, in a conversational manner, "I will telegraph and ask him if you like." (Laughter.) Now, ladies and gentlemen, this is one of the most painful and humiliating acts of my career. For a short time I flashed on the world in the light of a Sheridan, or a wit of a very high order; and to have engaged in a contest of wit with Lord Salisbury is always an honorable thing, even if one gets the worst of it; but on this occasion to have to come down

from those lofty and exagerated heights of brilliancy to this miserable substratum of prose and fact is indeed a very unfortunate and humiliating position. (Cheers and laughter.) However, ladies and gentlemen, I have satisfied, I think, the curiosity that once existed on a controversy which raged for some little time in the country papers, and therefore I think I have at least paid my debt as president of this Congress. (Cheers and laughter.)

The proceedings then terminated.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Morning Conference.

PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING IN ALL COUNTRIES.

The Chair was at first taken by The President of the Congress (the Earl of Rosebery); afterwards, according to the Programme, by Mr W. H. Gurney-Salter, the Shorthand Writer to the Houses of Parliament.

The President: Gentlemen, I will ask Mr Gurney-Salter to make the opening statement.

Mr Gurney-Salter: My Lord Rosebery and Gentlemen,—I believe it is the desire of everyone attending this Congress that it should lead to practical results, and that for that purpose our discussions at the Conferences, of which this is the first, should be of a business-like character. I will endeavor to set an example by avoiding any formal speech and saying as few words as possible by way of introduction.

Most of us are so familiar in one capacity or another with Congresses that it will be unnecessary to describe the method of proceeding. Papers will be read, as announced on the Programme, and discussions will follow, either after each Paper or after a group of Papers relating to the same subject. In one point our procedure will differ from that of other Congresses, namely, that we invite the gentlemen at the Reporters' Table to rise and take part in the discussions equally with other members and visitors. As we have the pleasure of seeing several foreign Delegates and Members I may say at once that although we hope they will favor us with speeches in English so far as practicable, we have arranged that any observations in French or German shall be taken down in the language in which they are delivered.

The subject this morning, as you are aware, is "Parliamentary Reporting in all Countries." It is undoubtedly one of our most important subjects, and also one in which the public take a great interest; but, being beset with details, it is not very simple or easy of discussion. The Tercentenary Committee foreseeing the inconveniences that might arise on the one hand from an excess of minutiæ and on the other hand from mere vague generalizations about the advantage of Parliamentary Reporting and its difficulties, issued a series of Questions in order to provide a basis of facts in a distinct form. The

Answers to those Questions enter in many cases into small particulars, and it would only tend to confusion if we were to discuss Question by Question and Answer by Answer. I think the most convenient course will be that a resumé of those Answers should be given to you before you begin to discuss any questions arising upon any of them. Some of the Answers will appear sufficiently in a tabulated form which will ultimately be printed among our proceedings, and the effect of which I will state now; others ought to be read in full if they are to be duly appreciated. In some cases our correspondents (for instance, Signor Margovati at Rome) instead of answering the Questions in detail have sent in a general paper, which must of course be read in that form.

It is necessary that I should explain to the foreign delegates that England differs from almost all other countries in the fact that its Parliamentary Debates are not officially reported, in the sense at least in which that term is understood abroad. They are semi-officially reported, and published in "Hansard's Debates," of world-wide celebrity. A Paper describing the manner in which that admirable publication is prepared has been contributed by Mr G. M. Bussy, the chief of Mr Hansard's staff, and will be the first to be read. After that we shall have a Paper by Mr Thompson Cooper and Mr Hecksher, descriptive of the excellent work done in the Galleries of the two Houses in preparing the newspaper reports on which most Englishmen depend for their knowledge of the Parliamentary Debates. A short paper will also be read by my friend, Mr Gurney Angus, on the subject of Official Parliamentary Shorthand Writing, which is almost entirely confined to Committees, but occasionaly includes proceedings at the Bars of the two Houses; in fact, it is the reporting of the evidence which appears in the Blue books.

I wish to disclaim at the outset any special knowledge of what is commonly understood by Parliamentary Reporting, that is to say, the reporting of debates. I am responsible simply for the reporting of the proceedings in Committees. I have, however, had experience in the Gallery, having written there very frequently in former years. We hope that in addition to the Papers contributed by three eminent members of "The Gallery," some who are present will be able in the course of the discussion to give us valuable information.

HANSARD'S DEBATES.

By Mr G. M. Bussy.

Hansard's Parliamentary Debates, though holding the position which in other countries is held by official and authorized reports, is in fact a publication which, since it was started in 1803 by the father of Mr Thomas Curzon Hansard, the present proprietor, has

been conducted on the responsibility and at the risk of a private gentleman.

In former times, when political knowledge was not so universally diffused as at present, and when the conduct of the business of Parliament was restricted to a few leading Statesmen, the Reports of the Debates—while they were indispensable to Ministers of State and high Officials, and to a few persons holding prominent status in the political hierarchy—were of little direct interest to the great majority of the Members of the Legislature. The subscription list to *Hansard* was therefore necessarily very limited, and the cost no object. It was necessary to exact eight guineas, nine and even ten guineas, as the subscription for a Session, to cover the expense of producing the few copies required.

In recent times, however—and notably since the Reform Act of 1832—these conditions have been greatly changed; the large majority of Members take an active part in the conduct of public affairs; the Nation feels a deep interest in the proceedings of the Legislature, and public documents of every description have become a valuable and widely diffused branch of literature.

The Government have met this requirement of the times by throwing open for sale, at their own offices, all documents printed at the public expense, and have so reduced the price that the public may obtain, at small cost, all the information it is possible for them to impart.

But the Debates in Parliament—the reasoning and argumentative part of Legislation—it was not in their power to deal with; for it is agreed that it would be most dangerous to the undoubted privilege of Parliament to extend the "freedom of speech" within its walls to publication without.

In 1878 the Treasury entered into an arrangement with Mr Hansard by which, for an annual grant in aid of £3,000 a special and full report was to be supplied of Private Bill discussions in the House of Commons, the Proceedings in Committee of Supply, in Committee on all Public Bills, and of everything that occurs in the House of Commons after midnight. This arrangement was altered subsequently into an arrangement by which the Treasury contributes £500 per volume towards the cost of producing *Hansard*. Prior to 1878 *Hansard* never exceeded five volumes; since 1878 it has never reached less than eight, and on two occasions ten. This year twelve volumes have been produced. An unrevised edition is now prepared, and is in the hands of Members within a few days after the Debate which it reports.

The Parliamentary History which is appended to *Hansard's Debates* contains all that can be collected of the Legislative History of this country from the Conquest to the close of the eighteenth Century (1803), 36 vols. The chief sources whence these Debates

are derived, are the Constitutional History, 24 vols.; Sir Simonds Dewes' Journal; Debates of the Commons in 1620 and 1621; Chandler and Timberland's Debates, 22 vols.; Grey's Debates of the Commons from 1667 to 1694, 10 vols.; Almon's Debates, 24 vols.; Debrett's Debates, 63 vols.; The Hardwicke Papers; Debates in Parliament by Dr Johnson, etc., etc.

The Parliamentary Debates commence with the year 1803.

A regular staff of six men is employed under my direction and management; but it is constantly necessary to double the strength of the *corps* when the House is continuously in Committee. No special report is taken of the Debates in the Lords. A Select Committee of the Lords reported in favor of special reports—I think in 1879 or 1878—but nothing came of it.

SHORTHAND IN THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

By Mr J. Hecksher and Mr Thompson Cooper.

Among the institutions of this country in which Shorthand plays a leading part, none can equal in importance the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament. Shorthand is an essential element in the deliberations of the Legislature, and by giving through the Press a wide circulation to the utterances of Parliamentary orators, it may perhaps have encouraged them to indulge in needless talk, and thus it may indirectly have contributed towards the protracted debates and all-night sittings, of which not only the members, but the officials of the House of Commons, and, in fact, everyone connected with that assembly, down to the policemen and the messengers who take "copy" to the newspaper offices, have serious reason to complain. In these circumstances it is not unreasonable to make Shorthand in Parliament the subject of a special paper. There is, however, some difficulty in tracing the history of the progress of the art of Stenography in the galleries of the two Houses of Parliament. If former Gallery Committees had realised the importance of the subject for the historian who undertakes a review of the growth of Parliamentary institutions in all their branches, they would have taken care to preserve the facts in the archives of the Gallery. The Gallery Committees, first established on a new basis about seven years ago, now keep careful minutes of their proceedings, which will be preserved for future generations, together with all the documents, such as correspondence with the authorities, newspaper articles on the Gallery in general, and on special events. Former Committees unfortunately left no record of their proceedings, and apart from facts in the recollection of gentlemen still occupied in reporting Parliamentary debates, there is no material for compiling a complete history of the growth of reporting in the Parliament of this realm.

Enough, however, is known of the difficulties with which former generations of reporters had to contend before they were allowed to take their notes with some comfort, and even then at the risk of being arraigned at the Bar of the House of Commons for a breach of privilege. For strange as it may seem, in this country of liberty of speech and freedom of the Press, reporters have no right to be present during the debates in Parliament. It is contrary to the Standing Orders of both Houses that any strangers should be present, and an individual member can demand the strict enforcement of this regulation. Down to the year 1871 any member of the House of Commons could, at his mere will and pleasure, cause the representatives of the Press to be summarily ejected, by simply rising in his place and informing the Speaker that he "espied strangers." The Speaker was thereupon bound to order all strangers, including, of course, the reporters, to withdraw immediately, and the interrupted debate was not resumed until they had been turned out, and the doors locked against them. Many Gallery men retain pleasant memories of the "good old times," when in consequence of some hon. member exercising this somewhat arbitrary power, they were politely removed by the officials, and were left free to spend a pleasant evening together at a hostelry—now pulled down—in New Palace Yard. On such occasions it nearly always happened that some amateur reporter, who had the advantage of being also an M.P., supplied *The Times* and the other principal journals with more or less accurate accounts of what was said during the enforced absence of the professional stenographers. In consequence, however, of the power to exclude strangers having been frequently abused by individual members, the House of Commons resolved, in 1871, that for the future strangers should not be excluded except after a motion put from the Chair without amendment or debate, and carried by a majority.

But although to this day Parliamentary reporters infringe the Standing Orders every night they are occupied in chronicling the debates in the two Houses, yet they do so now with practical impunity, and they discharge their arduous duties with the sanction of the authorities, who are most ready to give them every facility. The only parts of the Houses where note-taking is still strictly prohibited are the Strangers', the Speakers', and the Distinguished Strangers' Galleries. If anyone were seen there with a pencil and note-book, taking down anything in writing, one of the messengers of the House would at once courteously but peremptorily request the offender to discontinue the malpractice. Thus, only those who have gained admission to the Reporters' Gallery are entitled to give an account of the occurrences during the sittings. It is no wonder, therefore, that the privilege of access to the Gallery is much coveted by journalists. The demand for tickets of admission to the Gallery of the House of Commons is greatly in excess of the number that can be granted, even

in view of the lately increased, yet still limited, space allotted to the representatives of the press. In all portions of the House the requirements for seats have far outgrown the amount of accommodation provided. On important nights there is not even enough standing room for members themselves. The Galleries for visitors are ridiculously small and so is the Gallery for the reporters, where overcrowding causes much inconvenience.

For a very long time the admission to the Gallery was almost exclusively confined to the London morning and evening papers. Down to 1868 the provincial newspapers were supplied with a summary of the debates by the Electric and International, and the British and Magnetic Telegraph Companies, each of which employed a small staff of reporters. When these Companies ceased to exist in consequence of the purchase of their telegraph lines by the State, there came into existence the Press Association and the Central News. These agencies continued for several years to supply the whole of the Parliamentary intelligence that appeared in the provincial press. A few years ago, however, some of the great provincial newspapers succeeded in obtaining admission for their own staff of reporters. This change necessitated an increase in the accommodation provided, and by including in the Reporters' Gallery a portion of the Members' Galleries on each side of the House, additional seats—ten in front, and twelve at the back—were obtained, so that there are now in all twenty-nine front and about thirty-six back seats, besides standing room for about twenty gentlemen, who would, however, experience great difficulty in taking notes, on account of their being very closely packed together. The occupants of the back seats are put to great inconvenience. As those seats are not spaced off, reporters squeeze themselves in anywhere, and it not unfrequently happens that upwards of forty gentlemen are jammed together on the back benches. Moreover the gangway between the front and back rows is very narrow, and the ledge provided in lieu of a writing desk for the back bench is wholly inadequate. Those who pass by to relieve their colleagues in the front boxes often unintentionally brush down all the papers lying on the ledge, and at the same time prevent the occupants of the back benches from hearing whole sentences. It would be a highly desirable and an important improvement if the authorities could see their way to raise the back seats considerably and to widen the gangway. Two years ago they did raise the back seats by about six inches, and even this slight alteration was a boon, the acoustic properties of that part of the Gallery being somewhat improved, but in order to make the hearing more perfect still, the back benches ought to be raised several feet. With the exception, however, of the twelve seats on the newly-erected back benches on either side of the Gallery, which have been specially assigned to various newspapers, the back seats were in reality intended not for note-taking but merely

to afford room to those reporters who were waiting to relieve their colleagues in front. Yet there is now such a demand for accommodation for taking notes that a good many of those who cannot obtain front seats have taken possession of the back benches for writing purposes. Thus they exclude those reporters who are waiting to relieve their collegues in front, and who are left to shift for themselves as well as they can. Many of these encroaching reporters are writers of descriptive London Letters for provincial papers; others are leader writers. The London Letter writer is a plant of modern growth, but has obtained so firm a footing in provincial journalism that his claim for admission can hardly be disputed. As much can scarcely be said for the leader writer, who could very well do his work in the office of his newspaper. The introduction of these writers into the Gallery has led many people to call it the "Press Gallery" instead of the "Reporters' Gallery."

The front seats, or "boxes," as they are called, are the best for hearing and seeing, and they are definitely allocated to certain newspapers. *The Times* occupies the three middle seats—one for the note-taking reporter, one for the summary writer, and one for the chief of the corps. The *Daily News*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Standard*, the *Morning Post*, the *Morning Advertiser*, and the *Daily Chronicle* have respectively two front seats, one for the reporters, and the other for the summary writer. One seat is assigned to the representatives of *Hansard's Debates*. The Press Association, and the Central News have also two front boxes each. The other front boxes are assigned to the *Scotsman*, the *Freeman's Journal*, and the *Glasgow Herald*, and to combinations of provincial newspapers. Reuter's agency has only a back seat.

There are altogether about 230 tickets of admission issued, 211 being non-transferable, and 19 transferable. Seventy-three newspapers and news agencies are represented. Of the non-transferable tickets the Central News has 10, the Daily Telegraph 13, the Daily News 11, the Daily Chronicle 8, the Dundee Advertiser 1, the Aberdeen Free Press 4, the Echo 2, the Eastern Morning News 3, the Evening News 3, the Freeman's Journal 5, the Glasgow Herald 6, the Globe 5, Hansard 10, the Illustrated London News 1, the Leeds Mercury and Manchester Guardian 4, the Liverpool Daily Courier and Yorkshire Post 7, the Liverpool Daily Post and Manchester Examiner 3, the Manchester Courier and Yorkshire Post 7, the Morning Advertiser 14, the Morning Post 11, the National Press Agency 1, the Newcastle Daily Chronicle, Glasgow Daily Mail and Irish Times 8, the Northern Whig 1, the Pall Mall Gazette 2, the Press Agency 2, the Press Association 15, Reuter's Agency 4, the Scotsman 6, the Scottish News and Aberdeen Journal 6, the Standard 12, the Sun and Central Press 4, the Times, 18, Truth 1, the Western Daily Mercury 2, the Western Morning News 4, the

Manchester Courier 7. The London evening papers only occupy front seats up to 6 o'clock in the evening, when the boxes pass into the possession of others. For leader writers transferable tickets are supplied, although in most cases these tickets were abolished in 1887 and non-transferable tickets issued instead.

The arrangements underwent great alterations during the last few years, but many improvements might still be effected. There is, however, ample accommodation for reporters, when they have left the Gallery itself, and are engaged in transcribing their notes. The large committee room, No. 18, is set apart for that purpose; and in addition to that there is a writing room in the suite of apartments that was allotted to the Gallery a few years ago. One of the two smoking rooms is also used for writing out, while the other is set apart exclusively for conversation and chess. There is a cloak room and a lavatory, with hot and cold water supply; a telephone room, a reading room, called the tea room, with a library attached to it; and there is a small reference library in the writing room. There are also a spacious dining room and a refreshment buffet. There is some accommodation for writing in the ante-rooms adjoining the Gallery, but one of these rooms is now appropriated to *The Times* telephones, of which there are six. The library was formed about five years ago. Its nucleus was supplied by a gift of 400 volumes from Mr Macintyre of the *Daily Telegraph*. The reference library is being gradually built up by donations and books bought out of the Gallery fund, to which members of the Gallery voluntarily subscribe half-a-crown every Session. *Hansard's Debates* and the Blue Books are furnished gratis to the Gallery.

Some of the reporters take half-hour and some quarter-hour turns, when they are relieved by their successors, and as the weary hours of the night progress, the length of the turns is gradually reduced, so that at the close of an important debate they last only five minutes, or in the case of *The Times* two-and-a-half minutes. On ordinary nights, however, one member of each corps, called, in Gallery parlance the "victim," is left to report all the proceedings after one o'clock. *The Times* has two "victims." This arrangement enables the other members of the corps to go home at a comparatively early hour. Sometimes the work during the "victim turn" is rather heavy, but frequently the report at that period of the early morning is a mere skeleton of the proceedings, and *Hansard* alone preserves a full account of them. The Reporters' Gallery of the House of Commons is in a good position above the Speaker's Chair. Members addressing the House, are, according to rule, supposed always to turn their faces towards the Chair. When they infringe this rule by turning their backs to the Gallery, they cannot with justice complain of being imperfectly reported, because in such circumstances their remarks are very indistinctly heard. The difficulty of hearing is greatly

increased by the practice of some members, including several Ministers, who nearly always speak in a whisper across the table of the House.

There are nine systems of Shorthand used in the Gallery. These are all geometrical, script Shorthand being practically unknown in England. Pitman's system predominates; next come the systems of Taylor, Gurney, and Lewis; and then Peachey's (used by two reporters), Mavor's (by one), Lewis's (by one), a system of unknown authorship (by one), and Janes's (by one), the writer of the last named being the inventor of the system.

A corps of about 130 boys and grown-up messengers furnishes the means of sending the reports to the newspaper and telegraph offices, the latter being in the central hall of the two Houses. The journey to the newspaper offices is mostly made by the underground railway, and late at night, by cab, horse, or tricycle. *The Times* reports are for the most part transmitted to Printing House square by means of six telephones placed in a small room immediately behind the Gallery. A few of *The Times* reporters occasionally dictate from their notes to the telegraphists, but as a rule in order to prevent mistakes being made they prefer to transcribe their turns in the ordinary way. The manuscript is handed to one of the telephonists for transmission to Printing House square, where the receiving telephonist at once sets it up in type by means of a machine with a keyboard similar to that of a pianoforte. About a column an hour can be set up in this way.

There is no official report of the Parliamentary proceedings. Hansard's is semi-official, and is subsidized by the House of Commons. It is compiled from the reports in the newspapers, supplemented by special reports supplied by the reporters employed by Mr Hansard.

Two messengers of the House are placed in the Gallery in order to see that only ticket-holders are admitted, and that silence and order are maintained. They can also be employed in fetching books from the library of the House, and Blue Books, papers, and Bills from the Vote Office. Up to within two years, if anyone in the Gallery wished to communicate with a member of Parliament by letter a messenger had to take the missive down to the floor of the House. Now there is immediately behind the Gallery an apparatus for sending letters to and from the House by means of cages, and there is also a speaking tube, through which verbal messages can be exchanged between members of the House and gentlemen in the Gallery.

The newspapers do not maintain separate corps to report the debates in the House of Lords. The members of each corps are about equally distributed in the two Houses. If the sittings of the Peers were as protracted as those of the Commons, no doubt the newspapers would have to engage a double staff, but as a rule the House of Peers does not sit beyond the dinner hour, that is, 7 or 8 o'clock, and on many days it requires only about twenty minutes or half-an-hour for

the dispatch of its business. As soon as the Lords rise, the reporters go to the Lower House to reinforce the staffs there, and the hour of the rising of the House of Lords is of great importance, because it generally decides the question as to who is to be the "victim" for that night. Some just escape the "victim turn" or get let in for it, by one minute more or less discussion in the Upper House.

The Gallery in the Peers' Chamber is not as spacious as that in the Commons. It has only twelve front and about fourteen back seats, all of which are definitely assigned to particular newspapers—those in front to the London dailies and the news agencies, and those at the back to provincial papers and to Reuter's agency, which has also only got a back seat in the House of Commons, although Lord Salisbury himself, in his evidence before the Black Rod Committee, said it was important to give its reporters one of the best seats. The acoustic properties of the House of Lords are very indifferent. There is one large room for transcribing shorthand notes close to the Lord's Gallery.

One thing urgently wanted is a telephonic communication between the Reporters' Gallery of the two Houses. The Gallery Committee have made repeated applications to the authorities on this subject, but hitherto without success, as it appears that the Treasury declines to allow the necessary annual grant for the maintenance of the apparatus.

The Gallery is officially represented by a Committee of twelve of its members, elected by ballot at the end of each session. This Committee makes the necessary arrangements for catering, looks after the comfort and convenience of the reporters, and negotiates with the authorities. The relations hitherto established with the authorities of the House of Commons are excellent. The Speaker, the Serjeant-at-Arms, the First Commissioner of Works, and their various officials—and no one more than Mr Ponsonby, the Speaker's Secretary—have met all representations of the Gallery Committee in a fair, cordial, and favorable spirit, which is deserving of hearty recognition on the part of all Pressmen.

In the Commons the Reporters' Gallery is above the Speaker's Chair and consequently in a very favorable position. In the Lords, on the contrary, the Gallery is situate at the end opposite the Throne, and is thus as far as possible removed from the Woolsack, on which the Lord Chancellor, as President of the House, takes his seat. Moreover, the Treasury and front Opposition benches are in the centre of the Chamber, and at a considerable distance from the Gallery. In fact, the arrangements in the Lords appear to have been made for the purpose of preventing the reporters from hearing what is said. In both Houses the Gallery ought to be placed in such a position that it would be almost on a level with the members' seats. Until that is done it will be impossible to record the debates with absolute fidelity and exactness.

The PRESIDENT: Gentlemen, I now invite discussion on the two interesting papers which we have heard. I was anxious to hear that discussion, but unfortunately I am afraid that I shall have to leave before it is concluded, because three engagements have come upon me for this morning.

Mr MATTHIAS LEVY: My Lord Rosebery and Gentlemen,—As a shorthand writer having some experience of the House of Lords I can endorse the observations which have been made in the papers with regard to the acoustic properties of that House. The Institute of Shorthand Writers practising in the Supreme Court of Judicature communicated recently with the Lord Chancellor on the subject of the position of the shorthand writers taking notes for the parties during the hearing of appeals in the House, and his lordship kindly assisted us to a considerable extent by allowing our seat to be moved rather nearer to the centre of the House where the Bar is, so that we can hear better than formerly. I believe I shall have the sanction of my colleagues when I say that we are thankful for this assistance, and hope that if ever a re-arrangement of that part of the House should take place, we shall have further assistance in obtaining a better position for hearing both the arguments of Counsel and the observations of the noble and learned lords. With respect to the constitutional point which has been mentioned, namely, the right of strangers to take notes in the House of Lords in the Strangers' Gallery, I may say that I personally once committed that great breach of privilege. A certain noble lord who had complained that his speeches were not properly reported instructed a shorthand writer to attend on his behalf. It fell to my duty to do so, and I informed the noble lord that it would be a great breach of privilege if I were seen with my book taking notes in the Strangers' Gallery. His lordship thereupon obtained, with some difficulty, the necessary permission from the proper authorities and I took my place. My task, however, was of a very limited character. I opened my book; a noble lord rose; I heard him say "My lords;" and the next observation that I heard was, "That this House do now adjourn."

Mr A. R. MARTEN: My Lord, I have no experience as a Parliamentary reporter, but simply as a shorthand writer, and I wish to ask two questions which may perhaps be answered by someone better acquainted than I am with Parliamentary reporting. The first is, Is it true that the Hansard system is at an end or coming to an end shortly? In the next place I wish to ask the gentlemen who are in the habit of reporting in the Gallery whether they do or do not find great inconvenience from the very short turns which they have to take towards the end of the evening? It strikes me forcibly that it must be very difficult to comprehend the nature of the discussion that is going on, if notes are taken for such a short time as two and a half minutes. In my experience it has generally taken me rather a longer time than that to understand what I am reporting if I have had to enter upon that reporting in the middle of a discussion.

Mr W. STORR: In answer to the first question put by the last speaker I would say that I do not think any of us know more than has been stated in the House of Commons by Mr Smith, namely, that it was intended at the end of the session to put an end to the arrangement with Mr Hansard; but it is understood that before the meeting of Parliament next session, the Government would consider some new arrangement. Upon what lines that new arrangement is to be based none of us know anything at present. I think Mr Smith said that there was to be a Departmental Committee of Inquiry into the subject.

With regard to the second question which was put by the last speaker, I admire his modesty in putting it. I have seen him do shorthand work which I could not do to save my life. I remember when he was taking notes of a Commission in Oxford, his tearing the leaves out of his note-book and giving them to messengers who took them to an adjoining room where they were transcribed easily and accurately, and the transcript required only a slight revision afterwards on his part. I believe that very few members of the Reporters' Gallery are capable of taking notes with such remarkable accuracy as that.

But the reply to his question is this: that at twelve or one o'clock time presses; newspapers must go to press at a particular moment. The domineering tyrant of all newspaper offices is the chief printer; he controls editors, sub-editors, and reporters; everything must give way to getting to press at a particular time. Therefore it is absolutely necessary when you come within an hour or two of press time that the copy which is to be set up in type shall be produced in very short turns of a slip or two. If that were not done it would be absolutely impossible to get anything like an adequate report of an important debate into type by the time when the newspapers must go to press. Therefore the quality of the report has to some extent to suffer. But if it were possible that there could be perfect order in the Gallery up to say 2 *a.m.*, with turns of two-and-a-half minutes, we can do substantial justice to every speaker whom we can hear. If we are not permitted to hear, injustice must be done, and I am afraid that there are many occasions when that is the case. I do not suppose a day passes without an example of a mistake similar to that to which his lordship so humorously alluded last night.

And that seems to me to suggest a most important question for a Conference of shorthand writers as distinct from journalists and newspaper reporters, namely, whether the present system of Parliamentary reporting permits justice to be done to shorthand writing as shorthand writing. (Hear, hear.) I say that in neither House of Parliament can shorthand writing do justice to itself. A conversation arose in the House of Lords on this subject during last Session, and Lord Salisbury said, "I want to see a man at that table," pointing to the Clerks' Table, and meaning that he wanted a reporter present in such a position that he could do the same justice to himself and to Shorthand that a shorthand writer does in a Court of Justice. In a Court of Justice, I believe, he is so placed as a rule that he can hear every word which is said by Counsel or the Judge. (No, no.) I am very sorry to hear that he is not. I will take another illustration—the shorthand writers in a Committee room of either House of Parliament. I maintain that in the House of Lords, and in the House of Commons, there ought to be an efficient shorthand writer in a position equally favorable for taking a verbatim note of everything that is said.

In one of the papers which has been read it was suggested that shorthand writing has contributed to promote thoughtless loquacity in Parliament. I believe, on the contrary, that if every speaker spoke under the sense of the responsibility which he would feel if he knew that every word was taken down and could be printed and referred to, the majority of speakers would take much greater pains than they do now to make every word that they say worthy of being taken down and being printed. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, I believe that the legitimate use of Shorthand in the British Parliament would in itself operate morally in a very important way to raise the standard of our debates. Of course, the ultimate use to be made of such a note as I suggest (a verbatim note taken by a man in a good position) is a rather larger question. I believe that much more efficient arrangements can be made than at present exist for using Shorthand in both Houses of Parliament, and publishing a Report in such a way as to be of great service to the country. I believe that the proper use of Shorthand will ultimately lead to that solution of the question. I do not go into it now, but I do say that shorthand writers, as shorthand writers, should insist upon the best use being made of their art in the Houses of the British Parliament.

The PRESIDENT: I should like to say one word upon what has been said with regard to the only Legislative Assembly in which I have any practical experience, namely, the House of Lords.

It is quite true, as Mr Storr has just said, that Lord Salisbury did, last Session, advocate a reporter being brought down to the Clerks' Table; and my firm belief is that nothing short of some such reform will enable the debates in the House of Lords to be properly reported. If you brought the reporters either to the steps of the Throne or to the Bar of the House, they would not hear very much better than they do at present. I have tried listening to the debates of the House of Lords from both those places, and even with the best speakers (and I take Lord Salisbury to be about as audible and accurate a speaker as anybody could wish to listen to) it is extremely difficult to hear from either place; and if the speaker chooses to turn his back either to the Throne or to the Bar, not one word will be heard in the place to which he turns his back.

There is, I believe, another disadvantage. The Gallery is enormously high, and the speakers, on the two front benches especially, are placed in a sort of pit which is very much to their disadvantage with regard to being heard. Moreover, there is a considerable echo in the House of Lords, so that a man may speak with a most sonorous voice and yet be almost absolutely inaudible in the House itself. I believe that if speakers in that House could find the proper pitch of voice by which to make themselves heard, though still inadequately, it would be found that the best pitch was not the highest. That, however, is a practical matter which affects speakers in the main. But I am perfectly certain that if the debates in the House are to be reported with any degree of accuracy, some very drastic and revolutionary step will have to be taken with regard to the position of the reporters. I am not at all sure that the best plan would not be to hand over to them the cross benches which, from my point of view, contain a class of politicians who are not particularly beneficial to that House.

The first paper which we listened to on Mr Hansard's Reports, brings in a question which was also alluded to by Mr Storr—I mean the question of an Official Report of the Debates in the Houses of Parliament. I remember when I was in Washington last, ten or twelve years ago, there was an Official Report published in the *Congressional Globe*. I do not know how it stands now, and I think it would be an excellent thing if any of our American friends who are present, would give us an account of the method on which the *Congressional Globe* is worked. I know that at that time it was in many cases not a trustworthy guide to what had taken place in the House, for this reason: The Americans have a method of curtailing their debates by the operation of a Time Law, which is far more operative than any Rules of Procedure we have ever been able to introduce in this country, and what occurs is this: A man comes to the Table with an admirable speech: nobody is willing to listen; he obtains the permission of the House to send it to the *Congressional Globe*, and have it printed without its being delivered. The sight of an imposing mass of manuscript in the speaker's hand naturally makes the House somewhat anxious to comply with any such motion. But in that way, although you arrive perhaps at a very excellent compendium of the arguments that are to be urged on both sides of a question, you do not arrive at any accurate report of the debate as it took place.

I not only agree with what Mr Storr said about the sense of responsibility that would be involved by the practice of taking down every word that a speaker said, but I further believe that the most untrustworthy, but not at all the least common, reports of speeches are those supplied by the speakers themselves. I remember once I had a friend who was extremely dissatisfied with the reports of his speeches. He was on an electioneering tour, and he asked a reporter, in whom he had full confidence, to come and take down every word he uttered as he uttered it; he said that it would be an education for himself, and it would prove how calumniously he had been treated by the reporters for the public press. Some time afterwards I asked him what was the result of the experiment, and a shudder passed over his whole frame. He begged me never to mention the subject again, and I never have.

I think there is a very wide difference between our system as it is pursued now, and an official report to which people seem to be tending. I think that the mass of the official report would be enormous. I think that the temptation to allow speakers to hand their manuscripts up to the Gallery without delivering them would be largely increased; and in that way you would arrive rather at a compendium of the arguments which could be delivered than at the accurate report which we wish to arrive at of the debates which take place in the House of Lords itself.

These are the only remarks which I have to contribute to the discussion, and I thank you for the attention with which you have listened to me.

Mr Button: I differ from one of the previous speakers, who thought that an accurate official note would tend to make men more accurate and careful in their speeches. That is not my experience in the Probate Court. I remember a case in which a gentleman, now deceased, spoke for two whole days in a Court of Law, and was reproached for having made only four points during the whole of that time; and he knew a verbatim note of his speech was being taken and would be transcribed. But Parliamentary reporting and shorthand writing should not be used as synonymous terms. The public would not care for a verbatim report; indeed, what newspaper

could afford to give the space for it? A six hours' debate would fill about thirty-six columns of *The Times!* Who on earth would ever attempt to wade through such a vast amount of matter? Besides that, it is important to cut out a great deal of what is said. Some of it is worthless to the public, and we do not want repetitions. What we do want, is to get the best summary of the debates which take place, with a full report of the most important speeches. Shorthand writers know full well how often a good report of a speech may be even better for practical purposes than a verbatim shorthand note. I agree with what has been already stated, that it may be of very great importance to preserve a verbatim note of the debates in the Houses; but to talk about transcribing and publishing it seems to me to be one of the wildest suggestions that has ever been made. If that were continued day by day for six months, there would be such a mass of matter as would fill very many large volumes, and a large number of men would be required to index the speeches, or else the voluminous mass could not be referred to. For my own part, I am disposed to think that the present system serves present wants. Instead of its being a necessity that we should have a verbatim report for the public, even a still more condensed report would serve the purpose in the case of almost all debates. It is quite exceptional for anyone to take the trouble to read the debates; we instantly glance at the summary. If there is a great debate in the House the speeches of great speakers demand and receive our attention; but beyond those it is according to the whim of the particular reader as to what part he will read and what he will leave unread. And there is no just ground I think to complain even of the report of debates in the small hours of the morning; it practically tells the public all they really want to know.

I agree with the gentlemen who have spoken as to the difficulty sometimes of hearing, and I think the shorthand writers and reporters ought to have more attention shown to them with regard to their position. Some of us could not help smiling at our friend Mr Storr when he suggested that shorthand writers could always hear accurately in the Courts of Law. In my own position I am never at a loss to hear; but speaking for my professional brethren in the other Courts I am bound to say that I often feel most keenly for them. The position assigned to them is really most abominable and ought at once to be rectified.

Mr NANKIVELL: The excellent speech of Mr Storr almost made up for the absence of Mr Bussy and others this morning; but he did not say what accommodation he would like to have provided instead of the present arrangement. It has occurred to me that better accomodation might be afforded in the direction suggested by Lord Salisbury, that is to say, on the floor of the House itself. It has struck me that such a suggestion might very well be carried out by placing a rail round the centre of the floor of the House, and making a basement entrance which would enable the reporters to pass in and out without in any way disturbing the House. They would then be able to hear better than they can in the present Gallery. No one who has been in the Gallery (I have had a little experience there myself) can possibly have taken notes there without finding great difficulty in catching the speeches. It is especially difficult to catch the answers to questions which are given in a sort of undertone that sometimes seems only intended for the ear of the questioner on the opposite side of the table.

As to the continuation of "Hansard's Debates," I wish Mr Bussy had gone a little more fully into that subject than he has. A publication of a verbatim report has been attempted in various ways before. Dr Mackay attempted a sumptuous report of the proceedings in the House of Lords and Commons under the title of "Lords and Commons;" that was intended to cut out "Hansard" and *The Times* report, but it was not a paying speculation; in fact I believe it involved Dr Mackay in a considerable loss. Mr Saunders of the *Central News* also made out an estimate and proposed to supply a report on condition of an official subsidy. These are interesting questions at the present moment when the life of "Hansard's Debates" is somewhat in abeyance.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: As we have a great number of replies from those who are entitled to describe the Parliamentary Reporting in various countries it would be convenient to postpone the remainder of this discussion until we have heard a précis at least of those replies. I may just say, with regard to the question of hearing in

the House of Lords, that I have had a unique experience in that respect. I have not only written very often in the Gallery, at the Bar, and just within the Bar, but I have also had the privilege of writing underneath the House; and there is no place in the House of Lords in which speakers who do not lean over the table can be heard so well as underneath it. I took a speech of Lord Russell in 1865 sitting in the ventilating chamber immediately under his feet. There was an objection to my writing there again because I found that I could overhear the whispered conversation on the Treasury Bench, which was not considered altogether desirable. I can fully confirm what has been said, if it needed confirmation, that it is extremely difficult to hear all that is said by most speakers in any part of the House of Lords. The difficulty arises partly from the fact that noble lords often turn their backs to you if you are in the Gallery or at the Bar in order to face the Ministerial Bench or the Woolsack, but it arises quite as much from the habit of conversation that prevails. A continual hum of conversation going on between the speaker and the shorthand writer makes the chance of hearing very small. Some years ago the Reporters' Gallery was extended forwards by a projection in the hope that it would render it possible to hear the speakers better, because the reporters would then be very much nearer to the Ministerial Bench; but it was found that the improvement was so small that the erection was immediately removed.

I have had great pleasure in hearing Mr Storr's speech, and fully sympathise with his regret, as we all do, that the Gallery is not more largely represented this morning. I understand his proposal to be that a full verbatim note of all debates should be taken from the very best possible position, and that this verbatim report should serve the purpose of a record. That is exactly what I ventured to say to the Parliamentary Committee on Reporting, about ten years ago in the House of Commons, and about eight years ago to a similar Committee of the House of Lords. I ventured to say that that verbatim transcript should be the basis from which there might be compiled a short report which would meet the current needs of those who are accustomed to read the debates. But then the question arose: Would it serve the purpose of the newspapers? and it was on that point that the discussion went off. No result was arrived at, because it was very truly pointed out that if the newspapers or if Reuter's Agency were to make any use at all of this verbatim note they must have it immediately, that is to say they must have it within an hour or so, and it was considered that even with short turns (the disadvantages of which I think anyone who has experience of legal shorthand writing will feel) it would be impossible to produce the report as soon as it was desired. The House of Lords Committee reported that a verbatim note of the debates like that which we take in Committees would be very useful, but that it could not be given in time for the newspapers. It was evident that it would involve a re-arrangement of seats as well as expense. The matter dropped then and I believe it has not been taken up again until now when Mr Hansard has received notice of the termination of his agreement.

OFFICIAL SHORTHAND WRITING IN THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT.

By Mr Gurney Angus.

Although the chief attention of this Conference will doubtless be given to the reporting of Debates, some interest will probably be taken in the uses to which Shorthand is officially applied in the English Parliament. It is well-known to most Englishmen, but may be a surprise to foreigners, that those official uses do not include the reporting of the proceedings in the House itself. The duties of the Shorthand-writer, as defined by Resolutions of both Houses, are to attend when required at the Bar or in Committees for the purpose of taking evidence.

The attendance at the Bar was formerly of frequent occurrence, and in the early part of the century very long speeches addressed to the House, not by the members but by counsel or other outside persons, were reported there. For many years, however, this practice has ceased, the questions affecting corporations or private persons which were formerly investigated by the House itself being now referred to Select Committees. It is, therefore, only on rare occasions, in matters of Privilege, etc., that the Shorthand-writer is required to attend at the Bar of the House of Commons. In the House of Lords he is in almost daily attendance at the Bar for the purpose of reporting judgments in appeal cases.

Practically the duty of the Shorthand-writer to the Houses is to report the evidence given before committees, and in some cases also the speeches and discussion. These Committees are commonly divided into two classes:—

(*a*) Select Committees on public subjects—to give a few examples from the last Session of Parliament—on the Army and Navy Estimates, on Endowed Schools, on Town Holdings, Forestry, Rabies, Public Accounts.

(*b*) On Private Bills, which, for the information of our foreign colleagues I may explain as being projects of legislation affecting private interests: *e.g.*, for the construction of railways, docks, etc.

As, during a great part of the Session, many of these Committees are sitting on the same day, many Shorthand-writers are required to report their evidence; and accordingly on the original constitution of his office the Shorthand-writer to the Houses was directed to form a competent staff to perform the duty under his supervision. The staff of late years has usually consisted of ten or twelve Shorthand-writers, assisted by a larger number of Shorthand clerks, and a still larger number of ordinary longhand writers.

Having given these necessary explanations at the outset, I proceed to answer the questions issued by the Committee:—

(1) The Shorthand-writer to the Houses is appointed by the Clerk of the Parliaments and the Clerk of the House of Commons respectively. The other Shorthand-writers act as his deputies, and are selected by him.

(2) Both high technical skill and thorough training as a Shorthand-writer, and also a considerable amount of education and general information are required, and proof of competency is given by practical test in every case before a Shorthand-writer is allowed to take the official seat. As regards general education, it may be stated that four of the Shorthand-writers at present on the staff have University Degrees (M.A., LL.B., and B.A.), and three are barristers.

(3) The answer has already been given for the most part in the description of the existing staff. It should be added that in times of

pressure, assistance is obtained from Shorthand writers who ordinarily practise in the Courts of Law, eight or ten of whom occasionally render most valuable aid.

(4) The appointment of the Shorthand-writer to the Houses is permanent, as are also practically the engagements of the Shorthand-writers on the staff, who make it the business of their lives; and, apart from one or two cases in which health has broken down, there has never in sixty years been an instance of anyone quitting the staff except to retire. The engagements of the Shorthand clerks, or as they might be called, Shorthand-writers of the second class, are practically almost equally permanent.

(5) The Shorthand-writers' seats in the Committee rooms are in the best possible position, in the hollow of a horse-shoe table, around which the members' seats are placed.

(6) Although the Shorthand-writer to the Houses has the use of a room for himself, no accommodation is provided in the Houses of Parliament themselves for the transcription of the official notes, that work being done in an adjacent building.

(7) As a rule no double or check note is taken; in special cases, however, it is provided.

(8) The system of "turns" does not exist in the official work of the Parliamentary Committees. The sittings vary from three or four hours in the House of Commons to five hours in the House of Lords, and very frequently one Shorthand-writer attends during the whole sitting; in other cases it is divided between two. Roughly speaking it may be said that each Shorthand-writer takes notes for not less than two, and not often for more than four, hours at a time.

(9) The Shorthand-writer never transcribes his own notes. While he is writing in a committee room his notes (which are fetched away every half-hour for that purpose) are being read by his Shorthand clerk, who dictates them to two longhand writers at the same time; thus producing about 2,800 words of manuscript in the hour. Sometimes two Shorthand clerks are thus employed, and a double quantity of copy is then produced. As soon as the Shorthand-writer's duty in the committee room is over he begins to revise this manuscript for the printer. The method is this:—The Shorthand-writer watches his Shorthand while the manuscript is read over to him by a reader, and directs any alteration that may be necessary, either for the correction of any mistranslation of the Shorthand, or for the purpose of "editing." By this system an accurate comparison of each word of the manuscript with the Shorthand notes is secured; and from the time when the reading begins the printer is rapidly supplied with copy. Long practice has rendered some of the Shorthand clerks so expert that they can read the notes as fluently as the writers themselves—indeed, it is sometimes said, perhaps with a little exaggeration, more fluently; and

consequently the per-centage of error is very small, while the saving both of time and fatigue to the Shorthand-writer is very great. Although it is necessary to depart from this system in a case where the printer must have copy almost immediately after the commencement of the proceedings which are being reported, (and therefore it is inapplicable to newspaper work,) it has great advantages where that requirement does not exist. For instance, one Shorthand-writer, or at the most two, can take notes throughout a sitting, and can thereby preserve the continuity both of sentences and of subject, familiarity with names, etc., and yet the whole of the transcript, carefully revised, can be delivered to the printer within a few hours. To give an illustration, the same Shorthand-writer attended one important and difficult committee for 44 days (with one exception of an hour and a half), writing daily from 11 to 4 o'clock; and he produced the transcript for the printer the same evening, whether it consisted of technical engineering evidence, of commercial evidence, of speeches (some of which were very long and difficult) or of discussions. His report duly appeared in print at 8 o'clock the next morning. As this system of transcription has been practised for some 70 years in our office, and is nearly, if not quite, unique, I have ventured to give these particulars as being likely to be of general interest.

(10 & 11) The transcript is never revised by any other Shorthand-writer. It must not be condensed, and with the exception of a slight editing for style it must be strictly verbatim. The amount of editing varies according to the Committee. There are some whose inquiries resemble judicial investigations, which require the evidence to be reported verbatim. There are others in which the members desire not only that obvious repetitions or grammatical slips should be corrected, but that some moderate literary revision should take place.

(12) The Gurney system of Shorthand is used by all the Shorthand-writers on the staff except one, who is a Phonographer. Amongst the Shorthand clerks there are 12 using Gurney's system, four Pitman's, and one Taylor's. Of the Shorthand-writers practising in the Courts of Law, who occasionally give their assistance, about half are Phonographers, the others using Taylor's, Gurney's, Lewis's, etc. In the case of Select Committees on public subjects the members and witnesses have a first print sent to them, in which they are allowed to make alterations, but not of a substantial character. If they exceed this limit the Committee clerk brings the matter to the notice of the Chairman, who, if necessary, consults the Committee on the subject. In practice such cases are of the utmost rarity. The alterations by members are inconsiderable: those by witnesses vary greatly according to idiosyncracy; to a large extent they consist of embellishments of style or additions of illustration, etc., which were not thought of at the moment of speaking. In the case of Committees on Private Bills the first print is usually the only one which is issued. Where

necessary, corrections may be made by a witness as a public statement on the following day.

(14) The official minutes of the Committees on Private Bills are in print early the following morning. The same applies to Committees on public subjects, whenever they sit *de die in diem;* otherwise a day's interval is allowed.

As the question is asked elsewhere to what length the transcripts run, it may be stated that they vary from about 45,000 words downwards—the average would be about 28,000.

Mr WEBB: For the last fifty years or more I have had the privilege of being connected with the Official Shorthand Writer to both Houses of Parliament, and if what Mr Gurney Angus has stated needs confirmation, I can confirm it. I recollect producing 650 folios or about 47,000 words in one evening ready for the printer. The Committee sat till five o'clock—my notes were fetched away every half-hour and dictated to longhand writers by two very excellent clerks that I had—so that when I returned from the committee-room, I found a large quantity of manuscript ready for me to read, or rather to have read aloud to me. I mention that to confirm the advantage of having your notes read by good shorthand clerks.

There was a little titter, I think, when it was suggested in the Paper that some shorthand clerks might be able to read a little more fluently and readily the notes of their shorthand writer than he could read them himself; but I think when you consider the matter it is not so surprising after all. The shorthand writer has to write, and is very much more accustomed to write than he is to read; whereas it is just the reverse with the shorthand clerk. They say that "practice makes perfect," and by practice the shorthand clerk working upon one note with all its idiosyncracies gets fully acquainted with the method of writing or character of hand of his shorthand writer and he can read the notes very rapidly. In fact on the spur of the moment he can read them no doubt better sometimes than the shorthand writer himself if the latter is pulled up suddenly in the middle of writing and asked to read out. But when the shorthand writer sits in his chair and has his notes before him he can read them readily. I remember one occasion when I could not read my notes when called upon to do so before a Royal Commission, though I could read them easily afterwards in my own room. Of course there have been hundreds of other occasions when I have read fluently when called upon, and have had remarks to that effect made to me.

Mr NANKIVELL: I should like to ask a question concerning a legend which has been in circulation for a great many years as to the Gurney system. I do not know where it originated; it is stated that a practitioner in the Gurney system is compelled to undergo a five years' training before he is allowed to take a responsible note. Is that so?

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I shall be happy to answer the question, although I would observe that we are not now discussing the advantages or disadvantages of one system of shorthand, but rather a method of doing certain practical work. It certainly does often happen that writers of the Gurney system take five years before they are fully qualified to write shorthand up to the point that is necessary for taking an official note (with the liability of being called upon to read it aloud) of every word that passes before a Parliamentary Committee or before the Judges at the trial of an Election Petition. I know a case in which only three years were required. The time varies very much with different persons; no doubt five years are often required,—not to learn the Gurney system up to the point of taking a very fair report of what passes, but to the point of what one may call complete competence for first class work.

Mr POCKNELL: Do you consider that statement to be a legend or according to fact?

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: It is certainly a legend if the statement amounts to this, that any man who is beginning to write the Gurney system is told that he will not be allowed to write it for five years: there is no such rule. But if it is merely meant that a man often takes five years before he is qualified to do the most difficult work in the Gurney system, to that I say, Yes.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: Perhaps I may be allowed as a writer of a totally different system to add my testimony as to the time required for qualifying for difficult work. I have been now at work for some years, and I do not recollect any instance of any one, writing any system, being able to take a responsible position who had practised the system for a less period than five years.

Mr NANKIVELL: I wish to explain that I did not put the question with a view of contrasting the Gurney system with any other system whatever, but simply as a matter of interest relating to an old legend.

Mr LAMPARD: As several observations have been made with respect to the manner in which the work of Parliamentary Committees has been produced, namely, by the notes being read by gentlemen other than the shorthand writer who wrote them, I wish to claim for Phonography the credit of having done well to some extent that which has just been described as having been done to a great extent by the Gurney system. There are present some writers of the Gurney system who are engaged in the office of the shorthand writer to the Houses of Parliament and they have been as a rule trained up to the work, first of reading, and subsequently of writing shorthand. My experience has been that Phonography is just as easily read as the Gurney system. I have had some experience now, for nearly seven years, of reading shorthand notes which have been written in Phonography, and I do not think that what Mr Pocknell has alleged—

Mr REED: I rise, Sir, to a point of order. The subject before us is Parliamentary Reporting, and I think that the speaker is not dealing with that subject. The farther we can steer from the question of any comparison between system and system the better.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I am sure that Mr Lampard will feel the force of the objection. We are discussing a practical matter, namely, the carrying out of reporting, and not a comparison between systems.

Mr PETRIE: I would suggest that if Mr Lampard would say in what way he and Mr Wall have been able to carry out the practical work, using Pitman's system in the same way as the Gurney system has been used, that would be relative to the subject before us and at the same time very interesting.

Mr LAMPARD: My only purpose was to claim on behalf of Phonography what had been claimed on behalf of the Gurney system in regard to transcription.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: It gives me great pleasure to bear witness to the fact that from notes taken by Mr Wall in Phonography there have been just as accurate transcripts rendered not by himself alone but by Mr Lampard and others reading the notes as have been produced from notes taken by other shorthand writers in the Gurney system.

I should like to confirm the fact to which Mr Webb spoke, namely, that strange as it may seem, a trained shorthand reader can sometimes read a passage immediately which at the moment the shorthand writer might perhaps read with less fluency.

A Précis of the following Answers to Questions issued by the Committee was then read:—

ANSWERS.

Part II.—Parliamentary Shorthand Writers.

A.—Official.

1. By whom appointed?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—Holland Brothers have a permanent contract with the Senate for reporting, printing, indexing, binding, etc.
,,	Mr Boyle (Hansard) Ottawa, and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—By the Government through the Parliamentary Committee
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—One by the Legislative Council, and one (who chooses his own assistants) by the House of Assembly
Australia*	Mr Hadley (Hansard) Melbourne	*Victoria.*—They are appointed by the Governor in Council
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	One by the Viceroy, one by the Bengal Government, and one by the Indian Government
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Official Shorthand Writer to U.S. Senate	By the Senate, and House of Representatives respectively
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—In the German Reichstag they are appointed by the House of Lords and House of Commons through the Presidents of those Legislative Assemblies respectively
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—In the Royal Stenographic Institute they are appointed by the Saxon Home Office
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—By the Presidents of the Upper and Lower House
France	M. Depoin, Reporter in the Chamber of Deputies, and Dr Weber, Paris	By the Sénat and Chambre des Deputés respectively, either after competition or upon nomination by the Chief of the Stenographic Service
Italy	Sig. Marzovati, Chief Official Shorthand Writer to the Chamber of Deputies	In the Chamber of Deputies they are nominated by the President with the approval of his Council
Holland	Heer Steger, Chief Official Shorthand Writer to the States General, The Hague	They are appointed by the Committee *ad hoc* of the two Chambers (the Senate and the House of Representatives) and are paid by the State from the Annual Budget

* See also detailed answer by Mr Bell on page 61.

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Chief Official Shorthand Writer of the Senate, Brussels	The official Shorthand Writers are nominated respectively by the Office of the Senate and the House of Representatives
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Chief Official Shorthand Writer to the Rigsdag, Copenhagen	They are appointed by the Presidents of the two Legislative Chambers
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Chief Parliamentary Shorthand Writer, Christiania	They are appointed by the Director of the Parliamentary Office, subject to the approval of the President

2. What qualifications are necessary?

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—The Reporters employed in the Senate have established their reputation for skill and accuracy before being appointed
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa, and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—Ability to write Shorthand at the rate of 175 words per minute; a thorough knowledge of Canadian politics and of Parliamentary procedure; sufficient literary skill to put the speeches of Members into good form; and a knowledge of French (though not essential) extremely desirable
,,	Mr Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—No qualifications are prescribed
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Ability to take a verbatim Shorthand note, and the training of a first-class newspaper reporter
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Not known; beyond the capacity to report
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	In the Senate the matter is left to Mr Murphy; in the House of Representatives the Speaker is "a Law unto himself." He has made no change since 1873, except where death has occurred, and then a very competent and experienced Stenographer was selected.
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—To obtain the post of diätarisch Beschäftiger or Etatmässiger Shorthand Writer of the Reichstag or of the two Prussian Chambers there is no condition as to taking a degree
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Apart from technical proficiency, a member of the Royal Stenographic Institute must have had an Academical Education and have attained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy or of Political Economy.
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—Every Shorthand Writer must have passed through a College

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	The rule requires that candidates must have taken a bachelor's degree at least, but exceptions are made in cases of unusual Stenographic ability
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	Age 23, an academic qualification, and a knowledge of the French language besides technical training
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	A knowledge of Dutch, French, English, German, history, political economy, the constitution of the country, and all that relates to political administration and jurisprudence
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The situations which become vacant are competed for. The examination consists in the reproduction of an organized debate with closed doors between a certain number of members of each Assembly, the duration of which is from 20 to 30 minutes. A Jury, of which the Chief of the Stenographic Service forms part, considers the work of the competitors from the double point of view of accuracy, and grammatical and literary exactness. No other qualifications are required
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	They must by competition show their practical proficiency
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	There are no special qualifications; but the Shorthand Writers are only admitted to practice after having given proof of ability as Parliamentary Shorthand Writers

3. What is the number of Shorthand Writers of each Class?

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—In the Senate two Shorthand Writers take all the notes in the Chamber, and in some of the Committees; they are assisted by one Shorthand amanuensis and two (sometimes three) Type-writer operators specially trained for the work
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa, and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—*Six* English and *two* French Shorthand Writers. The French Shorthand Writers are only called upon when a French Member addresses the House in his own language
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—*Three* in the House of Assembly *One* in the Legislative Council
Australia	Mr Hadley Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The *Victorian Hansard* Staff consists of four Shorthand Writers—all of one class
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Not known
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	In the House of Representatives there are *five* Official Shorthand Writers; in the Senate Mr Murphy has *four* Assistant Shorthand Writers, besides himself
Germany	Dr Zeibig	

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—The Royal Stenographic Institute consists of a President, his deputy, and six members of the First Class. During the sittings of the Landtage Assistant Shorthand Writers are brought in according to need
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—There are a Director, a Substitute, twelve Shorthand Writers, and two Assistants. The twelve Shorthand Writers are divided, according to their length of service, into first, second, and third class
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	In each House a Chef, a Sous Chef, six Reviseurs, a Secretary of the Service, and thirteen Stenographers, of whom four are auxiliary
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	The Michela machine with five machinists and eleven transcribers in the Senate. One Chief Shorthand Writer, with twelve Shorthand Writers in the lower House
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	There are a Director (who is a Shorthand Writer), a First Shorthand Writer, a Second Shorthand Writer, eight Shorthand Writers, Assistant Shorthand Writers, and two pupil Shorthand Writers
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	In the Chamber of Representatives there are *eight* Shorthand Writers, including the Chief of the Service, who takes his share of the work. There is an extra Shorthand Writer to fill the place of anyone who is temporarily absent; and a Secretary is employed, who acts as Clerk to the Shorthand Writers. In the Senate there are *six* Shorthand Writers, not including the Chief of the Service
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	There are *fifteen* Shorthand Writers, and *fourteen* Assistant Shorthand Writers
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	There are four Shorthand Writers in each of the three classes, who are remunerated; and there are also four Revisers

4. Are the engagements Sessional, Annual or longer?

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—The contract is permanent, and they have an office in the Senate end of the building. They employ their assistants every Session, and keep one permanently in the office
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa, and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—The Shorthand Writers are permanent officers of the House. In the event of the House deciding to abandon Hansard they would be without employment at once, and without pay
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The engagements are nominally sessional, but practically permanent
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The engagements are permanent

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Probably during good behavior
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	The engagements of the Shorthand Writers may be considered to be permanent, unless for cause
Germany	Dr Zeibig	
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Permanent, except the Assistant Shorthand Writers
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—Four Shorthand Writers are engaged for a term of two years; the others merely by the Session
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	Permanent, except the four Auxiliary Stenographers in each House who can be dismissed if they prove themselves inefficient
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	The engagement is for an indefinite time
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	Shorthand Writers are nominated for an unlimited period, like all other functionaries of the State
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	The engagement is Sessional
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The engagements are Sessional

5. In what position in the Chambers are the Shorthand Writers seats?

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—The seats are at the end of the Clerk's table, directly in front of the Speaker, and about midway in the Chamber
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa, and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—On the floor of the House two small tables are provided at the lower end of the Clerk's table, near the Mace; the Members ranged on either side
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—On the floor, outside the rail
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—In the Upper House the Shorthand Writers' seats are over the Ministers; in the Lower House they are above the Speaker
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The Council sit round a table; the Shorthand Writers sit behind them

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	The Seats in each House are directly in front of the desk of the Secretary or Clerk. In the House of Representatives the Reporter's desk is stationary; in the Senate two small tables are provided, each capable of accommodating two persons, which tables can be removed on occasions of ceremony
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—Both in the Reichstag and in the Prussian Chambers immediately adjacent to the President's chair
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Ditto
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—The seats are in the middle of the Assembly, immediately below the Tribune in which the President is seated
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	The Shorthand Writers take their notes standing at the foot of the Tribune from which the speeches are made
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	A good position
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	In the Chamber the Shorthand Writers have two benches in front of the President's bureau, opposite the table of the Ministers. The Director sits in the middle of the first bench, and the Shorthand Writers sit where they please. In the Senate the Shorthand Writers have the use of a great table. The Director's table is placed as in the Chamber, and the Shorthand Writers' table is between the President and the table of the Ministers, which are opposite to one another
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	In both Assemblies the Shorthand Writers work at a large table placed at the foot of the Tribune occupied by the President and the Secretaries
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	The seats are below the President's chair, and at small tables about the Chamber
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The seats are nearly in the centre of the Chamber, which is semi-circular, just below the President's chair, and in front of the Minister's bench. Generally the Shorthand Writers are allowed to take a seat on the chairs of the Deputies, nearer to the individual who is speaking, as there is no general rostrum

6. What accommodation is provided for Transcribing?

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—An office is provided upstairs, in which the Type-writers are kept, and where the Shorthand Writers read proofs, &c.
,,	Mr Boyle Ottawa, and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—One large room, with separate small compartments—one for each Shorthand Writer and his Type-writer assistant
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—None

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—A special apartment is set apart for the work
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	None
America	Mr D. F. Murphy	A room is provided in each House, near the Chamber
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—Suitable accommodation is provided for the dictating of the transcript
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Ditto
	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—There is a large room in which every Shorthand Writer dictates to a longhand writer what he has written himself in ten minutes
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	The Stenographers are practically treated like the Members as regards accommodation, the use of library, rooms for working, refreshment rooms, etc.
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	There is a large office for transcribing the notes, a cabinet for the Director, a room for the First and Second Shorthand Writers, and a hall with five windows, large and airy, for the other Shorthand Writers. It is a capital establishment
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The Shorthand Writers transcribe their notes in the Assemblies when they are not taking their "turn"
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The Shorthand Writers have separate rooms in the Parliament (Storthing); they do not leave the building until they have finished their transcript

7. Is a second Shorthand Writer employed to take a double or "check" note, as in the French Chambers?

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—No
,,	Mr Boyle Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—No
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax,	*Nova Scotia.*—No
Australia	Mr Hadley Melbourne	*Victoria.*—No

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Not known
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	In the Senate, sometimes during a portion of the day, until the whole force is at work In the House of Representatives, No
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—In the Reichstag, and in the Prussian Chambers, there are always two Shorthand Writers taking notes simultaneously
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—There are always two writing
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—No
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	Yes. (See full description of process on page 63)
Italy	Sig. Marzovati,	Two Shorthand Writers always write together
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	No; each Shorthand Writer takes and transcribes his notes himself on his own responsibility. Only the votes are taken by two Shorthand Writers, the one to check the other
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	In the Senate the revision is confided to a Shorthand Writer, who is at the same time Chief of the Staff. He takes all speeches (except those of Ministers, for which private secretaries are employed). He does not transcribe his notes, but they serve as a guide to him in revising the work of the Shorthand Writers. In the Chamber of Representatives there was established some years ago, by way of trial, a service of revision, entrusted to two editorial secretaries who are not shorthand writers. This, however, is a failure
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	No
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	No second Shorthand Writer is employed

8. How long are the "turns"? that is, how long does one Shorthand Writer write at one time?

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—Half-an-hour
,,	Mr Boyle Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—The English Shorthand Writers take "turns" of ten minutes; the French Shorthand Writers arrange their "turns" according to circumstances
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The "turns" are usually of an hour
Australia	Mr Hadley Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The "turns" are of 30, 40, or 45 minutes

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	One Shorthand Writer writes during a whole sitting
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	In the House of Representatives the "turns" are of ten minutes; in the Senate the length of the "turns" depends on the nature of the debate, and the condition of the work,—the general rule being that the turns are made longer as the day progresses, the earlier turns being short, so as to get the whole staff at work as soon as possible
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—Two Shorthand Writers always come in and go off together; the "turns" are of ten minutes; so that each has only to transcribe half of what he has written
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—The Shorthand Writers form a chain; that is to say, the Shorthand Writer whose turn comes last in the chain writes with the one whose turn comes first—as a check; the first Shorthand Writer writes in the same way with the second, and so one. The "turns" are of ten minutes,—so that each man has to take ten minutes for himself and ten for his colleague
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—The "turns" are of ten minutes
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	Two minutes for the primary note-takers (rouleurs)—fifteen minutes for the check note-takers (réviseurs)
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	Each Shorthand Writer writes for three minutes for himself and three with his predecessor, the first writing with the last on the list to complete the chain
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	As a rule the "turns" are of five minutes. The Director has power, however, to vary them; then the "turn" is of not less than three or more than ten minutes. This is very rarely done.
Belgium	M. La-Comblé Brussels	The duration of the "turn" is three minutes. Each Shorthand Writer, therefore, in the Chamber of Representatives has 21 minutes to transcribe his notes, which is generally long enough for the three minutes' note-taking to be finished before the next turn arrives.
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	Two Shorthand Writers write simultaneously for a quarter of an hour; each of them dictates half of the copy from his own notes and those of his colleague.
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The "turns" are of twenty minutes, during which time two Shorthand Writers write simultaneously; but they only transcribe half of their notes each. After an hour and twenty minutes another turn begins. Thus each Shorthand Writer during an ordinary sitting will have twenty minutes' Shorthand to transcribe. It must be observed that when both divisions of the Parliament (Storthing) are sitting at the same time, the work is considerably augmented

9. Does each Shorthand Writer transcribe his own notes?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—No; they dictate to Type-writer operators what is not written by a Shorthand amanuensis
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—No; he dictates them to his Type-writer amanuensis, and revises them before they go to print
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—No; he has an amanuensis
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Yes
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Yes
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	Each Shorthand Writer usually employs amanuenses for transcribing, but may write out some of his notes himself. Mr Murphy has some employés who transcribe his notes without dictation
Germany	Herr Max Bäckler	*Berlin.*—No; he dictates them to a longhand writer
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Each Shorthand Writer dictates the part which he has to transcribe to the Writer assigned to him. In the current Session of the Landtag three Type-writers (a Remington, a Caligraph, and a Hammond—the last worked by Dr Zeibig's daughter) were employed for the production of the transcript
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—No; every Shorthand Writer has his own longhand writer, but the longhand writer must be able to read and write Shorthand
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	Yes
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	Each Shorthand Writer transcribes his own notes, compared with the notes of his colleague, who has assisted him
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	Yes
Belgium	M. La-Comblé Brussels	Yes, in the Chamber during the intervals between his turns
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	No; the Assistant Shorthand Writers transcribe the speeches from the Shorthand Writer's dictation, or from the original notes
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Cristiania	Yes, each Shorthand Writer has to transcribe his own notes; *i.e.*, half of the notes taken by himself and his colleague

10. Is the transcript revised by any other Shorthand Writer?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—One of the Shorthand Writers revises the whole report before it goes to the Printer
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—No
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—No
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—When in print it is
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Not known
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	In the Senate the entire report is generally revised by Mr Murphy, whether he or his assistants have taken the notes
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—No; the Institution of Revisers, as it is practised in France and in Austria, is unknown
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—No
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—No
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	Yes, by the check note-takers (réviseurs), who compare the report with their notes. When in proof it is also read by the Chief of the Service, who takes some notes during the Debates, principally of the numerous interruptions and the applause or other "movements" of the House
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	The transcript is revised by the Revisers, who, however, are not Shorthand Writers
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	No
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	Yes. [See answer to No. 7]
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	The transcript is revised by Revisers who are acquainted with Shorthand, and have been present during the sittings
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The transcript is revised by the Revisers—one hour by each; and finally it is revised by the Director of the Parliamentary Office (M. Cappelin)

11. Is it required to be strictly verbatim, or may it be (*a*) condensed, or (*b*) edited for style, etc.?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—The report is a full one, but "edited for style," as they believe is the case in England
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—The report is as nearly verbatim as possible, consistently with good literary form. It is sometimes slightly condensed
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—It is condensed, or edited, according to the character of the debate. The editorial faculty is exercised
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The report is made according to order
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	The debates are published *verbatim* in one sense, but of course not so as to present glaring grammatical inaccuracies or slips of the tongue; they are *not* condensed, or edited for style
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—The transcript may be neither condensed nor edited for style; the strictest adherence to the words is required
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Ditto
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—The transcript must be strictly verbatim
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	The Réviseurs make corrections in style and necessary rectifications. The report is *in extenso*
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	The notes are transcribed as faithfully as possible
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	The transcript is required to be verbatim—*cum grano salis*
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The Shorthand Writers ought naturally to respect always the thoughts of the speaker in all their developments, and, as much as possible, his particular style; but, of course, they have not only the right but the duty to correct inaccuracies which occur in extempore speaking. Whilst endeavoring, therefore, to reproduce as exactly as possible the speaker's words, they seek to unite accuracy in language with fidelity in reproduction of the speeches
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	A verbatim transcript is required, but slight alterations for style are allowed
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The reports must be verbatim

12. What systems of Shorthand are chiefly used?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—Benn and Isaac Pitman
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—Of the English Shorthand Writers *three* write the Isaac Pitman, *two* the Benn Pitman, and *one* the Bradley system The two French Shorthand Writers write the Duployé system
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Pitman's
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Pitman's
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Not known
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	All use Pitman's Phonography, or some modification of it
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—In the Reichstag, both the Gabelsberger and the Stolze systems are employed; and in the Prussian Chambers only the Stolze system is in use,—with the single exception that in the House of Lords there is one writer of the Gabelsberger system
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—In the Landtag only the Gabelsberger system is used
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—Gabelsberger's
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	Several systems are represented, *e.g.*, that of Prévost-Delaunay, Grosselin, Aimé-Paris, and Duployé
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	Taylor's Stenography adapted to the Italian language by Amanti, and modified by Delpino
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	Only the system of Peter Van Elven-Steger, for nearly 40 years, with the greatest success; without having given rise to complaints on the part of the Members
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	Twelve of the staff write the system of M. H. Prévost; the remaining two make use of the Duployé system more or less modified by themselves
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	Gabelsberger's
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	Gabelsberger's

13. Are the Speakers allowed to alter the reports of their speeches before publication? and, if so, under what restrictions?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—In the Senate the speakers are allowed to revise their speeches, but they very seldom exercise the right. No alteration is allowed which would affect any preceding or subsequent remarks of other speakers
„	Mr Boyle, Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—The speakers do not see the manuscript, but are allowed to make verbal, not material, alterations after the first sheets have been printed and distributed. Each Shorthand Writer has the final decision as to what alterations are allowable in his "takes"
„	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—They are allowed to do so, subject to the discretion of the Shorthand Writer in not permitting substantial alterations
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—If a member applies for a copy of his speech it is furnished to him. Such applications are rare. Emendations are permitted
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The members practically "recite" their speeches beforehand, or "revise" them in the Government Press
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	Senators and Representatives are allowed to look at the manuscript, or proof of their remarks, before publication, if they wish it. The privilege is not often exercised in the Senate, except in the case of long set speeches. Many Senators—some of the most eminent men—never look at the reports before publication
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—The speakers receive their speeches before they are printed, in order that they may look through them; but the alterations which they suggest must be only in style and not in substance. The Secretarial Department and the President of the Shorthand Writers' Corps see that this condition is not violated
„	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Ditto
„	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—Yes, the speakers are allowed to revise the reports before publication, but they may only alter the form of diction, and not the sense. The alterations are under the control of the Director
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	Yes. The Chief of the Stenographic Service reads the proof afterwards, and has the control of it
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	On account of the difficulties of hearing, the proofs are sent to the speakers to be revised by them

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	Members are allowed to revise their speeches; but if a speech is not returned to the office by 3 p.m. on the following day the Director orders a second transcript to be made, which appears in the Record unrevised. This only rarely happens
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The speakers can correct, and even alter their speeches. This principle is subject to an express condition—it is a question of judgment, and is left to the discretion of each
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	The speakers can, if they desire it, inspect their speeches, but they are only permitted to make slight alterations in style. The Revisers go over the corrections of the speakers, and, if they have any doubt about passing them, the matter is referred to the President of the Chamber, who, in the very few cases that have occurred, has decided that the Shorthand Writer's version ought to stand
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The speakers are allowed to read over their speeches, and to make some alterations, which must not, however, alter the contents or sense of the speeches

14. Please send a specimen copy of the official record as published. and state how often and how soon after the sitting it appears,

Canada	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	*The Senate.*—The contract calls for publication of the daily edition in time for distribution to Members at the opening of the House the following day; but no private printing office seems able to do the work so rapidly. Holland Brothers' printer, as a rule, is a day behind. The Government printers will not undertake the work. [An unrevised issue of one day's report is sent as a specimen]
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa and Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	*House of Commons.*—The Report of each day's debates is usually in the hands of Members when the House meets at 3 p.m. on the following day. [A specimen is sent by the Shorthand Writers Association.]
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Unable to send a specimen. The Report appears long after the sitting, owing to the system of publication in the newspapers,—space being limited and talk limitless
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The Official Record is published weekly, before the sittings of the new week begin [Specimen sent]
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The Report is published sometimes a week after the sitting, and is often very materially altered from the original utterance

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	*The Congressional Record* is published every morning of the Session, with the debates in the two Houses of the preceding day, except those speeches the proofs of which may have been withheld by the speakers for revision beyond the night of delivery. The usual hours for sitting are from 12 noon to 5 p.m., but longer towards the end of a Session, and there have been continuous sittings of 24, 27, and even 36 hours
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—The Official Report appears in print some days after the sitting has taken place [Specimen sent]
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Ditto
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—The Official Record appears two or three days after the sitting
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	The Report *in extenso* appears next morning in the *Journal Officiel*
Italy	Sig. Marzovati	The necessity of sending the proofs to the speakers for revision often causes a delay of eight, ten, or twelve days in the publication of the Parliamentary Proceedings in the Italian Chamber
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	The Report is published by about 8 p.m. on the day following [A specimen of the Report for each Chamber, and of the system of Shorthand are sent]
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The Report *in extenso* appears, but rarely on the day after the sitting, because the speakers do not send their speeches to the printer in the evening. An analysis of each sitting in the two Chambers is translated into French, and circulated next morning. Three Editors for each Assembly are employed on this Report, which is very useful, and much appreciated [Specimens sent]
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	As a rule the Report is in print on the day following
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	The Report appears as soon as possible, generally 48 hours after the sitting [One copy of the Official Storthing paper sent as a specimen]

B.—Newspaper Reporters.

1. What seats are provided in the Chamber?

Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	[See detailed answer on page 61]
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	*House of Commons.*—Seats are provided in galleries directly over the Speaker's Chair

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—There are seats in the gallery for Reporters, who, however, do not use Shorthand
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—A special gallery is provided, fitted with comfortable desks and seats
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	In the Council Chamber a table behind the Councillors is set apart
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Ceylon Observer*	A table in the body of the Council-room
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	In each House the Associated Press (an association comprising the leading daily newspapers of the large cities) have a table and chair near the Official Shorthand Writers. The representatives of the Press generally have a gallery above the chair of the Presiding Officer, where each has a seat
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin*—As a rule special seats in the Tribunes are placed at the disposal of the Newspaper Reporters
,,	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Ditto
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—A portion of the galleries is reserved for the representatives of the Press
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	An Analytical Report, taken by Official Shorthand Writers separate from those who take the Report *in extenso*, is supplied to the Newspapers. The Journalists who have seats near the public are seldom shorthand writers; they make notes simply for a descriptive report of "scenes," etc.
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	Not in the House but in a Gallery above the amphitheatre. They do not write Shorthand.
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The seats of the Journalists are situated at the end of the Reserved Tribune, on the right hand of the President. Admission to this Tribune must be authorised by two Syndicates nominated by the Journalists at the opening of each Parliamentary Session
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	The various Newspapers have their own Reporters; they, however, do not make use of Shorthand
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	A bench, on the floor of the Chamber, is placed at the disposal of the representatives of the Press

2. What accommodation for transcribing ?

Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association and Mr Boyle, Ottawa	*House of Commons.*—A large room, immediately at the back of the gallery, is provided for the use of the Press. It is easily accessible from the gallery, and adjoins the offices of the Telegraph Companies.

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—None
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Each Newspaper has its own room
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	None
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Ceylon Observer*	The work is done in the News Office, or at home
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	The Associated Press Reporters do their writing at the desk, or table, which they occupy. They make only an abstract of the debates, sometimes reporting pretty fully parts of an important speech
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin and Dresden.*—Rooms appropriated to this purpose are assigned to the Reporters
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—A spacious room is set apart for the purpose
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	They require none. See last answer.
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	A hall is annexed, with a Telephone, and all suitable arrangements

3. How many newspapers obtain independent reports by their own Reporters?

Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	[See detailed answer on page 61]
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	*House of Commons.*—About twenty-five, exclusive of "doubling," *i.e.*, where one man represents two or more papers. (Mr A. C. Campbell, the *Globe*, Toronto)
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Three Newspapers obtain summary longhand reports, the Official report being also published by the Press
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Three
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The leading papers in the provincial towns; three or four in Calcutta
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Ceylon Observer*	Three Newspapers obtain independent reports
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	No newspapers in this country obtain independent reports of Congressional proceedings except those of Washington City, which only furnish brief abstracts

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin.*—Almost every German newspaper of any considerable size has its own Reporters in the Reichstag. The *Cologne Gazette* has the strongest corps. Among these Reporters there are many who are proficient in Stenography. These Newspapers also make use of the Shorthand Notes of the Official Shorthand Writers of the Reichstag
„	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Only the *Dresden Journal*, the *Dresden News*, and the *Dresden Gazette*; to the last paper the reports are furnished by Professor Dr Lehmann, a member of the Royal Stenographic Institute, and also an official of the *Dresden Journal*
„	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—Only one, the *Augsburger Abendzeitung*
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	None. (See previous answer)
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	All the daily Newspapers of the Capital
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	This year the chief Metropolitan Newspapers have each got a report from the Shorthand Writers (the Revisers)

4. How many Reporters are there for each?

Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	The larger daily papers generally employ a staff of four, of whom two generally report the debates, and the other two engaged in Parliamentary correspondence
„	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	*House of Commons.*—Usually one, in a few cases two, and in one case three. This is true of the last three or four Sessions.
„	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—One Reporter for each Newspaper
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—From six to eight
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Three or four, and some occasional ones besides
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Ceylon Observer*	Each of the three Newspapers has one Reporter of its own
America	Mr D. F. Murphy Washington	There is one Associated Press Reporter in each House. If he anticipates some important speech that he wants in full, he engages a Shorthand Writer specially, or gets permission to copy the official report

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin and Dresden.*—The number of Reporters varies considerably
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—The *Augsburger Abendzeitung* has one special Reporter
France	M. Depoin and Dr Weber	See previous answer
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	Each paper has one Reporter. *L'Indépendance Belge* and the *Journal de Bruxelles* are the only papers which habitually employ two Reporters
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	Previously to this year (see last answer) the chief Newspapers had two Reporters apiece, each of whom wrote half of the speeches during a sitting

5. How long are the "turns"? that is, how long does each Reporter write at one time?

Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Vary so much according to circumstances that there is no regular custom
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	*House of Commons.* — The Reporters arrange the "turns" among themselves
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The "turn" comprises the whole sitting
Australia	Mr Hadley Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The minimum is twenty minutes.
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	There is no regulation on this subject
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Ceylon Observer*	The same Shorthand Writer reports the whole sitting —whether it be of one, two, three, four, or five hours' duration
America	Mr D.F.Murphy	See previous answers
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—Unable to give any information
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—Necessarily, there being only one reporter, he is responsible for the whole of the sittings
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The Newspaper reports are only analyses, and do not, therefore, necessitate a knowledge of Shorthand; in fact, the few Shorthand Writers who are attached to the Press generally write out their reports *au courant de la plume*

6. Are the engagements Annual or Sessional?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Usually annual
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	*House of Commons.*—The engagements are generally annual; there are, however, some sessional
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The work is usually done by the regular Newspaper Reporter, who is employed permanently
Australia	Mr Hadley Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The engagements are permanent
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The engagements are mostly during good behavior
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Ceylon Observer*	Permanent
America	Mr D. F. Murphy	See previous answers
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin & Dresden.*—The engagements are sessional only
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—The engagement is sessional
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	Their employment is permanent

7. What systems of Shorthand are chiefly used?

Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	The majority write Isaac Pitman's
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Chiefly Pitman's; a few write Graham's and Munson's
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	Very little Shorthand is used at all; the whole being mostly in longhand
Australia	Mr Hadley, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Pitman's
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Various systems are in use,—perhaps chiefly Pitman's, with modifications
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Ceylon Observer*	Pitman's
America	Mr D F. Murphy	Some form of Pitman's
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Berlin & Dresden.*—Gabelsberger's, Stolze's, and Arend's
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—Gabelsberger's

DETAILED ANSWERS.

B.—Newspaper Reporters.

Extract from Answers by the CANADIAN SHORTHAND WRITERS' ASSOCIATION.

To explain clearly the seating and *hearing* accommodation provided for the newspaper reporters in the Canadian House of Commons, it will be necessary to describe briefly the arrangements of the Chamber itself. The Speaker of the House occupies a chair placed in the middle of one side of the Chamber—not at the end, as in the Imperial House of Commons. Each member of Parliament is provided with a desk, and these desks are arranged in parallel rows, running at right angles to the side of the Chamber on which the Speaker's chair is placed—the supporters of the Government to his right, and the Opposition to his left. Each tier of seats is raised slightly above that in front of it. The Reporters' Gallery extends almost the entire length of one side of the Chamber—to the right and left of the Speaker's chair. Its height above the floor level is about 12ft., but as most of the members, owing to the position of their seats as already described, address the House from a considerable elevation above the floor of the Chamber, the actual height of the Gallery is proportionately less than 12ft., so that, generally speaking, members of the House can be distinctly heard in the Gallery. The Gallery in its present form—it has several times been enlarged—has seating accommodation for 28 men. Last Session of Parliament all these seats were allotted by a Committee of the Gallery, appointed for that and other Executive purposes, to representatives of different daily newspapers, but of the total number present only six were actual stenographers.

In former years the English practice of publishing very full reports of the debates of Parliament in the leading daily newspapers prevailed in Canada, but of late the tendency has been more and more in the direction of assimilating to the American system of supplying brief summaries of the debates, these summarised reports being supplemented by very full descriptive and "newsy" letters on the various matters which engage the attention of Parliament. Owing to this tendency, the number of shorthand reporters engaged in the Gallery has of late been gradually decreasing. Another practice which has grown up of late years is that of two or more daily papers uniting their Parliamentary staffs for the purpose of making joint reports. As a result of this condition of things, it may be mentioned that the 28 men, who were allotted seats in the Gallery, supplied reports and correspondence to over 40 daily papers. About 12 papers obtained independent reports by their own reporters.

Extract from Answers by MR BELL, *the Government Shorthand Writer at Melbourne, Victoria.*

The Government Shorthand Writer and the Assistant Government Shorthand Writer are strictly speaking the only two shorthand writers, recognised as such on the Estimates, but the "Clerk qualified to act as Assistant" is really a second Assistant, although when not required to take shorthand notes he acts as a transcribing clerk. Two clerks are employed in transcription alone,—in addition of course to the records, etc., required to be kept in a Government Office. Being on the permanent Civil Service, we are all appointed by His Excellency the Governor in Council, and are classified (I regret to say not as professional) but as ordinary clerical members of the Service. There are five classes in the Service, and there is one member of my staff in each class, an arrangement made against my judgment by the Public Service Board.

The nature of our duties is varied. Notes of evidence in criminal cases are sometimes taken for the Law Department, on which prosecutions for perjury have been instituted against witnesses, and in several cases lately convictions obtained. No special accommodation is provided for us in court, which is sometimes inconvenient. When persons are summoned to the Bar of either House of Parliament, either in case of breach of privilege or to give evidence to Committee of the whole House, the Clerk requires our attendance to take notes independently of the "Hansard" note. When this happens, it is usual for a Minister of the Crown to move "That the shorthand writer be admitted within the Bar, and take a note at the table of the House." Owing to the acoustic properties of the Chambers, it is necessary to have a second shorthand writer just outside the Bar.

The length of turns is dependent solely on the length of the sitting. Very seldom do we "relieve" each other. This occasionally leads to hardship, but the inconvenience that relief would occasion would be worse. For instance, this morning my assistant is attending an inquiry at Ballaarat, 100 miles off, which will probably last all through a long day, but it would be out of the question for me to go, or send the qualified clerk, to relieve him for a part only of the time. Occasionally we take three hours each of a long sitting of a committee, etc., but seldom break a less time.

The two senior officers only transcribe when great pressure of business compels, their time being almost wholly occupied in taking notes, having the transcript read over to them, checking it by the shorthand, and in some cases (Parliamentary Select Committees, Royal Commissions, Boards, etc.) exercising supervision over the proofs of printed evidence. No transcript is ever revised by any other shorthand writer than he who took the original note.

It is a general rule of the office that all notes must be verbatim. When, however, a witness before a Board, etc., becomes confused or misunderstands, it is usual to draw the Chairman's attention to the matter at once, and get his authority to the necessary elucidation being inserted in the note instead of the mistake. This saves time, etc.

From the structure of the office it necessarily follows that there must be uniformity of system; Gurney's alone is used. It is usual for the Clerk of the House to send to each witness examined before a Select Committee a proof of his evidence that he may correct it. The extent to which corrections are allowed depends solely on the shorthand writer, to whom the proof is sent when returned by the witness. A similar practice obtains with Royal Commissions, etc. But when witnesses are sworn this is not usual.

Occasionally the senior shorthand writer dictates notes to juniors, sometimes he dictates to two longhand writers, when there is great pressure of work, and extra clerks have to be employed, and on rare occasions I have kept three longhand men going. Generally, however, the three clerks are able to transcribe our notes within a reasonable time.

Extract from Answers by Mr D. F. MURPHY, *Official Reporter of the U. S. Senate.*

The Debates of the U. S. Congress were not regularly reported in full and published the day after delivery, until the Senate made a contract for that purpose in 1848, and the House of Representatives followed in 1849. The *Daily Globe* was the medium of publication for many years prior to 1873, its columns being confined to the publication of the debates of the two Houses. Prior to 1848, the *Congressional Globe*, published weekly, contained an abstract of the debates and such speeches in full as members wrote out for themselves or had specially reported, there being a few shorthand writers at command. In 1873 the publication of the *Globe* was discontinued and the printing of the debates was transferred to the Government Printing Office, from which they have since been issued in the form of the *Congressional Record*, a quarto with two columns to a page, and each House was left to provide for its own reporting. The House of Representatives had some years previously required that no reporter there should be appointed or removed by the *Globe* office, without the consent of the Speaker, and the Senate had inserted in the *Globe* contract a clause that no reporter should be employed for the Senate except with the consent of the Senate Committee on Printing. When the printing of the debates was transferred to the Government Printing Office in 1873 each House adopted the existing reportorial *status*. The House of Representatives provided for five official reporters at a salary of $5,000 per annum each, and the Senate took its existing corps with D. F. Murphy at the head, making him its Official Reporter and allowing him $25,000 a year, out of which he was to provide all the force needed for the purpose. These annual sums (put in this shape to conform to the regular government appropriations) were based on an examination of the amount paid for the reporting of the respective Houses for the preceding six years when the reporting was paid for by the *Globe* office according to the quantity of printed matter, which amount was supplemented by an annual allowance made by Congress to five Reporters in each House to cover the time lost by vacations.

Extract from Answers by M. DEPOIN, *of Paris.*

The shorthand writers stand, while taking their notes, at the foot of the Tribune. The "rouleurs" succeed one another every two minutes at the left-hand desk, and the "réviseurs" every quarter of an hour at the right-hand desk. Special clocks, the hand of which revolves in the desired time, shows the moment for relieving. The rouleurs retire either to benches placed within the limits of the House or to a hall outside, whichever they prefer, and transcribe their notes on oblong sheets of white paper paged by fives according to a numbering given them by an official. The words uttered by the President are transcribed on blue paper. The "slips" when collected pass under the eyes of the réviseurs who compare them with their own notes and make corrections of style and the necessary rectifications. Then the members can, if they wish, see their speeches and correct them again on the slips themselves. Every half hour the slips finally revised are taken to the printing office of the *Journal Officiel.* The proofs are returned the same evening, and the réviseurs come to examine them. All the printed report of the sitting is then read and controlled by the chief of the service, who sits beside the secretaries at the desk during the sittings and takes notes himself principally to make sure that the interruptions are duly recorded and to note the "movements" of the Chamber. This, which is called the report *in extenso*, appears the next morning in the *Journal Officiel*, but it is not that which the Press ordinarily uses. As the sitting proceeds an analytical report is printed from notes taken in longhand by another body of functionaries, called "secrétaires-redacteurs." The proofs of the analytical report are distributed to all the journalists, and it is the text more or less curtailed or arranged by them, which forms the basis of all their articles. The journalists installed in the Tribunes near to the public only take notes of the incidents or the marked features of the sitting which the official reports are bound always to attenuate. Hardly any of the journalist reporters are shorthand writers.

Extract from Answers by M. LA COMBLÉ, *of Brussels.*

The revision service is organised differently in the Senate and in the House of Representatives.

In the Senate the revision is confided to a shorthand writer who is at the same time Chief of the Staff. This shorthand writer takes all the speeches, except those of the ministers (for which special or private secretaries are employed). He does not transcribe his shorthand notes, but they serve as a guide to him in the revision of the work of the other shorthand writers.

In the Chamber of Representatives there was established some years ago by way of trial a service of revision entrusted to two editorial secretaries *who are not shorthand writers.* It is easy to understand that a revision made under such conditions is absolutely a mockery. Not being shorthand writers, and taking no check note whatever during the discussions, these revisers are quite incapable of supplying the blanks which may sometimes appear in the shorthand writers' work, whether caused by the noise of the assembly, or because the speaker's words did not reach them. They are therefore confined to simple corrections of form, which most often are not justifiable. Moreover, while the revision organised as it is in the Senate renders real services, that which the Chamber of Representatives has established has fallen into discredit and cannot be maintained.

Extract from Answers by Mr C. P. KONSTANTINOFF, *of Bulgaria.*

During August, 1879, the Bulgarian Government called from Austria Professor Bezensheka to apply Shorthand to the Bulgarian language. Mr Bezensheka being a good Slavonian philologist, and having for a good many years worked in the art of Shorthand in Slavonia, he in a short time and with great success applied Gabelsberger's system to the Bulgarian language. He opened courses of instruction in the National Assembly Building, commenced to teach it in the Grammar School at Sophia, and yet during the same autumn in the First Ordinary National Assembly he produced protocols in Shorthand. Since then the art of Shorthand has been making rapid progress in Bulgaria, and now in the beginning of August it can present itself before the International Jubilee in the Great Capital with the following statement:—

thand Writers' Bureau in connection with the National Assembly.—In connection with the National Assembly there is a permanent corps of six shorthand writers who take notes in Shorthand of the proceedings of the Ordinary and Great National Assemblies. This corps consists entirely of Bulgarian shorthand writers, pupils of Prof. Bezensheka. They are appointed by the President of the Ordinary National Assembly, and the duration of their appointment is as long as is the National Assembly, that is, three years. Their salary is 4,008 francs per year.

2. *Shorthand Writers' Association.*—At the end of the year 1886, through the initiation of Chr. P. Konstantinoff, there was organized in Sophia a Central Shorthand Writers' Association for spreading and perfecting the Bulgarian Shorthand in the Gabelsberger system. Now the Association consists of nineteen ordinary members and one honorary member.

3. *Stenographic Journal.*—The central Shorthand Writers' Association publishes its monthly journal. This journal of science and art was commenced on the 1st of January, 1887, edited by a commission of five members. In the Association's Library there are received about twenty foreign shorthand journals by way of exchange.

4. *Lessons in Shorthand.*—In the last year's course of study, lessons in Shorthand have been given as an optional subject in the Government Grammar Schools in Philippopolis and Sophia. Special courses of lessons in Shorthand only have been opened during the last year in Sophia and Rustchuk.

5. *Application of Shorthand in Practice.*—From the election of Prince Alexander until now, all the protocols of the National Assembly have been taken in Shorthand, and the transcript has been printed. Besides the proceedings of the National Assembly there have also been reported in Shorthand the speeches of the most eminent orators who have spoken in the meetings about the union, and on the occasion of various national holydays and festivals commemorating events in the old and new Bulgarian history. Some of the more important proceedings in the Law Courts are also taken down in Shorthand. The teachers and writers of Bulgarian Shorthand have been so fortunate as to enjoy assistance on the part of all the Bulgarian Governments which have hitherto existed, who have gratuitously given their help in advancing the art. During last year the Government provided accommodation in the building of the National Assembly for the Association of Shorthand Writers, and for the classes which this Association maintains. The Ministry of Justice lent their lithographic apparatus for lithographing the supplements to the Association's Journal, and the Ministry of Instruction gave 400 francs to the Association's Journal.

Letter of Sgnr. Guiseppe Marzovati, Chief Stenographer of the Italian Chamber of Deputies; translated for the International Shorthand Congress by Edwin Guest.

With regard to the Michela machine I cannot speak with perfect knowledge of the subject, because in the Chamber of Deputies experiments were tried with it with but poor success; and if it was adopted by the Senate I think that ought to be attributed to particular circumstances. Stenography demands a long and continuous exercise, and as the few and brief sittings of the Senate do not offer to stenographers sufficient practice, and as in Italy the occasions are rare when the stenographic art can be exercised outside the national Parliament, it results that that stenographic service leaves much to be desired. It was on this account that the Senate adopted the Michela machine, hoping from it better results. Whether it has corresponded to that hope I am not able to say precisely, because I have not been able to examine it in practice, and because opinions upon the point are divided. But one result has been that the *personnel* has had to be increased, and that this is now more numerous than that of the Chamber, of which the

work is more than six-fold; and so far as I can gather, it appears that the Senate is not satisfied with it, because in the Presidential Council recently, the question was raised whether it was proper to continue the service by means of the Michela machine, or to adopt another system.

However that may be, I have requested the director of that service, Signor Eugenio Rossi, to send you an account of the way in which he carries out his work, but as he has obtained a long leave, he has charged with it his deputy, Signor Eugenio Ferro, Reviser at the Senate, and I think you would do better to address yourself directly to him for the desired information.

I pass now to the stenographic service of the Chamber of Deputies, which I have the honor to direct. This service consists of one chief stenographer with the stipend of 5,000 lire, of twelve stenographers with 3,000 to 4,500 lire, and of two for reliefs with stipends of 1,000 lire. All use Taylor's Stenography, adapted to the Italian language by Amanti, and modified by Delpino. I say *all*, because from the way in which our service is organized, it is necessary that each stenographer should be able to read the stenography of his companions. This is the way in which the service is conducted.

In an auditorium so large and in conditions so unfortunate, acoustically, as those of the Italian Chamber of Deputies; in an assembly where the orators speak from their places and not seldom in the midst of the conversation of their colleagues, it often happens that the words do not distinctly reach the stenographer, and in that case he has to raise his head to hear, to suspend his writing, and wait for a phrase to understand it, and by this he risks not being able to follow completely the words of the orator, especially if speaking rapidly or with a feeble voice.

To obviate this inconvenience we have adopted a system which, I believe, is not used by other stenographers, namely, that of writing in couples. When an orator is not perfectly heard, one stenographer listens for the first phrase and then writes it; meanwhile the other listens for the second phrase and in turn writes it down, while the first stenographer is listening to the third phrase; and so it proceeds.

This plan then is adopted in cases of extraordinarily rapid speaking, and the following is an example of how the two stenographic transcripts appear when brought together:—

1st Stenographer.	2nd Stenographer.
The design of the law which the Government yesterday presented to the Chamber, as one of the greatest urgency, desiring and obtaining that it should come before the Committee of Finance includes	includes some of the arrangements consigned in the other Bill (project of law) whose financial provisions are intended to meet the needs of the treasury and to be referred to that Commission which is charged

charged
to examine the question of a Customs Reform. The Government, remembering the precedent of the 26th Nov., 1885, through which the greater duties upon sugar, coffee, spirits, etc., were immediately brought into application does not intend
intend
to pledge in any way the judgment of the Chamber upon the proposed provisions.
It should be noted that speculation has already raised its head, and that unless a strong barrier is promptly opposed, etc.

By doubling the stenographers we are enabled to report verbatim all the speakers, no matter at what rapidity they speak, and we can also up to a certain point reproduce the speeches of those who, either by reason of distance or feebleness of voice, or on account of noise, can only be imperfectly heard.

But if this system has the advantage I have described, it has also the disadvantage of preventing progress in Stenography, because we are unable to introduce changes or new abbreviations. As writing in couples the requisite speed necessary to follow any orator is easily acquired, the stenographer does not seek to perfect himself so as to acquire all the speed of which he may be capable.

This being premised, I will explain briefly the way in which our service is performed.

When the sitting commences, two stenographers are present, the first of whom writes for his own account, with the second helping him; after three minutes a third stenographer goes to relieve the first, who passes at once with his own notes and those of his companion, to the office, to transcribe the part taken. Meanwhile, the second stenographer writes for himself, and the third helps him. After three minutes more, the fourth goes to relieve the second, and so to the end.

In transcribing their notes the stenographers reproduce as faithfully as possible the exact words of the orator, but when necessary they introduce such slight amendments of form as they may judge necessary in the speech which is to be printed.

The transcripts no sooner begin to accumulate than the chief stenographer withdraws them, together with the notes from each stenographer; registers the number and the name of the speaker on each slip; assures himself in a rapid glance that nothing has been omitted in the transcript which appears on the notes, and examines particularly the beginning and the end of each take; for he who commences a period, ordinarily, does not finish it, and he who finishes one, does not commence it; and treating of signs which do not express vowels, if the full sense is not expressed, errors may arise, which the chief stenographer, with all the stenographic notes in his hand, may easily be able to correct.

When all this has been done, the work is passed on to the office of revision, which is composed of one chief reviser, with the stipend of 5,500 lire, and of six revisers, with stipends of 3,500 to 5,000 lire.

This office would be useful if the revisers were selected from the

best stenographers, because, knowing the difficulties of Stenography, they would write, for example, the proper names, the figures, the quotations, and all those portions for which no help can be derived from the context; and when the speaker is not properly heard they might get near and take down the passages not likely to be heard by the stenographer. They would then be able securely to complete the work; instead of which, the Revision being done by persons who do not understand Stenography, they can take down no part of the discussion, and therefore they are not in a position to fill up the blanks which the stenographer is sometimes obliged to leave on account of not hearing. From this arises the necessity of sending the printed proofs to the speaker, who, if he does not revise them under pressure, causes those delays of eight, ten or twelve days which are often complained of in the publication of the Parliamentary Proceedings of the Italian Chamber.

One more observation to conclude.

It appears to me that the stenographer's difficulties are chiefly two, namely, (1st) that of taking orators who speak in a low voice or in the midst of noise, and (2nd) that of reproducing verbatim, the speeches of certain orators of more than extraordinary rapidity.

The first of these difficulties is not to be overcome by machines, nor by any stenographic system, but only by the intelligence of the stenographer, and I think the second cannot otherwise be conquered than by the means we have adopted, *i.e.*, to write in couples, for we have had speakers who at certain moments pronounce 200 words per minute, and it does not seem to me possible that a stenographer can succeed in reaching that speed.

This is the opinion that I have formed in thirty-nine years of service in the Chamber, twenty-nine as stenographer and ten as director of the office, and I submit it to the International Congress as the only body competent to pronounce judgment without appeal, in this question.

Accept, etc.,

Your devoted Colleague.

Further Answer by SIGNOR MARZOVATI, *Rome.*

Let me state my doubt as to the possibility, not only of writing in stenography, but even of pronouncing, 260 words per minute. It may perhaps be possible to arrive at such a speed with English, but, so far as the Italian language is concerned, in the several experiments made by me, I have only on one occasion succeeded in attaining a speed of 225 words per minute in reading, and in no other attempt have I succeeded in getting beyond 212. But this speed is not possible in an assembly, because at a few paces' distance, nothing at all would be understood. We had formerly in the Chamber the lamented minister, Cordova, who is remembered as a phenomenon of rapid speech. Well, he never but on one occasion succeeded in pronouncing 200 words in a minute; and the present minister, Grimaldi, who is the fastest of orators, although he one day got out 576 in three minutes, that is, 192 per minute, has never since got beyond 180 words.

In the Senate the Michela machine is used, and the corps is composed of five ma-

chinists and eleven transcribers. By turns two machinists, each with a machine, take a speech down together, and a transcriber, who is also present, after three minutes of the discussion withdraws the two sheets of notes from the machines and takes them to the transcribing room to make his transcript, his place in the auditorium being taken by his companions in succession. The various transcripts then pass together to the bureau of the Revisers who are not stenographers. But it appears to me that the Senate is not satisfied with this service of the Michela machine, for it is already thinking of replacing it by stenographers.

In the Chamber of Deputies the stenographers, like all the other employés, are nominated by the President with the approval of his Council. The conditions are generally the following:—

(1) Age, not over 23 years.
(2) Academical degree.
(3) Knowledge of the French language.

In the competitions preference is given to those who have gained a degree in Laws, and who know some other foreign language besides French. A knowledge of stenography is not specified as required, this being taught to those nominated as Pupils, after their nomination by the Stenographer-in-chief. The stenographers are then selected from the Pupils who have given proof of their capacity in stenography.

Answers of HERR MAX BÄCKLER, *Berlin.*

PARLIAMENTARY SHORTHAND WRITERS.

A.—OFFICIAL.

9.—*Does each Shorthand Writer transcribe his own notes?*—No, he dictates them to a longhand writer.

10.—*Is the transcript revised by any other Shorthand Writer?*—Generally not. A regular revision only takes place with the transcripts of the Assistant Stenographers ("Hilfsstenographen") in the Prussian House of Deputies. The other Shorthand Writers are only liable to a control by one of the most experienced Shorthand Writers of the Bureau, when Prince Bismarck has delivered a speech in the Reichstag or in the Prussian House of Deputies.

11.—*Is it required to be strictly verbatim, or may it be* (a) *condensed, or* (b) *edited for style?*—The transcript ought to be verbatim; some Stenographers are, however, accustomed to make stylistical improvements.

13.—*Are the speakers allowed to alter the reports of their speeches before publication? and if so, under what restrictions?*—The transcript is always handed to the speaker, who is allowed to alter the style, but not the sense.

B.—NEWSPAPER REPORTERS.

1.—*What seats are provided in the Chamber?*—The Reporters' Gallery in the Reichstag has more than sixty seats, in three ascending ranks. The Gallery in the Prussian House of Deputies contains about forty seats, in four ascending ranks. The fourth row is separated from the other ones by a passage, and so much remote that a reporter is hardly able to follow the speeches from this place; consequently it is only used for making little transcripts or occasional notes. The Reporters' Gallery of the Prussian House of Lords has eighteen seats.

3.—*How many newspapers obtain independent reports by their own Reporters?*—Five Berlin newspapers and three chief papers of other German towns have their own reporting staff. Moreover, there are also some agencies for Parliamentary reports, the most important of which is that of Dr Oldenberg.

4.—*How many Reporters are there for each?*—The number varies from three to seven.

[Time did not allow of the reading of the whole of the above Detailed Answers.]

MR GURNEY-SALTER: We shall be glad to hear the remaining papers if time allows, but probably it is more important that we should seize first of all the half-hour that remains for the purpose of discussion; therefore I will now invite discussion on the facts before us.

Herr MAX BÄCKLER: The stenographer of Rome states in his Report, if I have rightly understood it, that two stenographers must be engaged in writing at the same time, because otherwise the speeches of fast speakers could not be taken down. I do not think that that is a sufficient reason, because my fellow stenographers in Berlin can assuredly take down any speech in the German language of 200 words a minute, and I think that 200 words a minute in the German language means much more than in most other languages, certainly more than in the English language. I know also that English shorthand writers are accustomed to write very much more than 200 words a minute. I have read reports recently from America to the effect that 300 words and more a minute have been taken down. (Laughter.) In spite of that laughter I say that I have recently read that, and not for the first time. I have also received communications from a friend of mine, who is not an adherent of the American system, but a writer of our system, and he states that it is so; he has given me the names of witnesses, and therefore I must believe it. Is it not possible that a good stenographer can write as fast as a fast speaker can speak? You will allow that it is possible for a speaker to speak more than 250 words a minute in the English language. We, in Germany, have speakers who, of course not during the whole speech but only for a short time, (perhaps a minute or two,) if they are excited, speak certainly 200 words a minute, and a good stenographer must write it down. But although it is not necessary for speed, there are other reasons why we in Germany have the arrangement of two stenographers in the official service, writing at the same time. The first reason is to afford a greater safety in note-taking; to have two stenographers to corroborate each other if a speaker maintains that he has said something different from what has been taken down. A second reason is in order that faults through mis-hearing may be avoided by comparing the two stenograms. And a third reason is that a number of speakers cannot always be understood but are occasionally almost inaudible at the desk of the stenographer. All the speakers do not speak from the Tribune, some speak from their places, and when that is the case, one of the stenographers goes down and takes his seat near to the speaker. While he is changing his place, the other stenographer must write, or else there would be a great hiatus. These are the three reasons why, with us in Germany, two stenographers have to write at the same time. Gentlemen, I was very glad to hear one of the previous speakers in the discussion say that in his opinion a verbatim report is not of much use to the public. I am of the same opinion. The public are accustomed to read only a condensed report; they will read the speeches of those members who are most agreeable to them in full, but the others they read in the condensed form. Accordingly there is in Berlin a system of giving a semi-official report in the newspapers of those speakers who are of the same political opinion. If their speeches delivered in the Tribune were not audible to the newspaper reporters, the official report is sent to the office of the paper and the newspaper report is written out from that. The Parliamentary newspaper reporters are almost all practised shorthand writers, but even an expert shorthand writer cannot write down what he does not hear; and with us in our German Reichstag, as with you in England, when a man first comes to the work he hardly understands anything, because he hears almost nothing; he must get accustomed to hear. That is especially the case with our German Chancellor, the most revered man in Germany. Although he is of a gigantic stature he has such a faint voice that one can hear almost nothing. It requires the practice of years to be able to get accustomed to the hearing and write down all that is said. And if a man writes down anything that is not accurate, you know what bad consequences will follow from it. In my opinion, it is necessary no doubt that a verbatim report should be taken down, not so much for the public, to whom only a small part will be interesting if some special matter has been dealt with in Parliament, but rather in order that it may be referred to in after years if any question should arise again with regard to the proceedings, and also in order to help the newspaper reporters if they have not been able to hear what has been said.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: We are very much indebted, I am sure, to Herr Bäckler for his interesting speech, and as all present may not have an equal command of the English language, I will repeat that we have arranged that any speech in French or German shall be taken down in the language in which it is delivered.

Dr ZEIBIG: I can confirm what Herr Bäckler has said as to the ability of our stenographers to follow the most rapid speaker really and truly verbatim. I can also confirm what he has said about the arrangement that is made with the newspapers. What he has stated is correct, and I, as representing the Gabelsberger writers, can but subscribe to it.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Will any representative of the French shorthand writers favor us with a speech?

Dr WEBER: The delegates of the French Duployan school beg leave to send in a paper containing the necessary details about the Parliamentary service in France and also in Luxembourg; therefore I will not detain the assembly longer by talking about the subject now.

Mr W. STORR: When I responded previously to the invitation from the chair, I regarded this meeting primarily as a Congress of Shorthand Writers, and not primarily as a Congress of Journalists, and therefore I spoke chiefly with regard to the service that Shorthand could render in respect to a perfect record of Parliamentary proceedings. Some remarks that were made afterwards seemed to call for a word or two of explanation on my part. It was remarked that the question was one of space and of position. The favorable position of the shorthand writer in a Parliamentary Committee is a position which can only be accorded to one or two persons; it is absolutely impossible that in the largest Chamber twenty or thirty reporters, representing twenty or thirty journals, could be equally well placed on the floor in the centre of the House. And if a representative of one favored journal were placed in such a position, claims which could not possibly be met would be made, according to the number of newspapers requiring representation, for equality of consideration. It was partly on that ground that I suggested that Shorthand was capable of rendering a service which would be of the greatest possible value in furnishing a perfect record of what had been said; and if I go a step further, I would suggest that if you will for a moment conceive that the perfect transcript of the shorthand writer is immediately available for all purposes, it would then be in the hands of the journalists equal to a perfect shorthand note immediately transcribed. It has been suggested that difficulties have been formulated in years gone by in attaining to such a result. Never mind what the *modus operandi* would be; but if you will suppose the result attained, you will then see that Shorthand will have rendered a service in enabling the occupant of one seat to do all that is required for all purposes. I myself do not think that revision as it is carried out in several other countries that have been named, is at all necessary, provided that the one man who takes the note under favorable circumstances is what is usually considered in this country an efficient shorthand writer. With regard to revision of the speeches by the speakers themselves, one fact was mentioned in an answer from Canada, that seems to me to solve all difficulty, namely, that there was a publication of the unrevised speeches. If there is an immediate publication of the speeches as made, you will have a record of what the shorthand writer has produced; and then if there is a subsequent official publication of the speeches as revised, you will have for ever afterwards the unrevised and the revised reports to compare with each other. That seems to obviate all difficulty with reference to any changes that might be made by a speaker representing himself as having said what he had not said. If the hours of Parliament in this country were, as in the Colonies, from 12 to 5, 6, or 7, it is evident that Shorthand would have the fullest opportunity of rendering the highest possible service to journalism as well as to Parliamentary record. With regard to the suggestion which was made by his lordship that possibly speakers might be tempted to follow the vicious practice which is permitted in the United States of members handing in unspoken speeches, I would venture to say that that could at once be met by a provision which I think would really commend itself more to English tastes, that that which was produced as an official record of the Parliamentary proceedings should contain nothing but what was actually said in Parliament.

Mr MARTEN: I should like just to say one word or two on this subject, first, on behalf of English shorthand writers generally. I am sure I shall have their assent

when I say that we dissent from Signor Marzovati's statement with regard to the inability of a shorthand writer to take down 200 words a minute. I think that it will be generally admitted that we frequently have to take more. At the same time I should like to make a mild protest against that way of putting it. I think that a more fallacious way of estimating a shorthand writer's power, than by his ability to write so many words a minute, one can scarcely imagine. It is exceedingly vague. It depends upon what words they are, how they are spoken, and under what circumstances. I should like to make an observation with regard to two shorthand writers taking notes together. That is sometimes done in this country, and my experience leads me to think that the two shorthand writers often fail together at the same point—except in cases where there is difficulty in hearing,—where one man at one side of the Court may hear what takes place at that side, and the other, at the other side, may hear what goes on there.

Mr Button: It would seem that in most foreign countries, and in some of our colonies, there is not the demand for such a full report of the debates in Parliament as we have in our newspapers. I was very much struck by the smallness of the corps which most of the newspapers have in the Legislative Houses. That may account, in some measure, for the necessity of an official system of shorthand writing in foreign countries, and in the colonies. If in England we had not such a system of newspaper reporting as we have (which is practically perfect for all purposes), I think we should feel the necessity at once of having an official shorthand note. But as I have already observed such a report would be so very voluminous, it would practically be put away in blue books, and could only be kept in large libraries. Who wants such a report as that? Nobody ever attempts to say that that is wanted. In all important debates we find the *Times*, *Standard*, and other papers report the chief speakers almost verbatim. Those of us who have sat in the Strangers' Gallery and listened to a remarkable speech, must have been struck when we read the report of it in the newspapers the next morning, for generally we find it a perfect marvel of accuracy. With regard to what Mr Marzovati said about speed, it is rather a bye-point, but it certainly amused me to hear that it was impossible for a shorthand writer to follow at the rate of 200 words a minute. I must dissent from the statement. But it must not be forgotten that very few men ever attempt to speak or can by any possibility keep up speaking at the rate of 200 or 250 words a minute for any length of time. Even 300 words a minute was suggested, but I never came across a man who has spoken at that rate intelligibly. We who are in the habit of taking notes in the Law Courts know that sometimes an enraged witness will go for a minute or two at an extraordinary pace; but in public speaking there is not that tremendous speed. No speaker in my experience keeps up that rapid pace for more than a minute or a minute and a half; he takes pauses; and, as every one knows, even a second's pause gives an expert shorthand writer the opportunity to keep up with a rapid speaker.

Mr Petrie: I should be glad to follow the last speaker on the question of speed, which seems to me an important matter, because there has been so much exaggeration about it in this country, in America, and on the Continent. Those who have read American shorthand journals must have noticed that a great deal has lately been said about the rate of speaking, and about what can be done by shorthand. One man (I think it was a Mr Leslie) has thrown down the gauntlet, and has said that he can report up to a speed of 300 words a minute. I should like for a moment to draw your attention to what 300 words a minute means. As Mr Button has mentioned, very few people ever speak at the rate of 200 words a minnte; we know that all great speakers seldom go beyond 150 words a minute, and that many of our best orators rarely approach 120 words a minute. I believe that Mr Bright, who is one of our greatest English speakers, does not approach 120 words a minute; and even Mr Gladstone speaks very well within an average of 150 words a minute. But let us go a little further and think which of the languages are spoken most quickly. We have heard to-day from Herr Bäckler, in a very eloquent speech, delivered in what is to him a foreign language and in a way that most of us must wish we could imitate—we have heard that in Germany speeches are made very fast, though I do not know that he said at the rate of 300 words a minute. Now I have taken a great

deal of interest in the subject of the speed at which people speak in different languages, and I find that the speeches in the English language are delivered faster than those in French or German or in any other language. Comparing English with German it stands to reason that the English speeches must be faster. The mere length of the German words shows at once that the Germans could have no chance of rapidity, word for word, in speaking, as compared with either a Frenchman or an Englishman. I believe it is a well established fact that English speaking is quicker than that in any other language. That being so, we, the English shorthand writers, have the fastest speakers to follow; and if, as I have tried to prove, the average of public speaking here is from 120 to 150 words per minute, we may dismiss all those ideas of phenomenal speaking. We know that a speaker does run up to 200 words a minute, and at that pace the very best and most practised shorthand writer feels that he must put a little skill into his finger tips to keep up with him. But we may dismiss the 250 or 300 words a minute as fabulous. Test it by reading: if you try to read at the rate of 250 words a minute you will find that it is a mere gabble; while if you read at a rate much exceeding 250 words a minute, nobody will understand what you are reading, and I question very much whether you will understand it yourselves.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: I quite sympathise with what Mr Petrie has said, especially with regard to the German words; and while Herr Bäckler was making his speech it occurred to me whether he had possibly fallen into an error. One reason for thinking so is that the great majority of German speakers are I believe quite as deliberate as English speakers. Another is that some few years ago I knew a German gentleman, Dr Otto Felsing, who practised shorthand, and from his conversations with me about the matter it appeared to be the general practice in Germany (at any rate it was his practice) to reckon by syllables and not by words. That is a more correct method, and in German certainly the number of syllables would give a definite test, whereas the number of words would be an utterly vague test. I think myself that the number of 200 words a minute is very rarely exceeded. That is over three words a second. If you listen to the ticks of a watch which gives three beats to a second and reckon that you have to make a distinct character for each of those ticks. I think you will agree that any of us who can write 200 words a minute may consider ourselves very fairly competent shorthand writers. I would just point out that there is a difference between producing a really accurate transcript containing 200 words a minute and writing those words down. There are of course various devices by which some words may be understood without being expressed, and sometimes the transcript is lengthened by the addition of Q's and A's before the lines, and if they occur often, or the names of different speakers, especially if the name of the speaker is represented by "The Lord Chief Justice," or "The Master of the Rolls," or by some title containing five or six words, which is expressed by a stroke in shorthand, it adds considerably to the number of words turned out in the transcript. While therefore by no means wishing to depreciate the skill of English or other shorthand writers, I think we should be cautious about putting exaggerated notions before the world with regard to what it is possible to do with the art of shorthand writing.

Mr LAWSON (Edinburgh): I do not know whether I can offer any observations of any practical use, but as I am connected with the Scottish Phonographers' Association, I may state that some members of our Association attended a series of Sunday lectures delivered by a clergyman who is considered to be the most rapid speaker in Edinburgh. An accurate or at all events quite readable transcript was delivered by these amateur reporters, which proved that the lecturer spoke for something like from 59 to 62 minutes on each occasion, and that his average rate of speed was 160 words per minute. I am perfectly satisfied that sometimes he must have been speaking at a rate of nearer 200 than 180 words a minute, because if you take an average speech extending over an hour you will find that sometimes there must be very rapid speaking in order to have such a high average as 160 words per minute. Now, what could be done by amateur reporters should I think be perfectly well done by those who are accustomed day by day to report, and it must be to the credit of our English shorthand, when it is shown that one system is capable of accomplishing this result.

I think on the one hand that this testimony to the powers of the system may be of some value, and on the other hand, I think that my testimony as to the rate of speed may be of some value also, because I have given some little attention to the subject. I have heard a great many speakers, and I should say that the clergyman I refer to, speaks about a third more rapidly than Mr Gladstone did in a very long speech which I heard him make; and therefore I think that may furnish some data for forming an idea as to the maximum rate at which English is spoken.

Mr PULLAN: It will probably be the experience of most shorthand writers that one would prefer a rapid speaker who articulates every word, whose words are distinct, clear and crisp, and his sentences completely formed, to a slower speaker without those characteristics. The present Lord Sherbrooke, when he was Mr Lowe, was one of the most rapid speakers in the House of Commons; he rarely hesitated between his sentences, but from the beginning of a speech to the end it was one continual flow of words; he put his hands down by his side, opened his mouth, and the words flowed like a current. But each word was distinct; and speaking from personal experience I would prefer a man of that kind, even of great rapidity, to one who rarely began or ended his sentences or made a complete sentence. In such a case it may sometimes have occurred that you have left the reporter's box with a very confused idea of what has been said, and yet your notes have come out to your surprise, and to the surprise too of the person who had been speaking, with greater clearness than he himself thought he had used. But in the Gallery we labor under an additional disadvantage in comparison with shorthand writers elsewhere; we have continually to strain to catch the words, because of our unsatisfactory position. In the case of shorthand writers practising in the Law Courts, and in the Committee Rooms, it is simply a matter of the flow of words from the speaker through the pen of the shorthand writer. Our difficulties are greater than theirs, because we are placed in a bad position for hearing. It is quite refreshing to us to be at a public meeting immediately under the speaker; he may be the same man whom we have been reporting in the House of Commons, but our difficulties are very considerably less. I agree, so far as one can judge from the printed language, that probably for shorthand writing German lends itself more readily than French or Italian. I once had the pleasure of hearing a speech in Welsh, and so far as one could gather from the printed words, I should say that a shorthand writer would hesitate until a sentence was half delivered before he need begin to report it.

Mr GURNEY SALTER: Gentlemen, our time is up. Possibly the question of rapidity may be discussed in some other Conference. This Conference is closed.

AFTERNOON CONFERENCE.

HISTORICAL SECTION.

Dr WESTBY-GIBSON in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and Gentlemen,—The History and Literature of Shorthand is a very comprehensive subject, especially if we consider all that has been done during the last three hundred years, and review its ten chief landmarks in England, Bright, John Willis, Edmond Willis, Rich (that is, Cartwright), Gurney (including Mason), Byrom, Mavor, Taylor, Lewis, and Pitman, and at the same time include the long array of the Continental and American systems, which, although starting much later, now keep well up in the intellectual race. And how much greater would the range of our vision be if we could comprise, wrapt in the mist of ages, the times of Xenophon and Ennius, the Greeks, and the famous Romans, Cicero, Tiro (his freed slave), Seneca, Mæcenas, and others; and then passing down to the reign of our own Queen Elizabeth and embracing the long era of the Middle Ages, with its continual mention of Tironian Notes, at length complete a grand cycle (including the Tercentennial cycle we are now celebrating), of two thousand three hundred years in all.

It is impossible during the few minutes allotted me this afternoon to tell you anything clearly and succinctly that shall materially add to your knowledge of the subject. You in fact will learn more by taking a quiet survey of the numerous books chronologically arranged in the Exhibition Room in Piccadilly, or of the smaller yet very curious display of MSS. and printed books in the King's Library at the British Museum, where you may read the quaint and egotistical titles of the works of our old shorthand inventors, and study in the pages laid open to you the various extraordinary methods which the ingenuity of man has devised for the use and delight of his fellow man, or it may be to lead the bewildered minds of students into regions where the moon at the full is wont to exert her magical influence. *Absit omen!*

Should you undertake the intellectual tour I have suggested, it may be as well to inform you that when completed you will not have seen a twentieth part of the Literature of Shorthand. My own Bibliography contains some 3,600 items of English and American literature; and an exhaustive Bibliography of the World's Shorthand, gathered from my own long-collected materials, and from the vast and ever increasing stores of our learned and industrious friend from Saxony (Dr Zeibig), the *facile princeps* of Shorthand, would extend to at least

13,000 books, inclusive of re-issues and editions. And each item of this voluminous literature, the work of authors, (the names of two thousand of whom are known,) has its own separate history to be considered before the whole, like the stones of a cairn, is collected and massed into the great aggregate called the History and Literature of Shorthand, and of course before its relative value in the development of the art or science-art (as we now call it) is assayed by the historian.

I think, ladies and gentlemen, that you will thank me, therefore, if I exercise the virtue of discretion, and decide not to occupy your valuable time with a long, laborious and learned address when we have before us an interesting programme of nine Papers, some of which, I doubt not, will provoke discussion. You will observe they cover a goodly range of ground: England, France, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. I, for one, should have liked, however, to have seen on the list a Paper treating of the great Script-hand systems of Germany; and I may add that a waif or stray from across the Atlantic would have been acceptable, even if it had come in the shape of a disquisition on some of the one thousand and one adaptations or variations (I do not say improvements) of Mr Isaac Pitman's Phonography which our stenographic friends of the New World seem to delight in.

I now proceed to read a Monograph on Timothy Bright, which the Committee have placed first on the list.

A MONOGRAPH ON TIMOTHY BRIGHT, THE FATHER OF MODERN SHORTHAND, 1586-88.

By Dr Westby-Gibson, President of the Shorthand, Society, 1886-87.

The year 1588, the thirtieth of the glorious reign of our own "Queen Bess," was remarkable for that great historical event which brought light and liberty to the Christian world: the defeat of the Spanish Armada. That year, also, is famous in the records of civilization for a smaller matter which, under Providence, has been equally great in its consequences. It constitutes the epoch whence we may date the revival of the long-lost art of short writing, known in the middle ages as *Tironian Notes;* or, as it were preferable to say, the birth of Modern Shorthand, if we would look upon the art as worthy Doctor Bright himself did when he called his *characterie* "a new-sprong ympe," of which he claims to be sole parent.

Bright's now famous little book was entitled, "Characterie: An Arte of Shorte, Swifte, and Secrete Writing by Character, Invented by Timothe Bright, Doctor of Phisicke. Imprinted at London by I. Windet, the Assigne of Tim. Bright, 1588. *Cum Privilegio Regiæ Maiestatis.* Forbidding all others to print the same." He dedicated his work to the Queen in a Preface, rich in the quaint and fulsome flattery of the time, and Her Most High and Mighty Majesty was

pleased to admit his claim to her gracious favour by granting him Letters Patent, "with privilege, free liberty and license to teach, imprint and publish, or cause to be taught, imprinted, or published, in or by character, and to sell all such books as he shall make, devise, compile, translate, or abridge to the furtherance of good knowledge," for the term of fifteen years, with the usual list of pains and penalties against pirating booksellers, stationers, and other evil-doers, including the breaking up and destroying of their presses. This license was granted at Richmond, on the 26th day of July, 1588; and the original document still exists among the Rolls in the Patent Office (30th Elizabeth, part 12).

The author knew of the existence of the old *Roman Notæ*, which he calls *Ciceronian Notes*, and gives Plutarch's account of them; but considered that nothing remained of them in his day. Evidently he had not heard of Cardinal Bembo's letter to Pope Julian on the lost art; and he was equally unaware that the learned Scaliger was at the time making that voluminous collection of 13,000 notes of Tiro, Seneca, and others which was appended to the great work of Janus Gruterus, when printed and published at Heidelberg, in 1603.

He calls his characters his own invention, "meere English without precept or imitation of any;" and this is certainly a true statement of the matter. His preface shows that he knew of the characters of the Chinese, and, curiously enough, he has followed their vertical style of writing. He affirms, however, that a dozen of his own signs can be made as soon as one of theirs.

I have notes of the location within the last seventy years of three copies of Bright's book, but cannot learn where they are to be found at present. There is only one copy known of a certainty to exist, and apparently distinct from these three copies, the copy in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, a gift of Francis Douce, the Shaksperian scholar. This little book our good friend Mr Edward Pocknell, the founder of the Shorthand Society, had the pleasure of copying after two pilgrimages to that "treasure house of good things," undertaken for the express purpose.

Mr Pocknell's paper analysing and describing Bright's system, read to the Shorthand Society early in 1884, printed in the magazine, "Shorthand," and afterwards published as a separate pamphlet, is so well-known that I scarcely need give any particulars of the "Characterie" at this Congress. In the limited time at my disposal it will suffice to give a brief account in my own words. Bright took a long straight vertical line as a character for the letter *a*, and varied the top of it with strokes, hooks, rings and knots, on one side or other, in such a manner as to produce seventeen other letters. His *i*, *j*, and *y* were the same; his *u*, *v*, and *w* were alike; he did not distinguish between *c* (hard and soft), *k*, and *q*; and he dispensed with the letters *x* and *z*. He thus could form eighteen vertical signs for twenty-four

initial letters. To the foot of these he added strokes, hooks, rings, and curious twirls, possessing no alphabetical value,—being purely arbitrary. So far he had 18 initial signs, each capable of 12 variations, suitable for 216 words, chiefly nouns and verbs. But instead of keeping all his characters upright he placed them slantwise to the left or to the right, and also in a horizontal position, by which extraordinary display of ingenuity he could indicate 864 words. He contented himself, however, with choosing 556 of what he called "characterical words." These remind us of the "keys" or radicals which form an essential portion of the Chinese word-groups. All Bright's selected words had to be committed to memory along with their half-alphabetical, half-arbitrary Shorthand representation. This limited vocabulary was extended in various remarkable ways. To indicate a word that was not in his list the author chose a synonymous one, by what he calls a "consenting" method, and then placed at the left side of it a short character, the initial of the required word; thus for *perils* he wrote *dangers*, with the letter *p* at the left side. At other times he used a "dissenting" method. Choosing a word of opposite meaning from his vocabulary of "characterical words," he placed at the right side the initial of the required word; thus for *evil* he wrote *good*, and placed the sign for *e*, made very short, on the right hand. This necessity of Bright's system, I think, accounts for his choice of a vertical line of writing, so that these consenting and dissenting side-marks might not be confounded with the text. By this extraordinary use of initial signs, he could change *abbots* into *bishops*, transmute *metal* into *gold*, *silver*, or *lead*, or change *angels* into *devils* by a stroke of his harlequin pen.

Bright had other plans for increasing his vocabulary, which remind us very much of the Egyptian and Assyrian methods of using determinatives and phonetic complements. He could form a present participle with two dots just as Mr Pitman accomplishes the feat with one dot. Bright's one dot marked the plural, and he could readily indicate auxiliary verbs, negatives and repetitions by stenographic processes worthy of consideration. I may here repeat what I said and printed six years ago. Bright's cumbrous system of Shorthand, by amplification into classes, orders, families and species, might have produced a gigantic lexicon of all the words, phrases, and sentences of the English language, but the mental labor to apprehend, comprehend, and retain its mysteries would have been beyond a finite capacity. It was also intended to serve for a universal language "for nations to communicate their meaning together in writing, though of sundry tongues." The learned enthusiast had all his labor in vain. His successor, John Willis, fourteen years later, seems not to have been indebted to him for even a jot or tittle of stenographic material; in fact, his most original ideas fell into alphabetical and phonetic grooves of thought and practice to which Timothy

Bright never approached. Nevertheless as Willis knew of Bright's book, for he has described it in his "Schoolmaster to the Art" as "requiring such understanding and memory that few of the ordinary sort of people could attain the knowledge," it may have suggested the invention of his own "Art of Stenography." It may therefore be said of this little book of "Characterie," a MS. copy of which I have in my hand, that in spite of its want of practical value, standing as it does at the head of the voluminous shorthand literature of the three centuries we are now commemorating, it is to me (and I am sure to many others) worthy to be considered a literary gem, only to be compared with John Willis's anonymous book of 1602.

As far as I have been able to gather particulars, the memoir of Timothy Bright is very interesting. He is supposed by the Rev. Joseph Hunter and other antiquarians, to have been a Yorkshireman, one of the Brights of Sheffield. I have extensive pedigrees of the Brights of Carbrook, the Westbys of Carr House, and the Hatfields of Hatfield House, all in the same district, near Sheffield, with their intermarriages comprising names of Hatfield Bright, Westby Bright, and Westby Hatfield, in the seventeenth century and earlier, but can find no clue to Timothy Bright's family connections. Some years ago I made a note that on the 21st May, 1561, he matriculated as a Sizar at Trinity College, Cambridge, "impubes ætatis 11;" others have followed my account, but I cannot now cite my authority. If correct, however, he was born in 1550. His name occurs in the College List presented to Queen Elizabeth, on Her Majesty's visit to Oxford, in 1564. He graduated B.A. in 1567-8; and the next heard of him is that in 1572, while in Paris, apparently pursuing his medical studies, he narrowly escaped death from what he calls "the bloody massacre of Paris," on St Bartholomew's Eve. With many others, Englishmen and foreigners, he took refuge in the house of the English Ambassador, Sir Francis Walsingham. This episode of his life he has recorded in the dedication to Walsingham of his Abridgement of Fox's Acts and Monuments, sixteen years after (1589), and it is also alluded to in the dedication of his Animadversions on Scribonius, to Sir Philip Sydney, whom he had known in Paris at that eventful time.

On Bright's return to England he settled for some years at Cambridge, where he graduated M.B. in 1574; became Licentiate of Medicine, 1575; and was made M.D. in 1579. That he practised medicine in that city is very probable; he certainly delivered lectures there, as shown by the Preface to his first medical work, "Hygieina, id est de Sanitate tuenda, Medicinæ pars prima." London: 1581. His second medical work, "Therapeutica; hoc est de Sanitate restituenda, Medicinæ pars altera," London, 1583, was a continuation of the above, and both parts were dedicated to Sir William Cecil, Lord Burghley, Lord High Treasurer, who was Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. Bright apparently was personally acquainted with him

and his family. He praises the learning of Lady Burghley, and says the "domus Ceciliana" may be compared to a University. The preface to his work on Scribonius (already mentioned), published at Cambridge, 1584, is dated from Ipswich, as if he was then living there. On the 1st October, 1585, when the Statutes of Emanuel College, Cambridge, were confirmed and signed by Sir Walter Mildmay, and delivered to Dr Laurence Chaderton, the first Master, Bright was one of those present.

His ability as a medical man seems at length to have been recognised to his great advantage; for in 1586 he succeeded Dr Turner as physician to St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and resided in the house appropriated to the use of those holding that office in Little St Bartholomew's, by Smithfield. And now appears the first notice of the good Doctor's Shorthand studies. The account, now 300 years old, is very interesting at this moment, as the mainspring of this, the first International Shorthand Congress. It was on the 30th March, 1586, that Mr (afterwards Sir) Vincent Skinner, a public man of the time, and one who had known and esteemed him when Bright was under his charge at Cambridge, wrote a long and interesting letter, dated from Enfield House to Mr (afterwards Sir) Michael Hicke, Secretary to Cecil, Lord High Treasurer to the Queen, recommending to his notice Dr Bright, then living near St Bartholomew's Hospital, who was desirous of teaching his art of short writing to Mr Robert [*i. e.* Robert Cecil], afterwards Lord High Treasurer to King James I. A copy of the whole Epistle to Titus, taken from the Geneva version of the Bible—three chapters, containing 46 verses—was neatly written on an extra leaf, in 18 vertical lines, as a specimen of the Doctor's stenographic ability, to which Mr Skinner thus alludes:—"This paper included will showe it, though it cannot deliver it; wch are lynes of the whole Eple to Titus, a matter of great use and admonition to couche so much matter in so short a compasse, and to take a speech from any man's mouth as he delivereth it, which both lawiers in your courthouses and students in the universities maye make good use of." It is very remarkable that this unique document, a shorthand MS. written by Timothy Bright's own hand, two years before his little book was printed, should have lain *perdu* in the Lansdowne collection, undescribed by any author, until 1883: when in collecting materials for my two works, the "History of Shorthand," and the "Bibliography of Shorthand," I had the pleasure of making the first known copy of its curious, yet not ungraceful, hieroglyphics—printographs of which (very poorly done) I distributed to the members of the Shorthand Society on the 6th Feb., 1884, when I supplemented Mr. Pocknell's paper, entitled, "Timothy Bright's, or the First English Shorthand, 1588," by my own paper, called, "Manuscript Illustrations of Timothy Bright's Shorthand in the Brit. Mus., 1586 and 1589," both reproduced in *Shorthand*, vol. ii., pp. 126-136.

Time will not permit me to say much about this, the earliest known example of English Shorthand. It commences, "The Epistle of Saint Paul to Titus. The first chapter. Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ." I have closely examined and analysed it, and find that the half-alphabetical signs are not only in many cases different from those of the printed book of 1588, but they are much shorter and more like modern characters, showing that the author was, like most other inventors, continually changing his plans. In his completed work he shows that three consecutive letters can be attached to one stem for proper names. *Tim Bri*, for instance, would stand for *Timothy Bright*, but you have to lift the pen for each letter. Such a method is merely an adaptation of the magical alphabets of Cornelius Agrippa and other professors of the black art, in the sixteenth century. In this MS. of Titus, however, we observe the painstaking Doctor has endeavored to write all the letters of a proper name, such as *Paul, Titus, Nicopolis, Artemas, Cretans*, by means of an alphabet quite different from the signs of his ordinary charactery. He writes each letter separately, some with rings at the beginning, others with rings at the end turned to the left or to the right of a straight stroke, with now and then a curve. He makes all the letters touch each other, forming fantastic-looking groups as they run downwards, in Chinese fashion. Thus in two years he had planned two distinct alphabetical methods, with three different sets of alphabetical characters; and yet all this labor failed to produce anything of service to the world. Such ingenuity deserved a better fate; for it is evident that if the inventor had taken a few steps further in this alphabetical grouping of proper names he would have made himself master of an A B C Shorthand, capable of far better things than his bewildering arbitrary charactery.

I may here say that the mean date of Bright's MS. of *Titus*, 1586, and his printed book of *Characterie*, 1588, being 1587, I considered myself justified in adopting the latter year as the epoch of the origin of Modern Shorthand and making a Tercentennial period end in the present year 1887, concurrently with the Jubilee year of Mr Pitman's famous Phonography and the Centenary of Samuel Taylor, which really ended in 1886. This you will find explained in my original prospectuses, and also in my paper on the Origination of the Congress, which was printed and circulated on the opening day of the Congress, and referred to by the Earl of Rosebery in his inaugural address.

On the 23rd May, 1586, Bright published a book entitled, "A Treatise of Melancholie, containing the causes thereof, and reasons of the strange effects it worketh in our minds and bodies: with the phisicke cure, and spirituall consolation for such as have thereto adioyned an afflicted conscience." London. This work, written before that greater work, "The Anatomy of Melancholy," by Robert

Burton, is dedicated to Peter Osborne, and gives the author's address, "Little Saint Bartholomew's by Smithfield." It is very learned, but like so many of our old books its frivolous fancies want well winnowing from the solid substance of thought and common sense. Its purport is clear, however, to distinguish between true melancholy and the sting of a guilty conscience. There were two editions of it in the same year, one by Thomas Vanrolter, and the other by John Windet; and a third edition by William Stansby, in 1613.

In 1588, as already set forth, Bright published the work which has made him famous, *Characterie*, etc. In 1589, Miss Jane Seager, probably a relative of Seager Herald, then living, produced a little square book of a dozen vellum leaves, written in Bright's Shorthand with a transliteration on the opposite page of each opening. Although this book has belonged to the British Museum Library, (Add MS. 10,037) for some years past, it has been overlooked by the Historians of Shorthand. It may thus be described; the covers have broad margins of velvet plush, trimmed with gold lace, much stained and tarnished, surrounding neatly painted and gilt glass pannels, now broken and dilapidated. The front cover has the mottoes, "God and my right. Evil be to him that evil thinketh," in gilt characterie, and the initials "E.R." for "Elizabeth Regina." The other cover has the date 1589, and the same date is at foot of the last vellum page. The work is entitled, "The Divine Prophecies of the Ten Sibills," and contains ten short poems written in the beautiful Italian hand of the period. At the head of each shorthand page is a three-lettered character indicating the name of the particular Sibyl, as "Per" for "Persica," "Del" for "Delphica." Each opening gives a poem in longhand written horizontally and in shorthand vertically. It is a most elegant specimen of Bright's remarkable art. Evidently he had one very clever pupil, the first known lady shorthand writer. The author dedicates her little book, "the handyworke of a mayden," to the Virgin Queen, with a pious allusion to the Virgin Mary, in a very quaintly-worded address on the first page. She considers it "a thing pre-ordayned of God" to be able to so dedicate it to "Her Majestie's most sacred self." These two specimens of Bright's "Characterie" you will now find displayed to view in the King's Library of the British Museum, as part of the Shorthand Exhibition, which I have had the pleasure of arranging for the present occasion.

In 1590, Bright's "Animadversions on Goclenius's Ψυχολογια" were published at Marpurg. In September of the same year, Bright's successor at St Bartholomew's Hospital was appointed. Through the interest of the Cecil family, aided probably by the dedication of his book to the Queen, and (it may be) also by the admirable workmanship of Miss Seager's gift, which her Majesty, no doubt, graciously accepted, he soon afterwards received two valuable appointments in

the Church, and ceased to act professionally as a physician. He was inducted Rector of Methley, near Wakefield, on the 5th of July, 1591, and Rector of Barwick-in-Elmet, near Leeds, on the 30th December, 1594. The Queen was patron of both these livings; they are now in the patronage of the Duchy of Lancaster, and of the annual value respectively of £900 and £800. Bright resided chiefly at Barwick-in-Elmet. He made his will at that place on the 9th of August, 1615, and directed that his body should "be buried where God pleases." He died at Barwick in October, 1615, and his will was proved at York on the 13th November following. Notwithstanding Bright held such valuable appointments, it is somewhat sad to think that he died in debt. Of his life in Yorkshire during his twenty-four years' residence, I should have liked to have found something to tell, but after much research the record is a blank, with one solitary exception: he had a law-suit with one of his parishioners at Methley, respecting tythes. He was defendant in the case, and seems to have been endeavoring to disturb an immemorial custom.

He left a widow named Margaret, and two sons, Timothy (2) and Titus. The former was a barrister-at-law at Melton-on-the-Hill, Yorkshire. Edith, his wife, was daughter of John Lewys, of Ledstone, Recorder of Doncaster. The Church at Melton has a monumental inscription to him. He had four sons, the eldest being also named Timothy, and this Timothy (3) in the course of nature was father of another Timothy Bright (4). Titus, the second son of Dr Bright, graduated M.D. at Peterhouse, Cambridge, in 1611, and practised in medicine at Beverley, Yorkshire. The Registers of St Bartholomew the Less, Smithfield, record the baptism and death in 1588 of a daughter of Dr Bright, named Margaret. He had also a daughter named Elizabeth, while resident in Yorkshire. From Skinner's letter to Hicke in 1586, we learn that Bright had a brother who taught his Shorthand while living in Smithfield, and there was a William Bright, B.D., acting as his curate at Barwick in 1613, an "eminent person" according to Thoresby. This clergyman and the shorthand teacher were probably the same.

As there is no memorial of Timothy Bright in either of his churches, some literary gentlemen near Leeds have been trying to arouse the good Yorkshire people to a sense of duty in the matter since the celebration of the Tercentenary of Shorthand was projected, but nothing material has been done. In London, however, I think a mural tablet to commemorate Bright's name and services to future generations ought to be fixed near the place in Smithfield where he resided, and where, 300 years ago, he formulated that system of Shorthand which, however crude and impracticable, is, as far as we know, the first English Shorthand, and the foundation of that extensive Literature of Shorthand which now exists throughout the civilized world. A petition to the Metropolitan Board of Works would,

no doubt, receive consideration in respect of a tablet of this nature, as soon as the proper site can be indicated.

I will conclude my paper with saying that, with the consent of the British Museum authorities, I am having photo-lithographic copies taken of Bright's Book of Titus, and of a portion of Miss Seager's Book of Poems, for publication at an early date.

THE CHAIRMAN: That paper was not written with a view to discussion certainly, but it is open to discussion if any one wishes to say anything.

[The following paper was read in an abridged form by Mr H. RICHTER, who was at the same time thanked for having translated it.]

TACHYGRAPHY IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

By Julius Woldemar Zeibig.

England, a country which in so many instances has served, and still serves, as a model and example to the European continent, has also been ahead of the latter in the matter of Shorthand. Shorthand has here been raised from a long slumber three centuries ago, and on the occasion of the celebration of that event it appears but proper to commemorate the influence which the labor of English Shorthand authors and historians has exercised upon the origin and development of that art in other countries. This is also the proper place where everybody who is a party to this important and, let us hope, fruitful Congress should contribute his mite in order to propagate both the knowledge of shorthand's history and the conviction of the infinite advantages which this art is qualified to afford in public as well as in private life.

It was, perhaps, not an altogether unlucky idea for the author of this essay to select as his task the history of tachygraphy in Spain and the countries where the Spanish tongue is spoken, in Portugal and Brazil, seeing that by his friendly intercourse with Professor Dr Balari y Jovany, the eminent scholar of Garriga y Marill, shorthand author in Barcelona, he was in an especially fitting position to learn all about the development of the tachygraphic art in those countries; and that he may be justified in assuming that the details of this particular part of the history of Shorthand are not yet generally known; and considering finally that, on other subjects, others will speak with a voice more eloquent than his.

SPAIN.

There are two tachygraphic systems which have become prominent in Spain, viz.: those of Marti and Garriga. For purposes of instruction there are three official chairs: one in Madrid representing Marti's system pure and simple, and two in Barcelona. One of the latter, teaching a modification of Marti's system, is supported by the

Sociedad Economica de Amigos del Pais, whilst the other, created in favor of Garriga's system, is supported by the Diputacion Provincial. In order to facilitate a better understanding of the Government Regulations relating to Education, I may here state the following:—

Spain is divided into forty-nine provinces, each of which is headed by a Diputacion Provincial. The members of these Diputaciones are elected by the people. The Diputacion bears the expenses involved by the teaching of educational subjects in grammar schools. The law on education is alike for all provinces, and the Diputaciones are to act in accordance therewith. They are permitted, however, on obtaining the official sanction thereto, to establish further institutions for teaching educational subjects, which are called libres. Such institutions have no academic character.

Commencing by the Marti school we can wish for no better guiding points than those given by Augustin Pascual, Director of the Sociedad Economica Matriteuse, and Guilermo Flores de Pando, Professor of Tachygraphy, on the occasion of the ceremonial opening of the Academy of Tachygraphy in Madrid on 7th November, 1869. Their speeches contain the following data: In 1800 Francisco de Paula Marti, an engraver on copper, member of the Academy of S. Fernando, and born in S. Felipe de Játiva, published a pamphlet under the following title: "Estenografia ó arte de escribir abreviado inventado en inglés por Samuel Taylor, profesor de Estenografia en Oxford y arreglado á la lengua espanola." Simultaneously another adaptation of Taylor's system to the Spanish language was published by Alvarez Guerra, principally with the intention of facilitating to himself the translation of Rozier's Dictionnaire de l'Agriculture. Guerra, a man famous by the greatness of his ideas, also held a position in the ministry, which he fulfilled to satisfaction. The first part of his Spanish adaptation was published in Madrid in 1797, the sixteenth and last part in 1813. His method, however, does not appear to have met with any public success nor to have found any practical application or circulation. Marti, on the other hand, soon found out the deficiencies of Taylor's Tachygraphy, especially with regard to its reliability, caused in the first place by the omission of the vowels. This prompted him to look out for other more perfect systems and to abandon the idea of publishing an unaltered edition of his own work. On 17th July he submitted to the Sociedad Economica his new Tachygraphy together with a rough copy of a system of secret writing. With amiable frankhess he made the following statement in his letter: "My new method is based upon the principal works published on this subject, and on the experience of all who have written upon it. For this purpose I have compared the systems of Holdsworth and Aldridge, of Coulon de Thévénot, Valade, Clement, Blanc's Okygraphy, and several other publications. With due regard to all these works and also to the sound and to the analogy of the letters of our alphabet;

also taking the spirit of our language into consideration; I have established simple signs which are at once easy to trace and easy to join and which, above all, cannot be misread for one another. I believe, therefore, to have originated a system of writing by means of which the words of a speaker can, without difficulty, be followed. I am myself deficient in practice, being unable to sacrifice the time necessary to acquire it." As regards the improvements made upon Marti's system in accordance with experience as gained by practice, all credit must be given to the most prominent of his followers. Perhaps it may not be amiss, at this juncture, to call attention to the fact that Gabelsberger, the originator of German Shorthand, chose a way of proceeding entirely opposed to that of Marti by embodying the practical results of fifteen years' daily practice in the most important of his publications, called the "Anleitung."

The Sociedad Economica appointed a committee of members to examine the work submitted. Concerning the system of secret writing the committee, whilst acknowledging it to be of value, did not consider this of sufficiently general advantage to call for the support of the Government. They convinced themselves however of the usefulness of his tachygraphic method, and, in arriving at their decision, recommended to petition the Government with a view to the establishment of an Academy. The Society, concurring in this opinion, submitted the petition to the King, through the Secretary of State, on 6th September, 1802. The Government decided in favor of that patriotic body's wishes and resolved by a decree, countersigned by Pedro Cevallos, and dated 11th November, 1802, that a public institution for so useful a way of writing be established, and that Marti, by way of compensating him for his merits in tachygraphy, be endowed with the office of teaching the art at a salary of 10,000 pesetas per annum. A hope was expressed to the effect that the Society, in consideration of its having supported the petition for establishing that institution, would accept the task of working it in as effective a manner as to meet his Majesty's wishes. Marti commenced his first class on 1st Sept., 1803, with 175 members. From 1808 to 1813 the giving of lessons had to be interrupted in consequence of the occupation of Madrid by the French.

Tachygraphy went through its fire ordeal at the proceedings of the Cortes at Cadiz. It was this art which saved from oblivion the eloquence of men like Munoz, Torrero, Arguelles, Mejia, Calatrarea and Toreno, fighting for the Spanish liberty.

The Economic Society caused Marti to publish his Teacher in 1803. Marti never ceased to perfect his system. The second edition appeared in 1813, the third in 1821, and the fourth in 1824. The plates of these four editions were engraved by Marti himself, and each edition shows traces of the perfection of his tachygraphy. At this place it may again be permitted to state that Gabelsberger has

personally engraved the extensive stenographic contents of his "Anleitung."

With more zeal than luck an Academy for tachygraphy was formed in Cadiz in 1807, and conducted by Manuel Risueno; and in 1811 Guillermo Atanasio Xaramillo published a Curso de Tachigrafia, being an alteration of Marti's method. Marti, in the introduction to the second edition of his work, thus expresses himself about Xaramillo: "The elementary teacher Xaramillo had been a member of his first class of lessons in 1803, attending however only during two months out of eight, and thus not even waiting for the conclusion of the theoretical part, the teaching of which required three months. Owing to the French invasion he had gone to Cadiz, and when in that town a strong desire making itself felt to have an opportunity of acquiring shorthand, he had embodied all he knew in a small pamphlet of forty-eight pages, of which only twenty-two were devoted to the representation of the system. That pamphlet he had advertised by show-bills at the street corners." While Marti thus blames Xaramilla's proceedings, another tachygraphic literary man, Orellano, writes in his favor, contending that Xaramillo had even added an important improvement to his master's method by indicating terminations by means of vowels. The attacks preferred against him referred to the perhaps more regular but less flexible shape which he had given to his characters, instead of preserving the graceful and flexible signs of his master. He had also spoken too much in his book about the French, whom he had called Gabachos and Putres, who had captured him, condemned him to death, but from whose hands he had escaped in a miraculous manner.

Several of his pupils have worked as tachygraphers in the memorable Cortes of 1812.

The first edition of Xaramilla's "Curso de Tachigrafia" of 1811 contained under the title of "Argumento que sirvio de nota para la segunda y demas lecciones que se tuvieron de práctica en el tercer curso," a vivid description of the active part he had taken in fighting the French in 1808, of his capture, his rescue, and his further fates. Here the following passage occurs:—

"Pues siendo un Catedrático de gramática ni jamas hasta ahora haber sido militar, pocos de mi profesion me aventajarán en fortaleza y valor y en la particular adhesion á la legitima causa con que hasta hoy me he comportado en Madrid, Carabauchel de abajo, Toledo, Sevilla, Cadiz y en Castilla la vieja, esperando con vivas ansias acabar mis dias, ó en manas de las asesinas franceses ó á la perfidia delos; iniquos a francesados en cuyo caso no habrí hecho otra cosa que cumplir con la obligacion en que me constituyen Dios, mi patria, mi fauta religion, las leyes y mi amado Rey legítimo el Sr D. Fernando 7°."

As will be shown later on, Spanish Tachygraphy rapidly extended

over all countries in which the beautiful language of Cervantes is spoken. It may be mentioned, at this juncture, that Angelo Ramon Marti, the inventor's son, who received a prize from the Sociedad Economica in 1804, has adapted his father's system to the Portuguese and Italian languages. Also Pedro Barinago, a man well known in connection with the history of tachygraphy, with the scientific and the press world, to a great extent contributed towards the circulation of the Spanish invention in foreign countries.

As regards Marti's personal character, it may be stated that he was of cheerful disposition, looking upon his pupils as fellow students, living peacefully without grumbling, and bowing to unavoidable eventualities of life. In his leisure hours he turned his author talent to account, creating several dramatic poems, as for instance: El Dia 2 de Mayo, Las quatro Guirnaldas, La Entrada de Riego en Sevilla, La Constitucion Vindicada and El Hipócrita Paucista. He received neither rewards nor an increase of his salary, notwithstanding many efforts on the part of his friends and pupils. Who would not here involuntarily think of Gabelsberger's life? In July, 1827, Marti died in Lisbon, 65 years old, whither he had traveled to benefit from the warm waters.

Marti's post as a public teacher was filled by Manuel Eugenio Vela on 20th November, 1827. A worthy heir of Marti's traditions, he did not make any alterations in the structure of the system, except such as had suggested themselves in the course of time, and on a basis of thorough investigations. He increased the number of abbreviations for terminations, and deserves due praise for the manual which he published in 1845. The period from 1834 to 1837 is designated as the golden era for tachygraphy in Spain. Learned men, commercial managers, representatives of the Press, occupied the seats of the lecture room. The comparatively small number of professional shorthand writers trained in former classes no more suffice for parliamentary and press purposes. During this time Andres Borrego founded the newspaper *El Espanol* and established an organizatiou of remarkable perfection to report the proceedings of the Cortes. As head of the tachygraphic department he appointed Angel Ramon Marti who taught the art to many talented youths. The following men who had acquired a prominent capacity are worth mentioning. There is Antonio Forrer del Rio, Antonio Maria Segovia, Eugenio Hartzenbusch, the celebrated poet of the dramas Los Amantes de Teruel and Dona Kencia. Hartzenbusch acquired tachygraphy in 1834 and 1835. It was the latter who, in conjunction with a fellow tachygrapher, wrote, by order of the Minister Mendizobal, short reports on the proceedings of the Cortes for the Gaceta del Gobierno, and this activity he continued till 1838. Besides, the following names are to be mentioned: Juan Peres Calvo and Juan Antonio Rascon, celebrities of both science and the press.

Antonio de Iza Zamácola published in 1840 a Compendio or Instructor of an eclectic description, and Erancisco Bermudez Sotomayor, a pupil of Marti's endeavored by means of lecciones to meet the requirements of the pupils at the Instituto Espanol where he taught Marti's system. The indefatigable journalist Primitivo Fuentes Villasenor, a pupil of Vela's, likewise enriched the tachygraphic literature by his "Taquigrafia espanola" in 1242. On the whole he adhered to Marti's invention and added only a few rules of Serros, to whom we shall revert later on. Returning to Sebastian Eugenio Vela it should be mentioned that the Government entrusted him with many an honorable task. He was also a zealous natural philosopher; received the title of Botanic to the Museum of Natural science in 1819; was a favorite pupil of the eminent Mariauo Lagasca; wrote on the family of the Umbelliferae, and Decondolle named the family of plants Velaea after his name. He died in the spring of 1853. Simultaneously with Vela one of the most excellent tachygraphers of the Cortes, Santjago de Mora, conducted the lessons. Francisco de Paulo Madrazo who had devoted himself to tachygraphy from his earliest youth was called to the chair on the 24th August, 1853, after Vela's death. He endeavored to infuse fresh life into the instructions in the art, and his pupils obtained positions as tachygraphers to the Diario de las Sesiones, proving themselves efficient before competent and severe judges. Madrazo died unexpectedly on 14th July, 1868. In October, 1859, the instructions in tachygraphy had been transferred to the Instituto de San Isidro. At the head of this department stands at present, as far as my information goes, Guillermo Florez de Pando.

A few more literary productions of the Marti school deserve mention. There is the "Compendio elemental de Taquigrafia castellana," published by José Maria Lopez in Cadiz in 1845, a pamphlet of 18 pp., supplemented by two plates, which however is nothing but a short introduction, in the shape of a dialogue, into Marti's system. There are also the "Principios de Taquigrafia espanola," published by Quintin Bas in Valencia in 1875, in the *apéndice* to which the author explains the task he has put himself in compiling his little manual (which also appears in the shape of a dialogue), and also the aspirations of the Martinites with regard to the principle of their terminations, in the following manner: In that pamphlet he had only comprised the first part of tachygraphy which sufficed to pupils and facilitated the teaching to teachers. The abbreviations therein contained were, however, not sufficient to attain the highest desirable degree of speed. In order to meet this requirement which showed itself the stronger the less efficient the general part of the system was, tachygraphic authors had established a multitude of special abbreviations, of which, in point of fact, only the terminations were entitled to call for attention. The number of abbreviations introduced already by Marti had been increased by many of his successors. On the other

hand, other authors while striving at a certain degree of originality had proposed abbreviations which could not be approved of, and calculated only to bring confusion into the structure. "Considering the enormous sacrifices," writes Bas, "which the study of the *terminaciones* requires, and considering the difficulty in reading involved by this kind of abbreviations; considering further that each degree of progress, each gain in this direction multiplies the difficulties of the writing, the idea involuntarily gains ground that a system so constructed must lead to bitter disappointments." In the face of this state of things many people felt discouraged, throwing up the study of the art to which they had applied themselves with so much zeal in the beginning. He had honestly endeavored to find fresh means from the rich material of his mother tongue to do away with the drawbacks as explained, and he had arrived at results which he would publish in a second part of his manual. That part, however, has to our knowledge not yet appeared. As legitimate successors of Marti's, Bas designates Bermudes Sotomayor, Fuentes Villasenor, Suit y Aguero, Gaya y Marzal, and especially Florez de Pando, who had introduced new but fully justified features.

In the practical service of tachygraphers in the Cortes of Madrid there are twelve in the Senate, including the chief of the office, Luis Cortés y Suana, as shorthand writers of the Diario de Sesiones, appointed at salaries from 10,000 down to 3,000 pesetas. In the Congreso de Diputados there are sixteen shorthand writers appointed, under the Director Antonio Suarez, at salaries ranging from 10,000 to 4,000 pesetas. The following literary men belong to the Marti school, pure and simple: Montanes (1809), Xaramillo (1811), Bermudez Sotomayor (1840), Iza Zamácola (1840), Fuentes Villasenor (1842), Lopez (1845,) Pareno (1862), Ricardo Villasenor (1870), Suit y Aguero (1872), Florez de Pando (1872), Diaz (1873), Quintin Bas (1875), Arrans de la Torre (1877), Briera (1881), Cortés y Suana (1885).

Apart from the Marti school in Madrid, a Catalonian one was formed in Barcelona as indicated before. Francisco Serra y Ginesta, solicitor at the High Court in Barcelona, received instructions from the Royal Junta de Commercio in the Casa Louja of that town, to introduce there the art of tachygraphy. For that purpose he joined Marti's first class of lessons, aud received one of the two prizes which were given on the strength of examinations on the lessons being completed. Returning to Barcelona he not only fulfilled all the expectations placed in him and commenced on 16th May, 1805, the lessons, but also succeeded—what then appeared impossible—in improving upon Marti's invention. Retaining the alphabet, the *terminaciones*, and *supresiones*, he increased the latter by placing the signs in different positions and by inventing the so-called *preposiciones* or *principios de diccion*, and also the *vocales*. By all these means he endeavored to increase both

the ease of writing and the legibility of the system. All these alterations, in which his pupil, Buenaventura Ariban took an active part, are embodied in his "Tratado de Taquigrafia Castellana," published in 1816, and thus the Catalonian school came into existence. The Martinites chiefly objected to placing the signs in different positions, expressing a fear that it would now be necessary to write on ruled paper, in consequence of which the tachygrapher would be helpless in a casual absence of such paper. Orellano, a follower of the Catalonian school, however, contended that, whilst acknowledging the desirability of ruled paper, no such necessity existed, it being certain that the signs rapidly written on unruled paper could without difficulty be read. In the Constitutional period from 1821 to 1823 several tachygraphers of the Catalonian school have been at work in the Cortes, aud they have satisfactorily discharged their duties. After Serra's death the chair for tachygraphy was taken by his pupil, José Andren. In 1871 the official chair of tachygraphy at the Instituto Provincial de Segunda Ensenanza, the Grammar School, was inhibited. In its stead free lessons were introduced, which fell to the system of Garriga, to which we shall presently refer, and if the system Marti-Serra's is still being taught in Barcelona, this is solely due to the Sociedad Económica Barcelonesa de Amigos del Pais. The first lessons in Garriga's system were given in July, 1872, under the direction of Cayetano Cornet y Mas, a pupil of Andren, who had comprised all the alterations and improvements suggested by practice in his instruction book, of which five editions had already appeared. It is not uninteresting to see what the *Revista taquigrafica* of January, 1875, says on tachygraphy in Spain from the Catalonian point of view:

"Marti took the principles of his system from Taylor, and the Catalonian school only slightly modified these without interfering with their essential parts. Is this system of Marti's to yield to any other in Spain? If a genius like Taylor had been born in Spain and invented a system of tachygraphy superseding all others known in this country, the Barcelonese Academy would at once have been prepared to give him the preference. All systems sprung up in Spain up to now have as a basis an especial characteristic and improved kind of writing; they distinguish themselves only slightly in the shape of their signs, and by certain conventional features which the spirit of the inventor has chosen for the purpose of attaining a higher degree of speed and legibility. As a matter of course each inventor considers his method the most scientific and the most practical, and his adherents enthusiastically go on proclaiming his merits. Generally, however, they do not know much of the other systems, they have not yet applied to them the knife of scientific dissection, nor subjected them to practical tests. But to do this is indispensably necessary. If there is an Academy for the Spanish language, acting in a cleansing and elucidatory manner, then there should be a similar institution for tachy-

graphy. There should be a Congress of tachygraphers, in which the founders and representatives of all systems should join, so that they may explain the advantages of their method and obtain a public recognition if they deserve it; or a modification of one or another system might turn out generally acceptable, which all competitors, enthusiastically inspired for progress, and ignoring their own personal interests as well as the power of habit, could fix upon and duly proclaim as the veritably national system." We observe that the idea of a Shorthand Congress and of the possibility to unite all the representatives of all the systems for the purpose of establishing one sole and general system has also taken root in Spain.

Besides Serra y Genesta and Aribau there belong to the Catalonian School the following: Paluzie (1847), Cornet y Mas (1852), Somolinos (1856), Laplana (1872), Noria (1872), Orellana (1883), and Collell (1886).

Enrique Orellana, whose name we have already mentioned before, is the author of the "Nuevo Tratado de Taquigrafia Castellana." He had learned Shorthand not a very long time ago through a mere desire of knowledge, and was astonished to find that so useful and easy an art was so little known in his country. He procured all the latest shorthand publications and convinced himself that instruction books regarded as official by the authorities of the system which alone supplied the shorthand writers to the Cortes, did not record the most important improvements introduced into the system, and again that other authors thought of being able to improve upon Spanish Shorthand by replacing Marti's alphabet by one which was not only not superior, but even vastly inferior with regard to clearness, simplicity and ingenuity of combinations. Consequent upon this discrepancy of opinions and of the methods resulting therefrom, a deplorable combat had taken place amongst the various authors, impeding and damaging the development of the art in Spain. In order to arrive at the real truth Orellana obtained as complete as possible a collection of the Spanish and the best foreign shorthand instruction books, subjecting all the systems therein contained to a careful investigation with regard to both theory and practice. The system recommended by him is not intended to create a fresh rupture, but he would rather endeavor to unite all authorities of his country so as to bring about a recognition of the advantages of each system and to do away with unjustified discrepancies and thus to arrive at a national system of tachygraphy. Orellana also makes the following noticeable remark: Not one of his countrymen had thought of the importance of avoiding angles in shorthand, and the fact that Duployé had recognised this maxim and acted upon it was the reason of his success, his system enabling the writer to follow a speaker by means of the simple alphabet, without having recourse to any of those combinations for prefixes and terminations, and without omitting any letter of the spoken words. Convinced of the correctness of this

principle, Orellana has likewise endeavored to establish rules by which angles are avoided without thereby impairing the legibility. He also deeply deplores that, whilst in all other nations shorthand was recognised and cultivated by both the State and the public on account of the great advantages which its application afforded in public as well as in private life, Spain alone was far behind; that the Spanish government had ceased to act on its behalf; and that shorthand prolonged a miserable existence merely by the means which some enthusiastic private individuals offered for the purpose. Unfortunately the object of the two Shorthand Institutions in Spain appeared to be rather to fight each other than to promote the progress of the art. "However," he concludes, "it is now high time, nay, it is necessary, that tachygraphy be used in our Courts of Law, and this would also instigate youths to acquire the art." We shall revert later on to the question of the introduction of shorthand into the Courts of Law.

It does not appear feasible to give in this sketch a thoroughly detailed representation of both Marti's tachygraphy and its modification as represented by the Catalonian school. A sketch of both these methods and of Garriga's system, which successfully competed with the former in later times, under reference to the accompanying tables, will suffice.

The fundamental signs of Marti's system are formed by the straight line, the curved line, and a combination of both. One writes upon white unruled paper. Previous to using the signs for writing purposes, Marti distinguishes all words in the following manner. He dissects them into two parts. There is first the "radicale," which ends before the last vowel but one. So, for instance, in the word *camara* the radicale is formed by *cam*. Each letter of the radicale is expressed by one special sign, only the vowels *e* and *i* are omitted. Therefore the radicale *cam* receives three signs, one for *c*, another for *a*, and a third for *m*. The second part of a word, that is the last syllable and the last but one, if any, is called the terminacion, which, consequently, does not represent what we describe by the term of affixes. The terminacion is represented by one sign, which, in the present instance, stands not only for the consonant *r*, but at the same time for the two vowels *a* preceding and following the same.

This principle forms the basis of Marti's system, but it is not carried through without exceptions. In some cases a whole word is represented by a terminacion and sometimes even by two of them, and then the distinction between radicale and terminacion is of course lost. This modification of the main rule has been introduced with a view to giving the system a greater degree of brevity, these terminations being synthetic since they represent various elements or sounds by one simple sign. This modification is availed of whenever a word by reason of its construction contains the sounds of an established termination.

Marti holds that, in writing tachygraphy, neither ordinary orthography nor signs of punctuation are to be adhered to. As a matter of course, there are no capitals in his method.

At the end of his instruction book he also explains how to make a so-called fountain pen, and he also gives a recipe for making a good, fluent ink.

The second method which has become prominent in Spain is that of Garriga. Pedro Garrigo y Marill, a priest, was a disciple of José Andren, formerly teacher of tachygraphy at the Real Junta de Comercio Primero and at the Escuela Industrial y Politecnica. He practically employed the art in the lecture room of the University of Barcelona and, finding that his master's doctrine could still be materially improved upon, resolved to establish a shorthand system himself which, though possessing a high degree of legibility, would enable the writer to follow even a very rapid speaker.

He started from the Catalonian school as a basis, and taught his new method to his fellow-student and friend, José Balari y Jovany, at present professor of classic languages at the University of Barcelona. The result of their experience gained in daily practice is embodied in their "Taquigrafia Systematica," published in 1864. The period from 1864 to 1871 afforded his pupils many opportunities of practically using his system, who turned to it in continually increasing numbers, and the author did not fail to profit from the experiences gained by his pupils, by further perfecting the system.

In 1869 the second edition appeared, in which he endeavored to bestow a scientific character upon his work, which up to then it had lacked. On January 1st, 1872, the Corporacion Taquigrafica del Sistema Garriga was founded. It so happened that in the same year the Government withdrew its support to the teaching of tachygraphy, after which the Diputacion Provincial de Barcelona took the matter in hand as a worthy successor to the Junta de Comercio, founding a chair for tachygraphy on 22nd November, 1872. In the competition for this chair the Corporacion Taquigrafica proved victorious, and José Balari y Jovany took the newly-created chair on 17th February, 1873.

It should here be mentioned that it was one of the founders of Garriga's corporation, José Danes y Bassols, who in 1876 won the prize in a competition paper on the following subject: "Paper on the influence which tachygraphy is able to exercise on the development of the intellectual faculties, and on the practicability of its application to studies generally;" this competition having been invited in the Colegio Mercantil by the Academy de Taquigrafia de Barcelona, which represents the Catalonian school of Marti's system.

The Apendice to the Acta de la Sesion Publica, 1880, shows in its section of Trabajos taquigraficos ejecutados a very large number of practical performances of Garriga's tachygraphers, which appear to have been of a very difficult nature. According to the Acta de la

Sesion Inaugural, the Corporacion taquigrafica numbered ninety-seven members in 1881, amongst whom are mentioned the Diputacion Provincial, the former Gobernador Civil Castor Ibanez de Aldecor and the Circulo de la Union Mercantil.

A very interesting comparison of the differences between Marti's system of Catalonian modification and Garriga's system is contained in the "Compendio de la Taquigrafia Espanola," by Cornet y Mas, fifth edition, under the following heading: "Comparacion de nuestra sistema de Taquigrafia (Marti Escuela Catalana) con el sistema llamado Garriga."

Garriga adopted the signs of both Marti's system and of the Catalonian school, introduced by its founder, Serra y Ginesta. Garriga classified these signs, giving them a meaning different to that of Marti's. He requires ruled paper on which there are two visible writing lines. Besides these he avails himself of four invisible or imaginary lines going in a parallel direction to the other two.

Garriga now analyses the words on the following principles: His first rule is the omission of the prefixes *sobre, a, con, el,* and *por.* Although not visibly written, they are implied by the position where the remaining part of the word is written. So, for instance, *sobresalir* is indicated by the word *salir* written in a certain position. The upper of the two visible lines does not admit of any omission at the beginning of a word.

At the end of words certain terminations are suppressed. These omissions are based upon the syntactic construction or the peculiarities of the Castilian language. The connection between the parts of a sentence permits of leaving the terminations of verbs unexpressed, as for instance *ellos* SAL *á paseo* instead of *ellos* SALEN *á paseo.*

After permitting the omission of either the beginning or the end of words, or of both, whenever such omission is justified, the remaining part of a word is subdivided not into letters or syllables but into groups of consonants which the inventor calls juegos de consonantes. Any such consonant or consonants which stand between vowels receive special signs including, as they do, the vowels. Generally speaking, vowels are in this manner not written, but the larger or smaller size of the signs indicates which vowels come into operation. In the word *sobresalen* the prefix *sobre* is indicated by position of the following part of the word, viz., *salen.* The termination *en* is entirely omitted, and there remains *sal,* of which only the consonants *s* and *l* are really written, the *s* by a small-sized sign and the *l* by a larger one, thereby indicating the intervening *a.* It is exactly as if, in ordinary writing, sL (above the line) were put to express the word *sobresalen.*

The instructions in Garriga's tachygraphy introduced into the Grammar School at Barcelona are unofficial as opposed to the official academic instruction which is arranged by legislation in the whole of Spain, as explained before, and which serves as a preparatory step to the studies at college.

The members of the tachygraphic classes in Barcelona are divided into two sections, viz., ordinary members and hearers. The former have to pay a fee of eight pesetas for the matricula, of two-and-half pesetas for the inscription, and of five pesetas for the acquisition of academic rights. They may claim to be asked questions during the classes and to be examined at the end of them. The following certificates are granted on examination: sobresaliente, notable, bueno and aprobado. If a member should not accede even to the last certificate, his examination is regarded as not undertaken, and he may subject himself again to a special examination. The ordinary examinations take place in June, the special ones in September. Members having received the certificate of sobresaliente are entitled to compete for a prize in fast writing. The Diputacion has provided three prizes of fifty pesetas each, for which amount the winner receives books, and besides he is presented with a diploma. There are also three honorable mentions which are given in the shape of diplomas.

Any number of hearers is admitted according to the space still available. They have no fees to pay, are not examined, and no note is taken of their numbers. Sometimes their numbers exceed three or four times those of the learners.

Since 1873 when Garriga's system was introduced, as mentioned above, there have been 291 matriculated learners up to the class of 1886-7.

Passing on to the few attempts to construct an entirely new system of Spanish tachygraphy, we first meet with Marmol in 1828, who was the first author to abandon Marti's alphabet. He endeavored to construct a system on the basis of Prévost's which he had acquired shortly before the publication of his own work. The fundamental signs of this system are likewise formed by circle and straight line, distinguished by size, so that for instance a semi-circle open at the upper end means *m* in its first size and *c* in second size. Terminations are dealt with in a new manner, they being expressed by signs placed above, below, or at the end of words. Figures are written by special signs likewise consisting of straight line and stroke. This method may be called ingenious, but it requires a great many rules and there is the drawback from a practical point of view that the pen or pencil requires lifting, the terminations being detached from the root of the words.

There is less originality in Escalante y Moreno's tachygraphy published in 1855. The author admits in the preface that he had borrowed many an idea from a pamphlet published by his teacher Marmol, a professor at the University of Sevilla, but contends that it materially differs from that publication. He argues that the simplest, unvarying signs, and as few as possible of them, ought to be chosen for the purposes of a shorthand system so as not to overload the memory. The straight line being the shortest was the true basis of tachygraphy, but since this was not sufficient to meet all requirements,

small hooks ought to be attached, and also the curved line should be utilised but only to convey some of the most frequent terminations. To express some of the most frequently recurring words initial letters were quite sufficient. Moreno proposes to retain the ordinary figures in a slightly simplified shape, whilst for round figures certain abbreviations are explained. We have not been able to ascertain whether this method has met with theoretical or practical success.

Rivas Peras, a clergyman, published a system in 1857, and states in his instruction book that he has attentively examined what former shorthand authors have written, and that he has founded his system on that of his teacher Barrera who had entirely altered the meaning of the signs but not any of the recognized principles, attaining a speed four times greater. Perez contended that he had convinced himself of the existence of deficiencies and that to remove these was the object of his publication.

His alphabet, which consists of but twenty signs, again confines itself to the straight and the curved line, and the straight line provided with a small loop. *A* is a small stroke drawn in any direction, *e* is a small loop ending in a curve open at the upper end. In the majority of cases each consonant, whether single or blended, implies an *e*, which therefore need not be specially written. The vowel *i* is expressed by a small stroke which may be traced in several directions, but always downwards, *o* and *u* are the same signs as *g* and *n* respectively, only smaller. There is no need to follow the ordinary orthography. The nominative of the singular is expressed by a dot above the beginning of the word, and a dot below denotes the plural, and the other cases are shown in a similar manner; the genitive is shown by a stroke placed above, if singular, and below, if plural; and a comma implies the accusative on the same principle.

There are also special abbreviations, one of which, for instance, says that all words containing two syllables shall be expressed by the first syllable only, as *pa* for *palo*, *so* for *solo*, the context being sufficient to see what is meant. The sign for *p* furnished with a small left hook stands for *otro* or *otra*, *m* and *b* combined read *muy bien*.

Terminations are likewise subject to abbreviations, and Peres divides them into horizontal signs, upward curves, as, for instance, *able*, *eble*, *ible*, *oble*, *uble*, *ablo*, *eblo*, and into vertical or undecided, as *ado*, *edo*, and so on. It is a large number in all, and it is not an easy task to commit them to memory.

For practical purposes Perez recommends pencil sharpened at both ends and very hard, and a shorthand writer should have a dozen of them handy. The paper should be thick and strong.

Perez assures us in the second edition of his book that his method had met with so general a success that he had not been able to execute all the orders for instruction books, and that for this reason he now published a second edition. He took this opportunity to insert

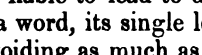
some improvements which had suggested themselves in the meantime. The alphabet received only one new sign, viz., for *rr*, and a few abbreviations were added for terminations, which also underwent a different arrangement.

As opposed to the author's assurance that his method had met with great approval, the Revista Taquigrafica states that it had already fallen a victim to oblivion, adding that another system, which became known to a small number of people in Madrid in 1875, and which disowned altogether Marti's principles, had likewise vanished again. It is not apparent from the "Revista" what system is thereby referred to.

In 1868 Francisco Cruces é Izquierdo published a "Nueva Taquigrafia," likewise ignoring Marti's principles of the alphabet, and taking his signs from the oldest English systems. Some of his signs, therefore, required two movements of the hand, whilst Marti was able to write even two or more signs by one movement of the hand.

There is again originality in the manner of dealing with terminations, the author giving fifty-two different meanings to fifty-two signs, which one and all consist of waved lines. His system is now forgotten, nobody occupies himself with it and nowhere is it taught.

Professor Sumbiela states in his "Estenografia," published in 1874, having subjected to scrupulous investigation the systems of Somolinos, Perez, Inquierdo, and de Paulo, he found many useful features in them, particularly in the latter author's books, although he thinks that none of them had been able to go beyond the traditional routine. Sumbielo's alphabet again consists of straight line, circle and semicircle, in different directions and sizes. He has not been fortunate in the selection of his signs, inasmuch as a distinction between different letters by means of different sizes only, appears insufficient for practical purposes, they being liable to lead to difficulties in point of legibility.

In order to write a word, its single letters are put together in their consecutive order, avoiding as much as possible to lift the pen. The direction of originally parallel signs may be slightly inclined if any two such signs should meet, as for instance, *t* and *y*, *i* and *f* or *a*. As an example is given *sortija*, consisting of  though this strictly represents only *sortja*. Letters which are not indispensably necessary and only serve to intensify the meaning of a word may be omitted, as, for instance, in *ditongo*, *inorante*. Again, in most cases both the definite and indefinite article may be omitted. The plural of the possessive pronouns is merely indicated by *nos*, *vos*, *ell*. The system also contains short signs for affixes, and a number of so-called conventional signs, as 10^{e} for *Diciembre*, *Dr* for *Doctor*, *Gobno* for *Gobierno*.

The system of Aguirrezabals, published under the title of "Nuevo Sistema de Taquigrafia ó Seniografia," also belongs to the more

prominent Shorthand systems in Spain. This author had submitted his work to Francisco de Paula Madrajo, the Director of the Tachygraphic School in Madrid. In giving his opinion, as literally communicated by Aguirrezabals, Madrajo deeply regretted that, following a certain mania of innovation, several attempts had been already made to find out something new on the field of tachygraphy. A similar attempt with regard to Marti's system had already been conducive to a bad end in Catalonia, misleading Fuentes Villasenor to introduce several wholly undesirable alterations, and causing another author in Granada even to create a system which did entirely away with the foundation of old tachygraphy. He had foreseen the result of these innovations. Marti's system was a masterpiece in which any material alteration was impossible. Notwithstanding Aguirrezabal's Semiography deserved full recognition economising, as it did, the number of the movements of the hand by one half, by giving each sign the meaning and importance of a syllable. Still, for parliamentary purposes Marti's system had proved to be fully efficient owing to the many facilities for abbreviations which it afforded. Semiography was a system more suitable for people who had not yet acquired a knowledge of Marti's system, and both systems could very well simultaneously exist and be taught. Aguirrezabal did not claim to alter or improve Marti's method. He had been led by the sole endeavor to promote progress in tachygraphy and constructed a system based on principles entirely different from Marti's, since he required only half the number of signs which Marti wanted.

In this system there are sixteen fundamental monograms or syllabic signs consisting of three horizontal lines from left to right, three vertical lines, three cross strokes from right to left and three cross strokes from left to right. Four strokes going in various directions serve to indicate double letters occurring at less frequent intervals. No sign commences on the writing line except vowel signs which are shown by horizontal strokes and distinguished by various lengths. The signs are provided with hooks which must be traced quite small. The medium length implies *a*, double length *o* or *u*, half length *e* or *i*. The final consonants *r s l n* are indicated in the following manner: *r* is shown by a downward loop attached to the preceding consonant, *l* by a similar loop going upwards, *s* is shown by a dot and *n* is indicated by thickening the preceding sign, which, by the way, is a somewhat cumbersome expedient. Blended consonants are expressed by enlarging either the hook or the loop as the case may be. Vowels in the beginning of a word are expressed in the following manner: *a* by thickening, *o* and *u* by a downward curve, *e* and *i* by an upward curve. As a matter of course, Semiography contains a number of arbitrary signs for purposes of abbreviations and some short signs for terminations. Synonymous words or phrases may be expressed by the same sign; so for instance the identical outline stands for the

following words: *revoluciones, motin, soblevacion, rebelion, asonada.* By raising the initial vowel or consonant a little above the line, a capital letter is indicated. Aguirrezabal believes that an expert is able to write ten times faster in Semiography than in ordinary writing and that he equals three tachygraphers of the old systems.

We have not been able to find out whether the publications of Grande and Galvez (1874) belong to Marti's, Garriga's, or the Catalonian school, or perhaps represent entirely new ideas, these works not having been accessible to us.

As mentioned already, Marti's system found followers in almost all countries where the Spanish tongue is spoken—even in Venezuela. Geronimo A. Blanco, the director of the Colegio Vargas in Carácas, gives the following details on this subject: Tachygraphy had been an art entirely unknown in Venezuela up to a short time ago, when a Spanish tachygrapher of Marti's school, named Ignacio Chaquel, came to that country and succeeded in training several professional writers, amongst whom the following deserve to be mentioned: Modesto Conde, Adolfo Undaneta, Cruz Maria Llamózas, José Antonio Carillo, Pablo Bórjas, Carlos Alvarez, and Gabriel José Aramburu. At first he gave his lessons without the aid of an instruction book, but later on availed himself of Marti's manual, reprinted in Carácas. Shortly afterwards classes were held at the Central University and at the Colegio de Vargas. Animated by the desire to facilitate the acquirement of the tachygraphic art, Mr Blanco compiled himself a manual of tachygraphy which was the first ever published in Venezuela. The above mentioned Carillo has promised to publish a detailed instruction book which, however, does not yet seem to have appeared. The tachygraphers trained in these classes reported the proceedings of the Congress which sits every two to two-and-half months.

Passing on to the history of Shorthand in Mexico, we find a "Curso de Taquigrafia Mexicana" published in 1855 by D. Ignacio Bustamente, teaching a method which, as we shall show later on, is worth nothing.

The only remaining system which has attained to any practical importance is again Marti's. The tachygraphers of the Congress have used it since 1822. Rafael Lozadas, the chief of the tachygraphic office of the Congress, has published in Mexico, in 1870, his "Novisima Cartilla de Taquigrafia Universal," by which Marti's system simply underwent some few alterations suggested by practical experience.

Since 1872 an official chair for tachygraphy has been established in Mexico, under the direction of the aforesaid Rafael Lozadas. Tachygraphy has, however, really been introduced in Mexico by D. Manuel Altamirano, who was appointed by the Congress in 1822 to report the proceedings; and the manner in which he executed his task, assisted by his scholars, D. Francisco and D. Juan Aguilar, elicited a remark from Dr Meyer to the effect that he must consider his work equal to

the best of its kind in Europe. There are six tachygraphers and four assistant tachygraphers in the Chamber of Deputies, and two tachygraphers in the Senate.

Two Spaniards, D. Ramon Escobar and D. N. Nadal, appointed as official Shorthand writers to the Chamber in Buenos Aires, were the first, in 1831 and 1832, to practise the wingéd art in the Argentine Republic; but they could do but little at that time to teach the art to others. In 1833 D. Ramon Escobar commenced a class by order of the Government, from which, however, no practical writer emanated except D. Juan Camana, who obtained the appointment in the Chamber after Nadal's death.

Escobar now endeavored to improve upon Marti's system as regards brevity and simplicity of outlines for both sounds and whole words. His method thus modified he taught to D. Dr. Manuel Gascon, who stepped in his master's place after the latter had obtained his discharge owing to the onerous task he had had to fulfil in conjunction with Camana, and also by reason of old age.

During this period D. Ramon Niseni was in constant communication with the Chilian and Argentine tachygraphers in order to keep himself posted up about the progress of the art in those countries. D. Ramon was a gentleman of extensive education who knew several shorthand systems as well as various foreign languages, of which he availed himself with perfect ease, and who was passionately devoted to tachygraphy. He obtained in this manner information about the reforms practised by Escobar and the Chilian tachygraphers upon Marti's doctrines and subsequently taught the system to D. Emilio Inzaúrraga and his two sons as altered by Escobar and himself. He has thus trained the first two tachygraphers of the Argentine Senate.

In Montevideo Marti's system had already been taught for some time in an educational institute conducted by the Padres Escolabias. After Miseni's sons having worked for some time in the Chamber of the Senate, there was an application for the vacant posts of tachygraphers in the Chamber of Deputies on the part of two able scholars of that institute, viz., D. Pablo Nin y Gonzalez and D. Ramon Pampillo. Miseni, appointed a Senator in 1855, noticed the great aptitude of Inzaúrraga on his happening to visit the tachygraphers' office, and when one of Miseni's sons had to retire on the ground of ill health after his father's death, Inzaúrraga was appointed in his stead. This tachygrapher, after having reported the proceedings of the Chamber at Montevideo for hardly more than a year, went to Buenos Ayres to take the place of the above-mentioned Gascon. He reported there, in conjunction with Camana, the proceedings of both Chambers from 1859 to 1872, and also of provincial sessions, etc. Only in 1872 they were assisted by Leonidas Teuly, Angel Menchaca and Crescencio Fernandez, who write after Escobar's reform of Marti's system, and have proved themselves very competent writers.

There are, however, several other systems which have come to practical value in Parliament. In the first instance there is a Spanish adaptation of Pitman's Phonography, by Guillermo Parody, which is used by many parliamentary writers, and there is also Garriga y Marill's system, published in Barcelona, and to which we shall revert in a detailed manner later on. It is represented by D. Alejandro Pociello. It should also be stated that in December, 1881, the Argentine tachygraphers issued an invitation to their South American colleagues, signed by Inzaurraga, Menchaca and Ferriol, to meet at a Certamen Taquigrafico on Feb. 26th and March 5th, 1882, but of their success, if any, we have no knowledge.

It is also a fact worth mentioning that Johann Neumeier, a German, who went to Buenos Ayres in 1874, adapted Gabelsberger's system to the Spanish language and published it under the title of "Neuvo Manual de Taquigrafia segun el Sistema Aleman de Gabelsberger, adaptado al idioma espanol." He likewise edited for some time a Shorthand journal called *El Taquigrafo Periodico-quincenial.*

As regards parliamentary reporting in Buenos Ayres, there are three first-class tachygraphers at a monthly salary of 260 and 200 dollars respectively; four of second-class at 100 dollars per month; and three assistant tachygraphers who receive 50 dollars each per month. There are three tachygraphers of Marti's modified system and seven phonographers in the Senate, under the direction of Emilio Ynzaúrrago; and fourteen phonographers under Guillermo Williams in the Chamber of Deputies. There are Shorthand writers of first-class qualifications at 200 dollars per month, of second-class at 100 dollars, and of third-class at 50 dollars. Apart from this professional application of Shorthand, there are only the proceedings of the Chamber in the province of Entre Rios which are reported by Shorthand, and this is done by a pupil of Ynzaúrraga and an assistant.

As regards instruction in Shorthand, it is chiefly Guillermo Parody's adaptation of Pitman's Phonography which is being taught by both the author and his scholars, Williams and Larralde. The lessons take place at the Colegio Nacional and at the large Colegio de Salvador. At the Colegio Nuevo, Juan Neumeier teaches his adaptation of the Gabelsberger system to the Spanish language.

Turning to the Habana, there was a report a few years ago in the *Diario de la Marina* that tachygraphy, probably Marti's, was taught by Majin y Rivas at the instance of the Government.

Bustamente's tachygraphy should now be touched upon by a few words on account of its peculiarity. The author considered the system then in use (1855) very deficient, and there is no doubt that he referred to Marti's. He contends that the system possessed complicated and confusing outlines, which required enormous care to trace, and that it overtaxed the memory, by which drawbacks both theory and practice were impeded. He then states having chosen more distinct

and simpler signs which by reason of skilful combinations enabled the writer to overcome all difficulties, and which did not strain the memory in the slightest degree. He therefore believes to have established a system which was perfectly intelligible and accessible even to less talented people. He flatters himself to have paved the road on which men more ingenious than himself might proceed. On the other hand it must be stated that his system has not met with any application or circulation in Mexico.

The five vowel signs consist of small, fine strokes, so as to prevent their being mistaken for consonants. There are signs for the following sixteen consonants, *b, d, f, g, ch, j, k, l, ll, m, n, p, r, rr, t,* and *s,* which consist of strokes differing from each other by direction, shape, and position. Different lengths symbolically imply different vowels sounding with the consonants in question. Each consonantal sign has five different lengths, implying the five vowels, *a, e, i, o,* or *u,* and each is thereby to form a simple syllable—*silaba directa simple.* Opposed thereto are the *silabas directas compuestas,* of which *bla, dla, fla,* etc., are expressed by partly shading the initial consonant, whilst *bra, fra, gra,* etc., are shown by unshaded strokes or curves running in a direction different to that otherwise occupied by the initial consonant. Finally there are the *disilabas bala, bele, bili, bolo, bulu,* etc., which are rendered by completely shading the corresponding consonant. It appears that vowels occurring at the beginning of a syllable are written in full. There are besides some abbreviations for terminations. It should be said that the entire description is a superficial and deficient one.

It hardly requires to be specially mentioned that all the Spanish shorthand authors have called attention to the importance and utility of the application of this art in both the public and private interest. It may now be permitted, however, to refer in a few words to the fact that also in Spain the necessity of introducing Shorthand into the Courts of Law has been recognised. Serra y Ginesta is already in favor of the movement, as will be seen from the following exclamation of his: "Queen dejará de conocer la utilidad que resultaria del uso de este breve método de escribir en las causas civiles y criminales qne ocupan el foro, para asegurar la exactitud en las declaraciones sin menos cabo de un tiempo?"

The law passed in June, 1870, regulating the administration of justice, art. 500 and 522, was most cordially approved. These art. run as follows:—["Spanish Contest," pp. 46, 47, 48].

It is evident, therefore, that Spain has made up her mind to follow the example of the United States which in this respect is far ahead of all other countries. It is deeply to be regretted that other countries of the European Continent which otherwise gladly open their doors to every kind of progress and even boast of the fact, such as France and especially Germany, should still hesitate to profit by the advantages

resulting from the use of shorthand in civil and criminal proceedings. Many warning words worth taking to heart have been spoken by many competent men in Germany in favor of applying shorthand to the proceedings in Courts of Law(1), petitions have been presented to the Prussian Landtag and to the Saxon Ministry of Justice, but all these steps have been of no avail. We are confident, however, that sooner or later the conviction will dawn upon these States that Shorthand is a necessity for the proper, safe, and speedy administration of justice.

Competent representatives of the shorthand profession in Spain as well as in Germany also claim that it should now be recognised also outside England and America that the successful practice of shorthand presupposes a great fundamental knowledge. There should be a scientific, encyclopedian foundation, a great capacity for easily grasping the idea of subjects, and many another spiritual faculty. Therefore a higher social position and a more liberal remuneration is due to a competent stenographer than that which he at present enjoys, especially in our fatherland.

[A list of published literature on Spanish tachygraphy was appended to this paper.]

PORTUGAL AND BRAZIL.

Concerning the oldest vestige of the existence of a tachygraphic system in Portugal, nothing else is known but that a Spaniard, Antonio Patrizio Pinto Rodriguez, who has lived for some time in Lisbon, has published a manual of Portuguese tachygraphy in the beginning of the 19th century. It may be asserted that up to 1820 tachygraphy was almost entirely unknown in Portugal; at least nothing tends to the assumption that previous to that time Shorthand had been circulated by anybody. A few individuals may perhaps have constructed and applied an abbreviated writing for their own personal uses, but it is not established that it had been publicly taught. There is a picture of an Outeiro Nocturno painted by the Marques de Resende towards the end of last century, and amongst the persons which he so characteristically rendered, there was a tachygrapher, Silvesta Pinheiro Ferreira, who was supposed to write down, by some shorthand of his own, the verses improvised on that occasion. One of the poets present commemorated the event in the following lines :—

"Fazendo stenographicas rabiscas
Opacato Pinheiro que le grego."

When the parliamentary form of government was introduced into

(1.) Compare Zeibig: Die Rechtspflege und die Stenografie. Ein Beitrag zur Lösung der Frage: Welchen Nutzen Kann die Rechtspflege aus der Verwendung der Stenografie ziehen? Dresden 1867; and Ein weiterer Beitrag, Leipzig, 1860; also Ziebig: Die Stenografie in der Rechtspflege und Verwaltung, Dresden, 1879.

Portugal, Anglo Ramon Marti received a call to Lisbon, as mentioned already under the heading of Spain, with the request to conduct shorthand classes there in his Portuguese adaptation of his father's system, and later on to report the proceedings of the Cortes assembling in 1822, aided by some of his pupils. The parliamentary system underwent an interruption in 1828, but on being re-established in 1834, only a few of Marti's disciples who had been engaged in the previous Cortes were left. One of these few, José Servulo da Costa, the most excellent of his pupils, was appointed professor of tachygraphy, and this office he held till his death in 1847. One of his disciples was Antonio José da Suz Fernandes, whose attention had been called to tachygraphy by a shorthand writer named Falcao, who subsequently emigrated to Brazil. Fernandes was appointed chief tachygrapher in 1837, and also head of the tachygraphic bureau of the Chamber of Deputies in 1848, after Julio José da Silva's death. In 1854 tachygraphic classes were opened in the Chamber of Deputies, apart from those already existing in the Chamber of the Senate, and da Suz Fernandes was again entrusted with conducting the same. He was assisted, however, by Francisco Emygdio da Silva, the second president, and Clemente José dos Santas, head tachygrapher of the Chamber of Deputies. The services which Da Suz Fernandez had rendered to the tachygraphic cause were recognised by conferring upon him the order of da Conceiçao. In February of the present year this well-deserving man died.

In 1869 the tachygraphic classes were closed by virtue of Article 4 of the Decree of 15th April, presumably for economical reasons. But during all this time Anglo Ramon Marti's adaptation retained its firm footing, although subject to some alterations which had proved useful in the course of daily practice.

Since the publication of Marti's instruction book, several other more or less voluminous manuals of tachygraphy have appeared, but none has been able to interfere to any extent with Marti's system, nor to gain any circulation worth speaking of. The following tachygraphic authors and professionals may be mentioned: Joaquim Machado, of Evora, who was a student at law at Coimbra from 1820 to 1821, but left College for the purpose of devoting himself to tachygraphy. He was subsequently engaged as tachygrapher to the Cortes for a considerable time. He adapted Taylor's system to his mother tongue, but the deficiencies of his system are very grave. Nevertheless it has been republished by somebody else in Aveiro in 1852 or 1853, praising it up as the best system ever published in Portugal. At the end of his book Machado showed, by means of some examples, how to apply his system to the French and Latin languages.

Besides, there is to be mentioned Dalunha e Silva, student at law and philosophy at Coimbra. According to his statement he, in 1850, procured himself Bertin's adaptation of Taylor's Shorthand to the

French language, and also Machado's instruction book. He studied the method taught in the latter, and after practising it for some time found that it left much to be desired in point of legibility. He therefore resolved to draft a system of his own, in which he considered it his problem to combine the highest attainable speed with the greatest possible legibility. His method is subdivided into four sections. The first contains the signs in their simple shape, and the rules about joining them, by means of which not only all the words of the Portugese, but also of any other language could be written. His alphabet differs materially from that of Marti, and it also contains signs for the Portugese nasal sounds. His doctrine is to write nothing but the sound. In this section he also shows how to join the single signs. The second section contains rules on the omission of all such signs as can be dispensed with without interfering with legibility; as for instance, vowels and nasal sounds. The third section contains a list of abbreviating signs, arranged as follows: 37 signs for prefixes, of which 30 can, and 7 cannot, be joined to the root; and also 40 signs for affixes, of which 21 can, and 19 cannot, be joined. The fourth section contains 114 simple signs, chosen mostly in an arbitrary manner, to be used for frequently recurring words. These signs are made up as follows: 30 from joining prefixes, 34 from various shapes of commas, single or crossed, 5 from dots, and 45 from arbitrary signs.

We have now arrived at Benigno José Fernandes Torneros, a Spaniard, who, after obtaining the degree of baccalaureus of philosophy in Alcala and of jurisprudence in Valladolid, entered the constitutional army in 1834, where he was promoted to the rank of a captain. Through being wounded he had to quit the military service, and then filled several civil service positions, after which he emigrated to Portugal, and there published an instruction book on Portuguese tachygraphy. As original in his system should be mentioned the *caracteris syllabicas*, of which some occur at the beginning, others in the middle, or at the end of words; an innovation which, in Tornero's opinion, promotes ease of writing, not only in Portuguese, but also in all other languages derived from Latin. He is surprised to find that no other author has noticed before him how frequently a great number of articulations recurred in these languages, for which he has proposed special abbreviations, in the shape of twelve to fourteen simple signs. Regarding his alphabet, the author contends that although there were thirty-three sounds to be provided for, viz., twenty-seven consonants and six vowels, he did not require more than seventeen signs to represent the former, viz., four straight lines, five semi-circles, and eight straight lines furnished with a small hook. The vowels *a* and *i* are written by two little strokes, *e* and *o* by little semi-circles, and *w* by a small circle. The simplicity of the characters and their facility of joining, together with the omission of the vowels *e* and *i*, which is sometimes permitted, does, however, not yet suffice to follow a speaker verbatim,

and other means had still to be resorted to. There are first the Suppressioes, to which the above-mentioned omission of *e* and *i* belongs. This omission takes place in all words except in proper names, in technical and foreign words, or wherever such omission might cause indistinctness; as, for instance, in words like *illegal, electo,* which might be misread for *legal* or *lecto.* Tornero also omits all consonants which are not audible, and further orthographic, prosodic, or etymologic additions. He then suppresses the terminations which indicate the plural, provided that the article precedes. The book also contains voluminous explanations, elucidated by tables, on *Caracteres syllabicos liquidos, caracteres syllabicos iniciaes, medios e finaes,* and *caracteres terminativos,* and finally on the omission of the termination *ico.* In this system the singular is again denoted by a dot above, and the plural by a dot below, the initial letter, as in another Spanish system previously explained.

The practical application of Shorthand in Portugal is very limited; possibly it is even confined to Parliament. D'Almeida, tachygrapher of the Senate in Lisbon, states the following on this subject: "Shorthand is not practised in this country except in the Houses of Parliament. Outside these there is nobody to avail himself of the same. Even in the Cortes the training time is very long, and years will pass before applicants receive the slightest remuneration. At present we have not even any applicants. The reforms of 1869 put an end to these classes. Some of these tachygraphers emigrated to Brazil, where better chances awaited them. Ever since shorthand lessons were commenced in Portugal, nobody thought of training students in sufficiently large numbers available for parliamentary service in case of need. It always so happened that the majority of students at the close of the lessons preferred following a different vocation, which enabled them to earn more money in a shorter time than in the Cortes, where they would have had to wait for years before the lowest post in the tachygraphic bureau was open for them. Consequently there was soon a deficiency of competent writers to fill vacancies. Endeavors were made to meet this evil by engaging a number of assistants, but then there were financial difficulties, and everything remained as before. There are two conditions which must be attached to any tachygraphic service if the latter is to be and to remain efficient in carrying out the purpose for which it is intended, this purpose being the verbatim report of the speeches delivered, thus controlling everything that occurs in Parliament. To effect this, a competent staff is required, and it is also necessary that facilities be offered to tachygraphers, instead of putting difficulties in their way which it is not in their power to overcome. Nothing is easier than furnishing extracts of the proceedings, but we know very well that these extracts are never sufficient for those persons who earnestly care for the public weal and fight for the true interests of the country. Tachygraphy, like photography, produces a faithful

picture, whilst an extract cannot satisfy the demands of a liberal system for publicity of parliamentary debates. Tachygraphy alone can authentically control and prove in what manner the representatives of the nation protect the interests confided to them, and if there should be any doubt as to the real words which a speaker has used, it is for tachygraphy and tachygraphy alone to decide it. When a few years ago our Parliament thought of being able to do without verbatim reports, serious objections were for these reasons raised, and it was soon found necessary to desist again from this arrangement. Now in order to obtain a sufficient and competent staff, instruction in the art should be re-opened, but some more encouragement should be attached to it, so as to induce a greater number of students to practise the art, and thus to be able to take from their midst the writers for parliamentary service. Such inducement, d'Almeida continues, might consist in prizes open to those who distinguish themselves in the profession, in entitling them to appointments in the tachygraphic bureau, and finally in allowing official tachygraphers a pension in the same manner as it is allowed to State officials.

Concerning the position of official tachygraphers in Portugal, the same authority continues as follows: By the laws of 9th April, 1838, and 24th April, 1845, the secretarial officials of both Chambers were raised to the same rank, and the same remunerations were accorded to them, as to the officials of the Secretary of State; and since the tachygraphic section belongs to the former body, the tachygraphers were included in the regulations of the above-named two laws. Subsequently they were raised to a higher rank by obtaining the degree of officials of first and second order, and by a later regulation the president of the tachygraphic bureau was nominated Director-General, the bureau itself being simultaneously made an independent body by which it greatly gained both in importance and appearance. The decree of 1869 altered nothing in these regulations, and it mainly confined itself to reducing the number of the staff. It is evident therefrom that in Portugal both Government and Chambers have always been inclined to render favors to tachygraphy, which indeed should be rendered to it on account of its especial importance.

Prof. Dr. Michaelis in Berlin has adapted Stolze's system to the Portuguese language, but we do not know whether it is taught there, or has met with any attention whatever. We are inclined to doubt it.

BRAZIL.

The tachygraphic literature of Brazil is, like that of Portugal, comparatively small.

Manvel José Pereira da Silva Velho, a Brazilian citizen, though born in Abrantes, Portugal, in March, 1801, published in 1852, a "Nova Tachygraphia," of which, in 1857, a second edition appeared. One year later he followed this up by the "Complemento a segunda

Ediçao da Nova Tachygraphia," and some time after this by the "Dialogos de Tachygraphia de Taylor." The author looks back on a 36 years' experience, and, as a matter of fact, he was already a shorthand writer at the time of the Constituante. With reference to his system he states in the Introduction to the "Nova Tachygraphia" of 1857, that Brazil as well as France had been obliged to abandon Taylor's system, which, though it had stood its test in England, had given cause to misinterpretations, owing to the constant omission of vowels occurring between consonants. He also adds that the tachygraphers who, with one or two exceptions, had worked in the Constituante after Taylor's system, had performed but poor work, notwithstanding a practice of two years' duration. It was true that these identical tachygraphers, when subsequently reporting the proceedings of the Assembleia General, showed some progress in their competency since 1833, but this had not so much been due to their greater intelligence or improved memory, which of course helped them in deciphering their notes, as to the abbreviations which they had adopted outside the system.

Silva's Shorthand differs greatly from that of Angelo Ramon Marti. Silva mentions the following of his disciples as specially gifted: Silva junior, shorthand writer to the Assembleia at Bahia, Leopoldo Luiz Salmon, and Antonio Luiz Caetano da Silva.

Another adaptation of Taylor's system has been published by Antonio José Nunes Garcia, the son of the famous composer, José Mauricio Nunes Garcia. We understand from a well-informed source that this adaptation is utterly useless, and it has, so far as we know, not found any practical application. As a system in practical use, none but Angelo Ramon Marti's adaptation of Marti's Spanish system, to which reference was made before, is still to be mentioned.

Director Niemeyer, in Rio de Janeiro, has practically used his Portuguese adaptation of the German Gabelsberger system for several years, published towards the end of the decade 1860 to 1870, to report the proceedings of the Chamber of Deputies.

A great deal more can be said on the subject of professional Shorthand in Brazil than on literature. The Imperial Government not having an official organ at its disposal, an agreement was made with some daily paper for the publication of the proceedings of both the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The number of shorthand reporters engaged for this purpose was subject to alterations at the option of that paper. Up to 1857 the *Jornal de Comercio* had reported the proceedings of both houses, when that newspaper committed the imprudence to publish proceedings which had taken place in a secret meeting of the Senate. The latter becoming indignant thereat, resolved to transfer the reporting of the proceedings to the *Diario do Rio do Janeiro*. On account of the larger circulation of the *Jornal de Comercio*, however, the Senate was already on the point

of going back to that paper, which had engaged six shorthand writers and now demanded five contos de reis instead of the former amount of three-and-half contos for the publication of the proceedings of the Senate, when the *Correio Mercantil* offered its services. This paper had succeeded in engaging a very able tachygrapher, and an agreement with the Senate, respecting the publication of its proceedings, was entered into. The proceedings of both Houses now appear under the title of "Annaes do Parlamento."

The former president of the Ministry, Silva Ferraz, once thought of getting tachygraphers from Europe, but this idea seems to have been entirely abandoned.

Shorthand is also practically employed, apart from the two Houses of Parliament in Rio, by the provincial assemblies, the proceedings of which are reported in provincial papers or in the shape of annals. This work is likewise done by the Rio reporters, the various meetings never taking place simultaneously.

The remuneration of shorthand writers is on a rather high scale. The most competent three tachygraphers of the *Jornal de Comercio* are in receipt of a salary of 4½ contos de reis per annum, besides which they receive 1½ contos for each month they work in provincial assemblies. The other reporters receive 600,000 and 500,000 reis per month, respectively, during the session in Rio.

There are five shorthand writers in the Chamber of Deputies, viz., Manoel José Pereira da Silva Velho, Ivaquim Francisco Lopes Aujo, José Pedro Xavier Pinheiro, Antonio Luiz Mesquita, José Pereira Leitao, and Luiz José da Murinelli, whilst in the Senate there is only one tachygrapher, who is paid by the *Correio Mercantil.*

[A List of published literature on Portuguese Shorthand was appended to this paper.]

[The following paper was read in the author's absence by Mr Kitson.]

HISTORY OF STENOGRAPHY IN THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

By Dr D. Dessau.

It was in this century that Stenography was first known and employed in the North of Europe, and Sweden has the merit of giving the impulse to its introduction there. A free constitution had here been obtained centuries ago, and happily preserved; so the Swedish Parliament is, next to the English, the oldest representative assembly in Europe. The proceedings were formerly taken down by a so-called Secretary of Record. Bungenerone, at the end of the last century, distinguished himself as Secretary of the *Ridderhus*,[1] and we cannot

1. The Swedish Parliament originally was divided into four chambers: 1st, Knights and Nobility (the Ridderhus). 2nd, Clergy. 3rd, Burghers. 4th, Peasantry. By an alteration of constitution in 1866 it was limited to two, first and second chambers.

but wonder that one man, without acquaintance with Shorthand, was able to produce so much as he did. In 1823 Michael v. Hohenhausen proposed in the *Ridderhus* that a reward should be given to the nobleman, who should before the next Parliament have obtained such proficiency in Shorthand as would be necessary for taking down the proceedings of the House, and a prospect of appointment was held out for them. Two gentlemen, Mr Silfverstolpe, then captain of horse, afterwards minister, and Mr Hjerta, a renowned journalist and afterwards Member of Parliament, answered the appeal, and were appointed in 1823. Mr Silfverstolpe had formed a system after that of Taylor-Bertin, Mr Hjerta another system after Aimé-Paris, Conon de Prepéan and Jul. Lichtlein, and they published these systems in 1825.(2) The system of Silfverstolpe was preferred to that of his partner, and afterwards improved by Göttrek.(3)

In 1814, by the separation from Denmark, Norway acquired a constitution with a representative assembly, the *Storthing*. There was only kept a summary protocol of the meetings, the proceedings being published by the papers. In the course of time there was often a question of the employment of shorthand writers, and considerable sums were spent in obtaining competent ones. A lawyer, Mr Paludan, instructed by the above-mentioned Göttrek in 1847, adapted his system to the Norwegian language and published it in 1852.(4) Still, both then and afterwards (in 1857) scruples arose as to making use of the pupils he had instructed in his system.

In October, 1848, a prospect of a constitution was held out for Denmark by the summons of a Constitutional Convention. Before that, however, the Government had sent abroad two young men in order to apply themselves to Stenography. One of them, Mr Fich, went to Paris, and the writer to Munich, my starting-point being this, that the relationship of the Danish and German languages would much facilitate the adaptation of a German system to the Danish language in preference to a French or English system. The result proved the correctness of my view. I enjoyed the instruction of Mr Gabelsberger from the end of August, 1848, until the day of his death in 1849. Having proved that I had acquired the necessary ability, I was appointed in the Constitutional Convention, where the above-mentioned Mr Paludan from Norway already worked with two of his pupils. Mr Fich published "Kortfattet dansk Stenografi, Kjöbenhavn," in 1851, but had no other earnings of importance from Stenography by his journey.

In June, 1849, when the Constitutional Convention had finished its work, Mr Paludan and I were charged with the commission of

2. Utkast till Snabbskrifnings methoder för Svenska-språket. Stockholm, 1825.
3. Snabbskrifnings-Lära, tillämpad de Skandinaviska språken. Stockholm, 1847 and 1855.
4. Norsk Hurtigskrift eller Stenografi. Christiania, 1852.

giving lectures for training up stenographers for the Parliament; he instructing his pupils in his own system, and I instructing my pupils in the Gabelsberger system, which I had adapted to the Danish language. The Parliament, now composed of two chambers, the Folkething and the Landsthing, met at the end of January, 1850, and I with eight of my pupils was attached to the Landsthing, while Mr Paludan and eight of his were attached to the Folkething. In a short time it was evident that the performances of my pupils were much to be preferred to those of the pupils of Paludan, and as these themselves admitted that the system of Paludan (which they used) was very inferior to that of Gabelsberger, and as they recommended to all who wanted instruction in Shorthand to apply themselves to the system of Gabelsberger, the result has been that now this alone is used here and supported by the State; only one of fifteen parliamentary stenographers is still working with the Paludan system.(5)

By-and-by the Gabelsberger system was more and more practised outside the Parliament, especially by scientific Congresses, etc., and so the neighboring countries have been acquainted with its performances. The consequence was that Mr Munk, secretary of the Ridderhus at Stockholm, in 1855 called on young men to study the Gabelsberger system, as this had been adapted to the Danish language. Several young men followed the call, acquired the necessary ability and were appointed, and from then the Gabelsberger system has been almost exclusively employed in the Swedish Parliament.(6)

As mentioned above, the Norwegian Storthing had spent considerable sums on the training up of stenographers without making use of them, until in 1866 a report appeared, where it was recommended that inquiry should be made whether it was desirable or not to introduce in Norway the Gabelsberger system, long ago domesticated in Denmark and Sweden. For that purpose Mr Cappelen, now chief clerk of the Parliament-office, a pupil of Paludan, was sent to Stockholm and Copenhagen to make himself familiar with the system and its application. In the winter of 1866 he was instructed by me, and after his return to Christiania he gave lectures in the Gabelsberger system, which from that time was used for taking down the proceedings of the Storthing.

Some years before the Diet of Finland had sent down to Leipzig some young men who were instructed by Dr Carl Albrecht in the Gabelsberger system. It was adapted to the Finnish language by the late Mr Svan,(7) Councillor of State, and employed ever since then for the proceedings of the House.

5. The undersigned has published for the Danish language:—"Lärebog i Gabelsberger's Stenografi." Kjôbenhavn, 1853. "Kortfattet Lärebog i Gabelsberger's Stenografi." Kjôbenhavn, 1859. Fourth edition, 1886.

6. A. Huber published in 1855 and 1868, Kort Lärobok i svensk Stenografi eller Kortskrifnings konst efter Gabelsberger's System. 1860, J. A. Petré published, Forsök till Lärobok i Stenografi eller Snabbskrifnings konst efter Gabelsberger's and Dessau's System.

7. Lärobok i Stenografi. Helsingfors. 1871 and 1873; 1884. Altered by Fabritius.

When *Franz Xaver Gabelsberger* in 1834 published his "Anleitung zur deutschen Rede-zeichen-kunst oder Stenographie," in 1843 supplied with "Neue Vervollkommnungen in der deutschen Rede-zeichen-kunst oder Stenographie," works which are to be considered as unique in Shorthand literature, he hardly thought that his system, only made for the German language, would be adapted to so many foreign languages as it in fact has been; but he had the joy to live to see it, and had he not been taken away by a premature death, he would have found confirmed what he in his last days only saw as a probability, that of all languages the Scandinavian are the best disposed for the adaptation of his system. This explains why both in Norway and Sweden earlier systems have been abandoned and the Gabelsberger introduced, and it will hardly be dislodged here by any system known until now, even if one should gain some few adherents, as has been the case with the system of Stolze or Arends.(8) Practically it will soon be evident that no other system can compete with the Gabelsberger.

An attempt of Mr Taube(9) at introducing a new system completely failed.

In Denmark and Norway the Gabelsberger Stenography is supported by the public, that is to say, lectures for perfecting shorthand writers for the Parliaments are given at the expense of the State. In Sweden all this is done privately. In all lands but Norway, Societies have been established for the purpose of extending the knowledge of Stenography, particularly that it might he admitted to the academies for public instruction. Stenographic periodicals, containing short directions for the study of Shorthand, are published with this view by some Swedish Societies and by the Society at Helsingfors.

Shorthand having found its way to some State and municipal schools, it is to be hoped that its introduction into the academies as an ordinary branch of instruction, will be but a question of time, especially when it is generally known what great advantages it affords in daily life, particularly for business people.

[Discussion was invited on the papers of Dr Zeibig and Herr Dessau].

Mr LOCKETT asked for an explanation of Herr Richter's paper with regard to the "sal" in the word *sobre-salen*, which Mr Richter explained by the use of the blackboard.

[The following paper was read in the author's absence by Mr Kitson, who was thanked for translating it.]

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8. E. Bergsten: Arends rationelle Stenografi eller Kortskrift bearbetad för svenska språket. Stockholm, 1880.
9. Lärobok i Kortskrifningskonst. Stockholm, 1867.

JACQUES COSSARD.

By M. L. P. Guenin,

Sténographe Réviseur du Sénat, Paris.

(*Translated by Mr Thomas Hill.*)

I have been for some time collecting the results of a somewhat long investigation with reference to Jacques Cossard, the first author of a French stenography, but time has always failed me to proceed to the editing of this sketch; and then, it must be said, the pleasure of prolonging the interesting researches on the state of the colleges of Paris at the times of the wars of the Fronde has drawn me away much longer than I at first expected. I should perhaps have still continued this mode of procedure if I had not read in the English journals the curious publication of Mr Pocknell on Timothy Bright. It has appeared to me that my honorable English confrères would, on their part, read with some interest the following details of the French author contemporary with Bright and Willis. At any rate, if I am mistaken they ought not to blame me but rather Mr Pocknell who allured me into this track. Let not their censures, then, rest on the wrong head, but let them fall on his alone.

Having said this, I enter upon the subject; and in order not to make a biography pure and simple, I am going to follow the line of my work and point out what its successive results have been. This will permit us to commence with the death of Cossard, in order to treat finally the subject of his birth after having seen how people lived in his time in the good city of Paris. I am convinced that this logical order will surely suit the systematic disposition of my esteemed brethren.

Cossard, then, died long ago, and all that is generally known of him is one Stenographic treatise, of which there remains but a single copy in the National Library at Paris.

I had read formerly in the Panstenographikon, published by the Institute of Dresden under the signature of Dr Zeibig, that he had been refused a sight of this little book; and I was aware that Fossé in the preface of his treatise, published in 1829, had said:—

"This work, of which only a small edition was printed, has become very scarce. The copy on parchment mentioned in the catalogue of the Libraire du Roi must doubtless have tempted an amateur, for in spite of assiduous research it has been impossible to discover a trace of it."

Since the time of Fossé, the catalogue of parchments has been carefully made; and it is right to say that when I visited the National Library, Cossard's work was easily found and placed at my disposal. It had as a title:—

"The method of writing as quickly as one speaks, following which is a treatise containing the correct pronunciation of French words and of doubtful words, the writing of spoken words and collection of

synonyms, by M. Jacques Cossard, priest, Bachelor of Divinity, at the residence of the author, the College de la Marche, Paris, MDCLI. With the license of the King."

Having the book in hand, let us begin by describing and analysing it. Even the title of the work will give us occasion afterwards to return to Cossard and to inquire who he was, what were his circumstances in the College de la Marche, his residence, and the place of sale of his system.

First of all let us state that the book is small, measuring 12 centimeters by 8, printed somewhat coarsely upon vellum. On the frontispiece there is a copper-plate engraving representing Louis XIV. and several other persons of rank looking at three tablets placed at the top of the engraving, the first containing the Hebrew Alphabet, the second the Greek, and the third the French. But the part in which the work is really original and becomes interesting is the preface, where the author, pointing out how he has been led to invent the abbreviated writing, begins by giving speakers advice on the art of speaking. This is an idea which deserves to be repeated in our own day:—

"In endeavoring to cultivate the best methods," says Cossard, "for the instruction of young persons, and as a remedy for the loss of time which is incurred at the commencement of their studies, I have often thought of finding out a means of helping those who dictate and those who write under them in such a way that one could write as quickly as one speaks. Quintilian (Book 1, Chapter 2) says: 'Neque est sanctius sacris iisdem quam studiis initiari.'

"At the commencement I have considered two things:—One on the part of him who speaks and dictates; the other on the part of him who writes what is said to him. He who speaks is compelled to make as many distinct movements of the tongue in speaking or dictating as there are syllables spoken in each word.

"At the end of each word, small though it may be, it is necessary that the speaker should stop and make a break, however slight, which is sufficient to distinguish and separate the words from each other, just as is done in print.

"When the speaker has uttered some words after which it is needful to put a comma, as if he should say Prayer, almsgiving, fasting, etc., he is obliged to make a longer rest.

"When the speaker has uttered some words after which it is necessary to put a colon, or a note of interrogation, or even a full-stop followed by a capital letter, in all these places there must be rests still longer than in the preceding cases.

"At the end of a sentence, when the speaker draws breath, he is compelled to stop and to make a considerable pause.

"Besides this, he who speaks, whether from the pulpit or at the bar or elsewhere, as in declaiming, is obliged for the purpose of enlivening

his speech to consider what pauses he ought to make. Quintilian (Book 1, Chapter 8) says:—'Ubi suspendere spiritum debeat quo loco versum distinguere, ubi claudatur sensus, unde incipiat, quando attollenda vel summittenda fit vox, quid quoque flexu, quid lentius, celerius, concitatius lenius dicendum demonstrari nisi oper ipso non potest.'

"As to the writer, in order to write as quickly as one speaks it is necessary that he should have, for letters, characters which can be made much more quickly than the letters which are in ordinary use, and that these characters should be easily and quickly joined to one another.

"It is necessary again that he should have several abbreviations of syllables and words, and that he should be able also to abbreviate maxims, proverbs, sentences and rules, the latter words of which maxims, proverbs, and so forth, may be sufficiently expressed by an 'et cetera.'

"These two things considered both with regard to the speaker and to the writer, having read in Saint Isidore (Book 1 Chapter 4), of his 'Etymologies' that the form of the letters depends on the will, I have endeavored to find some characters which can be soon made and which would be easy to join and to connect in syllables and words, and to use them for letters.

"'Non Dixerim quid ibi laboris insumpserim, quid sustimerim difficultatis, quoties desperaverim et rursus contentione discendi, inceperim,' for having found what seemed to me a method, and having read in Quintilian (Book 10, Chapter 4) 'Nec dubium est optimus esse emendandi genus, si scripta in aliquod tempus reponantur, ut ad ea post intervallum velut nova atque aliena redeamus ne nobis nostra tanquam recentes fœtus blandiantur,' I almost gave it up, but nevertheless since that time, having re-perused, revised, and altered, and having at length finally reviewed the whole, I have determined with his Majesty's gracious permission to bring it to light for the use both of those who dictate classic literature, philosophy, theology, legal documents etc., and of those who write under them, all of whom by this means will gain much time which is lost by following the characters of the letters now in use."

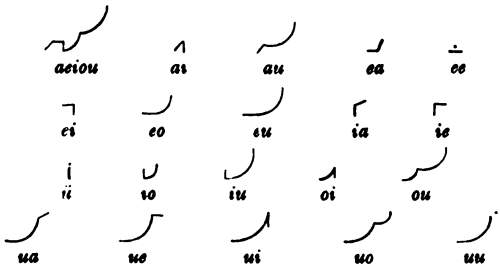
Having said this, Cossard then passes to the alphabet, which he arranges as follows:

Alphabet of Signs to be substituted for Letters.

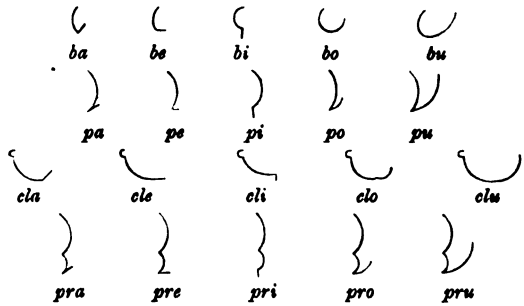
LETTERS.



JOINED VOWELS.

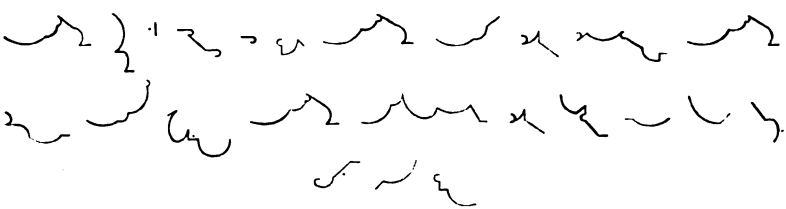


SYLLABLES.



And the author adds after this alphabet: "*dimidium facti qui bene coepit habet.*

Here is a specimen of Cossard's writing.



Key.—"Nostre pere qui ests es cieux vostre nom soit sanctifié vostre rēgne nous advienne vostre volonté soit faicte en la terre comme au ciel."

As one may perceive on examining Cossard's alphabet, and the above example, he has adopted three sizes for his signs, and has made use of half curves for the letters *f, g, l, o, u*; all the signs are simple and may be easily joined; on the other hand, he has not thought of bringing together the weak and strong consonants, but represents them by totally different signs; he represents the diphthongs by combining the signs of each vowel, and finally reproduces all the letters, even the mutes, and indicates the double letters by a full stop.

This alphabet, invented in every detail by Cossard, is preceded by some lines in which he remarks that languages, especially the Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, have different characters for their letters; also that the Goths invented other signs. He then points out the simplicity of his alphabetical characters, compared with those in ordinary use; and insists upon the facility of writing them, and the possibility of combining them without any useless stroke. He concludes with the advice, since repeated by all authors: "In commencing the exercise of this first part, one will learn to recognize the representative characters, to retain them, to write them from memory, and to combine them in syllables as represented; after this, one will learn to read thoroughly the writing upon the 7th page (example given); one will also learn to copy the whole, *dice lente donec exercitatione contingat emendata velocitas.*"

We thus arrive at the second part of the system; the abbreviation of several syllables and monosyllables.

Cossard, following the rule mentioned in his preface, points out the abbreviations that the writer should employ. "In writing *e*, before or after the letters *f*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *r* and *s* (in syllables of two letters), as the names of the letters commence with the sound of *e* it will suffice to write *f* for *ef*, as *ffacer* for *effacer*; *l* for *el*, as *Gabril* for *Gabriel*, etc.

"In all syllables which commence with a consonant, and are followed by *ent*, the two final letters *nt* may be dropped, as *ce* for *cent*; or *berce* for *bercent*; *de* for *dent*; *morde* for *mordent*; *fe* for *fent*; *biffe* for *biffent*; *ge* for *gent*; *range* for *rangent*; *le* for *lent*; *parl* for *parlent*, etc.

"In all syllables in which *ont* or *ent* follow after *ou*, the last three letters may be dropped, as *jou* for *jouent*; *lou* for *louent*; providing it engenders no ambiguity, as where one might take *jou* for *jouer* instead of for *jouent*; *lou* for *un loup* instead of *louent*.

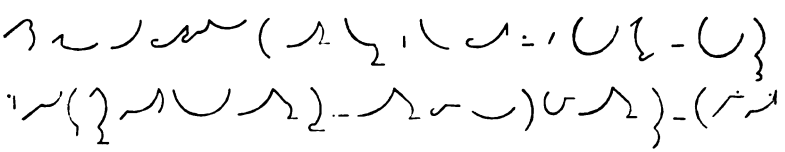
"The syllable *ment* will be sufficiently expressed by the sign representing *m* immediately followed by a full stop; as *bravem.* for *bravement*; *franchem.* for *franchement*; *hardim.* for *hardiment*.

"In syllables ending in *oient*, these five letters may be indicated by a full stop after the preceding consonant, the said full stop being placed underneath, as in *tomboient*, *mandoient*, *biffoient*, *parloient*, *aymoient*, *rompoient*, *auroient*, *pensoient*, *portoient*, *avoient*.

"If the syllable end in *ceoient* or *geoient*, the full stop will be put underneath, after *c* or *g*, as *berceoient*, *mangeoient*, etc.

"There are several other remarks upon the abbreviation of syllables and monosyllabic words, which I omit, to avoid prolixity."

To imitate the author and to avoid prolixity, I will only mention the title of the third part, "The abbreviation of many words," and I at once give an example of the abbreviated writing of Cossard.



KEY.—"Monsieur, ayant eu communication de votre lettre je l'ai communiquée à deux advocats et deux procureurs qui m'ont dit après avoir lu votre procès que votre cause n'est pas bonne. Votre procureur est du même avis."

The work concludes with the privilege granted to the author to publish and sell his volume:—

"Privilège du Roy: Louys, par la grâce de Dieu, roy de France et de Navarre à nos amez et féaux les gens tenans nos cours de Parlement, Maistres des Requestes ordinaires de nostre hostel, Baillifs, Seneschaux, Prévosts, leurs Lieutenans et à tous nos justiciers et officiers qu'il appartiendra. Salut: nostre bien amé Maistre Jacques Cossard, prestre, Bachelier en théologie, nous a fait remonstrer qu'il a composé un livre intitulé, Méthode pour ecrire aussi vite qu'on parle, ensuite duquel est un traité contenant la bonne pronunciation des mots francais et des mots equivoques, de l'escriture, des mots prononces, ensemble des synonimes," a quoy il avait employé de longues années et fait graver plusieurs planches tant en cuivre qu'en bois, et fait fondre plusieurs noveaux caractères et lettres." . . . (Then follows the permission to print and sell) . . . "Donné à Paris le trentième jour de Décembre l'an de grâce mil six cent cinquante et de nostre règne le huictième. Signé: par le Roy en son Conseil: de Monceaux."

The copy in the National Library, notwithstanding the title and the indication of permission to print, does not contain the treatise relative to the proper pronunciation, etc., announced as forming an appendix to the "Art of writing as quickly as one speaks." The book, however, appears complete.

This has led me to enquire if Cossard did not publish this treatise in a special edition, and I was thus led to discover two other works by this author.

The first is noted in Brunet's Supplement to the Catalogue of the Library, page 322.

"Cossard Jacques. Method of learning to write, to read, to chant the plain chant, and to reckon; with several small tablets and explanation of them by M. Jacques Cossard, priest, bachelor of divinity, curé of Dormans, at the residence of the author, the College de la Marche, Paris, 1633." ("Small octavo. Curious volume, dedicated to Mademoiselle de Montspensier; at the end an appendix of 16 pages devoted to the Greek and Hebrew alphabets.")

This note shows us that Cossard was already at the College de la

Marche in 1633, and that he was titular curé of Dormans at this period, although resident in Paris.

The second book of Cossard is indicated under the number 62 in the catalogue of rare books published in March, 1885, by Voisin, bookseller, 37 Rue Mazarine; it is a small brochure, having for its title:—

"Alphabet of the letters and points of the Hebrew language, by means of which one may learn to read the Hebrew language without a master. By M. Jacques Cossard, priest, curé of Dormans (Marne), Paris. Sold by the author at the College de la Marche, 1647. (12mo. 17 pages, not including the privilege. Curious engraved frontispiece.)"

The author indicates at the end of this brochure, which has been communicated to me, that it is an extract from his work which appeared in 1663. The title shows that he still resided at this date at the College de la Marche, which he does not appear to have quitted from 1633 to 1651.

But the curé of Dormans? I have applied to the keeper of the Archives of the department of Marne, who replied as follows:—

"Chalons, 2nd July, 1882. Sir,—The Archives of the department de la Marne contain scarcely anything as to the curé of Dormans, but Dormans having belonged to the diocese of Laon, you would perhaps obtain some information from the Archives of Aisne. However, I would rather advise you to apply to one who is now engaged upon the history of Dormans, namely, M. the Abbé Desjardins, curé of Martongues (Marne)," etc.

I then put the question to M. the Abbé Desjardins, and here is his reply:—

"Martongues, 6th July, 1882. Your letter perplexes me a great deal; it puts before me a name which I have not met with in the list of the curés of Dormans, or of the vicars. In the year 1653 there was a change of incumbents; the register of baptisms, etc., at Dormans goes back to 1621; the first twenty years are a blank for history, the entries are very brief, and none are signed, not even by the curé. Towards 1640 one finds signatures to all the acts (they knew how to write at Dormans by reason of the small college), and the priests add: curé, vicar, chaplain, etc., but without indication of decease, of taking possession, or other information. I see that in the year 1644 Antoine Duchastel ceased to sign "curé de Dormans." It is Nicolas Taisaud who signs himself curé, until the year 1653, when one finds Jean Nicolas Thierry, curé. No other name, no act of decease, or of taking of possession, or installation.

"In the register containing the revenues and other matters of the fabric of the Church of St Hippolyte of Dormans with the copy of the endowments, I read 'By will received by M. Nicolas Taisaud, curé of Dormans, 13 March, 1647.'

"This is all that I find in my numerous notes, which are complete

as to Dormans. I do not think that I have forgotten the name of a priest, having several times read the acts from 1621 to our own times."

Upon giving him further indications M. Desjardins was good enough to proceed to a verification, of which he has indicated the result as follows:—

"In the register of baptisms I see in 1629 the signature of Vincent Martin, Doctor of Divinity, priest, curé of Dormans, and in 1635 Antoine Duchastel, curé of Dormans. Between these two dates there is no signature of curé. In 1633 it is Janonery, vicar, who signs entries of baptisms, and he put in a note at the end of the year, 'M. the curé has performed some baptisms which are not inserted.' Who is this curé? I had supposed that it was still Vincent Martin, not being able to believe that a curé would not affix his name at least from time to time to the register of catholicity. And I have found no trace of the name of Cossard upon the different registers which I mentioned to you the other day, while his two predecessors since 1600 are named either as donors or as receiving by wills. I have not found Jacques Cossard among the professors at Dormans-Beauvais; neither was he principal of the small local college at Dormans. As to his being non-residential curé of Dormans, this happened in the case of abbés, but not in that of simple curés. Dormans was not even then a deanery. The presentation to the curé of Dormans belonged to the chief Prior of Coincy. Was the Abbé Cossard one of his protegés? Was he nominated to the benefice, and did he not wish to accept it?"

The outcome of these researches is that Jacques Cossard took the title of curé of Dormans, but that he did not exercise the functions, and that he really continued from 1633 to 1651, at least, at the College de la Marche.

What was he doing there? Here, also, my researches have ended in a negative result, in this sense, that they show that Cossard was not attached as Professor to the establishment.

The names of the professors from 1633 to 1652 are, indeed, several times cited with reference to notifications of acts, in Jourdain (*Histoire de l'Université*), Crevier and other authors; no mention is ever made of Cossard. In the month of October, 1648, particularly, the Rector Hermant, promulgated, by the unanimous advice of his council, an ordinance relative to the discipline of the colleges, and the progress of the philosophical studies. Its provisions were brought under the notice of the principals of the colleges at an assembly held the 6th October, 1648, at Mathurins. They were again notified to all the professors of philosophy in the month of July, 1652. The professor at La Marche was M. le Barbier. Another decree of 31st August, 1652, relating to the ecclesiastical benefices and the discipline of the university was served by Pierre le Vasseur, Grand Beadle of the nation of France, the 12th of October of the

same year, upon M. le Barbier, professor of philosophy at the College de la Marche, the 16th of September upon MM. Aubert, Cazault, Leferon, and Fortin, professors of the same college.

There remains a hypothesis that appears to me to solve the question. Every year under the obligation imposed upon him by the Royal Statutes, the Rector, accompanied by four censors, visited the colleges, reported upon the state of the discipline, and of the studies, verified the number of the students present, etc.

Quintaine has preserved to us the *procès-verbal*, of some of these annual inspections. The most important was that which took place in 1642 and 1643. The 15th of November, 1642, the Rector visited the colleges of Navarre and de la Marche. At the College of Navarre he testified that everything was well administered and governed. The situation was not less favorable at the College de la Marche, under the direction of M. Patena; besides the principal, the procurator, and two chaplains, the college had nineteen students faithful to the statutes of the college and those of the university.

The only names not given us by the annals of the times are those of the two chaplains. Jacques Cossard, priest, domiciled at the College de la Marche from 1633 to 1651; at least, not being designated as one of the professors of the establishment, he could hardly have resided there otherwise than as chaplain. Bachelor of Divinity in 1633, he would be at that time from 30 to 35 years of age; the statutes of that time prescribing at least 25 years of age and five years' subsequent studies. He would be from 40 to 50 years of age at the publication of his treatise on the art of writing as quickly as one speaks.

Now what sort of a life would he lead at this epoch? It is sufficient to recall the memory of the troubled events of this time to understand the oblivion into which his treatise, notwithstanding a real merit, has completely fallen. People rarely then engaged in literary occupations. Men's minds were directed elsewhere. After 1650 the kingdom was delivered over to all the horrors of civil war. Spain lent the service of her armies to the Nouvelle Fronde. The populace, under the name of various princely factions, was master of Paris. After the conflict of the Porte St Antoine came the massacre of the Hotel de Ville. Honest people frightened by the anarchy were obliged to fly, abandoning the phantom of a Government which they had erected; the most odious practices were carried on in Paris; the artisans, whom the cessation of all commerce had left without employment, received daily distributions of wine and money, and incendiary placards incited them to murder and to pillage. One of these, which had the largest circulation, says: "Let us boldly indulge our passions, and massacre without respect of persons, young or old, great or small, male or female. Let us beat our drums, let us raise all the quarters, let us break our

chains. Let us renew the barricades. Let us gird on our swords, kill, pillage, destroy, ..." etc.

Nobles in disguise mingled with the populace; the Duke of Orleans himself no longer marched the streets without a hideous escort of four or five thousand bandits.

Besides the general interruption of all studies, the continuance of the war occasioned the most serious injury to certain colleges. We still possess the text of a petition which was presented in June, 1652, to the Bureau de la Ville, by the head master and the students of the College of Cardinal Lemoine. It appears therefrom that some particular enemies to study forced the head master to keep the college open both by day and night, passed through it with drums beating either to mount guard or to exercise in the courtyard, fired against the walls, broke the windows, took away the benches for the classes, cut down several trees, and twice broke and burnt the gates. The college of Cardinal Lemoine, situated at the Port St Victor, close to the ramparts, was, without doubt, more exposed than any other to the dangers of an assault and to the excesses of the soldiers, but the threat of pillage had resounded more than once in the interior of the city and destroyed all security. (*Jourdain.*)

The work of Cossard, born in the middle of this tempest, has been carried away by it. Who knows whether the author himself did not disappear amid the storm?

[The following paper was then read.]

SOME FACTS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE HISTORY OF THE GURNEY SYSTEM.

By Mr W. H. Gurney-Salter.

It seems reasonable to suppose that shorthand writers generally will feel an interest in the history of the oldest of living systems—a system which has for more than a century been continually employed for work of very great difficulty and importance, and subjected to the severest scrutiny. As a mere matter of curiosity the members of the Congress may like to hear what internal changes this old system has undergone to meet the pressing needs of successive generations of note-takers, and how it has encountered the competition of its rivals; in other words, both how it has adapted itself to its environment, and how it has borne itself in the struggle for existence. And such a narrative might be expected to be no less instructive than interesting, for the experience of the numerous writers of the system ought to throw some light upon questions of principle now in dispute in other systems. In endeavouring to strengthen the weak points of their own Shorthand they must have tested the value of expedients now advocated elsewhere.

If such natural expectations exist I am sorry to say that it will not be in my power to gratify them fully within the limits of this paper. I can only touch very briefly upon first the internal and then the external history of the system.

1. INTERNAL HISTORY.—Before the system had entered upon any practical work it had undergone its first change—a great amputation. Thomas Gurney found that the enormous mass of arbitrary characters and shortening rules with which Mason had encumbered it had interfered both with its popularity and with its utility. In cutting them away he almost entirely removed also the symbolism on which Mason had prided himself as a help to the memory. The amusing sketches, such as  for *tremble*,  *old serpent*,  *old crooked serpent*, with which  Mason had  embellished his book, had failed to conciliate pupils, and were simply a hindrance in taking notes. Some changes in the alphabet were also made; initial vowels were more generally expressed, and then the system—bearing its present name—was ready for practical use.

This was more than a hundred years ago. What changes have taken place since then!

Comparing the Shorthand notes taken before 1800 with those of the present day, it is remarkable that where words are written differently the change almost always consists in expressing an additional vowel—not an initial vowel, for those have, as a rule, been expressed ever since the system was used for practical work—but an intermediate vowel where the early writers thought the consonants sufficient; and this has even been done at the cost of slurring the consonants.

There are obvious advantages in fuller vocalization for distinguishing between words having the same consonants or expressing a vowel characteristic of a word, if it can be done without interfering with speed. Now intermediate vowels can be expressed in the Gurney system only by taking off the pen. The experience of these writers, then, points to a different estimate from that which is commonly formed either of the relative value of vowels both initial and intermediate, or of the effect of taking off the pen; perhaps of both.

The second difference between modern notes and those written by the Gurneys in the 18th century is, that words are no longer strung together, but are, as a rule, written separately. This, like the alteration already noticed, implies, of course, more lifting of the pen. Whatever may be the case in systems requiring a finer stroke, and a different habitual action of the hand, whether for shading or for precision of form, it would seem that in the Gurney system it has been found to be easier and quicker to take off the pen than to prolong an outline, especially if it draws the hand back, or above or below the line of writing. There is a curious incident in the history of our system which points in the same direction. C and T together may be written either by their shorthand signs joined, or by a tick behind the preceding

consonant, as  or  *fact*,  or  *instruct*, etc. Until about 1830 the tick was used; from that time until about 1860 the fashion prevailed of writing the *c* and *t* in the belief that there would be a gain in avoiding the lifting of the pen; now the tick is in use again, because it has been found to be quicker as well as clearer.

Apart from the introduction of some "logograms" and "phraseograms" to meet modern requirements, the only remaining difference of any importance between the Gurney notes of the last century and of the present day is, that we do not in rapid writing adhere as strictly to our normal outlines as our predecessors did. Probably the rapidity of public speaking has increased. Certainly each generation of shorthand writers has testified to its belief in such an acceleration; but whether that tradition be trustworthy or not, the fact is that the Gurney system has adapted itself to its needs by developing a short form—not as a matter of theoretic arrangement, but by practice. The writers (I refer especially to the corps with which I am associated) have perceived in what words, and what parts of words, less fulness and precision of outline is required to distinguish them from other words, and they have shortened accordingly, to an extent probably far exceeding what has been attempted in any other system. As they were dealing with a machine which lent itself to such treatment—not a sensitive system, but one which will bear hard usage—they were able to preserve the characteristic features of every word or outline, while omitting or shortening its less essential parts. A safeguard against this process being carried to an extent dangerous to legibility was afforded by the practice of the shorthand notes being transcribed by a man who had neither written them nor even knew their tenor. [Specimens illustrating this statement will be found in the Appendix to the "Text Book of the Gurney System," 18th edition.]

It will be seen that *b* is truly "a reporting style" although not so theoretically constructed for that purpose as the "reporting styles" of other systems; and it is important that this fact should be recognized, because some critics finding no "reporting style" in the Handbook of the system have supposed that there is none, and that notes must be taken in the lengthy copy-book style. Amusing as the mistakes of these critics sometimes are, it is desirable, in the interests of truth that they should be corrected.

Although the alterations which I have described are not in the structure or principle of the system, they amount altogether to a considerable change in its practical form, and the manner in which they have been introduced is noteworthy. One of the incidents in the life of a system of Shorthand usually is the production of offshoots. No sooner has it attained popularity than variants appear, some of which are perhaps accepted as improvements, while others are denounced, with a fury quite ecclesiastical, as heresies. It is remarkable that, although

the Gurney system has for so long been doing, to say the least of it, a large share of the most important work in England, it has had no schisms, it has thrown out no important offshoots; we have had no Harding or Odell introducing versions which have been popularly accepted; we have had no Old School and New School in controversy with one another. Whatever suggested improvements could stand the test of actual use were quietly adopted without disturbing the every day life of the system, and other suggestions died out. Possibly this freedom from divisions arose from the circumstance that among the Gurney practitioners there was a corps of from 12 to 25 (including shorthand clerks) working together, with every opportunity of discussion, and that no change was made without being well tested. Among the professional writers of the system at different times, there have been many men of varied intellectual powers, shown afterwards by some (like Charles Dickens) in literature; by others (like the present Prime Minister of one of our principal colonies) in public life; by others on the Judicial Bench, &c., and it was the interest of these workmen to sharpen their tool to the utmost. They did sharpen it, but cautiously. Approving the system in the main, they improved it in its practical form and in details. I am not by any means saying that the Gurney system is perfect; I do not at all believe that it is. I am merely pointing to the unusual fact that no schism has taken place among those who have used it, that no improved version has gained any acceptance; and I venture to suggest that this may have resulted from the testing of proposed improvements by professional writers before they were accepted.

2. Turning now to the external history of the system, there is little to tell that is not already more or less known—at all events as regards its early days. Published by Mason in 1720, dying out until revived in improved form by Thomas Gurney about 1750, used by him as official shorthand writer at the Old Bailey, taught by him to comparatively few pupils, defended by him in various controversies, it came to the front by means of actual achievements, namely, successful reports of trials and civil causes. The earliest of these was a trial for perjury, which attracted attention in 1754; but a few years later there were many others which were both reported and published by the Gurneys, *e.g.*, between 1775 and 1796 they published at least eleven in folio, eight in quarto, and seven in octavo, some of more than one volume, and many of considerable length. It is hardly too much to say that they included all the *causes célèbres* of the latter part of the last century, (there being then no full newspaper reports,) ranging from ordinary crime to high treason (the Duchess of Kingston, Lord George Gordon, Warren Hastings, etc.)

Having thus established itself in public esteem, the system was at the beginning of this century used extensively as things went then, in private litigation in the Courts of Law as well as in Parliamentary

Committees, and at the Bars of the two Houses. There is evidence that it was practised in America, and memoranda occasionally found in various parts of this country prove that it was disseminated among amateurs. Since that time its professional use has been continued, and for seventy years by far the greater part of the evidence printed in Blue books has been reported by this system.

I spoke at the outset of the Gurney system as "living." To many present it will seem superfluous to give proof of its vitality; but as some persons familiar only with the extensive and excellent periodical literature of phonographers appear—excusably perhaps—to be unaware of what is actually taking place, it is desirable that the Congress should, for its own purposes, be in possession of some facts on the subject.

While continuing to render important service in Parliamentary and other Government reporting, the Gurney system has also done good work in the Courts of Law, where it is written by some of the shorthand writers in large practice (*e. g.*, the heads of three of the principal firms and one of the Presidents of the Institute of Shorthand Writers.) This fact has a bearing on a statement which is sometimes to be met with, that the system is kept alive simply by its accidental connection with the parliamentary appointment. In truth it has had distinguished adherents both in the Courts of Law and in the Reporters' Gallery, where no official influence can exist. We have three or four well-known non-official practitioners on our Congress committee. It is used also by Mr Bell, the Government shorthand-writer at Melbourne and his staff, appointed, of course, by the Colony of Victoria; and until recently it held a similar position in New South Wales. It is written at the Cape by a shorthand-writer who holds an official position, and is employed by the Government for important inquiries. It has also some, though not many, representatives on the newspaper press of the Colonies. I have no information as to America, except that I happened to see in a recent phonographic newspaper a statement by Mr Munson that it was in his opinion the best of the old systems, and that he was willing to hand over his work to two Gurney writers, from which I gather that we have confrères in New York.

The quantity of reading for which the world has to thank (?) the Gurney system is indicated by the fact that to my knowledge it often produces for the printers in a single night from two hundred thousand to two hundred and fifty thousand words, equal to from ninety to a hundred columns of the *Times*. To show its efficiency for rapid production, an ordinary case from very recent experience may be taken: A Royal Commission sat at twelve o'clock; its evidence, requiring some literary finish, amounted to 46,000 words; it was reported by two Gurney writers and was in print early the next morning; the alterations on revise were quite insignificant. In addition to the important work in the Courts of Law and in the Gallery, to which I have alluded, the Gurney system is the means of reporting the evidence

printed in at least three-fourths of the Blue Books of Parliamentary Committees, Royal Commissions, etc., besides a large number of other inquiries, official and non-official. As specimens among proceedings which have recently attracted public attention may be mentioned the Royal Commissions on Loss of Life at Sea, the Housing of the Poor, and Education; and the Parliamentary Committees on Army and Navy Estimates, Charges of Malversation against the Corporation of London, etc. The debates of the Colonial Conference which met in London this spring were also wholly reported in this system.

During the greater part of its existence the Gurney system has been exposed to two tests to which no other in England has been subjected in anything like the same degree. One is that it has been habitually read, and read sufficiently fast to be dictated to two or even three writers at a time, by men who had neither written the notes nor knew at all their purport. Another and far severer test is that to which official shorthand writers are constantly exposed, and others but rarely, namely, being called upon to read out to the audience a statement made by a witness or some other person a short time before. This demand coming suddenly on a writer, tired perhaps with some hours' writing, and often applying to a specially confused and rapid passage, can only be met if the note is very legible. It is, therefore, as stringent a test of the legibility as it is of the fulness and accuracy of the notes.

If the Gurney system had possessed a newspaper it would have been unnecessary for me to give these particulars. But—and this brings me to some facts in its history which I ought not to omit—it has no journal, and never has had one. Its adherents are few in comparison with the Phonographers or the followers of Gabelsberger; and no wonder, for its writers have taken no part in Mr Pitman's great work of popularizing Shorthand and extending its use. No enthusiastic pupils celebrate its triumphs and propagate its doctrine, for no open school exists, or with brief exceptions ever has existed, for teaching the system in the admirable manner in which Phonography is taught. It has been learned, like its worthy rival the Taylor system, from the Handbook, or by personal tuition, or, for professional purposes, in the offices of its practitioners. It has not adapted itself to modern ways by descending into the streets and distributing leaflets by sandwich men. On the contrary, it has never since its practical career began, published any testimonials, and to keep up the excellent practice I abstain from reading some weighty statements which I have been requested to read, because they come too near to testimonials. It has relied entirely on steady, useful work. Indeed, so far has its reticence been carried that outsiders have found a difficulty in knowing what was being done by it, and even in finding a teacher of it. One natural consequence has been that in some histories and articles written by persons outside the Shorthand world,

like the lamented Professor Keith Falconer, it has been referred to as if it were scarcely a living system, a notion which what I have stated will be sufficient to dispel.

My object throughout this paper has been simply to state some facts which appeared to be imperfectly known about the Gurney system, without at all depreciating other systems. To say nothing of my personal esteem for my colleagues of different persuasions, it has been my privilege to witness such excellent work done by writers of Taylor's, Lewis's, and Pitman's systems (I name them chronologically) working interchangeably with Gurney writers, that it would be impossible for me willingly to disparage them or their systems. I hope, therefore, that my paper may be accepted as an amicable rather than a controversial contribution to the store of facts accumulated by the Congress.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, the paper is open for discussion.

Professor EVERETT: I rise, Sir, for the purpose of emphasizing a point to which Mr Gurney Salter has called attention, namely, the importance that experience has shown to attach to the occasional insertion of vowels in words, even in the middle of words. That has been too much overlooked. It is an example of how people follow a leader as sheep follow the first of the flock, that when there was such good work going on in one particular method of writing, the Shorthand makers with one consent went on the plan of defining the consonants and leaving the vowels practically to shift for themselves. The experience just laid before us shows that in many words the vowels, even medial ones, form very important characteristics; and I take it to be an axiom that it is the duty of a man who frames a system of Shorthand to select for writing the most characteristic parts of the subject. There is not time to write everything, but that which is written should be that which is most characteristic, and which will best serve to distinguish one word from another. That characteristic may sometimes be a consonant and sometimes a vowel. I do not wish to go much into controversial matter or to detain the meeting longer.

Mr SPENCER HARRY: As a writer of the Gurney system, I should like to say a very few words in accentuation of some matters which Mr Gurney-Salter has mentioned. I would refer more especially to one prominent feature of the system—its legibility under almost any circumstances. That, as has been stated, is frequently tested at trying times; while writing at great speed, one is liable to sudden interruption for reading. It has also been tested, I may say, in a very humble degree, through myself on several occasions, in taking a verbatim note under difficulties. It has been my lot to stand and write for a considerable time on doubled-up fragments of paper, on the bowed down back of a good-natured man who stood in front of me. That was at an out-door meeting; I believe it had to do with Fenian matters, a good many years ago. Those notes, taken in the rough, in the middle of a surging crowd, and on that somewhat yielding surface in a double sense, were, if I recollect right, very legible, and were the subject of a sworn deposition. On another occasion it happened to me to be writing at a public out-door meeting, when the rain was pouring in torrents. I had to write for about an hour with nearly an eighth-of-an-inch depth of water on my book; spoonfuls of water ran off page after page as it was turned over. When the meeting came to an end, my book was closed up, and tied up hard for a month. When the instructions came from an official source to transcribe those notes, I had to use a paper knife to separate every single page of paper from the next. But the notes were perfectly legible, and were transcribed without any difficulty whatever. My experience is no more remarkable probably than that of my comrades, but I will take the liberty to mention one other incident. I had to write shorthand on another occasion without the friendly help of any man's back, but holding my small narrow book in my hand, with the sharp step of a waggonette, from which the speaking was taking place, just in front of my stomach, with a surging and

rather excitable crowd at my back, exceedingly anxious to cut me in two with the step of the waggonette, or to produce such inconvenience to me that my notes should not be legible. Yet in spite of these difficulties, and although I was frequently lurching about, standing first on one leg and then on the other, my notes were perfectly legible. Now, I think I may attribute that fact in a large degree to the prevailing characteristic of the Gurney system, namely, the very wide difference between one word and another, and to the point to which Professor Everett alluded, namely, the strong representation of vowels.

Mr Webb: I wish to supplement what my friend Mr Spencer Harry has said as to the legibility of the Gurney system. In this morning's Conference I heard it stated that with writers of certain systems it was the practice to omit some words which would be supplied in transcribing by the memory or by the context. Now, that is not our practice. I may say that the Gurney system is, according to my long experience, a safe system. I have been called upon to give evidence upon oath as to the exact words used before an Election Committee of the House of Commons, and upon my evidence the witness, who was indicted for perjury, was convicted and sentenced. Now, if on the ground that the evidence was rapid, I had left anything to be presumed, or to be supplied by memory, how could I have sworn that the man used those very words? Again, looking at it in another way, I have been called upon after say a dozen years, to transcribe my notes, which I had not seen in the meanwhile. If I had left anything to be supplied by memory, what help would memory have given me after a dozen years, when I had in the interval attended hundreds of inquiries? But there were the exact words, and those words could be sworn to in Court.

The Chairman: I think the discussion is wandering away from the subject before us, the history of the Gurney system.

[The following paper was then read.]

THE PHONOGRAPHIC BASIS OF ENGLISH SHORTHAND.

By Mr Edward Pocknell.

Mr Isaac Pitman, in his "History of Shorthand," 1847, adopting Lewis's description of John Willis's system, not having the original work to refer to, added the following observation:—

"There is some reason to suppose that in the system of John Willis two, at least, of the different sounds of the vowels *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, and *u*, were discriminated; and that the system was, so far, phonetic. . . . If at any future time," Mr Pitman continued, "we should have an opportunity of perusing the works of Bright and John Willis, whose names will ever be held in honor as the founders of the Art of Shorthand, a particular account of them will be given in the *Phonographic Correspondent*."

I do not think the opportunity spoken of has ever occurred to Mr Pitman, but some of us in London have had the advantage during the past few years of perusing several editions of John Willis's work, including the anonymous publication of 1602, found by Dr Westby-Gibson in the British Museum. The latter work was also found in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, by the late Mr Keith-Falconer, and Mr Pitman will know something of it probably now, because a synopsis (as stated by Mr Keith-Falconer in

Notes and Queries,) was sent to the *Phonetic Journal* for publication last year.

I lay on the table two MS. copies of John Willis's system. One is a copy of the 9th edition, which was in Mr Cornelius Walford's collection. The other is a copy of what purports to be a transcript of the 10th edition (though it differs somewhat from the 10th edition in the British Museum) which was exhibited before the Shorthand Society by Mr T. A. Reed.

No one can read any edition of Willis's works, and especially his anonymous work of 1602, or his subsequent "Schoolmaster to the Art of Stenography" in which the system is set out catechetically, without perceiving that he was well acquainted with the science of Phonetics. He was, as we know, educated at Cambridge, where he took his degrees of Master of Arts and Batchelor of Divinity. He wrote his anonymous work while fulfilling the functions of Rector of St Mary Bothaw, London, and his subsequent books must have been composed in the quietude of a country rectory at Bentley Parva, in Essex. The reform of our orthography was no new thing; Mr Pitman mentions in his "Manual" that it had been pioneered by Sir John Cheke as early as 1540. Ten years after that date Sir John Cheke wrote a translation of the Gospel of St Matthew and part of that of St Mark in his new orthography. In all cases where *a* is sounded long, he used the double *a* (*aa*), as *taak* for *take*, *prepaar* for *prepare*, omitting the final *e*. *E* and *o* long were also doubled, as *Ameen*, *propheet*, *Herood*, *theerbi*, *hool* for *whole*, *Jooseeph* for *Joseph*; and for *i* long he used *ij*, as *thijn* for *thine*, *swijn* for *swine*; and several diphthongs were treated in the same way, as *speek* (speak), *treed* (tread), *theer* (their), *coot* (coat), *coostes* (coasts), *geestes* (guests), *bijlt* (built), *fruut* (fruit). *E* final was abolished; thus, *giv* (give), *curs* (curse), *belev* (believe). *Y* was abolished, except as expressing *th*, as y^e (the), y^{en} (then), y^t (that), y^{is} (this); and its place taken by *i*, as *pai* (pay), *iou* (you), *mighti* (mighty). *Y* at the end of words was usually *ee*, as *extremitee*; and the termination *ble* often became *bil*, as *sufferabil*.

In 1569 Hart's Orthography appeared, and was reproduced in 1850 by Mr Pitman in "Phonography," as well as in Hart's phonetic longhand.

From 1580 to 1585 books were published by William Bullokar in "tru ortôgraphy," many alterations from the current spelling being adopted. In the former year he published a "Booke at large for the Amendment of Orthographie," and in 1585 Æsop's Fables in the new spelling.

In 1619 Alexander Gil, headmaster of St Paul's School, published "Logonomia Anglica," a book on Phonetic Orthography. The second edition of this work, which has been lent by Mr T. A.

Reed for the Congress Exhibition, I place on the table. Gil used diacritical marks for differentiating three sounds of *a*, two of *e*, three of *i*, two of *o*, and three of *u*; and at the end of his alphabet he drew special attention to the affinity of sound between certain consonants, which he named in the following grouping (in the latter part of his list giving certain words as illustrations where the affinity is detected):—"*b* and *p*; *d* and *t*; *g* and *k*; *v* and *f*; *wh* and *w*; *dh* and *th*; *n* and *ng*; *z*, *s*, *sh*, *ch*, and *j*."

So far as I can judge, John Willis took advantage of this then well-known phonetic principle, purely from a shorthand standpoint, viz., because it conduced naturally to brevity; for he observes, in a note to the eighth chapter of the 1602 edition, "In this art, not the orthography but the sound of the word is respected, *and for such contraction of the letters by the sound* we have the precedent of antiquity to warrant it;" and this statement is illustrated by reference to some letters added to the Greek alphabet to express double sounds.

John Willis's first book, of 1602, must always be interesting, because we can trace in it the operations of his mind. The idea of a Universal Shorthand presented itself to his imagination. Hence he says, as one reason for the study of the art, "This book discovereth a true and constant forme of art, applyable not to one language alone, but generally to all; insomuch that he which hath learned it thoroughly, as it concerneth the English only, may by the same skill write also in Latine, French, Italian, or any other tongue that he hath knowledge of," etc. The phonetic idea is apparent in that sentence. But in making a distinction between letters and the characters by which they are represented, he takes occasion to say, "Letters are ordinarily known three ways: by the name whereby they are called, by the character whereby they are written, and by the sound whereby they are pronounced; of these three the sound, or pronunciation, is most essential to the letter. . . . And hence it is that the sound of a letter continueth the same in divers languages, though it varies in name and character." As an illustration, he gives the letter *d*, which in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin has "divers names and divers characters, but one letter because pronounced with one sound."

There is in this book an alphabetical table, giving, in column 1, the shorthand characters; in column 2, the longhand letters in capitals; and "the third column showeth what is their sound."

In Willis's day the distinction was beginning to be made in printing between *i* and *j* to indicate the difference in sound, which varied previously with the use of the same letter *i*, both as a consonant and a vowel. As a consonant, *i* had the sound of our *j*; as a vowel, the sound of *i* as now. It was the same with *v*, which stood for both *u* and *v*, as we shall see presently. Willis's

method of dealing with this state of things, if it stood alone, would be a strong proof that the phonetic idea was his guide in the construction of his system, for he at once decided to adopt a separate shorthand character for *i* when sounded as *i* the vowel, and a different one for the same letter when sounded as *j* the consonant; and he also had distinct signs for *u* and *v*. Again, he says the words *judge* and *gentle* are both to be begun with the character for *j*, whilst *good* is to be begun with the different sign for *g* hard. *K*, *c* and *q* in the several words *can*, *keep*, and *logique* are to be expressed by *k*. *S*, *c*, and *t* in the words *his*, *face*, and *nation* (*nasion*) are to be written by the sign for *s*. He is careful to explain that in giving these illustrations of letters that are to be written by other characters he is speaking of them here as written *letters*, and not as pronounced by *sound*. He explains why he has no letter *c* in his alphabet, because it has "the sound of two letters, *k* and *s*. When it is sounded as *k* it is referred to *k*, when it is sounded as *s* it is to be referred to *s*."

Next he notes that there are twenty diphthongs in the language, of two vowels each. He gives illustrations of each of the twenty as the *ai* in *rain*, *au* in *laud*, *aw* in *saw*, *ea* in *heat*, etc. There are also five triphthongs, as *aoi* in *gaoill*, *iew* in *view*, *eau* in *beautie*. Each of these is to be "expressed by that only vowel which is most sounded in it." In his subsequent work he dealt very differently with this part of the subject.

Then our author shows what unsounded consonants in words may be "neglected," or left out, and the first instruction is to neglect a consonant "when it comes before another *consonant of the same sound*," the example given being the word *ascende*, where, he remarks, "*s* and *c* are of the same sound, though different letters," and therefore the "precept" or rule is in regard of "consonants of the same sound, *not* consonants of the same letter." We see how careful he is lest the student should neglect the principle of "sound."

The sound of a letter may also be neglected when it is "drowned;" as the *c* in the words *sclander* and *excell*; or when it is an aspiration, as *h*, *w*, *y*. In a note he says there are four aspirations in the English tongue, and he adds *gh* to the ones just given.

The book, up to the ninth chapter, has constant references to writing by sound. Chapter 8 deals with abbreviating by contraction in representing such words as *Sabaoth* by *Saboth*, *triacle* by *trecle*, *Trickes* by *Trix*, and so on, and finishes with the words, "Thus much for the abbreviation of a syllable *in regard to the sound thereof*."

Let us now see what references we have in the subsequent editions or works of John Willis.

The earliest accessible edition is that of the 9th, dated 1628. And here in the very first chapter, the instruction reads :

"In every word, those letters are to be omitted, which are but lightly, or not at all sounded, whether they be vowels or consonants." [Examples are then given both of vowels and consonants that may be omitted.]

Then we read :

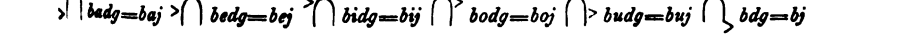
"Having seen what letters in every word are to be omitted, let us see now how the needful letters in every word (which are those that are fully sounded therein) are to be expressed."

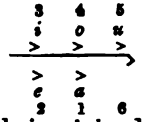
In this edition we are told also that *c* has the sound of either *k* or *s*, and must be so expressed ; that *ph* in the same syllable has the sound of *f* ; that *g* has two sounds, as in *God, grace,* when *g* is to be used ; or as *j* in *genealogie, sage, judge,* and *bridge,* when the character of *i* the consonant, =*j*, is to be used : and that *t* has two sounds, first the "one proper to itself, as in 'Time tryeth truth,' and the other the sound of *s* in *nation, motion, gentian* [in shorthand *nasion, mosion, jensian*] ;" and that *cc, ct, kes, ckes,* and *ctes,* as in *accesse, action, thankes, trickes, effectes,* " are to be expressed by the character of *x*, whose sound they have :" and " *Y* is two ways pronounced ; first like the vowel *i*, as in these words, *synode, syllable, physicke,* and then is expressed by the character of *i* the vowel ; secondly, it hath the sound of an aspiration, as in these words, *yeere, Yorke, youth,* and then it must be expressed by its own character. Also *ch* [for which Willis had the character × in his 9th edition] hath two sounds, the one such as it hath in these words and the like, *church, Charles, choyce,* and then it is to be expressed by its proper character. The other is the sound of *k*, which it hath in these words, *choler, chronicles, mechanicall,* and then it is to be expressed by the character for *k*."

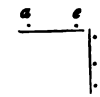
He explains no other letters because he says, "The sound of all the rest is manifest by the alphabet, where it is to be observed that this art prescribeth the writing of words not according to their orthographie as they are written, but according to their sound as they are pronounced."

In chapter 3 the opening sentence is :—"The fashion and *sound* of the characters being showne in the former chapter, we are next to consider their quantity." [Here he enters on the use of the great and small characters.]

This chapter deals with the placing of small characters about great ones in five places, called the places of vowels, the sixth place being used to join the small to the great character when no vowel intervenes, thus ⌒ *b*, > *j*, becomes (always reading the larger character as the first in the word) :



In the case of (—) *r* the places are: 

[Note that in the sixth place the letters being joined exclude any vowel between.] The vowel's place being *indicated* as above, the vowel itself is shown by a dot, or *tittle* as Willis calls it, and his illustration with ⌐ *d* is:  and with (—) *r*: 

Now we come to the part of Willis's work, the quotation of a few words from which attracted Mr Pitman's attention when writing his "History of Shorthand," I mean chapter 8, which commences thus:

"It followeth in the next place to show how words of one syllable produced (that is to say pronounced long as having in them a long vowel or diphthong) may be distinguished from words written with the same letters whose vowels are short. Words that are to be distinguished by notes of production do end either in a diphthong, both whose vowels are fully *sounded*, or in a consonant.

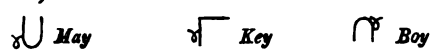
"I. The diphthongs, both whose vowels are fully sounded, in which a word of one syllable may end, are these:

aa	*ay*	*aw*
ee	*ey*	*ew*
oo	*oy*	*ow*

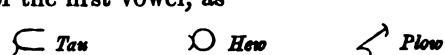
If a word end in a diphthong consisting of the same vowel doubled, as of *aa*, *ee*, or *oo*, it is to be expressed by two light touches of the pen (´) in the place of the vowel doubled, as



If a word end in *ay*, *ey*, or *oy*, the diphthong is to be expressed by the small character of *y* affixed to the great character in the place of the first vowel, as

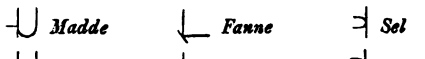


If a word end in *au*, *ew*, or *ow*, the diphthong must be expressed by the small character of *w* affixed likewise to the great character in the place of the first vowel, as

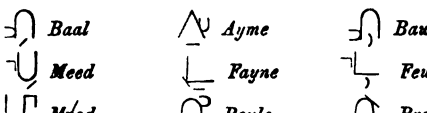


"II. Words of one syllable produced, which end in a consonant, have in them a long vowel or a diphthong.

"If they have in them a long vowel, or diphthong one of whose vowels is neglected, they may be distinguished from other words having a short vowel by a tittle under their great character, as



"If they have in them a diphthong both whose vowels are equally sounded: then the consonant being affixed in the place of the first vowel, let the latter, if it be *a*, *e*, or *o*, be expressed under the great character by a light touch of the pen standing thus (´); if *i* or *y*, by a light touch of the pen standing thus (–); if *u* or *w*, by the small character of *w*, as



"

Then he speaks in Chapter 9 of writing words of two syllables where "the latter vowel being neglected the rest of the letters are apt in their own nature to render the full sound of the word;" and in Chapter 12 we find him saying, "Now for the more speedy and proportionable expressing of many sounds we are to observe the use of Combinations, Terminations," etc.

Before a Congress of Shorthand Writers I need not argue what these statements import; it is sufficient to give the facts. But, as if to exclude all doubt as to his meaning, John Willis makes full reference to the phonetic basis of his system in the explanation called "The Schoolmaster to the Art of Stenography," intended as an answer to the objections that students might possibly raise to his published system. In the 3rd edition, dated 1647, published after his death, or else wrongly dated, but which is, in the words I shall quote, mainly a copy of the earlier 2nd edition, likewise extant, there are the following colloquies between "Scholar" and "Master," which I give in his own words, so that you may form your own judgment:—

"*Scholar.* The rules delivered in the first chapter are contrary to the right spelling of words according to Orthography?

"*Master.* There are no certain rules for the right spelling of English, so that hardly any two men that write, precisely agree in the spelling thereof. But for short writing the shortest expression of a word is most convenient. . . . In every word those letters

or syllables that are but lightly, or not at all, sounded, are to be omitted where one writeth stenographically.

* * * * *

"*Scholar.* In this chapter [chapter 2] it is said that *g* hath two sounds, the one proper to itself, the other to the sound of *j* the consonant, but it is not shewed what sound *i* hath when it is a vowel, and what when it is a consonant?

"*Master.* That was omitted because it was presumed that every man that would set to learn this art would be able to distinguish between vowels and consonants. But, to satisfy you when both *i* and *u* are vowels and when consonants, observe *i* when it is a vowel hath always the same sound that it hath in these words, *in, writ, die;* when it is a consonant it hath the same sound that it hath in these words, *jarr, Jew, adjourn.* *V* when it is a vowel hath always the same sound that it hath in these words, *unto, tunne, sue.* When it is a consonant, it hath the same sound which it hath in these words, *vaine, give, loving.* These letters having such distinct sounds are to have distinct characters to express them. And *some curious printers of late* observe this difference, expressing *I* the vowel thus, *i;* *I* the consonant thus, *j;* *V* the vowel thus, *u;* *V* the consonant thus, *v.*[1]

* * * * *

"*Scholar.* But why do you say that *dg* is the proper signification of *j* the consonant, after a vowel?

"*Master.* Because the consonant before a vowel, and *dg* after a vowel, are both of the same sound (as you may perceive in the word *judge*).

* * * * *

"*Scholar.* What need you give examples of the diphthongue *aa* (as you do in these two words of the eighth chapter, *Laa* and *Claa*), whereas we have no such diphthongue?

"*Master.* Almost all English words ending in *aw* (as *law, claw, daw, flaw, haw, jaw,* etc.,) or written with the diphthong *au* or *aw* (as *fraud, laud, Maud, Saul, caule, Paul, fawne, drawne,*) or that end in *all* (as *ball, call, fall, gall, hall, tall, wall,*) are pronounced as if they were written with *aa.* For the sound of a double *a* is as perfectly rendered in them as the sound of double *e* in these words, *mee, meede,* or the sound of double *o* in these words, *moo, moode,* as you shall plainly perceive if you mark it well. And who seeth not that *Baal,* the name of the idol of the Sidonians, is not only pronounced but always written with a double *a?* Therefore *because I would have this art to give full and perfect distinction to all vowels or diphthongs whatsoever,* I entreat pardon that for demonstration sake I have thus written these words

1. The printer of Willis's book made a jumble in this passage of the capitals *I* and *J*, *U* and *V*, which I have rectified in the above quotation.—E. P.

whose sounds otherwise could not be perfectly distinguished by letters; as you may see by the different sounds of the five syllables following:—

Ball, which is written with *a* short, and is pronounced like the first syllable of the words *bal-lad, bal-lance.*

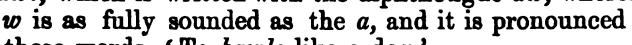
Bale, which is written with *a* long, and is pronounced as in these words, 'A *bale* of dice.'

Baall, which for example sake I have written with the diphthongue *aa*, and is sounded as in these words, 'A tennis *ball.*'

Bawl, which is written with the diphthongue *aw*, wherein the *w* is as fully sounded as the *a*, and it is pronounced as in these words, 'To *bawle* like a dog.'

Baile, whose diphthongue *ai* is in use, and sounded as in these words, *faile, quaile, baile*, etc.

And as these five syllables are manifestly distinguished *in sound one from another*, so do I also distinguish them in writing, as



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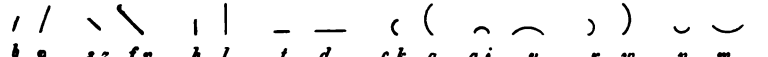
"*Scholar.* I pray you before you proceed further, show me why you call *z*, *x*, and *j* double consonants?

"*Master.* Because they consist of two consonants *contracted into one sound.* For *z* is made of *ds*, as *Dsabulon* (Zabulon); *x* is made of *cs*, as *Ecson* (Exon); *j* is made of *dg*, as *Adj-ax* (Ajax). For *j* in the beginning of a syllable, and *dg* in the end of a syllable, are both of the same sound, as I have before shown."

These and other quotations that might be made, show, I think conclusively, that Willis constructed his system on a purely phonetic basis. He provided for fourteen distinct vowel sounds, in fourteen distinct ways, besides having *characters* for the five vowels among his *alphabetical signs*.

It may be said his alphabet has not related signs for related sounds. That is true, but I am not now considering how he carried out his theory, but what that theory was.

But just after Willis's death, so far as can be judged, an anonymous writer produced a MS., now in the Sloane Collection in the British Museum, a copy of which I lay on the table, in which he had the following alphabet, whose characters are paired by difference in length:



This the author called "Characterisme, or A system of such rules as might be best for y^e^ writing of Shorthand." The vowels

however were only *a, e, i, o, u,* expressed by dots or points in "position." The plan of placing detached consonants in the places of the vowels was also resorted to.

These two systems, taken together, show that the two main principles which underlie modern Phonography were anticipated in the beginning of the seventeenth century, and that Mr Pitman's supposition in regard to John Willis's system being Phonetic, is borne out to a fuller extent than he imagined.

The Chairman: Does anyone wish to make any remarks upon this paper?

Mr. Pitman: May I just point out that the pronunciation of the five words which Willis quotes is perfectly distinct; and it seems to me impossible that the sound which Willis intended to convey can be misunderstood. Take the pronunciation of "Ball." In his day it was pronounced like the first syllable of "ballads." The second word is "Bale," the third is "Baal," the God of the Zidoniana, with the long "a;" the next is "Bawl," to cry out, and the other is "Bail,"—the long open diphthong "ai," to bail a man out of court; a diphthong which we have nearly lost in English; but it is preserved and extensively used in all the Western counties. You there hear about the milk *maïd*, and to *paï* a bill, and the bill was *païd*; you hear the broad open diphthong *ai*, followed by *d*. We preserve it in the affirmative "aye," the "ayes" have it, which some people alter into "I," the "eyes" have it; and you have it in the French word "naïveté," which is simply two syllables, "naive" and "té." I say that Willis was correct in discriminating between the five sounds of those five words.

Mr Valpy: Sir, I think that the thanks of the Congress are due to Mr Pocknell if only upon one point. There seems to be a very widespread erroneous impression as to the origin of Phonography in England. Some people imagine that it dates from 1837. I think Mr Pocknell has shown quite conclusively that it goes at least as far back as the year 1602.

Mr Pitman: I must exonerate myself at least from any such misconception as the idea that Phonography began in 1837. At the time I published my first book, I was ignorant of the vast literature that existed upon the subject of phonographic writing and reformed spelling. As the system grew, I became acquainted with this literature, and I was glad to find it. I have never supposed or intimated to the public that phonographic writing originated with me. I disclaim the idea entirely, and place the honor where it is due, on the heads of those great men who preceded me.

Mr Valpy: I should like to say one word of explanation, I entirely exonerate Mr Pitman himself from entertaining the idea; but I say that it is entertained in other quarters,—not by Mr Pitman.

Mr Pitman: Ignorantly.

Mr Valpy: Yes, ignorantly.

Mr Pocknell: Mr Valpy is perfectly correct in saying that a great many people believe that the art of writing Shorthand phonographically began with Mr Pitman in 1837; and if you will read an article in the *Times* of to-day you will find that the writer of the article shares that belief, and he disseminates it to the extent of 50,000 or 100,000 copies a day, and so it is spread abroad. I know that Mr Pitman would not say that he was the author of Phonographic writing, either in longhand or Shorthand; but so many people do say it that finally it is widely believed to be the truth.

The Chairman: I think that this immense ignorance is very common. Only the other day a gentleman came to my house whom I had not seen for years; he is the

brother-in-law of one of the best known Mayors in a Midland town, who has lately been made a Knight. It was to get information about Shorthand that he came; and he really seriously believed that Mr Pitman had invented Shorthand, that there never was any shorthand before him. Yet he was an educated gentleman.

Mr JEREMY COOK: I wish to ask the Chairman to give the date of the origin of the Taylor system, which I, like many other professional shorthand writers, am accustomed to use. The date given in a morning paper to-day was earlier than I supposed to be correct.

Mr PITMAN: The correct date is 1786.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sorry that we have no paper on Taylor's system.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Two papers were promised, but accidental circumstances prevented their being written.

[The following paper was then read.]

SHORTHAND IN GERMANY.

By Herr Max Bäckler, Berlin.

It is a happy turn of fate, that it was in England that the fertile idea first arose of holding an International Congress of Shorthand Writers of all existing systems, and lovers of Stenography generally, it being the fact that in England modern Shorthand was first originated with Dr Timothy Bright's "Characterie," about the year 1587, and that England brought to life again the "wingèd art," almost forgotten in the middle ages. We owe to Great Britain the high importance and the manifold use shorthand has obtained in all civilized countries. I need not explain to you how Stenography has successfully spread over all the countries of civilisation, and how the different English systems have been adapted to many languages and used by many nations.

The oldest German system, which appeared in 1679 at Frankfort-on-the-Main (an adaptation of Shelton's Tachygraphy), the systems of Mosengeil (1796), and Horstig (1797), both adaptations of Samuel Taylor's Universal system, and all their successors until up to 1834, are founded upon English tachygraphic principles. Though Germany has entirely abandoned them now-a-days, having created a basis of shorthand totally different from the geometrical systems, we shall never fail to thankfully acknowledge the merit and the endeavors of England, the cradle of Modern Shorthand.

In Germany Franz Xavier Gabelsberger (1789-1849), secretary of the Ministry in Bavaria, who is considered to be the father of modern German Stenography, founded a method entirely departing from the systems of his predecessors. In 1817 he laid down the principles of his system, and already in 1819 he found an opportunity to practise his invention at the first Bavarian Diet. Hereupon he diligently endeavored to improve his system, and presented it in 1829, thoroughly re-formed, to the critical examination of the Bavarian

Academy of Sciences, which pronounced a very satisfactory opinion on Gabelsberger's work. In 1834 he published his invention in a work of considerable size—Anleitung zur deutschen Rede-Zeichen-Kunst (Introduction to the German Note-taking art).

His signs for the alphabetic characters are derived from ordinary longhand. Instead of the geometrical English shorthand signs, which are to be drawn in various directions, he made use of script signs, which (nearly without exception) are to be written in the direction of the usual longhand. He also paid greater attention to the representation of the vowels than all his predecessors, and abandoned entirely the English method of marking the vowels in case of need by dots and dashes placed by the side of the consonants, but not joined to them. According to the nature of the vowels, and of the following or preceding consonants, he expressed the vowels either literally by signs of their own, or symbolically by change of the position of the following or preceding consonant (not of the whole word), by transforming its shape, by shading the consonant lines or by blending together consonant and vowel signs. Nevertheless, there were still some cases in which the vowel could not be expressed without difficulty. In such a case Gabelsberger simply omitted the vowel. In 1843 he published, in addition to his work, a system for shortening sentences and phrases according to the general sense of the phrase, so that he did not refer to a system of definite logograms (though about 200 of them are also to be found in his system) but to abbreviations, which the writer can form at his own free will, when occupied with note-taking. Gabelsberger is said to have derived this system of abbreviations from the old Tironian notes, which used to express the verb, when inseparable from the subject in sense, only by the flectional consonants with the occasional addition of the last consonant of the primitive syllable.

The most important follower of Gabelsberger in Germany was, there is no doubt, Henry August William Stolze, born at Berlin in 1798. After a thorough study of all possible shorthand systems, he decided in 1838 to elaborate a proper of his own, and set himself immediately to work. With the aid of the Prussian Ministry of Public Instruction he published his work in 1841, entitled, "Theoretic-practical Compendium of German Stenography, for the use of higher schools, and for self-instruction."

An exact definition of the distinguishing principles of Gabelsberger and Stolze, or a comparison of the two systems, would not belong to my task in this Paper. The essential difference between them is to be found in the greater exactitude of Stolze as to the representation of the longhand words, which does not admit of any doubt or ambiguity. Stolze laid it down as a maxim, which became an inviolable rule for his adherents, that every sound in the language is to be represented in shorthand by a stenographic character, or, if omitted, is to be supplied according to a definite rule, which excludes any doubt

whatever. Stolze chiefly expressed his vowels in a symbolical way by writing the principal syllable on, above, or below, the line, together with a close or lengthened connection of the consonants on each side of the vowel, and with a shaded or non-shaded initial consonant.

When founding his system Stolze took carefully into consideration the structure of the German language. For the frequent prefixes and suffixes he used abbreviations, which he connected in a characteristic manner to the words, so that we are, at the first glance, enabled to distinguish in our stenographic outlines the prefixes and suffixes from the principal syllables, which are, so to speak, the embodiments of the words. The same mode of assigning abbreviations to the prefixes and suffixes he also applied to the numerous foreign words in the German language, but the system became, in consequence, very difficult to learn. A great number of abbreviations—the so-called Sigel—enhanced, moreover, the difficulty for the learner. Principally in view of these circumstances, the most prominent adherents of the Stolzean Stenography agreed in 1872 upon simplifying the system, so that it might be easier to learn. The system thus reformed has been, during the past fifteen years, adopted by the great majority of the adherents of the Old-Stolzean system, and has been propagated with an unexpected rapidity.

Quite different from Stolze's method is the German shorthand of Leopold Frederic Arends, a private *litterateur*, who was born in 1817 in the Baltic portion of Russia, and who first published his work in 1850, and afterwards in a modified and improved form in 1860, from which year the propagation of his system dates. He is said to have adopted and imitated the method of Fayet, a Frenchman, an assertion which has been energetically contested by him and his partisans. It is a fact, however, that we meet in both works with the same fundamental principles. The structure of his system depends upon his characteristic manner of vocalisation even more than Stolze's does. His vocalisation is not a symbolical one. The Arends stenographers actually write the vowels by simple stenographic characters, either directly connected or contracted with the consonant to which they belong. For this purpose Arends was obliged to taper off all his consonant signs at the bottom, distinguishing them only by their different size and formation at the top. He did not, however, succeed in all possible cases in carrying out his vocalisation, which he intended to be literal.

After him Henry Roller, who published his work in 1875, brought about such a literal vocalisation almost without any exception.

Besides these we have several systems, with a limited number of adherents, and no prospect of any future success. The system of Lemann, who was formerly an Arends stenographer, but who has taken quite a different turn, is to be mentioned among the series of the minor systems. Lemann's shorthand vowels are symbolical accor-

ding to the different height, and the single, double, or triple size of the consonants, together with the further distinction of shaded and non-shaded consonantal strokes and a close or lengthened connection between the consonants on each side of the vowel.

A very simple German system has been invented by Professor Faulmann of Vienna, a *ci-devant* adherent of Gabelsberger. Owing to his non-characteristic signs it is, however, of no practical importance. Another inventor, Velten, endeavored to bring the Stolzean system into one line of writing, while Stolze, as already mentioned, makes use of three lines. Merkes finally introduced a mixtum compositum of the systems of Stolze, Gabelsberger and Arends, with some additions invented by himself.

England, like Germany, is yearly producing new systems, but only of an ephemeral existence.

Most of the German systems which are at all widely diffused have been adapted to foreign languages, partly with great success. Adaptations of Gabelsberger's system are almost exclusively employed in Italy, Roumania, Servia, Greece, Finland and Denmark. In Hungary Gabelsberger's system, adapted to this language by Markovits, preponderates over an adaptation of the Stolzean system by Fenyvessy, lately improved by Professor Gyúrman, of Budapesth. The chief of the stenographic bureau of the Hungarian Diet is a Stolzean shorthand writer. In Russia also we find adaptations of Stolze and Gabelsberger, but only to a limited extent. In Sweden the Gabelsberger system is struggling for the superiority with Arends' system, which has found its way recently into the Swedish Parliament.

The adaptations of Stolze and Gabelsberger to the English language are principally fostered by some American Shorthand Societies. That the French adaptations of both systems have not found any entrance and regard in France may be ascribed, independently of intrinsic reasons, to the peculiar political circumstances existing now in France. Nevertheless, by means of the French Stolzean system, edited by Professor Michaelis, the French speeches in the Grand Council of Bern, in Switzerland, are reported verbatim with great success.

In the Parliamentary bodies of Germany only the systems of Gabelsberger and Stolze have been introduced into the official service, and the same might almost be said as to the reporting service of the newspapers. In the German Diet an equal number of Stolzeans and Gabelsbergerians work under two chiefs, who adhere to the Stolzean system. In the Prussian House of Deputies, the most numerous Parliamentary body of Germany, the Shorthand service is entirely trusted to Stolzeans. In the Prussian Upper House we find also, with only one exception, Stolzean stenographers. In the Diets of the other German States—as far as they make use of Shorthand, which is not the case with all of them—the Gabelsberger system is practised. Some provincial Diets

of Prussia have also their speeches taken down by Shorthand. The Assemblies of the States in Rhineland and Silesia are reported verbatim by Gabelsberger stenographers, while the Diet of the Province of Saxony is attended by Berlin Stolzeans. Berlin shorthand writers of the Stolzean system are also appointed, it may be remarked in passing, to make the stenographic protocol of the Diet of the Livonian Knighthood at Riga.

The leaders of the Shorthand movement in Germany do not make it their principal aim to educate experts for professional work, but to introduce Shorthand into business and scientific life, and into daily use generally. Agreeably with this object, we endeavor in Germany to obtain and maintain a stenographic writing which can be entirely relied upon, and which may, without any doubt whatever, take the place of longhand.

Shorthand associations are extraordinarily *en vogue* in Germany more than in any other country. Privy Councillor Blenck, the chief of the Prussian statistical office, a fervent adherent of the Stolzean system, has lately published a valuable pamphlet on the historical development, the actual position, and the future of Shorthand; and has given therein interesting facts as to the number of our stenographic associations, and of their members. There are in Germany about 1,000 Shorthand associations, with more than 22,000 ordinary members. The Gabelsberger system has the greatest number of adherents, having been introduced as a facultative subject of instruction into the higher schools of Austria, Saxony and Bavaria. It possesses in Germany 460 societies, with 11,220 members. To the Stolzean system, of which I am an adherent, belong in Germany 370 societies, with 7,798 members. The Arends system has 63 societies, with 1,140 members. The system of Roller has—according to a calculation not to be relied upon—72 associations, with 1,216 members. The other minor systems I mentioned before will complete the whole number of the associations and members.

The Gabelsberger system has also been propagated to a considerable extent in Austria, where we find 53 societies, with 1,100 members.

In Switzerland the Stolzean system preponderates with 34 societies and 736 members over the Gabelsberger system with only 7 societies and 147 members.

In Prussia, the principal state of Germany, the Stolzean system is by far stronger than that of Gabelsberger.

The importance and number of our Shorthand organs, which amount to 76, correspond to the great development of Shorthand societies in Germany. As the most prominent of these papers pay great attention to all Shorthand matters in foreign countries, we in Germany are always thoroughly and regularly informed of every Shorthand event throughout the whole world.

By far the greater part of our Shorthand societies of the respective

systems are connected with district unions, which are in their turn united to general leagues with fixed codes of rules. The leaders of them are bound to interest themselves in the propagation of their system, in the progress of the members in Shorthand, and in the careful preparation of ultimate improvements in the system.

I hope my observations, although rather briefly expressed, owing to the short space of time which was accorded to me, will have been sufficient to make you somewhat acquainted with the great interest and attention Shorthand has obtained in Germany. Hitherto we have always supposed that in England and America Shorthand was only cherished as a matter of business, or for "bread and butter considerations," as it was lately said by an American Shorthand paper, while in Germany the Shorthand societies were pursuing more ideal and scientific aims. Certainly this would not be a reproach, for, indeed, Shorthand is destined to improve the material position of him who has learned it, but it has a higher object in view; it will help us in saving time, and in facilitating labor, and therefore it cannot fail to increase the powers of mankind. A great deal of earnest and unselfish work is still necessary in order to attain this praiseworthy aim. Now the summoning of this Congress, and the great efforts made by the originators for its success, evince, in a distinct manner, that English shorthand writers are going in the same direction. In England, as in Germany, Shorthand is not merely considered from a material point of view, but also from an ideal and scientific one. I am convinced that by means of this Congress valuable information has been obtained for the further propagation of our useful art; and therefore I finish my short discourse by thanking you heartily in the name of my Shorthand brethren in Germany for the great and adequate efforts you have made in preparing this international meeting of shorthand writers, which will be one of the most important events in the annals of Shorthand.

Mr Reed: Miss Reynolds' paper appears on the programme for a later day; but in consequence of her not being able to be present on that day, we have endeavored to provide a few minutes in which she can read it now.

[The following paper was then read.]

PAPER ON TYPE-WRITING.

By Miss Reynolds.

It is now many years since the idea of a machine which should take the place of the pen seems to have impressed the minds of American people; several different machines for this purpose have been invented, each one being in some way an improvement on its predecessor, until at last we have the Standard Remington Typewriter comparatively perfect, although even now slight alterations

and improvements are frequently being made, in order to render the machine adequate to the increasing demands made upon its efficiency. At the present time there are several other machines in use, such as the Daw, Columbia, Hammond, etc., and no doubt these each receive a fair share of patronage; but the Remington appears to be quite as widely, if not more widely, used than any other Typewriter. This rapid means of writing without the aid of the pen is almost universal in America, where the click of the machine is a familiar sound in all offices. It is essentially an American enterprise; the conception and ultimate construction of such a mechanical contrivance originated with the Americans, and they have well supported it. In America hundreds of women find employment through the Typewriter, and, when not permanently engaged in an office, they receive and execute work at their own homes, and often accept daily or weekly engagements, and take their own Typewriter, just in the same way as in our localities a seamstress is engaged for one or more days away from her home and takes her own machine with her. Within the last few years, the advantages and claims of this invention have become recognised in England, and Typewriting is now to a great extent employed in our own country. This result was chiefly obtained by means of type-writing offices, opened and carried on entirely by women. There are several such offices in London, whilst a few have been started in some of the provincial towns in England; for instance, Manchester, Liverpool, Oxford, Cambridge, etc., and one is also flourishing in Edinburgh. These offices produce a large amount of varied work, executed in a neat and efficient manner, and with business-like promptitude; and in some cases the head of the office, or the employees, are thorough French, German or Latin scholars, which is a considerable advantage, as the resources of the office are thereby strengthened and multiplied, and foreign work can be undertaken. And thus the women of England have, in no small measure, helped to introduce to the English and Scotch public an invention which until recently was almost confined to America.

In a large number of metropolitan and provincial offices, as well as amongst many literary and professional persons, the Typewriter is now used, and women are almost exclusively chosen for the work, as they are found peculiarly adapted for it, their touch on the board (which is somewhat similar to that of a piano) is light and yet firm, and their general manipulation of the machine proves their special suitability for performing the functions of a typist successfully.

The advantages of the Typewriter over the pen are manifold, and quite obvious on a little consideration. Rapidity, legibility, and economy are its chief and most manifest recommendations, although minor ones also exist. An expert penman cannot compete with

the speed of the Typewriter, as from forty to fifty words per minute can be produced by this machine, according to the ability of the operator. In this way the pen, or rather its substitute, keeps pace with the thoughts. With regard to legibility, the Typewriter surpasses the pen, the work done by it being extremely legible and clear, indeed quite as much so as print, whilst there is a beauty and uniformity about the general appearance of the work which is exceedingly attractive.

It is, however, a great advantage, although not an absolute necessity, that an operator on the machine should also be a competent shorthand writer, as then the stenographic notes can be transcribed speedily by means of the Typewriter, and thus another saving of valuable time is effected. The one art is an assistant to the other; they are each of inestimable value even when separated, but far more so when united. It is wise to secure the advantages of a Typewriter in almost every office, but it is also judicious to engage the services of a stenographer; and, where possible, it is well that these two arts should meet in one individual. The benefits resulting from the use of the Typewriter are considerably enhanced by the simultaneous use of Shorthand, and, where possible, the two should be closely united. In the principal towns of the United States, schools for instruction in Shorthand and Typewriting are carried on with great success, and there the two arts are brought into connection and taught at the same time. Typewriting is incomplete without Shorthand; its advantages are not made use of to the fullest extent. Typewriting is not essential to Shorthand, but Shorthand is essential to Typewriting, in order to render it perfect and efficient.

In America the old-fashioned Shorthand is, in some slight measure, superseded by a machine which combines in a wonderfully dexterous manner the arts of Typewriting and Shorthand writing —the shorthand characters being represented by short strokes printed in various positions and at different angles on long narrow strips of paper. But this combination machine does not appear at all likely to be introduced into England; therefore the help of a thorough shorthand writer is most desirable in connection with the working of our own Typewriting machine, and when this is secured a considerable amount of work will be accomplished in a short space of time. There is no doubt that typewriting will eventually become popular in our own country; it is at present in its infancy here, but it only needs a wider dissemination to be appreciated and adopted. In conjunction with it, there is nothing which is of more practical value than Shorthand; and an office which possesses a Remington Typewriter and a skilled stenographer and typist, will have advantages for which the clearest and most rapid penmanship cannot compensate.

The CHAIRMAN: Miss Reynolds' paper will require no discussion, because we should all agree with it. (No, No.) If anyone desires to discuss it, of course he is at liberty to do so.

Prof. BRIDGE (Assistant Professor in the University of Chautauqua, New Jersey): I have used a type-writer for several years in my own work, and I have found it an absolutely indispensable element in connection with shorthand work in the States. I use the "Caligraph," although I am accustomed also to the "Remington." In one sitting I have dictated eighteen columns of a daily paper to a lady at a rate equal to 67 words a minute. It is as common in country towns, I believe, as in cities, to find the type-writer at the disposal of any person who desires it.

Mr LAMPARD; As there is not time to discuss the paper now, I move, sir, that the discussion of it be postponed until Friday. It is by no means to be assumed that we all agree with it. I wish distinctly to traverse that statement.

The CHAIRMAN: The lady will not be present on Friday. I do not know what the object of the discussion will be unless there is a contention about the value of the different type-writers; if so, probably her presence would scarcely be required; her high opinion of the Remington is on record. If Mr Lampard still wishes the discussion to be adjourned to Friday, I suppose it must be so.

Mr. LAMPARD: I feel, sir, that all that has been claimed for the type-writer against the manual transcript of notes ought not to go forth to the world without something being said on the other side. On Friday afternoon many other matters relating to type-writers will be before us, and the question might fairly be discussed then.

The CHAIRMAN: On Friday another paper on the type-writer will be read, and the opportunity for discussion will occur then.

The following paper was then read:—

THE HARLAND SHORTHAND MANUSCRIPTS.

By Arthur W. Croxton.

The literary works of John Harland, whose name does not, now-a-days, receive one half the appreciation it deserves, will ever possess an interest to the student of old-world sayings and doings, whether merely local, or widely national. Not only has he given to the antiquary and bibliographer ample material for consideration, but, what is of more interest to shorthand enthusiasts, there are now in the public care the valuable manuscripts which contain the materials for his proposed history of Shorthand—a history of Shorthand which, from the profound knowledge of John Harland, and his aptitude for historical research, would have been of the utmost value to the student of to-day. Indeed, the first sheet of his history was printed, and is now exceedingly rare. The manuscripts have an interest sufficiently great to make us indulge in the wish that he might have been spared to continue and finish the book in the preparation of which, from what we find in the result of his labours, which are now carefully preserved in the Manchester Reference Library, he devoted so much untiring and profound attention, and displayed such powers of perspicuity in the collection of matter and in his methods of arrangement. We can now only hope that

the work which Mr John Harland would no doubt have completed, had he lived, will at some future time be taken up by our chief authority upon the history and bibliography of Shorthand—Dr John Westby Gibson, who, in addition to an enthusiasm sufficient to reward his efforts with success, possesses what is even of greater importance than enthusiasm, a thorough and complete knowledge of the subject. Indeed, the fact of his having taken up the bibliography of the art, warrants the hope that we may soon, if his health continues, see a history, which we should imagine every healthy-minded Shorthand student is anxiously expecting, ennobling the subject in which he takes so deep an interest, and producing a good return from the labor necessarily expended upon it, proceed from his pen. There could not now be a fitter Elisha to take up the mantle left by John Harland. The path of the writer of a history of Shorthand is daily becoming wider and less and less entangled with thorny briars in the shape of works of which copies cannot be traced; and the excellent bibliography of Mr J. E. Rockwell, of Washington, and the one from the pen of Dr Westby Gibson, will place in the hands of the future historian and investigator ample material upon which he may base his work.

The study of the history and the bibliography of Shorthand is rapidly becoming of more and more interest to others than shorthand writers; and it is well that we should have some authoritative basis in the shape of a sound historical record, that research may be conducted upon scientific and logical grounds. To some, Shorthand, beyond its use as a mechanical medium for the making of money and the earning of the daily bread, is of no value and interest whatever. In making these remarks, it must not be thought that we are desirous of belittling in any way the value of the honest and careful work done by Lewis, Levy, and Pitman in England, and the learned Dr. Zeibig in Germany, for they all have their merits, and have proved of great assistance to the student who has consulted them.

Before referring to the manuscripts deposited in the public care, it may not be without interest if we slightly touch upon a few points in the life of John Harlaud. He was born at Hull in the year 1806. Early in life he was sent to school, where he gained an ordinary education. He was not kept long at school, for, while still a mere boy, he was put by his parents to the trade of a compositor in the office of the *Hull Packet*. While working in the composing-room of this paper, an ordinary provincial news-sheet of little particular merit, he did much to remedy, by constant and untiring efforts in the direction of intellectual studies, the necessarily unsatisfactory and limited education he had received at school; and at this time acquired a knowledge of the art of Shorthand, which, as his after-life markedly showed, proved an invaluable help to him in his career. Mr James Croston, F.S.A., in an interesting biographical monograph, has very truly said that

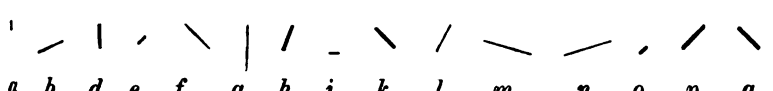
"Mr Harland was emphatically a self-made man, and for whatever mental attainments he possessed, he was indebted solely to his own discipline and use of the reflective powers, and to those habits of patient, plodding industry and self-reliance into which in early life he had schooled himself. He owed nothing to fortune, nothing to genius; scrupulously faithful in little things as well as in great, he carried with him in everything he undertook the same diligent, earnest, unwearying determination, the same strong endurance. Heedless of all fatigue, and defiant of all difficulties, he gradually won his way in the higher ranks of literature, until he acquired a name that was honored and respected far beyond the circles of his own profession." Mr Harland's knowledge of Shorthand led him to undertake reporting for the paper on which he was employed as compositor; and it was by the means of a report, which appeared in one of the Hull papers in 1830, that he made his first important step in life—a step which led to high and unexpected results. The Rev. J. G. Robberds, the minister of the Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, who was then on a visit to Hull, was attracted by the fullness and accuracy of the report done by the young compositor; and, on his return to Manchester, drew the attention of the late Mr John Edward Taylor, then the spirited editor and proprietor of the *Manchester Guardian*, to the skill shown by Harland. The result of this kindly action of Mr Robberds was that Mr Taylor offered the position of reporter on the staff of his paper, then, as it is now, one of the most important in the provinces, to Mr Harland, who readily accepted so important and satisfactory a change from his Hull work, which, at the best of times, to a young man of intellectual tastes, must have been uncommonly dull. After Mr John Harland's appointment to the literary staff of the *Manchester Guardian*, everything of public interest and moment was reported at much greater length and with more accuracy of detail than had up to that time been attempted in newspaper reporting. We all know the experiences of Charles Dickens, as a reporter, in the early days of the century, during the time, perhaps, when he was tremblingly and surreptitiously popping furtive manuscripts of sketches "into a dark letter-box, in a dark office, up a dark court in Fleet street;" when the telegraph was unknown, and railways as practical agents for traveling were in the apparently far-distant future; these experiences, and many others of a like nature, Mr Harland had to undergo in his early reporting career. His knowledge of Shorthand was so proficient that "he became the most expert shorthand writer in the kingdom, and was repeatedly so acknowledged by the reporters on the London press." As an example of his wonderful skill, we may quote an anecdote which appeared in an obituary notice of Mr Harland in the *Manchester Guardian* at the time of his death. The writer says: "On one occasion Mr Harland's powers, which were not understood by the public then as such powers are understood

now, were put to an unwonted test. A man was being tried at Lancaster for making a seditious speech, and Mr Harland had to produce and read his notes as evidence against him. These notes were read slowly to allow the Judge to write down the evidence. While this was going on, the counsel for the defence turned to a gentleman who sat near him, and said, 'I'll turn this fellow inside out.' The cross-examination for the defence began. 'You profess to give the exact words?' 'Yes.' 'You say the prisoner said so and so; now read what immediately follows.' Mr Harland turned to the place in his notes and read off without hesitation, and without waiting for the evidence to be taken down, a passage of one hundred words or more. Again he was required to turn to another part of the speech, and the second passage thus read agreed perfectly with what the counsel knew the prisoner had said. The learned counsel desisted, and remarked to the gentleman to whom he had previously spoken, 'I don't think there is another man in England who could do that.' Such a feat would, no doubt, excite wonder and astonishment, but the invention and development of Mr Pitman's system of Phonography has done much to show what was then considered a limited acquisition, is now in the possession of many. Mr Harland was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1854; and in 1860, after contributing much to the success and development of the paper with which he had been so honorably connected for so many years, retired into private life and gave himself up to antiquarian studies. In this latter period of his life he wrote and edited many valuable works upon the history and antiquities of Lancashire; and his book presents examples of conscientious, patient, and loving treatment. Perhaps his most important antiquarian works are the "Collectanea" relating to Manchester and its neighbourhood, a mine of pleasant gossip relating to the history of the city, and "Mamecestre" in three volumes, published under the auspices of the Chetham Society, of which he was a distinguished member, and his first volume of the new edition of Baines's "History of the County Palatine of Lancashire." Mr William E. A. Axon, F.R.S.L., in an interesting and careful bibliography, compiled at the time of Mr Harland's death, gives three works that will not be without interest to shorthand writers. They are:—"A Full Report of the Speeches at the Dinner given to Edmund George Hornby, esq., M.P., taken in Shorthand by John Harland, Warrington, 1833," pp. 44, 8vo.; "A Report of Addresses delivered at the Ninth Anniversary of the Salford Unitarian Chapel, December 30th, 1833, taken in Shorthand by John Harland, Manchester, 1834," pp. 33, 12mo.; and "Proceedings on the occasion of the presentation of a Testimonial from the gentlemen educated at Manchester College, York, to the Rev. Charles Wellbeloved. From the Shorthand of Mr John Harland, with an Appendix, London, 1840," pp. 54, 8vo. In 1868, on the 23rd of August, in the 62nd year of his age, after years full of honor, com-

bined with a charming simplicity of life, Mr Harland died, and his remains were interred five days afterwards, at the Rusholme Road Cemetery, Manchester.

The manuscripts now in the Manchester Free Reference Library, consist of nine books, certainly not a large number, but a sufficiently large number to show the careful investigation Mr Harland has made upon the subject of Shorthand. Several of the books may be here summarised by saying that they consist of extracts from various early English and foreign authors who make reference to the art of Shorthand and cypher writing and its uses. Copious translations are given of the references of Cicero and Plutarch to the Tironian notes, and the use of Shorthand, or abbreviated writing, by the Greeks and Romans. There is also a manuscript translation of the portion of Kopp's important work "Palæographia Critica," dealing with the subject of Tachygraphy. Kopp, a German, wrote his "Palæographia Critica" in Latin, and Mr Harland has given a very useful translation into English of the section dealing with Tachygraphy. The translation of this work by Mr Harland for his own private use was made in 1844-45, and is a monument of labor—a labor undertaken, too, in his busy reporting days, when spare time would no doubt be a sparse commodity. These are full of interest, but are much too long to be discussed in the space of a short paper. To the general shorthand student, or to the student who has given his attention more to the history of Shorthand from the time of Dr Timothie Bright, circa 1588-9 to the present day—the day of Pitman standing, in my judgment, pre-eminent above all his rivals —the two remaining manuscript books, entitled respectively "Shorthand Anecdotes and Memorabilia," and "Commonplace Book of Shorthand," will perhaps appeal more strongly, and possess greater interest, than the seven we have already mentioned. The "Commonplace Book of Shorthand" is a most interesting collection of notes upon the history and literature of shorthand. In addition to these, Mr Harland gives us a shorthand alphabet of which he is the author, composed of lines only. This is of much interest, and has not, we believe, been before published.

He entitles it:—"J. H.'s formation of an alphabet of lines only (1840)."



a b d e f g h i k l m n o p q



r s t u v w x y

C soft is represented by *s*; hard by *k*; *j* by *h*: *z* by *s*.

Then come the vowels, which he classes as follows:—

a e i o u

He has also provided several characters for figures, forms of representation which have the disadvantage of being similar to several of the often recurring letters in the alphabet. The forms used are:—



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

In a note he says that the characters "*d, t, f, v, b, p, k, q,* being kindred sounds, are represented by the same lines, differing only in thickness."

He however makes the mistake of assigning the light signs to the "sonant" or heavy letters, and the heavy signs to the "surds" or light letters.

Mr Harland committed an initial error in the formation of this alphabet of lines only, by adopting the common spelling as the basis of his system, instead of the phonetic. The phonetic groundwork, as we are well aware, has, during the last fifty years of shorthand history, been found to be much preferable to the old and cumbrous method employed by earlier shorthand authors. He noticed the advantage of using a series of thick and thin characters in his alphabet—perhaps because he would not have had sufficient line-signs to represent the whole of the letters of the alphabet had he not made use of this expedient, but he makes no use of the curves at his disposal. The use of curved characters has again and again been found no bar to legibility and speed in a system of shorthand. It is, therefore, somewhat surprising to find that Mr Harland, who, in his reporting work, used a system founded upon lines and curves, should not have seen the advantages resulting from this use of lines and curves. Mr Harland's aim, however, in forming this alphabet of lines may have been chiefly to satisfy his curiosity, for it has not been found that he sufficiently elaborated his plan to enable him to make use of the system in reporting. The course he took in not publishing his system was a wise one, and one which might with advantage be copied by a large number of our modern shorthand "inventors." The "Commonplace Book" from which, as we have stated, the alphabet is extracted, has an interesting index to authors whose names are found in different shorthand histories—an index which is truly a monument of indefatigable labor and toil. The names in this index are arranged in chronological order. Mr Harland also gives a list of the shorthand works then in his library, which included a large number of rare and curious books. All these works are now in the Chetham College Library, where they

find, besides those left to that institution by Miss Atherton, the descendant of John Byrom, a fitting resting-place. Mr Harland's manuscript book, "Shorthand Anecdotes and Memorabilia," is a small collection, as the title indicates, of references to shorthand, and anecdotes relating to the art. The collection appears to have only been commenced, for the larger portion of the book is unfilled. The collection may seem a somewhat trivial one, but when it is remembered that everything is grain that comes to the mill of the shorthand historian, the scraps of information Mr Harland had gleaned will, no doubt, at a future time, have their use. He makes the following interesting comment relating to Byrom:—"There is a MS. in the Chetham Library, Manchester, written by the Rev. Henry Jackson, and presented to that library by Mr James Harrop, being the Book of Common Prayer, with the Psalter, or Psalms of David, written after Byrom's shorthand, 'throughout the whole of which (says the Rev. Jno. Nightingale) there is not an instance where the most perfect lineality is not duly observed.'"

The notes we have here gleaned may be taken, we think, as examples of the many interesting things to be found in the manuscripts of John Harland, and we trust that the shorthand account we have given may do something to arouse some little interest in the work of a man who, in his day and generation, was so highly respected, and who is still remembered as a man of high intellectual attainment, of indomitable capacity for work, and endowed with a sterling love for what many would call the dust and ashes of bygone times. It can only be hoped that the present generation will display the painstaking care and industry shown by John Harland in his progress through life. When this is attained we may be considered to have accomplished much. Those who have any desire to examine the manuscripts left by this giant in shorthand and antiquarian lore, should apply to the chief librarian of the Manchester Free Reference Library, Mr C. W. Sutton, or his assistants, who will gladly place the collection at the disposal of anyone who is interested in the matter.

THE CONGRESS DINNER.

The members of the Congress dined in the evening at the Holborn Restaurant, Sir CHAS. RUSSELL, Esq., M.P., in the chair.

On the removal of the cloth,

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, I am sure you all anticipate the toast, which it is my duty first to submit to you. It is the one which on all occasions such as this, rightly and customarily holds the first place. It is the toast of the health of Her Majesty the Queen, coupled with that of the rest of the Royal Family. This is not a merely formal toast, but it is I believe upon the occasions upon which it is generally given one which carries with it the cordial feelings of those to whom it is submitted. The Queen, for fifty years, has discharged the duties of a difficult, responsible, and exalted position. In her private life she has set an example worthy of all imitation, and by the influence of Her example she has presided over a Court remarkable for its high moral tone and purity; and, as a Queen, the Constitutional Head of the Executive of this country, she has never forgotten that she is a Constitutional Sovereign bound to observe Constitutional law and usage. As regards the Princess of Wales, it is not too much to say that by her grace, and her kindliness, and her amiability, she has brought herself very close to the hearts of the great mass of the people of this Kingdom. And as for the Prince of Wales, it is true of him to say that he has not spared any effort upon his part when his voice and his presence could serve any real and useful object. I give you, Gentlemen, the Queen and the rest of the Royal Family. (Cheers).

The toast was duly honored.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Mr Chairman and Gentlemen, I might give excellent reasons why some one else should propose the toast of the Houses of Parliament. In the first place, I am not a maker of speeches, but a writer of them, and in the second place I cannot help feeling that it would be much more fitting for one of those gentlemen who regard the Houses of Parliament from the lofty and dispassionate position of the Reporters' Gallery to celebrate their praises. However, the Committee has willed otherwise: the Committee disposes and I must obey, and forego the pleasure which I had hoped for of proposing the health of the Inventors of Shorthand, to whom we all owe so much, and of whom we have so many distinguished representatives present this evening. There is, however, one respect in which I am fitted to propose the toast, and that is that nothing needs to be

said in favor of it. Every Englishman feels ready to drink this toast at a moment's notice. We need not assure our foreign guests that there is no substance in the passing sneers, or occasional outbursts of impatience they may hear in the streets; they all know we have solid and weighty reasons for our high appreciation of our Houses of Parliament. It would be superfluous and presumptuous for me to say a word in praise of them to any assembly—I will not say of Englishmen, but of members of the civilised world. But we are Shorthand writers here, and some one may not unnaturally be thinking "As citizens we are ready to recognise the great value of the Houses of Parliament, and are grateful for all that we owe to them, but do you ask us as Shorthand writers to drink their health?" I reply, "Yes; you are under a misapprehension: Parliament may in times past have been a little harsh to those who wished to report its debates, but it has not been unkind to Shorthand." There is a little delusion on the subject, arising no doubt from the history of the struggles and triumphs of the Reporters' Gallery. What are the facts? Instead of Parliament being slow in recognising the value of Shorthand; instead of its being the great hindrance to the advancement of Shorthand in the world, the very opposite has been the fact. The Journals of the House of Lords record that in 1699 a Shorthand writer was called in to take notes of what took place upon a Divorce Bill. His notes were not merely for the use of the parties; the House itself treated them as of such value that it directed that they should be kept by the Clerk of the Parliaments, and they were the basis upon which the House subsequently passed that Bill. This was followed by a similar proceeding in the case of another Bill in the year 1700. Until anyone can find a recognition of Shorthand by any constituted body in the world at a date anywhere near 1700, it must be admitted that the British Parliament deserves the gratitude of Shorthand writers as having been their earliest friend and patron, as having been the first public body to recognise authoritatively and practically the trustworthiness of Shorthand notes. I do not forget what our President told us last night,—no one who heard that address will ever forget it, and its force and charm were felt most perhaps by those who knew some of the facts before. Lord Rosebery said that in 1740 a Court of Law took a step which Parliament had not then taken in appointing an official Shorthand writer. I might perhaps be supposed to know something about that, because the man so appointed was an ancestor of mine. Now, so far as I do know anything about it, I believe that his duty was not what we understand by official Shorthand writing; it was merely to provide a sort of "Police Reports." His Shorthand notes were not the basis on which anything whatever was done, either by that Court or by any Court of Appeal. There was nothing in that appointment which showed that the body which appointed him recognised shorthand notes as anything

more than a convenience for preserving a sort of record of what passed —it did not imply that shorthand notes could be absolutely trusted. The next instance of public recognition was in 1789, when the House of Commons, during the Warren Hastings trial, called the Shorthand writer to the bar, and required him to read from his notes the exact words used by Mr Burke, and thereupon passed a resolution that Mr Burke had exceeded his instructions in accusing Sir Elijah Impey of murder. It was not a question of substantial accuracy—everything turned on the Shorthand writer's having taken down the *ipsissima verba*. That proceeding is, I venture to say, another proof of the confidence that Parliament has placed in Shorthand. (Cheers.) What the House of Commons said and did about reporting in itself, if you come to consider it, shows their belief in Shorthand. It was not because they thought that Shorthand writers, if they got into the Gallery, would not be able to report their speeches, but because they thought they would be able to report them too fully that they excluded them. (Hear, hear.) The next step was the authorization by Act of Parliament in 1802 of the employment of Shorthand for officially recording the evidence in Election Committees; and this was followed in 1803 by the Report of a Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the working of that Act, that the introduction of Shorthand into these Committees had expedited business and saved expense, the notes having been treated as a trustworthy record upon which decisions might be arrived at. Such a recognition is very different from treating Shorthand writers' notes as occasionally useful, to be looked at *quantum valeant*, the Judge taking his notes all the while, which seems to be the point reached generally speaking, in our Law Courts. I say, then, that Parliament, instead of being unkind to Shorthand, has been particularly kind to it, and that we as Shorthand writers have, in addition to our respect for Parliament as citizens, a special reason for drinking the toast which I propose to you to-night. Many of us cannot drink it without personal recollections of innumerable courtesies and kindnesses from Members in all positions—those things cannot be dwelt upon here, but the presence of some of our foreign guests reminds us by contrast of the reasonableness of our service. Just think of the reporter in a neighbouring country, who has to mete out to the speakers their exact share of cheers, with every shade of meaning—ironical, angry, encouraging, or otherwise, and to describe the exact corner of the House from which it proceeds. Gentlemen, I feel sure we shall drink the health of the Houses of Parliament as citizens, and as Shorthand writers, with most hearty enthusiasm, coupling with it the name of our Chairman, who has taken a distinguished position in the House of Commons, and whom, some day, we may have the pleasure of seeing occupying a still more illustrious position in the House of Lords.

The toast having been duly honored,

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I am sorry that the response to this toast has not fallen into other hands. I had a telegram during the course of the dinner from Sir Algernon Borthwick, who expressed his great regret at not being able to be here to-night, and although I see he was put down to respond to another toast, I think he might fitly have been called upon to respond to this. I think there are others here who might have been called upon. My learned friend on my left, Mr Crump, who aspires worthily and properly to senatorial dignity—and I hope he will get this dignity—might have been called upon. Then there is another friend of mine in this room, Mr Gibb, who was in the House of Commons, and I hope without inquiring too closely what his particular politics are, that he will be there again. But as I am called upon to respond, I of course must obey the call. I approach the part of the toast, which relates to the House of Lords, with awe and reverence. I do not feel myself competent to do justice to that august assembly. (Laughter.) I think I recognise, however—I hope I recognise many of its very great merits. It has, undoubtedly, a very great history, and has played a very important part indeed in the annals of this country, and recruited as it has been from time to time from those who were not nobly born, it has undoubtedly gathered within itself some of the most illustrious and ablest men whom this country may claim as her children (cheers); and, according to the views of the House of Lords as to its duty, I do not for one moment doubt that it desires fully and worthily to discharge that duty. As regards the House of Commons, I cannot but think that Mr Gurney-Salter, in regretting that a Gallery reporter from the House of Commons did not propose this toast, was guilty of a very delicate piece of irony. I am very glad that a Gallery reporter of the House of Commons has not proposed it. I do not think his feelings towards that House of Commons, of which I am a member, are of a kind which would induce him to speak of that distinguished body as its great merits entitle it to be spoken of. (Laughter.) I fear that he would be under the sense of recent grievance, and would be likely to have his judgment somewhat distorted. But of the House of Commons in all seriousness I would say this, that it is, with all its shortcomings, the greatest representative legislative House that the world has ever seen—one, the doings of which make to a great extent for centuries now past the history of this land. But while there are spots on the sun, while there may be defects in the House of Commons, I say its merits are great and its services to the country have been great. And I wish to emphasize here what, speaking on other occasions, I have more than once said, that it lies not in the mouths of the people of this country to complain of the defects or shortcomings of the House of Commons, and for this reason. It was once true that the House of Commons was not truly representative of the whole people. That is no

longer true, and at this day it is true to say that the House of Commons must necessarily correspond to and represent the wishes, the aspirations, the prevalent moral tone, of the people who constitute that House. (Cheers.) Therefore if there be shortcomings, if there be defects, the remedy is in the hands of those who make and can unmake that assembly. Gentlemen, I have thus very briefly discharged the obligation cast upon me, and thank you for the proposal of this toast. (Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I have again to present myself to you, and to ask your attention for a few moments. The toast I have now to propose is the one which is called the toast of the evening. It is, "Success to the Shorthand Congress." Now, gentlemen, we are dining here together, and, at first sight, we may be tempted to ask the question, "What has a dinner of this kind to do with a Shorthand Congress?" Well, I believe the explanation is not far to find. I I think it was Douglas Jerrold who on one occasion said, that when the final collapse of the world occurred a party of Englishmen would be found gathered together in some corner of the ruins celebrating the event by a dinner. (Laughter.) Well, I think there is a great deal to be said in defence of dinners; I do not mean dinners in general, but dinners in connection with public occasions such as this. I recollect Mr Cobden once saying in one of his Free Trade publications that if you could once compel a country to sell you a cargo of its merchandise, you necessarily compelled them to take a cargo of your merchandise. So I think it is equally true to say that if once you can get a man to come and dine with you, you compel him to be your friend; at all events you prevent him being your enemy. The occasion of dinners such as this promotes kindly good fellowship and feeling; it rubs off odd corners; it gives men opportunities of comparing views on divers subjects; and although they may not convince one another so as to become all of one mind, which would be very unpleasant, because society would then be very monotonous, yet it does a very great deal of good in teaching men how to differ, and how to differ with mutual self-respect. The immediate reason for this dinner, however, is that it offered to those who have charge of the arrangements of this Congress a fitting opportunity of extending a hospitable welcome, not alone to those members of the Shorthand profession who live in and about London, but to some who come from a distance, and more particularly to a number of distinguished gentlemen from various countries abroad who have honored this Congress by their presence in London. (Cheers.) After all, the toast is "Success to the Congress;" and the question naturally presents itself, What are the claims that this Congress has upon us that we should wish it success? Well, the Congress has, I understand, had two motives. It was with a view of celebrating the tercentenary of the

birth, I presume I may call it, of something like the modern systems of Shorthand; and in connection with that, celebrating and marking by some unusual event the Jubilee year of Mr Isaac Pitman's system of Shorthand. (Cheers.) Those being the motives which suggested the Congress, what are its aims; what are its purposes? Well, those were very fitly enlarged upon last night by Lord Rosebery in general language, and in a very wise and business-like fashion by our friend Mr Reed; and I will do no more than very cursorily refer to them. It gives an opportunity of establishing a kind of brotherhood amongst the members of this profession (for so I think it may be called) scattered over the face of the earth, and it makes one step at least if not towards removing, at least towards softening, those differences which existed we were told last night in former years between the advocates of the various existing systems, and led sometimes to results not altogether agreeable and pleasant. It also affords an opportunity for the discussion of debatable points in the prevalent systems, for comparing notes, for having the light of experience thrown from various standpoints upon the points of strength, or it may be points of weakness, in those prevailing systems; and it may lead—for these things are to some extent I presume in the air—to the establishment of something like a permanent guild of shorthand writers (cheers), by which they may create for themselves a local habitation and focus point and centre, and by which they may establish amongst themselves some kind of system of government (cheers). So much as to the motives, so much as to the possible aims of the Congress. In addition to what I have said, those who have been able to attend the meetings hitherto, I believe, have had the opportunity of listening to a great deal that was interesting, not only to those interested in this particular practice of shorthand writing, but historically interesting to those who are not gifted in this particular manner. The question still remains however, although those are proper adequate motives for suggesting the Congress, and although these are worthy aims which the Congress proposes to itself, what are the claims which the institution has for general recognition and general support? and that I answer by saying shortly that I know of no improvement in our modern system of conducting public meetings, public inquiries in Courts of Law or otherwise, which so much induces to economy of time and to accuracy in the discharge of business as this practice of shorthand writing (cheers). I do not stop to enlarge, as was so well done, and with so delicate and finished a touch, by Lord Rosebery last night, upon the historical aspects of the question; one need not do more than point out the valuable work of preservation which is done by the body of shorthand writers in the various reports in the public papers of meetings, scientific and otherwise, and of the proceedings in the Houses of Parliament which during the session from time to time appear. But I wish to say one thing in connection particularly with the walk of life with which I

myself am best acquainted. I think it is a matter of the greatest regret—and I am expressing an opinion to-day which I have expressed for twenty years—that there is not attached to every Court an official shorthand writer, by which, in my opinion, there would be a very considerable economy of the public time in the dispatch of business, especially at *Nisi prius* Courts. Anyone who, like my friend or myself, is obliged to be much in those Courts, will know that the more painstaking a Judge is, the more time he occupies in taking down in great detail points of evidence. A Judge may be a very excellent Judge and yet a very bad penman—I think I have known some such—and a Judge has not got the gift of foresight. When a case is opened, and the first witness is being examined, he cannot tell intuitively what part of that particular man's evidence will, or will not, be important. The result is that just in proportion as he is conscientious, and all Judges are conscientious, he takes down in great detail, and in longhand, or with such rude abbreviations as his practice has suggested to him, evidence which in the result turns out to be of no earthly value whatever in deciding the merits and justice of the case. (Hear, hear). Whereas if there were a professional shorthand writer who was rattling along just as the witness was giving his evidence, and who would be able to reproduce and to read out from his note-book the principal points or part of the evidence which became important at a later stage of the case, an enormous amount of public time would be saved. But in another way I think it is a great disadvantage. I think that with a Judge, at once conscientious and slow, such a thing as cross-examination is utterly useless—I would not say "utterly" useless, I would be sorry to make that confession, but is comparatively ineffective. A cross-examination to be useful, by which I do not mean what is vulgarly called a brow-beating cross-examination, which I think is much more spoken of out of Court than it is even heard of in Court (laughter): occasionally, but very rarely, it may be heard of in Court: but those who habitually attend the Courts will say that the cases are very exceptional and rare when they occur—a cross-examination to be effective must be a thing which the man whose mind is intent upon the principal line of thought must be at liberty to follow up rapidly. He cannot do it if the Judge shouts out in stentorian tones "Stop," as Mr Justice Cresswell used to do in the Divorce Court, and by the time that "stop" was removed, the witness knew just as much about the matter as the counsel who was examining, and the counsel probably had lost the thread of the matter which he desired to follow up. This by way of illustration. But in all seriousness I say, that as in Parliament, shorthand writers have been found invaluable; as in mercantile establishments they have been found to be a necessity, as in solicitors' offices they have been found to be a necessity, I think it is not too much to say that our Courts, speaking of them as a body,

are certainly behind the necessities of the times in not being furnished with shorthand writers for the purposes I have mentioned. (Cheers.) I do not for an instant mean to convey that the shorthand writer, or some deputy of his, should have the luxury or the labor of copying out all that he takes a note of in Court (laughter), but that the thing should be there to be copied out, to be referred to in whole or in part as the needs of the case require. That I insist upon, and I think that you, representing the public outside, when once they understand what their interest in the matter is, ought to insist upon a reformation in this direction. (Cheers.) Now, gentlemen, what more is there that I can say in this matter? You are a partial audience; you are yourselves, with few exceptions, all interested in this profession. I am sorry to see that there is not a greater admixture of men belonging to other professions than I see before me here to-night. For myself I have frequently had reason to be grateful to reporters, because I have frequently found reports of what I have said reduced into reasonably good sense (laughter), when I was perfectly conscious that speaking as I am now speaking without deliberation and preparation, I had spoken in an exceedingly slipshod and loose-jointed fashion. I do not at all mean to say that reporters do not frequently make mistakes and that they do not occasionally put into one's mouth sentiments which were never uttered, and which certainly one never intended to utter; but I have never quite been able to allocate fairly the measure of responsibility between the shorthand writer—I am speaking now of printed matter—and the compositor who sets up what was written. I know some very curious things have occurred in that way, but they have never, I believe, been fully threshed out. You recollect the story of the young gentleman who wrote a sonnet to his lady-love which he copied out in a very good hand. I believe that was clearly a compositor's error, but

"Those lovely eyes bedimmed,"

appeared

"Those lovely eyes be damned."

(Great laughter). Another which I think may have been the compositor's fault more than the shorthand writer's was the line which as given was:

"Behold the martyr in a sheet of fire,"

which appeared

"Behold the martyr with his shirt on fire."

(Renewed laughter and cheers.) Where lay the error precisely I do not know. I am quite willing to believe that it was the printer's devil that was to blame. (Laughter.) Gentlemen, I ask you to drink therefore with all heartiness and cordiality, Success to the Shorthand Congress, coupled with the name of Mr Reed.

Mr T. A. Reed: Sir Charles Russell and Gentlemen, I do not think that I ever appreciated a compliment paid to me so much as I appreciate that which I have received this evening, in being selected, and that by a number of my own professional brethren, to respond to a toast such as this. It is an honor of which I suppose I ought to say that I am totally unworthy, and which I greatly wish that some other person had been selected to receive. At any rate, Sir, if you at any time would do me the favor of looking through an immense pile of note books that I have in my study, I might show you a number of very unimpeachable precedents for that course of proceeding. (Laughter.) But I do not propose to adopt that course. It would be to question the wisdom of the Committee with whom I have had the pleasure of acting. I therefore do not propose to say *nolo episcopari*, but I accept humbly and gratefully the honor that has been placed upon me. I have no doubt that the Committee felt that they had some satisfactory if not cogent reasons for selecting me for this task this evening. Certainly they might have chosen someone who had had a longer and a larger practice in Shorthand than myself; they might have chosen someone who had written more and spoken more upon this subject; but, I think, taking the two things together, they could hardly have found anyone whose claims were very far superior to my own; and if they had sought for one who took a stronger interest in this subject, they would assuredly have to go very far afield to discover their man. (Cheers.) Sir, you have been good enough to speak of the obligations of public speakers and the public generally to Shorthand and to shorthand writers. Now, whenever I hear remarks of that character, I always feel disposed to look at the other side of the case. It certainly would be a severe catastrophe if shorthand writers were to strike, even for a week. But, I ask myself, looking at the other side of the question, what sort of catastrophe would it be to us if public speakers were to strike? Where on earth should we be? I say where on earth! but I question really if we should be on earth at all; we should probably be transferred to some other sphere, where we should have to torment ourselves with the reflection—a dismal one indeed—that, to use the words of the Lord High Executioner, "We never should be missed." (Laughter and cheers.) But, Sir, I have no great fear of any such catastrophe as that; and I think if there were to be anything like a "conspiracy of silence," we might take our month's holiday by the seaside, with the comfortable reflection that, however artfully that conspiracy was contrived, it would be broken up long before we returned, and that we should be received with open arms. But, Sir, I can assure you that your words, and the words of other public men, are words to which we listen with the intensest possible interest. You have no more anxious and more earnest listeners than ourselves. The truth is, we feed upon your words; they are our daily bread. Our appetites are absolutely

insatiable; and, like Oliver Twist, we are always wanting more. Looked at from one point of view, prolixity is a thing which has no meaning to us, and dullness, if it ever exists, is a quality of which, professionally speaking, we take no "note." (Cheers.) As I said, we are excessively greedy, and the more words you give us, the more columns, the more folios, the better we like it. So that I think there is no probability of our striking on either side; the probability rather is that we shall always maintain those happy and pleasant relations which I am glad to say exist between speakers and reporters this evening. I believe the speeches to-night are to be very brief, and I propose to set the example in my own case and to sit down with thanking you very heartily for the kind words you have said with regard to our art and our profession. (Cheers.)

Mr. TOLCHER: Gentlemen,—However much I may doubt my own ability to do justice to the toast which has been allotted to me, I do not for one moment doubt the way in which that toast will be received at your hands. Gentlemen, I have to propose to you the toast of the "Judicial Bench and the Legal Profession;" and, when I remember the way in which Judges are every day calling for and using Shorthand notes; when I remember the still greater way in which the Bar are doing the same thing; and when I remember that solicitors, as they are sometimes called, the lower branch of the profession, are using and gaining much by the employment of shorthand writers in their offices, I feel sure that it needs no feeble words of mine to commend this toast to your notice. But, gentlemen, I cannot help thinking that it is not inappropriate for a shorthand writer who is engaged daily in the pursuit of his profession in the Courts of Law to be called upou to propose this toast, for who is so able as he to appreciate and testify to the high-mindedness and integrity with which the Judges on our Bench perform their judicial duties without fear or favor to anyone? Who is so able to testify to the fearlessness, the zeal and the ability with which the Bar of this country—I am speaking more particularly of them, and I have no doubt it is so with the Bars of other countries—perform their duties to their clients? And who is better able to testify to the care and attention which the solicitor bestows upon the interests of his client? Gentlemen, I am sure our foreign friends who are assembled here to-night will admit that it is an Englishman's privilege to grumble. I must have my grumble to-night; and my grumble is, and I hope it will be taken in all good part, for I am speaking as one who has taken a very great interest in this Congress, that we have not received from the solicitors of this country that recognition and assistance, both by their presence and their subscriptions, which I think we might have anticipated, and justly expected. My next grumble, and I hope that that also will be taken in good part, and now I am speaking from the shorthand

writers' point of view, is this: I cannot help wishing that our Judges and our counsel would not speak with such rapidity as they do. I wish they would not get into the bad habit of endeavoring, and I am sorry to say sometimes succeeding, in two or three of them speaking at the same time. Gentlemen, we very seldom hear in our Courts of Law the slow, and in my opinion, none the less effective because slow —the slower tones of a Sir Richard Bethell, or a Sir Fitzroy Kelly— and I cannot help thinking that if the rapidity of utterance increases during the next 20 years, as it has increased during the last 20 years, we shall have to call upon the inventive genius of a Mr Pitman, or some other inventor, and I am sure they will be equal to the occasion, to invent some kind of machine, worked either by steam or electricity, by which the cross-examinations and speeches of our Judges and counsel will be able to be taken down. I sincerely trust that our distinguished Chairman, and his learned friend on his left, will not think that I am speaking at them. I can say with all sincerity, and I am sure my brother shorthand writers will agree with me, that it is always a very great pleasure to us, when we are instructed to take notes in a case, to hear that Sir Charles Russell is retained either for one side or the other. (Cheers.) Because, gentlemen, we know that his clearness and his lucidity of expression are such that we can always understand him, and therefore have no difficulty in following him. In conclusion, I cannot help saying again that however much for your sakes I may regret that someone else has not been called upon to propose this toast who would have done more justice to it, yet I am very glad to have had this opportunity on behalf of my brother shorthand writers and myself of publicly expressing our heartfelt gratitude to the Bench and the Bar, and to the other branches of the profession, for that courtesy, that assistance, and that kind consideration which have ever been extended to us. Gentlemen, I beg to give you the toast of the "Judges of the land and the Legal profession," and to couple with that toast the name of one of its ablest and most distinguished members, Mr. Crump. (Cheers.)

Mr F. O. Crump, Q.C.: Sir Charles Russell and Gentlemen,—I of course recognise the responsibility of responding to a toast which includes Her Majesty's Judges. I know very little of the inner thoughts and life of Her Majesty's Judges. Up to the present time I look upon them very much as opponents and individuals to be coerced or conquered, otherwise to be persuaded; and I spend most of the time that I have to spend in Court in endeavoring more or less successfully to coerce or persuade the Bench. Gentlemen, I have now to acknowledge the toast so handsomely proposed, and the compliment which has been paid to the Judges, and I would at once in acknowledging that compliment plead guilty to the indictment which has been preferred by Mr Tolcher. I plead guilty as a Judge to an uncon-

scionable interruption of the argument of counsel. The object which I have to attain by this interruption is to me absolutely obscure. (Laughter.) I never yet found that by interrupting Sir Charles Russell in the course of his cross-examination I forwarded the ends of justice or promoted my own dignity. (Laughter and cheers.) I generally found that my stentorian exclamation "Stop" was met by a glance from Sir Charles Russell, which made me feel that I should desire to retire, and properly so, because I cannot help agreeing—speaking now as a Judge you know—with the opinion expressed by Sir Charles Russell, that it absolutely defeats the ends of cross-examination for anybody to make any interruption at all. The witness should be left to be dealt with by the counsel alone, whatever the consequences to the witness may happen to be. And, gentlemen, I myself have experienced the enormous inconvenience of any interruption from the Bench. But speaking on behalf of the Bench again, I believe I ought to say that all the interruptions which fall from the Bench are proper and relevant interruptions, and they ought not to be discouraged, whatever inconvenience they cause to shorthand writers or to counsel. (Laughter.) Judging from the remarks which fell from my distinguished friend last night, in the presence of Lord Rosebery, as to the utility of shorthand writing in promoting the ends of justice, it would seem that the shorthand writer holds up a mirror to nature, and produces an accurate photograph of the unhappy Judge with all his excresences and lines of defect as they may appear in his summing up or his judgment; and, gentlemen, as my learned friend reminded us, the Judges are fallible, they are human, they have their infirmities, and the shorthand writer reproduces them all. Now I should say, if I were a judge, that from that point of view the invention of Shorthand was the invention of the devil. (Laughter.) I have often felt commiseration for a judge at Nisi Prius whose summing-up was in the hands of my learned friend Sir Charles Russell when he has been moving for a new trial, to hear that summing-up, accurately taken by a shorthand writer, line by line, word by word, presented to the Divisional Court, and the unhappy judge reduced to a mass of pulp. (Laughter.) Gentlemen, that is the result of shorthand writing to the judicial Bench, and when you get to the Court of Appeal, when a learned judge below who possibly never heard of an invention or a patent in his life has had to decide a patent case, and that case comes up to the Court of Appeal, and his judgment is read by some distinguished advocate who does nothing else all his life but practise in patent cases, you may judge of the result which follows. From the point of view of the Bench, I do not think I exaggerate when I say that the invention of shorthand writing is a formidable invention, but nevertheless it does result in the ends of justice being attained because it is right that a case as it is explained should be photographed and presented to the eyes of the

Court of Appeal; and speaking as a Judge I submit to this invention of civilization, I bow to it, and I am glad to say that it strings the Bench up and keeps them up to the standard of their work, and makes them much more efficient than they otherwise would be. I will say no more on behalf of my brethren on the Bench. As regards counsel, I believe that shorthand writing has benefited them in many ways. If you have a shorthand note taken and all the notes are copied out, and you move for a new trial, your brief on the new trial is much larger, and your fee is much larger. (Laughter.) If it goes to the Court of Appeal, and ultimately to the House of Lords, you have a shorthand note taken all the way through, so that your brief in the House of Lords is quite a consoling object of regard. From that point of view, and also seeing that it facilitates your dealing with the case, because you are enabled by the study of the shorthand notes to refute any misrepresentation which may fall from your opponent, it does indeed facilitate you in the attainment of the end which we all have in view, the service and benefit of the suitor, and the attainment of the ends of justice. It is now twenty years since I first met my friend, Mr Reed. I was then in the unfortunate position of coming to the Bar with no money. I do not know that it did me any harm, but I with a number of other men who had not very long left college, having no money and getting no briefs, cast about to see how we could earn some money. I believe if it were tested it would turn out that my friend Mr Reed has been one of the greatest friends to young impecunious barristers in the first year of their being called to the Bar, because he has put in their way the means of earning money, either in the Committee Rooms of the House of Commons or in their own chambers, by transcription, if they happened to know sufficient of the art of Shorthand, to enable them to tide over that terrible period of suspense, the first two or three years of a junior barrister's call to the Bar. Having learned Pitman's system of Shorthand when a college student for the purpose of taking down the lectures, I determined, having benefited by Mr Pitman's system, and having benefited by the kindness of my friend Mr Reed, when I was first called to the Bar in the position in which I tell you, on hearing of this Congress, and hearing from him that he wished me to attend, I made up my mind that, twenty years having elapsed with no opportunity of acknowledging his kindness, I would come to this Congress as a member of the Bar, and as now one of the leaders of the Bar, and thank him for that first assistance which enabled me to get over the two or three years of suspense, and to attain that position as a practising barrister which I now hold. (Loud cheers.) I say that, gentlemen, because I wish to pay him the tribute which he deserves of having done that, not coarsely and offensively as some people might do as patronising a profession, but having sought a way in which he might do it most delicately without offending a man's pride, or hurting him in any

way—not for one moment that I think it would offend my pride to be considered a shorthand writer, because I do not think it would (cheers)—but acknowledging the position in which I was placed, and that I was bound to resort to some other means of earning money to sustain me in those early years, I made up my mind that I would pay him this tribute for the courtesy and kindness with which he rendered me that assistance. I may tell you I believe I do not stand alone, but I wish on my own part to pay this tribute to shorthand writing, that having acquired a certain facility in the art, I find it of the most enormous use to me in my profession in taking notes in my brief and in taking notes of judgments. I also found it of the most enormous importance to me when I was writing a book. I wrote a book which I am sorry to say is too obscure considering its high merits, a work on the law of Marine Insurance, which codifies that law, if people only knew that it did so, and is largely based upon American authorities. I could not have written that book without making use of the American Reports, and I could not have done the work with the facility with which I did it, if I had not been able to rush into the library from time to time, and take rapid shorthand notes of the judgments of eminent American judges, and then use them afterwards for the purposes of my book. I am afraid I have trespassed too long upon your time. I had to respond on behalf of the Bench and the legal profession, and therefore I must not leave out the solicitors. I wish there were some representatives of that body here to-night, because it is peculiarly important to solicitors to ascertain really when the price of shorthand notes will be allowed on taxation. (Cheers.)

Mr Theodore R. Wright: It is not often that I have the misfortune to differ with my friend Mr Tolcher, and I think I may say that I agree with all his remarks with one exception, and that was where he said a shorthand writer never found any difficulty in following you, Sir, or Mr Crump. (Laughter and applause.) The toast which has been entrusted to me is, I think I may say, second not even to the one which you so well proposed, for if the Shorthand Congress is worthy of our commendation, worthy of a body of gentlemen coming together from all parts of the earth to take counsel as to the best means and modes of furthering the art of Shorthand, surely those without whom such a thing would have been an entire impossibility are also worthy of our commendation. I shall not attempt to enumerate the various Shorthand inventors. In the first place the time would be too short, and in the next I think if I mentioned anyone particularly all the others would be inclined to join in chorus and deny to that one the name of an inventor at all. I am afraid if either one of those gentlemen were in Court to establish a patent there would be no end of expert witnesses called in opposi-

tion, quite prepared to prove want of novelty, want of invention, want of utility, and I think perhaps most of us here would be inclined to agree with them when they said that there was one fatal defect common to them all, and that was that the claim was too large. To do justice to this toast would really take such a long time that I am afraid not only you, Sir, with your high appreciation of our humble efforts in shorthand writing for which we are all deeply indebted to you, but the whole of the company, would be inclined to wish that Shorthand never had been invented. I will therefore not attempt to enlarge on this subject as its importance deserves, but I must say a word or two in commendation of those gentlemen whose health I have to propose. They certainly are entitled to high esteem at any rate as possessing two of the three cardinal virtues, faith and hope. As to their charity, especially towards one another, I will not venture to enlarge. There are also two virtues that Englishmen are rather apt to set up a claim to, and which they are certainly entitled to claim—the merit of undaunted courage, and of never knowing when they are beaten. I say undaunted courage, because one after the other they attempt an impossible task, and that with the very scantiest material. Inventors as a class are very sanguine men, but shorthand inventors, if anything, exceed the average. If a man wishes to invent a nut-cracker he is at liberty if he likes to use half a ton of cast-iron with as much brass, steel, and phosphor-bronze as he thinks fit, and with the aid of that material no doubt he can produce a very efficient nut-cracker and one which will last. Whether it will be too cumbersome and expensive, is another matter. A shorthand inventor wishes to produce a machine which will enable him to follow the most rapid speakers with accuracy, and at the same time that what is produced shall be perfectly legible when he wishes to ascertain what has been written down. The materials, however, that he has to use are of the most limited description. Some gentlemen of mathematical ability, when they wish for a little light relaxation, indulge in speculations as to what might happen in a world consisting of space of four dimensions, and in such a world, perhaps, a perfect system of shorthand might be attainable. Ordinarily speaking we are very well content with three dimensions of space, but the shorthand inventor is limited to two only. He has length and breadth alone to deal with, and all his characters must be on a plane surface. In fact, it is what the decorative artist calls flat treatment entirely. Consequently in his efforts to avoid the Scylla of too great length he falls into the Charybdis of illegibility; and if he avoids being sucked into that whirlpool he may possibly get wrecked on Scylla, and to that perhaps we owe the *syllabic* systems. In fact, gentlemen, to get a really perfect system of Shorthand is an impossibility. The two things are not possible—extreme brevity and perfect legibility. We want legibility enough, but not too much. For ordinary purposes longhand is very legible, though mistakes may

be made even in reading longhand; but when you come to Shorthand, the difficulties are largely increased. Many shorthand inventors, I fear, are something like what has been said of critics in literature; they have been failures in the more direct application of their art. I fancy we may trace possibly some inventions in Shorthand to the fact of gentlemen having failed to give sufficient study to the practice of a familiar system. Not finding themselves sufficiently clever to use it for reporting purposes, they seek to make up by the cleverness of their brains for the wamt of dexterity in their fingers. The consequence is they produce a system very beautiful in theory but utterly incapable of practical use. I shall conclude by mentioning the name of a gentleman who I am sure you will all thoroughly agree is eminently deserving of such mention, especially on this occasion; but before doing so I would say just one word in behalf of other shorthand inventors, not so famous, and who may have felt that some amount of cold water has been thrown upon their efforts by certain comments which have appeared in the Press. It does not at all follow that there is no merit in an invention because it does not at once meet with success. We know that in the case of other inventions, a great deal depends upon the way in which they are pushed, and the money spent in advertising them; and in the case of Shorthand, a small percentage even of absolute superiority would be more than counterbalanced by the difficulty and inconvenience of introducing a new system. All practical shorthand writers will agree with me that no Shorthand system is as yet perfect, and though we may doubt the possibility of its ever being made so, I think we should none of us throw cold water on the efforts of those who endeavor to get nearer and nearer to perfection. Possibly that very beautiful instrument, the phonograph, may ultimately come to our aid, since by its means every sound uttered into the mouthpiece is accurately recorded in a tracing, which, if we could only read it with facility, would go far to solve the problem. We have not yet arrived, however, at that point, and therefore without trespassing further on your patience, I will ask you to drink the toast of Shorthand Inventors, coupling with that the name of the gentleman who certainly is better known throughout the four quarters of the globe than any other Shorthand inventor. I refer to my old friend Mr Isaac Pitman. (Cheers.)

Mr Isaac Pitman: Sir Charles Russell and Gentlemen,—As one in a band of Shorthand inventors, I wish to say as a personal matter that my love of Shorthand is entirely with respect to its uses to society; and I may honestly say, not in pride, nor in depreciation of the subject, that I have not an atom of love for Shorthand as an art for its own sake. It is only for its use. I think in that I differ from previous writers of Shorthand, from the old authors downwards, through Byrom and Weston before him, and Taylor, and a great many

others; their love for the art has been for its own sake, and its fees, and not so much for its uses to society. I look forward to the time when Shorthand shall be more generally employed throughout the kingdom than longhand is now. (Hear, hear.) You may say that is an extravagant assertion, but I believe it will be accomplished. (Hear, hear.) There are, I think, as many millions of English men and women that do not write longhand as that do. If you take the lower classes of society, and the lower stratum of the middle class, you will find that a great many do not write at all, and a large number write very little. Now if Shorthand be introduced into the schools as a part of their curriculum, it will become a common thing, and the facility with which it may be employed is such that people will write where they now shrink from the idea of writing on account of the difficulty of handling the pen, and making out the proper letters for spelling a word. There are two conditions necessary for the production of a good system of Shorthand. I avoid the use of the word "perfect" entirely; there is no more possibility of the existence of a perfect system of Shorthand than there is of the existence of a perfect man. There never was a perfect man but the incarnate God, and there never will be. It is all a matter of degree and comparative perfection. The two points necessary for the construction of a good system of Shorthand that shall answer all the purposes of life are a simple alphabet, scientifically arranged, practically applicable, with due regard to the location of the signs to express the varieties of sound and the affinities of sound; and in the second place a good and extensive system of abbreviations to adapt that alphabet to the requirements of the reporter. Now I do think that in the generally practised system of Phonography you have those two conditions, and I hope that for the few remaining years of my life I shall devote myself to the propagation of that system, and in connection with it to the simplification of the spelling of the English language. I speak under great difficulty, as you may see (some gentlemen having lighted cigars), and, therefore, I hope that without saying anything further you will allow me to propose the toast of the "Institute of Shorthand Writers," coupled with the name of Mr Marten, past president. (Cheers.)

Mr A. R. Marten: Sir Charles Russell and Gentlemen,—I rise with some diffidence, but with a very great amount of pleasure, on behalf of the Institute of Shorthand Writers, to return you our very warmest thanks for the honor you have done us. I had intended to describe to you in some little detail the nature of that Institution, its objects and purposes; but when I look at the list of toasts which we have to go through, I cannot help thinking that you will be grateful if I take another opportunity of doing that, and there will be other opportunities, perhaps, not at so late a period. Mr Pitman has himself set me the example of considerable brevity, and I can-

not do better in that, as in many other respects, than follow him. Gentlemen, it is often said that brevity is the soul of wit. I cannot lay claim to any wit, but brevity is a thing which is within the compass of anyone; therefore I will do no more, except to express to you in these brief words the high appreciation which the Institute have for the honor you have done us; and I trust that you will not think any the less of the warmth with which we acknowledge your kindness. (Cheers.)

Colonel KEENE, in proposing the toast of the "Guests," said: I think we may safely say that although this is a Shorthand Congress, it has a long arm; it has an arm that reaches all over the world; and not only that, but the short-hand has a warm grasp in it, and we are ready to grasp the hand of everyone in all parts of the world who practise this useful and entertaining art. Although I may agree with Mr Pitman that the art should be loved for the uses it serves, yet I must confess that there is a certain fitness in also liking it in a subordinate manner for the interest which you have in it, and its value as an art. If an art was not in itself a thing to be admired, it would not be a thing to be valued. I will not detain you longer upon that subject, because I want merely to draw your attention to the fact that we have among us now representatives of writers of Shorthand, and historians, and others, who have come from Germany, from France, from Italy, from America, from other parts of the world, and even from Japan (cheers), who have all a great interest in the art. I believe I am not wrong in stating that in Japan they practise a system of Shorthand which is somewhat an adaptation of Phonography to the particular requirements of the language. In speaking of our guests from abroad, and in asking you to drink their health with as much exuberance as you can, I will not mention the names of any of them, because they are very numerous, and they are all of them worthy of our respect and esteem. I will, therefore, simply ask you to drink the health of our guests from all parts of the world, coupled with the name of Herr Max Bäckler. (Cheers.)

Herr MAX BÄCKLER: Sir Charles Russell and Gentlemen,—I have been entrusted with the honorable task of replying to the kind words which have been addressed to us foreign visitors by Colonel Keene. Although I feel extremely thankful for this flattering commendation, I am in some way embarrassed on account of my imperfect knowledge of the English language, having never been in England before. You will therefore excuse me if I am not able to give my feelings such expression as I should like to do. The idea of holding an International Congress of shorthand writers, for the first time conceived and put into execution by our English fellows of the craft, has been greeted with the utmost satisfaction by the shorthand writers of every

nation. We have hoped to get, as well by social inquiries of those not known to us at this moment except by correspondence, as by the Papers to be read and the meetings to be held, a great amount of information and a great impulse to harder exertion in the common universal interests of Shorthand. (Cheers.) The two days of the Congress that have passed have given us a proof that the purpose of the International Congress will be fulfilled with absolute perfectness. We hope that the foreign shorthand writers will have an opportunity to repay the exertions made by you in the interests of this Congress, and we are convinced that this first International Congress of shorthand writers will not be the last; therefore, once more, I heartily thank you for having first brought this idea to perfection.

Mr Joseph Hurst: Sir Charles Russell and Gentlemen,—Before I propose the subject of the toast which is committed to my charge, I cannot help paying a tribute to the last speaker; I cannot help envying him the fluency in my tongue which he has shown. And then, gentlemen, passing on to that particular toast committed to my charge, I cannot help further making the remark that I wish the committee in the exercise of their discretion had committed it to abler hands than mine, but I am comforted by the reflection that it requires no words of mine to ensure at your hands an acceptance of this toast. Gentlemen, it is known to some of you, at least, that I have passed away from the arena of shorthand and I have the honor to belong to that body of which our chairman was recently the official and acknowledged head. Looking back over nearly twenty years passed in the Courts, my experience tells me how thoroughly acceptable this toast should be at your hands. Gentlemen, I speak to you now as a shorthand writer with the reminiscences of those years before me; and casting my eye back upon Liverpool as it was part of the old northern circuit, remembering Liverpool which was then honored with the names of a Benjamin, a Herschell, and then the name of our worthy chairman, and then carrying on my recollection to Westminster Hall with its grand historic traditions, and in these still later times to that building not redolent with antiquity, but with fuming boilers and machinery, and eighteen-penny dinners (laughter), I cannot help saying that if there is one gentleman of all the members of the Bar entitled to our respect, esteem, and honor to-night, it is Sir Charles Russell. (Cheers.) I speak from experience, the experience of my pocket as well as of my heart and of my mind, and I say that of all the members of the Bar that I have had the honor of coming in contact with, he has most materially aided the progress of your profession. Gentlemen, he has done so first in that quiet kindly way which is innate in an Irish gentleman, in giving that assistance and information which a shorthand writer practising in the Courts of Law often has to ask at the hands of a distinguished advocate there. Then also, as I have already

indicated, he has never been slow, but always foremost, to recognise the importance of shorthand writing in the administration of justice. And if I turn to the sister branch—to the application of the art of Shorthand to the Press, I fearlessly appeal to that body and ask whether our representatives of the Press have not uniformly been treated by him with that extreme courtesy which has always distinguished him. At all events, he has shown the Press that he has recognised that there was some truth in the saying that that body represents the fourth estate of the realm. Sir Charles Russell, we greet you to-night, not so much as the able advocate and the counsel learned in the law, but we greet you as the friend, as the supporter, as the adviser of shorthand writers. It has been no momentary impulse of generosity which has prompted Sir Charles Russell to occupy the chair on this occasion; it is the outcome of the kindness he has shown, and never more than on the present occasion. Gentlemen, I beg to propose that this toast, so worthy of your acceptance, be accepted with musical honors. (Cheers, and musical honors.)

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen,—Bear with me on the occasion of my last appearance to-night. I certainly was not prepared for the oration, for I must call it so—the eloquent and kindly oration of my learned friend, Mr Hurst. But it is quite right that you should be let into a secret. I do not think that Mr Hurst is a witness who ought to be received with implicit credit on this occasion. I would very much rather that my health had been proposed by someone with whom I had been less intimately associated, for it is true that having occupied a prominent position on the Northern Circuit for a great many years, Mr Hurst and myself, he in the character of shorthand writer, and myself as counsel, have been drawn into very frequent and very intimate relations. I have known the skill of my friend Mr Hurst for about twenty years. I think his name and reputation were well established in the profession he has left. I must say for myself, it having been my painful duty to read a great many thousand folios of Shorthand notes, a great many of them contributed by the pen of Mr Hurst and the colleagues working with him, that I have found them singularly accurate. I think it right to say this (and I do not think it has been previously said)—it is a sign of the good faith which prevails in the profession of shorthand writers, that in what I may now call, I think truly, a long and a large professional experience, the cases have been singularly rare, so rare that they might be counted on the fingers of one hand, in which between the reports of Shorthand writers employed on opposite sides there has been any difference at all, and I can only recall one case in which there was any difference of anything like a material character. Gentlemen, Mr Hurst suggests to me one reason why I was very glad to come here to-night. There is a very close link between your craft and the profession of the Bar, for there

are at the Bar to-day a very large number of men who have graduated to some extent in your profession, not as professional shorthand writers from the Courts, as Mr Hurst was, but as men who, having a competent knowledge of Shorthand, have reported in the Gallery of the House of Commons or in the House of Lords, and who have by perseverance, by self-denial, by industry, qualified themselves for moving to another profession more congenial to their tastes, namely, the profession of the Bar; and amongst those men now at the Bar are some holding very distinguished positions, and I know none among those recruits that do not hold an honorable position in the estimation of the Bar. (Cheers.) When therefore I received the invitation of the Chairman of your Committee, Mr Reed, to whose services in connection with this Congress I need not in your presence refer, because you all know them (cheers); when I received his request that I should preside on this occasion, I promptly answered that I should esteem it an honor so to do. I do esteem it a very signal honor. The duties of a chairman are generally considered to be to preserve order and to keep the peace, and my task has been in that regard to-night a very light one. I have been present on a very interesting occasion, the occasion of the banquet of the first International Congress of Shorthand Writers that has ever been held in the history of the world. (Cheers.) I felt, and I feel now, that the honor conferred upon me was great; I shall be only too glad if, in your estimation, I have worthily occupied the Chair. (Cheers.)

Professor EVERETT: I have to propose the toast of the "Newspaper Press," coupled with the name of a gentleman who represents the U.S. of America. Being myself unconnected with the Press, I can all the more freely speak as to the sentiments that the Press inspires in the outer world. We thank you for the facility you give us in avoiding the trouble of thinking for ourselves. (Laughter.) It is much easier to follow in the wake of the thoughts that are put before us in the luxurious newspaper that comes to our breakfast table every day than it would be to have to hammer out opinions for ourselves. (Hear, hear.) In this present day the function of the writers of newspapers is a most important and influential one. Time was when it was said, "Let who will make the laws of a nation, if you give me the making of its ballads." At a later time the influence lay not so much with the makers of ballads as with the clergy of the various denominations who occupied the pulpits. But in the present day the main influence in directing and expressing the opinions of the nation lies with the Newspaper Press. It is true the writers of the Newspaper Press, in so far as they lead public opinion, must to a certain extent follow public opinion, and that no doubt was true of the makers of the ballads of old,—the ballad would not have influenced the nation unless it struck the notes to which the hearts of the people were fitted

to respond: and just so it is the function of the Newspaper Press of the present day to put into articulate form the inarticulate sentiments and strivings that are in the breasts of the nation, and to guide them into definite channels where they may flow in a noble stream instead of gathering together in the form of stagnant pools to evolve a pestilential mist, or accumulating in such dangerous quantity as to burst their banks and overflow in a revolutionary torrent of destructive power. I have sometimes thought the function of the Newspaper Press is not so much to produce the opinion of a nation as to be the medium through which it is uttered. To a certain extent the Newspaper Press performs the part not of the voice that speaks, but of the speaking trumpet which enables the voice to come forth clearly and to be heard far and wide. Or I may compare it with the telephone which transmits the voice of the speaker, and in so doing it may impart to it either a harsh grating twang or a clear melodious sound; and here it is we find illustrated the beneficial effect of a well conducted Newspaper Press. We do now and then come upon acrid words that tend to inflame popular feeling, but I am happy to say the general tone of the newspaper press is one that tends to moderate unreasonable feelings, and to make men speak with self-control, with a power of bearing to a certain extent that which must be borne, and doing the best to obtain what can be obtained. The members of the press have two functions to discharge: one is to write opinions of its own; and the other is to take down faithfully the opinions of others. And here I am somewhat more at home, for though still an outsider, I am on the border line. I have always been since my boyhood very fond of the practice of shorthand, and have tried from early youth to hammer out some system by which, without omitting vowels and without employing a great number of arbitraries, I might obtain the means of performing that wonderful feat of getting down every word that a public speaker delivers, and I may say I have been fairly successful in attaining that end. I have great pleasure in proposing the Newspaper Press, both writers and reporters, and in coupling with the toast the name of Professor Bridge of Chautauqua University, New Jersey, an able writer and teacher of Shorthand connected with the periodical press of America. (Cheers.)

Professor Bridge: Mr Chairman and Brethren of the craft,—I am not a member of the press as such. It is true that I once acted as a regular official reporter to the largest assembly of a religious denomination in any country, and that I do a good deal of reporting more or less for the Press, but still I am not regularly employed in that work. You have men, I doubt not, sitting at this table who would have been far more able to reply to it properly than I am. If I had thought that I should have been called upon in this way, I might have spent a day or two in interviewing certain persons who would have

told me all about the Press of London, and then I should have stood up here and surprised you with my excellent knowledge on that subject. (Laughter.) I am glad to say for my own country that our Press is a growing Press; it is a stronger Press to-day than ever, and it is a Press of which we are not ashamed. (Cheers.) I take in three papers regularly, and I am able to say that in every one of those three I read more about you than you possibly in your London *Times* read about us. I know more of what is going on in London at my breakfast table than you do about the United States from all the papers in London put together. We have at least three columns of English news in the New York papers every morning, and I am glad to say that I read it with a great deal of joy. (Cheers.) For I am descended from the Puritans. I can date my ancestry back 230 years to that little group that landed near Boston in 1630, and therefore I feel the old English fire. Our Press in America, as I said, is a growing Press, stronger than it was a few years ago. It is a Press that penetrates into every part of the land; every hamlet with a population of 500 people has its printing establishment almost without exception. If a Methodist minister travelled with his horse and saddle-bags out into the distant woods to form a little company of religious people, you may be sure that the very next man that came along would be a man to look out for a place to put up a printing establishment. It is a grand thing for us. And the result is, as one of your friends said to me on the steamboat as we came across, "I have been perfectly surprised in the three weeks I have been in America to see the boys on the street and the girls sitting in the stores reading the newspapers." I thank God it is so; I am thanking God every day that I live in a land where boys and girls, almost without exception, are reading; and I am astonished to find, as Mr Pitman says, that many of you Englishmen are not able to read. Every man should be a reading man and a thinking man, and through the Press find his way to the very best things, and finally through truth and righteousness to life eternal. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Dom Vicar Alteneder: Mr Chairman and gentlemen, when it first became known in Germany that there was to be an International gathering of shorthand writers in the British metropolis, we concluded at once that we should have to look forward to Conferences and arrangements of eminently practical importance, knowing full well that in that respect England can hardly be surpassed by any other country. What we have found here has, I must candidly confess, exceeded our keenest expectations. I need not dwell upon the hospitable manner in which all the guests have been received and welcomed, but I have the pleasant duty to perform to convey my hearty thanks to the Committee for the extremely able and cordial reception they have given us. Turning to the practical business

management, I have longed for an opportunity to express my admiration at the zealous, energetic, competent, and satisfactory manner in which the Committee have discharged their arduous duties. If we consider that for twelve months or more this industrious body have met week after week, proposing, discussing, accepting, or rejecting, as the case may have been, until at last they convinced themselves that the decisions finally arrived at were the most satisfactory to the interests of the shorthand world, then, gentlemen, I am confident that everyone in this room will most heartily agree with me when I say that we owe our sincerest thanks for these valuable services so competently and unselfishly rendered. Gentlemen, I have the pleasure to propose the health of "The Committee." (Cheers.)

Mr A. W. Kitson: I am extremely pleased that it has fallen to my lot to reply to this toast. The Committee is composed of a number of very modest men, and I presume that that is the reason why the task of speaking on their behalf has been entrusted to one of the secretaries. As I am less troubled with modesty than are the other members of the Committee, I may say in their name that they have done their work thoroughly well, that they are perfectly contented with the manner in which the Congress has commenced, and is being continued, and that they derive intense satisfaction from the feeling that so successful a gathering is the result of their unselfish labors. To a person like myself, who is somewhat inclined to be flippant, the sight of a number of able men conducting the arrangements in so serious and business-like a manner has been most impressive. We have, it is true, not always been in complete harmony—we have not fallen into a dull monotony of insipid acquiescence—we have had divisions and contentions, followed, however, by reconciliations and agreements. This will always be the case where, as has happened in our committee, each of a number of thoughtful men, before attending a meeting, has constructed in his own mind a plan which he firmly believes is the best fitted to accomplish the desired end. As it has cost him some mental strain, he does his level best to get it adopted, and we have had many an instance of the survival of the fittest after a battle of giants. The defeated readily admitted the superiority of the schemes of their victorious rivals, and out of the discord came forth the perfect harmony which is carrying to a high pitch of success this first International Shorthand Congress. (Cheers.)

Mr A. W. Kitson: I have now the pleasure of proposing a toast which, in assemblies of gentlemen, is always a welcome one, and which is especially so in this gathering of Shorthand writers—"The Ladies." We are in a peculiar degree indebted to them, for I think it may safely be said that there is hardly a stenographer present this evening who, in the early days of his study of the art, was not helped along

the road to success by being "dictated to" by a relative of the sweeter sex, his sister, his cousin or his aunt. We are therefore only repaying something on account of services rendered when we remember "The Ladies" in their absence—they take care that we do not lose sight of them when they are present—and I feel sure that you will respond to this toast most heartily and with a grateful recollection of many favors received. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have now got through our list of toasts. I wish to mention one fact. I have it in charge from Lord Rosebery to state that had it not been for the death of a near relation to Lady Rosebery he would have been present here to-night as one of your guests.

The company then separated.

WEDNESDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER.

Morning Conference.

PHONOGRAPHY AND PHONETIC SUBJECTS.

Dr J. H. Gladstone in the Chair.

The Chairman: This, as you all know, is the Jubilee of Mr Pitman's Phonography. It is not the Jubilee of Shorthand, or of phonetic writing,—that is 3,000 years old at least. Wherever there has been an alphabet, that implies phonetic writing. The ancient Egyptian and Assyrian, and the still older Accadian writing, was partially phonetic, and the Hebrews and Greeks all wrote phonetically. It certainly is not the Jubilee of Spelling Reform, because wherever there has been rational spelling it has required after a time a certain amount of reform, and every civilised nation of the world, with the exception of the Chinese, has had its Spelling Reform at some time or other. This is the Jubilee of the first publication by Mr Pitman of his particular system, a phonetic system applied to Shorthand, which he termed Phonography. There are two great advantages which have flowed from it. The first is its relation to Shorthand. Mr Pitman devised a thorough English alphabet, capable of being applied to all the sounds of the English tongue, and in that way was able to start the very rational and simple style of Shorthand which so many of us practise. I learned it more than forty years ago, and have written it almost every day since; and though I do not belong to the noble army of reporters, and have never learned the reporting style, I do not know exactly how I could get on in life if I were to forget the art of Shorthand. But there is another advantage which is not perhaps so patent, or has not perhaps been insisted upon so much, and that is that the alphabet of Mr Pitman affords the best means we possess of writing down the pronunciation of any new word. When new geographical names for instance come before us, we do not know with any certainty how to pronounce them, and in the same way with foreign words or the dialects of the English language itself; but we have, through Mr Pitman, a well recognised system of spelling in his Phonography and Phonotypy, by which can be written down either in longhand or Shorthand, the pronunciation of any name or word. To a certain extent this is done in India by means of the Government system of spelling, but in England there is no recognised means. What we require is that there shall be some alternative system of spelling which shall be applicable to all these different matters, and

this is provided for better by Mr Pitman's system than by any other. I do not say that his system is necessarily better than any other, but it is certainly far better recognised and better known than any other. After this brief introduction of the subject, I will now ask Mr Pitman to read his Paper.

THE SPELLING REFORM, AND HOW TO GET IT.

By Mr Isaac Pitman.

On the spelling of our language some of the greatest men that have spoken it have exercised their powers for the purpose of reforming it—men formidable for their abilities, and using them in a way that they considered would be most productive of the common good. There has been a continuous effort from about 1550 to the present day, to simplify the instrument for the ultimation of thought in written and printed language. Just 400 years ago Caxton and his companions were busy at Westminster in producing "The Game of the Chess," "The Golden Legend," and other books, of which but few copies now remain, the tooth of Time having destroyed the rest. The destruction of things that have served their purpose, or rather the reduction of them to their original elements that they may enter into new combinations and minister to other uses, is a merciful arrangement. We of the present day should like to possess all the books that Caxton printed; but would the world 400 years hence bless us for preserving the mountains of printed matter that now issue from the press every day? The beneficent law of change for the better operates in all cases alike. Caxton himself gave no thought to spelling with the view of reforming it. It did not disturb him in his labor of editing books, composing types, and printing sheets, to see a word spelled in half-a-dozen ways. He was content to take the spelling of the monkish scribes, which differed, because the pronunciation differed, in the various districts of England. He actually made matters worse by discarding the two letters which the monks employed for the two initial consonants heard in *thin, then*, and representing both by the common digraph *th*. Some reader of the Caxton books has noticed that the little word *it* is spelled in them in eight ways.

It would be out of place to dwell on the history of Spelling Reform in a brief address on How to get it. I will, therefore, only call over the names of the principal spelling reformers in the past—Sir John Cheke, Sir Thomas Smith, and John Hart, in the middle of the sixteenth century; Bishop Wilkins, in the middle of the seventeenth century—but his aim was a new and philosophical language, spelled phonetically; and Bullokar, a little later; Dr Franklin and James Elphinstone in the middle of the last century; and the English and American nations, headed by their philologists, in the fifty years that lie in the middle of the nineteenth century. I have noticed a coinci-

dence in these dates as compared with the bright periods of English literature. The stars of genius sparkled with unusual brightness in the literary heavens at the end and beginning of the centuries, and the spelling reformers labored on the earth with pick and spade to remove obstructions out of the way of the herald of progress, the alphabet, in the middle of the centuries. We can make no use of the fact, except as a mnemonic. Caxton and his helpers—in short, Printing—brightened 1500; the three great spelling reformers I have mentioned labored about 1550; Shakspere and his galaxy lightened up 1600; Bishop Wilkins and Bullokar adorned 1650; Addison, Pope, and the rest flourished from 1700 onwards; Franklin and Elphinstone worked in 1760, and Elphinstone printed half-a-dozen volumes in reformed spelling; Scott, Wordsworth, Byron, etc., wrote at the end of the last century and the beginning of the present one; and we spelling reformers have worked diligently from the thirties to the eighties, occupying the middle of the present century.

I will now show how to get Spelling Reform. The *Globe* newspaper of Monday, while praising Shorthand and prophesying a bright future for it, and speaking well of this week's celebrations, said that as to a reformed spelling which I had attempted to introduce in conjunction with phonetic shorthand, I must by this time acknowledge that I have failed. No; I don't acknowledge it, and I won't acknowledge it. (Cheers.) I know, by the signs of the times, that I have succeeded. There is another globe besides the pinky paper-*Globe*. The English-speaking people in this country and America occupy a conspicuous place on it, and they have risen in the might of their intelligence, and said, "The finest language on the earth is presented to the eye in the worst spelling on earth, and the time is come to reform it." We intend to do it by degrees. First, by observing five simple rules:—1. By dropping the letter *a* in the combination *ea* when it represents a short vowel, as h-e-d, *head;* h-e-v-e-n, *heaven*. 2. By omitting a silent *e* when it does not serve to lengthen a vowel, as in *giv, hav, ar*. 3. By cutting off one of two consonants that end a word, as *shal, wil*. 4. By substituting the letter that is spoken for the letter that is written, when they differ, as *k* for *c* in *Keltik*, *s* for *c* in *city*, *t* for *ed* in *touched*, etc. 5. By consulting common sense instead of the dictionary, in cases of doubt, as, the *gaje* of a railway, the *biznes* of life. This is the First Stage of the Spelling Reform. We received these Rules from the United States, and have improved them by use.

When, by these minor reforms, we have broken the neck of that hideous old idol Orthography, the object of English literary worship, we shall go a step further, and introduce three new letters; one to mark the breath sound of *th* in *breath*, leaving *th* for the voice sound in *breathe;* one for the nasal *ing*, "n" with a tail; and one for the *but* vowel, to distinguish this vowel from that in *put*. The four common digraphs ch(urch), th(en), sh(all), vision=zh, are used. With these

three letters we can spell phonetically about nine-tenths of the language. It is a fact that every English word may be spelled with scientific accuracy with the twenty-three useful letters of the common alphabet and these three new ones, except when it contains a long vowel, and the long-vowel syllables constitute only about one-tenth of the language in books and conversation. This is the Second Stage.

There has been prepared an alphabet of thirty-six letters, containing forms for the thirteen sounds at present unexpressed in English. These are the six long vowels, the four consonants that are represented in the second stage by old-letter digraphs, and the three new letters of the Second Stage. The use of this complete alphabet is the Third and last Stage of the Reform. I refer you to the Tract No. 31, On Spelling, for a fuller and clearer explanation of this matter, which you may receive at the door, or get from Bath, free. Phonetic, or Reformed Spelling, is the second article of my creed. The first is, I believe in one God, the Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ; and the second is, I believe in phonetic spelling, and in the power of truth, backed by firm hands and warm hearts, to establish it in the earth.

Mr J. B. RUNDELL: Our Chairman has referred to the desirability of having some recognised means of representing pronunciation, in order that we may know how to speak. In illustration of this I may mention what many of you may have noticed, that on the opening evening of the Congress the word "centenary" was pronounced in three different ways—viz.: céntenary, centénary, and centeenary. Now I have an idea that a certain amount of uniformity in pronunciation is desirable. We have had many words of wisdom from the other side of the Atlantic on the subject of Spelling Reform, and they are not the less wise because they are thrown in a somewhat humorous form. One of the latest things I have seen was an inquiry made of some man whether he knew Russell Lowell. "Yes," he said, "I know him very well. He is a clever man, but a monotonous speller." "What do you mean?" said his questioner. "Why," he said, "he spells a word always in the same way. I never do!" I must apologise for not bringing my communication before you exactly in the way in which it was announced. It was to have been a statement of the position and prospects of Spelling Reform in 1887. The last attempt which I made to take stock, as one might say, was dated in 1880 in a pamphlet mentioned in "The Bibliography of Shorthand." That statement largely consisted of an explanation of the English Spelling Reform Association, and a reference to the most eminent men belonging to it, and of the amount of encouragement which they gave it. The difference which at present exists between Mr Pitman and myself upon this subject is whether the English Spelling Reform Association is dead or whether it is only in a state of "suspended animation." When an individual man has given no sign of life, or has not spoken a word for more than twelve months, we think it is rather hard with him. But it is not so with an association. An association is always ready to rise when the time comes. No doubt the want of sympathy of many shorthand writers with the Spelling Reform arises from the fact that they do not know how the work is to be done. Although there are many points of difference between Mr Pitman and myself, yet where we agree is far more important than where we differ. I am not a believer in new letters: as a member of the Spelling Reform Association I think all the purposes of the present day can be met without having recourse to new type and so increasing the size of the printers' cases. I therefore take somewhat a position of rivalry with regard to Mr Pitman; and if he be the "grand old man" of Phonography, I hope I am not unduly conceited in saying that I occupy something of the position of Lord Randolph Churchill, and follow him at a distance. On the question of the five rules I am exceedingly in agreement. I think we cannot make our first changes too small. If we who believe in the desirability of this

reform would only put our belief into actual practice, have faith in ourselves and the movement we represent, and if we would spell "physician" and "philosopher" with an "f," and leave out the "e" in "have," "give," and "live," we should be taking the first step which would carry everything before it. As evidence of progress I may mention that this is the time of all times for Spelling Reform, because a desire for technical education, the belief that children in schools should have manual instruction, is the predominant feeling, and therefore it is with very great pleasure that in an address given on this question by Sir John Lubbock, I find these words:—

"Again, it is surely undesirable to attach so much importance to the minutiæ of spelling. Dr Gladstone has shown that the irregularities of English spelling cause, on an average, the loss of more than one thousand hours in the school life of each child. A thousand hours in the most precious seed time of life of millions of children spent in learning that *i* must follow *e* in *conceive* and precede it in *believe:* that the two *e*'s must, no one knows why, come together in *proceed* and *exceed* and be separated in *precede* and *accede:* that *uncle* must be spelt with a *c* but *ankle* with a *k*, and numberless other and equally profitless conventions! And this while lessons in health and thrift, sewing and cooking, which should make the life of the poor tolerable, and elementary singing and drawing, which should make it pleasant and push out lower and degrading amusements, are in many cases almost vainly trying to obtain admission."

I was pleased, for more than one reason, at seeing these words, because most of them were taken from my attempt, in 1880, to sum up the then position and prospects of Spelling Reform. We are going ahead decidedly, and although the English Spelling Reform Association is very quiet, the cause which it represents, and which I hope it will again represent, is marching on.

In the discussion that followed, Professor CANDY criticised the letter "ʇ" as being a backward letter. It looked the wrong way. He thought a better letter would be "ɒ."

In reply to a question why use was not made of the Greek "theta" (*θ*), Mr PITMAN said that the type had been made and used for months in the *Phonetic Journal*. It was an oval, and did not harmonise with the other Roman letters. In the Italic it did, and they had the exact Greek "*θ*" in the Italic fount.

Mr D. S. DAVIES (Carmarthen): I hope you will proceed in this matter a little faster than you have done in the last fifty years, for I tell you on behalf of all that are not born Englishmen, that your progress with the English language is the greatest curiosity on earth. Welshmen can never be made to see any good reason for the sort of spelling you have now. Such words as *dirt, bat, call, colonel,* would not be spelled in that way by any other nation in the world. I am a Welshman, and never mean to be anything else; and from the original frame of my constitution I want to say k-ă-t—*cat.* I hope the Association will go on with its work and make itself heard. Mr Pitman has philosophised about this matter; let me offer you another bit of philosophy to account for this bad spelling in the English language. The old aristocratic notion of the English people is stiffer than that among any other people in the world, for everything done in England is something unlike everything else. The aristocratic notions of Englishmen involve an immense waste of time, and the idea of saving three years by phonetic spelling would not enter their heads. Take such a name as Cholmondeley. If I were to write it I would say "Chumly," but they would call me clumsy because I wrote it by sound. I think aristocratic laziness and pride are at the bottom of the whole thing.

Mr ISAAC PITMAN: A peasant once had to call on Lord Cholmondeley, and when near the house he saw a gentleman coming out: it was his lordship himself, but the peasant did not know him. He asked the gentleman if he would kindly tell him if that was where Lord Chol-mon-de-ley lived. The nobleman turned upon his heel, and said "Yes." The peasant asked if Lord Chol-mon-de-ley was within. "No," said the nobleman, "but some of his pe-o-ple are."

Mr GURNEY SALTER: It is sometimes said that the retention of the present system affords one advantage in education, and that is in testing accuracy, and accordingly in many of the examinations for the Civil Service and elsewhere, places are won or lost, marks given or withheld, according to accuracy in spelling in some of these out-of-the-way words referred to, as well as in the common words. That argument, however, appears to be valueless when examined by the light of facts. I have found that men who have had the very best education, and for whom accuracy has been an essential of success in life, have been wanting in spelling power. Some years ago I kept as a curiosity writings by three very eminent judges who mis-spelled. I think that important, because an eminent judge is obviously a man not only of the highest education and intellectual power, but a man who must have considered accuracy all through his career as being of the greatest importance. If accuracy is to be tested by spelling, these very eminent men distinctly failed because, in the very small specimens I happened to have of their writings, I found again and again instances of mis-spelling.

Mr T. A. REED: It has been my good, or evil, fortune recently to have to look through a number of examination papers, and the curiosities revealed in them were certainly somewhat remarkable. I was interested in making a collection of the number of ways in which the word "perfidy" was spelt by the candidates. It was nineteen, and nearly all of them, I think, could be justified by other instances that might be cited in our curiously-spelled language.

Mr A. T. COOK: May I be allowed to urge the necessity of Spelling Reform in the interest of the ladies, who, I know, more especially find difficulty in spelling English? From a feeling of patriotism I should like to say that all the inconsistencies of orthography must not be laid to the charge of the English language, as in the French language, with which I am pretty well acquainted, there are many similar inconsistencies.

Professor CANDY: The difference between the English spelling and the French is this, that in English the same sound may be spelled in a variety of ways and the same combination of letters is read in a variety of ways: whereas in French although the same sound is expressed in a variety of ways, a combination of letters in the same positions is always read in the same way.

Mr EDWIN LAMPARD: I have heard it stated that by adopting this new system of spelling you would destroy the opportunity of tracing the derivation and the roots of words. I do not know whether there is much or little in that, but I think it ought to be met at the Congress.

Mr W. STORR: A sufficient answer to the last question for all practical purposes is, I think, given in the statement made at the commencement of the proceedings, namely, that all the leading philologists of England and America, the men who of all others are most strongly interested in preserving evidences of derivation, are themselves the strongest advocates of what is called Spelling Reform. I should be glad to hear some objections to and criticisms on the paper. We are, for the most part, of one way of thinking in regard to the object that we desire, and the practical question is how that object is to be attained. Mr Pitman has at some length submitted the plan upon which he has been working most assiduously for many years, and although he is buoyed up with hope and confidence, the grounds for which he himself sees, yet many who come into contact with persons of the other way of thinking are more inclined to think with Mr Davies that the progress already made is not sufficient to inspire the hope and confidence with which Mr Pitman, we are glad to see, is still buoyed up, and that possibly there may be another way of promoting the reform differing in some respects from that which Mr Pitman has explained. The question raised is whether progress can be expected from adopting certain arbitrary rules and carrying them out in our own way. First of all, persons have to be somewhat strong-minded to set at nought the opinion of others by changing the spelling of words in private correspondence. This can only be done in correspondence with persons with whom we are on familiar terms, and whom we cannot offend; it cannot be done in writing to strangers or in business letters. Shorthand writers, in making trans-

cripts of their notes for the use of members of the legal profession, are bound to follow the ordinary spelling, while writers in various forms for the newspapers dare not spell a word the wrong way. Then, again, those who have the training of the young in their charge are bound, in the higher and secondary grades of education by examinations such as those that have been mentioned. A man who desires to obtain employment in the Army, Navy, or Civil Service, is bound to consider the conventional method of spelling words, and dares not, for the life of him, wilfully make a mistake or set up his own opinions. We are therefore absolutely bound in this matter, and the minority who can act upon the recommendation of Mr Pitman is so small, that it seems as if it can scarcely make any impression upon the community as a whole. We all desire to see some other way of approaching the question. With reference to such words as *touched*, I would include the second syllable *ed* as one of the arbitrary methods of change which have been recommended. I question the propriety of arbitrarily changing the spelling of words in the past tense for the simple reason that, colloquially, we pronounce the sound of *t* and not of *ed;* because apparently the philologists have the best of it when they say that the written word in the past tense has those letters, and that the more colloquial abbreviation of the word is not a sufficient reason, arbitrarily, for changing the spelling. Cannot we approach this change in some other way? There is a solid basis of fact—viz., that vocal speech consists of certain elementary sounds which are vowels and consonants so-called. There are very few who have the slightest notion of arranging the sounds they use every time they speak; there is no knowledge of phonetics in the schools. So far as the practice of Phonetic Shorthand has gone (nearly all systems are phonetic), so far we have attained to some knowledge of phonetics, and a true knowledge of phonetics inspires everyone with a desire to write phonetically and not to spell conventionally. If we could secure the teaching of phonetics in elementary schools as a basis, no matter how words may be spelled, some step may be gained. I attach more importance to beginning with the vowel sounds than dealing with consonants at present. The clear separation of the vowels from the consonants will itself be a great gain in so far as it will enable the outside public more distinctly to appreciate what is aimed at. The present great confusion arises from the multifarious ways of representing the same vowel sounds, and, therefore, I would for the present absolutely leave the consonants to take care of themselves, and do my utmost to impress the community with the fact that there are so many short vowel sounds, so many long vowel sounds, and so many diphthongs; that these sounds are represented in a great variety of ways, and that it is this which constitutes the chief difficulty in teaching children to spell and in bringing them to read quickly and to pass their examinations quickly. I would almost recommend a Vowel Reform Spelling Association, because by that alone people will make more progress than in any other way. I feel grave doubts as to the propriety of making a change by steps. Whatever step is taken must be final. I do not like the idea of first, second, and third stages. I am perfectly certain we shall never secure the support of the universities, the schoolmasters, the outside public, and the newspapers, till the goal that is to be reached ultimately is perfectly clear and every step in the process is manifest to all who have to do with it.

Mr MAXTON: I think the last speaker hit the nail right upon the head in fixing upon the elementary schools as the place where Spelling Reform is to be begun and carried out. We have had several admirable speeches upon what we ought to do, and how to do it, but no one has yet said how it is being done, for it is being done. It is not pure theory, but has been tried in many places. Experiments have been made in London under the auspices of the London School Board, upon which I do not feel competent to speak from want of accurate facts. I represent the scholastic profession in Paris, where not being bound by the trammels of Government inspection we are free to make our experiments, and I have made an experiment in a small school for English children in teaching them to read ordinary books by means of Pitman's Phonotypy. If these experiments were almost universally adopted, then before two generations had passed, the masses would insist upon reformed spelling. They will not put up with the inconvenience of learning over again an absurd spelling when they have already learned to read well and quickly with a rational spelling. It is a fact that in the London Board Schools, in Ireland, and in other places, taking

children of five years of age and teaching them to read by Pitman's Phonotypy, in eighteen months at the furthest, they are capable of reading any ordinary school book, or even, as far as the mechanical process of reading is concerned, the articles in *The Times* newspaper. I have now in my school a lad who has had no more than two years' instruction who can read and has read before witnesses, masters of the London Board Schools for example, twenty lines of a leader, taken up at random, in *The Times*. One master who heard it, said that it would be absurd to try such an experiment in their schools, because it would be an utter failure. The French are moving in this matter; they are considered a logical people, and when they see a truth they, as our American friends say, "go for it." Within the last two years two Societies for Spelling Reform have been established in France, one confined to teachers who are in the habit of using phonetic methods in teaching languages, and the other a French Spelling Reform Association, numbering nearly 100 members, which has elaborated an alphabet and started a journal. I believe that in a very short time the greatest part of the teaching of English as a foreign language in foreign countries, will be conducted in reformed spelling, and that if we could only get a number of schools to carry on the experiment of teaching to read ordinary books by reformed spelling, we should have correct and rational spelling within the next two generations.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: I should like to point out a danger which seems to me to lurk in the apparently very plausible suggestion of the last speaker. At first sight it seems a comparatively easy thing to get a rule established in elementary schools that the children shall be taught on the Reformed system, but there is a great danger in allowing anything to be done which will introduce the notion that there is to be one kind of spelling for the poor man and another kind of spelling for the gentleman. Therefore if the work is to be undertaken educationally, we must at any rate, concurrently with introducing such a common-sense rule into the working of elementary schools, resolve that irregularities of spelling shall be no bar to the Civil Service, and also that the matter shall be taken up by the Universities and the higher schools. If the work is commenced from the top it will rapidly spread down, because everything will be in its favor; whereas, if we begin at the bottom, and make an apparent and broad distinction between the poor man's spelling and the gentleman's spelling, the results, I am afraid, will only tend to hinder the object we have in view.

Mr MAXTON: I do not propose to teach Reformed Spelling, but to teach spelling by a special scholastic method, which happens to be Reformed Spelling.

Mr FREDERICK CHILDERSTONE: I should like to draw the attention of the meeting to the word *touched*, referred to by Mr Storr. Mr Pitman's contention is that the word should be represented in type exactly as it is pronounced. As pronounced it is *tucht*, for it is impossible to pronounce a *d* after the letter *ch*. I therefore consider that Mr Pitman's contention that it should be printed with a *t* is perfectly legitimate and right.

Mr J. C. WATT: In Scotland we have made a considerable advance in this matter. In the early part of the Phonetic Reform movement, experiments such as have been suggested by Mr Maxton, were made repeatedly. The public authorities would not allow them to be made upon ordinary children, so that they had to be made in Dr Guthrie's schools and other Reformatory schools, and occasionally upon imported Irishmen, who were selected for that purpose. This induces me to believe that the re-initiation of this movement must begin from above and not from below. The faults which existed in the teaching of those days were partly in the teachers and partly in the system which existed. It had to run counter to many recognised notions of scientific men, and scientific men in the north, although naturally apathetic, took up a hostile position to a theory which seemed to damage their own position. Then there were other classes to contend with. Many classes in Edinburgh seemed to think Mr Pitman had made too much of a great number of other theories, and the Phonetic movement suffered from its accidental, though no doubt quite proper, association in some of the recognised prints, at all events with such movements as Phrenology and Mesmerism. I thoroughly agree with Mr Storr, that if the Phonetic movement

is to make progress, it must be instituted by authority. There are certain usages which obtain by length of years and universal custom the validity of law. English orthography has been established by custom, and therefore by law, and to have experiments of an effective kind made, they must be instituted by Government. Therefore, before any movement of this kind can succeed, we must induce the authorities on the subject, including Phonetic reformers, to go to the Government and the Education Department, and get them to institute the proper procedure.

Mr CROXTON: I once tried to introduce some of the elementary principles of Spelling Reform into a newspaper report, but the snubbing I got was such as I do not care to undergo again. I have, however, introduced it now and again into private correspondence, and have found it useful in getting converts. Many years ago Mr Leo Grindon and several of the older school of shorthand writers and gentlemen who were interested in phonography and phonetic spelling, started a Phonetic school in Salford, which for a time was carried on most successfully. A class was formed of working men and women, who having attained a complete knowledge of phonetic spelling, were able to read it fluently, and they also incidentally obtained a knowledge of phonography. The class was carried on very successfully for two or three years, but owing to some causes it dropped out, and has not been re-started. The question of phonetic spelling is one that ought to be taken up by the Phonographic Shorthand Writing Associations, but it must be confessed that phonographers do very little indeed in forwarding this Phonetic Spelling Reform.

Mr J. B. LAWSON (Edinburgh): I think an observation which has fallen from the last speaker is worthy of being emphasized. Those of us who practise Shorthand, whether Phonography or any other system, do so as a matter of profit to ourselves, but the Spelling Reform is one which I believe ought to be a labor of love, at all events with all phonographers. In forwarding this cause we shall be doing something to show that we appreciate the principles upon which the art of Phonography is founded, and will be doing something to help forward our countrymen, whether they are the poor man's children or the rich man's children. I am quite sure the representative from "poor little Wales," as it has been called by an eminent authority, will not suspect a Scotchman of being too aristocratic in his tendencies, but I suggest that those who endeavor to go straight to the mark, and spell the words in a phonetic manner, will be the true aristocrats in the mattter of spelling. If aristocracy means the best of anything, then phonetic spelling is the best mode of spelling. There are difficulties in the way of propagating phonetic spelling, some of which have been referred to. Possibly if I were to send a letter to a client spelled in the phonetic method, I might lose some of his business in the future. There are circumstances in which we may begin to spell phonetically, and in some of the American magazines, such as the *Century*, we already see a species of Spelling Reform. I care not what kind of Spelling Reform is introduced, so that the result is that a particular sound is represented by a particular symbol or set of symbols. We have in Scotland two races. There is the Celtic race, who when they do speak English are said to do it better than the English themselves. They are introduced, as a matter of education, to the English language usually at a comparatively advanced period of life, and it would be of immense service if they had a phonetic system of spelling. Whatever we may do with a child, when we tell a grown-up man that *g-o* is *go* and *t-o* is *too*, we are telling him something which looks very much like a lie, which is utterly illogical, and which confuses all his methods of thinking and retards his progress in the matter of conversation. I believe that those who have received an imperfect education in their youth are greatly injured by their inability to spell in accordance with the recognized mode of spelling; and this is particularly the case with women, who do not after all enjoy the same advantages as young men after leaving school. One thing to help forward the system of phonetic spelling will be a more general cultivation of the habit of reading aloud in family and other circles. I recognize the importance of having some phonetic system taught in elementary schools. Those who are phonographers, at all events, should in their respective Associations endeavor to stir up an interest in this subject. The experiments referred to by Mr Watt were made at a peculiarly unfortunate time, when no doubt the Spelling Reform was to some extent associated with mesmerism, total abstinence, and so on. But total abstainers

have now acquired, I am happy to say, a very much more influential position in society than they had twenty years ago, and a man is not generally looked upon as a fool because he is a total abstainer. Moreover these experiments were before the recent Education Act. In Scotland we can bring pressure to bear upon the School Boards very effectively, and I think those of us who are ratepayers ought to insist upon some experiments being tried, and if those experiments will bear out what has been told us to-day, that children can be taught to read from *The Times* newspaper after two years' instruction, I am quite satisfied that not only the poor man's child, but in this age of competition the rich man's child will only be too glad to adopt a system which produces such surprising results. I hope the time is not far distant when our Phonetic Associations will awaken to the responsibility that lies upon them, and endeavor to do something for others, as they have been able by Mr Pitman's exertions to do something for themselves.

Mr LEE: I agree with Mr Lawson that shorthand writers are the class to take up this subject on some systematic and scientific principle, and therefore I appeal to writers of other systems to unite with phonographers in endeavoring to induce those in authority to remove all hindrances to Spelling Reform.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sorry that the discussion has, in one respect, been all on one side. The only adverse point raised was simply one as to etymology, but that has been completely met by the statement that all English philologists are in favor of a spelling reform, and more strongly so perhaps than any other class of the community. "Etymology" simply means what a word was at some period of its past history, but surely it is more interesting to know what is the whole history of a word as far as we can trace it, wherever it has been spoken. The present spelling gives us some information here and there, sometimes correctly, sometimes incorrectly, as to the form of a word at some period of its past history, we do not know when or how; but the means which we employ for expressing speech destroys all hope of getting the fair history of a word and of learning how it has gradually changed. It is on that account that philologists are so angry, shall I say, at the unphonetic way of writing English? because it has destroyed all chance of our having the history of English words, and only gives us a little bit of knowledge as to how they were pronounced at some particular time, and that of course we could always get from ancient manuscripts and books. They are all, I may say, agreed upon the propriety of a Spelling Reform, but people outside are generally not agreed as to the extent of Spelling Reform they would like, or the ways in which they would like to bring it about. There is a very respectable sentiment indeed in favor of the present spelling (and we do not like to go against that sentiment too strongly) on the part of those who are convinced in their minds that they ought to spell phonetically, yet have a sort of lingering after the kind of spelling they have been taught since their childhood. Besides that idea of sacredness, the present spelling is fixed by authority; it is established by government. Not only public opinion but also the Civil Service examiners and the Education Department have fixed upon a certain spelling that must be followed by everyone who wishes to have success in life. We have to fight with this great difficulty; how are we to do it? We have been reminded by several speakers of the different ways in which we should deal with the matter. One is by introducing small changes. Others have proposed that changes should be introduced in schools, and phonetics taught there. We have had interesting experiments brought before us, and other interesting experiments might have been related. I have with me an account of a successful experiment made by the London School Board with Pitman's system in the Saunders Road School, which can be seen by anyone who wishes to have it. The way in which I am most hopeful of getting spelling reform is by means of a good system of spelling English which can be used concurrently with the present system for at any rate a generation or two, and by which we can write the pronunciation of any new name, any geographical term, any foreign word that we like, and by which we can teach children or foreigners the pronunciation of ordinary English words. We want that badly. If we had that it would be useful for a great number of purposes. We could introduce it in our newspapers or anywhere else for the purpose we required, and could use it in schools largely. The best system we have of the kind is no doubt Bell's, but that might prove cumbrous, and

we should hardly think of introducing that popularly. We also have Pitman's and several other systems, Pitman's having the greatest claim because it is the best known and can be used, but it would be a matter of importance that this should be decided by a good authority, and that authority ought to meet and grapple with the subject by a Royal Commission or an Academy, or something of that kind. I believe Pitman's method would be very good, but it might be improved, and in fact Mr Pitman himself has greatly improved it. In Italy, Spain, Germany, Sweden, and other countries great reforms have been initiated by the Government, or by the learned bodies, and their spellings are immensely superior to those in use in this country. I hope that we shall have this kind of concurrent or alternate alphabet commonly used in England, and believing very much in the survival of the fittest, I think it will gradually displace the old-fashioned ways.

Mr Isaac Pitman: I wish to say one sentence on the etymological question, which I think will silence all objections. The greatest etymologist in England is Professor Skeat of Cambridge, who stands, on the point of etymology, even above Max Müller himself, because he has entered into this question and made it the business of his life. About two years ago this sentence occurred in one of Professor Skeat's letters to me, "From pure love of etymology, and in the interests of the same, I should like to see our present spelling utterly smashed."

THE HISTORY OF PHONETICS AND PHONOGRAPHY IN SCOTLAND.

By James Crabb Watt, F.S.A., Scotland.

The history of Phonography in Scotland, like that of other great movements which mark the Victorian age, is full of a pleasing variety, but within the limits of this paper it is impossible to do more than consider the outlines of the picture. In the first place it may be advisable to take a cursory glance at the country and people upon whom this scheme of rapid writing, combined with orthographical reform, was launched.

Fifty years ago Scotland presented a very different aspect from what it does now. Apart from the four large towns, with which I propose to deal separately, the social life of the country, with an admixture of native, Flemish, French, and English habitudes, was confined within small—sometimes quaint and pretty, sometimes rude—towns, or spread over thinly-peopled agricultural districts. The monotony of those isolated communities was seldom disturbed. The only variations might be said to be the weekly journey to market, the homely visits of homely neighbors, an occasional lecture from the minister or schoolmaster, and the infrequent entertainments of strolling players or circuses. There was little or no intercourse with the world beyond the little town, the sequestered glen, or widely-scattered parish. Traveling was done by the cumbrous and costly coach, but as it traversed only the leading thoroughfares, very limited areas were affected by the kind of enlightenment which a system of locomotion brings. There were only one or two railways in the country—those of limited extent; and the vast industrial development which subsequent years have seen, and to which railways were the main avenues, was as yet in its infancy.

These darker lines of the picture were relieved, to a certain extent

at least, by the essentially intellectual cast of the Scotch character, which had thriven for a century or two on one or other of three kinds of mental pabulum—(1) the Parochial Schools, which were instituted at the Reformation by John Knox and others; (2) the stock of religious literature with which every parish more or less abounded in the shape of spoken or written sermons; and (3) the magazine and romancist literature which had begun to be distributed. Cheap literature, of which the Messrs Chambers were the pioneers, gave a wonderful stimulus to the mental activity of the nation. The newspaper, however, which has become so great a power, had not begun to shed its daily light on the mass of the people. Even the weekly papers were, like the stars, fixed far apart in the northern sky. Cheap literature had, however, got a start, and produced a wild craving for knowledge in the breasts of the people. The people, with characteristic foresight, had detected, in the improving finances of the country, in the agitations for reform, and in a hundred other signs, the dawn of a day when, without education, no conspicuous or successful part could be played in the battle of life. To this desire for increased knowledge it ought to be mentioned that there were one or two other contributing causes. Part of the life even of those districts most remote from civilization consisted of meetings of the people for mutual improvement. If you look at the files of the old *Courant* newspaper, or of the *Aberdeen Journal*, and particularly to the more ancient weeklies, you will find quaint little paragraphs, written in a more scholarly, less journalistic, style than the paragraphs of to-day, recording the formation and progress of such societies, ending usually with a little exhortation. Those societies were partly the outcome of the gregariousness of human nature in desolate or secluded parts, and partly of that love of knowledge which inheres in every well-doing people. At all events they and what I may call Knox's knowledge, produced the material upon which Mr Pitman was shortly to operate. The only regret is that at the period when the general appetite was whetted for knowledge, the mind had not been trained for study. The scarcity of the means of secondary education certainly made the mind more fit for application than if it had enjoyed the lavish appliances of these latter days, for there was no temptation and no opportunity for dissipating it in excursions amongst the thousand cheap prints which now provide entertainment for the masses with little lasting instruction. It would have been of advantage if the raw material had had the advantage of better methods in the work of self-education on which they had embarked.

These remarks apply in great measure to the rural parts of Scotland, which at first were the chief factors in the Phonetic propaganda. They do not apply with the same force to large towns where, of course, life, education, and circumstances generally, were more advanced. Although education and science were in the large centres more ad-

vanced, I do not know that that fact was much or at all in favor of the spread of Phonography. The educated classes who abounded in the three University towns—Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen—ought to have been the patrons of this new art-science, which was to provide a railway route for the transmission of mind. It was difficult, however, in those days, as it occasionally is still, to stir up the professors or professional classes to enthusiasm in the matter of externals. Culture had for almost a century tended in the direction of *belles lettres*. Anything of the nature of an invention it was thought pertained to the domain of mechanics—a domain rather foreign to the classic tastes of the college castes. That was one of the reasons why the harbingers of Phonography were not hailed by the Universities with a warm welcome.

But there were other reasons equally powerful. First, I think the conjunction of Phonotypy with Phonography, and the association of both with a huge philanthropic or educational movement, thwarted the designs of the Spelling reformers, and certainly retarded the spread of Phonography in Scotland. You all know that the lack of knowledge, felt by the lower orders and seen by the higher, had pressed itself upon reformers and legislators for many years. All ameliorations and scientific advances spring from human needs, and if you refer back to the literature of the day, you will find that etymologists, statesmen, and philanthropists were bestowing great attention on the simplification of language as a means of extending education. Each reformer had his own nostrum. One proposed more schools, one more teachers, others free libraries. The classes upon whom the need pressed most heavily were those whom bodily wants hurried off at an early age to the mine, the factory, or the field, and therefore another set advocated the prohibition of infantile labor. In this matter, it is true, Scotland stood better than England because of her parochial schools, but even in Scotland the thirst for knowledge was far from quenched, and those who set themselves to acquire it had to do so, as the Phonetic reformers tried to shew, though much unnecessary toil. The mistake in all those movements, although they undoubtedly in the end led to the true remedy, was that the agitators did not "go for" an Education Act straight. An Education Act would have sent the English-speaking world a generation forward, and at once have knocked on the head the half-measures, the advocacy of which took up so much time. You will find that after the Education Act was passed, there was a remarkable abatement in, for instance, the purely Phonetic agitation. But at the time of which I speak things were not so ripe, and the Phonetic reformers, as one means of commending their own movement and bettering the condition of their fellow-men, incorporated their movement with the incipient educational upheaval. Thus, in its advocacy of science and philanthropy, we find the *Phonetic Journal* deploring that one-half of the entire population of

Great Britain and Ireland is sunk into inconceivable wretchedness, the result of ignorance. The Phonetic system, Mr Pitman said, is the lever which is to lift it up to the heights of knowledge, and he adds this exordium: "Men and brethren, throughout our land, who are spending your energies in the attempt to relieve ignorance, come to our help! Do not throw away your muscular strength pulling at the end of the rotten rope of the imperfect and falsely applied Romanic alphabet, but avail yourselves of the lever of Phonetic science." An exceedingly fine platform, according well with the beneficient character of the inventor of Phonography, but somehow the combined forces of ignorance and science were against the preacher. He was not alone in this missionary effort. In Edinburgh as late as 1850, a pamphlet was published under the auspices of the Edinburgh Phonetic Society, entitled "Orthographic Reform: the only means of securing a general education." Then, in Glasgow, "The Educational Lever, or the mode by which the chief difficulties in education may be removed," is the name of a pamphlet in which the writer urged, I think with great reason, that the root of the prevailing evil was the difficulty of acquiring the first rudiments before the objects of education were driven to toil or to crime.

There was, secondly, the scientific obstacle. Mr Pitman's phonetic doctrines invaded a domain which had been considered sacred to etymologists who, unwilling to countenance a reform from without, must needs look askance on theories which not merely competed with their own, but with terrible democratic freedom appealed for support to the masses. This vicious side of that particular obstacle had to be got rid of somehow; but I daresay so human an aspect of the question would not have been invincible long if there had not been certain relevant doubts that had to be solved as well. Etymologists, who ought to have known best, were not at first in favor of the phonetic system, and that was a fact which undoubtedly influenced the educated classes in the North. Max Müller, Sayce, Skeat, and Murray had not yet indicated their preference for phonetic spelling over etymological; and since no champions of that calibre stood forth in defence of the new system, those classes, at that time vain and apathetic at the best, rested content with such views as were put forth by, say, *Fraser's Magazine* in the year 1849. They thought that any such change ought to be gradual. *Fraser* said he would be content if the proposed change was spread over 400 or 500 years! Other people talked about the impossibility of a language as a literary language existing without a literary standard of correctness, meaning a standard of orthography; and how in the name of wonder, they asked, could such a standard exist 200 years since, when our language had had its back broken in the middle? *Fraser* actually proposed that everyone who thought proper should adopt every change in our spelling which from time to time presented itself. Another set of objectors asked to

what practical purpose could a change of this nature lead, seeing that nothing could efface the dialects of English-speaking peoples? The Chinese had ever so many dialects, and yet they had had an arbitrary system for centuries. Was it worth while to go in for a revolution in orthography to the end that there should be a uniformly spelled literature, when that literature with the existing orthography was perfectly understood and appreciated without a phonetic system at all? There was some force in this. A speaker of pure English is perfectly well understood in, say, Fife or Aberdeen; but put imperfectly educated natives of Buchan, Cumberland, and Somersetshire together, and I venture to say they will not hold much intelligible converse. The same argument exists with regard to Upper and Low German, High German being taught in the schools of the Fatherland. The spelling reformers, however, recognised in that very objection an argument for a uniform spelling as a means of producing correct and uniform speech; but that position again was rejected, since such uniformity would have utterly abolished the etymology of antiquarian nomenclature, upon which a great part of history, particularly of local history, is founded. And after all, it was said, the difficulty which existed was not one of confused spelling at all, but one of grammatical structure. In this last objection there was more force than phonetic enthusiasts were inclined to admit. The difficulty was admirably illustrated in some of the early phonotypic classes by attempts to spell such a word as *squeezed*. On one occasion, where the sentence given was:—"The butler squeezed grapes into Pharaoh's cup," the tense particle was spelled eight different ways: *eezed, zd, sed, eazed, ded, ase, us, ose.*

Thirdly, it would have been wonderful if a sentimental people like the Scotch had not entertained some less solid objections. Phonetics came at a time and (I may say it without offence) in company which made people regard it as a fad or fashion which need not awake more than the fleeting interest or the more fleeting smiles of society. There were many who gave the subject that patronising recognition which people of one idea sometimes get from people who have none. Sir Archibald Alison, the author of the "History of Europe," may fairly be taken as the type of hundreds to whom phonetics stood in the position of a man with something in him, whom you don't know whether to know or not. Sir Archibald admitted that Phonotypy might facilitate the act of learning the English language, but he added: "As it is necessarily to be attended, if generally adopted, with an entire change in the mode of spelling, and thus produce results, the issue of which no one can foretell, I do not feel myself prepared to take so decided a step as presiding at a public meeting." Few prominent men in the different walks of life attended the early meetings. One of the first to take it up, however, was Dr Robert Chambers. He gave the best proof of his belief in the system by learning it. His example was followed in Aberdeen by the Rev. Sir

William Dunbar, Bart. The phonographic existence of this gentleman was meteoric, but (such is the magic of birth) his name influenced 150 of the gentry of Aberdeen to listen to a lecture. Dr Gregory, the worthy son of his distinguished father, was fascinated with the ease of Phonotypy at a very early period, and became a member of the first Council of the Society. Mr Ellis resided for some time in Scotland. I have always been at a loss to know whether to reckon him amongst the friends or foes of phonetics, but hostile or the reverse, he undoubtedly advertised the system in a community which was not without the need of such importunity. It seems that the Provosts of Burghs, not a very literate class at that time, were also vexingly chary of aiding the movement by their presence. In short, I do not find half-a-dozen other substantial names in the first ten years of the history of phonetics. People seem to have been afraid of the theory, so that even those who allowed that a reform of the language was inevitable, would allow experiments to be made only upon charity children. This was done in Sheriff Watson's School at Aberdeen and Dr Guthrie's School in Edinburgh, but there were grave discussions in Committee beforehand, whether the voluntary efforts of these word-reformers should be accepted. In some cases permission was actually refused or withdrawn. The experiment had even sometimes to be tried upon illiterate Irishmen. A case in point occurred at Dumbarton. I have omitted one distinguished name from my short list of the early supporters of this movement. I refer to Dr Combe, the apostle of Phrenology. He was an ardent phonetician, but with respect to him too, I am at a loss to say whether he did the cause which he espoused more harm or good. I rather think it suffered by association with a pretended science, to which most men gave the cold shoulder. I am also free to confess that many people about that time, for reasons which I cannot make out, unless it was the extent to which mention was made of them in the recognised publications, got to mix up phonetics with vegetarianism, homœopathy and other subtleties which they considered unprofitable and Utopian. Clergymen especially indulged in vagaries about it. One man in a tract about "The Promised Glory," in 1844, joined it with mesmerism, socialism, chartism, and infidelity, and denounced it as one of the stalking-horses behind which the most satanic lies were sent forth against the Word of God. In Exeter and Inverness alike the clerical mind was against it;—in Inverness, where pure English is supposed to be spoken, not merely clergymen, but doctors and lawyers were opposed to it, so that a poor gentleman, by name Samuel Thomson, had to spread his good tidings by leaflets.

The cold survey with which the educated classes in Scotland thus favored phonetics is undoubtedly to be regretted—not perhaps for the sake of Phonotypy, but for the sake of Phonography. Phonotypy is now relegated to its proper position as a branch of etymological

science, and is of comparatively little moment since the Education Acts have lavished education on the country. The difficulty is now one of time and memory, and I don't know that much time is lost after all, because a child's vocabulary and pronunciation ought to keep pace with his understanding. If the one is in advance of the other, he is no better than a parrot, or the 400,000 Highlanders mentioned in the *Phonetic Journal* for 1852, who were taught to read English beautifully, without knowing the meaning of a single word. It was a poor consolation to Milton's daughters, you will admit, to read Greek for an immortal, when they themselves got no enjoyment from it.

Still, I repeat, the attitude of those higher classes in the infancy of phonetics is to be regretted, since it undoubtedly retarded the spread of Phonography. Their coolness, I am glad to say, was neutralized to a great extent by the generous support of the Press. No doubt some of the higher organs were tainted with the scepticism of their readers. *Punch* poked a good deal of fun out of the Spelling Reform. As *Punch* presides more over the destinies of the English than of the Scotch nation, I leave him to the tender mercies of Englishmen. I have already mentioned the lukewarm attitude of *Fraser*. The *Edinburgh Review* was not any warmer, as you will see from a clumsy attempt at cleverness quoted in the *Phonetic Journal* for January, 1848. *Chambers's Journal*, however, and the weekly, and subsequently the daily, press of Scotland indulged in an unbroken chorus of praise from 1840 onwards. That is to say, when it spoke at all; but I have a suspicion that the reluctance with which reporters paragraph each other, prevented too frequent mention of the efforts which certain gentlemen on the Press put forward to spread the art. Be that as it may, the notices that did appear were quite effectual to prevent phonetics, where dormant, as was frequently the case, from mummifying. Besides, the advantage of newspapers was not confined to advertising the system. The weekly Press has often in wide districts been the single repository of shorthand. When intermittent phonetic fevers broke out, they were always ready to lend a helping hand in spreading the infection.

II. I have now said enough about the first branch of this paper—what I may venture to name the phonotypic drag in Scotland. I hasten accordingly to the second branch of the subject—the history of Phonography itself. Information regarding every town in Scotland has been collected by me and put in a Scotch appendix. That appendix, I regret to say, extends to 150 pages of manuscript. It contains many interesting details, upon which the generalisations which have gone before, and those which follow, are based. I have no space to enter upon the details themselves. [We are glad to hear that Mr Watt is to put these details in a permanent form in a History of Shorthand and Legal Shorthand Writing in Scotland.] If any of you desire

that entertainment, or if any of you wish to controvert my conclusions, the Secretary has my instructions to place this formidable historical document at your disposal.

The second branch of the subject, although vast, is happily susceptible of convenient heads. As a tribute to our place of meeting, I have divided it into different periods. There is the first or missionary period, which from the coolness the movement sometimes received might as well be called the "glacial." There was one thing in favor of the first advocates of Phonography. If they made the system, which was essentially a simple one, at all clear, it would at once be accepted by those who saw the advantage of possessing a shorthand system. The advantage of shorthand in the abstract had been urged by educationists for a century. As early as 1825, when Thomas Campbell was Lord Rector of Glasgow University, he said: "I should exhort all young men to learn that most useful art, shorthand writing —an art which I believe will one day be studied as universally as common writing; and it will abridge the labor of penmanship to a degree that will materially quicken the intercourse of human thought." I dare say these words gave a little stimulus to the study of systems then in vogue, but no system could be said to be at all general before the advent of Phonography. Gardner's system was practised, but many of those who had struggled valiantly with its intricacies gave it up for Phonography. There was an occasional disciple of Mavor's system. Odell's, that is, Taylor's system was also in use. But the progress of all such systems was retarded as well by the strength of memory necessary to their acquisition, as by the inherent defects of methods which were in themselves unsystematic. Many reporters did not use shorthand characters at all, but an abbreviated longhand. Their reports were frequently more faithful than those of stenographers for the simple reason that, with an imperfect system of shorthand, the mind of speaker and writer not being *en rapport*, arbitrary characters used for two or three different words came to be transcribed pretty much by guess-work. With such systems the memory of Themistocles was essential.

But at the first visitation of the inventor, Phonography was seen by those who took the trouble to examine it, to be a very different affair. Mr Pitman delivered lectures in several localities. Those who heard them are now very few indeed; but I have conversed with several who are unanimous in testifying to the impression produced alike by his own sincerity and the clearness of his system. He was soon followed by his two brothers. They cut the country into blocks, and devoted their attention to each block for a season. Simultaneously, Messrs Woodward and Walker went to and fro and attracted numerous disciples, until zeal outrunning their discretion, they had to be pulled up somewhat suddenly. I refer to the dispute, which older members of the Congress will remember, between them and the

Pitmans about class-books. I do not at this moment remember that there were more deputies from the Bath Institute at that time in Scotland. The country was never favored, for instance, by Mr Reed, to whom Phonography all over the world is much indebted. But the gentlemen who visited Scotland met with great immediate success. They were not particular as to the class of people they addressed. Nor were their efforts confined to the sane. There is a report in the *Phonetic Journal* of an interesting lecture delivered to lunatics at the Crichton Institution, Dumfries, containing the astute observations which a lunatic made upon the experiment—I presume during one of his lucid intervals. In addition to those gentlemen there arose in Scotland a formidable army of native lecturers, and it was by them I think that the cause of Phonography during the first ten years of its existence was mainly advanced. It seems, indeed, to be one of the merits of the system that it developed the faculty of speech as well as the art of Shorthand. The enthusiasm and disinterestedness of those local lecturers deserve every recognition. Those connected with the larger towns I shall refer to again, but there are several obscurer individuals who ought not to be passed over in silence. Early mention is made, for instance, of a Mr James Sim, who sprang from the foot of the Ochils, and who arranged a plan of campaign for gentle and simple alike. He began his operations in Dollar, a small town in the vale of Devon, where there had been a first-rate secondary school for years. His plan of campaign was this: "Whenever I get into the company of strangers, I judge from their conversation whether or not they are possessed of sufficient intelligence for appreciating the beauty and value of the science. If they appear to be so, I immediately give them a report of a festival, or one of the Bills of Extracts, if I am in possession of these, recommending them as being connected with a novelty in the scientific world." The somewhat eclectic principle upon which he thus acted, he carried with him to the neighboring towns of Alloa, Tillicoultry, Alva, and Kincardine, where classes and societies were formed under his direction. He subsequently turned up in Glasgow, and I dare say planted phonetic seed wherever he wandered. Another lecturer in that neighborhood was a Mr Blelloch, whose efforts, however, so far as they are reported, seem to have been confined to farmhouses. Mr Henry identified himself with the valley of the Tweed, and Mr James Hogg with the midland section of Scotland. I think he was a schoolmaster at Newport-on-Tay. Mr Hogg did good service with his pen also. One of his early lectures formed a good feature of the literary stock of the Bath Institute. Going further north, we find that Mr William Rodger, who afterwards became famous, had begun operations in Stonehaven, a town of 2,000 people, where documents were distributed sufficient to reach every man, woman, and child in the place. The most remarkable of all the local lecturers, however, seems to have been a Mr James Wisely,

who reports in October, 1848, that he has commenced "to sound the Phonetic trumpet in the north!" He began at the town of Keith, where, he says, the people seemed to be enraptured with his exposure of hetericism. He then by turns visited every town of any consequence in that corner of Scotland which lies between the Moray Firth and the German Ocean—a corner supposed by the Southron to be devoid of any attraction except Christmas beef; but where, nevertheless, many historical families, as well as the lost tribes, had early found their homes! Mr Wisely must have put hundreds of pupils through his hands, and I think he is responsible for many quaint incidents in the History of Phonography, which you will find scattered over the pages of the *Phonetic Journal;* an instance of which—the Tarland incident—occurs at page 55 of the *Journal* for 1848. I think it was also owing to those early efforts of his that that north-eastern part of Scotland became the principal nursery of current journalism. Although this was a land where the farmer reaped with the sickle and thrashed with the flail, it was a land of light. What is well-known in Scotland as the Milne and Dick Bequest had been operating for a considerable period, giving children gratuitous education, and sending them to compete at Aberdeen University for nice little bursaries, which enabled them to become Masters in Arts while subsisting on the proverbial oatmeal and milk. But Mr Wisely, true to his name, made Phonography a matter of profit as well as of pleasure. He proceeded southwards, and formed a combination with a gentleman of the name of Love. The name of this combination, Wisely and Love, itself acted as a spell. They delivered lectures and formed classes in many towns in the west and east, and the name of Mr Love is still redolent of pleasant memories to many surviving phonographers.

Time, however, would fail to tell of a tenth of the assiduous gratuitous workers. Those just mentioned may be taken as the types. It is to be regretted that one does not quite know the subsequent history of many of them. If Phonography retains its hold on the affections of stenographers, posterity would bind up their names with the antiquarianism of the subject. In many cases they drop entirely out of view, after having held up for a little time their Phonographic lights.

The second period may be called the philanthropic period, or the period of mutual improvement. If I wanted to carry out the geological conceit before mentioned, I might call it the igneous period, because the zeal of phonographers was peculiarly fierce, and Phonography fanned the flame of all the virtues. You remember my reference to the societies which formed a feature of provincial life at that time. It is interesting to note the development as well as germination of such associations. There is no doubt that Phonography gave that development a tremendous fillip. No town in Scotland can be mentioned, where Phonography had a follower at all, in which there was

not also a Mutual Improvement Society which traced its origin, or some part of it, to Phonetic influences. I could mention off-hand a score of such. I speak of the time before the passing of the Education Acts. Phonographers may therefore well claim for their art that it was an important factor in the mental upheaval of that bye-gone generation. I say upheaval advisedly. There are many intellectual eruptions which begin and end with a flare. This, however, was an upheaval as permanent as vast. Youths never were content to profit by the art themselves without imparting it to others. No consideration would induce them to let their light burn under a bushel. I remember myself as a youth of 17, and having a class of 20, being asked by a man of the world—"Why should you be so anxious to teach others? You are only cutting a stick to break your own head with!" The thesis, which if time allowed I should like to maintain upon this branch of the subject, is that Phonography was a great moral agent at this time, not merely when it associated itself with churches, charity schools, asylums, and Christian associations, but when it formed the magnetic point around which small knots of humble individuals with intellectual aspirations clustered. One does not unreservedly approve of voluntary irresponsible societies as a piece of educational machinery, but everyone must admire the unselfish motives by which those earnest souls were actuated. One will not readily forget the small gathering in the humble hall of imperfectly educated youth fascinated by this mystic art, stumbling onwards in their progress without the aid of qualified teachers. No one to whom the freshness of youth is more than a mere name will forget the "wild ambitions, the incommunicable longings, the transports, and the tears" of that budding period, or the warmth of the friendships then made! Alas! that so many of them should have been closed by the grave. [Mr Watt goes on to deal exhaustively with the four centres—Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen.]

From the preceding remarks, which showed an annual average, in round numbers, of 3,000 to 4,000 pupils in Glasgow and 2,500 in Edinburgh, one would naturally conclude that Scotland had produced enormous numbers of phonographers, and I daresay in proportion to her population she excels the sister country in this respect. But when one thinks of the multitudes who have studied the art at one time or another—when one remembers one's own experience—one cannot but confess to a feeling of intense disappointment at the ashen fruit which the two periods with which I have been dealing, have produced. It is of course easy to be wise after the event, but reflections, where they can be made with truth, are useful as guides for the future. What was the cause of only one out of twenty or one out of every hundred turning out a proficient phonographer? Many dabbled in the art like *dilettantes*—the difficulty was to find a man who had not; but I am safe in saying that the proportion of proficient phonographers

was not greater than I have stated. The majority did not get beyond the initial stage. The Phonographic missionaries who went out to convert the country, induced thousands to believe that the art of shorthand writing could be acquired in a few months. Shorthand writing was the spell which drew those crowds. There was a certain agreeable mysticism, as well as an uncanny power about an art which could photograph thought ere it had well been uttered. It was to the thousands who were steeped in the hopelessness and obscurity of toil that those appeals were made, and those toiling beings, with dim dreams of the limitless power of knowledge, thought that a golden dawn had burst upon their humble lot. In hundreds, therefore, artizans, clerks, and shopmen rushed to join the ranks of phonographers, carried away, it must be said, by that unstable enthusiasm which, in the course of these last few peaceful centuries, has had many analogies. I think there was something misleading and mistaken in all that procedure. I think the hopes held out to them were unfounded. The result proved that their expectations were unwarranted, except by the sanguine pictures of the optimists. The mistake, I think, was twofold. There was a defect in the method of teaching, and there were defects in the taught. The majority had undoubtedly the capacity to learn Phonography, but they were deficient in the power of application. The fault in the teachers was failure to organise sufficient and competent tuition. Their zeal—often, as I have explained, disinterested—to spread the benefits of this most useful of arts, was directed to the securing of numbers. They did not sufficiently impress the fact that not merely was ordinary capacity required, but that concentration and perseverance were also essential. I speak, of course, with reference to the production of a fair average of shorthand writers. For the satisfaction of an idle curiosity—for the acquiring of a smattering of the system—the initial stages of the Phonetic propaganda were effective enough, but for imbuing those who identified themselves with the movement with more than a vague admiration of its possibilities, the teaching methods employed were utterly futile. For what was that method? A lecturer appeared in a town and gave six, twelve, or eighteen lessons or lectures—hurrying over the principles and details of the system to men and boys who had probably little more than the mere elements of education. Was it wonderful that after the fever abated, practice should have ceased? The majority of the students relinquished the study as soon as the novelty of it was rubbed off. They were appalled by the difficulties which faced them. The system itself was easy enough, but, then, what of the subsequent practice? In short, indolence solaced them with the reflection that they were not meant to make their living by Shorthand, and what was the use of fighting with it? It is amusing to remember the excuses which such pupils gave to their anxious and ardent teachers. The teacher, zealous and

hopeful to the last, was fain to believe the pretexts, but in his bosom he felt that his man would soon disappear. Was it any better when certificates of ability to teach were awarded? I think not. Certificates were granted to hundreds who could not follow a slow speaker, and who probably, in order intelligently to teach the system they had learned with some effect themselves, required to go back to school. No great evidence was required of their efficiency or of their speed. No doubt in many cases some of those who tried it in the old days were unfitted by natural ability to carry on a struggle of the kind, and gave it up, disheartened and disgusted, but the mistake, I think, was in working so much from below instead of from above. More determined efforts ought to have been made to interest the educated classes, not in Phonotypy only, but in what was practically, it seems to me, of very much greater moment, the art of Shorthand. One remembers very well one's own bitter experience. Lured by the statement that one could be one's own instructor, I began at the age of 11. I floundered through the Teacher, the Reader, and Manual without any instruction, and often without understanding the terms employed. After a struggle of this kind for two years, can it be wondered at that when I got my exercises corrected through the post (which I think was the most valuable provision that the Phonetic Society ever made, until examinations worth the name were instituted a few years ago) I flung my corrected exercises into the fire in hopeless disgust? Had it not been for the kindness and encouragement of my postal instructors—notably Mr Main, of Turriff, an accomplished and beautiful writer—my phonographic career would have ended then. With his assistance the fight was continued for two years more, by which time I could follow a speaker. I daresay the memory of that combat has qualified the roseate coloring of the propagandist doctrines; but I cannot admit now—and I do not think it ought to be advertised—that Phonography is an easily acquired art. The later developments of tuition are entirely in favor of this view. Those who have gained the speed certificates—a step which has done more to disseminate sound and swift Phonography than any other in the history of the system—will bear me out that the acquisition of Phonography is no plaything like photography but a formidable task, to the mastering of which mental, moral, and physical qualities, in addition to a fair education, are absolutely necessary.

But whatever difficulties there may have been—and I do not say that they were inseparable from the circumstances under which the system was at first promulgated—they were, I think, obliterated by the teaching which has prevailed during the "tertiary" or school period, the third of my periods. For the dawn of this period which dates, I think from about 1870, we have to thank not merely the efforts of those who have gone before, but the spread of education, and above all the operation of economic laws. It is, of course, impossible

to estimate respectively how many have become proficient phonographers from a love of the art, and those who have mastered it as a highway to fortune. I have a distinct impression, however, that the latter class vastly predominate. Scanty as the proficient fruit was of those two first periods, Phonography had justified its professions in the every-day world. People began to see that there was evidence of success in its application to the purposes of life. Men may easily resist the appeals of reformers, but they always yield to the evidence and importunity of the pocket. When it was found that Phonography was to writing what the jenny was to the loom and the train to the coach—the battle was won. Twenty years ago premiums began to be held out to clerks who had a knowledge of shorthand, especially by the railway companies. The great modern agencies—railways and the electric telegraph—seemed to impart a stimulus to thought itself, and the increased celerity of thought demanded suitable vehicles for its transmission. This vehicle of course was shorthand writing. Railway companies were the pioneers of shorthand employers. After the zeal of the first reformers had abated, the system came to be espoused on its own merits. The mere fact that it was based upon phonetics was not regarded as derogating from its utility as a stenographic instrument. Even scientific men—and there were few now who doubted the soundness of phonotypy—recognised the adequacy of the system to picture not only spoken English but most known languages, the sounds of the human voice not being confined to one race or tongue. But with respect to this period, I do not think I need trouble you at any length. Recent years have settled Phonography in the security of a quiet steady progress. The system is established in Scotland. Shorthand associations are scattered over the length and breadth of the land. There is besides a considerable number of professional teachers who seem to derive a fair living from teaching it. I think I may be content in regard to the third period with giving you the details in a brief compass. In regard to Glasgow, the first query I asked of my informant was: "Is shorthand taught in any Board or secondary school in your town or district?" and the answer was: "Yes, in five advanced evening classes and three day schools (secondary schools)." My second query was: "If so, how many pupils have received instruction per annum on an average of five years?" and the answer: "In day schools, 91; in evening schools, 314." Shorthand is also taught in Allan Glen's School and Kelvinside and Hillhead Academies, and other secondary schools not under the Board; at classes at the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College, Anderson's College, the Athenæum, the Young Men's Christian Association, the Shorthand Institute, and at others conducted privately. The number of shorthand writers being thus turned out is large, but there is a great demand, for there is hardly an office of any standing—no matter in what line of business—that has not one or more shorthand clerks.

For a long time shorthand was merely taught at such institutions as the Athenæum, or at private classes. One of the most successful teachers was the late Mr Silver. Of course the demand for shorthand clerks, etc., in recent years has led to an augmentation of these classes. Five or six years ago the School Board introduced the study of it into both day and evening schools. "Pitman's" is the system almost entirely adopted, but others, notably the "Sloan-Duployan" and "Script Phonography," receive some attention. Last year there were probably about 2,500 attending "Pitman's" classes, and from 500 to 1,000 studying the system themselves. The sale of Shorthand Manuals was considerably in excess of class requirements. "Sloan-Duployan" had perhaps 200, and "Script Phonography" 100. The leading teacher of "Pitman's" at present is Mr R. Kirkpatrick, and the number of persons taught by him is not far short of 1,000 a year. Last year the students enrolled at his evening classes numbered 542. He conducts classes at a dozen or so of the principal institutions of an educational nature in the city and suburbs. The largest of his day-classes last session was at Allan Glen's School, where technical education is given, and there he had 81 boys on the list. At the recent examinations for the Shorthand certificates awarded by the Society of Arts, London, 10 Glasgow students were successful, and 9 were trained by him. Other teachers have private classes, probably aggregating 300. The number enrolled by the Glasgow Shorthand Writers' Association was last year 284.

With reference to the present condition of the rest of the country I have only to say that, in the course of the investigations which I undertook with a view to this Congress, I issued the following Schedule of Queries to the editors of all the weekly newspapers published in Scotland. I thought that these gentlemen might retain some interest in a subject by which many of them had been raised to positions of respectability, and by which others had received invaluable aid in the conduct of their business, and would gladly supply information which, I conceived, would be of interest to phonographers throughout the world. The queries, five in number, were as follows:

1. Is Shorthand taught in any Board or Secondary School in your town or district?

2. If so, how many pupils have received instruction per annum on an average of five years?

3. Are any other Agencies at work for the dissemination of a knowledge of Shorthand? If so, state what they are and the number of members on an average of years?

4. Can you estimate the number of law or mercantile offices in your town in which Shorthand is used, and by how many clerks?

5. State any information you possess with reference to the History of Shorthand in your town or district.

I have tabulated some of the information I received, and I take

this opportunity of thanking all—it would be invidious to mention one name more than another—who have aided my investigations. I have laid all sources under contribution, and gladly acknowledge my indebtedness. This is the Table, which deals only with representative places:—

LOCALITY.	FIRST QUERY.	SECOND QUERY.	THIRD QUERY.	FOURTH QUERY.
ABERDEEN . .	R. Gordon's College and Aberdeen Grammar School.	Day classes, 100; Evening classes, 180.	Aberdeen School of Shorthand; 100 pupils annually.	30 or 40 offices; 60 or 70 clerks.
BANFFSHIRE . .	No.	—	William Barclay's class; 40 ladies and gentlemen.	Four offices; 30 clerks.
DUMFRIES . .	Two schools	Not many.	Dumfries S.W.A., 67; several privately.	Very few.
DUNDEE . . .	About half-a-dozen.	About 500.	Dundee S.W.A. and public and private classes; 500 pupils.	About 50 clerks.
FRASERBURGH .	No.	—	No.	Two offices; four clerks.
GALLOWAY . .	One Secondary school.	Very few.	Two or three private Shorthand teachers.	One office.
GLASGOW . . .	Five Advanced evening classes, three Secondary schools.	Evening classes, 314; Day schools, 91.	Many public and private classes; over 1,000 pupils a year.	In every office of any standing.
GOVAN . . .	No.	—	Class in connection with Y.M.C.A.; 12.	About six offices
HAMILTON . .	Yes.	Average 30 pupils	Mr Richard Thomson; 3 classes.	A few offices.
JEDBURGH. . .	No.	—	Occasionally.	One office.
KIRKUDBRIGHTSHIRE . . .	No.	—	Not at present.	One office; one clerk.
LOCHGILPHEAD .	No.	—	Geo. Higgie; 12.	None yet.
PAISLEY . . .	No.	—	Popular classes; 70 annually.	Probably half-a-dozen.
PERTH	Two Secondary schools.	About 50.	One class; about 30 pupils.	Perhaps half-a-dozen.
ROTHESAY . .	Not as yet.	—	Several private teachers have a few pupils.	None; but three or four clerks know the system.

The testimony which I have thus collected establishes, beyond all cavil or question, that the cause of Phonography in Scotland is triumphant; but although this is so, I would humbly conclude by remarking that, as phonographers, we ought also to be philosophers. There are now many systems persistently urged upon the patronage of the studious. Competition must be met by legitimate counter effort. However firmly rooted a system may seem to be, the supineness of security will not avail to resist the aggressions of a foe. Not that I think we should regard other systems as foes. We must not be led, through affection for our own system, into believing that no better can be produced. Let us candidly examine its rivals before we condemn them, and if ours is found deficient, let us adapt the eternal principles upon which it is founded, to the improvements of experience or ingenuity.

AFTERNOON CONFERENCE.

PHONOGRAPHY AND PHONETIC SUBJECTS (CONTINUED).

THE TEACHING OF PHONOGRAPHY IN LARGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

By J. Pirie.

It may be asked, Inasmuch as Shorthand can hardly be learned to any practical advantage without the exercise of considerable intelligence and persistent application, and a large proportion of schoolboys are unquestionably lacking in these virtues, wherefore upset the customary arrangements of the present? Why not wait till the youth has completed his gawky schooldays, and then after his mind has been in some measure formed by further discipline, let him pick up this desirable accomplishment as hosts of young men have done, and are doing, at some Evening Institute, or at some of the special Shorthand Institutions to be found now in so many of our larger centres of commerce?

Well, the ever-recurring objection to this procedure is simply that when a youth is at last, after leaving school, beginning to rub his mental blinkers, and would fain reach forth his hands to some of the tempting fruits of literary, scientific, or professional knowledge, he is brought to a standstill, for he is himself only too conscious that, attend lectures as he may, when he comes to revise what is too often the usual style of longhand notes, with a view to agglomerating his ideas—possibly to encounter the ordeal of examination—those crabbed notes, which are seldom sentences, and therefore neither affirm nor deny, and may mean anything or nothing, are of next to no assistance to him, and are only calculated to bemuddle his poor wits.

If a young man has foreseen all this, and on the eve of starting studies subsequent to the ordinary school training, seeks to repair this special deficiency, he finds himself materially hampered at a most awkward juncture; for when one enters on new duties, there is always more than sufficient occupation without floundering about in trying to acquire proficiency in an art whose principles may be easy enough to understand, but where it is on all hands agreed that PRACTICE in actual finger-work, repeated over and over again, is the one factor of greatest moment.

For reasons such as this, we accordingly urge the desirability of bringing the teaching of Shorthand early and well to the front in any scheme of school training which professes to supply an adequate preparation for the future requirements of the competent student

or progressive member of society. This better way has, in the case of Phonography, been put to abundant test, and found reliable by thousands of lads attending voluntary classes, and looking forward to employment in commercial and other spheres throughout the kingdom and the colonies.

Now, does that recent adjunct to most of our large public schools, which is euphemistically called the "Modern Side," and which is in verity a valuable and hopeful concession to the demands of our times, concern itself to equip its alumni with this the most doughty of all the weapons of skill which are likely to be put to the proof in the battle of financial, professional, or civic and social life?

Those responsible for the courses of study in the "modern departments" of our large schools will probably aver that the pending indictment with regard to shortcomings in the rational teaching of Geography is burden sufficient for the present, without being reproached for indifference as to whether by neglect of this device, men's labors in placing their thoughts in written form consume six-fold as much time as they need otherwise do. So perhaps our chief resources must be patience, and a tolerable fund of faith. Twenty years ago none of our universities could boast of a professor of education: now every training college for teachers assigns a foremost place to the theory and art of education; Cambridge opens her gates to the ablest expounders of this the most subtle of all mysterious crafts, and Oxford is to the rescue as to how and what to teach in the realm of Geography. Certainly there is cause for belief that another quarter of a century will see Shorthand, as an indispensable adjunct to efficient preliminary training, take a prominent and honorable position among the essential constituents of a well-balanced educational course, more especially among the classes from whose ranks come our judges, senators, pulpit and platform orators; our doctors, authors, lawyers, journalists, engineers and scientists; our bankers, merchants, and public men generally. If this change be likely to come even earlier —but come it must, sooner or later—it will be well for you, young men—aye, and for you, daintier wielders of the stenographic pencil —to be on the alert, that you may be found ready to respond when the cry for workers come. And who knows but that when the shades of Timothy Bright, Pepys, and Doddridge do next revisit the glimpses of the moon, there may yet be found installed in stately robes at Oxford or at Cambridge (or, shall it first be at Manchester or at Dundee?) a professor of the art and science of modern Stenography—mayhap of Phonography?

In connection with topics regarded as necessary for the higher school curriculum nothing has ever surprised me so much as to observe how, whilst the study of Shorthand is taken up eagerly by certain sections of the young people of the community, pro-

vision for acquiring the art is as yet tolerated in only a few of the large public schools of the country, and even then, I incline to think, in rather a hap-hazard way. Why considerable sacrifice should not be made to allow it free scope as an integral portion of scholastic training seems to me not a little singular. If I may refer to my own experience in teaching Phonography in the City of London School, I should reckon the chief difficulty to be this :—the subject being treated as extra and optional, the performance of exercises supplementary to the exposition of principles given in class-room could not very well be rigidly insisted on without entrenching on the prescriptive claims of other lessons set by my colleagues. Had the subject of Shorthand, however, an established place in the daily routine of a school, due allowance in setting home tasks would of course be made for the addition of a shorthand quota. Were then such a concession made—(I ought to say I have not seen my own way clear to clamor for it)—one hour's teaching in class per week to each grade should answer very well, as it does in most evening classes for young men, who feel the necessity of conscientiously working out the exercises prescribed. To carry our younger school pupils on to fresh topics lesson by lesson, without continually going over back work, might require a little artificial stimulus of the sort supposed to be a peculiar magisterial appanage, but to this I have never hitherto dreamed of appealing for the behoof of Shorthand.

In piloting thus far the project I have at heart, in the direction advocated in this paper, I have already enjoyed no small measure of success, thanks to the encouragement of the Rev. Dr Abbott, whose opinions on educational questions have obtained world-wide recognition, and whose efforts for the well-being of the school are readily endorsed by the school committee of the Corporation.

Anxious therefore to avoid complication with the general school routine, my plan hitherto has been to stay with shorthand pupils from all parts of the school every Monday and Tuesday—nominally an hour, from 3.15 to 4.15, but for the sake of giving individual help and pushing on the more advanced boys, there is always work enough for us in the room till ten minutes to 5 o'clock. Regular school being over at 3.15, this later staying twice a week might pardonably be regarded by the boys as somewhat of a hardship, and by parents as a little unsafe in London in the winter months. This then operates with myself as one reason for desiring that there may be a re-arrangement of studies, and a practical admission of the claims of Shorthand to an equitable position in any modern scheme or organization of school studies.[1]

1. My allusion to a detail of this kind is solely in the public interest. My regular duties being those of a form-master, it would be to my personal advantage to uphold the present after-school teaching of Shorthand, which best falls in with my own leisure.

Doubtless experience in other large schools where the introduction of Shorthand has made some progress, will be more or less similar. Hence I contend that this easily-understood predicament may well stimulate the present Congress, the Conference which meets at Christmas of the Head Masters of Public Schools, the Education Society, and kindred influential bodies, to take steps to remove this impediment from the path of the pioneers who seek to engraft a new shoot upon the tree of popular knowledge. Of inherent difficulty in apprehending the principles of Phonography when properly explained, and in getting the hand to shape the characters lightly, clearly and regularly, there is, or should be, most of us will agree, none whatever with average pupils. Expertness and thorough practical proficiency, however, can no more be guaranteed without abundance of pen-and-pencil practice, than is the case when algebraical and geometrical problems are concerned, or any other branch whatsoever of scholastic lore. If ever, therefore, Shorthand teaching is to be a successful feature in the routine of our large public schools, and we are to be content for a beginning, say, with one hour's teaching a week to a single grade at a time in the regulation school hours, the exposition of principles and the illustrations attempted in the class-room must, as in the case of the usual science subjects taught, be followed up and strengthened by a tolerable amount of home exercises, proportional allowance for which addition to the pupil's extra-mural tasks must necessarily be made by the joint teaching staff of the school.

Most parents acknowledge the desirability of Shorthand for their children, but they will naturally expect to be assured whether the thing is positively feasible. Little progress can indeed be made in the realization of our idea that Shorthand may become an ordinary branch of study in the great public schools, unless some responsible and qualified authority, such as the Council of this Congress, should lead the way with a strong affirmation of the practicability of the enterprise, and appeal with confidence to the Head Masters and Governors of representative institutions throughout the kingdom to accord the teaching of this subject a fairer field of trial than ever it has yet had, so far as known, on any comprehensive scale.

Were an adequate and impartial start thus obtained, it needs no prophet to foretell that a future lies before Shorthand and its professors in this one field of education at school, which as a national movement we should twenty years hence be surprised that the ingenuity of man had not inaugurated long, long ago.

I am possessed with a sincere belief that this day on which we meet to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Art-Science of Phonography in the life-time of its inventor, may well herald in the approach of another grand accession to the labor-

saving and beneficent potentialities of this later age, and tend to invigorate all the energies of our national and social life by furthering the advance of all that is of interest and value to mankind in the pursuits of commercial industry, in artistic and scientific aspiration, and in intellectual, moral and religious culture.

HOW TO PRODUCE EFFICIENT PHONOGRAPHERS.

By Mr E. S. Gunn.

In these days when the use of Shorthand is extending rapidly in every direction, and the demand for competent phonographers is always on the increase, it is more than ever important to consider what methods of training are most likely to result in the production of efficient writers. It is unfortunately true that there are swarms of so-called phonographers, whose slender knowledge of the rules and imperfect grasp of the principles of the system, unfit them for genuine stenographic work. The reasons for their incompetency are various; but the most prolific causes are: (1) where the pupil is self-taught, a lack of that stimulus and help which only efficient teaching can supply; and (2) where the pupil has had the advantage of personal tuition, the incapacity of the teacher to teach well.

Incompetent phonographers discredit the system they profess to write. An employer who finds the performances of his shorthand clerk unsatisfactory, is apt to attribute the fault to Phonography itself. The intending learner who notices the faulty work turned out by the inefficient scribe, is deterred from acquiring an art which seems to promise such poor results. The incompetent teacher is more blameworthy still. There seems to be a curious impression abroad that anybody can teach Phonography; and in all parts, the phenomenon may be witnessed, of young fellows, whose acquaintance with the system is quite recent, and not remarkably profound, starting classes without the remotest idea how to conduct them efficiently. The pupils of a bad teacher soon lose heart, and turn with disgust from a study which, with proper guidance, cannot but prove salutary and beneficial to all who pursue it. Among educationists of the thoughtful sort it is a mere truism that teaching is an art only to be acquired by long and diligent study, and that, reversing the old maxim concerning poets, the teacher is made, not born. This is as true of the teaching of Phonography as of all other educational instruction.

I may claim, without egotism, that few men have given the problem indicated in the title to this paper more careful, or more earnest and prolonged attention, than I have during the last sixteen years; and I therefore venture to place before the members of this Congress the following sketch of the plan that I have found most effective in working, and most satisfactory in results.

The keynote of my plan is efficient and systematic individual instruction, accompanied at every step by carefully devised tests.

The first part of the pupil's training is directed entirely towards giving him a perfect mastery of the alphabet, the use of the subsidiary characters, such as ticks, hooks, circles and loops, and the modes of word-formation, and abbreviation. Certain difficulties, inherent in the study, confront the learner at an early stage. The first and most formidable of these is the principle of spelling phonetically, particularly as regards the vowels. The abandonment, for the purposes of shorthand, which this preliminary task involves, of all the habits of spelling laboriously acquired at school, presents to many people a really serious obstacle. But until that obstacle has been surmounted, no progress is possible. The difficulty indicated is in fact the *pons asinorum* of Phonography. That the beginner may be certain to cross that bridge safely and quickly, he needs the help of a guide who has made a special study of every inch of the road, who knows the precise pitfalls over which the unwary traveler is likely to stumble. The value of individual teaching at this point, can hardly be over-estimated.

The kind of class-teaching that obtains at some literary institutions, cannot but tend to discourage great numbers of pupils. A hundred students crowded into a room barely large enough to hold them, are presented, for the space of one hour each week, with a lesson consisting mainly of blackboard illustrations. One or two of them ask a few questions, which the teacher answers; and then the room empties, to be filled immediately with another batch of students, come for *their* weekly interview with the blackboard. Now in such a class there will be a small proportion of quick-witted fellows, who grasp the principles of the study with great rapidity; a certain proportion of others, less brilliant, but who by sheer plodding and perseverance manage to get on tolerably well; and a large proportion who do not get on at all. The teacher ought to devote special attention to these latter; but he has no time to do so, and they soon find that the lessons are proceeding too fast for them. They accordingly drop out. It is only necessary to compare the wofully-attenuated condition of the class at the end of the quarter, with its thronged condition on the first few evenings, to feel convinced that there must be something radically wrong about such a method. The fact is that the large-class system leads to the encouragement of the clever pupils, who least need encouragement, and to the neglect of the slower students, —the very ones who most need encouragement and assistance.

Efficient training demands the reversal of that method. The actual work of each pupil should come under the eye of the teacher, who most scrupulously corrects every error, and explains to the learner the true principles of writing, which he has overlooked or

misunderstood. Not one exercise out of many, but every exercise written by the beginner, should undergo the same careful scrutiny and correction. This implies frequent lessons, and the presence of a teacher who has made the peculiar blunders most common among beginners an object of special study.

The student's greatest difficulties are those which he encounters at the outset. If he be conducted over these successfully, and in such a way as to increase, instead of diminishing, the interest he feels in the system, his course afterwards is comparatively plain sailing. Throughout the whole of his elementary training, the same vigilant supervision of a teacher is an invaluable source of help. Just as success or failure, in the manipulation of the piano, depends entirely on the carefulness and accuracy with which the learner practises those scales and five-finger exercises which earn the anathemas of all next-door neighbors, so the success of the tyro in Phonography turns upon the accuracy and completeness with which he masters the elementary principles and methods of the art. In both studies this stage is to most students uninteresting. The novelty that gave an additional charm to the first few lessons has worn off; the sensation of satisfaction that comes when the first dictation task has been successfully accomplished, belongs as yet to the future. The timely help of a good teacher will prevent the difficulties from creating that discouragement which at this point is so fatal to the student's prospect of success. If every error be corrected as soon as it is made, the correction being accompanied in every instance by an explanation of the rule violated, the pupil will be encouraged to persevere, and will feel that he is making real progress.

To this principle that errors must be corrected as soon as they are made, I attach great importance. Any system of teaching which ignores it is by that very fact deprived of more than half its value. The self-taught pupil, or the pupil who has the misfortune to be instructed by an incompetent teacher, is apt to repeat and to perpetuate an error until he finds it difficult—in some cases impossible—to eradicate the bad habit, even when he discovers his mistake. His progress is thus seriously delayed, and the probability is that in the long run he fails to achieve that degree of success of which he is really capable, and which, with efficient assistance, he would have infallibly attained.

Now the errors that pupils make cannot be effectively dealt with *en bloc*, as is attempted in the large-class system. Those errors are surprisingly varied in character, and nothing but personal contact with each pupil will enable the teacher to judge how best to adapt his instruction so as to check the peculiar tendencies manifested by individuals, and which if unchecked would lead them astray. A principle which one pupil finds easy to grasp, is to

another a great stumbling-block. To parody a well-known Roman maxim, "Many students, many blunders." The teacher who makes it his business to look for these blunders soon comes to recognize the kind of errors to which each individual learner is liable, and perceiving the source of the mistake, he is able to put the pupil right at once.

With such regular training as this, proceeding daily, the pupil is conducted through all the principles and rules of the system.

I claim for this method that it is economical as regards the time occupied; that it gives the pupil that incentive which induces him to continue the study at the time when its difficulties are most likely to cause him to despond and abandon it; and that its result is to equip those who have availed themselves of it with so thorough a knowledge of the system that they are ready to enter upon the practical application of that knowledge with a certainty of success.

The next step in the learner's progress is dictation practice. Many learners endeavor to get this at home. They arrange for a brother or a sister to read to them. But the brother cannot give up his evenings so regularly as the budding phonographer desires. He wants a run on his bicycle just at the time he is expected to read; or he has promised to row in a match on the river, and must practice every other evening at least. Besides, he finds reading slowly, and at a uniform pace, dull and uninteresting. The sister good-naturedly assists. But she gets invited out, and could not miss the dance at the Smith's or the tennis on the Robinson's lawn "for worlds." Then the would-be phonographer hires a boy. Sometimes he is successful in getting a lad who can read distinctly. More frequently the boy is a failure. A really intelligent lad is wanted, and a really intelligent lad costs much more than the fees for dictation at any good shorthand school. My plan as regards dictation is this. As soon as the pupil has a firm grasp of the rules, and some readiness in applying them, he is put into an elementary dictation class. A reader, trained to read for any length of time at a steady pace within the reach of all, reads a passage usually from a newspaper. At its conclusion, the pupils are required to read their notes and compare and correct them with the correct shorthand for what they have taken down, which correct shorthand is supplied to the pupils for the purpose of learning the best outlines. The pupil is required to transcribe a folio or two of his notes into longhand every day.

Dictation practice of this kind is proceeding daily, and all day long. Dictation is always being given concurrently at different rates of speed in different rooms. As soon as the pupil has proved his ability to write correctly, and to read his notes accurately at one rate of speed, he is put forward into a room where he obtains similar practice at a higher rate, and so on through room after

room, until he acquires that readiness which enables him to write the proper outline for every word or phrase immediately he hears it, and that facility which enables him to write it quickly for some length of time.

Unless the pupil goes through this course of training, he is never likely to attain speed or accuracy. When he has turned many columns of newspaper matter into shorthand at comparatively slow rates, his mind and fingers begin to work together in perfect harmony. The word is heard, its appropriate symbol rises immediately in the mind, passes at once to the fingers, and is written without any apparent effort. Shorthand writing thus becomes as automatic as walking. The nearer this ideal is approached, the swifter will the writing be; and if the safeguards provided by the practice, which I always insist upon, of the notes being transcribed or read, are not relaxed, the result is general efficiency in shorthand writing.

It will be seen that by the method already explained, the danger of turning adrift upon the world a set of people calling themselves writers of Phonography, but whose knowledge of shorthand is merely theoretical, is effectually avoided. There are already too many such people about. Teachers should feel it to be their duty to do all that lies in their power to prevent the multiplication of a class of half-trained scribblers, whose incompetency tends to bring Phonography into disrepute. A certain number of these there will always be. But with adequate aid, and suitable encouragement, I believe that the number may be largely reduced.

With the double view of increasing the efficiency of pupils, and of encouraging them to engage in actual note-taking in public, it has been for many years an integral part of my scheme to send a reporter with a number of sufficiently advanced pupils to take down sermons and lectures in public. As far as I know, this idea has not been carried out at any other shorthand school. Each member of the reporting class, after taking down the public lecture or sermon, is required to transcribe from his own notes a passage about twelve folios in length, commencing at some point selected at random by the conductor of the class. This leads the pupil to exert himself to get a full verbatim note of the address, because he does not know what part of it he will be called upon to transcribe.

It is surprising what an effect a systematic course of this training has upon young phonographers. Those who, when taken for the first time to a public meeting, and asked to take down a discourse, and furnish a transcript, find that from nervousness or some other cause, their notes are difficult to decipher, become after a few weeks' practice, able to transcribe readily whatever passage may be required. Both their notes and transcripts are perused by the teacher and any inaccuracies corrected. The correction includes

attention to such matters as punctuation, spelling, etc. Mere skill in shorthand writing has no commercial value whatever, if accompanied by inability to spell correctly, or ignorance of the principles that govern the formation of sentences. But where this fact receives the recognition that it merits, the general efficiency of the pupil increases concurrently with his advance in speed of writing.

This practical training in actual reporting supplies a need which many beginners have felt, and which cannot be supplied in any other way. Compare it with the ordinary plan. A young fellow, as soon as he thinks himself sufficiently expert, takes his note-book with him to church regularly every Sunday. He scribbles away with what ability he possesses. Perhaps at first he tries to transcribe his notes, or to read them. But he has no particular inducement to continue the practice, and there is nobody to point out his omissions, or to correct his errors. Consequently he gets into the habit of taking down long addresses without reading a word of them afterwards. Some day he applies for a situation as shorthand clerk, or possibly as junior reporter. Being unaccustomed to read his note, he flounders woefully, makes inexcusable mistakes in transcribing, and has to struggle through difficulties at a time when he ought to be beyond them.

This training in taking down lectures in public, accompanied by an efficient reporter, and transcribing them afterwards under his supervision and with his aid, I consider equally necessary for the shorthand clerk as for the reporter. I do not pretend that it will convert every pupil into a professional shorthand writer. There are some pupils of whom, by nothing short of a miracle, could a creditable reporter, or even a good shorthand amanuensis, be made. But with the majority such is not the case. In all cases, whatever may be the particular application to which the pupil may put his shorthand knowledge in after life, he needs the ability to take down a note promptly and rapidly, and to transcribe it correctly afterwards. To accomplish this he wants that confidence which comes only from practical experience in note-taking, and transcribing under the conditions that prevail in every day work. I therefore recommend every learner, whether he intends to seek his living as a reporter, or as a shorthand clerk, or even if he only requires shorthand as an aid to other studies and for private and personal purposes, to avail himself of the facilities afforded by the reporting classes, and the help they render in the pursuit of accuracy in the twin exercises of note-taking and transcribing.

As I have hinted, there are dunces of whom nothing can be made; but any pupil of average capacity who is prepared to devote to the study three or four hours daily, and to bring to bear upon it an average amount of intelligence and perseverance, will, if he have the advantage of regular discipline on the lines I have

laid down, become qualified in the course of six or eight months to accept a post as shorthand clerk or junior reporter.

The plan of training, of which I have given an outline in this paper, is one which has grown up as the result of long observation of the peculiarities of pupils who have numbered thousands, and careful attention to the points wherein most need for efficient aid has disclosed itself. The difficulties I have striven to meet are those which occur in everyday teaching; and in this Jubilee year, when we are all proud to tender our hearty congratulations to the worthy founder of the Shorthand system with which the past fifty years have been so closely identified, I venture to submit this method of teaching to my fellow-phonographers, as one worthy of general adoption, and one calculated to produce, without any avoidable waste of time or energy, those efficient phonographers who are so much in demand in every calling at the present day.

PHONOGRAPHY IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

By Arthur W. Croxton, Editor of the "Shorthand Monthly."

The requirements of the latest and amended education "Code" for 1887-8 are admirably adapted in all particulars to improve the education of the middle and poorer class children of this country. And any amendment to facilitate the working of the educational machine tends to help towards the throwing down of that barrier to all mental and worldly progress, the want of education.

The present code is the result of many patient trials of various plans for facilitating the acquisition of knowledge among the middle and poorer classes, and it would be somewhat difficult to suggest any important improvements on a large and extensive scale. The opinion, however, as time passes by is, I think, becoming more and more grounded among an almost daily increasing number of persons, that there is one study not at present to be found in the program of subjects taught in elementary schools, which might with material advantage be included in the school curriculum. It will be almost needless for me to explain that this study now wanting is Phonography. It has, first of all to be admitted that Phonography, whatever may be its value, could not at present be placed as an additional study in the list of ordinary subjects taught in our elementary schools. Children are now a days "crammed" enough, and it would be unwise and quixotic in every respect, to suggest any addition to the burdens under which many of them at present suffer. But, although it would be unwise to add Phonography in this manner if we wish to avoid over-pressure, are there not some subjects in the Code given as routine work for the children of our elementary schools that are of comparatively little value compared to the acquisition of a knowledge of the art of shorthand, as subjects promotive of success in after life—in the life when, grown up

into men and women, they have to earn their daily bread? Is there not some subject which could be left out of the present list, to permit of Phonography being admitted in its place, to the material advantage of the scholar? We find in Article 15 of the Code for 1887:

"The subjects of instruction for which grants may be made are the following:—

(*a*) Obligatory subjects:

Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Needlework — Hereinafter called "Elementary subjects"—see Schedule 1. (For girls in day-schools.)

(*b*) Optional subjects—

I. Taken by classes throughout the school:

Singing, English, Geography, History, Elementary Science — Hereinafter called "Class subjects"—see Schedule 2.

II. Taken by individual children in the upper classes of the school:

Algebra, Euclid and Mensuration, Mechanics, Chemistry, Physics, Animal Physiology, Botany, Principles of Agriculture, Latin, French, Domestic Economy (and any other subject). — Hereinafter called "Specific subjects"—see Schedule 4.

We find in the next article (No. 16) the following instruction:—"Any other subject, other than those mentioned in this Article, may, if sanctioned by the Department, be taken as a specific subject, provided that a graduated scheme of teaching it be submitted to, and approved by, the Inspector;" and in No. 17, bearing upon the same question, the following words:—"Instruction may be given in other secular subjects, and in religious subjects, but no grant is made in respect of any such instruction (Elementary Education Act, 1870, sec. 97)." The four obligatory and the five optional subjects will, I think, be found really necessary in a child's education. In some schools I believe it is generally the practice either to make the drawing of maps representing the various countries of the world, a part of the Geography lesson proper, or to include it as a part of the weekly drawing lesson given at most schools. The impression existing among the Lords of the Council on Education and the Inspectors appointed for the different districts, appears to be that this exercise of map-drawing tends to foster an interest in geography, and enables the scholar to grasp more effectively the chief geographical positions of interest and

value. But, from experience of many with whom I have met, I think this practice of map-drawing does not do the good anticipated from its working. The drawing of maps often becomes mechanical, and on becoming that is at once of little value. The oral method of teaching by an intelligent teacher appears to me to be the best means of attracting scholars to this subject. Therefore, I do not think I shall be advancing too quickly if I suggest that the time given to the drawing of maps should be used for the study of Phonography. The subject of Phonography is a fascinating one, and would soon find favor among the pupils.

Assuming that the suggestion I have made should be impracticable in the ordinary working of the school, then the only way in which Phonography can gain an entrance into our elementary schools, would be to give it a place as a study among the subjects sanctioned by the Education Department generally entitled "Specific subjects." The Specific subjects are, as has been already given, twelve, and are made up as follows:—Algebra, Euclid and Mensuration, Mechanics, Chemistry, Physics, Animal Physiology, Botany, Principles of Agriculture, Latin, French, and Domestic Economy—all being subjects which are, taken collectively or individually, of importance and value. Even in this list, important as the studies are, a number of subjects might with advantage be dropped in favor of Phonography. Take, for example, the first language on the list, Latin. To children who get no higher than the ordinary elementary school, this subject, it is to be feared, would prove of little value, for when the child grows up and answers advertisements in the papers, for a situation, perhaps, he will find very few cases where an employer requires a servant possessing a knowledge of Latin—especially the Latin, very often but the dog-Latin—likely to be gained by the applicant for the situation. Then there is botany—a subject of exceeding interest, the principles of agriculture, physics, and mensuration, all of which, at the discretion of the authorities of the particular district or school, might be given up and Phonography be allowed the preference. Of course, in a country district the subject of principles of agriculture would be of infinitely more practical value than even a knowledge of shorthand; but, on the other hand, who would think of preferring a pupil with a knowledge of the principles of agriculture as office boy, to an applicant who had a thorough grounding in Phonography? It is, however, very unlikely that the principles of agriculture would be taught in a town school. I think, then, that Phonography might be included among the specific subjects which are at the option of the authorities to teach. But, it may be asked, would not the inclusion of Phonography add another load to the already heavily burdened children? We should all be sorry to recommend the introduction of a subject to the already large number on the list; but could not one of the specific subjects be deposed, and Phonography allowed to take its place? We find, however, that the authorities of the Education Department, in Form 8 of the official Forms issued

to school teachers, to be filled up and returned to Whitehall, on the occasion of an examination, have put down the "specific subjects" as thirteen, although twelve only are named. In a note referring to this matter, we are told that the vacancy is to be filled up "if any other specific subject sanctioned by the Department is taken." As no particular specific subject is given, might we not recommend that the subject of Phonography be included in this Form as one of the subjects sanctioned by the Education Department, and that, should the authorities of any school desire it, the subject should be taught for the benefit of the scholars? It would not perhaps be advisable that Phonography should be taught to children who have not yet attained the 4th Standard. If they were to commence after passing that Standard, I think they would have a good knowledge of Phonography by the time they reached the 6th or 7th Standard, enabling them to leave school in possession of a subject which would be likely to be of great help in whatever phase of life they embarked. The time allotted to the subject per week need not be more than one hour; the students, of course, being required to do an exercise or two at home to give them a firm grasp of the principles of the system, and so give them the necessary facility in writing the shorthand characters and forms. The subject, it must be remembered, would not under any circumstances be learned in one year. It might therefore be proposed that two or three examinations be held upon the subject, one taking place at the end of the scholar's 5th Standard career—examining him perhaps in the principles laid down in the "Teacher" and "Manual:" and then, at the end of his 6th Standard work to examine him as to his practical knowledge of the system by giving him dictation at slow rates of speed, and expecting from him a tolerably intelligible and accurate transcript of the matter dictated. Thus on leaving school he would be in possession of a very useful auxiliary to the other powers he was expected to use in his after life of work.

A question of some importance now arises—What amount of grant should be given for this particular subject? The grant given in the specific subjects is "4*s. for each pass* in one or two subjects (Schedule 8) in Standards 5, 6, and 7." This amount, I should think, would be quite sufficient for each pupil.

A new point in connection with the teaching of Phonography, would be the consideration of the question from the teacher's point of view. This matter of teaching appears, at first sight, somewhat of a stumbling block, involving, as it appears to do, many intricacies. It would be necessary in order to provide teachers to undertake the work of teacher of Phonography, to go outside the school and engage someone who had a knowledge of the system. This would no doubt involve some additional expense to the managers of the school, but I should think they would be amply repaid by the increase in number of pupils for the extra expense incurred. If outside teachers were engaged till

the ordinary school teacher had attained some knowledge of the system, then the scholars who were expected to become pupil teachers, would, while they were in the 6th and 7th standards, be acquiring a knowledge of Phonography which would enable them to teach others when they had served their apprenticeship as pupil teachers. As the majority of pupil teachers go to training colleges, it would perhaps be necessary for a teacher of Phonography to be placed on the staff of professors of such colleges. The expense would be very slight; while the after advantages would be many.

The subject of Phonography, as I have said, is a fascinating one, and would soon find favor among the children of our elementary schools. The possession of a knowledge of the system to the young scholar would be inestimable, for it would give him a chance of competing with his fellows in the world instead of remaining in the background. A path of advancement would be opened out to him which would be almost endless. Even if the knowledge gained was not made the means of pecuniary gain, the benefits it would bring in its train would be of value in many other directions; and it is on these and the other grounds I have mentioned that I have taken the liberty of recommending its introduction into our present elementary school curriculum.

PHONOGRAPHY IN BIRMINGHAM.

By Miss Marie Beauclerc.

I think myself happy in being privileged to be present at so great a gathering of ladies and gentlemen, from all parts of the globe, who have met together for the purpose of celebrating, in an appropriate manner, the Tercentenary of modern Shorthand and the fiftieth anniversary of the world-renowned system of Phonography, invented by our revered and honored friend, Mr Isaac Pitman, of Bath—a system which has done so much for the human race, in every department of life, and which, together with phonetic spelling, is destined to accomplish a good in the world at present undreamed of. But truth is mighty, and will prevail. I trust that Mr Pitman may long live to continue his labors, and to reap the high reward which, even in this life, is accorded to all those who unselfishly strive to benefit mankind.

The pioneers of this system had many difficulties to contend with, and much opposition and prejudice from those who objected to the phonetic basis of Phonography; but its inherent truth, as well as its remarkable adaptability to business purposes, has eventually overpowered these objections, and the system is now known and used by many thousands of persons all over the world. Many teachers have arisen, and the art of Phonetic Shorthand is now

taught in many of our schools, and in almost every educational institute throughout the land.

It has been my good fortune to assist in the promulgation of this valuable system, and I have had the honor of conducting large classes at the various institutes, schools, and colleges in and around Birmingham, among which may be mentioned the Birmingham and Midland Institute, Perry Barr Institute, Harborne Institute, West Bromwich Institute, Queen's College, Birmingham, Middle-Class School, Sparkbrook; Commercial School, Handsworth; and Mr Bradley's School, Heathfield Road, Handsworth. I have, besides, met with much success in private teaching at my own residence, both in class and individually. Since I commenced this work of teaching Phonography, I have had under my instruction upwards of 4,000 persons. The new Institute at West Bromwich opened last year with a Shorthand class of 140 students. Twelve years ago I commenced at the Birmingham and Midland Institute with an elementary class of 90 students, who, term after term, advanced to higher and still higher grades, and, as new students constantly presented themselves, it was found necessary to divide the class into four sections—Elementary, Intermediate, Advanced, and Reporting. Our numbers increased year by year until, in eight years, there were as many as 236 students in my Shorthand classes at the Midland Institute, and during the twelve years there cannot be less than 2,000 persons who have attended the classes at that Institute alone, many of whom have become proficient writers of the system, and have obtained important and useful positions in life through their knowledge of Phonography obtained at the Institute, and some of them have, in their turn, themselves become teachers.

Taking these facts into consideration, the idea suggested itself to me of forming a Shorthand Writers' Association in connection with the Shorthand classes at the Midland Institute. This was a gigantic undertaking; but though, as Queen Elizabeth said in her famous speech, "I am but a weak and feeble woman," yet I have "the heart of a king," and was determined to carry this project to a successful issue, feeling, as I did, that it would be the means of establishing the classes at the Institute on a firm basis, and that the students might make the Institute their phonographic home long after they had ceased to be mere learners. On laying the matter before the Council of the Institute they received it favorably, and have co-operated most heartily with me, and the Association is now actually formed, and will, I doubt not, before long become one of the most powerful, most useful, and most important Associations in the United Kingdom.

The Shorthand classes at the Midland Institute for the present session opened last week, with about 250 students, most of whom,

it is expected, will become members of the Association now established in connection therewith. The classes have now been entirely re-arranged. An Elementary Class, for Beginners, is held on Tuesday evenings from 7 till 8; an Intermediate Class, for the study of the "Manual," is held on Thursday evenings from 7 till 8; Advanced and Reporting Classes, for the explanation of the rules of the "Reporter," and for Reporting Practice at various rates of speed, are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 8.15 till 9.45. Ample facilities are thus provided for "getting up speed," those in the higher classes being invited to attend for Reporting Practice an hour-and-a-half at a time, on *two* evenings a week, without any extra fee. An Instruction Class, for ladies and gentlemen, in all stages of advancement up to the reporting stage, conducted on the principle of *individual tuition*, is held on Tuesday afternoons from 3 till 4. Reporting practice from 4 till 5. The classes are always open to the reception of new students. Our esteemed friend, Mr Thomas Allen Reed, of London, Hon. President of the Association, has kindly promised to give a public lecture in the large Lecture Theatre of the Institute, on Tuesday evening, October 11th, on "Shorthand as a Study, an Occupation, and a Pastime," at which meeting we hope and expect to get an audience of more than 1,000. The Association meetings, for additional reporting practice, mutual improvement and recreation, are held at the Institute on Monday evenings, and on Saturday evenings a series of lectures are arranged to be given by local gentlemen, among whom may be mentioned Rev. N. M. Hennessy, Rev. W. J. Clarke, C. E. Martineau, Esq., Arthur B. Chamberlain, Esq., John Bragg, Esq., Robert Harper, Esq., and Spencer Yapp, Esq., who have already promised.

Another way in which, by the aid of Phonography, I have been enabled to do some lasting service, has been in recording the eloquent utterances of one of the world's most gifted teachers—George Dawson, M.A., of the Church of the Saviour, Birmingham. For many years I reported, from week to week, those high discourses, and those tender, impassioned, soul-inspiring prayers, which touched the hearts of all who heard them, and which, but for Phonography, would have been entirely lost to the world. But, by my knowledge and practice of this glorious art, I was able to record those precious utterances as they fell from his lips, which records have since been published, and may now be found in thousands of homes, serving, in large measure, "to comfort those whom here he comforted, until, like Abraham, he 'went forth whither he knew not,' nevertheless, without fear, to serve his God elsewhere." Three of these volumes of Prayers and Sermons were edited by Mrs Dawson, and three by Mr George St. Clair, F.G.S. A volume of Biographical Lectures by Mr Dawson has

also been published, and another on "Shakspere, and other Lectures"—on Literature, Art, Music, Poetry, the Drama, &c., is now in the press. These also have been edited by Mr George St. Clair. A few of these lectures were reported by myself; but, for the most part, I have collated them from variant newspaper reports, collected from the various towns where Mr Dawson lectured, and in the preparation of which I have been much assisted by my knowledge of Phonography.

Thus I have given you a short sketch, from my own personal experience, of the growth and progress of "Phonography in Birmingham."

Mr A. R. MARTEN: It may not be perhaps uninteresting if I, as a professional shorthand writer of now twenty-five years' experience, give the result of that experience in connection with the results of Phonographic reading. Probably there is no greater test of the ability of a phonographer than is afforded him in a practising shorthand writer's office in London, and in that way it has been my lot to meet with many hundreds of phonographers and to form a very good estimate of their skill, and it has led me to make a note of one or two points upon which, I think, something of interest may be said. The first point which I would observe upon is the necessity of very careful early training. Phonography is, in my opinion, by no means an easy system; by which, I mean, that it is not an easy system in which to acquire any proficiency. It is not likely that a system which is of such value as Phonography is to be acquired without a very great deal of work, some natural physical capacity, a considerable amount of intelligence, and a very great amount of perseverance and energy. I believe that in the hands of a thoroughly trained expert, Phonography is, on the whole, the best system for almost every purpose—certainly the best system for the professional shorthand writer. But I would couple that with this caution: it is, in my opinion, a very delicate tool which requires careful handling, and without proper elementary training in the first instance, and very great care, it is apt to cut the hands of the careless handler. One matter that I have not heard alluded to is the tendency of the present day to too great contraction of outline. I have myself, if I might refer very slightly to my own personal practice, not adopted all the short outlines of Mr Pitman's "Phonographic Reporter," for, bearing in mind that one has not only to take a very rapid speech or evidence, but also to read it with facility, and that one is no use without the other, it is important that the outlines should not be too contracted and that they should be readily and easily read. There is, in my view, a tendency to too great contraction, which it is very important should be guarded against. I do not wish to go into any further comparison of Phonography with other systems, because, after all, the main point is the intelligent aptitude of the shorthand writer, and the "system" is not of so much importance provided a good one is used, and that it is thoroughly and properly learned. As an illustration, I may say that in the Institute of Shorthand Writers with which I have the honor to be connected, and which consists of all the professional shorthand writers, with one or two exceptions, practising in the Courts of Law in London, three-sevenths only are phonographers. The remaining four-sevenths write other systems, and I feel bound, in fairness, to say this, that many of those writers of other systems are quite as good shorthand writers at least as any phonographers in this country. Another point which I will touch upon, and while endeavoring to avoid as far as possible anything that may be considered of a personal nature—I feel it is one that ought to be alluded to—is the very low estimate which is very often taken, and which is published and advertised in this country, as to the time which is necessary for the learning of Phonography. I quite understand that there are various degrees of intelligence and aptitude, that many pupils are very much quicker than others, and in a wonderfully short time would acquire considerable facility in Phonography, but these very low estimates to which I refer are very injurious, not so much to myself and to my own profession, as to the very

large number of shorthand clerks in this city and in this country, and that in two ways. In the first place it tends to discourage students, who find, after having devoted a longer time to the study of Phonography than they had been led to think necessary, that they have not made the progress they expected, and who very frequently give it up in disappointment. Then there are statements which appear constantly in print, and which, I am sure, have a tendency to depreciate the value of Shorthand in the eyes of very many employers. It has been my misfortune to hear a great many criticisms on the value of Shorthand, and in many cases I have heard expressions which I should scarcely like to repeat in the presence of so many shorthand writers, showing a want of appreciation of the difficulty of learning Shorthand which, I believe, is attributable to a great extent to these statements to which I refer. I may mention an incident which occurred only the other day. A friend of mine, a shorthand writer, when in the country spent a few hours with one or two friends. The subject of shorthand writing and shorthand clerks was referred to in conversation, and one gentleman, a solicitor of considerable practice, said, "I do not think much of Shorthand, it is very readily learned; I have a very able shorthand clerk who learned it thoroughly well in a month." My friend expressed his doubt. "Yes," he said, "I assure you that is the case. A gentleman in my office who is articled to me, said to me the other day, 'Your shorthand clerk has left; I wish you would allow me to fill the place?' I said, 'Can you do it?' He said, 'Well, I shall learn it in a month.' And," said the solicitor, "we gave him a month and £5, and said, 'Go and take lessons, and if you can do the work you shall have the post.'" He said that his clerk came to him in a month and said, "I am quite prepared to take the post," and he took it, and did it well; "therefore," added the solicitor, "Shorthand can be learned in a month." My friend said no more, but he took the first opportunity of asking the shorthand clerk what truth there was in this story. The clerk replied: "I had learned Shorthand at school, and I have been for years practising it, and only wanted a month to get up speed." That is an illustration of the very common impression that prevails in the minds of employers as to the time required to learn Shorthand. Then let me refer to an advertisement which I have seen, and which, I understand, appears every week in a printed publication. It is in the nature of a letter from a gentleman to the advertiser, and it is to this effect: he thanks him for the "progress effected by my son under your tuition, which has secured him, within seventeen days after the commencement of Shorthand, the certificate awarded by Mr Pitman for thorough proficiency in the art. I may add that he is only fifteen years of age, and possessed no knowledge whatever of the subject previous to attending your school." Now, Sir, I will not trust myself to comment upon that. All I can say is this, that that young gentleman must have a very brilliant future before him. I should like, in connection with that, to ask, what Lord Rosebery described as a guileless and innocent question, and that is—on what principles and on what materials does Mr Pitman grant the certificate or certificates that have been referred to? There is just one other subject which bears indirectly upon this. I have heard a great deal about the teaching of Shorthand, but I have not heard any allusion to a subject which, I think, is of some importance—that is, the education of those who employ shorthand writers. I am quite sure that is a very important point, because I know, in connection with shorthand clerks, how very often they are not properly appreciated by their employers, who do not understand the nature of the work and its requirements. In illustration, I think I may mention one gentleman, a very able shorthand clerk, who told me that his employer would dictate to him, and that when he came to such a thing as an Act of Parliament or a document he would read it through in a most voluble and indistinct manner, and finish by locking it up in the iron box, and leave him to make the best of it afterwards.

Mr C. Button: I have had some experience as a practical shorthand writer taking notes in court, and I know of nothing that is a severer test than to get someone who supposes himself to be a shorthand writer to come and take notes from dictation and transcribe them. Like Mr Marten, I have employed, in the course of the last fourteen or fifteen years, a large number of men, and have had to dictate to them. Some have come to me armed with all sorts of recommendations, and I have supposed that they were perfectly efficient shorthand writers: but, as most of us who are

familiar with this matter know, taking a note is a very different thing from writing it out, and the number of errors which have been made by some of these men has been something appalling. Men come to you, and to all human appearance you would think they were very skilful hands; you have dictated to them at a moderate pace, being particularly careful to point out words which possibly might clash; and then you think that with such recommendations as you have had with them, and such care as you yourself have taken, you will see, not a perfect transcript, but certainly a transcript that you could pass without any very severe criticism. The result has been, that when you have come to look at it you have found it so full of blunders that perhaps at about twelve or one o'clock in the morning, when you ought to be getting home, you have had the whole thing to re-copy. That is sometimes due, I think, to the actual inability of the teachers. I once had two very good teachers, as I supposed, come to act as dictatees, as we call them. I dictated to them, and to my utter surprise I found a larger number of blunders in their transcripts than I have found in those of ordinary shorthand clerks. Then, I remember quite distinctly last winter session that it was suggested that a very efficient teacher should conduct some Shorthand classes in one of the large Board School Evening Classes of the East of London. A gentleman was appointed. I, as Chairman of the Managers of the group of schools, insisted upon his coming up to the School Board Office to be examined. He was examined at the offices of the London School Board, Sir, and he was at once rejected. I say this, because it is easy enough to *talk* of teaching and writing Shorthand, but we do not want to have a lot of people turned out who really are of no practical use in life. Referring to the able paper of Mr Croxton, I am sure that gentleman does not quite know the force of circumstances in the elementary schools in London, as much as you and I do, or he would not have suggested the possibility of our commencing teaching Shorthand in the elementary schools. It would be an impossibility to teach Shorthand in most of the elementary schools, at all events in the East-end. I speak from experience, being manager of some six or seven schools, so that I know pretty well what is possible. Seeing that very few of the children remain in school after they are thirteen years of age, and some of them have to be excused half-time, it would be utterly impossible for them to acquire any knowledge of this subject. What I would suggest would be, that Government should make grants for accuracy and proficiency in Shorthand in the second grade schools in the case of children who might be able to write so many words a minute; but that, after all, is a totally different thing from writing Shorthand. Mr Marten has, I think, very kindly and very properly called attention to some of the extraordinary statements which one has seen in regard to the ease with which Phonography can be learned. It is easy enough for us to say that things can be learned like this; but I heard of a gentleman in the City who wanted a shorthand clerk; someone came to him who had been taking lessons at some school, and was engaged by him at the rate of 25s. per week, but having been set down to write three or four letters he brought them back containing so many blanks that he had to be sent off there and then. Quite recently I knew the case of a lad who had been taking lessons at some school, and who stated that he had been passed at the rate of 120 works a minute. I said, "Sit down, I will try you," and the result was that he managed to write 57 words in the minute. I had previously tried him and sent him home, after careful dictation of some ten minutes, to come back with his transcript written out, but when he did so there was not a complete sentence in the whole piece. I should not have ventured to have said this except that some of us, who are practical men, do know the great evil which is being done to the system in this way. Then, again, instead of shorthand clerks receiving, as they ought to receive, good salaries, the tendency has been that the salaries have been continually going down, so that shorthand clerks, who should aspire to occupy a position as members of a very honorable profession, find that, in nine out of ten cases, they are actually getting far less than most of the skilled artizans in the East-end of London, a thing which is greatly to be deplored, and which is wholly due, in my judgment, to so many teachers leading pupils to think that they are shorthand writers when, in fact, they are utterly incompetent to perform their duties.

Mr E. J. Nankivell: I should like to ask those who have spoken if, in their experience of any craft whatever, the incompetent men do not always outnumber

the competent men, and whether Phonography is any exception in that matter. As to the ease with which Phonography may be mastered, I claim myself to have mastered it without the assistance of any individual whatever. I therefore contend that the aid of a teacher is not necessary for its acquisition, and I believe myself that the self-taught phonographer is, generally speaking, the more competent man. The man who is taught by a professional teacher gets his knowledge in very quickly, but too often, I am sorry to believe, he lets it out as quickly. I question, however, very much whether the number of incompetent phonographers in the market is not as much due to the offer of low salaries as to the teachers of the art. When ten shillings a week is offered for a youth to write Shorthand as a shorthand clerk, you will get ten shillings' worth and no more, but can anyone present name a single instance of an adequate salary being offered for a shorthand clerk, and tell us that a competent man was not forthcoming? It is all moonshine to say that competent men are not to be had when an adequate salary is offered. My own experience goes to show that wherever a good salary is paid, there a good man is obtained. I thoroughly agree with a great deal of what has been said, that teachers of Phonography are answerable for a great many over-statements, and that those over-statements have done an immense amount of injury to Phonography. Still, there are unquestionably many men of exceptionally keen intelligence who have mastered the principles of Phonography in a surprisingly short time. The question of the acquisition of speed is a question of time, and must always be a question of time, and of the facility and adaptability of the hand. If a man is an exceedingly good penman he will acquire speed in one-quarter or one-half the time that an ordinary penman will take, and therefore the time occupied in the acquisition of speed is not to be altogether laid to the charge of the teacher. The teacher can only be of use in grounding the pupil in the principles of the art: after that everything is practice and perseverance.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: As I understood previous speakers, I do not think anyone has brought any charge against any teacher of Phonography for not being able to teach pupils in seventeen days or a month. The only complaint which has been made is that statements are put forward saying that they had done something which they had not, and which it is impossible that they can do.

Mr T. A. REED: I have listened with a great deal of interest to the papers which have been read, and the discussions which have followed. I do not propose to offer many remarks upon them, but simply to express my entire concurrence with a great deal that has fallen from Mr Marten; and if I cannot quite follow him in all the conclusions to which he has arrived, I accept the general tendency of his observations. It appears to me that the explanation of all the evils to which reference has been made is just this fact,—that many persons of little intelligence and small education take up with the study of shorthand, and pursue it under the impression that they are going to be competent shorthand writers, and to earn a tolerable and respectable income. I have had, unfortunately, ample illustration of what I have stated during the course of some recent examinations which I have conducted for the Society of Arts. I had to present a report to that Society, which has been printed, and is now a public document; so that I can refer to it without any impropriety. I examined some 300 or 400 papers, and the evidence of want of education; and want, apparently, of ordinary intelligence, was something appalling to contemplate. Paper after paper I had to wade through in which there was no appreciation whatever of grammar exhibited, no capacity for composition, and I was going to say, knowledge of spelling; but after the discussion that has taken place it would seem that that is by no means an indication of want of intelligence—rather the other way. The experience was really lamentable, and teachers, I think, have some little responsibility for the results which have followed. Teachers, it seems to me, are not sufficiently careful with regard to the mental capacity and attainments of their pupils when they recommend them to come up for examination. Such pupils should be discouraged from entering upon any competition of the kind until they are fairly advanced in general education as well as in Shorthand. I do not say this in any way to discourage the teaching of Shorthand, even to persons of but little education; in fact, I am quite sure that many persons owe the education they have received very largely to the early instruc-

tion which they had in Shorthand. I have met, in my own experience, with several very remarkable instances of this kind. A young man called upon me not many weeks ago, who is now occupying a very respectable and responsible position, a young man apparently of some literary power and great intelligence. He was brought up as a child in some mines in the west of England; and he told me that up to the age of 16 or 17 he was absolutely unable to read or write his name. Curiously enough he wanted to take up the study of Phonography. He learned it concurrently with ordinary longhand, and he said that the pleasure he took in practising Phonography inspired him to go on still further with his education, with the result that I have mentioned. I have in my pocket a letter which I have recently shown to our Chairman, and some others, written in very good Phonography, by a crossing sweeper. The letter is well expressed, and the Phonography is extremely good. Therefore, let me repeat, I do not discourage in any way the teaching of Shorthand to persons of but poor education, because I think it will tend to improve them; but I agree with many others in thinking that those who, without adequate attainments, assume to practice professionally an art which requires a great deal of intelligence and perseverence commit a very grave mistake.

Professor BRIDGE: I should like to ask a question on another point, that is, concerning teaching by mail. In the States that is a very common practice, and some of our teachers have from 200 to 300 students whom they are teaching by mail. I should like to know whether that is a common practice in this country?

Mr J. C. WATT: Upon that point I could give some information. Teaching by mail was an early method adopted by the Shorthand propagandists, and I may say that that was the only tuition which I myself had. I began when I was eleven with very moderate elementary education, but sufficient to enable me to understand the technical terms used by Mr Pitman in his books. I struggled unaided for, I think, two years in order to master the system, when there fortunately came across my path an exceedingly accomplished phonographer, whose writing was a perfect example of symmetrical penmanship. After coming under his hands I struggled on by mail for about two years more, and at the end of that time I could take a speaker of, perhaps, 100 words. My experience leads me to take this opportunity of emphasising Mr Marten's observation with reference to the difficulty of Phonography, and how important it is that teachers should not publish to the world that this system requires no moral, physical, or mental attainments, or even the much more important quality of perseverance. I, too, have had a good deal of experience in that most difficult part of Shorthand work—legal shorthand writing—and have come across a large number of shorthand clerks in Edinburgh with whom I have found the difficulty has been not want of teaching, not want of the education of the students, but the want of something else which I have as yet failed to discover. There are a set of young men who have acquired the principles of the system, but who yet fail, from some unexplained cause, to become accurate copyists. I do not know how that class can be dealt with. I am quite satisfied that the difficulty cannot possibly be remedied by the teaching of Phonography as an additional subject in the elementary schools. I think it must be relegated to the category of subjects which are taken up when a man has reached the threshold of his mental development; I mean after he has passed the stage of elementary education. As to the legibility of Phonography, I certainly agree that it is a source of danger to the professional shorthand writer to use a superfluity of contractions. So much is this the case, that in my own practice I invariably try to write every word and write it distinctly, so that when in the course of an examination a page or two or many more have to be read, one may not have to go blunderingly through a difficult piece of cross-examination; and I know that other shorthand writers in Scotland observe the same system.

The CHAIRMAN: As I am compelled to leave the meeting in a few minutes, perhaps you will allow me to make one or two observations, and then I will leave my friend Mr Reed to take the chair. The point on which I should like to make one remark is in regard to elementary schools. We have had put before us some of the possibilities of introducing Shorthand into elementary schools. It appears to me that the idea of teaching sounds by some kind of Phonography to very young children ought

to be accomplished in those schools. To teach Shorthand is quite another matter, and belongs to a much more advanced period of education. It has been said that it is very difficult to find time in our schools for the introduction of Shorthand, and that it might possibly take the place of—say Geography. This would, I believe, be somewhat difficult; but it would not be so difficult to introduce it as has been stated as a specific subject, that is to say, under Article 16. These specific subjects are very numerous, and another specific subject could be added, provided Her Majesty's Inspector approves of the course, and it is also approved at the Education Department. I see no reason on earth why Shorthand should not be taken sometimes as a specific subject. It would only be taken up, of course, by the elder children in the school. This difficulty may possibly occur, that a scholar can only take up two specific subjects at a time. I think the learning of Shorthand will be found to be a great deal more difficult than some of the other specific subjects. It is sometimes difficult to know exactly what to teach, and how to teach some of the children in the upper standards; and Shorthand could easily be added to the 7th or ex-7th standards. I was in hopes that Mr Croxton would have told us something about experiments which had been made in regard to teaching ordinary reading or spelling by means of the phonetic system. Those experiments have been carried out in various places with a certain amount of success, but in elementary schools there is always this great difficulty, that Her Majesty's Inspector is usually opposed to it, or the system is opposed to it, because he is required to say that children of the first standard, of about seven years of age, are able to spell easy words in the ordinary spelling. But what does he understand by easy words? Generally short words, which are the most difficult words in the English language. Such words as *bread* and *cheese*, he would consider to be very easy words, not perceiving that the poor child is puzzled to know why three *e's* should be written in *cheese*, when there is only one pronounced. However, experiments have been made, and with a certain amount of success. With regard to Latin, that is not taught in any of our Board Schools, and many other specific subjects are not taught at all; but still there are some of great value, which it would be a pity perhaps to displace. However, I am quite sure that in the upper part of our better schools we could easily introduce Shorthand. And if some of the Continuation Schools, which are talked about, are established for the commercial classes, it is quite certain that Shorthand ought to be taught in them. In fact, Shorthand does appear in some of the proposals that have been brought before Parliament. It appears that the Government has dropped for a while the Technical Education Bill, but no doubt in the next Session we shall have many of these subjects discussed, and much greater powers will be given to School Boards and other bodies to carry on the education of those who are passing away from their schools, and then no doubt Shorthand will come to the front, at any rate for the commercial classes. But I hope not for them only, because it is absolutely needed for the professional classes; or, at any rate, it is very desirable. I hope, therefore, that we shall find Shorthand classes not only established at such institutions as the Midland, at Birmingham, of which we have had so interesting an account, but also at our colleges for the higher education of the professional classes of the community.

[The Chair was then taken by Mr Reed.]

Mr McEwan: I rise to speak as a teacher of Phonography, and to say something, not in my own defence, but in defence of those who are my brother teachers. First of all, with regard to the salaries that shorthand clerks are receiving, I wish to say that, as far as my own experience is concerned, the shorthand clerks who pass through my hands and then receive only low salaries are the exception and not the rule. Ladies have been much better paid than gentlemen. I have before me the names of three ladies—shorthand writers—one of whom is engaged by Augustus Harris, who pays her a salary of £150 a year, and another is secretary to a weekly paper, and is receiving £120 a year. Phonography may be, to a certain extent, acquired in a month—that is, the principles of Phonography may be acquired, also a moderate amount of dexterity in its use. Twelve months ago a doctor in the West-end asked me to find him a lady shorthand writer who possessed certain qualifications. I had no lady in my establishment who possessed these; amongst them were a knowledge of German, some other things, and Shorthand. He gave

me a month to find him a lady. I did so, and she possessed all the required qualifications with the exception of Shorthand. She set to work, and in four weeks from the time she commenced she was able to enter the office of this doctor and gave him entire satisfaction; in fact, he was so pleased with her that instead of paying her £65 a year, he paid her £90.

Mr POCKNELL: At what speed did she write?

Mr MCEWAN: Sixty words a minute. I will qualify what I have said by explaining that this lady gave at least eight hours a day during the month to the study of Shorthand. That is just a case in which Phonography has been acquired in a short time. It was an instance which I might have put in my prospectus, but I kept it out because I was certain it would lead to misconception. Mr Marten says he does not use all the contractions contained in Pitman's "Phonographic Reporter," and I to a certain extent sympathise with him in not using those contractions. He is not alone; there are a great many more who do not use Pitman's contractions, and I think the secret is just this: So soon as a student leaves the "Teacher and Manual," and passes into the "Phonographic Reporter," he is met by long lists of grammalogues and contracted words with not a single rule to guide him as to how they are formed. I think it would be a step in advance if something were done in that line, and definite rules laid down to guide the student as to when, where, and how he can contract, or distinguish words and phrases. Mr Pitman said something last night which very much surprised me. He said he had followed up Phonography, not from the love of Phonography itself, but because of his desire to help his fellow-men. Now I would simply say that it is a very fortunate thing for Phonography that all those who employ Pitman's system of Shorthand do not follow him in that. Phonography owes more to those who have sacrificed time, labor, and money for the love of it than it owes to those who have taken it up simply because they wished to help their fellow-men.

Mr POCKNELL: I have been exceedingly delighted with this discussion, for this reason. I have been looked upon as an opponent of Phonography because I have said many hard words about it; but I really think if you compare what has been said to-day with what I have written upon the subject, you will find that what I have said does not go nearly as much in condemnation of Phonography as the remarks which have been made about it by others. I think upon all the points which have been mentioned I can fully agree; but I fully agree also with other admirers of Mr Pitman, that at the time his system was invented it was the finest system ever published. But I do not mean to say, and I suppose you will think I am right, that we are going to stop at Phonography. That is the whole point of my contention. Mr Pitman's energy and perseverance must be admired by us all. I am very glad this Congress has met, and I wish we could have many more. I wish we could have Mr Pitman with us. I wish he could hear all the criticisms of his system, and I wish he could go to Bath for three or four months and profit by them, and bring us something new at each Congress.

Mr KITSON: With regard to the question that has been raised as to salaries, we all know that the tendency is that when a number of people practise an art the market becomes full of labor—the supply is greater than the demand; and as a natural consequence the employer expects to get his requirements supplied at a cheaper rate. Of course, if shorthand writers fit for the highest quality of work can be turned out of our schools as by the turning of a handle, wages will go down till the shorthand writers will die out from sheer starvation. I believe at this present moment many shorthand clerks receive wages which work out at per folio less than the longhand writers receive in law stationers' offices. With regard to shorthand writers who take such wages, I say, More fools they! But as appears on the prospectus of an eminent teacher of Shorthand in the room at the present moment, the salaries are not all of this low character; they run up, as he tells us, to £400. Now if an employer of labor takes up a circular and sees that he can get a clerk for so and so, he can also see that if he wants the highest class of clerk he must pay £400; so that I do not think that the exposure of the fact that you can get a clerk for £50 a year will tend

to lead employers to think that they will get the very best article for that small sum. Then with regard to the class of men who come in, of course there are men of all sorts of capacities, and men who have no capacity at all. The principle of the "survival of the fittest" will apply in that as it does in other cases—the best man must come to the front, and those who require a good quality of work will prefer them to others who are less skilful, and whose heads are supplied with an inferior quality of brains. It is in fact not a question of the system at all; it is a question of men. One of the smartest shorthand writers I have ever known assured me that he bought a copy of Pitman's "Teacher" in Paternoster Row, took the steam boat at London Bridge, went down the river round the Nore, and by the time he got back to London Bridge he had learned the system. If I had not been a profound believer in that man's word I should have been inclined to apply to him a word which I will not mention; but it is written with the same consonant form as the word "lawyer." As to self-teaching, I believe in it to some extent; but the worst part of it is that you never know what you have learned. The teacher puts you on the road, and tells you what you do not know; and if he is a faithful man he will put you on the right track for finding it out.

Professor CANDY: I wish to speak of what should be taught in elementary schools. The time when the fingers are flexible is in childhood, and therefore I think the children should be taught to make straight strokes and curves, so that afterwards they might put them to use. There seems to be too much dread of inspectors. The inspectors are servants of the Departments, and, as was said the other day, the Departments require to be taught that they are not our masters but our servants. Where is authority now? The real authority is the democracy, and it is really for the fathers of the children in our elementary schools to say what they shall be taught, and I think one thing should be a simple, rational phonetic alphabet, that they should be taught to spell "do" *d-oo*, not *d-o*. That has been proved to be the shortest and easiest way of teaching the present spelling; but it would be for them to decide whether it is worth while for them to go on with the present spelling.

Mr THOMPSON (Leeds): Having had some twelve years' experience in teaching the art of Phonography, I should like to say a word, especially as the subject bears upon teaching. I must confess I have not had any great difficulty in my experience in imparting a knowledge of Phonography either to young or old. I have had students from eight years of age up to fifty-six. In one class I had, the youngest was thirty-four and the eldest fifty-six; and, strange as it may seem, the eldest was the most successful. Phonography may be learned by anyone, on the authority of John Bright—of course meaning anyone of ordinary capacity; and I believe that is perfectly true.

Mr STORR: I think we have been rather confusing two subjects. There is a proficiency which is to be tested by professional experts, but there is also a proficiency which is to be useful to us in private life without being put to any such test, and it is just possible that hundreds of thousands may attain to a very useful proficiency which will be a pleasure to themselves and friends for the remainder of their lives. In reference to the method of teaching, I think teachers of Phonetic shorthand may take a lesson from those who teach proficiency in longhand. If you go to them you will find that they pay very particular attention to the formation of the simplest elements of letters. And, applying that to shorthand, I think there is too great a tendency on the part of teachers to let the pupil write too many words at a time, and that proficiency would be gained by taking special pains with half-a-dozen words as distinguished from half-a-dozen lines, writing them over and over again till perfection has been attained. There seems to underlie the whole of this discussion the idea that obtaining speed is the object to be set before pupils and teachers from the first. I believe that nothing is more detrimental to the attainment of excellency in writing Shorthand than to sacrifice other things to mere speed. Let speed come by itself, by practice; and that will involve far more reading than writing, as Mr Pitman has told his learners over and over again.

Colonel KEENE: It seems to be the general opinion in this Congress that Shorthand

should be taught universally, and that it should be taught in our Board Schools. It is very evident that while there are various systems of Shorthand existing, they cannot all be taught, and it will remain for this Congress, or for some other body—and I know of none that would be better fitted for it—to decide upon which should be the universal system. In doing so, I do not think we should have to go to the democracy; because, in my opinion, the fathers of the children would not be the best judges of what should be taught, seeing that many of them know nothing at all about the subject. Among all the systems, that of Phonography has attracted the most adherents, and the only question is, whether that has arisen from any superiority in the system or merely from the fact of its having been more advertised. I happen to have been myself connected with it when it was three years old, and learned it from Mr Pitman himself. It may be capable of improvement, but I am strongly of opinion that it will very likely prove the basis of a universal system.

The CHAIRMAN [Mr T. A. Reed]: It is now time for this discussion to close. I wish simply to add one or two words. I think that those of us who have attained any kind of reputation in regard to Shorthand, and like Mr Marten and others, are skilful shorthand writers, should be a little more charitable towards those who, lower down, are seeking to learn the art in an elementary way, and to use it, as Mr Storr has indicated, for purposes far inferior to those connected with professional occupation. We should rather encourage them in their efforts. A professional musician might be disposed to smile at the poor efforts of a beginner in the art of music, but he would not be uncharitable towards him. He might, perhaps, be rather indignant if he found that these young practitioners were setting up as professional musicians; and that is the feeling that I understand to be entertained, and not unnaturally, by some professional shorthand writers in high position; but I am sure they do not desire to discourage the praiseworthy efforts of those who wish to master the useful art, not, perhaps, for those high professional purposes to which I have referred, but for other and perhaps inferior ends.

[The following paper was then read.]

THE GENESIS OP PHONOGRAPHY.

By Mr Isaac Pitman.

The beginning of Phonography, so far as effects can be consciously traced back to their causes and ends or motives, was a motion of the will, a wish or desire, to give to the elder pupils of my school the benefit to be derived from a knowledge of Shorthand. That desire was itself really the effect of a cause lying back of it, and extending at least 3,000 years, to the origin of writing; for if there had been no writing in the world—and we must suppose that there are, in the wide universe, worlds where writing is unknown—there would have been no Shorthand method of it, and I could not have desired to give my pupils the benefit of something that did not exist. Thus all things are linked together, forward from end to cause, and from cause to effect; and may be traced backward from effect to cause, and from cause to end or motive, until we come to the Cause of all causes, the Lord himself; and if we reverently inquire what is the Lord's end or motive that produces all causes and effects, we find it to be the happiness of all the beings to whom He gives life.

This desire on my part could not be ultimated without means—without a cheap system of Shorthand printed in a book, from which my pupils might learn, and there was no such book to be had. I

think that Odell's 8d. presentation of Taylor's system was published about that time, but I had not heard of it. I compiled a 3d. manual of Taylor's system, the one that I wrote, and sent it to press in the spring of 1837. I was advised, instead of printing that, to make a new system. I went to work, and in six months this little book came out, entitled on the cover, "Stenographic Sound-hand," and on the first page, "Shorthand, founded on Walker's Principles of English Pronunciation." As probably not a dozen of my auditors have read this book, I will read the first two sentences.

"That Shorthand is an invaluable acquirement, every one practically possessed of it is convinced; and without making one's self liable to the charge of arrogancy, it may be asserted that the person who makes a regular use of it is raised almost as high above the individual who knows only longhand as the man of science, with the powers of steam at his beck, is above the common laborer. In this Introduction we shall speak of the art apart from any particular system; we shall show in its proper place the excellency of *this* system with regard to *writing by sound*, and how former stenographers have failed here; also, that though it is capable of expressing by a single mark every sound in the language, pure or mixed, it is at the same time the plainest practical plan of putting pen to paper, for the production of peerless poems, or profound and powerful prose, for the press or for private pursuits, ever published."

I have not a scrap of record of the numerous shorthand alphabets that were invented and used in the six months during which the system was on the anvil. I can fix the date of its publication by a letter written to my publisher, Mr Bagster, dated 14th November, 1837, and sent with a consignment of 200 copies. The parcel was received in London on the next day, and the book was thus published on the 15th November.

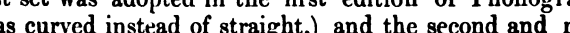
Thus silently, by the publication of this book of twelve pages, was inaugurated the greatest reform of modern times. It will take a generation or two to effect it. That it will be accomplished, appears to me as certain as that the sun will continue to rise, and truth to prevail over error. The letter to which I refer runs thus:—"Dear Sir,—I have sent 200 Stenographies for present sale, and the rest, to make up 1,500, will follow by waggon in about a week. I think I shall want 1,500 for myself. [The edition consisted of 3,000.] Please let me know, in a month or two, how they sell. The labor attending my little book, first in writing it, and now in preparing the copies, has thrown me behind with the 'Comprehensive Bible.' In a month I hope to send the Part under hand." Thus noiselessly, as the day dawns, was the principle of phonetic writing ushered into the world. It now commands the assent of every philologist in England and America as the true principle of writing, and the only one that should be acknowledged. The shorthand alphabet given in the first

edition of Phonography [which was exhibited on a blackboard] contains the elements of the present matured system, but in several of its details it was imperfect, because it proceeded from a finite mind. These imperfections were discovered by experience and removed. As a skilful anatomist can, from three or four bones, construct the entire skeleton of an animal, so from three or four shorthand signs or letters that have been acknowledged from the commencement of shorthand writing as the best for certain letters, we can construct a natural shorthand alphabet. The three leading bones in the shorthand skeleton are | *t*, ⌣ *n*, ⌒ *r*, struck upwards. The form or direction of stroke in *t* determines all the other letters of the same class. They must be either



p *t* *chay* *k* *p* *t* *chay* *k*

The first set was adopted in the first edition of Phonography, (but *chay* was curved instead of straight,) and the second and more practical set in the second and subsequent editions. The positions of the four right lines to represent the explodent consonants determine the positions of the curves to represent the continuant consonants that are made with the same organs. Thus, ╲ *f*, (labial, written in the same direction as the labial *p*,) (*ith*,) *s*, (dental letters, written in the same direction as the dental *t*,) ⌒ *ish*, (a palatal written in the direction of the palatal *chay*). These light letters for light sounds determine the forms of the corresponding heavy sounds, which are represented by corresponding heavy letters, namely :—



b *d* *j* *gay* *v* *thee* *zee* *zhee*

N ⌣ is settled in this form by shorthand usage, and this determines the form of ⌒ *m*, because the two letters frequently follow each other as ⌒ *mn*, ⌒ *nm*. The nasal ⌣ *ng* is related to *n*, and is written thus. The two liquids *l* and *r* are letters of frequent occurrence, and require the convenience of strokes that have both an upward and downward movement, that they may conveniently unite with other consonants. This double direction is provided by giving *r* the spare downward curve ╲ *r*, in addition to its historically-settled form ⌒ *r*. *L* ⌒ is represented by a curve in the *r* direction, written either up or down. There remain but three other letters to consider, namely, the two hybrids or vowel-consonant letters *w*, *y*, and the aspirate *h*. *W* ⌒ and *y* ⌒ receive forms from what may be called the waste material of the *pl* and *pr* series of double consonants; and the aspirate takes the two forms ⌒ ⌒ which are two unused signs taken from the *spr* series of treble consonants. Thus the shorthand alphabet is complete, and there is a good reason why every stroke

should represent the letter to which it is assigned. The making of the phonographic alphabet is really another version of Columbus's egg. Anybody could make an egg stand on end by first giving it a tap on the table; and a "schoolboy" could have made the phonographic alphabet if he had noticed the three letters | *t*, ⌣ *n*, ⌒ *r*, running through the history of shorthand, and had put all the other letters in their places by the side of these three, paying regard to the placing of the straight lines and curves in the four possible directions corresponding to the four seats of articulation in the mouth for the production of consonants, namely, the lips, teeth, palate, and throat; and allowing the gutturals and nasals both to take the horizontal direction.

Mr Pitman, having pointed out the deficiencies of the first edition of the system, said that they were supplied by the beginning of 1839, and the second edition was published for 1d. on the 10th of January, 1840, simultaneously with the introduction of the Penny Post.

Professor BRIDGE: It would be a matter of great interest if Mr Pitman could give us in the *Phonetic Journal* a reproduction of the first page of the first Shorthand periodical published.

Mr PITMAN: I can easily promise that by the process of photo-lithography.

Mr LOCKETT: I should like to ask, as a student of the principles of Shorthand, whether there is any publication containing the reasons for the selection of certain forms for certain letters, and for the various principles of contraction in Phonograpy.

Mr PITMAN: In the *Phonographic Teacher* you will find briefly expressed the reasons for the forms of all the letters.

The CHAIRMAN: We must now bring our sitting to a close. I may mention that I have received a very kind letter from Lord Rosebery, enclosing a cheque for £25 towards the Congress. I need not say if there are any other gentlemen having good balances at their bankers, who feel disposed to follow that good example, we shall be only too pleased to be the recipients of their kind contributions. Our friends at the Press Club in Ludgate Circus have expressed a desire to elect as temporary members certain foreign gentlemen who are amongst us, and are journalists by profession. The names of a few gentlemen, who we believe are journalists, have been sent in, and they will be good enough to consider themselves members of the Club during their stay in London.

EVENING MEETING.

PRESENTATION OF THE BUST OF MR ISAAC PITMAN TO HIS FAMILY.

Mr T. A. REED in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen,—It is just five years less than half-a-century ago, that, a lad in my teens, I found myself for a few hours in Bath, and having just learned Phonography and caught some of the new-born enthusiasm which the early acquisition of the art is so apt to engender, I ventured, not without some hesitation, to call upon Mr Isaac Pitman, with whom I was personally unacquainted, but with whom it had been my good fortune to have some correspondence. I found him a young man, spare, wiry, active, springy, and full of energy and animation. Devoutly believing Phonography to be the great lever that was destined to elevate the human race to immeasurable heights, I regarded my interview with its inventor as a noteworthy incident in my personal history. I have recently been thinking what my sentiments would have been if anyone with a turn for prediction had been good enough to draw for me a little picture or horoscope showing how on a distant day, in a public theatre in the big metropolis (which I then had never visited), I should again see Mr Pitman, with his silver locks, his slightly bent form, but with his old elastic footstep, receiving the congratulations of a large assembly on the results of his life-long labors, with a marble bust to be handed over to his family in trust for posterity; and that I, also showing considerable signs of the familiar bleaching process (laughter), and having earned for myself the title of a "veteran," should be presiding on the occasion, and should be the channel through which the gratitude of my fellow phonographers had found expression. If such an absurdly improbable delineation had been laid before me, I have little doubt that, like Mrs Brown at the Play, I should have "smiled derisive." (Laughter.) It is quite true that "many things have happened since then," but how it has all come about I can hardly tell. A long dream of nearly half-a-century has intervened. Some of it, as is the way with dreams, is very obscure, and some of it extremely vivid. First, I seem to have dreamed that leaving a junior clerkship in a western city I joined the early phonographic crusade (a part of the dream of which I have, as you know, lately written a little history), delivered lectures, taught classes, wrote articles, and proclaimed to a benighted public how time might be saved and education advanced by the adoption of a new set of strange-looking but graceful

symbols in place of the clumsy and irrational characters that so bewilder us and hinder our progress in our early lives. Then, after a few years of this sort of experience, my dream carries me on to a longer career of work of a very different character. Giving up the professional functions, I find myself engaged in the actual work of shorthand reporting of every description, taking down speeches of every shade of politics, on every side of religion, on science, art, literature, commerce, finance, social economy, and what not, traveling here, there, and everywhere to hear what people have had to say, and then, by the aid of the little talisman I always carried with me, letting the world know all about it, or as much as it seemed necessary or good for the world to know. It is a long and confused record; the figures and the speeches run into one another and form a strange medley. I hear fervid politicians denouncing each other as the enemies of the human race; I listen to theologians and metaphysicians hurling anathemas at rival schools of thought; I find myself recording the evidence of witnesses in Law Courts, impassioned speeches at the Bar, grave decisions of the Bench. With these are mingled in a fantastic way the disputes of scientists, the wrangle of artists, the Babel of the Stock Exchange, the festivities of the Mansion House and Willis's Rooms, the cheers of Exeter Hall, the discussions at Church Congresses and British Associations, and Congregational Unions, and the rest. Through a long list of years these familiar sights and sounds, in grotesque combinations, seem to greet the eye and the ear. Again the dream oddly changes, and I seem to be actually taking the chair in the theatre of the Geological Museum, instead of sitting at the reporter's table; then, suddenly, I awake, and lo! it is a reality. (Cheers.) My old chief who sent me out with my talisman, is in the flesh by my side; his marble effigy is near at hand; troops of friends are with us, and we are all united together to ask our venerable, but ever youthful friend, to accept our congratulations and our hearty recognition of what he has done not only for ourselves individually, but for our country and the world. (Cheers.) I am not here this evening to proclaim at any length the merits of Phonography, or to pronounce an elaborate panegyric on Mr Pitman as a phonetic reformer of English spelling. As to the first, I think I have said enough in past days, and my whole professional life has been the best testimony that I could offer to the value I attach to Mr Pitman's invention. As to the second, there are others who have entered into the subject more deeply than I have, though I am not sure that they have a stronger opinion as to the absolute necessity of a reformation in the direction in which Mr Pitman has been so long working. I wish, however, publicly to testify once more my high estimate, not only of Mr Pitman's genius, but of his personal character, his plodding industry, untiring energy, his self-abnegation, and his earnest and constant desire to benefit his fellow men. It is

my duty now to remind you that this is the Jubilee year of the invention of Phonography. Just 50 years ago, on the day when the country was publicly rejoicing at the accession of our good Queen, Mr Pitman was sitting quietly at home experimenting on the alphabet to be presented in his little book "Stenographic Soundhand," which we have all had the opportunity of seeing at our Exhibition. Though it has undergone many modifications since, we recognise in it many, if not most of the features of the alphabet that has become so familiar to the hundreds of thousands of writers of Mr Pitman's system. During these long years he has been laboring hard to bring it as near perfection as any human instrument can well be. He may not have been always able to satisfy some of the discontented or independent spirits among us that every detail of Phonography has been arranged for the best; but has the man ever lived who succeeded in convincing all his disciples that he never made a mistake? Whatever little differences of opinion on small matters of detail may have existed among phonographers, there is but one opinion among those who, like myself, have had the advantage of knowing Mr Pitman personally, as to his intense desire to leave behind him the very best stenographic instrument that his wit could devise. I have known him, while a book has been in the process of printing, cancel the printed pages at a considerable pecuniary loss, and begin afresh in order that he might incorporate in the work some suggestion that he had received for its improvement. I have heard the cynical remark made that he was glad of an excuse to bring out another edition. No one who had the least knowledge of his character would give the slightest heed to such an imputation. (Cheers.) How much money and labor he has spent in promoting what he and many others believe to be a cause bound up with the advancement of education and the general welfare of society, no one knows but himself. But many of us can testify from personal knowledge to his entire devotion in the prosecution of his labors. That those labors should have brought a reasonable compensation to himself, is only a fitting incident of his career. He might have been a wealthy man, but he is content to enjoy a modest competence and to possess the consciousness of having devoted a large portion of his well-earned income to the furtherance of the cause to which fifty years ago he set his hand. It is a particular satisfaction for me to remember that in this tribute to Mr Pitman many persons besides phonographers have united. Many of the outside public have readily contributed to the fund required for this commemoration, and many writers of other systems of Shorthand have gladly joined us in our efforts to do honor to Mr Pitman for the work he has accomplished in the improvement and popularisation of Shorthand, and in the promotion of phonetic spelling. It would have been a pleasing thing to meet together, as in a purely family party, to celebrate our Jubilee, but it is still more agreeable to find ourselves surrounded by

sympathising friends of other stenographic persuasions, who, if they cannot endorse all our views, cordially unite with us in our congratulations, and by many of the public to whom shorthand symbols are an esoteric mystery, but who know enough of Mr Pitman's work to desire to testify their appreciation of it by their presence in our midst. (Cheers.) Now, Mr Pitman, I have to discharge what is perhaps the pleasantest duty that has ever devolved upon me,—that of asking you to accept for your family, from the phonographers of England, this marble bust. It will be to them a constant reminder of the regard and affection entertained towards you by those who have known best how to appreciate your labors; and it will, at the same time, be an acceptable legacy to posterity. Not that it is needed to secure you a place in the recollection of your countrymen. Your *work*, far better than Mr Brock's faithful chisel, will keep alive your memory in the future; but all the more will those who fill our places in the coming years be grateful to us for having preserved to them the lineaments of a man to whom they are so deeply indebted for the services he has rendered and the example he has set. (Loud cheers.)

The Chairman then unveiled the bust amid protracted cheering.

The CHAIRMAN: Your cheers tell me that I may also express your gratitude to Mr Brock for the manner in which he has executed the bust. Now, Mr Pitman, this is not the only gift that I have to ask you to accept. Several others have been sent to us from distant parts. One is from Adelaide. It is an illuminated address, which I will ask the Secretary to be kind enough to read. I have recently received it, and am charged to deliver it into the hands of Mr Pitman this evening.

Mr KITSON: Ladies and gentlemen, the Address from Adelaide is in these terms:—

To Isaac Pitman, Inventor of Phonography. Dear Sir, we the undersigned Phonographers of the Province of South Australia, in anticipation of the approaching celebration of the Phonographic Jubilee, desire to express our grateful appreciation of the invaluable services you have rendered to the world by your admirable system of Phonetic writing and printing.

We regard Phonography as being not only of incalculable value to the journalist, but also of inestimable worth as a means of general correspondence; and fully anticipate that it will eventually supersede the cumbrous process of heterographic longhand.

The Phonographic Jubilee will really be the celebration of a great literary triumph achieved by your inventive genius and remarkable erudition, allied with the most indomitable perseverance in surmounting great obstacles and bringing the system to its present marvelous degree of perfection.

With best wishes for the happiness and welfare of yourself and family, we are, dear sir, yours faithfully.

Signed by Sixty-four Phonographers of Adelaide.

Adelaide, South Australia, Jan., 1887

[The Address is repeated in Shorthand at the side of the engrossed longhand].

The CHAIRMAN: Another Address of a similar character has reached us just in time, having only arrived yesterday afternoon from Sydney.

Mr KITSON read the Address:—

To Isaac Pitman, Esq. Sir, in this the Jubilee year of that perfect system of Phonography which bears your name, and will immortalize your memory, we desire to congratulate you on the success of your labors, and to acknowledge you as one of the greatest benefactors of the Nineteenth Century.

After fifty years of patient thought, sound judgment, incessant attention, and judicious discrimination, your name is justly recognized as the founder of a system of shorthand writing, which, for brevity, beauty, and clearness, has no equal.

A practical knowledge of Phonography has been diffused throughout all English speaking communities. In this Colony there are many skilful students and ardent admirers of the art. To us it has been a source of both pleasure and profit. We therefore send to you this memento of our gratitude for your tribute to the many intellectual and artistic triumphs of the Victorian era, and of our personal appreciation of the inestimable value of your noble work.

Trusting that you may be spared for many years to garner the satisfactions of an eminently useful life,

We have the honor to subscribe ourselves, with reverence and kindest regard,

Yours very sincerely,

Sydney, New South Wales, 28 *June*, 1887. Signed by 25 persons.

The CHAIRMAN: Now we come nearer home. We have an illuminated Album from Rome, containing a number of views of Italy. I believe there is no address, but the Album is handed to us to be passed on to Mr Pitman. We have still another address from Carlisle, which I will ask the Secretary to read.

Mr KITSON: This is written in semi-phonotypy.

To Isaac Pitman, Esq., Inventor ov Fonografy, and Sekretary ov the Fonetik Sosiety. We, the Fonograferz, Shorthand Writerz, and Frendz ov the ancient sity ov Carlisle, gladly avail ourselvz ov the opportunity afforded by the Selebration ov the Fonografik Jubilee and Tersentenary ov Modern Shorthand at the International Kongres held in London on the 28th September, 1887, to exprés our high appreciation ov the valuabel servisez which you hav renderd to mankind by the Invention ov Fonografy.

Viewing az we do your long laborz ov the past fifty yearz of self-sakrifize, our most hart-felt wishez go with you in the future, that you may be long spared thát vigor ov body and klearnes ov intellekt, to stil further develop the prinsipelz ov the Fonografik Art.

We hav also plesure in akording you our warmest sympathy for the nobel endevorz you hav made to reform the old románik spelling, and dezire to publikly exprés our gratitude to you for the konspikuous part you hav taken in many other great reformz.

And among the many bondz ov affektion uniting our distant Koloniz to the Mother Kuntry, it iz with pride we notis that Fonografy iz not one ov the least.

We ar, Sir, Your obedient servants,

The Kommitte on behalf ov the above Fonograferz, Shorthand Writers, and Frendz,

ROBERT WALES.
(Signed), JOS. HEWITSON.
H. BEULL.

Carlisle, 19 *September*, 1887.

The CHAIRMAN: There is another presentation which unfortunately cannot be made this evening, for one very good reason—it is not here.

It is a gold medal which our friends in America, the phonographers of the United States, are having cast in celebration of this event. (Cheers.) That will be presented to Mr Pitman at a later period, but I mention it now that it may be included with the others which are actually and bodily delivered. I hold in my hand a letter which I have received from Kief, conveying to Mr Pitman the salutations of the Stenographers of Russia. It is signed by Mr Stanislaus Dlusski, a well-known stenographer, and expresses to Mr Pitman the kindest and heartiest feelings of congratulation. It concludes: "May God preserve you and give you a long and happy life, to the glory of your compatriots and your country." A telegram has just been placed in my hands that has arrived from Berlin, from my very old friend Dr Michaelis. He says:—"My best compliments to the venerable Mr Isaac Pitman, and to all the members of the Congress." Dr Michaelis is one of the official shorthand writers in the Upper Chamber in Berlin. He is of considerable age or he would be present on this occasion. The receipt of this telegram carries me back some twenty-five years when I was in Berlin and had the pleasure of making his acquaintance. It was in a very casual and singular way. I happened to be at Potsdam at a reception by the then King of Prussia, taking notes in the open air. A gentleman by my side was also taking notes. We entered into conversation and exchanged cards. He said, "Mr Reed, you are an authority." He seemed to know as much about me and Phonography as I did myself. (Laughter.) Dr Michaelis is an ornament to the shorthand world, and I am sure we shall receive with very great pleasure the kind salutations he has sent by telegram. Mr Pitman, I believe these are all the gifts I have to ask you to receive at our hands this evening.

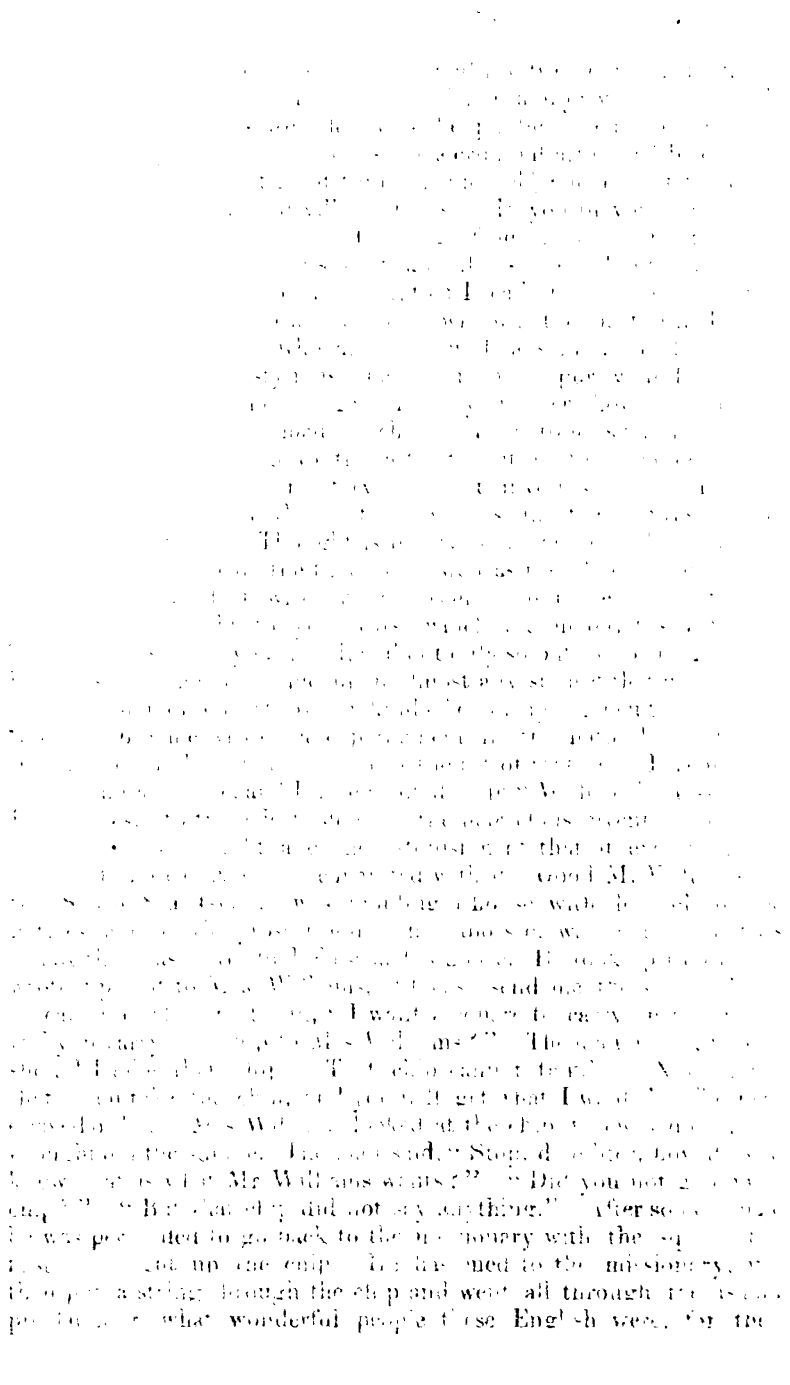
Mr Pitman: Mr Chairman and my very dear and affectionate friends,—There is a passage in the Divine Word that has rested upon my mind for a month or two as one that I could somehow use on the present occasion. It is a divine inquiry submitted to us to institute a kind of self-introspection or self-examination. It runs thus: "Seekest thou great things for thyself?" Now if we put that honestly to our own hearts I think there are very few of us who can say, We do not. The inquiry is followed by a positive command from the Maker of the Universe, "Seek them not." Now, I have quoted this portion of the Divine Word for the purpose of saying that, consciously, that passage has been my guide from my youth up (cheers), and to-night instead of feeling that I am a kind of Roman citizen, and that you have placed the civic crown upon my brow, I rather feel in the condition of a criminal arraigned before this Court on the charge of having sought great things for myself. I fancy to myself, somehow, that our venerable Chairman is the judge (laughter), and if he were but bewigged, which would well become him, he would

be an admirable judge, a very Portia, and my friends upon the front row seem to me to be the jury (a voice "The grand jury")—the grand jury, and the galleries are filled with the public—the audience; and now I stand before you in some sense a criminal arraigned before the world as having sought great things for myself, and I must from my heart declare "Not guilty." (Cheers.) If you in your clemency come to the same conclusion, I shall go from this meeting a happy man. Then, turning to this bust, a doubt is injected into my mind somehow, and I cannot get rid of it, that I really have some hesitation in knowing which is the man and which is the bust, and I must appeal to Mr Brock (who answered with a smile). I think *that* (pointing to the bust) must be the man of purity and beauty, and *this* (himself) the image. I only wonder how my friend Mr Brock could have made such an image from such a subject. We are so accustomed to the art of writing that some of us never reflect upon the mystery which it involves. It is a union of the spiritual and the natural worlds in the expression of thought by speech. Thought is purely spiritual, and the affection that lies at the root of the thought as well as the thought itself, are brought into contact with the atmosphere, and the waves thereof convey the thought to your ears, which are material substances. The thoughts enter your mind, and not only so but can be represented by signs, complex or simple, upon almost any subject that will receive an impression or a mark, by any kind of coloring. Then the spiritual thoughts become visible and permanent in the natural world, and thus heaven and earth are united in the art of writing. I remember reading an anecdote, and I have printed it, in "Williams's Missionary Enterprises," to this effect, showing the marvelous invention of writing in its proper light, and the astonishment that it excites in the minds of those that are unacquainted with it. Good Mr Williams, in the South Sea Islands, was building a house with the help of the natives, and for the prosecution of his labors he wanted a carpenter's square that was in the tool chest at his house. He took up a chip, and wrote upon it to Mrs Williams, "Please send me the square," and he called a native and said, "I want a square to carry on my work; will you carry this chip to Mrs Williams?" The man asked, "Why should I take that chip? That chip cannot talk." "Never mind that; you take the chip, and you will get what I want." The man obeyed orders. Mrs Williams looked at the chip, threw it down, and brought out the square. The man said, "Stop, daughter, how do you know that is what Mr Williams wants?" "Did you not give me a chip?" "But that chip did not say anything." After some debate he was persuaded to go back to the missionary with the square, but first he caught up the chip. He hastened to the missionary, and then put a string through the chip and went all through the island proclaiming, what wonderful people these English were, for they



ISAAC PITMAN

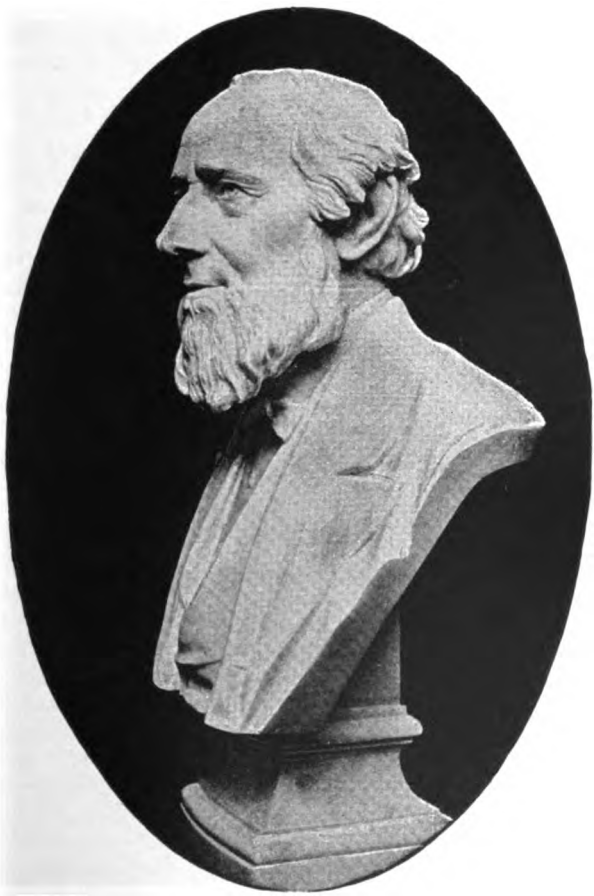
Presented to the Fellows assembled at the Meeting at the Institute of Chemistry, on the 1st of May, 1894, by Mr. Isaac Pitman, on the occasion of the Jubilee of Phonetic Shorthand.



MARBLE BUST.

(By Thomas Brock, Esq., R.A.)

OF



ISAAC PITMAN.

Presented to his Family at the Celebration of the Jubilee of Phonography, in the Theatre of the Geological Museum, Jermyn Street, London, on Wednesday, 28th September, 1887.

could make chips talk. That is a very forcible and homely illustration of what writing can do. My object in life has been to make the presentation of thought, as visible to the eye, as short and easy and simple of execution, as possible. Fifty years are a long time in the life of a man, and I have prosecuted my labors for that length of time. Though I cannot say that we have, in Phonography, the best shorthand form for every word, I do maintain that we are not very far from it, and I think the only little thing that remains to be done is to select any words that are not facile and beautiful in form, and easy of execution by the reporter's hand, and consider how we shall put them into the best possible form. Then we shall have completed our work. I shall be glad to receive, at Bath, from good writers of Phonography, suggestions of better outlines, or hints for harmonising the outlines of those classes of words that contain the same consonants, and may be variously written by means of the duplicate forms of some letters. I would now refer to the amazing increase in the popularity of Phonography during the present week in the public press. There has been enough said in the public newspapers of the metropolis and the country during the last week or so to fill a moderately-sized volume on the importance of Phonography, and this week's celebration of the Jubilee of the art. I speak of Phonography alone to-night, and not in connection with the Tercentenary of Modern Shorthand, which is very properly associated with it, and occupies five days out of the six in the week. In the *Pall Mall Gazette* of this day the first leader is upon this subject. It occupies a column, and speaks in high praise of Phonography, foretelling a very bright future for it. Yesterday the *Birmingham Daily Gazette* had two columns upon the subject, in reference to the Tercentenary and the Jubilee together. I would also refer to the advantage of representing our language phonetically. You can scarcely hear a single address in public in which there is not some variation between the speaker's pronunciation and another man's pronunciation. Our noble President on Monday pronounced the word "tercentenary," "tercent*ee*nary." Our spelling does not show the seat of accent, as reformed spelling does. His lordship has not noticed one little law of English accentuation that runs through the language, with but few exceptions. It is this. All long words that end in "ery," "ary," or "ory," like "necessary," "cemetery," "territory" are accented on the fourth syllable from the end, on what scholars call the pre-ante-penultimate. The ultimate is the last, the penultimate is the last but one, the ante-penultimate is the last but two, and the pre-ante-penultimate is the last but three. (Laughter.). If Lord Rosebery's attention were called to that little law of English pronunciation he would admit that his pronunciation is not the common one, and in future would speak of the *Tercéntenary* of the introduction of Shorthand into England. When a word contains a long vowel in the penultimate, that syllable carries the accent, and

phonetic spelling will show this long vowel, but the common spelling does not, for it has no long vowel-letters. I have received so many congratulations that I really do not know where to put them. I have not a pocket big enough to contain them. This one came to me this afternoon from Mr Paterson, who is the chief manager and editor of the *Barnsley Chronicle,* and it is a specimen of all the others:

"My Dear Sir,—Permit me as an old phonographer of nearly 40 years' standing to congratulate you by anticipation upon the part of the Congress proceedings personal to yourself, which has been fixed to take place at 8 o'clock to-morrow evening. Only work which I did not feel justified in neglecting has prevented me from carrying out my original intention of being present on this most interesting occasion; and I do feel that I cannot let it pass without tendering you my cordial congratulations, coupled with the expression of a hope that you may be spared for many years to labor in the Phonographic cause, believing, as I do, that the movement inaugurated by you 50 years ago has been the means of immense benefit to the community at large, as well as to individuals. To the knowledge of Phonography acquired in early life I owe more than I can express; and I should be wanting in gratitude did I not acknowledge the obligations I feel under to yourself personally. That the work may continue to prosper, and that you may enjoy every blessing temporal and spiritual, is the prayer of your grateful well-wisher, ALEXANDER PATERSON."

And now, my lord, (the chairman, as judge,) I humbly wait my sentence, whether or not I am considered by this Court guilty of seeking this greatest and last of the testimonials that have been presented to me, and of having sought them in a spirit of self-seeking. I humbly wait your sentence. (Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: I find it extremely embarassing to be in the chair this evening, instead of occupying a more humble and appropriate position; but how much more I am embarrassed when I find myself suddenly transformed into a judge, I leave you to determine. I suppose it is my duty, gentlemen, to sum up to you. I candidly confess I never summed up a case before. I have taken down a great many summings-up, but never had to deliver one myself. If my friend, Mr Crump, would act as assessor to me on this occasion, I should probably be able to discharge the duty with some degree of satisfaction; but happily for me I do not think there is any chance either of the jury disagreeing, or of their verdict being appealed from to a higher tribunal. I have to ask you whether the prisoner at the bar is or is not guilty of the crime for which—I will not say he has been arraigned, but for which he has arraigned himself. (Laughter.) I gather, gentlemen, from the peculiar manner in which you are returning your verdict, that it is one of entire and complete acquittal (loud cheers), and I believe I may say, using the familiar and appropriate expression, that Mr Pitman leaves the Court without a stain upon his character. (Laughter and loud cheers.)

Mr PITMAN: Well, my friends, I accept these beautiful gifts, including the bust, with the deepest and most affectionate gratitude of which my nature is capable. (Cheers.) They shall be a stimulus

to me to work on in the same line, and, if possible, with increased diligence and faithfulness. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: We have the pleasure this evening of having among us Mr Pitman's two sons. I will ask one of them, Mr Ernest Pitman, to say a few words on behalf of his family.

Mr ERNEST PITMAN: Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,—I rise on behalf of the family to return thanks for the very cordial way in which you have shown your appreciation of my father's labors in the Shorthand world. Phonography is essentially an English system, and it has many of the characteristics of the English Constitution. It has grown, rather than having been struck off at a blow. When any improvement has been suggested, it has been tested by practice, and its retention or abandonment has been decided by experience. This in some measure accounts for its great popularity, a large number of phonographers looking upon it, to some extent, as the child of their own brain. I again thank you for the honor you have done my father in presenting his family with this bust. (Cheers.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen,—A day or two ago Dr Dreinhöfer was good enough to say that he desired, on the part of German Stenographers, to express their feelings of gratitude to Mr Pitman, and their congratulations to him on this occasion. It is proposed this evening that we shall have but one resolution, and I will ask Dr Dreinhöfer if he will be good enough to propose it, unless he can find better words to submit to you. This is the resolution: "That this meeting offers to Mr Pitman its hearty congratulations on the position attained by his system of Phonography, and its best thanks for the efforts he has made in the promotion of Phonetic Spelling Reform."

Dr DREINHOFER: I am most happy to be selected from among the followers of the Stolze system of Stenography to express, in the Jubilee assembly of shorthand writers of all nations, the sincerest congratulations and the heartiest greetings of the whole Stolzean school. In introducing your invention to the world fifty years ago, you, Mr Pitman, were the first to show the way which Shorthand should follow —namely, to be of common use in all emergencies of daily life, and not to be confined to parliamentary reporting. We Stolzeans have this in common with you, that we aspire to see Shorthand taught in schools like any other elementary matter. You are in the most envied position of being able to witness an immense success of your work. Never before has a Shorthand system attained so widespread a circulation as yours. Your disciples are assembled to-night to pay you homage for what you have done, and we German Stolzeans

are happy to join in this acknowledgment of your services rendered to Shorthand in general. We wish with our heart that you may live still for many years to come, to continue the most important work which you have undertaken. I propose the resolution.

Dr GLADSTONE seconded the resolution. He said: Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel it no small honor to take part in the celebration this evening. The duty cast upon me might have devolved upon others who have a greater right than myself to speak on this occasion, but I do feel from my long acquaintance with Mr Pitman and his works that he is one of those whom England and the world ought to delight to honor. (Cheers.) This is so partly because he has introduced that admirable system of Shorthand with which we are acquainted. We who practise it, or who practise kindred systems, know the immense advantage it is to us. I speak as one who gains the advantage not merely from my friends who report what I say, but also from using it at my own house. I find I can compose anything and write anything far better in shorthand than in longhand. It is far less mental effort. I suppose it is that the fingers follow the thoughts more rapidly and more accurately. But we owe Mr Pitman a great debt of gratitude, too, because he has for a long time enforced the advantages of Shorthand, and done all he could to promote it, with his industry, nay more, with his tenacity of purpose. And he has done it in a philosophical spirit, taking hold, from the beginning, of the true principle of what an alphabet should be,—that it should be able to represent all the sounds of a language, and that of the letters of that alphabet one only should be used for the sound which it symbolises. This philosophical and true principle he has always set forth before the English nation. He has done so often against great opposition, and with marvelous pluck. We admire him on this account. We admire the simple way in which he has carried on the work, desiring only the good of those who are round about him. We feel quite sure that the outward success which is represented this evening by the ceremony here is only an indication of the great success that his labors will have both in England and in all the world in coming time. (Cheers.)

Mr F. O. CRUMP, Q.C.: Mr Reed, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I come before you to-night as an outside spectator and auditor of your proceedings, not as one who can pretend to an intimate acquaintance with the system which was founded by Mr Pitman, but as one who having some knowledge of it, has used it with great advantage in his own career in life. I regard the system as now established as an art which will not merely increase in practical life, but as one which in itself is educational. I need hardly go out of this building to point to an illustration of what I mean, because I think you have in your Chairman to-night an instance of the educational effect of the practice

of Phonetic Shorthand. (Cheers.) It is a system by which the sounds which fall from a man's lips are committed to paper, and reproduced in the ordinary longhand which we read; but unless the brain of the reporter is one which in some measure is cultivated to the standard of the speaker, it is impossible that by mere flexibility of finger he can convey to the outer world the meaning that is intended. I venture to say that unless you have educated shorthand writers you will not have intelligent shorthand writers; and you often will not have the thoughts of speakers fitly and properly communicated to their fellow creatures. Therefore I say the practice of this art must be educational. Those who practise it must concurrently educate their minds, so far as they possibly can, in all the arts and sciences. The opportunities which shorthand writers have of knowing what progress is being made have been mentioned by Mr Reed to-night; and when I heard him detailing the catalogue of the Congresses, and associations, and conferences at which he had taken notes, I envied him his experiences, and I said to myself, "Surely that man has had an education which very few of us in this room possess." I regard Mr Pitman not merely as the inventor of Symbols, but as a man who has started an art, the practice of which must go on concurrently with a liberal education, and thereby must raise the standard of thought and intellectual ability throughout the country. I congratulate Mr Pitman on the position he has assumed this evening of an unselfish inventor. Unhappily, unselfish inventors are rare. The inventor generally wishes to start a manufactory by which he may realise a colossal fortune, as some men are fortunate enough to do, and it is a rare thing to find an inventor who neglects his own interests and devotes himself entirely to his art. I do not think any reproach should be cast on Mr Pitman for having invited your verdict on the issue whether he has been unselfish or not. He has received your award of merit. I, as a very humble individual who years ago took up his system as a scholastic aid, for the purpose of reporting more accurately the sermons and lectures I had to attend—join my voice with the chorus of praise and approbation which you have to-night so unanimously accorded to Mr Pitman.

Dr Eugen Gantter (Frankfort): I am not accustomed to speak in a foreign language, and if I dare to speak to this honorable assembly in English, it is only in honor of Mr Isaac Pitman. If you have many reasons for Spelling Reform, we Germans have another, because of our bad English speaking. We are not to be blamed, because we are more accustomed to speak French than English. If we learn French we know how we have to pronounce it, but if we learn English we do not know. There is an absolute necessity for you to go on with Spelling Reform, for when we Germans speak to you the will is always better than the pronunciation. But we esteem

Mr Isaac Pitman not only as a master of Spelling Reform, but also as a stenographer. He has accomplished that dream which the German stenographers, the founder of German Shorthand, Gabelsberger, and also Stolze, have indulged in. Before the invention of Phonography, Shorthand in England was practised by but few persons. In many cases it was a bequest from father to son. But Mr Isaac Pitman has made Phonography popular. Thousands of persons now profit by the services of phonographers; and we follow the same practice in Germany. We also wish to propagate Shorthand, to introduce it into schools and public life. We are convinced that the services rendered by Stenography are so great that everybody who has to write should learn Shorthand. We came to London from Germany feeling that we followed the same lines as you do in this country. We attended this morning and heard this patriarch, with silver locks but with the fire of youth, defending his system and propagating his ideas; we came this evening, and we have heard of the honors conferred upon Mr Pitman, who has rendered invaluable services, not only to England, but also to the world. The stenographers of all the world pay willing homage to the inventor of Phonography; and one agreeable memory of this International Congress will be that we have seen that a prophet is also honored in his Fatherland. (Cheers.)

Dr WEBER: I, too, am a stranger to this country, but I feel obliged to rise on this occasion and express to the assembly the feelings which animate the Duployans. The Tercentenary Committee have invited to the Congress writers of all countries, practising the most varied systems. Stenography, although multiple in its manifestations and its means, is one art and one science. The progress and advancement of this art is entrusted to us, but how can we work in that direction if we use our time in vain disputes? How can we impress upon others the importance of our work if we have no solid, common ground to stand on? The times of unbecoming rude contests are happily past, with few exceptions. We all strive to rise to a high standard. This is a noble ambition, and one worthy of gentlemen; but we are bound to respect the claims of our competitors, such as Mr Pitman, who have devoted their lives to the earnest study of Stenography. I most heartily and most gladly support the motion. Mr Pitman's merits entitle him to be regarded as one of the fathers of modern Shorthand. His name is known all over the world. He has a double right to our esteem. Besides being a stenographer, he is also a great supporter of Spelling Reform. Much has been said about this matter, and I need not enter into details. It may suffice to say that we regard reformed spelling and reformed writing as a boon and a blessing. The English language is a noble and beautiful tongue, but its orthography is horrible. (Laughter.)

Mr GURNEY SALTER: I do not come prepared with any speech this evening. I understood this was to be a meeting to celebrate the triumphs of Phonography, and to do honor to its Inventor, and I came simply to do my part in paying honor to him. Now, I do honor Mr Pitman for reasons which I will state as briefly as possible. In the first place, because, I think, as was truly said this morning, every shorthand writer will concur in desiring to promote Spelling Reform. In the second place I honor him for having extended the teaching and the use of shorthand to a degree which, before his labors began, would have been incredible to Englishmen. At all events, knowing a good deal about the history of Shorthand before then, I can say that the diffusion of Shorthand at that time was not in the least degree comparable to the extension since. The number of people using it, living by it, studying it, taking an intelligent interest in it, is altogether incomparable to what it was formerly. For that we all feel we have to thank Mr Pitman, who, believing as he did in the utility of Shorthand to the world, carried on an unceasing crusade. He set on foot agencies for its extension and its practical application in a great variety of ways, for teaching and for lecturing, by which Shorthand was brought home to all classes of the community. I, as a shorthand writer, and as an Englishman, honor him for what he has done in that way. I have had opportunities, for many years, of seeing a great deal of Shorthand work in several systems, and I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the excellence of the work done by phonographers, many of whom I have seen working side by side with writers of other systems. Phonography is strong enough to be tolerant, and I know you will not expect me to say that it is the best system in the world. Every workman, I hope, rejoices in good work when he sees it; and, thanks to Mr Pitman, there is a great deal more good work done in the world by Shorthand than formerly. For this I venture to congratulate him in the name of myself and writers of other systems present to-night, who recognise that a great deal of the best work done in England at the present time is done by phonographers. I wish also to express my admiration of the man as well as of the inventor. We all know the indomitable energy and the kindly spirit of Mr Pitman. He has not allowed personal considerations, or considerations of pride, to stand in the way of improving the system he has put before the world. It is such men that the world has to thank for its great inventions. (Cheers.)

Mr MOOR (Sunderland): As a teacher and reporter of twenty years' experience, I should like to add an expression of gratitude to Mr Pitman for all he has done for phonographers throughout the country. A great many more would gladly have been present if they had been able. It would be impossible to say how many young men have

bettered their position in life by the boon that Phonography has conferred upon them. I am sure that a knowledge of Shorthand has inspired many a young man to aim upward in life. For that reason I should like to join in the united tribute that has been paid to Mr Pitman by this Congress, and especially by this gathering of writers of all systems. (Cheers.)

Mr LAWSON (Edinburgh): Nothing less than a national question would have led me to intrude myself upon the meeting, but in the presence of our distinguished friends from abroad, I cannot allow a word which fell from your own lips, Mr Chairman, to pass without receiving an interpretation clause. The word "English" may not be applied to the southern portion of this Kingdom only, except in reference to the English language; but I believe if Scotch were more familiar to you, you would find it to be on a more Phonetic system. The interpretation clause I wish to add to your speech, Sir, is this: When you spoke of the bust of Mr Pitman being presented to his family by "English" contributors, the word included Scotch, and I hope I may say Welsh and Irish. (Cheers.) We have heard read to-night addresses of congratulation to Mr Pitman from the Colonies. If it had been thought at all proper that associations throughout the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland should send individual addresses, I think the table would scarcely have been able to contain them. We consider that our united congratulations were presented to Mr Pitman in the work which this committee has so admirably undertaken. I should like to say that this matter of spelling reform lies upon us phonographers especially. If there is any reason that could be urged against a reform of English spelling, it seems to me it would be that of making the mastery of English too easy for our continental friends. If there is to be an International Shorthand Congress in Paris in 1889, where will some of us be when called upon to deliver an address in French? We who belong to the British Isles, whether English, Irish, or Scotch, must look to our laurels in the matter of public speaking in a foreign language. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: I very gladly accept the interpretation clause that Mr Lawson has been good enough to suggest; and I think it only right to add that from no association in the country has the committee received more effective help than from the Phonographic Association of Edinburgh, which Mr Lawson represents. (Cheers).

Prof. BRIDGE (New Jersey): I want to speak for about fifty-seven millions of people who speak your language, simply because they cannot be here to answer for themselves. I know that the very large

proportion of those people who make use of Shorthand are Pitmanites through and through. For thirty-three years Phonography has been a delight to me. I learned it as a boy, and became, as we say in America, "enthused" by it. It aided me during my education, and during my college course I had fourteen correspondents in Isaac Pitman's Phonography. For years it has not only been bread-and-butter to us, but more than bread-and-butter; it has been brains and heart and soul. I am very sorry that Colonel Demming, one of our official reporters in the State of Harrisburg, is not here. He could not bring the gold medal. It would have been presented here had the picture from which the die was to be made been agreed upon in time. It will be sent over in due time, and I think it will be a presentation which Mr Pitman will be pleased to receive. The only criticism that I have heard in America concerning Mr Pitman's work has been, that it was feared some of the various changes had sprung from unworthy motives. Personally, for more than thirty years I have felt that that could not be so. In June last I came across a passage in a Supplement to the *Phonetic Journal* which I agree with: "For ourselves, we should like at least one change for every day, from bad to good, from good to better, from better to best; from best to good of a superior kind, to better thence again, and better still if it could be had." I say "Amen" to that. (Cheers.)

The resolution was agreed to with acclamation.

Mr Pitman: My friends, and our worthy Chairman,—I receive your congratulations with very great pleasure. I take them as a pledge on your part to work with all your might in the promotion of the Reading, Writing, and Spelling Reform. There is a world of meaning in each of those three words. Reading,—the introduction of the Phonetic teaching books in schools, for which we are now waiting the permission of the Education Department; Writing,—teaching your friends to write Shorthand; and Spelling,—promoting the reformed spelling in every possible way by using it. I have no doubt that you will fulfil the pledge you have given to-night by thanking me for the invention, by using it on every possible occasion. The sale of the "Phonographic Teacher" last year was only 60,000 copies, but during the last three months, with the new edition of the Jubilee Teacher, it has been at the rate of 100,000 copies a year. We have in the present circulation the promise of greater things in the future; and we want your help in extending it over the whole world. I thank you again for the interest you feel in this matter, and for the too favorable opinion all of you have entertained concerning myself. And now I must say one word on behalf of the Chairman especially, and of his fellow Chairman of the other Committee, Mr Gurney-Salter. I propose to you that a vote of thanks be passed to the Chairman and to Mr. Gurney-Salter for the great amount of labor which they have

bestowed in bringing this Jubilee Day and the Tercentenary Congress, so far as it has occurred, to so successful a termination. I have great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to them both.

Mr KITSON: It is with very great pleasure that I second the motion moved by Mr Pitman. Mr Reed and Mr Gurney Salter have been an example to all chairmen. We have had services from them in times of extreme difficulty, involving a great deal of hard work, requiring on their part the most serious attention to the preparations for this Congress; and the other members of the Committee, speaking through me, I am sure will say to you that their aid has been simply invaluable. For this evening I think you will agree with me we have had in Mr Reed a most perfect Chairman. It would be impossible to find a gentleman more fitted for an office of the kind at a meeting of this description. We have in this room representatives of the phonographic system of Shorthand from all parts of the world. It is a proud day for Mr Pitman, and I think it should be a proud day for Mr Reed, whom, we phonographers, are very much inclined to regard as standing very near to Mr Pitman in connection with the success of Phonography. He has been, as it were, first lieutenant to the great captain all the way through, and I think if we could ascertain exactly the number of phonographers who have been encouraged to learn and to continue in the practice of the art by the splendid example given to us by Mr Reed, we should find that number to be immense. I have sat by a man in the United States who told me that he was writing at the rate of 300 words a minute, but as I was writing by his side, and was doing the work just as well, and was only writing about 180, I had a little doubt upon the subject. (Laughter.) But in Mr Reed we have a man whose work we know, and there is no doubt about it. We have means of testing it. It has stood the test, and we look up to him as standing next to Mr Pitman, and as the finest example of what Phonography will do. In Mr Gurney-Salter we have a representative of a very fine old system, that of "Gurney's," which has done splendid work, and is doing some of the most useful work in this country: a great deal of it being done when we are most of us fast asleep. It is a system which, for its antiquity, is entitled to very great respect from us. We phonographers, of course, only regard it as a kind of fossil (laughter), but it is a very valuable fossil in every point of view. Mr Gurney-Salter combines with the headship of that system of Shorthand as now practised, qualities which you have seen exhibited in this room of the highest order, as a gentleman, as a man of business, and as a perfect chairman. We have to thank these gentlemen for the great success of this Congress, which, I am sure, will establish it as the first of our most useful series of gatherings of the same sort, which we hope may continue for many years to come. (Cheers.)

Mr J. G. PETRIE: I rise to support the vote of thanks which has been proposed to our Chairman, and to Mr Gurney-Salter. In doing so I should like to address myself more particularly to the Chairman of this evening. It gives me great pleasure, on this occasion, to bear testimony to the affection and regard in which I hold him. Whether he is the fastest shorthand writer in existence or not, he is certainly a very fine specimen of the gentlemanly stenographer, and one who has done a very great deal to raise the status of the shorthand profession in the eyes of the world. (Cheers.)

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: Really, embarrassments are absolutely heaped upon me this evening. Having been very suddenly transformed into a Judge, I now find myself in a totally different department of service. I have been informed that I belong to the Army, and am called a lieutenant. What the next transition will be I do not know. I am reminded of the fact that when I was last in Germany I saw my name in a list of visitors as "the Rev Mr Reed." Please pity me, therefore, if I hardly know who or what I am. (Laughter.) The kind words said of me this evening rather increase my embarrassment, for I know not how to acknowledge them. They enable one, however, to feel that when one's hand loses its cunning, as it must do, one may still be able to do something to encourage those on the lower rungs of the ladder in their path upward. (Cheers.)

Mr GURNEY SALTER: I feel it an honor to be coupled with Mr Reed in the kind vote of thanks which you have passed. If Mr Reed is astonished at being converted into a Reverend, how much more am I astonished at finding myself a fossil? (Laughter.) I do not feel like one, and I beg to deny that our system is a fossil. (Laughter.) Having thanked you for your kind recognition of my efforts, let me assure you that the work of the Congress has been carried on mainly by Mr Reed, with whom it has been a pleasure to work, and to whose sagacity we owe so much, and by a committee of various branches of the Shorthand profession who have united in doing their part in bringing about the Congress, which we hope will terminate as happily as it has begun. (Cheers.)

The meeting then terminated.

THURSDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER.

LEGAL AND OFFICIAL SHORTHAND WRITING.

Morning Conference.

Mr A. R. Marten, Ex-President of the Institute of Shorthand Writers, in the Chair.

The Chairman: Ladies and Gentlemen,—I need make but few preliminary observations in introducing the subject of legal and official shorthand writing. Although, perhaps, somewhat limited in its scope, it is a matter of some importance as affecting the administration of law in the Courts of this country. There is in England, at all events, very little official shorthand writing out of the Committee rooms of Parliament. Shorthand writing in the English Courts of Law may be divided into two parts: first, law reporting; and, secondly, legal shorthand writing. Most of you know that the law reporting is exclusively done by barristers who supply the condensed reports for the authorised Law Reports and other legal papers; whereas legal shorthand writing is entirely in the hands of professional shorthand writers, whose notes are verbatim and whose transcripts are furnished to the parties. We have, I think, very great reason to congratulate ourselves that, notwithstanding the disfavor with which legal shorthand writing has sometimes been regarded in high quarters, it has reached its present position, when scarcely any important case is tried without the use of shorthand notes. It is only necessary to visit a Court in which the Judge takes full notes, and then to visit a Parliamentary Committee room, where the shorthand writer is entrusted with that duty, to observe the great difference there is in the rate of progress. It is, I think, admitted on all hands that the expense of shorthand notes is much more than saved by economy of time. There are various other advantages which are derived from the employment of a shorthand writer. The Judge can direct his undivided attention to the course of the case, and, as Sir Charles Russell observed, the cross-examination can be made more effective than when the witness has a more ample opportunity of considering his answer. In the course of the proceedings of the Conference reference has been, and probably again will be, made to the Institute of Shorthand Writers; and it is perhaps desirable that I should, very shortly indeed, explain to you the nature of that Institute. It has existed now in its present form for five years—its members consist of all the professional shorthand writers practising in the Royal Courts of Justice, with but one

or two exceptions. Its objects are to improve the status and increase the efficiency of its members; to give some sort of guarantee of competence; to protect the interests of the profession; to serve as a mouthpiece of the members of the profession, and generally to promote social and friendly intercourse among its members. It has already done something, and I hope in the future it will be in a position to do much more. Papers of great technical interest have been read, some of which have been printed; the nucleus of a law library has been provided. Only recently a complete set of Law Reports has been furnished, at a cost of nearly £90. It has provided for examinations in general education and in professional capacity; it has, on more than one occasion, been consulted by Judges in matters connected with the shorthand profession; and it has had the satisfaction, in all those cases in which it has been so consulted, of finding its views adopted by the Judges who have consulted it. I think that the future of shorthand writing in the Courts of this country will, to a great extent, depend on the wisdom with which the Institute is managed. [The Chairman then gave a summary of the answers to questions which had been sent to other countries on the subject of shorthand writing in the Courts of Law.] (See page 302.) The first three Papers dealing with legal shorthand writing in England and Scotland I propose to take first, and then to invite discussion on those papers. Herr Müller's Paper will then be taken; and I will reserve to the end of the proceedings any further observations I may think it necessary to make.

LEGAL REPORTING IN ENGLAND.

By C. Henderson Scott, Barrister-at-Law.

In this paper I propose to give a brief account of Legal Reporting in England. I believe this will be interesting to many attending the Congress, and especially to visitors from other countries.

For convenience, I shall divide the paper under three heads:—

I. The reporting of cases, involving legal points, for publication in works designed mainly for members of the legal profession.

II. Reporting *verbatim*. This can only be done by expert and experienced shorthand writers, and is necessary where a complete record is required of everything that is said at a trial.

III. Reporting law cases for the public journals.

Each of these departments of reporting is practically distinct, and demands different qualifications in the reporter.

I. Dealing with reporting under the first head—that is to say, the preparation of reports for the use of the legal profession—it may be remarked that this is exclusively the work of barristers who attach their names to their reports, and that these conditions are necessary

to enable the reports to be quoted in Court as authorities bearing upon subsequent cases. Generally, these reports of cases are very much condensed, only enough being given to make clear the point decided, but all the authorities quoted on both sides, or mentioned in the judgment, are accurately set out, which is invaluable to the lawyers. Of course, in proportion to the importance of the case the report is extended, and some occupy many pages of a volume. Each case reported is preceded by a note, indicating at a glance the subject, the question, and the decision; and elaborate indexes to each volume render reference extremely easy. How these law reports originated it is not difficult to imagine. As the law is so much made up of the decisions of the Courts, it was important that the practising lawyer should be fully armed with these decisions; and private enterprise and speculation, as in other matters, stepped in to supply the want. Hence grew up the practice of barristers devoting themselves almost exclusively, and chiefly in the first stage of their career, to attending a particular Court, taking notes of the important cases decided, and publishing reports under their own names. The hundreds of volumes so produced form an important part of our legal literature, and they bear such familiar names as Adolphus and Ellis, Barnewell and Cresswell, Carrington and Payne, Hurlstone and Norman, Bevan, East, Arnold, Campbell, Crompton, De Gex, etc. Later on came the different series of reports, embracing all the Courts of law and equity published in connection with legal journals, such as the *Law Journal* and the *Law Times*. Notwithstanding all these reports, some years ago it was felt in the profession that a more comprehensive and complete system of reporting cases should be organised. Hence the establishment by the leading members of the Bar, with the co-operation of some of the judges, of the *Law Reports*, which have met with general approval, and are looked upon almost as of a semi-official character. They are under the management of a committee of barristers, of whom Mr Joseph Brown, Q.C., is the chairman. The other reports are private speculations—these are produced upon a kind of co-operative principle—the annual subscriptions for the series of reports yielding an amount more than sufficient to meet all the expenses of printing and to pay adequate salaries to the reporters. There is, lastly, what may be called a novelty in law reports—the weekly publication of such reports as appear in the *Times* daily, involving points of law, in the form of the other reports to which I have referred, with the names of the reporters, and all the authorities quoted. These are now recognised reports in the Courts, and in addition to their undoubted merits and rapidity of publication, have the additional advantage of being issued at a very low price—something like a guinea a year. It will, therefore, be seen that the English lawyer has an ample supply of reliable reports for his information and guidance.

II. I proceed to the second branch of the paper—the work of the professional shorthand writer. As a rule, shorthand notes are taken of most of the important cases in the superior Courts, and these notes are now accepted by the judges as authentic records of what passed at a trial. They are often even asked for by the Bench. This, however, was not always so. Within the recollection of many there was a time when shorthand notes were tabooed by the judges in Westminster Hall. In the Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, their lordships, sitting in *Banco*, over and over again refused to listen to them, and called, instead, for the notes on the briefs of counsel. Baron Parke was particularly persistent in enforcing this rule; yet it was the Exchequer which first recognised the importance of shorthand notes, and made way for the present more sensible practice. Why the judges of former times held out so long against the innovation one can only guess; it may have been that they disliked breaking through old forms; or that shorthand notes of their day were not so accurate and reliable as they are now, though there were then some famous shorthand writers. Every new art has its struggles and adversity—and so has shorthand. I do not know when first a judge, in summing up a case to a jury, read the shorthand notes of the evidence instead of his own notes, but in the celebrated Tichborne trial Lord Chief Justice Cockburn quoted largely from the shorthand notes which were taken from day to day and printed every morning. And there can be no doubt of the value of this in some instances, and particularly in a case of that description. But the credit of first recognizing officially the practical usefulness of shorthand is due to the House of Lords and the House of Commons. And when we discuss the relative merits of the different later systems of shorthand, let us never forget to pay due honor to that old and distinguished firm who, it may be said, first demonstrated to Parliament the advantage of shorthand in their semi-judicial inquiries, and who have continued without break to the present day to act as shorthand writers to both Houses, with great credit to themselves and benefit to the public. And as to the House of Lords, it is to be remembered that in their appellate capacity, as the last resort of the suitor, they not only have their shorthand writer to take down all oral judgments, but also a barrister specially appointed by them, and with a salary, to prepare legal reports of the appeals for publication. This office, so far as regards English and Irish appeals, was held for many years by Mr Charles Clark, Q.C., who had graduated in the reporters' gallery, and is now filled by Mr Moorsom, Q.C., formerly a reporter in the Court of Exchequer: so far as regards Scotch appeals, it is held by Mr Wheeler, Q.C. Before leaving this subject I would bear willing testimony to the efficiency of the shorthand writers who regularly attend the Royal Courts of Justice. I believe this is the general feeling of the Bench and the Bar. They write different systems of shorthand, but all are

able to take *verbatim* notes of the swiftest speaker, and the most rapid and fiery cross-examination. At the same time they have difficulties, and formidable difficulties to contend against. There are the loose, disjointed and imperfect utterances which they must record, and yet write out in such an intelligent and grammatical form as may make them understood. And this difficulty is not confined to witnesses. Sir William Page Wood, as Vice-Chancellor, and afterwards as Lord Hatherley, was the terror of shorthand writers. A good lawyer and an excellent judge is not always a finished orator, and that was seen in the case of Lord Hatherley. He was very painstaking and conscientious, and perhaps his over-anxiety to deal with every fact and argument led him into an imbroglio of language which puzzled the brain and unnerved the hand of the stenographer. It is said that when he was going to deliver an important judgment, three shorthand writers found it desirable to take a check-note to ensure absolute accuracy. It is told of a judge of the past, memorable for his learning and ability as a lawyer, that handing down one of his written judgments to a reporter, said, "Put it into English. I never could write English, and I never shall." Where the stenographer's aid is absolutely indispensable is, where important judgments are delivered, and where the *ipsissima verba* employed, which may settle the law and form landmarks for future guidance, should be given with complete accuracy. Again, but for the services of the shorthand writer we should not have recorded *in extenso* the judgments of such masters of language as Lyndhurst, Thesiger, Westbury, Campbell, Cairns, Cockburn, and Jessel, in which judgments not only the omission of a sentence but a word or a phrase would spoil the report. And not only has the shorthand writer to bring an intelligent mind to bear on all that is passing, and secure every word that drops from the speaker, but he has at the same time to undergo continuous mechanical labor, it may be for hours, or a whole sitting, exhibiting thus a great amount of physical endurance which is a necessity of his calling.

III. I now pass to the final head—Law Reporting for the newspapers. This is work of a highly responsible nature, and requires somewhat different accomplishments from those already mentioned. The reporter must not only be a facile Shorthand writer, able to take a *verbatim* note when the occasion demands it, but he must have great power of condensation. He should possess a good and lucid style of composition, and write with facility, often with great rapidity; for his labor frequently involves a race against time. He ought to exercise a wise discretion in deciding what should and what should not be published. One case he may have to report very fully, another to contract within the smallest possible space. Above all, he must be strictly accurate whether he writes two or three columns, or only the eighth of one column. He must know, and have ever present to his

mind, the law of libel, for sometimes a slip—almost an excusable one—may lead to lamentable pecuniary results. It is a saying amongst sailors, "one hand for yourself, the other for the ship;" and the newspaper reporter may well say, "one hand for the newspaper proprietor, the other for the public;" and make that his guiding principle. One peculiarity of this kind of reporting is that while absolute correctness is a *sine quâ non*, the report should be interesting—it may be vivid and graphic—so that the reader may be as well informed almost as if he had actually been present in Court. And, then, the reporter must be equally at home in a great trial which for a time is absorbing the public attention, as in a case involving some dull, abstruse, but important points of law. Of course, however competent and conscientious he may be, he does not always give complete satisfaction. Lord Hatherley, for instance, used to say, and probably died under the impression, that he had never been properly reported. On the other hand, Mr. Justice Maule, who though a rather loose speaker, uttered many trite and memorable sayings, once observed on the Bench, "When I was at the Bar there was a Shorthand writer on circuit who used to make my speeches a good deal better than when they were spoken." Sometimes the labor of the reporter is of a truly formidable character. The most striking proof of that was the two Tichborne trials, which filled many columns of the daily journals for many months, the reading of which engrossed the public mind, and was said to be as interesting as a sensational novel, or an Adelphi melo-drama. Then, as to condensed reports, let me give an anecdote. An extremely complicated matter, long in litigation at Westminster, and necessitating almost cart-loads of documents, came on for trial, and occupied very many days. The reporter for a leading journal, as everything was vigorously contradicted or disputed, thought it prudent to reserve his report until the conclusion, when he was able to put the whole story, to use a common phrase, in a nutshell. One of the leading counsel afterwards said to the reporter, "You have really settled that troublesome case, of which I was thoroughly sick." "How is that?" "Why your admirable and impartial report put the points in such a clear light that it cooled the litigants, who saw the slightness of their difference, and speedily arrived at an arrangement."

And having gone back to old Westminster, some experiences there may not be out of place in concluding this paper. It may be remembered by those a little old in the profession that formerly neither plaintiff nor defendant, nor anybody else who had an interest in the decision of a case could give evidence at the trial; and that it was not an uncommon thing for persons offered as witnesses to be examined upon the *voir dire*, in order that they should speak to the circumstances that would enable the Court to judge whether they could properly be admitted to give evidence. The reason, I suppose, of this absurd law was, that these interested persons were not likely to speak the truth; or, at any rate,

to give their evidence impartially. In course of time they were allowed to give evidence; and no sooner had the change been made than the judges seemed appalled at the amount of perjury committed. Plaintiffs and defendants, as a rule, flatly contradicted one another; and the presiding judge, generally a Chief Justice, committed one or other of them for trial for perjury, or bound over somebody to prosecute before justices. For a time a fit of temporary insanity appeared to have afflicted the legal mind upon the subject; but before long it came to be seen that a man whom a Lord Chief Justice had virtually pronounced guilty of perjury must incur some prejudice when his case came on for trial; and ultimately the practice of committal ceased. While it lasted, however, a prudent man, acquainted with the proceedings of the Courts, would probably have preferred to encounter serious pecuniary loss rather than go into the witness box to contradict his opponent, and take his chance which of them was to be committed for perjury.

During the heat of the fever, Lord Chief Justice Jervis intimated early in a trial before him a suspicion of the untruthfulness of the plaintiff; and soon afterwards, addressing Mr Serjeant Byles, counsel for the plaintiff, said, sternly, "Brother Byles, let your client remain in Court." The learned Sergeant bowed, and the case proceeded. Later on, the learned Judge, with a severity of tone not unusual with him, ordered that the plaintiff should be "called;" and called he was, but with no effect. Then turning fiercely towards the Sergeant, the Chief Justice said, "Brother Byles, where is your client?" Thereupon the Sergeant (he was a strong man at the Bar, and could always hold his own) rose, and, bowing with most profound respect to the Bench, said, in slow and measured terms, "My Lord, he has left the Court; and by my direction; and is now out of your Lordship's immediate jurisdiction." There can be little doubt, especially seeing the temper of the Judge at the moment, that the Sergeant was right, and the Judge, who was quick-witted, took the rebuff. At any rate, nothing more was done; but the learned Sergeant had, at all events, secured for his client that he should have an unprejudiced trial in the event of his being brought up for perjury.

A few words with regard to the difficulties of Law Reporting. One of the chief difficulties is, when the reporter has to condense in a brief type-space lengthened proceedings. He may try his best to be impartial, but he need not be surprised if one or both parties complain that he has omitted something material; or by his way of stating the facts, given an unduly favorable impression to one side. What he thought of scarcely any consequence one or other party may value as of vital importance. These complaints frequently come from a perfectly honest mind, but with a bias. Others come from dishonest minds, intent only upon getting the best of the dispute anyhow. Judges sometimes in summing up simply read their notes of the evidence to the jury, with a few directing comments; but when a judge sums up elaborately,

who ever heard of his summing up pleasing both sides? The condensing reporter, so to speak, is in some respects in the same position as the judge. He is pretty sure to be complained of by one side or the other. It is said to be a compliment to a judge to be found fault with by both sides—it is testimony to his impartiality. It may be remarked that corrections of law reports are comparatively seldom when the proceedings are published at length. In the first Tichborne trial, which extended over 100 days, I believe there was no complaint by anybody, though imputations were made upon many people, and most surprising incidents arose almost day by day.

Previous to the modern reforms it was necessary for a Law Reporter to know the technicalities for which the profession of the law has been so noted; but a great part of this old learning is now happily mere rubbish. What would be the value now of learning that which enabled its possessor to distinguish between what would be the subject of a general and what of a special demurrer; or whether a litigant should begin his proceedings by issuing a *latitat* or a Bill in Middlesex?

But though the reporter is rid of the necessity to take upon himself this burden, his difficulties have increased in other directions. Under the old system of pleading it could in most cases be seen from the pleadings what the real question to be tried was. The reformers who wanted to make this more certain said, "We will abolish useless forms. Let the one party shortly state the facts upon which he relies, and let the other state the facts which he contests and the facts on which he relies." It was thus thought probable that it would be seen there was really little in dispute, and that what was disputed would be presented to the jury in a clear and intelligible form. Unfortunately this theorising went on the assumption that two persons going to law would act in the spirit of a mathematician; that they would state clearly and concisely the matters in dispute, so that a right decision might be speedily arrived at. But when people go to law they think more of victory than justice; of impeding rather than facilitating their adversary's case. Hence it happens that the end of the law reformers is the one least likely to be attained. What frequently happens now is, that a perusal of the statement of claim and the statement of defence does not with certainty show what is in dispute; and this uncertainty often increases the length and expense of the proceedings, a thing which the reformers wished to avoid. For instance, a defendant, as has happened, in his statement of defence, sets out a number of deeds, and says in effect, "My defence is in them—find it if you can." These things all tend to embarrass the reporter.

Another thing, tending in the same direction, occurs in connection with trials in the common law branch, by a judge without the assistance of a jury. At a jury trial the reporter has at least as good an opportunity as any juror of understanding the facts. But in the other case he frequently does not hear a full account of the matter which

he has, under a serious responsibility, to report; and sometimes the very turning point is withheld from him. It is perhaps embedded in deeds, letters, or other documents that are handed up to the judge without being read in open Court. It may be thought that the reporter would get a sight of these documents; often he cannot. In most interesting cases the whole point may turn upon a long letter simply read in Court with the customary rapidity. In such a case the reporter may apply to the highly respectable solicitors who produced it, to be allowed to copy it, or to verify the accuracy of the notes he has hastily taken of some passages. This may be refused, and upon the solicitor being informed that the substance of the letter must be published, and that it would be better to publish the exact terms, the answer may be, as it has been, "if you publish it you must do so upon your own responsibility." Of course the reporter, in such a case, has to take the responsibility; but it so happened in the case I have in mind, fortunately, that though in the letter there were reflections upon persons who were no parties to the suit, the publication passed without comment or complaint. It might have been otherwise. I have brought forward these incidents and narratives to show that the law reporter does not lie on a bed of roses, and that it is only by the greatest vigilance, accuracy, and good sense and good taste, that he can safely perform his important and responsible duties.

SHORTHAND WRITING IN THE LAW COURTS OF THIS COUNTRY.

By Mr H. H. Tolcher.

Several of my brother shorthand writers have wished me to write this paper, and having followed the profession of a shorthand writer for nearly thirty years, I felt I could not refuse on the ground of inexperience.

I propose in the course of my statement to answer the questions which the Executive of the Congress have distributed as the points on which they consider information desirable.

There are, with very few exceptions, which I will hereafter particularize, no officially appointed shorthand writers in the strict sense of the word to the Courts of this country; but the practising shorthand writers (I am speaking more particularly of those in London) consist of about seventy gentlemen, who confine their practice exclusively, or almost exclusively, to the Courts and business arising out of them, such as Arbitrations, Examination of witnesses before examiners, and so on; and their work is entirely distinct from that of the parliamentary or newspaper reporter.

They some years ago formed themselves into an Institute, which has recently been incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act of 1867, and by the articles of association a strict educational and professional examination in practical note-taking has to be passed by everyone applying for membership before he is admitted. Most of the shorthand writers engaged in business in the High Court in London also attend the different Circuits and Assize Courts throughout the country.

The shorthand writer is instructed by the solicitors engaged in the different actions and matters that are disposed of in the Courts, by whom he is also paid.

There are in the Royal Courts, when all the judges are in town, very often as many as twenty Courts sitting, presided over by Justices of the High Court, about half of whom are engaged in trying witness actions, either with or without the assistance of juries; and the other half, including the Judges of the Chancery Division, are engaged on other business of a more or less technical nature.

There are in addition two Courts of Appeal constantly sitting, besides Official Referees, Chief Clerks, Masters, etc., before whom shorthand writers are often engaged. As I have already said, Arbitrations and References to Members of the Bar, Surveyors, etc., are a great source of business to the shorthand writer.

There is no restriction of shorthand writers to particular Courts, but their practice varies according to that of the solicitors by whom they are employed. The different solicitors in an action or proceeding, as a rule, each instruct a shorthand writer; and in that way there are generally two, if not more, shorthand writers engaged taking notes in every case of average importance. The shorthand writer takes a strictly verbatim note.

The two cases where there is anything approaching an official system, are, 1st, the Admiralty Court. In that Court there is an official shorthand writer appointed, who is sworn to take a true and faithful note, and whose notes when transcribed are the record of the evidence for all purposes of appeal, etc. 2. This is also to a great extent the practice in the Bankruptcy Branch of the Queen's Bench Division, where, if the estate is sufficient to allow of the expense being incurred, a shorthand writer is always employed to take notes of all oral examinations.

Three gentlemen were appointed by the Vice-Chancellor, Sir James Bacon, when the Bankruptcy business was under his control, as the official shorthand writers in bankruptcy matters; and on the bankruptcy jurisdiction being transferred by the recent Act of Parliament to the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, Mr Justice Cave (after kindly communicating with the Institute of Shorthand Writers on the subject) issued the following order, under date 12th October, 1885:—

"That until further order, whenever the Court shall be of opinion that it would be desirable that a person should be appointed to take down the evidence under Rule 59A, the Court shall appoint one of the following shorthand writers [naming the three gentlemen I have alluded to above]. Provided that if in any case none of the above-named persons are ready and willing to act as such shorthand writer, the Court may appoint any other person who is a member of the Institute of Shorthand Writers."

3. The Courts which sit where required for the trial of Election Petitions (Parliamentary, Municipal, etc.,) are under Act of Parliament attended by the official shorthand writer to the Houses of Parliament, who reports the evidence and the judgment for the use of Parliament, or the superior Court as the case may be.

4. In inquiries as to collisions at sea, held by the Wreck Commissioners, the evidence is also reported for the use of the Commissioners by the shorthand writer to the Houses of Parliament. In both these instances the parties are at liberty to, and often do, instruct their own shorthand writer.

In these cases the shorthand writer is sworn, but in no other Court, as far as I know, is the shorthand writer required to take any oath.

In all the other branches of the Courts the Judges' notes of the evidence are the record on which the Court of Appeal proceeds. These the Counsel and parties cannot obtain, and they are obliged to use for all purposes either shorthand notes or the notes taken by Counsel in longhand. With regard to Judgments and Summings up, as distinguished from Evidence, the case is different. The shorthand notes of these are always referred to, and I may mention that by a recent Order in the case of Humphery *v.* Sumner the Court of Appeal has decided to allow the successful party to an Appeal the costs of the shorthand notes of the Judgment in the Court below. In some cases the costs of the Summing up are allowed. Although what I have said with regard to Evidence is the strict rule, shorthand notes are invariably accepted by all the Courts on any question as to what took place in a former stage of the action, and I have never heard any objection raised from the Bench to their being read.

From what I have said, it will, I think, be gathered that the practice as to shorthand notes in the Royal Courts of Justice is in anything but a satisfactory position. In some cases they are taken as the Record; in others, though perhaps taken by the same man, they are not; and I would with very great respect venture to suggest (and I am only repeating what was often said by the late Mr Justice Pearson, one of the brightest ornaments of the English Bench) that if judges would rely more on the shorthand writer instead of attempting to take such long notes themselves, an action

could be tried in about half the time, thus effecting an enormous saving of time and expense to the parties.

I now pass on to the accommodation, or I should say want of accommodation, afforded the shorthand writer in the Royal Courts of Justice. I am sorry to say that the shorthand writer seems entirely to have been lost sight of by the architect. In the first place, the acoustic properties of the different Courts are very bad —some more so than others. Two rows of seats, each affording room for three persons, are placed on each side of most of the Courts at right angles to the Bench and the Bar, there being in the Courts used for trials by jury only accommodation on one side of the Court, the jury box occupying a like position on the other side. By arrangement, the seats on one side—generally the side on which the witness box is placed—are used by the shorthand writers, and the seats on the other side of the Court by the newspaper reporters. We are thus enabled to hear perfectly well all that the witness says; I wish I could say the same with regard to the observations of the Judges and Counsel. The Bench in all the Courts is placed so high above the floor of the Court that the Judge's voice passes over the heads of those beneath him to the back of the Court; in fact, it is difficult to hear the Judge in any Court, and especially during a Summing up to the jury, when his lordship naturally turns his face to the jury and his back to the seats allotted to us. So meagre were the seats provided for us in the two Courts of Appeal that it was utterly impossible from them to hear the learned judges, and we had to make a representation to the late Master of the Rolls, Sir George Jessel, and through his kindness, and that of the present Master of the Rolls, our seats were raised and this inconvenience remedied to a great extent, although not entirely. I may here remark, in the hope that my remarks may reach the ears of those in authority, that the most perfectly constructed Court I have ever practised in was the old Court of Appeal at Lincoln's Inn, where the Bench was in the form of a semicircle, and we had seats allotted to us immediately under the Bench and in front of the Bar. It has always been a matter of surprise and regret to me that with such an excellent example before them, the authorities did not design the new Courts on the same principle.

Then with regard to the arrangements of the shorthand writer's office, things have altered very much of late years in this particular. Partly in consequence of the increased number of Courts sitting at the same time, it is not now so usual for a shorthand writer with any large amount of business to do the work of note-taking himself; and this has led, in my opinion, to many evil effects. Many shorthand writers now employ assistants to do most of the work of practical note-taking; and they themselves, by their presence

and great assiduity, procure the instructions for cases which their assistants take, and generally overlook the management of their business. In this way shorthand writing has, some think, degenerated from a profession, which it formerly was, into a commercial business, where the man with most capital and the largest connection has an enormous advantage over his poorer and less fortunate brother, although the second may be a far better shorthand writer than the first.

The time for which one shorthand writer usually writes, depends on whether the transcript is required immediately or not. If it is not, one man usually takes the day's proceedings himself; but in long cases, when the transcript is required by the following morning, or to be delivered to the printer or law stationer the same evening, one shorthand writer usually takes notes for two or three hours at a time, and then proceeds to his office to prepare his transcript. This he does generally by again dictating it to assistants, who take down in shorthand from his dictation and transcribe into longhand.

The ordinary length of a day's proceedings is between 500 and 600 folios of 72 words each; and to get 200 or 300 folios ready for the law stationer or printer by a moderately early hour, three or four of these assistants are required by each shorthand writer. Many of us have clerks who can read our Shorthand. I have myself, and find it a great convenience, inasmuch as we can take notes for a longer time, having only when we come out of Court, to revise our transcripts. I have had prepared a few pages of transcript to show the ordinary form.

Printing has of late years very much superseded the old-fashioned brief copying by law stationers. Indeed in most important cases the evidence at all events is printed in the way I have before described (a sample of which I have here) and delivered to the parties the following morning.

The Typewriter is now being used by some shorthand writers, but it has not been adopted to any large extent.

The systems of Shorthand most in vogue are Taylor's, Gurney's, Byrom's, Mavor's, and Pitman's. There is also another system used by several members of the Institute of Shorthand Writers, but its inventor is not known. It has been in use certainly for eighty years, and although endeavors have been constantly made to ascertain the name of the author, those endeavors have hitherto been unsuccessful. Several of the leading firms of shorthand writers use this system.

Mr H. H. TOLCHER: Before I sit down, perhaps, as it has rather an important bearing on several things I have said, I may be permitted to read a letter which I have received from an eminent Queen's Counsel who practises in the Chancery Division. He says: "I am sorry to say, events and distance will, after all, prevent

my attending the Shorthand Conference. I should have been glad to be present; first, on account of the interest I take in the art and its professors; and, secondly, because I should have been glad to hear whether anything could be done to render Shorthand more useful in speeding some of our long witness cases. The continued and irritating 'waiting for the pen' of the judge not only trebles the time occupied; but with a dishonest witness gives plenty of time to consider and, in need, modify a damaging answer. The present system of extending the shorthand notes, though of some use to counsel, renders the note-taking useless, so far as the judge is concerned. Hence it is, I suppose, that the Court of Appeal seem to consider the asking the costs of a note of the evidence almost as indefensible as sin, or the long vacation is in the eyes of the general public. I know so little of the working of a shorthand writer's office that I can make no suggestion which does not seem impracticable. But I fancy the only remedy which can be, must be something of a system of turns similar to those in vogue on a daily newspaper, and a writing out in longhand on lithographic paper, capable of immediate transfer to the stone, and immediate multiplication thereby. I see plenty of difficulties in the way of this suggestion—it is for the experts to consider if they are inevitable." I hope that we shall, in the course of the discussion which may take place, hear some practical suggestions on this subject. I should also like to allude to some remarks which were made by Sir Charles Russell the other evening at our Congress dinner. Sir Charles Russell spoke in a very kind way of practising shorthand writers; but he also said that it had been a matter of regret to him for many years that there was not an official shorthand writer attached to every Court. Now, of course, Sir Charles Russell could not have been expected to know all the workings and details which are requisite on a matter of this kind; and I agree so far with him that, if we could in our Courts have some such system as there is in Parliamentary Committees, namely, that a note is taken of all the evidence, and a transcript prepared and printed and delivered to the parties on the following morning, perhaps that would be a very great advantage. But that is utterly impossible in Courts of Law. It is utterly impossible that litigants in a small but, to them, very important case—involving £15 or £20—should be expected to go to the expense of having long transcripts written out and printed; but I cannot help thinking that some of the advantages which Sir Charles Russell pointed out might be achieved by a very easy system. I do not like myself anything approaching officialism. I do not think you always gain the object that some people think you do by it; because if there is an official, you do not have the promptitude and efficiency ensured by competition. If a person went to him and wanted a transcript by a particular time he might say, "I have many others to provide for before I provide for you." There would be difficulties of that kind. There is another point which I may mention to explain my meaning. We do not always transcribe our notes; in fact, we take a great many notes which we never transcribe. We are paid one fee for taking the notes and a separate fee for the transcript. If there were one official shorthand writer appointed to a Court he might go on for days taking notes and not make a transcript, and at the end of a week the parties engaged might come to him and say—"We want a transcript of all that has taken place this week by to-morrow morning." It would be utterly impossible for any one man to do that. Gentlemen, my remedy is, that there should be some such practice as this—that solicitors should, by a rule of Court, be empowered to instruct a shorthand writer to take a note of the evidence and judgment only, in every case to which they are parties; that the judge should trust more to the shorthand writer—should have him, it may be, under his control—somewhat on the Scotch system; but, as to the persons who are to take the notes, that should be left, as now, in the hands of solicitors. The Institute of Shorthand Writers could, I feel persuaded, suggest and work out a remedy which would meet everything that is required, and a very great saving of time and expense would be accomplished.

[The following Paper was then read.]

LEGAL SHORTHAND WRITING IN SCOTLAND.

By Mr James Crabb Watt, F.S.A.

Yesterday I endeavored to trace the history of Phonetic Shorthand in Scotland. To-day I have to deal with the practice of shorthand writing in the Scotch Courts—a subject, I take it, of no small importance to English shorthand writers in view of the adoption which I consider inevitable of the same system by the English Courts.

I was much struck on perusing Mr Levy's "Shorthand Notes"(1) a year ago with the incongruity of existing arrangements in the English Courts—an incongruity which seems to me to involve a tacit recognition of the value of Shorthand by judges, counsel, and parties, without adequate provision being made for its practice, its status, or its compensation. In Scotland we have overcome all such difficulties. Shorthand has a defined position in the Law Courts there. It is the object of this paper to set out the history of Legal Shorthand Writing in the Scotch Courts, and to apply the lessons which may be deduced from our practice to the difficulties which, I understand, exist in England.

The first impetus which legal shorthand writing received in Scotland was from the extension of the railway system. There is a certain obvious propriety in the fact, which itself is interesting. The Lands Clauses Act passed in 1854 provided, amongst other things, for the valuation of land taken compulsorily for railway companies by arbitration which, it was thought, would be a more convenient mode of determining value than suits before the ordinary tribunals. In the numerous Submissions which followed, Shorthand, where employed, was found to be of the greatest utility. By that time some of the reporters on the Press had acquired speed enough to cope with ordinary examinations; and one or two in Edinburgh foresaw a profitable field for their labor if this occasional employment of Shorthand at arbitrations led to its adoption in the recording of evidence in the Court of Session. There can be no doubt that its use in the Railway Submissions of that day paved the way to its introduction to the Law Courts. And in this way. The counsel employed in those Submissions were probably the best employed men of their day, and, therefore, while less busy men might have had a hostile feeling to Shorthand as tending to diminish their incomes, the gentlemen who were in the thick of work were affected by no feeling of that kind. They saw that as soon as one case was finished, others would be ready for them. I daresay few employments sharpen the mind so much as the drudgery of Counsels' Chambers. Good counsel rapidly grasp details which will suffice for their cases, and thus, while the rapid succession of one case upon another entailed a little extra preparation on the part of well-employed counsel, they were willing, and indeed

1. "Shorthand Notes and Practice Relating to Them." By M. Levy. (Reeves and Turner.) 1886.

anxious, to pay this penalty for relief from the worry and weariness of long-protracted proofs, where everything was written down in longhand. It was seen that the adoption of Shorthand hurt no one, unless, perhaps, the Clerks to the References and the Arbiters themselves, whose daily attendance fees were thereby curtailed in number although, of course, not in amount. These gentlemen, however, were the servants of the clients, and in a matter of this kind, where convenience and economy alone were important, the tongues of officials behoved to be silent. Then agents (attorneys) did not object, because, even if avariciously inclined, the bulk of their costs were incurred before the Diet of Proof in meetings, precognitions, etc.; so that any loss inflicted by the employment of Shorthand fell not so much upon the agents as upon the officials pure and simple. If arbiters felt just a twinge of disappointment at the curtailment of a good-going Submission, they were solaced by the ease which Shorthand imparted to their work, in being entirely relieved of the labor of writing.

These sentences present the aspect in which the introduction of Shorthand into *quasi* legal work was regarded by the parties concerned at that somewhat remote period. Everybody's interest was conserved and no heartburnings produced. The question naturally occurred—If Shorthand is so useful and economic in Submissions, why should it not be resorted to in ordinary proofs in the Court of Session?

Before going further it is necessary to make one or two explanations. "Proof" is the technical name in the Scotch system for the leading of evidence. The Court of Session is composed of an Outer and an Inner House. The Inner House consists of two Appellate Divisions, called the First and Second Divisions, consisting of four judges each. In the Outer House there are five Lords Ordinary, before whom causes are called—that is to say, suits are instituted; and whose duty it is to hear and record evidence, as well as to decide upon each case before it can go to the Inner House upon Appeal. Before Shorthand was introduced the depositions of witnesses were taken by commissioners, usually junior counsel, appointed by the Court for that purpose in each case. These commissioners reported the evidence to the Court, the deposition of each witness having been reduced into writing to the dictation of the commissioner, and signed by the witness and by the commissioner and his clerk. In trials by jury in the Court of Session or Court of Justiciary, evidence was taken in presence of the Court and jury without being reduced into writing. In such cases no record of the proof, properly speaking, was kept, although the judges' notes were received to a certain effect as evidence of what had been stated by the witnesses as, for instance, in Bills of Exceptions to the ruling of the Judges, or in Motions for New Trials. Technically, however, these notes were no record of the evidence. It was therefore competent for either party, at the time of

which I speak, upon cause shown, to apply to the Court to have the deposition of a witness reduced to writing, in which case interrogatories and answers were taken by the clerk in presence of the Court, and authenticated by the witness and Judge in the usual form. This was a matter of frequent occurrence in the Court of Justiciary, upon a motion by the Public Prosecutor, with a view to secure evidence for instituting a prosecution for perjury against a witness who appeared to prevaricate or make false statements at examination.

After the Law Commission had held its sittings, it was considered more convenient that the Judge Ordinary should take the depositions of the witnesses; and the value of Shorthand, as a means of saving time and labor having been recognised, parties sometimes, and by and bye frequently, agreed to give the Judge this assistance. And thus slowly but surely, although imperceptibly and without any definite movement having that end in view, shorthand writing found its way from the *quasi* legal submission into the ordinary juridical work of the country.

I ought to mention that unless properly qualified persons had appeared to take the position which themselves and the circumstances of the time thus created, the introduction of Shorthand into legal procedure might have been indefinitely postponed. I have mentioned that the gentlemen who officiated on the occasions mentioned were reporters on the Edinburgh Press. One of these gentlemen—Mr Irvine Smith—had been frequently employed in this way, and with accurate foresight estimating the possibilities of the case, laid himself out for this species of work in preference to the subordinate duties of an ordinary reporter. He won the entire confidence of counsel and agents, and speedily established a large practice. It was unfortunate that he should have been compelled, by the system of condensing evidence which had hitherto obtained, to introduce the narrative form in making his transcript. That form has clung to the Scotch system to this day, so that, except in the case of Royal Commissions and Government inquiries, there is no such thing in Scotland as the question and answer photograph which the shorthand writers of America and England produce. I shall refer to this subject again, but I mention it now as the only fault that can be laid to the charge of a gentleman to whom all parties will, I think, allow the name of pioneer of legal shorthand writing in this country. Nor will I say that he alone is responsible for what, I think, is a defect in the Scotch form. The judges in Scotland had been accustomed to the condensed narrative form for centuries, and it was absolutely impossible for an interloper—I use the word in no offensive sense—to break off the habits of centuries, even if his judgment preferred to do so, which may be doubtful. It was natural, at all events, for the first legal shorthand writer, with an insecure position and the favor of a powerful profession still but cautiously accorded, to trim

his sail to the judicial winds so that there might be no adverse blast from them.(2)

In this transitional state Shorthand remained for about ten years, Mr Smith being the only practitioner. Others occasionally got work to do, but they were more of the nature of meteors than fixed stars. The use of Shorthand being in all cases preferred where the suit at all allowed of it, the different grades of the College of Justice saw that its juridical position must be, sooner or later, recognised. The first Act of Parliament which sanctioned the employment of shorthand writers, singularly enough, was the Conjugal Rights Act of 1861, 24 and 25 Vict., cap. 86, the main purpose of which was to authorise the calling of an adulterer as a co-defender, and to alter the procedure in cases relating to conjugal infidelity. Hitherto actions relating to the status of married persons were proceeded in before the Consistorial Judges—(consistorial because they used to administer justice standing, the Judges of Session sitting)—who came in place of the Ecclesiastical Courts which, under the polity of Roman Catholicism, administered the law of Scotland in this particular. These Consistorial Sheriffs took a record of the evidence in the old form. Under the Act of 1861 such actions were directed to be called before a Lord Ordinary in the Outer House, who was empowered "to take down the evidence with his own hand, or dictate it to a clerk, or cause it to be taken down and recorded in Shorthand by a shorthand writer, to whom the oath *de fideli* shall be administered. And the Lord Ordinary may, if he think fit, dictate to the shorthand writer the evidence which he is to record, and the said shorthand writer shall afterwards write out in full the evidence so taken by him, and the notes of the judges, or the extended notes of such shorthand writer, certified by the presiding judge to be correct, shall be the record of the oral evidence in the cause." This was statutory acknowledgment of the advantage of shorthand writing as applied to legal procedure, all the more emphatic that it was introduced in a side-door kind of way by an Act whose aim was not the amendment of the law of evidence at all, but the removal of conjugal grievances. At the best, however, it was but a small instalment of a great reform. The Act empowering the granting of divorces for four years' wilful desertion was not then part of Scots law, as it is now, and consistorial actions were comparatively infrequent. None the less, however, did the employment of Shorthand upon those occasions bring before the profession in an unmistakeable, as well as official, way the enormous advantage of recording evidence in Shorthand. Divorce proofs, which

2. The other shorthand writers who have been employed in the Court in the order of their introduction are—Mr William Hodge, now of William Hodge & Co., Law Printers and Shorthand Writers in Glasgow, Mr John Stunrock, Mr William Lindsay, Mr J. C. Watt (who is now clerk to the Hon. Lord Craighill), Mr David Walker, and Mr William Lane.

formerly occupied hours, were now disposed of in little more than a quarter or half an hour. The judge was saved the trouble, first of listening to the evidence, then of hearing it read over by the clerk, and then probably reading it over himself to make sure of its import. The evidence, being taken down without hesitation, hiatus, or interruption, its clearness, ambiguity, or insufficiency struck the judicial mind at once, and facilitated its operations, so that decisions in this class of cases (as has come to be the case in other classes of cases since the general adoption of Shorthand) were frequently pronounced at the close of the proof.

With these advantages constantly before them, the legal profession were quite prepared for the Act which followed in 1866, which made Shorthand competent in the Court of Session in *all* civil cases. That Act provided that evidence should no longer be taken by commissioners appointed by the Judges, but by the Lords Ordinary in the Outer House. Commissions might still be granted to examine aged or infirm witnesses or the havers (that is, the custodiers) of documents, but even in such cases the parties were empowered to employ Shorthand if they thought fit, and to dispense with use and wont forms of interrogatories, reading over the depositions, and the signature of witnesses. A provision was supplied with reference to Jury Trials by the Court of Session Act of 1868, which provided that the evidence in Jury Trials might of consent be taken by a shorthand writer. This optional employment in Jury Trials has been largely taken advantage of. It is rather remarkable, however, that in the case of Jury Trials, where the largest calls are made upon the time of the public, the employment of Shorthand should have been left optional and not compulsory. It is admitted that the time of judge, counsel, and jury are saved by the employment of Shorthand, and it follows that the expense of a Jury Trial is diminished in proportion to the time of counsel and jury thus saved. One cannot very well understand why it should have been left optional. The advantage of employing Shorthand is universally recognised. It would not be impossible to conduct litigation in Scotland without the aid of it, but it would be intolerable; and, I venture to say, there are cases of protracted Jury Trials where the non-employment of Shorthand has caused delay, hardship, and expense. Besides, Shorthand is, on the whole, an advantage as a record, and for this reason. Jury Trials in Scotland are the exception and not the rule as a means of enforcing rights. That may sound strange in English ears, but it is, nevertheless, quite the fact that a vast majority of the cases called in the Scotch Courts are proceeded in before a judge sitting alone in the first instance. The tendency is to restrict the class of cases to which Jury Trial is at all competent. Now the verdicts of juries are not so appealable as the decisions of judges. That is another striking anomaly, since ignorant juries are much more likely to err than

judges, whose business it is to weigh evidence; and therefore we hail with satisfaction the tendency of modern times to bring Jury Trials, as well as the sentences passed upon criminals, more and more under review. The decision in a Jury Trial can at present be reviewed by way of a Bill of Exceptions to the judge's ruling, or on the ground of miscarriage, or on the ground of the verdict being contrary to evidence. For the purposes of a re-hearing the notes of evidence are indispensable, and there is a growing suspicion amongst litigants —whether well-founded or not I will not venture to say—that judges generally are apt to be fragmentary in the matter of note-taking. A wish has sprung up in some quarters, therefore, that a shorthand writer should be present to photograph all such proceedings, especially in view of the great saving of time which the employment of a shorthand writer assures. There are, indeed, one or two judges who insist upon having the aid of a shorthand writer in all Jury Trials. On the other hand, the Lord President of the Court—one of the most distinguished ornaments of Scotch Jurisprudence—prefers to take his own notes. Although betwixt seventy and eighty years of age, so fresh and unimpaired are his faculties that he is able, almost faultlessly, to convey the impressions of long and intricate Jury Trials. If all judges were as fully equipped with mind and method as he, I fear Jury Trials in Scotland would afford scanty scope for the shorthand writer.

I have incidentally referred to the High Court of Justiciary, or Supreme Criminal Court in Scotland. Although there is no enactment upon the subject, this Court, which behoves to be the most conservative of forms since it deals with the liberties of the subject, has not remained unaffected by the presence of the shorthand writer. Till the passing of an Act in the Session of Parliament just concluded, justice in the Supreme Criminal Court was administered by the Lord President, who is also Lord Justice General; the Lord Justice Clerk; and five Commissioners of Justiciary; all of whom, except the head of the Court, go circuit. The Act passed this year makes all the Supreme Court judges, 13 in number, justiciary judges. The officiating Judge in this Court is supposed to take notes of the evidence for his charge, and also for reference if a report should be required by the Home Secretary upon application by the convict for remission or mitigation. These notes the judges, with one exception, have hitherto taken for themselves in longhand. In two or three important trials—such as the trial of the City of Glasgow Bank Directors, the trial of the dynamiters, and in one or two poisoning cases—the Executive have ordered shorthand notes to be taken for their own use; and have, of course, given the judges the benefit of them. In those cases, however, no entry was made in the official record (called the Books of Adjournal) notifying that Shorthand had been employed; but in the first case tried under the Fraudulent Bankruptcy Act and in the

Dunecht Mystery Case, which was a specially interesting inquiry, Lord Craighill, the presiding judge, directed me to record the notes of the evidence in Shorthand, and an entry was made in the Books of Adjournal, which are simply minutes of the proceedings, to the effect that the evidence was to be recorded in Shorthand by me. On almost all occasions since then, where Lord Craighill has presided, I have taken the official record of the evidence. On the first occasion the Crown were requested for payment of my fees, it being considered that although I held the appointment, which is paid by Government, of Clerk to the presiding Judge, yet the recording of the evidence in Shorthand did not fall under the terms of my appointment. The Crown Office in Edinburgh recognised that remuneration was due for my labor; but in the correspondence which ensued with the Treasury in London, my lords, while sanctioning the payment of my fees upon that occasion, expressly stipulated that the case should form no precedent for the employment of shorthand writing in criminal cases. The important thing for this Conference to know, however, is that in the Supreme Criminal Court in Scotland, Shorthand has been officially employed, and will doubtless be more and more employed as the country wakens up to the fact that economy in the matter of judicial time means fewer payments out of the public revenue. Indeed, I venture to predict that when a Court for the review of sentences is instituted, the evidence will be recorded in Shorthand.

The Supreme Ecclesiastical Court in Scotland, where the Episcopacy is Dissent, is the General Assembly. It has judicial forms of its own, and occasions sometimes arise—such as the libeling of a minister for immorality, which practically amounts to serving him with an indictment—where evidence has to be taken and adjudicated upon. The libeling, the taking of evidence, and the adjudicating, are all done in the first instance by the Presbytery, within whose bounds the clergyman is incumbent, and who have, therefore, jurisdiction over him. In all such cases for the last 10 or 20 years the evidence has been taken down in Shorthand according to the forms adopted by the Court of Session.

Hitherto I have dealt with the Supreme Courts in Scotland. There is another set of Courts, which are called the Sheriff, or Inferior Courts, and which are analogous to the County Courts in England. Prior to 1853 the evidence in cases in the Sheriff Court was in great part taken by commission, and recorded in the form of Question and Answer. By the Sheriff Courts Act of that year the burden of noting the evidence was laid on the Sheriff Substitute, and he was directed to take it with his own hand, and in narrative form. In these steps, you will observe a direct analogy to the alterations in the Supreme Court Procedure already referred to. The labor thus thrown upon the Sheriffs or Inferior Court Judges became intolerable in the larger centres, and created numerous hardships; and had it not been for the

passing of the Debts Recovery Act of 1867, and the more general Act of 1874, by which Shorthand was made competent for all cases in the Sheriff Court, there can be no doubt that the judicial staff in the Inferior Courts would have had to be largely increased. The towns where those Courts are held are, with some exceptions, not very large; and, apprehensive of the paucity of skilled stenographers, those in charge of the Act thought it right to introduce a clause ordering the Sheriff to dictate the evidence to the shorthand writer. This provision was, I daresay, necessary as regards some localities where properly qualified men might not be found; but in large towns, such as Glasgow and Edinburgh, the clause in question has proved a source of difficulty. In Glasgow there are several thoroughly qualified men, who can well be entrusted with the recording of the evidence, as in the Court of Session. Inferior men, however, have been occasionally employed, who have given stupidly faithful records—down even to the movements of witnesses, and the interjections and asides of the agents. Some such faulty pieces of work have come upon appeal before the Court of Session. The judges, struck with the inartistic way in which the record has been framed, asked if the statutory provisions in regard to dictation had been complied with. The answer was, perforce, in the negative. In Glasgow the Bench is not over-manned; and if the judges there dictated all the evidence they could not possibly overtake their other work. I remember two occasions on which it was intimated from the Bench of the Second Division that if another instance arose of the provisions of the Act being disregarded in this particular, they might find it necessary to dismiss the case on the ground of irregular procedure. After the passing of the Act, the principal Sheriff-Substitute of Edinburgh, Mr Hallard, an accomplished and genial man, rigorously adhered to its terms, and in the course of a year or two became an expert dictator. Since his death, some years ago, Edinburgh has in this matter followed in the wake of Glasgow. At the present moment, therefore, I think I may say that there is no such thing as dictation in the Sheriff or Inferior Courts of Edinburgh or Glasgow. In the other towns in Scotland, except, perhaps, Aberdeen and Dundee, and one or two other isolated cases, I should say that dictation by the Judge is necessary, unless two things happen. The one is the institution, by an Institute of Shorthand Writers, of a Diploma which will be recognized by the judges; and the other is the adoption of the question and answer form of recording evidence. In the small towns to which I have referred, the only men available are incipient journalists, excellent and intelligent young men I do not doubt, but of whom, with only a newspaper training, and, perhaps, no more education than an elementary one, it could not be expected that they should know what to leave out of an examination and what to keep in. They are not accustomed to the nice distinctions and superfluous differences which necessarily arise in legal contests. With their

as yet elementary knowledge of human and forensic nature, they might be seduced by the tone, or the manner, or the words of the agent or counsel of the experimenting or unscrupulous type—supposing, for the sake of argument, that such exist—into thinking that certain astute questions were not in the least of a leading kind and in this way make a witness say as a matter of voluntary and direct assertion what probably might be furthest from his mind to say. In short, it would be miraculous inspiration if young gentlemen with such training knew the perilous intricacies of legal questioning. It is, therefore, in my view better for themselves, as well as for the parties, that they should be relieved of the responsibility of editing the depositions of the witnesses from the possibly verbatim record which they have been able to take down.

I am aware that this in Scotland is a vexed question—particularly in the city of Glasgow, where judges and agents have more than a suspicion that they are equal in point of erudition, judgment, and forensic ability with the Supreme Court Judges in Edinburgh. The Inferior Court Judges object to having the labor of dictation thrust upon them where competent shorthand writers can perform the work of condensation equally well. They say that there are several drawbacks to which dictation is open—that it loses time and increases expense, because the saving of a few pages of evidence does not recoup the loss of paying agents, witnesses, and shorthand writers for the extra time required in waiting for the question and answer to be given and then turned into narrative form. The measure of time lost in this way is the interval required while the sheriff repeats or dictates the substance of what has been said. From 10 to 20 seconds are wasted after every answer, and that of course means, in the course of a day, a loss of hours. Another objection which the sheriffs make to dictation is, that it does not guarantee brevity, because if the sheriff labors to make the evidence brief he may make it obscure and inaccurate. Sheriff Lees, of Glasgow, to whom I have mainly referred for these objections, says :—" I can speak with certainty of two cases where I was able to recollect two items of evidence not recorded, and which could not afterwards be got, but which would have justified a different decision. It is easy on looking back to say that such and such matters should and should not have been noted, but it is not easy for a sheriff to forecast it; and it is a poor consolation to the party who has lost his case to learn that the desiderated items had been omitted lest the notes of the evidence might prove too long." The sheriff further points out that in questions which are unavoidably long, full of figures and technical terms, a great deal of time is wasted by having the question and answer converted into narrative bit by bit, and reading the recorded evidence to the witness to see that what he has said has been accurately translated.

But these difficulties in the matter of dictation have never been

encountered in the Court of Session. The judges have invariably acted on the assumption that the shorthand writers in the Supreme Court can cope in the matter of speed with the fastest speaker and the most intricate examination. I have heard it hinted that there are shorthand writers *and* shorthand writers even in the Court of Session, but any suspicion of incompetency has never been allowed to affect the prevailing practice. As it may have some bearing upon the working out of the same system in England in, I hope, the near future, I may here be allowed to outline the work of taking evidence upon which Scotch legal shorthand writers are employed. I have already explained that evidence is led before the Lords Ordinary in the Outer House. A proof may be taken before a Divisional Judge, but that is only in a case where evidence is required by the Division ordering the proof, in which case they delegate one of their number to take and report the evidence. Take, however, the case of an ordinary proof. The judge begins the day with Motions in the suits that depend before him; then, in some suits, he adjusts the Record, which is a statement by the pursuer or plaintiff, and a counter-statement by his adversary, with the pleas in law of the respective parties. These Motions and Adjustments are followed by judgments in any cases which the judge may have ready for advising. The proof which has been fixed for the day—fixed probably months before—then proceeds. It may happen that a debate is preferred to a proof, but in the general case the leading of evidence follows the business just enumerated. The shorthand writer having received his instructions the previous day, is in attendance watching the progress of business. His appointment, I may here remark, is not regulated by statute, which is a matter of regret, since the omission has led to heart-burnings and uncertainty and diversity of practice. Some judges think the appointment is in their hands, since they have to certify the notes. Others have as strong an opinion that so long as the parties provide them with a competent person they have no duty or authority to interfere. The difficulty formed the subject of questions in the House of Commons in the course of last session, but the Lord Advocate (who by the way, adds to his other accomplishments a knowledge of Pitman's system,) for reasons which it would be bootless here to enter upon, did not see his way to alter the existing practice.

The proof being called, the judge's clerk vacates his seat on the Bench beside the judge, which is thereupon taken by the shorthand writer, who, for the time being, is a sworn officer of the Court, and really acts as clerk to the judge. He records the evidence, question and answer. In trifling cases it is possible for a shorthand writer, who has a good head as well as a good hand, to condense as he goes. As long as the evidence proceeds at a rate not exceeding sixty or seventy words per minute, any intelligent shorthand writer should

be able to condense, that is, to translate the question and answer into the narrative form, as he goes; but this speed is invariably doubled, and the shorthand writer, therefore, finds it best to record the evidence, question and answer, as, of course, the exertion required for the speed leaves no room for the mental exertion of condensation. It is necessary, for other reasons, excepting in trifling cases, such as divorce cases and other undefended cases, to record both question and answer. For one thing, the shorthand writer in this way protects himself against the sudden irruption (shall I call it?) of a leading question. In a note of Scotch procedure, which I furnished to Mr Levy for his "Shorthand Notes," and which I find condensed almost beyond recognition, I said that, in the shorthand writer's transcript, no question is introduced unless the witness prevaricates, or unless the counsel puts a *leading* question. On turning to your copies of Mr Levy's book, you will find that he has, unfortunately, omitted the word "leading," which makes the sentence nonsensical. But, apart from that, in taking a rapid cross or even examination-in-chief, the shorthand writer never knows when a witness may begin to prevaricate, or when a counsel may spring a mine upon his adversary by means of a leading question; and, for these reasons as well as for reference, it is desirable, in the interests of all concerned to have a photograph of the examination as it proceeds. Of course, no competent person would think of recording the observations of counsel or of Judge (unless instructions have previously been given to that effect), except when an objection is taken to a question or a line of examination, and then all that is recorded is "Question objected to," and "Objection sustained" or "Repelled," as the case may be, some Judges adding the ground of repelling or sustaining. If a question is disallowed, the note, "Question disallowed," preserves the recourse of the party aggrieved. The question is usually so trifling, or sails so near the wind in point of competency, that it is rarely thought worth while to appeal upon a point of evidence. Such an appeal has, however, been taken and been successful—not in the middle of a proof which goes on to its natural termination, but at a subsequent stage of the case. In such an event, the Divisional Court may depute one of their own number to take the additional evidence, or they may send the case back to the Lord Ordinary.

Although Shorthand has been in use for so many years, and nearly the same men have been in practice for all or part of the time, and although confidence is established in almost all of them, it is difficult to invest Judges or even counsel with the idea that the shorthand writer wields a merciless pruning knife when he comes to write out his transcript. It seems to be thought that when the shorthand writer is busy taking his photograph of the proceedings, he must necessarily copy out everything that he busies himself with recording. This, in the mind of the nervous or inexperienced lawyer, gives rise to

much fear and trembling lest the record should be overloaded, or inartistic, and reflect discredit on himself. I have in my mind's eye a Judge who was a positive pain to every shorthand writer who went before him. He was constantly interfering, dictating patches of evidence, or confusing him by telling him to "Stop!" "Don't take that," and so on—interruptions quite unnecessary, which only tended to obfuscate the hapless official, and make the note fragmentary and not well-pieced. You can see that even without a lawyer's training, an intelligent shorthand writer must by reason of years of practice become familiar with the rules of evidence, and himself know what ought to be kept out as hearsay or repetition. Then, other counsel are constantly crying out, "Question and answer, please," when either an indirect, or evasive, or prevaricating reply occurs. Of course, counsel are anxious that the point which they are thus able to make against a witness in argument, owing to evasiveness, should not be lost through the passage being turned into narrative. But this scrupulosity is quite superfluous, because the shorthand writer almost mechanically gets to know that question and answer in such circumstances is the rule, and both agents and counsel may be sure that where the shorthand writer's interest and the interests of the litigants unite in requiring the adoption of question and answer, it would be folly to adopt any other form. Counsel most in practice leave the shorthand writer entirely to himself. They have had long experience of these officials, and leave them absolutely uncontrolled from beginning to end of a proof. The macer or officer of the Court calls out the name of each witness as he enters the box, and if any difficult names occur in the course of an examination, the shorthand writer finds them in the Record, or if they do not there occur, maps or other productions in process are at his command. But counsel in such cases are very sympathetic. They know his difficulties intuitively. How could it be otherwise since he commences the proof unfamiliar with any of its technicalties, whether it concerns a Highland boundary dispute, or a case of mechanics? It will be pleasing to practitioners on this side the border to know that the Scotch shorthandwriter meets with nothing but courtesy and consideration both from Bench and Bar.

Another difficulty which the shorthand writer has to contend with is the indistinctness arising from the shyness or vocal incapacity of witnesses. This difficulty is more imaginary than real. The witness box is within a yard of the shorthand writer, so that if anything fails to reach him—assuming him to have a well-trained ear, which is quite as essential as a swift hand—it is sure to have been missed by judge or counsel, who will, therefore, cause the witness to repeat.

But the great difficulty which a shorthand writer in his legal novitiate experiences, especially if he is nervous, is the reading of his note in the course of a proof without having had time to glance over

the passage. Such occasions are comparatively infrequent, but they do occur. You know the rule of evidence in regard, say, to conversations about a contract, or other subject-matter of dispute. The rule requires that if you mean to contradict one witness by the recollection of another you must lay your foundation by asking the man you mean to impugn what his own recollection was, supposing him to precede the other. That is the particular in which the shorthand writer's note is most commonly referred to. Counsel *will* dispute that such-and-such a question was put to Mr So-and-so. Then there is little trouble, except, perhaps, in picking out the particular passage from a mass of testimony. Where trepidation occurs (and it is only to the nervous man, if he is otherwise competent) it is in reading over page after page of a deposition where the whole tenor of an examination is disputed. I well remember the first time I had to do it. A young man, unaccustomed to hear his own voice in a public place, may well feel misgivings, but the dread usually vanishes when you find that your carefulness has produced legibility, and that you can astonish the hearers by the accuracy of your practice. Even if a stumble should happen, however, laymen ought to be informed that it is more formidable-looking than real. Suppose a shorthand writer stumbles in a passage (by stumbling I mean reading a passage so that the different parts do not hang well together) the hearer is apt to say, "Your notes are illegible, sir; you are incompetent." It is really not so, however; and here one observes the only disadvantage of verbatim note taking, especially when a rapid counsel is examining a rapid witness. You must note down not merely the connected parts of the man's testimony but his disjointed phrases, and even his interjections. Of course, if you read a disjointed sentence or two, suspicion is apt to be aroused as to the coherency of your own notes, and that annoys and worries, and is apt to confuse you. It is wise, therefore, in the case of a jumbled witness—and you can pretty well recall the characteristic of the witness before reading the passage aloud—calmly to run your eye down the disputed page, and gauge its character for connectedness or otherwise. Your own intelligence will do what is necessary in the way of dovetailing the fragments when you come to read it aloud.

I think I have stated what occurs in the practice of a shorthand writer in Court. His Court day ends with the proof, if the proof finishes before 4 o'clock. Four o'clock is the recognised hour for adjournment in protracted cases. He ascertains if a copy, or any part of the examination is required for the use of counsel, who may have been absent, on the following day. If so, and, indeed, whether or not, extension usually begins in the evening. If the transcript has to be finished before morning, he obtains the assistance of two or three shorthand clerks, to whom the day's proceedings are dictated in turns. There have in Scotland been few cases of extension direct from the shorthand notes. This, of course, is mainly owing to the narrative

form having been adopted, but even where the notes have had to be extended verbatim, as in some jury trials and submissions, it has not been considered safe to entrust shorthand clerks to read the characters of the shorthand writer. Besides, little, if any, saving of time would result from the exhausting and irritating work of correction. I hope it is not bad taste to say that I have had my notes extended by a clerk upon whom I could rely. However, the insuperable obstacle to that system in Scotland is the conversion of question and answer into narrative. That is a kind of work which never could be entrusted to clerks, however intelligent or competent they might be.

The only other remark I have to make on this branch of the subject is, that the same shorthand writer takes an entire proof. That arrangement, in my opinion, is open to grave objection, although the familiarity which the shorthand writer must thus acquire with the subjects examined upon is of obvious and admitted advantage. It is at the same time an unnecessary strain to put upon one man—to take notes from 10 to 4 for five or six days, as is not unfrequently the case, and to read over the whole of his notes the same night. Just observe what it involves. He must intelligently follow and note the evidence during the day. After an interval of an hour or two he must recast and dictate the whole of it. He must then revise the transcript—and all within 24 hours. Of course if he happens to be in practice single handed, and cannot call in the aid of others, he is helpless. He must attack the whole of the work; and I have known cases where that led to a physical break-down. But where a staff is at command I think a proof ought to be taken in turns, the duration of the turns to be regulated by the length of the case, and other considerations which would arise at the beginning, or which might be foreseen. This would make the work of the shorthand writer infinitely more easy, and less irksome, and the extension more rapid. The only objection to this plan is that certain repetitions might occur in the course of transcription which might look and be deemed stupid. But you must remember that at present where the extension is in the hands of one man it is impossible always to remember whether a witness who has been under examination for half a day or a whole day had already said this thing or that other. Besides, repetition is not always a vice. A witness may say substantially the same thing in entirely different ways, and the mere difference of expression might very much weaken or strengthen his previously recorded opinion, whatever that might be. Any difficulty on this head points in the direction of the adoption of the verbatim form instead of the prevailing narrative form. And as that is a point upon which there may properly be difference of opinion, I may be permitted to add that its adoption would relieve the shorthand writer of a responsibility for which he can hardly be said to be paid; as well as the labor which ought not to be thrust upon him, of framing, as he sometimes has to do, an artistic record of a bad examination. The majority of

counsel who have mastered their business present a witness's evidence with precision, accuracy, and order. I need not tell you that such counsel are the comfort of a shorthand writer's professional life. No more, on the other hand, do I need to ask what can equal the dismay or disgust with which a weary man toils through a blundering examination by an inexperienced, or stupid, or crotchety counsel. As I mentioned in a previous part of this paper, I have frequently heard animadversions upon the style of a proof, including reflections on the competency of the shorthand writer. If those shorthand reports to which I referred as illustrations had been done verbatim, the judicial strictures would have fallen upon the awkward or prolix questioner, and not upon the harmless scape-goat of a shorthand writer; because it is the case, although lawyers may not think it, that in the course of a proof where third or fourth-class men are employed, the scape-goat instinctively feels that many questions which are put are incompetent or irrelevant. He may not actually *know* that such is the case, since he cannot foresee the clinchers which the questioner may have in the background, and which might make the doubtful queries competent. All the same, and notwithstanding his instinct, he is obliged to record what he suspects is stupid or beside the question, just from fear of reflections afterwards. I have been informed that those who are loudest in their complaints about omissions from the notes are not the first class of practising lawyers. It is rarely that complaints are made. Perhaps I ought not to use the word "complaint" at all. If there is a *bonâ fide* omission, the memory of all parties is usually unanimous about it, although not always, and the attention of the shorthand writer being directed to the fact, he consults his notes, finds what has been lost, and supplies the omission; or if there is no omission, reads over the examination to those who consult him. The parties invariably abide by the result. I have heard the remark made, "Oh, this is not as the witness said it;" or, "This is badly taken down." The occasion has been rare, indeed; and I must own that even in cases where there was room for observation, Scotch counsel are, with few exceptions, too gentlemanly and generous to make an imputation which would hurt anyone practising alongside of them. Apprehensions as to subsequent reflections may exist with more reason in Glasgow than anywhere else. The sheriffs there are so much occupied with bankruptcy work, and other work, that they frequently leave the room where the proof is being taken and allow it to proceed in their absence; not until the end of it, certainly, but until their more urgent business is disposed of. But to that I have already referred.

The only other particular in which shorthand is employed is in the reporting of debates and decisions. If I may take a statement which appears in the *Phonetic Journal* for November, 1886, as authoritative, we have for a long time been ahead of England in these matters. I do not refer to the reporting of debates for the parties, which seems to

be exactly on the same footing in Scotland as in England—that is, optional at the instance of either or both litigants. In the matter of decisions, however, there is a difference. From a remote period judicial *dicta* have been preserved in what are called Session cases, which are reports compiled by junior counsel, and recognized as authoritative. These gentlemen, to whom all papers are boxed, sit in the two divisions, and have the same facilities accorded them for understanding and reporting a case as the judges have for deciding it. The use of all written opinions is by courtesy given to them. When a case is advised (which is our Scotch synonym for judgment) these gentlemen take notes in longhand of the unwritten opinions. As a person skilled in shorthand reporting, I must confess how often I have marveled at the accuracy of their longhand notes. One must not, however, attach too great merit to their faculty of grasping the gist of a judgment in view of their legal training and academic career, in which note-taking was one of the chief employments. Having gone through the curriculum myself, I can understand how to them the difficulties are abridged, if not altogether annihilated, which appal the lay reporter in encountering a strictly forensic harangue—in which, of course, abstruse and antiquated terminology is a chief ingredient. Being trained lawyers, their minds instinctively omit the unimportant or repeated utterances which occasionally fall even from the learned senators.

Well, soon after shorthand obtained a footing in the Courts, whenever there was a reasonable prospect of an appeal being taken against a judgment, agents considered it a prudent course to have the very words of the judges taken down. For many years the auditor or taxing master has considered this an expense which an agent is justified in incurring, and has allowed it against the unsuccessful party.

In the Divisional Court with which my clerkship connects me, I have, partly as a matter of practice and for other reasons, kept an uninterrupted record of decisions since 1881. Agents have come to know the fact, and about a third of the decisions of which I have thus taken verbatim notes have been required to be extended. The official reporters have by the agents in these cases been accorded the courtesy of the extended transcript, and my shorthand notes have thus—I daresay in a properly and necessarily attenuated form—been used for the purposes of review in the House of Lords, for the purposes of the Session cases, as well as for the private satisfaction of parties in litigations which dealt with matters of fact alone, and were not thought worthy of being included in the reports. The same remark applies to the notes of other gentlemen. Some agents attach great importance to having the *ipsissima verba* of the Judges taken down, so as to put the House of Lords in possesion of the considerations which influenced their decision. I have known cases in which they preferred the shorthand writer's report to a revised or polished edition by the Judge. I have also been given to understand that the House of

Lords, or particular Judges in that House, have preferred shorthand writers' notes to the authorised report in cases where the two versions were dissimilar. The cases in which the Judge revises after delivery are exceedingly rare, for if he do not write his opinion even in cases of conflicting fact, complex law, or difficult reasoning (which he usually does), he has ample confidence in the supervision which the law reporter will exercise over his coherence or volubility.

The state of matters in the Outer House in the matter of reporting judgments is somewhat different. Until 1880, the Lord Ordinary was in the practice of annexing to his interlocutor or judgment a note of his reasons. That note, along with the interlocutor, was put upon an interlocutor sheet, which formed a step or number in the process. That step of process was the only means which enabled reporters for the Press to get at an interesting decision, because the Judges, except in the simplest cases, made avizandum with all cases, that is to say, they took them to Chambers for consideration. About the year mentioned, there was a gradual accession to the number of reporters for the Press in the Law Courts. The clerks of Court found it inconvenient to allow a part of a process out of their hands into the hands of parties whom they might or might not know, who had no responsibility, and who they conceived had no legal right to borrow the process. After some disagreeable controversy, the Outer House Judges introduced a new heading into the rolls of Court, namely, "Cases for judgment;" and instead of annexing a note to their interlocutor as formerly, they now read in public Court the opinion they have formed upon the case put out for judgment. Their findings in law and fact are put upon the interlocutor sheet by the clerk at the table; but their written opinion is handed to their private clerks, who are entitled, as part of the emoluments of their office, to charge for a copy at the customary rate. When the opinion is not written, the Judge's clerks in some cases, in others the agents or attorneys of the litigating parties, employ a shorthand writer to take down the Judge's observations. The new custom, therefore, is in favor first of newspaper reporters, who have now no difficulty in getting simultaneously and without favor what they had formerly to beg; secondly, in favor of the Judge's clerk, whose property, by long-standing custom, the Judge's written opinion becomes; and thirdly, in favor of shorthand writers who are employed to preserve the remarks of the Judge, if his views have not been committed to writing.

In these remarks, I have endeavored to sketch the history and practice of legal shorthand writing in Scotland. I have left little room for what I may call the second head of my discourse, viz., the application of the Scotch system to existing circumstances in England. Here, of course, I labor under the disadvantage of ignorance, or at least unfamiliarity with the Metropolitan part of your system. Your County Courts I know quite well. The lessons which I deduce may,

therefore, appear crude, but it is for you to judge how far they may by combined movement or by the omnipotent motor of modern legislation—by which I mean agitation—be made feasible for the advancement of your interests in this country. In framing such a scheme as I take it the shorthand writers of England have in view, there are two interests to be kept in view—*first*, the interest of the country; and *second*, the interest of the shorthand writers. The interest of the country is to have its law business conducted expeditiously and economically. I have no hesitation in saying that a larger infusion of shorthand would materially aid in the removal of grievances in England, which are loudly complained of by the country and by the profession of lawyers alike. In Scotland we rejoice that our juridical system permits of a case being called and disposed of in a few weeks if not appealed, and within a few months if appealed to the Divisional Court. In England, as you are aware, a very different state of matters exists; and the most obvious defect that strikes a stranger is, that your judges are compelled to do inferior work. You put your judge upon the Bench to take notes for hours and hours on end, developing, amongst the other vices of your legal system, infirmities of body and infirmities of temper, which make him a much more fearful personage than he is intended or probably means to be. If Scotch judges had continued to take notes of evidence, you would long ago have heard a demand for an increased Bench in Edinburgh. The cry on the other hand amongst agitators in and out of Parliament is, that Scotch judges have too little to do. You may take it that there is as little in that as there is in most of the demands of cheese-paring politicians. But it is a fact that the Scotch judge has all along been averse to the drudgeries of his position. When there was no such thing as shorthand dreamed of, he delegated the taking of evidence to a trained depute, who was called a commissioner. He grants commissions to this day to receive documents from the havers or custodiers of them; and when, a quarter of a century ago, it was thought expedient that the judge of first instance should see the witnesses upon whose testimony he was to decide a case, and when shorthand had been found to be within the sphere of practical reforms, it was, in the unhesitating way which I have endeavored to bring before you, gladly adopted, and the judge had the advantage, not merely of seeing and hearing the witnesses, but he was relieved of all labor except the mental occupation of sift. His time, I do not hesitate to say, was saved to the extent of two-thirds. Upon this point I shall take the liberty of bringing before you the testimony of a judge who is very well qualified to speak upon the point. Sheriff Lees, of Glasgow, writing in June of the present year, says :—(3) "Recording the evidence in Shorthand is also a saving to the country. There are seven fewer sheriff-substitutes now than there were in 1874,

3. Scottish Law Review, June, 1887. Glasgow: Wm. Hodge & Co.

when the Act was passed; and had it not been passed, several more sheriff substitutes would have been required. It is safe to say that the Act has saved £8,000 a year in salaries. In ten years litigated cases in the ordinary Courts of the sheriffdoms of Scotland increased about 43 per cent. Naturally the increase was most marked in Glasgow, where it amounted to 121 per cent. . . . The case for the appellate Court is fairer, and better given. . . . The Supreme Court has a more detailed *résumé* of the evidence. It is beyond doubt that many a miscarriage of justice took place on appeal through the Court getting no adequate representation of the evidence from the meagre notes of the sheriff-substitute. More than anything else the use of Shorthand has led to the transfer of business from the Supreme to the more important local courts; for previously where a case was of sufficient value or importance to render a re-hearing probable, an agent or a client inclined to the Court which gave the fullest report of the evidence." The learned sheriff's views are given with reference to the Courts of which he is a not undistinguished ornament. But you can imagine, without my laboring the point, the enormous advantage it would be to your own judges if, instead of toiling at their notes of evidence, detaining counsel at a heavy price, and keeping witnesses from all parts of the country in attendance for days and days—if instead of that, competent stenographers were employed, and the evidence recorded with four times the speed at which a judge, verging it may be on senility, can crawl along his pages. How far the every-day work of your judges—the motions, and so on—corresponds to similar work in the Scotch Courts, of course I am not prepared to say; but it seems to me that proofs could be fixed for certain days in England as they are in Scotland, the length of them being estimated for, so as to allow them to proceed from day to day until the end is reached. The judge's clerk in Scotland makes it his business to learn from the agents the probabilities as to the duration of the proof, and allows a day or days for it accordingly. If it should break down in the middle or even on the morning of the first day, as unfortunately for the shorthand writers is not unusually the case, there is other current business, such as debates and so on, which can be resorted to. There is a Roll in Scotland called the Procedure Roll. Cases are put to that Roll to have points about the appropriate procedure in them cleared up. That Roll is made up on Friday and published on Saturday for the week following. No more than eight cases are thus put out for any one week, but any one case may be called at any moment in the course of that week. The Judge is indulgent when Counsel are otherwise engaged, on one of these cases being called; and if all the Counsel employed in all the cases happen to be employed elsewhere, he good-naturedly leaves the Bench and retires to his Chambers where other cases await his consideration. Thus you see there is no difficulty whatever from the point of view of

judge, counsel, or agents, in the universal adoption of shorthand writing in the recording of evidence. I venture to say that no lawyer in Scotland, to whatever grade of the profession he may belong, will hesitate to expand upon the enormous advantages which shorthand has conferred on the legal business of the country. It may be assumed that there is a class of practitioners in the London Courts who will strenuously oppose its adoption. They will say that there are two grave objections (1.) Increased cost. The shorthand writer's fee will have to be paid in addition to the fees of counsel and attorneys, and that although the case may be a short one occupying but a few hours. They will urge that this will form a hardship to poor litigants, and result in the infliction of injustice on a class who cannot afford even the present expense of a law plea. At the risk of wearying you, let us see how far this objection is substantial even if relevant to the case. You are aware that the vast bulk of the litigation I point at is of a purely speculative character to begin with, indulged in by the younger, the more impecunious, or the more doubtful class of attorneys, as the means of beginning a connection, of gaining experience, or of extorting a livelihood. Well, if the case lasts a few hours, the trifling fee of the shorthand writer is but a contemptible factor to add to the calculations of this gambling lawyer; but if with shorthand the case lasts more than an hour or two, it must not be forgotten that without Shorthand it would unquestionably extend to the second day, involving refreshers for counsel, fees for attorneys, and extra payments to the witnesses detained. If the case is a *bonâ fide* poor case, I assume that you have a Poor's Roll just as we have. It is the custom for a shorthand writer to take notes in a *bonâ fide* poor's case gratuitously, unless, indeed, the cost is recovered from the opposite party, or the friends of the litigant are able to pay his fee. The shorthand writer in Scotland in such cases reposes implicit confidence in his employer, and I understand that is seldom misplaced. Surely similar concessions would be made in this country.

(2.) The other objection is of a much more formidable character. I rather think it will prove the fatal objection, if the Courts here do not resort to compulsory shorthand writing. I refer to the apprehension on the part of solicitors and others that it would abbreviate their fees by shortening the duration of cases. It is, of course, in vain to deny that the days' fees which an attorney draws for particular cases must diminish if Shorthand is employed. I have, however, already pointed out that the profitable part of the employment of an attorney is in his preliminary work—precognitions, drawing up briefs, preparation for the proof, and so on. Now, suppose the case is a protracted one, one cannot conceive that the loss of half-a-dozen days' fees on a single proof could amount to an appreciable difference on the income of an attorney. I have already given you reasons why no consideration whatever need be given to counsel. Good counsel have already too

many briefs. They would have more if Shorthand were adopted. They would then be able to earn a larger income for less work.

While I make these observations, I cannot concede that the fees of any particular class constitute a relevant objection to a recognized reform. Vested interests have, of course, always to be considered; but the vested interest which will be affected here is the vested interest of a class, not of particular individuals. It is needless to enlarge upon the frequent spectacle of class interests going by the board where the convenience and profit of the country are concerned. But if the solicitors' interests are to be considered at all, there are reasons for concluding that they would be the gainers by this improvement, as they have undoubtedly been the gainers in Scotland. Observe, the constituency to be considered is a much larger one than the solicitors of London. English suitors, you must know, are indignant at the irritating and wholly unnecessary delays they have at present to suffer. We all call lawyers men of business; but I am safe to say that the delays to which they subject their clients—in England, at all events—would not be tolerated in any other trade, business, or profession under the sun. These delays would be obviated by compulsory shorthand writing in the recording of evidence. Let the judges devote their time to purely judicial work, and delegate the mixed manual and mental labor of the scribe to proper officials; and I venture to predict that there would then be neither demands for a re-inforced Bench, nor outcries about the intolerable delays and piddling procrastinations which disfigure the English system of jurisprudence. I imagine the solicitors of England and Wales are unanimous in invoking the aid of Shorthand. They would, with the quickened procedure, be able to take more work to London. They could assure their clients of expeditious and economic treatment when there. They would no longer be assailed by the recriminations of their clients when the Piper came to be paid. The Piper, too, would be much more easily paid. There would be fewer heavy retainers and heavy refreshers to heavy counsel. What happy lives the country lawyers would lead if the day dawned when they had not the dread of a bill or bitter reflections to haunt them! I daresay lawyers would make a little sacrifice, if sacrifice were required, to avoid that dreaded "dose." It is my contention, however, that there would be no sacrifice, but gain, to all concerned. As you make litigation cheaper, the ranks of those resorting to it will be indefinitely multiplied. Let me again invoke, in three sentences, the testimony of the gentleman I have named. He says: "The use of Shorthand in the Sheriff Court (in Scotland) has saved manual labor to the sheriff-substitutes—has saved money to the country by enabling it to do with fewer sheriff-substitutes—has made the cost of litigations less, has made them shorter—has greatly increased the chance of sudden decision, and has diminished the period of attendance required of witnesses; in short, everyone

seems to have benefited except two sets of persons. The sheriffs and sheriff-substitutes have much more mental toil; and agents, who look to litigation for a livelihood, have fewer hours of employment."

It only remains for me to indicate the aspects in which the shorthand writing profession should view a reform of this kind. In the first place, they should leave no stone unturned to secure the introduction of Shorthand into the Courts as the only method of recording evidence. The centre of the movement having that end in view ought to be the London Institute of Shorthand Writers. I think, wisely directed and well supported, it ought to be the generator and distributor of the corporate life of official Shorthand. As the guardian of the future of a useful, if not very cultured (although why not cultured as well as useful I fail to see) profession, the Institute ought to set its house in order for what that future may bring forth. Nay, more; it ought to set itself about to conceive, if it has not already conceived, as well as to formulate and execute the design. It ought to provide machinery for the training and testing and stamping of the raw material, so that its diplomas may be accepted by the Courts of the country as a guarantee of capability on the part of those seeking to serve their day and generation in this way. Then it ought to have a watchful eye on the individual interests of those who embark upon this profession—setting itself tooth and nail against jobs and monopolies, and the thousand other devices by which the rights and interests of deserving individuals are sacrificed to the cupidity or influence of their neighbors. Mr Reed informs me that it is a debated question under what financial or official arrangements shorthand writers should be employed in the London Courts. Some seem to favor the appointment of an official head, with two or three dozen assistants, thus making shorthand writers a branch of the Civil Service. I have a strong feeling against any arrangement of that kind. I think it would remove inducements, which competition ensures, to excellence and eminence—that it is calculated to place in the higher positions persons of mean stenographic capacity, and to spoil competent men when they obtain them. Competition is healthy in all the affairs of life, and there is no reason which I can see or imagine, why shorthand writing should be taken from the scope of legitimate rivalry, and placed beneath the upas tree of patronage or officialdom. It is quite different from ordinary Civil Service work, in which there seems to be a mean level of mediocrity. Every man employed in this work must be of more than average intelligence, besides having attained a high degree of proficiency in an admittedly difficult acquirement. Apart from that, the appointment of an official head, at liberty to choose his subordinates, or the farming out of the shorthand writing of the Courts to a particular firm must be characterized as unfair. It would, in my opinion, inevitably result in injustice to estimable and industrious individuals, whose only defect might

be the want of influence to oil the wheels of promotion. Competency, therefore, in my opinion, should regulate the patronage. There must be a large number of competent firms and men in this City. It would be nothing short of monstrous to close the door upon their prosperity by conferring a few high Civil Service appointments upon a comparatively few favored individuals. The object—apart from these pecuniary concerns—of the Institute ought also to be, to raise shorthand writing to the status of a profession. It is in vain to hope that it can ever, by itself, occupy the position of a learned profession, but it may be raised to the level of those occupations which rank next, and of which accountants are a fitting example. This is a part of the subject, however, which I have neither the time nor the inclination to expand. I shall content myself with the remark that I think the vocation deserves some such treatment as I have indicated because I know of few subordinate employments (I use the word "subordinate" as compared with the weighty responsibilities of the State and the Bar) more exhausting to mind and body than that of the humble individual who sits day after day and faithfully photographs the minds of all sorts and conditions of men upon the numberless problems in social and scientific life that come before our Courts of Justice.

Mr SPENCER HARRY: I should like to ask a question arising out of the very able and interesting paper which has been read by Mr Watt. The answer would be one of general interest. I understood him to say that in law cases in Scotland, corresponding to those which we call Nisi Prius cases, a shorthand note is taken as a matter of course, and that a longhand note is not taken by the Judges in Scotland, as is the practice here.

Mr WATT: There is a compulsory system of shorthand writing in Scotland in all cases in which evidence is taken, and the notes must be written out. The Jury system is a comparatively unimportant factor in our legal business; it is the exception and not the rule.

Mr SPENCER HARRY: It is doubtful in my mind whether any great economy of judicial power would be effected if such a course were adopted in this country; because, speaking of England alone, a large number of cases before the Courts, whether with or without a jury, are what one may describe as one day cases. A case may last only a few hours, and the judge having taken notes himself—to the retardation, to a certain extent, of the proceedings—is able to sum up the evidence at once to the jury, and the thing is done with. It would be a matter of general interest to know how, in Scotland, in the absence of notes taken by a judge, the judge manages to sum up the case and dispose of it at once, if he wishes to do so. The point is this—if the judge had to wait until the next day for a transcript of the shorthand notes there would not be the expedition which is desired.

Mr WATT: When I spoke of the Jury system I omitted to state that, although shorthand writing is not by Act of Parliament compulsory, yet some of the judges have made shorthand writing indispensable.(4) As regards the other point, namely, the acquiring by the judge of sufficient information for the purpose of his charge, I happen to know a good deal, because I occupy the appointment of clerk to one of the judges. His Lordship while the trial is proceeding—such is the way in which legal gentlemen can train their minds—is able to take a sufficient note for the charge without the slightest difficulty; indeed, if there were any such difficulty—the judge, inferior or

4. Since Mr Watt's paper was read, one of the judges (Lord Lee) has ordered in Jury Trials, where shorthand is employed, the notes shall be extended the same night for use the following day.

superior, ought not to occupy the position. At the same time in long trials, lasting, perhaps, six days, it has been found very necessary to have the transcript of a particular witness, or of the whole trial, put before the judge, but usually, when he has required that assistance, it has been with regard to the witnesses on whose evidence he intends to found his remarks.

Mr C. Button: Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,—I think probably the administration of justice in future years will owe a deep debt of gratitude to whoever conceived the idea of this Shorthand Congress. It seems that the real difficulty which we have to meet is, whether or not there should be an *official* system of shorthand writing. Without for the moment saying what I mean by "official," I venture to lay down this proposition, which, whether it be accepted now or years hence, will, I think, be found to be absolutely true; namely, that in all cases where the administration of justice has to do with the life, liberty, property, or character of an individual, there should unquestionably be a verbatim note taken of every trial connected with it. I say that unhesitatingly. I will mention two or three matters which have occurred within my own experience, for I am sure that Mr Tolcher, who has read an able and interesting paper, did not mean to do an injustice to any individual; but he omitted to mention that there is also an official shorthand writer in the Probate and Divorce Court. I can give you an instance where the system of official shorthand writing in that Division has been found to be of immense advantage, which could not, by any possibility, have been obtained without some such system. I can speak personally with regard to a case where, some years ago, a discussion took place with reference to a certain allowance that had to be made under a marriage settlement. No one was in Court to take shorthand notes except the official; and nothing whatever took place at the time of the motion for Variation of Settlements to cause any inquiry to be made as to the form of the order, until some seven years, or certainly five years, afterwards, when a question arose as to whether the words "during the life" were part of the judge's order. It was as to a sum of £100 a year. Those words were not in the order, nor on some of the briefs of Counsel; and the Registrar's note did not agree with either. It subsequently became a very important question, as it affected a young lady's future position in life. The official shorthand writer had to refer to his notes, and, without any difficulty, found the words required, and the order was amended accordingly. That made a difference of £100 a year in the income of the young lady; and that omission could not, by any possibility, have been set right had not a note been taken officially, and put by, with an index made, so that it could be at once referred to. No one had to pay for that—not even the individual most concerned. Let me give you a further instance which occurred within the last two years, showing the necessity of an official system. I am not saying what that system should be. There happened to be a suit for the perpetuation of testimony—I do not know so much about that as some of my brethren who have more to do with Chancery practice—and a question arose as to what occurred in a particular Court on a trial in the year 1878. No shorthand writer was present except the official of that particular Court. The note of the evidence was found, written out, sworn to, and the suit was carried on. That is an instance where the notes were not written out for a period of eight years. Then, further, I say this: Oftentimes, especially in long cases, witnesses make observations in their evidence of which no notice is taken by either side because their importance is not by any means seen at the time. I remember in a case not long ago, which lasted some seventeen days, a question arose as to whether or not an observation had been made by one of the witnesses with regard to a particular matter. It did not occur to anyone until some days after it took place, and then it became of the utmost importance to have the *ipsissima verba* of the witness, who was not under examination more than five minutes. There was the possibility of referring instantly to the shorthand note. It happened in that case that the official acted in a double capacity, and was taking notes for the parties as well as officially, and so it would not have mattered so much. There the official note again had to be referred to, and the great importance of the matter was commented on by the learned judge in his summing-up. I am only speaking of the absolute necessity of a note being taken of the evidence in every case. Still more important is it with regard to judgments. Many judgments are what are called "considered judgments," which are written, and to which my observations are not addressed; but a vast number are not considered judgments in the sense of being

written out by the judge himself after he has taken time to consider. A case may last an hour or two, or a day or two, and the judge may have made such valuable notes that he may be able (if it is a case without a jury) to give his judgment right off the reel, as we say. If there happens to be no shorthand writer paid by the parties, then, under the present system, except in the Admiralty Court and the Probate and Divorce Court, no note is taken of that judgment. Most important questions may arise afterwards, and if either of the parties wish to appeal, the Appellate Court cannot have a transcript of the judgment, as perhaps no shorthand note was taken in the Court below. We have heard much about transcripts, and there is that difficulty, but I do not believe myself in the necessity of every word uttered in a Court of Justice being written out. We have had it hurled in our faces by the judges, and especially by the late distinguished Master of the Rolls, that they have to labor through bushels of chaff in order to get a grain of wheat. There is not the shadow of a doubt about it. That remark is true. A vast amount of what is uttered in the witness-box is entirely useless, and if written out would only lead to an accumulation of waste-paper. But does anybody doubt, on the other hand, that there ought to be a note taken which can always be made use of if the necessity arises? I do think it is an absolute necessity that the shorthand writing system of the country should be altered, and that there should be an official system introduced by which notes should be taken in every case affecting the life, liberty, property, or character, of an individual.

Mr J. G. HODGES: Mr Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I wish very briefly to refer to a class of shorthand writers who have lately been imported into legal proceedings, but who, so far as I know, have not yet been brought under the notice of the Congress—I mean police shorthand writers. From a paragraph which appeared in the newspapers a few months ago to the effect that a class of the London constabulary was formed, under the tuition of one of the well-known advertising teachers of Shorthand, it may be presumed that it is in contemplation, should the occasion arise, to utilise notes by police shorthand writers in legal proceedings in this country—a course against which I, not only as a professional shorthand writer, but as one of the public, take this opportunity of entering my protest. (Hear, hear.) It is pretty well agreed by practical men who understand the subject, notwithstanding the numerous assertions to the contrary by advertisement and in other ways, that a long course of training (whether the period should be three, five, or even seven years I will not now stop to inquire) and constant practice are essential before shorthand notes can be reliable for professional purposes. The police, having regard to their ordinary duties, cannot devote the necessary time to the practice of Shorthand. The taking of *verbatim* notes of proceedings at public meetings is, speaking from an experience of many years, one of the most difficult and arduous duties which a shorthand writer has to discharge; first, owing to the speakers rising in different parts, some at a distance from the person taking the notes; and, secondly, as frequently happens, from the difficulty in obtaining the names. I say, therefore, that to prosecute persons for utterances at public meetings sought to be proved against them by shorthand notes taken by policemen was—I will not use any other term—a most mistaken policy, and I sincerely trust it will not be persisted in. It may be said that it is more economical to employ the police in lieu of professional shorthand writers, but I think the greatest economist would hardly grumble at the public money being spent in securing the best evidence for the proper administration of justice. I may claim to speak with authority on this subject, for in my early days when I was learning the art, I had considerable experience of public meetings in Ireland, because from 1843 to 1848 I was assisting my father, who was in those years the Government shorthand writer in that country. I can speak to the fact that, during the whole of his experience, extending from the Repeal agitation under Daniel O'Connell to the time of the Irish Rebellion in 1848 under William Smith O'Brien and others, professional shorthand notes of speeches were not only admitted in evidence, but, indeed, eagerly sought after by many of the speakers in marked contrast to their treatment of police notes; of this fact I could, if time permitted, give numerous instances. It is a matter of common knowledge that the police use every means in their power to make out as strong a case as they possibly can in support of the prosecution, whatever may be the crime that is charged; therefore, even assuming for the moment that they are competent note-takers, still

their notes will be open to suspicion. I will give just one illustration of what I mean. In a very inflammatory speech one of the most brilliant orators of the Young Ireland party, who was afterwards tried for high treason, made use of a sentence to this effect. "If the Government refuses to concede their just demands, then my advice to the people of Ireland would be, to up with the barricades and invoke the God of battles!" One can easily conceive, without any great stretch of imagination, a rapid speaker like the gentleman to whom I allude (and I recollect that he was a very rapid speaker indeed) being rather too much for a police shorthand writer to follow; and, therefore, if he could not catch the whole of the sentence I have just quoted, he would be very likely, in his zeal, to put down in his note-book as a tit-bit to report to the authorities, "My advice to the people of Ireland would be, to up with the barricades and invoke the God of battles," without the qualifying prefix; which would, of course, be an unfair report. I think it will be very interesting if some of our foreign friends who attend here as delegates from foreign countries will mention whether the police in any of those countries are made use of for a similar purpose. I have brought this subject before you, because I consider it is of extreme importance as affecting legal proceedings in this country.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: I think, Mr Chairman, it is greatly to be regretted that such a vastly important and extensive subject as that which has been brought before us this morning is not really capable of being discussed at greater length. As our time is short, I would appeal to any succeeding speaker to follow my example and be brief. It is not necessary to give us instances, with which we are all familiar, where shorthand notes have been of great service, in fact indispensable, to the administration of justice. But the regret I feel at not having further time for discussion is modified by the fact that we have had such a very able and exhaustive paper from our friend Mr Watt, of Edinburgh, which leaves very little for any of us to say upon the subject. It seems to me that the whole of the concurrent testimony during this Congress, by those who know the practical working of shorthand writing—including one of the brightest ornaments of the English Bar, Sir Charles Russell, and also Mr Crump, Q.C., who had to respond for the Bench, which put him, for the time, in the place of a learned judge—is to one effect, namely, that it is absolutely requisite for due economy and the conduct of public business, or judicial business, that there should be some system of compulsory shorthand writing in all cases tried by a judge, with or without a jury. The question of official shorthand writing has cropped up indirectly; and it is very desirable that we should bear in mind what we really mean by it; because in the remarks made by Mr Button, the words "official shorthand writer" occurred two or three times, and in one definition that might be given of that term no doubt he is correct; but other definitions of the term, more strictly accurate in my opinion, would not include the gentleman to whom he referred. I think, taking Sir Charles Russell's remarks, or those of anyone who has dealt thoroughly with the subject, we may come to this conclusion—that an official shorthand writer is not the end aimed at, but it is simply the means to attain an end, that end being to have a record taken, by thoroughly competent men, of what takes place. If it is arranged by the proper authorities that that shall be done, then, in one sense, that is official shorthand writing; and that, I am persuaded, is the real intention of Sir Charles Russell; and I am sure it is of our friend Mr Watt. The details of how that shall be arranged, without detriment to the interests of those who are engaged in the profession, is a matter which would take too long to go into now, and it would hardly be the best way to do it in such an assembly as this. No doubt the Institute will take due care, as far as possible, to protect the interests of all its members, in any movement that may take place (which this discussion will, I am sure, tend to initiate), for ensuring the result which has been referred to—that a note shall be taken in every case.

Mr MATTHIAS LEVY: Mr Chairman,—I had intended to make some observations on the general questions raised, but I join with my friend, Mr Theodore Wright, in most sincerely deploring the limited time that is at our disposal for discussing, what, I venture to say is, if not the most important question, certainly one of the most important that has been, or can be, raised at this Congress. The very point which is of vital importance to the whole of the Shorthand profession in London, and, I may say, in England, is the question that Mr Button carefully and advisedly abstained

from putting, and, of course, equally advisedly abstained from answering. He carefully abstained from saying what is an official shorthand writer. But that is the question which I venture to put—What is an official shorthand writer? And I follow that up by another question of equally great importance. Supposing that a system of official shorthand writing is proposed, I should be glad to know whether it is intended that the shorthand writers should be paid by the State or by the individual parties? There is also the question—Whether the official shorthand writer should be permitted to take private business? That involves a question for the consideration of the Commission now sitting with regard to the Civil Service and the question of trading. That, of course, is not for this Congress; but there is the question whether, supposing a shorthand writer to be appointed to a given Court to take the cases in that Court, he should be permitted to take arbitrations, and other matters, with which we are all familiar? I say again, I regret there is not time to discuss that question, because it is one which, if I may say so, this Congress ought to thresh out. This question of official shorthand writers has received considerable attention at the hands of the Incorporated Law Society, a body well able and competent to deal with the matter. I will read to you the resolution which they arrived at, which will give a good idea of the state of things existing. The Committee of the Incorporated Law Society reported as follows:—"It appears to your Committee that official shorthand writers, at a fixed salary, could scarcely be trusted to execute the work of transcription with the expedition frequently required (for instance, for counsel's use next morning), and that, in this respect, the present state of things should not be altered; and, at the same time, they think that the shorthand writers employed in Court should possess a recognised status, and be furnished with proper certificates of competency." Then they passed a further resolution which I need not more particularly refer to now. I would also allude to the want of accommodation in our Courts. That has been dealt with very fully, and I hope it will go forth from this Congress that one of the points that should be considered with regard to shorthand writers is, that they should have better accommodation than that which is now provided for them. I say that, because, in this matter, the exception proves the rule—that when there is an important case tried, such as the Tichborne case, for example, special seats are provided for the shorthand writer; and that is also the case in Parliamentary Committees, and other instances with which we are familiar. Then I wish to allude to another point, and that is, with regard to the judges. Sometimes Commissions are appointed, or a Committee of Judges sits, to consider the practice in the different Divisions of the Courts of Law; and I would humbly suggest that if, when they deal with the question of shorthand writing, as they occasionally do, they would do the members of the Shorthand profession the honor to consult them with regard to the matter, they might obtain some little information that would be of assistance to them. I am alluding to a recently published *Blue-Book*, entitled, "High Court of Justice (Chancery Division)" with regard to the practice in the Chancery Division of the High Court, and the appointment of a new judge. One knows very well that several questions were put to many eminent solicitors with regard to shorthand writing, in order to ascertain their opinions; and, I suppose, very few persons are more competent than solicitors to give such an opinion; but, I think, it would have been advisable if some experienced shorthand writers had been asked their views upon the matter. Occupying the position of honorary secretary to the Institute of Shorthand Writers practising in the Supreme Court of Judicature, I may say that the examinations now in force are of a very practical character, especially the test in note-taking; and no gentleman is admitted a member unless he has shown his thorough competency to take notes in Court. There is another matter to which I should like to allude, and that is, the desire of the Institute to obtain a Charter. Mention has been made of accountants, and, I believe, "chartered accountant" is a well-known and recognised term. I should like to see the day—and I hope it may not be far distant—when we shall have something of a similar character, enabling us to describe ourselves as Chartered Shorthand Writers, or some such term, because it is a fact that every youth who can write Shorthand, is now in the habit of calling himself a shorthand writer, and in this country he is at liberty to do so. Most gentlemen have lads in their office who can scribble down a few words in Shorthand; and we see books in the street to be sold at the price of one penny each; and thus by learning the alphabet (no matter what the system may be), anyone can call

himself a shorthand writer. I do not enter into details, but I seriously call attention to these matters because they are important. Then, Sir, there is only one other matter which I desire to mention. I believe that shorthand writers in this country are unanimously of opinion that monopoly, or anything in the nature of monopoly, is very objectionable—whether it be a system of official shorthand writing, or a system by which one particular man is to practise to the exclusion of everyone else in any Court. That is quite contrary to the principles which govern us in this country.

Professor EVERETT: I wish to say a few words on one subject which has been alluded to, namely, police reporting. It may interest some gentlemen to know that in our Exhibition there are some good specimens of police reporting, shewing that successful work was done by one, and the same man. There is one specimen of a verbatim note of a speech by Mr Sexton, M.P., which is so well written that I could read it myself and make a transcript with a very few mistakes, although I am not familiar with his handwriting. There are other specimens of notes, which were written in a heavy rain and sleet, standing without an umbrella. He had not the advantage of having a good-natured man near him, on whose back he could rest his book. He was called upon to read from those notes in a Court of Justice, and he read them fluently.

Mr SHELLARD: It appears from the answers which we have received from correspondents abroad, and also from the papers which have been read, that there is a difference in the accommodation which is provided in the Law Courts for official shorthand writers and reporters. Something has been said about the duties of those two classes—professional shorthand writers and reporters. For my part I think that the shorthand writers have better opportunities of hearing in Courts of Law than reporters; and they have the opportunity of consulting the authorities quoted, or sections of Acts of Parliament, which reporters cannot do very well, except occasionally. Therefore reporters who have to take a condensed note, and make a condensed report, are in a dilemma sometimes as to the meaning of certain things, especially if they are unfamiliar with abstruse law questions. When a reporter has done his best, and produced a very fair summary of a case, he may, when he returns to the office, have instructions from the sub-editor to condense it further, which involves not only re-writing, but many important points being left out. As to hearing, I think the acoustic properties of our Law Courts are abominable; and wholesale alterations in the structure of the Courts and the position of the seats are required. I do not know whether the suggestion may be accepted. I may mention that sometime ago in a western city with which I am acquainted the seats of the reporters in the Council chamber were put at the back of the members, and the reporters could not hear at all. They spoke about the removal of the seats many times, but no notice was taken of the application to remove them. The reporters went out, and would not come back; and then the seats were altered. The seats have since been placed on each side of the Mayor, so that there is no difficulty in hearing. As regards the saving of time by shorthand writers being engaged in Courts of Justice, I have frequently been in a Court where a trumpery case has taken the whole day; and I can confidently say that the case might have been disposed of in less than an hour—one hour as against six or eight—if there had been an official shorthand writer. The judge is obliged to stop the witness under examination, and time is also wasted while he is deciphering his notes, and delivering a long and elaborate address to the jury. I trust these matters will receive attention at the hands of the Congress, and that strong representations may be made which will have the desired effect in the proper quarter.

The CHAIRMAN: I may say that shorthand writers quite appreciate the difficulties which the reporters for the Press labor under; but as regards the Courts of Law in London, the seats of the reporters are exactly the same as those of the shorthand writers; we share them together.

Mr J. F. DUGGET: It is very good of Mr. Hodges to bring forward the subject of Police reporting; and it certainly is one upon which the Congress might very well express an opinion. An unfortunate man might be tried for his life on the evidence of an utterly untrained person in the shape of a policeman—when I say "untrained,"

I mean untrained in the sense of being a shorthand writer. A man might stand, and very likely will stand, in very peril of his life in these momentous days, looking at Irish affairs, on the evidence of an unskilled, uneducated—in the sense in which I understand education as applied to shorthand writing—and untried man; and, more than that, a man who is employed by the Government directly as an agent for putting down rebellion in certain parts of the State. I think it is a mistaken policy on the part of the Government to introduce this new-fangled idea; and I sincerely hope, as a member of the British public, and not only as a shorthand writer, that their error may be seen, and, in future, avoided. With regard to the appointment of official shorthand writers, we have heard many observations from gentlemen who have more or less knowledge of the subject; but there are certain things which the Institute of Shorthand writers should do, namely, bring the subject of shorthand notes before the judges. They should deal with the question of allowing shorthand notes by the Taxing Masters, which is a most important thing. The Taxing Masters have no power under the present regulations in our Courts, to allow, except in a very few cases, notes of evidence or arguments. They have only the power—and that power must be given them directly by the judge—of allowing the notes of judgments. In such a state of things it is obvious that a solicitor will not give instructions to have shorthand notes taken, and transcripts supplied, when they are perfectly insecure as regards payment. If the Taxing Master will not allow the costs of shorthand notes as between party and party, a solicitor naturally says, "I cannot get the costs of shorthand notes allowed, and, therefore, I cannot order them, because I run the risk of having to pay for them myself; I cannot make my client, under the present system, answerable for them because there is a rule by which I must get a written authority before the shorthand writer is instructed, and if there is no written authority the payment for the transcript can be repudiated." I say that the Institute of Shorthand Writers ought to send two or three delegates to meet the Committee of Judges to state the manner in which we are prejudiced—and unfairly and bitterly prejudiced—by the rules that now exist. It is absurd to waste words in deliberating whether one system is good or another system is bad; or whether a certain man can take a good note or a bad one; or whether official shorthand writers should be considered as being in the position of clerks to the judges, which I am afraid will very likely take place if once official appointments are made; but strike at the state of things which affects your interests; strike at this unfair and improper rule that a solicitor conducting a heavy case, in the strain and heat of the trial, is to be told, "If you instruct a shorthand writer without getting your client's verbal or written instructions, you will be responsible for the cost." I say, if the Institute wishes to do the profession good service it will go before the judges and represent that to them; and I believe that the majority of English judges, with that love of fairness which, I will say, characterises the Bench of this country generally, will accede to our prayer, and will say that it is an unfair and unjust rule under which the shorthand writers of this country have labored for so long a time. A question of this sort should not be shelved, and there should be time given for considerable discussion on a matter so important to us as a body. It is all very well for men who hold official positions, and who have an immense monopoly, and who put thousands a year of public money in their pockets by employing others able to do the work, to say, "No, let things alone; let them go on as they are." I say that the time has arrived now when people should stand up and say that the rules are unjust. Shorthand notes are an absolute necessity. A learned judge in the Court of Appeal may say, "I want a note of the judgment;" and the judgment is produced to him. The notes of the evidence may be required for the purpose of the appeal; and it is a gross injustice that when the costs are applied for, the Taxing Masters of this country should be allowed to say, "No, we care nothing for you; we will not allow them;" and if you go to the judge he will say he has no power even if he has the inclination, as he sometimes has, to interfere with the discretion of the Taxing Master.

Mr T. A. Reed: There is evidently a great desire that this matter should be discussed somewhat further, and it is, of course, the wish of the Committee to meet the views of the Congress. We have Saturday morning for our concluding proceedings; and as the programme was arranged in that way to give an opportunity for the discussion of any matter that it might be necessary to adjourn, I would suggest that we postpone the discussion of this subject until Saturday.

Mr W. H. GURNEY-SALTER: I beg to second Mr Reed's motion; and in doing so I wish to say that the Committee, in arranging the program, always considered this would be one of the most important discussions at the Congress, and we intended that plenty of time should be allowed for it; in fact, Saturday morning was considered as an outlet for such further discussion as might be thought desirable.

Mr H. H. TOLCHER: I would suggest that the important subject which Mr Hodges has brought forward might also be further discussed on Saturday.

Mr JANES: I may say a word with regard to police reporting. I remember a police reporter stating, on cross-examination, that his notes were not *verbatim*, and when it was pointed out to him that the sentences were complete, he said he made it a rule to finish one sentence before he began another. I say that a note so taken is thoroughly untrustworthy for a criminal prosecution.

SHORTHAND IN THE GERMAN LAW COURTS.

By Herr Otto Müller, Assessor of the Berlin Kammergericht.

In discussing the subject "Shorthand in the German Law Courts," it cannot be our task to expound to an assembly of Shorthand writers the manifold advantages to be derived from a general use of Shorthand i the administration of justice. All the gentlemen present are, no doubt, convinced that Shorthand is of the greatest value, both to those administering the law—the judge, the advocate, and the solicitor—and to all the parties concerned. It is, in fact, the most likely means of doing away with the complaints so frequently heard (which are unfortunately very often justified) of miscarriage of justice through the evidence being insufficiently recorded; moreover, it helps to accelerate the proceedings, and, consequently, to save a great deal of costs both to the parties engaged and to the State. On all this I need not dwell.

As there are no official Shorthand writers yet in the German Law Courts, there is, of course, no answer to the questions put by the Committee of this Congress in their circular as to the application of Shorthand in Law Courts, as far as Germany is concerned; and I must, therefore, confine myself to the following points :—

(1.) Giving a statement of opinions in German law circles as to the application of Shorthand in the Law Courts; and

(2.) Stating the nature of the efforts made to introduce Shorthand into the administration of justice.

I. With regard to the first point, I am sorry to say the overwhelming majority of the German *lawyers* are inimical to the use of Shorthand officially in the law proceedings, the principal objection being found in the circumstance that the judges who, it must be admitted, seldom know Shorthand themselves, would not be able to control the evidence taken down in Shorthand; and, furthermore, the opinion prevails that through the compulsory recording of the proceedings in Shorthand, the principle of oral proceeding, which is in

force in Germany for civil and criminal cases, would be impaired, if not frustrated.

This question has also been dealt with by the *Deutsche Juristentag*, an association formed by the most eminent theorists and practitioners of jurisprudence, who assemble once a year to discuss important juridical questions.

The first debate on this subject took place at the meeting of 1867, in Munich, in consequence of a memorial laid before the Assembly by the Münchener Stenographen Centralverein. The second discussion formed part of the business of the said Association at the meeting of 1876, at Salzburg, where the principal question discussed was whether it should not be laid down by law that the judge's address to the jury at the Criminal Assizes be taken down by Shorthand writers, with a view to the possibility of a new trial being necessary, on account of an error made by the judge in charging the jury. On this occasion, particularly, the then Chief Counsellor of the Appeal Court (now President of the Senate, Lamm of Dresden) pleaded in favor of Shorthand; stating, as his opinion, that everybody belonging to the legal profession should know Shorthand; and stating further:—"During the many years I officiated as District Judge, and later on as President of the Criminal Assizes, I never conducted a main proceeding otherwise than on the basis of a Shorthand record; and so Shorthand has been my always-reliable companion at hundreds of trials." This question was thrown open to debate for the third time at the "Juristentag" during the meeting at Würzburg, in 1885. But all these discussions on this subject led to no result.

Of the German *University teachers of the Law*, as far as is known, the following have declared themselves in favour of the application of Shorthand in Courts:—Professor Dr SCHULZE, of Heidelberg, who pointed out as beyond doubt that there was a wide field open for the employment of Shorthand in connection with the administration of the law; further, Professor Dr VON BAR, of Göttingen, who expects yet from Shorthand extraordinary results, principally in the Civil and Criminal Proceedings; lastly, Professor Dr WACH, of Leipzig, who, in a lecture on Civil Processes, said:—"It is desirable that every judge should know Shorthand; for it often happens that he has to write down quickly, and verbatim, an important statement, and in that case Shorthand would prove a great advantage."

It may also be mentioned here that in 1885, at Berlin, during two meetings held by *lawyers and laymen*, the question of the application of Shorthand in the administration of justice was discussed. In the beginning of October the *Verein für Rechtsschutz and Justiz-Reform*, after a paper read by the solicitor Wrechner on "The necessity of taking down in Shorthand the evidence in the main proceeding," passed the resolution:—"That in the interest of a prompt and rightful administration of the law, a verbatim record of the evidence is

necessary; and that to this end officials taking down the evidence in Shorthand should be instituted or suggested." Further, the *Stolzische Stenographen-Verein of Berlin*, after a paper read to them by the Solicitor Dr SAUER, declared in a resolution "the introduction of Shorthand into the Law Courts to be desirable;" and expressed the opinion "that as a commencement a trial could be made at the Assize Courts."

At the same meeting the Solicitor MUNKEL, member of the Reichstag, and Landtag, gave as his own ideal that all judicial proceedings should be taken down in Shorthand; and expressed his readiness to take an active part in the efforts to be made to introduce Shorthand into the Law Courts.

Before entering into a description of this movement itself, I may be allowed to mention, from the practice of the German Law courts, some *sensational cases* in which Shorthand writers were employed to take down the evidence. I name the trials of Count Arnim, of Bishop Brinkmann, of Münster, and of Professor Graefe; the proceedings against the Berliner Central Strassen Verein; the action brought by Prince Bismarck against the Rittergutsbesitzer von Diest-Daber, and of quite recent date, the two trials for high treason before the Reichsgericht, at Leipzig (of Koechlin-Claudon, and of Klein and accomplices). The two last-mentioned trials were reported by Shorthand writers (two Parliamentary reporters and an official from the Foreign Office, all Stolzeans), by order of the German Foreign Office.

II. In contemplating the *efforts made for introducing Shorthand into the Law Courts*, and the *results* of these efforts, we have to mention the debate of the Landtag of Saxony, in 1866, on a motion of the Deputy, Solicitor Schreck, to use Shorthand in the taking of evidence. The Second Chamber had at first resolved upon referring the motion to the State for consideration, but afterwards agreed to the resolution of the First Chamber to let the matter stand over for the present; in plain English, the matter was shelved.

Further, in the Committee of the Reichstag, which had to deliberate on the *German Law Courts Organisation Bill*, and *Civil* and *Criminal Proceedings*—by the enactment of these three laws (on the 1st October, 1879) the Civil and Criminal Proceedings have been made uniform for all Germany—the Deputy Herz moved an amendment § 146 of the Civil Code, "To reserve to the legislation of the respective countries to admit sworn Shorthand writers to take down the proceedings instead of the protocol written by the Recorder." But this amendment was rejected by the Committee, and it was principally the Deputy, Dr. Lasker, who caused its defeat.

Since then, in Germany, the efforts to introduce Shorthand into the Law Courts were abandoned, until recently, in consequence of several sensational trials, the want of a more accurate registration of the evidence made itself felt; and particularly the German Minister of Justice directed by a decree in the Ministerial Journal on law matters

(*Justiz-Ministerialblatt*) the Presidents of the Law Courts to pay attention to such more accurate registration.

This fact was the signal, as it were, for the Presidency of the "Stolzesche Stenographen Verband," and the Managing Committee of the "Deutsche Gabelsberger Stenographenbund" to address jointly a petition to the German Reichstag. By presenting a suitable memorial, the said two bodies begged the Reichstag to effect

(1.) That the learning of Shorthand, and the acquiring of proficiency in writing Shorthand, should be recommended to the clerks.

(2.) That, where Shorthand writers were already existing among the staff, the taking down by Shorthand of dictated protocols may be allowed.

(3.) That, where according to § 273 of the German Penal Code a verbatim record should be considered necessary by the presiding judge, this protocol should be made with the assistance of Shorthand writers.

This § 273 of the German Penal Code runs in its third clause as follows:—"If it is important to ascertain an incident in the main proceeding, or the wording of evidence or a statement, the President has to order its being completely written down and re-read aloud."

The third point of the proposition made in the petition contemplated therefore a completion of this paragraph somewhat in the sense of the paragraph 271 of the Austrian Penal Code, which runs thus:—

"If the President or the Court of Justice think it desirable, he may order that all evidence and statements be taken down in Shorthand. On the wish being expressed in time by a party concerned, and on the costs being previously deposited, this must be done *always*. But the stenograms have, within 48 hours, to be transcribed into ordinary writing, to be submitted to the judge for examination, and to be affixed to the protocol."

This petition has met with the worst imaginable fate, for it has been declared by the Committee of Justice unfit for being discussed in pleno for the following reasons:—

"In so far as these propositions can be dealt with only by way of legislation of the *respective countries*, the *Imperial Parliament* is incompetent to decree on this point; and in so far as the protocols prescribed by the laws of the *Empire* are concerned, such propositions can be met only by an alteration of these laws; and for such—setting aside the difficulties arising from the existence of two different Shorthand systems—there is no sufficient necessity."

This resolution of the Committee has been accepted without discussion by the Reichstag in its sitting of the 18th June last.

It is now intended to repeat the petition in the next Session, expect-

ing a better result if it be laid before the House at the commencement of the Session, provided that from the outset, a number of members can be induced to give their support to the measure. It is to be hoped that more success will be obtained, but there is reason to fear that also the repeated exertions will remain fruitless; for—setting aside the reasons already adduced, which the overwhelming majority of the jurists prefer against the use of Shorthand in the Courts of Justice in the Parliamentary and Government circles, above all things, objection is taken to the existence of so many different Shorthand systems, each of which claims superiority.

Before deciding upon steps to be taken for introducing Shorthand into the higher schools, or into the Law Courts, matters apparently are allowed to stand over to see which of the rival systems will carry the victory.

This drawback of so many different Shorthand systems existing in Germany has also been expressly pointed out by the Reporter to the Committee of Justice of the Prussian House of Commons, viz., by Landgerichts-director Jensch, when he made his report in the sitting of 2nd March this year, on a petition laid before the House by the Stolzische Stenographenverein of Berlin. This petition contained the proposition:—

"That the Diet may resolve to prevail upon the Government of Prussia to introduce Shorthand into the Administration of Justice."

But the Committee of Justice did not consider this question mature, and moved to pass over the petition, and to proceed with the order of the day. The House acceded to this motion without further discussion.

The continued failure of these petitions is partly explained by the circumstance of Shorthand having too few followers yet in the influential circles, and by the efforts for introducing Shorthand into the Law Courts having only recently become more general and earnest. It is to be hoped this movement will be persisted in, even though repeated failures should result. For, no lawyer who has fully recognised the value af Shorthand can doubt for a moment that Shorthand is of extraordinary value for the Administration of Justice, and an important factor for furthering the rightful administration and expedition of the Law.

Mr Mehlhaus: I may say, with regard to the evidence given in the German Law Courts being taken *verbatim*, or only a condensed report being made, as far as I have been able to ascertain (although I am not a lawyer myself), if the proposed change had been carried out, there is no doubt the proceedings in the Law Courts would have remained about the same as now, only instead of longhand, shorthand would have been used; and that would mean an immense advance on what we have now in the German Courts. In civil proceedings the judge dictates the protocol to the clerk, and in criminal proceedings the record consists of what, in his own judgment, he thinks fit for recording, and accordingly writes down. This will remain practically the same if the proposition of appointing a shorthand writer be carried later on. It is not a right proceeding that the judge should dictate the protocol, or that it should be written in that way, but it is the custom; and in law matters it is not so easy to make any alterations in Germany, and it is the same here, no doubt.

The CHAIRMAN: May I ask you whether the view I took the opportunity of expressing yesterday has been pressed upon the German Government—that it is not so much a matter of system as of the men who write it? I fail to see why the rival positions of systems should affect shorthand writing in any way.

Mr MEHLHAUS: I think the obstacle is not really so much the question of which system to select as a desire to defer the question. They do not want to be bothered.

Dr GANTTER: I must ask you to excuse me, gentlemen, if I have not understood all that has been spoken here, and if I cannot give you such an explanation as you would expect from your German colleagues. Some gentleman asked a question as to police reporting in Germany. You have heard that in Germany legal reporting or legal shorthand writing occupies a very different position from that which it occupies in England. We have reporting in our Reichstag as well as in the Chambers of the different States, but we have not yet any authority as regards legal reporting or legal shorthand writing. Perhaps it is because our newspapers are not on the same level as yours are in England. In great law cases the newspapers may think it necessary to have shorthand writers in Court; but for the common cases our newspapers have no room—they are small matters. The Government have no money to pay for shorthand writing. As to Police reporting, it is the same thing. There are some local governments who instruct their policemen in Shorthand, and send them to meetings to note subversive speeches made by some politician of position. Those policemen are not obliged to give the speeches *verbatim;* they have only to note some subversive expressions of the speaker; and for that purpose they have to learn Shorthand. There are other local governments who send stenographers to these meetings; and I have often been sent as an official to the meetings of the Democratic party to take notes, and I have, of course, taken *verbatim* notes of the whole of the proceedings at the meeting. Matters as regards the Police and the Government are so very different in Germany from that which you have in England, that you cannot compare them. I am afraid, also, that we German stenographers are not sufficiently informed on the subject to venture to debate with you which is the best method of police reporting and legal shorthand writing.

Mr W. H. GURNEY-SALTER: Mr Chairman, I should like to make one or two remarks on the subject of reporting in the Courts of Germany. A knowledge of Shorthand appears to be more widely extended in Germany than in England; it is possessed by almost every educated man; and yet shorthand writing has not attained the same position of credit and esteem—at all events in a Court of Law—as we know it has attained in this country. We have been told to-day that the question is actually being debated in Germany at this moment whether the judge shall be allowed to dictate his notes to a shorthand writer; and that is positively the extent to which the shorthand writers in Germany are now hoping to bring the recognition of Shorthand in their Courts. They have not got so far as that the shorthand writer may be trusted to take down the judge's notes—a totally different duty from that which we understand as belonging to an official shorthand writer. We mean, when speaking of an official shorthand writer, one who takes a verbatim note of the evidence given by the witnesses, the observations of the judge, or the judgment direct, and on his own responsibility, and not what I should call a shorthand clerk, to write down from dictation. Therefore I think we should rather strengthen our German friends in this matter by saying that we feel convinced from our experience (and we feel sure that that experience would be confirmed by lawyers if they were here to express their opinion) that no harm whatever results from the shorthand writer being allowed to take down the proceedings exactly as they occur; and that with regard to such a small measure as is now asked for in Germany it is astonishing to us that it has not been granted. But if it is granted, it may be a stepping stone to a much better recognition of Shorthand than has hitherto been asked for in the German Courts of Law.

Mr MAX BÄCKLER: Gentlemen, I may say that that which Mr Gurney-Salter has pointed to is our aim, and what we have demanded from the Government and from Parliament is only the beginning. We must make a small beginning; and when the first step has been taken our judges will see the great advantages

of the system, and then they will go further on. Mr Gurney-Salter has said that Shorthand is wider spread in Germany than in England. That is not so. We have more Unions than you have in England, it is true; but we have more shorthand writers of the kind who know a little of Shorthand but cannot practise it. I am astonished to see so many aged men in this assembly who are still practising in England. If you will come to Germany you will see only a few persons who earn their livelihood by shorthand reporting.

Mr LAWSON: May I ask Mr Watt whether, in point of fact, the judge relegates the matter to the shorthand writer, and only has a transcript afterwards, if required; or, if any difficulty occurs, does he refer to the shorthand writer?

Mr J. C. WATT: In the Court of Session the practice has been for the judge to trust implicitly to the shorthand writer. The Act regulating the procedure is permissive. The judge may dictate if he chooses, and in difficult passages—not of evidence, but dealing with technical points of law—he is in the habit of dictating, perhaps, a sentence or so; but as regards evidence, the judge has more reliance on the expertness and intelligence of the shorthand writer than on his own memory or apprehension of what is said. There is one exception, and that is in the inferior Courts. The Act regulating the practice in the inferior Courts in Scotland makes distinct provision that the judge shall dictate the evidence to the shorthand writer. In practice that has been found in Glasgow utterly unworkable, and the judges in the inferior Courts run the risk of censure from the Supreme Court every day of their lives rather than have the labor of dictating the notes. But in the country towns dictation is resorted to, and some sheriffs have acquired great expertness in the matter of dictation; and, I dare say, that with the kind of men obtainable, dictation is almost needful.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to add my testimony in confirmation of every word Mr Gurney-Salter has said with reference to the fact that the greater number of the judges in this country, and, I am sure, nearly the whole Bar, recognise the value of shorthand notes; and I am quite certain that the German Government has nothing to fear in taking at least the first step in the matter, and that it can very safely go much further than that. The last speaker referred to the age of some of the shorthand writers present. There is a gentleman with us to day, Mr Hibbit, who was articled in 1828. He is the oldest practising shorthand writer in England, and has been in practice for half a century.

[Mr Guest's paper on "Shorthand's Place in Education" and further discussion on that subject, were adjourned to Saturday morning.]

SHORTHAND WRITERS IN LAW COURTS.

(1.) Is there a body of practitioners distinct from Parliamentary and Newspaper Reporters?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	Yes. In the Supreme Courts there are five; in the Sheriff Courts of Glasgow there are from five to seven; in the other Sheriff Courts in Scotland the shorthand writer is usually a newspaper reporter
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Yes, in some of the older Provinces
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Yes, there are official reporters in the Courts of some of the Provinces
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	Yes, in Ontario there is
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—No
Australia	Mr G. Bell, Government Shorthand Writer, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Yes
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Yes, two persons
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	No
Ceylon	Mr Boyce	No. One or two young barristers and solicitors occasionally write reports in abbreviated longhand, but there are no professional shorthand writers except when a newspaper reporter goes in to report a special case
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	Yes, legal or quasi-legal proceedings being the chief field for shorthand in this country
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—There are no officially appointed shorthand writers in the German Courts of Law. Occasionally, shorthand writers have been brought in to take notes of specially important criminal proceedings, especially those relating to Socialism or to High Treason
,,	Herr Max Bäckler	*Berlin.*—Ditto
,,	Dr Lautenhammer	*Munich.*—No

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
France	M. Depoin, Paris	Most of the shorthand writers practising in the Courts of Law are specialists, not belonging to the official Corps of Parliament. The Parliamentary shorthand writers have in general some other occupation; barristers, doctors, journalists, littérateurs, and those who live by their pen, have enough to do in taking notes before the Committees of Parliament, in reporting the public speeches of Ministers and Members, the meetings of the Conseils Généraux, and of literary, scientific, or political societies, and Board meetings of Public Companies
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	Shorthand writers in Law Courts, as a body distinct from shorthand writers for Parliament or the newspapers, are unknown. The ordinary writers for the Press report the legal proceedings, and most of these gentlemen are not shorthand writers. They limit themselves in legal proceedings, as in Parliamentary debates, to simple analyses, which they write out there and then, and which are immediately published. These analyses are longer or shorter according to the importance of the legal proceedings and of the journal which gives the substance of them
Denmark	Herr Dessau, Copenhagen	Shorthand writers in Law Courts are not known
Norway	Herr Cappelin, Christiania	No

(2.) What, if any, educational and technical qualification is necessary before a Shorthand Writer is admitted to practice?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	Only expertness in shorthand writing, and ability to put the transcript well together
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	In some of the Provinces educational and technical qualifications are required for admission to practise as official reporters in the Courts. The chief qualification is with respect to speed, the minimum rate prescribed being usually 150 words a minute
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	We are not aware of any
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	In Ontario Courts only a general knowledge of legal proceedings is necessary, but the reporter must be thoroughly efficient in shorthand writing
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	Usually a minimum rate of speed in writing shorthand is prescribed
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—None
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—No special qualification is laid down

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	There is very little work for shorthand writers, and there are no regulations on the matter
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	There is no fixed requirement in this respect. It is assumed that those, in whose hands the appointments lie, will look to the question of qualification; and, as a rule, competent men are selected
France	M. Depoin, Paris	No University or professional diploma is required of the stenographers in Courts of Law. Their position has by no means the consideration which attaches to that of official shorthand writers, but persons who are choosing a shorthand writer from the list in the "Almanach-Bottin," in which the addresses are given, prefer to take one who has a degree like B.A. or has the superior diploma of the Stenographic Institute

The replies from the Continent of Europe practically answer this question in the negative.

(3.) If there are Official Shorthand Writers, by whom are they appointed, and by whom are they remunerated?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	In the Supreme Courts some of the Judges, without statutory authority, assume the appointment of the shorthand writer. Others, believing that they have no power to appoint, leave the appointment, like that of Counsel, to the Agents or Attorneys. Shorthand writers are remunerated by the Agents, who are responsible for the fees in each case, and the shorthand writer has a lien over his notes, if he chooses to enforce it, until his fees are paid
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	The use of shorthand in recording evidence has, in the past, been chiefly confined to the Superior Courts, but the system is being gradually extended to the County Courts, City Police Courts, and other judicial and quasi-judicial tribunals. The stenographers to the Superior Courts are appointed by the several Provincial Governments. Usually they are remunerated partly by annual salaries and partly by the fees collected from litigants for copies of evidence. In important arbitrations, Governmental, Municipal and other inquiries, official reporters are almost invariably employed. They are usually appointed at the instance of the parties interested, and remunerated by a *per diem* allowance and fees
„	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Court reporters in Ontario are appointed and paid by the Government
„	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	The High Court of Justice of Ontario has eight official reporters, and some of the County Courts also have them
„	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	By the local or provincial Governments

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Shorthand writers may be appointed by Judges trying election petitions *ad hoc*. There are no permanent officials
Australia	Mr G. Bell Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The Government shorthand writer and his staff (appointed by the Governor in Council) sometimes take notes for the Law Department, but they are not officially attached to the Courts
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—There are none that are official
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	One or two by the Government, and occasionally by the High Courts
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	In New York (the first State to appoint official Court reporters) the full Bench of Judges in the particular Court appoint the shorthand writer. Probably most of the other States that have such officials—and very many do—have based their statutory provisions on those of New York

There is no official shorthand writer appointed to any Court on the Continent of Europe.

(4.) If there are non-Official Shorthand Writers, by whom do they receive their instructions to take notes, and by whom are they remunerated?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	The only official shorthand writers are those who take proofs. If a shorthand report of a debate or judgment is required, the party requiring it (who is usually the Agent) appoints and pays
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Strictly speaking, non-official shorthand writers are not engaged in the Law Courts
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	By the Counsel
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	Strictly speaking, there are none in the Law Courts of Ontario
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—They are appointed by the Judges (see last answer) and their fees made taxable costs. In the Admiralty Court evidence is taken in the same way at times, but not always
Australia	Mr Bell, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—There are three private firms of shorthand writers in Melbourne
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	By the parties in the case

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	By those who engage them; *i.e.*, by lawyers generally, who borrow a reporter from the newspapers
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	There are many unofficial shorthand writers, who, for various reasons, are often employed in cases in which officials are already engaged. These unofficial shorthand writers are paid by the parties engaging them, from whom alone they receive instructions. Some of the very ablest men are unofficial
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig, Dresden	When shorthand writers are entrusted with the duty of taking notes of proceedings in Courts of Justice for the Home Minister or any other great department of State, the remuneration proceeds from the same source; when the parties give the order they provide the remuneration
France	M. Depoin, Paris	They have no fixed appointments, but are paid fees by those who employ them

(5.) How many Courts are there?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	In the Supreme Court or Court of Session (1) two Appeal Courts, called Divisions, consisting of four Judges each; and (2) five Lords Ordinary, whose business it is to take proofs and decide causes in the first instance, if the causes are of sufficient value to be competently tried in the Supreme Court. The Courts of inferior jurisdiction where shorthand is employed are the Sheriff or County Courts, of which there are a large number in Scotland
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	The number of Courts varies in each Province of the Dominion
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The only Court in which shorthand writers are commonly employed is the Supreme Court, and then only for the trial of election petitions. It is less commonly done in the Admiralty Court, and very seldom, if ever, in any other Court
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The same Courts as in London, but on a smaller scale
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The High Court, the Small Cause Court, and the Police Court
America	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	The number of Courts employing official shorthand writers is too large to state off-hand
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	In Germany there are a great many Courts of Justice. A sketch of the judicial organization is appended
France	M. Depoin, Paris	Shorthand notes are taken of arguments in matters of importance before the different Courts in Paris, but rarely in the Provinces

(6.) What other legal or quasi-legal tribunals are there in which Shorthand is used, *e.g.*, Arbitrations, References, etc.?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	In arbitrations or submissions the appointment of shorthand writer lies with the Clerk to the Reference. In the Justiciary Court one judge invokes the aid of shorthand in criminal trials. The evidence thus taken is preserved in the form of notes for reference by the Home Department, if necessary. Mr Watt is the first shorthand writer whose name appears in this capacity on the Books of Adjournal
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	[See Answer to Question 3.]
"	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Government Commissions and Arbitrations; Patent Cases before the Commissioners of Patents; Committees of Parliament; References to the Master in Chancery and to the Registrar of the Supreme and Exchequer Courts; also the new Court of Claims
"	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	In all legal proceedings where evidence is taken shorthand is generally employed in Ontario,—except in Police and inferior tribunals
"	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—It is very seldom used otherwise than is stated in previous answers
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Arbitrations, and disputes between labor and capital
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	None; except an occasional Marine Court, where shorthand is not required
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	There are many arbitrations and references attended by shorthand writers, engaged by the parties interested. It is frequently the practice to agree on one who shall act as the "official"
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	There are many Enquêtes, the proceedings in which are taken down by shorthand writers

(7.) How many Shorthand Writers?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	[See Answer to Question 1.]
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	In the Province of Ontario, the chief Province of Canada, there are about ten official reporters to the Superior Courts. In each of the Provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick a smaller staff is employed. In some of the larger cities of Ontario, special provision is made by Statute for the appointment by the Provincial Government of official reporters to the County Courts, and such reporters are paid by a salary and fees. In the other Counties of the Province the County Councils have the power to appoint official reporters to the

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada		County Courts, and pay them at a *per diem* rate. A considerable number of County Councils are employing reporters in this way, and the number is increasing. We are unable to give the total number so employed
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Besides Parliamentary reporters there are only one or two. The Parliamentary reporters are those commonly engaged in Law Courts
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—In addition to the above-mentioned two shorthand writers, (see answer,) the newspaper reporters often act in their spare time as shorthand writers in the Courts
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Very few
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	There are about twenty to twenty-five official shorthand writers of the higher grade in New York City, and say a dozen of lower grade in the police and cognate Courts. In the rest of the State there are perhaps twenty-five to thirty of the higher grade, and nearly as many in the County Courts. There are also Surrogate or Provincial Court officials in considerable number
France	M. Depoin, Paris	About 40 who devote themselves specially to this business

(8.) Do the Shorthand Writers restrict their practice to particular Courts ?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	Not as a rule; only where the power of prohibition or exclusive appointment exists [See Answer to Question 8]
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	No
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	No; unless they are appointed to some particular Court
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	No
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—No
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—No

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	No
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	In one way, yes; each Court has its official, as a rule, whose work is restricted to that Court. Those specially engaged go to whatever place they are sent
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	No

(9.) Does one Shorthand Writer take notes of the same case for several parties, or are notes taken for different parties by different Shorthand Writers?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	The same shorthand writer acts for different or several parties. Two shorthand writers are sometimes employed for different parties, but very rarely
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	The official shorthand writer takes notes for the several parties interested
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Generally the one shorthand writer is employed for both sides
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	In Ontario, one shorthand writer furnishes all the copies
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	Almost invariably one reporter takes notes for all the parties
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—One shorthand writer furnishes the reports to both parties
Australia	Mr G. Bell Melbourne	*Victoria.*—In the Law Courts one shorthand writer does sometimes take notes for more than one party, but it is not the usual practice to do so
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Only one note is taken
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Parties have different reporters, who however, help one another
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	Sometimes one way; sometimes the other
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	The same proceedings may be reported by several shorthand writers for different parties
France	M. Depoin, Paris	Each party engages its own shorthand writer; it would be regarded as disloyal to communicate his notes to the opposite party, or to take notes for both parties at once

(10.) Does the Shorthand Writer (*a*) condense his report, (*b*) or edit it, or (*c*) is he expected to give a strictly verbatim transcript?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	In Scotland evidence is taken down verbatim; *i.e.*, each question and answer; but in transcription it is put in narrative form in the first person. Scotch judges have a strong objection to verbatim reports of evidence. Debates, and evidence given before Royal Commissions are, of course, extended verbatim
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Usually a strictly verbatim transcript is supplied, except in the case of mere verbal repetitions or redundancies
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	(*a*) Rarely (*b*) Generally the questions when they need it (*c*) In some cases
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	(*a*) No. (*b*) No. (*c*) Yes
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	Usually a verbatim transcript, excepting verbal repetitions or redundancies
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—A strictly verbatim report is made of evidence; a condensed report (if any) of the arguments
Australia	Mr G. Bell, Government Shorthand Writer, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—It is a general rule of our office that all notes must be verbatim. When, however, a witness becomes confused or misunderstands the question, it is usual to draw the Chairman's attention at once to it, and get his authority to make the necessary elucidation, instead of allowing a mistake to occur. This saves time, etc. *N.B.*—This answer appears to apply to Parliamentary Committees
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Strictly verbatim in the Courts
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	He takes instructions from the sub-editors
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	A full report is almost always given, cutting out obviously unnecessary and undesirable matter; *e.g.*, repetitions and stumbles in speech by Counsel, etc.
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	In Germany the notes have to be taken as literally word for word as possible
France	M. Depoin, Paris	A word for word transcript is ordinarily required

(11.) Is the Shorthand Writer sworn? If he gives a certificate on oath of the accuracy of his transcript, please send the form of the oath.

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	The shorthand writer is sworn. In the Supreme Courts the Judge certifies the accuracy of the notes, it being his duty to satisfy himself of it before certification. In the Sheriff Courts the shorthand writer ends his transcript by a certification that it is accurate
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	The practice as to the administration of oaths varies greatly in the different Provinces, as well as in the several Courts of the same Province. When an oath is administered the common form is similar to that prescribed by law in Ontario, namely, "I (A. B.) do solemnly and sincerely promise and swear that I will faithfully report the evidence and proceedings at the trial in each case in which it may be my duty to act as shorthand reporter. So help me God." It is not the general practice of the reporter to swear to the accuracy of his transcript, but it is customary to append to the transcript some such declaration as the following: "Certified correct. J. S., official reporter."
"	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	The shorthand writer is sworn
"	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	An Act was passed last year making reporters of the High Court officers of the Court, and provision was made for swearing them. They make no oath as to accuracy
"	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	A certificate of correctness is usually appended to the transcript
"	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—He is sworn; his oath is his certificate
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—He is not sworn before taking notes, but often if there is any dispute in the Court of Appeal he swears to the accuracy of his report
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The shorthand writer is not sworn, except perhaps in a trial case
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	Upon appointment the official shorthand writer takes his oath of office; he is not sworn beyond that. On a Reference, one who is made an "official" is not as a rule sworn. In examinations in Admiralty I have appended a certificate, framed according to the case—usually without suggestion on the part of the Counsel as to its form
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	Not generally sworn; if so, only upon the general oath for experts prescribed in the Rules of Court to the effect that he will carry out the duty required of him impartially, conscientiously, and to the best of his knowledge
France	M. Depoin, Paris	No

(12.) To what extent is the Shorthand Writer's transcript accepted by the Courts as conclusive, or how far may its accuracy be questioned, (*a*) of evidence, (*b*) of judgments and remarks by the Judges?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	After the Judge's certification the notes are conclusive. No case has arisen where inaccuracy was brought under review of the Court with a view to correction or remedy. Judges' remarks at advising or judgment are often taken down and embodied in the recognised reports, authority being thus imparted to them. They are usually revised by the Judge or speaker
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	No instance is known, since the establishment of the system of official Court reporting, in which the transcript of the shorthand writer's notes has not been accepted as conclusive. Frequently, especially in trials for perjury, the reporter is called into the witness-box to testify from his notes as to the language of a particular witness
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Our reports have always been accepted as conclusive; we do not know whether they would be so held if the question were raised
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	If called as a witness the reporter must swear to his notes. The notes are not evidence of themselves, although certified by him as correct. For argument before a full Court the Judges rely on the shorthand notes both as to (*a*) and (*b*)
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	It is never questioned
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The transcript of evidence is seldom questioned; the notes as to the judgment are seldom serviceable
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Cases are so rare that it is impossible to say
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	The official shorthand writer's record is usually taken pretty literally. The Judge on a "settlement" of a case on appeal usually holds Counsel to the record as to the testimony and the objections and exceptions. Such record would not, however, over-ride the recollection of the Judge to the contrary; and cases have been known in which affidavits have been presented impeaching the accuracy of some parts of a record
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	The opinions of our jurists with regard to the evidential value of the shorthand notes of judicial proceedings differ greatly from one another; therefore the question can neither be answered in favor of the credibility and evidential value of the notes, nor the contrary. The decision of the question must depend upon the concrete instance
France	M. Depoin, Paris	The testimony of the shorthand writer has only a moral value, nevertheless it is much appreciated.

(13.) In what positions are seats provided for the Shorthand Writers in Court? What, if any, rooms are provided for transcribing? Are the seats and the accommodation distinct from those provided for the Press?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	For taking down evidence the shorthand writer occupies the seat of the judge's clerk; for debates or opinions of the judges, the seat of the law reporters. These seats are distinct from those occupied by the Press. No rooms are provided for transcription, which is usually done in the chambers of the shorthand writer, or, by tolerance, in any unoccupied room in the Court buildings
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association, Toronto	The preference of the official reporter is usually consulted as to the position of his seat in Court, subject, however, to the approval of the Judge. In most cases he occupies a seat on the Bench to the right or left of the presiding judge, according to the position of the witness-box. In other cases the reporter prefers to seat himself at a table below and in front of the Bench, but elevated above the floor of the Court room. Transcripts are not usually made until the conclusion of the Circuit, and the reporter has then to provide his own office accommodation. The accommodation for the official reporter is in all cases distinct from that provided for the Press
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	The seat is near the witness The transcribing is generally done at home The seats are distinct from those of the representatives of the Press
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The seats are near the Judge. No room is provided for transcribing
Australia	Mr G. Bell	*Victoria.*—No special accommodation is provided in Court, which is sometimes inconvenient
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The shorthand writer sits either immediately under the seat of the presiding Judge or sometimes in the barristers' seats. No rooms are provided for transcribing. The seats are not distinct from those provided for the Press
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Very little accommodation of any kind is provided
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	Care is taken in our Courts to have the seat and desk of the official shorthand writer well located, close to the witness stand. The official has his own desk, separate from that of the Press men, who are, however, generally well provided for The provisions for transcribing of Court work are left to the official, who has usually his own outside office apart from the Court-house

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Germany	Dr Zeibig Dresden	The seats assigned to shorthand writers in the Courts of Justice are, as a rule, immediately in front of, or beside, those of the Judges; they are always apart from the space allotted to the audience, but they are not always separated from the seats of the reporters for the Press. Whether places can be assigned to them for transcribing depends upon the circumstances of the particular case
France	M. Depoin, Paris	They seat themselves where they can, without assistance. No place is reserved to them in the Palais de Justice. The Press is no better treated

(14.) How long at a time does one Shorthand Writer usually write?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	The whole day—from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.—if the particular case lasts so long. One shorthand writer takes a whole case. The writer has taken a fortnight's proof, sitting on an average from 10 to 5, dictated it to shorthand clerks each night, and had it printed before next morning. Others have done the same
Canada		
,,	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	As only one reporter accompanies a Judge on Circuit, the period he is engaged in note-taking is measured by the time which the Judge devotes to each sitting of the Court, with, however, such respite as is afforded by the time occupied by the arguments of Counsel
	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	All day
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	In Ontario from 9.30 a.m. to 7, 8, 9 p.m., and even later, with half an hour's adjournment. Too long altogether
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	The time varies greatly; it depends on the length of the sitting of the Court
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—All day long
Australia	Mr G. Bell	*Victoria.*—The length of the turns depends on the sitting. Very seldom do the shorthand writers relieve each other
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—One will often take the whole case, but a day is generally divided between two
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	It is impossible to say
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	Often for a whole day, and he often dictates a whole day's work in the evening and gives Counsel a transcript complete in the morning. Sometimes he has one or more assistants—at his option. The length of Court Sessions in New York City is about four hours; out of the City there are sometimes evening Sessions, when the tax on one writer is very great; but, probably, the practice of holding very long Sessions is on the decline

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Germany	Prof. Dr Zeibig Dresden	Often during the whole of the proceedings; sometimes the shorthand writers relieve one another at appointed intervals; it depends on circumstances
France	M. Depoin, Paris	When a case is likely to extend to more than an hour, there are generally two shorthand writers to take it down; they relieve one another every quarter of an hour

(15.) Are transcripts made *de die in diem,* and to what length do they run?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	In *submission* cases yes, and in other proofs also where it is made worth while to do so. This writer has seen a day's transcript run to 175 sheets of 250 words. A fair day's proof extends to 70 sheets
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	In the regular Courts transcripts are not made *de die in diem;* but in causes in which they are required for appeal or other purposes they are made as explained in Answer 13. In arbitrations and other quasi-judicial inquiries the practice of requiring daily transcripts of evidence is increasing. These run from 200 to 400 folios (of 100 words each)
"	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Only when specially ordered are transcripts made *de die in diem;* sometimes they are very voluminous
"	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	Yes. The transcripts are of all lengths
"	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Transcripts are made *de die in diem*—of various lengths, depending on the case
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Usually they are not made from day to day
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	It depends upon the case
America	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	In large cases, and even others, the transcripts are often made *de die in diem*
Germany	Dr Zeibig Dresden	The transcripts are not as a rule made *de die in diem;* and the quantity varies so much that nothing definite can be said as to its length
France	M. Depoin, Paris	It is an exception for the transcript to be required immediately, and a higher fee is paid in that case

(16.) Please send a specimen of a few pages of Transcript to show the form of it.

Many specimens were sent in answer to this request.

Germany	Dr Zeibig Dresden	There is no special form for making out transcripts. Small statements are, as a rule, written on single slips

(17.) Is the Type-Writer used, or any similar mode of reproduction?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	The type-writer is used by only one Edinburgh shorthand writer
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Type-writers are almost universally used in Canada for making transcripts of evidence
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Yes; the Remington principally
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	The type-writer is universally used
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Yes, frequently for extra copies, but not usually for the first transcript
Australia	Mr G. Bell Government Shorthand Writer, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—The "Hammond" type-writer is beginning to be used by one firm (Messrs Magill & Co.) Five "Remingtons" are in use in our office, and their use generally is growing
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—It has not come into general use
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Not to any extent
America	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	The type-writer is in very general use in New York now. Some shorthand writers dictate directly to one operator, who ought to write from dictation fifty words per minute easily. Others dictate to two operators at the same time, dividing their notes for the purpose. This cannot be done, however, if the work needs much re-arranging or putting into form
Germany	Dr Zeibig	*Dresden.*—The type-writer is still very little used for the production of transcript
France	M. Depoin, Paris	The use of the Type-writer has been increasing for some years, but it is still far from being general

(18.) Are the transcripts ever printed as the case proceeds?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	In heavy references or proofs they are, in which case the shorthand writer stipulates for larger fees
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Occasionally
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	Very seldom

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	Yes, when the case is an important one
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	Rarely
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Hardly ever
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—I think not
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Only newspaper reports
America	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	Yes, if the case is a large one and there are many Counsel desiring copies
Germany	Dr Zeibig Dresden	No. Often the transcripts are not printed, but only attached to the Record

(19.) Does the Shorthand Writer (*a*) transcribe his own notes, or (*b*) dictate them to Shorthand Writers, or (*c*) to longhand writers?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	According to the amount of business on hand, the shorthand writer either transcribes his own notes, or dictates them to shorthand clerks. There is only one shorthand writer in Edinburgh whose notes have been transcribed by another
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	Usually the shorthand writer dictates his notes directly to the type-writer operator; but in some cases he himself operates the type-writer. Occasionally he may, when pressed for time, dictate his notes to another shorthand writer, who, in his turn, dictates them to the type-writer operator
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	We dictate our notes to expert type-writer operators, who write from 50 to 70 words per minute
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	He dictates to a type-writer operator
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—The shorthand writer generally transcribes his own notes
Australia	Mr G. Bell, Government Shorthand Writer, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Occasionally the senior shorthand writer dictates his notes to juniors; sometimes he dictates to two longhand writers when there is great pressure of work. Generally, however, the three clerks are able to transcribe the notes within a reasonable time *N.B.*—This applies to Parliamentary Committee work

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Australia	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—A shorthand writer in a Court of Law invariably transcribes his own notes
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	The shorthand writer transcribes his own notes
America U.S.A.	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	The work is sometimes dictated to a shorthand amanuensis—more of my own work has been got out so than in any other way. But with a good type-writer operator the work can be got out with reasonable expedition and usually with less revision. Very few shorthand writers transcribe their own notes. Some six or seven of the officials out of the City have their notes transcribed directly by amanuenses
Germany	Dr Zeibig Dresden	As a rule the shorthand writer transcribes his own notes; he does occasionally dictate them, and then often to someone who knows shorthand
France	M. Depoin, Paris	The shorthand writer transcribes his notes himself or dictates them to young colleagues

(20.) What systems of Shorthand are mostly used?

Scotland	Mr J. C. Watt, Edinburgh	With two exceptions, Pitman's
Canada	Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association	The great majority of Canadian shorthand writers use the Isaac Pitman system; a considerable number, however, write the Benn Pitman system; while a few use the Graham or Munson systems. There are individual writers of other systems, but they are few and far between
,,		
	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	We use Benn Pitman's
,,	Mr G. Eyvil (Hansard) Ontario	Pitman's
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax	*Nova Scotia.*—Pitman's
Australia	Mr G. Bell, Government Shorthand Writer, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Gurney's system alone is used for the Government work
,,	Mr Hogan, Melbourne	*Victoria.*—Pitman's
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Probably Pitman's, but not always

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
America	Mr G. R. Bishop New York	There are, among the New York City Court officials, three Gurney writers; the rest, so far as I know, are phonographers. Probably the very large majority of them studied some of the American adaptations of the Pitman Phonography, Graham's or Munson's, or something earlier than either. I think there is a general impression that they are the best text-books to be found for the learner—Graham's as that teaching the briefest Phonography, Munson's as being the simplest of any—containing the fewest exceptions. Of the very expert unofficial men, some use the one, some the other. Among unofficial men, there is one very good writer, who uses a modified Taylor shorthand. It is generally known, I think, that the answerer of these questions uses his own modified stroke-vowel Phonography, which aims at making Phonography more definite and certain, without loss of brevity. In the neighboring large City of Brooklyn, the ablest phonographer—one of the ablest in the whole country—I think studied Isaac or Benn Pitman, but his actual notes show many departures from and modifications of the originals. In the State of New York, outside the City, and out of Brooklyn, in what are called the "Country judicial districts," there are but few purely Isaac Pitman writers; more perhaps are "Graham" writers than any other *one* representation; but there is a mixture
Germany	Dr Zeibig Dresden	Gabelsberger's and Stolze's
France	M. Depoin, Paris	Those of Duployé, Prévost-Delaunay, Aimé-Paris, Grosselin and Pitman-Barrué

DETAILED ANSWERS.

Additional Statement by Mr Hogan (*Melbourne*).

The whole of the facts stated above with regard to Melbourne are believed to be approximately true of the other Australian Colonies.

Two of the Judges now on the Bench at Melbourne habitually take their judicial notes in shorthand. The senior Crown Prosecutor also uses shorthand to take notes in Court. They had all previously used shorthand professionally.

Extract from Answers of Prof. Dr Zeibig *on Shorthand Writers in Law Courts.*

The investigations which have been made at different times and in different countries, including even our own Fatherland, having conclusively proved that the application of shorthand to jurisprudence is not only desirable but even a necessity, efforts have incessantly been made in Germany by means of public proposals, by means of pamphlets, and by means of petitions to the Ministry, to the Legislative bodies of the Empire, and to the individual States of the Empire, to represent how desirable it is in the public interests to introduce shorthand into its appropriate position both in civil and criminal proceedings in Germany. Unfortunately the steps which have hitherto been taken have always remained without result. The motions which have been made in this direction by eminent jurists on various occasions in the Chambers, among the Judges, and in the Commissions of the Empire have been rejected. I would here refer to page 10 and the following of my paper "Die Rechtspflege und die Stenographie," especially with regard to the motion proposed by Schreck—also to page 19 and the following of my pamphlet "Die Stenographie

in der Rechtspflege und in der Verwaltung," especially with regard to the rejection of the motion of Mr Herz. I refer also to paragraph 146 of the Rules of Civil Proceedings, and to page 21 of the same pamphlet with regard to the motion of Mr Lamm. No better result has attended the steps which the Royal Stenographic Institute at Dresden has taken in relation to the Ministry of Justice of the Kingdom of Saxony, nor the petitions presented in the present year with the same object in the Prussian House of Commons and in the Reichstag. I would refer on this point to the *Correspondenzblatt* for July and August of this year.

This has happened in spite of the fact that very eminent German authorities on the subject of law have expressed to me the opinion that "it cannot be doubted that shorthand will occupy a great place in the province of jurisprudence," and "especially in contested proceedings, both civil and criminal, the application of shorthand promises quite extraordinary results in regard to the correct appreciation of the statements of witnesses and of lawyers"; and further, "nothing ought to stand in the way of the application of shorthand to transactions in which a great number of persons are interested—for instance, shareholders' meetings"—in spite also of the fact that the Saxon Ministers of Justice, Schneider and von Abeken, have acknowledged to me by word of mouth as well as in writing, the value and importance of shorthand for judicial proceedings. As yet, however, it has not been possible in Germany to arrive at the determination to follow the well-known examples which have been given by the United States of North America in the appointment of official shorthand writers to the Courts. Here and there, now and then, competent shorthand writers have been introduced to take notes of specially important proceedings in criminal cases—especially where they related to prosecutions for attempts dangerous to the Commonwealth on the part of social democrats, or to High Treason. This is not the place to go into the matter in greater detail, and to show how great an advantage it is to a Judge to use shorthand himself in the discharge of his functions, and what a guarantee for the correct and regular record of the judicial proceedings there is in the fact that the Judge himself understands shorthand. On this point I would refer to that which is to be found at different places in the publications sent herewith, some of which have been written by myself.

In Germany there are no officially appointed shorthand writers in the Courts of Law, but in Austria the matter stands in a somewhat better position, because it is laid down in paragraph 271 of the Austrian Rule of Criminal Procedure of 1871: "If the President or the Court finds it suitable, he or it can direct the taking down in shorthand of all evidence and statements on the demand expressed in due form of a party concerned, and on the previous deposit of the costs this is always to be done; but the shorthand notes are to be transcribed into ordinary writing within forty-eight hours, to be submitted to the President, or to one of the Judges named by him, for examination and to be affixed to the Protocol." I refer also to the expressions of Staats-Anwalt Ritter von Arbter in Austria on page 11 of my publication "Die Stenographie in Seinemt Wirkungskreise."

In my opinion it is essential that a shorthand writer in Courts of Law should have an Academical education—best of all that he should have studied Political Economy in one of the high schools and should have passed a good examination on leaving the University. It is hardly necessary to point out that he must also be well equipped in other branches of knowledge. So far as regards his technical proficiency, he must be in a position to take down 180 German words a minute, which he can read afterwards with certainty and quickness.

Extract from Replies of CANADIAN SHORTHAND-WRITERS' ASSOCIATION.

Within the last ten years or so the use of shorthand for amanuensis work in law and other offices has very largely increased, and as no tests of efficiency for the practice of shorthand are imposed by law, the consequence is that many men who have little more than enough shorthand for amanuensis or correspondence work, and are otherwise wholly unqualified for the practice of the higher branches of the art, frequently impose their services upon unsuspecting employers in the capacity of shorthand reporters. To some employers they recommend themselves by the mere copying rates at which they are willing to work, and though their reports are generally disgracefully poor in quality, they manage, by seldom working more than once for the same employer, and by keeping their names well before the public in connection

with shorthand matters, to glean a considerable harvest by this system of shorthand quackery. The practice of the efficient members of the profession is in the long run so inappreciably affected by these pretenders, that the motive of self-interest is not strong enough in the qualified reporter to prompt him to go very far in the way of exposing the devices of pretenders, but their methods and operations have the effect —only temporarily it is to be hoped—of degrading the whole profession in the eyes of the public, who only very slowly learn to discriminate between the master of his art and the pretender. The only organized means thus far adopted of protecting the public and the profession against humbug and pretence of this kind has been the formation of the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association, which includes in its membership nearly all the thoroughly-efficient shorthand writers in the Dominion. The Association was organized in 1875, and but for the educative and protective influence it has ever since exerted upon the profession and the public, the evils referred to would undoubtedly have been much more prevalent than they are. The aim of the Association is to cultivate a high professional standard—technical, educational and ethical—among its members and the profession generally, and it is hoped that its efforts may before long result in the establishment of something in the way of legally prescribed tests of the efficiency of all professional shorthand writers. It is only proper to remark that of late there has been observable on the part of extensive employers of shorthand reporters a much keener appreciation than formerly of the difference between the thoroughly competent stenographer and the man who merely "writes a little shorthand."

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

SHORTHAND IN EDUCATION.

Professor ZEIBIG in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen,—First of all I must thank you for the undeserved honor you have done me by electing me the Chairman of this important Conference. Furthermore, not being able to speak your language as fluently and correctly as I could wish, I ask your pardon for any blunders I may make. The subject which we have met to discuss in this Conference is one of the highest importance. It does not concern the actual practice of the art, but the latter would suffer to an incalculable extent if we were to neglect the educational element in shorthand. I trust that the papers to which we are about to listen will give us interesting and useful information, and further the interests of our cause. I will now call upon Dr Gowers to favor us with his paper.

THE PHYSIOLOGY OF SHORTHAND WRITING.

By W. R. Gowers, M.D., F.R.S.

In the work of the reporter, a sound, that is, a vibration of the air, enters the little canal of the ear, and, before an appreciable interval has passed, the hand moves the pen or pencil over the paper, tracing characters that bear an arbitrary correspondence to the sound. What takes place between the two events? The consideration of this question constitutes the Physiology of Shorthand Writing. Strange as it may seem, in that brief interval, almost inappreciable in its duration, a series of phenomena occur of the highest degree of complexity. To describe them all, even in outline, would require many hours. They include the mechanism of hearing on the one hand, and of muscular action on the other, while between these two there is a complex action of the brain, whereby the auditory impression is transformed into a related motor impulse. This transformation is the essential element in the process, and to it our attention must be chiefly given in the short time at my disposal. The subject is only a special form of a larger problem. Shorthand is only a variety of writing, and the physiology of shorthand is only part of the general physiology of writing. Before proceeding further, I may remind you that physiology concerns itself only with the action of the brain, leaving to psychology the problem of the action of the mind. Mental processes and brain processes occur together; we know nothing of the relation between the two. Unfortunately we have to speak of mental pro-

cesses, and to use psychological terms, when all that we want to speak of, and need to speak of, are brain processes. This is because our vocabulary is psychological and not physiological. I mention this to avoid misconception.

The brain, as you perhaps know, consists of two halves, quite similar, and contains a layer of grey matter spread over a mass of white substance. The latter, the white substance of the brain, consists of fine fibres, the "nerve-fibres," while the grey matter is composed chiefly of minute, mysterious bodies,—"nerve-cells," they are termed. The cells generate nerve-force, as the cells of a galvanic battery generate electricity; the fibres conduct the nerve-force, as the wires conduct the electricity produced by the battery. The work of the brain is done by the nerve-cells of the grey matter. The thin layer of grey matter that covers the brain, dipping into the folds of the surface, is of great superficial extent. The number of the nerve-cells contained in it is enormous, and has been estimated at no less than 800,000,000. Wonderful things, these tiny nerve-cells are, each with many radiating arms like a star. By one of these arms it joins a nerve-fibre; by the others it is connected with other nerve-cells, so as to form aggregations that subserve a definite function. We are able to map out on the brain the regions in which some of these functions are performed.

About the middle of the outer surface of the brain is the centre for the movement of the arm. Whenever the arm is moved, the cells of this part become active, and send their message down to the arm, down the fibres that pass through the spinal cord and the nerves of the arm, to the muscles, and these contract, and produce the desired movement. Below this centre is the region concerned in moving the tongue and lips, and it is this part that is concerned in speech. Further back is the centre for hearing. When a sound enters the ear, the tiny nerve fibres from the ear conduct a current of nerve force to this part of the brain, and arouse the nerve-cells in it to action, and then, in some way—how we do not know—we hear a sound. This part is in action when the reporter hears the speaker's words. The arm centre is in action as he writes those words down. It may perhaps occur to you that it is all clear now, that the nerve-cells concerned in hearing excite those for the movement of the arm, and so the muscles of the arm are made to contract and the writing is produced. Unfortunately it is not nearly so simple in fact.

The region of the brain on the left side concerned in moving the tongue and lips is concerned with speech in a special way. If it is diseased the sufferer cannot speak. He can still move his lips and tongue, by means of the corresponding region on the right side, he may be able to utter a sound, but he cannot speak. Hence this is called the *motor speech centre*, for the motor word processes are

arranged in it. When a word is uttered it is because a certain combination of nerve-cells in this region has become active and has excited the muscles.

When we write, the word processes are also arranged in this centre and they excite the arm centre, so as to produce the corresponding written symbols. If the speech centre is diseased, writing is impossible. The hand can still be moved, but an attempt to write produces only unmeaning strokes upon the paper. Thus the arm centre only translates into written symbols the words arranged in the speech centre; we might indeed expect this.

Written language is only speech represented by visual symbols, and the child learns to speak long before he learns to write; many persons, indeed, never acquire the use of the written symbols—have never learned to write, as we say.

One more fact regarding this speech process. We have seen that it goes on in the left hemisphere. This is true, however, only in those persons who are right-handed. In those who are left-handed, it goes on in the right half of the brain. Each half of the brain acts on the opposite side of the body, and the use of one half in speech seems thus to be related to a special pre-eminence of that half, in connection with the special use of the opposite hand.

The process of hearing is also more complex than it seems, for the same great experimenter, "Disease," has shown us that there are two distinct steps in the process, one the hearing of a sound as such, the other its recognition as a word. A sound may be heard perfectly, and yet the hearer may be unable to recognise that it is a word, or what word it is. In this condition, which is called "mind-deafness," or "word-deafness," the state of the person is as if he were spoken to in a foreign language. The process of recognising the sound as a word also goes on in the one half of the brain, in the same half as the processes of voluntary speech.

We are now in a position to understand better what occurs when a person writes from dictation, as shorthand writers commonly do. The sound excites the nerve fibres of the ear, and through them the nerve cells of the centre for hearing in the brain, so that the effect is recognised, not only as a sound, but also as a word. The auditory cells then excite to action the cells of the motor speech centre. Nerve processes take place in this centre that would result in speech if they were allowed to act on the nerves and muscles of the lips and tongue; but the downward path to the lips and tongue is closed, functionally closed, and there is no actual speech. Another path is open, that to the arm centre. The cells of this centre are excited in such a manner as to correspond to the speech process, and they then act on the nerve fibres of the arm, and on the muscles of the arm, so as to produce the written symbols that correspond to the speech processes. Thus,

even in writing from dictation, there is no direct action of the centre for hearing on the centre for writing. The processes must pass through the motor speech centre, and it is here that the symbols are arranged.

Written speech is, of course, vocal speech symbolised. The motor processes, not the hearing processes, directly excite the writing mechanism for the written symbols. In shorthand, the symbols differ from those in ordinary longhand. In the non-phonetic systems, the written symbols of longhand are re-symbolised. In the phonetic system, fresh symbols are substituted for the longhand symbols, and the speech processes excite directly the processes for the phonetic symbols. These stand to the speech processes in the same relation as the longhand symbols, indeed in a simpler relation, because the phonetic symbols correspond more closely to the speech processes than do the longhand symbols. In the non-phonetic systems, the shorthand symbols do not stand in the same close relation to the speech processes. They consist in a re-symbolising of the longhand signs—there are two steps to the process instead of one. Hence the greater simplicity and practical convenience of the phonetic system when once it is acquired, and hence, too, the greater difficulty in its acquirement. The non-phonetic systems are learned by the re-symbolising of the longhand signs; and the latter, already familiar, constitute a stepping-stone in the acquisition of the new symbols. But in the phonetic system the symbols replace the others; the consonants, indeed, are perhaps learned by re-symbolising the longhand signs, but the vowels are learned *de novo*, and the longhand vowel signs are rather a hindrance than a help. Thus the signs are placed at once on their permanent footing, in direct relation to the speech processes, and this is a much more difficult matter.

It is curious to note that the term "phonetic shorthand" is, strictly speaking, wrong. We do not write by sound, we write by speech. It is the process for articulation, not the process for hearing, that is directly symbolised in the phonetic signs. The two processes, that for hearing and that for articulation, do indeed correspond perfectly. If a word that is heard is repeated, the sensory effect of the motor process of articulation, *i.e.*, the sound heard by the speaker himself, is exactly the same as that which occurred when he first heard the word uttered by another person. Moreover, the auditory word processes are of greater importance than the motor processes, and take the chief part in that revival of words which we call "recollecting" them. Hence the practical error is small, but it remains true that, as I have just hinted, Phonography, so-called, is really writing by speech, and not by sound.

Strange to say, the motor speech centre is also used in reading.

Have you not noticed how illiterate persons move the lips when reading? In all persons there is a similar activity of the motor centre, although it may not result in movement, for if this centre is diseased the sufferer cannot read. We have seen that the phonetic signs correspond to these motor speech processes. Thus we read by means of processes directly and perfectly symbolised by the phonetic signs. The superior legibility of phonetic shorthand is, I believe, universally admitted, and in this fact we have an explanation of it.

A word, in conclusion, of more practical character regarding the last part of the process of writing. The hand is moved by the masses of flesh termed muscles. The precise muscular mechanism employed and its action is a subject of great interest, which I must pass unnoticed. The one point to which I would direct your attention is this. The muscles of the arm are largest at the shoulder, and get smaller as we pass down the limb, being smallest in the hand. To cause movement, the muscles contract. The smaller the muscle, the more it has to shorten to cause a given movement. To cause a movement of one inch, for instance, a muscle two inches long must contract to one-half, one of twelve inches long only to one-twelfth. The greater the degree of contraction the greater the discomfort, and the sooner is fatigue produced. Moreover, the bones on which muscles act constitute levers, and these are of such a kind that the muscles about the shoulder act at a much greater advantage in moving the hand than do the muscles of the hand itself. Hence it is most important that all writing, shorthand as well as longhand, should, as far as possible, be by the muscles of the shoulder and upper arm rather than by those of the hand. The formidable and disabling malady, "writer's cramp," is chiefly due, not to the amount of writing, but to its mode—to the exclusive use of the small muscles moving the hand. If all persons wrote from the shoulder, writer's cramp would disappear. Writing from the shoulder is perfectly easy, the hand moves as a whole, the fingers lightly hold the pen, keeping their relative position unchanged, and a pen attached to the elbow will trace the same characters as one held in the hand.

Mr A. R. Marten: I should like to say a word or two upon this subject. Some years ago Mr Michael, Q.C. (who in his early days was a physician), told me that the fatigue experienced in writing could be avoided by using a larger holder. Twelve months ago I purchased a large holder, with which I at first felt as if I were writing with a scaffold-pole; but after getting over that initial difficulty, I felt much less fatigue. I believe small holders are the cause of much fatigue in the hand.

Mr Petrie: I can only speak on this subject from a practical point of view. Turning first to the writer's cramp, I may say that, for many years, I endeavored to find someone who was troubled with that complaint, and although I had heard of such persons, I had never had the opportunity of speaking to one who had experienced it. I knew one gentleman in America who was much troubled with it, and,

in consequence, he educated himself to write with his left hand, and became quite an expert in changing the pen from the right to the left hand. We can understand how writer's cramp attacks a person, knowing, from the construction of the muscles, how the fingers are affected. In my opinion, it is not so much the taking of notes that causes writer's cramp, as the transcription. Law writers are especially affected in that respect. I need not go into mechanical appliances, but, I think, the typewriter would be the best thing to avert writers' cramp. In two cases I have advised its use, and the persons concerned were not again troubled. The muscles used in working that machine are more powerful, and can do a larger amount of work. No doubt shorthand writing is mechanical, and, I may say, that some of the best shorthand notes have been taken by those who did not trouble about what they were writing. I remember one instance when my mind, for five or ten minutes, was entirely carried away from the matter on which I was taking notes, and afterwards I became rather frightened, thinking there would be a hiatus, but I found that my notes were perfectly clear and intelligible.

Mr T. A. Reed: I was very much interested in hearing the explanation of Dr Gowers with respect to the comparative size of the muscles in the shoulder, and those lower down the arm and fingers. Some years ago a medical man asked me if I felt much fatigue in my hand from writing. I told him that I knew practically nothing of the sensation of fatigue in my fingers. However many hours I may write, my fingers are perfectly easy and comfortable; and I am prepared, as far as they are concerned, to go on as long as is necessary. I sometimes feel a slight pain in the shoulder, from which, I gather, after what Dr Gowers has said, that I do the proper thing. I feel quite sure that the expertness which shorthand writers acquire in taking notes arises largely from the fact that they hold their pens very lightly. I have often heard persons say that, after writing longhand for an hour, they feel great fatigue in the fingers; and I have generally said: "Show me how you hold your pen?" I have then found that they grasp it as tightly as though they were going to perform some violent physical action, which it would be impossible to continue for hours together. There is another point which bears upon this subject, namely, the length of time during which it is possible for a person to write in taking shorthand notes. The longest stretch I have ever had, as far as I can remember, was from nine in the morning until seven in the evening, with a quarter of an hour's intermission. My transcript of that particular trial amounted to just a thousand folios. On another occasion I remember taking the same number of folios in one day; and at the end of the trial one of the counsel asked me whether I did not feel tired? I told him—what was absolutely true—that my hand was perfectly ready to go on and take another case of the same length; but, of course, I do not say that my brain or system generally would have been equal to the task. Probably others have taken notes for a longer period, and it would be interesting to hear their experience. As to the act of writing being mechanical, in a sense it may be so; that is, we may not be conscious of what we are actually doing. If an unconscious action means a mechanical action, then, I suppose, our writing is frequently mechanical; but, in truth, there must be some action of the brain going on; otherwise, I imagine, the simplest outward action would be impossible. I have often written without thinking of what the speaker was saying. I may mention an instance that occurred to me many years ago when "taking" a speech at Exeter Hall. I was writing in a sort of half-conscious way when suddenly a burst of laughter came from the audience. What they were laughing about I had not the slightest notion; but they laughed so long that I was enabled to look back at what the speaker had said, and I discovered a very humorous remark. I then had my laugh as well as the rest, but was, of course, a long way behind. My writing was not altogether mechanical, because there was a portion of my brain at work, which did not, however, come into the region of consciousness.

Mr Webb: Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,—I should like to say a word or two as regards the mechanical character of shorthand writing. I have written Shorthand for nearly fifty years; but have always found myself so absorbed in the subject I was taking, that it could not be regarded as merely mechanical. I can only remember one case where, in a sense, it might be called mechanical, and that was because the

subject was, I confess, rather beyond me. I refer to an argument upon a most abstruse question of law; I did not understand it, but I adhered precisely to the words used, simply taking each down as it came. I do not call to mind any other case where my mind did not follow the speaker, and, of course, to understand what is said is always an immense help in transcription. With regard to the question of fatigue, I suppose I write from the shoulder. I am what may be called a firm, heavy writer, and hold my pen with the first and second finger. I once took a trial of about a similar length to the one mentioned by Mr Reed, at the Central Criminal Court; and the only fatigue of the hand I experienced was that, towards the end, I felt a little pain, or contraction, round the wrist; but at those pauses which always occur in a trial, I rubbed my wrist with my left hand and was soon all right again.

Mr Hibbitt: With reference to the point of time, I may mention that on one occasion at the Maidstone Assizes, when Mr Baron Parke was the judge, I commenced taking notes at nine o'clock in the morning and did not leave the Court until ten o'clock at night. More than one case was tried, but the judge would not adjourn; and I was taking notes, practically, the whole of the time.

Mr E. Guest: I should like, Mr Chairman, to make one remark with regard to the mechanical action of the hand in writing Shorthand; or, as I should prefer to term it, the automatic action. There can be no doubt that in writing Shorthand, however little apparent the directing action of the brain may be, it must be there; but I am not sure that it is absolutely necessary for all action (as Mr Reed seemed to lay down) that the brain should direct. I remember one day in early life I fell down a large number of steps, and seeing a number of workmen at the bottom with what seemed to be sticks, I ran as fast as I could up the steps again, and once out of danger I remembered nothing more until I got home, although I crossed, for more than a mile, the streets of a crowded town and had to take many turnings. I did that perfectly unconsciously; but the moment I reached home I seem to have felt instinctively that water would refresh me, and as soon as it was put on my face I became conscious. With regard to the action of the hand in writing Shorthand, my experience is that the action which is exerted is, to a great extent, automatic—I do not say it is entirely mechanical; but it is action that is so nearly mechanical that the brain is not consciously concerned in the action of the hand, but is free to devote itself to the operations of the mind.

Mr Theodore Wright: Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,—Mr Guest has relieved me from the necessity of explaining what I am sure Mr Petrie meant by using the word "mechanical." He meant automatic action. With regard to the style in which one writes, it seems to me that the happy medium is in this, as in most other cases, the best course. It is no doubt, as Dr Gowers has told us, a mistake to use only the muscles of the fingers; but, on the other hand, there are some people who apparently write from the hips, which is as great a mistake in the opposite direction. The paper which Dr Gowers has read to us is very interesting, and I am sorry that we cannot discuss it at greater length. There is one point which I should like to submit to him, and that is this. I have not the slightest doubt that his description of the method in which the hearing and forming and writing of words takes place is correct, so far as regards the commencement of the art of Shorthand; but is it not the case that there is a kind of physiological shorthand process which goes on in the human body by which a short cut is established between the nerve-centres, which takes the line of least resistance, and by which there is a direct communication established between the auditory nerve-cells and the motor nerve-cells themselves, so that the speech-cells do not come into play? I should also like to ask whether it is not the case that sometimes persons who are unable to speak can communicate their ideas in writing; that is to say, it is simply the articulation which is at fault. With regard to phonetic and other kinds of shorthand writing, I believe that the operation that goes on in the brain is this—that, with an experienced shorthand writer, each word heard is so intimately associated, by long habit, with a particular sign that it is simply the skeleton of the word that is re-produced. A school-boy once said, in answer to a question at an examination, that the vowel-sounds are those produced with the mouth open, and the consonants are those produced with the mouth shut;

but be this as it may, it is the consonants which are associated in the shorthand writer's mind, whatever system is used, with a skeleton or sign which indicates to the trained eye a particular word. I concur with Mr Petrie and Mr Reed as to the fact of writing, at times, mechanically, unconsciously, or automatically, whichever word you prefer to use, but I do not agree with Mr Petrie that such notes are preferable or superior in any way to those on which your attention is fixed. It has happened to me to take notes in that way, and I should not like to say positively that I have not even taken notes when I was asleep. I have found in transcribing those notes afterwards that the sentences have come as fresh to my mind as if I had never heard them; but I have found a somewhat similar sounding word sometimes taking the place of the one that ought to have been there.

Mr WATT: There is one illustration which I think has some bearing on the so-called mechanical point which I venture to give from what has come under my own observation. The action of the mind and the hand would seem to be on such occasions identical with that of the compositor when he is setting up type. The mind of the compositor becomes accustomed to what it takes in of copy at a given point, and the hand is accustomed to turn mechanically, and without conscious direction by the mind, to each box, and lift the requisite types, of which a vision flashes across his mind at the moment when he takes a fresh sentence from the copy. Nearly the same operation takes place when we are writing shorthand "mechanically," as it is called, although I prefer the term "automatically." By the working of the machinery and volitions of the mind, the words of a speaker are transmitted from the ear to the brain, and from the brain to the fingers, without conscious oversight, and while the mind may be occupied in reflection, memory, or observation of matters passing on around. With regard to endurance, I may say that the system in Scotland compels shorthand writers there to do very long pieces of work; as, for instance, continuous note-taking from ten to six o'clock, without any interval for refreshment. *Verbatim* note-taking, from ten o'clock until four continuously, is a matter of every-day occurrence—the transcript being frequently printed by the next morning. With reference to the possibility of doing work automatically when asleep, I have seen compositors with their eyes all but closed, their hands automatically wandering to the different boxes while setting up the type, at three, four, and five o'clock in the morning.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Gentlemen,—Mr Theodore Wright has anticipated almost all the observations I should wish to make. First of all, as to automatic action, I think all shorthand writers will agree that we occasionally write without knowing at the moment what we are writing; and the instance which Mr Reed gave is an instance that almost all shorthand writers could parallel, although, perhaps, not with such an interesting result. As to going to sleep while writing, I can mention an old instance which is well authenticated. My grandfather, Mr W. B. Gurney, was taking notes at the Bar of the House of Commons, and, having taken some long speeches, he fell asleep—it was two o'clock in the morning—while he was writing. He was startled by being suddenly called upon to read the last passage. He did not for the moment suppose he had taken it down; but it turned out he had written it as plainly as possible, and he read it to the House, and it was accepted by the House as accurate. He turned round immediately to the witness (Sir William Erskine) and said, "I am afraid I must have missed your last sentence," but the reply was that it had been taken down to the last word. I may add, as a matter of my own observation, that I have often spoken to shorthand writers while they have been writing, and they have answered me and gone on writing the whole time. After the testimony we have had, the fact of this "automatic," or "unconscious," or "mechanical" writing (we must leave it to Dr Gowers and other learned men to give it the proper name) cannot be questioned. As to the length of time for which one writes, a great deal depends upon the continuity. A moment's pause while a speaker is looking for a reference, for instance, will give us the rest we want and enable us to start off again fresh. Therefore it is not sufficient to know what were the times of beginning and leaving off; one needs also to know what was the pressure and continuity during the whole time. I would rather myself write the whole of the day with an occasional minute for rest—quite as much for the brain as the hand

—as I would for two or three hours without being able to turn round at all, or take my eyes off the book; and, I believe, that is the general opinion of shorthand writers. Passing to another point, I believe no experienced shorthand writer would say that he puts the parts of a word together in writing as a compositor takes the letters out of a box and makes them into a word. We have already got the words stereotyped in our minds, and therefore to say that what are called the non-phonetic systems are at a disadvantage because we have to go through the longhand spelling to make up a word before we write it, is a misapprehension. That could be proved, if necessary, in several ways. For example, only yesterday I was comparing the mode of representing words with a writer of another system. He asked me how we spelled a certain word in our system, and I had to picture it to myself in Shorthand, and analyse the outline before I could answer him. The fact that I could not tell in a moment what consonants or vowels I used in writing the word, as I could in longhand, is a proof, if proof were needed, that when I write a word I do not go through the process of putting it together. I do not think, therefore, that in that respect a phonetic system has any advantage, whatever may be said for it on other grounds. I should also demur to the assumed superior legibility of phonetic shorthand. I have often heard the contrary asserted. There are two small points relating to physiology which I will venture to mention in case Dr Gowers can throw any light upon them. One point is this: we all know that shorthand writers vary very much from day to day, not in power of hand, but in other ways; for instance, an attack of biliousness will take off an enormous percentage from a shorthand writer's power to do his work —more than it does off the power of any ordinary man of business. If a stockbroker or a lawyer feels a little out of sorts it will not reduce his powers in the same degree as it will a shorthand writer's. Another point is as to figures. One man is much slower in writing figures than another, although they both use the same Arabic numerals. That may, of course, only be a difference in readiness of apprehension. I doubt whether much light can be thrown upon it, but if Dr Gowers can give any explanation of it I should be glad. Why does one man go through the process of reproducing figures which are brought before his mind quicker than another?

Mr G. B. Snell: Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,—I agree with the observations which have fallen from Mr Gurney-Salter with reference to the matter of figures. I think there is a peculiarity in the brains of some men, which enables them to deal with figures more easily than others can. I can give you an illustration of that from the experience I had with Mr Robert Hartford, a very able member of the Irish press, who had a remarkable ability for remembering figures. I have often tested him in this way. I have given him a square block of figures of ten or fifteen lines, and in less than three minutes by the watch he has taken them into his mind and has been able to say what the figures were in any place indicated—any row either perpendicularly or horizontally. I asked him once how he did it, and he told me that the block of figures seemed to be photographed on his brain, that in answering any question concerning them, he simply looked at the photograph and that he certainly did not remember them as he would ordinarily remember a couplet or a passage from the poets. With regard to the shorthand writer's power of enduring fatigue in taking notes, I can give an instance which will confirm what has been said. The great case of "Sefton *v* Sefton" which was tried at the Liverpool Assizes many years ago, lasted for three weeks. The proceedings commenced each morning at 9 o'clock, continued until 6 p.m., up to the last three days, then until 11 p.m. and the last day until half-past one the following morning. During the whole of that time, my father's partner, Mr Counsell (since deceased) was taking notes, the only time allowed for refreshment being half-an-hour at about two o'clock in the day. Then with regard to the work being "mechanical," I am often astonished at people describing shorthand writing as "a mechanical operation." To a certain extent that term may be used; for instance, so far as the mere art of writing is an exercise of physical power. But even then it would be an entire misnomer, as it would be so to describe the work of a portrait painter in the use of his brush, or of a sculptor in the use of his chisel. The facility with which a thoroughly competent shorthand writer takes notes, may make it appear to be purely mechanical; but it is really the best evidence that the highest mental powers are in operation. I would compare it with the experience that I dare say many of you have had of very clever and able men who have been able to think

upon half-a-dozen subjects at the same time. I have in my mind a very able lawyer whom I have seen write a letter of considerable importance, and at the same time carry on a conversation equally momentous, and apparently conducting the two operations without the slightest difficulty. But could the facility so displayed be taken as evidence that the operations were mechanical? To suppose that the brain of a shorthand writer is idle whilst his pen is moving, (which is what I understand by "a mechanical operation") and further to suppose that a very high degree of mental power is not requisite to the efficient performance of a shorthand writer's duty in taking notes of technical discussions upon real property law, upon chemical, botanical, electric, or mathematical science, upon naval architecture (one of the most difficult subjects that you can have to deal with) is one of the greatest errors by which the judgment could be misled. Then with regard to the knowledge necessary to a shorthand writer. If a man is taking notes of a technical discussion, or anything that really requires him to think about what he is writing, it is impossible for him to take a correct note unless he understands it, at least partially. I am not speaking of what I may call the ideal shorthand writer—a man who possesses, and therefore understands, every description of human knowledge. Such an impossible man as that you might take up in a balloon, drop him into any society where a discussion was going on, and he would be able to take a note *verbatim et literatim*, and show that he was a perfect shorthand writer. But I defy any man to take discussions such as I have mentioned, efficiently, without any knowledge or understanding whatever of the subject. I am an old shorthand writer myself, and have had experience in a great many descriptions of shorthand writing; and I say this—that having a good reputation as a shorthand writer to conserve, I would refuse to attend any proceeding which I thought I could not understand. I would not attempt, for instance, to deal with the technicalities I should meet with in the Admiralty Court, during the examination of witnesses of every description of nationality, speaking of the names of the different ropes, sails, rigging, and parts of a ship, which I had never heard of before, and which therefore I should be unable to recognize in the technical slang peculiar to the common sailor, who dealing with them as household words would rattle them out with the speed with which colloquial matter is always delivered. I say that boldly, without fear of my reputation as a good shorthand writer being in the slightest degree affected; and I say it for the purpose of encouraging other and younger shorthand writers not to be afraid of confessing their inability to deal with subjects which they do not thoroughly understand. I would refuse to go to the Admiralty Court for that reason, and although it may be difficult for a young shorthand writer to say that, yet it would be a good thing for him not only to say it, but to do it. On the other hand, I would say that, for the purpose of rendering himself capable of attending as large a variety of proceedings as possible, he should read extensively, extract copiously, index industriously, and enlarge his knowledge as much as he possibly can; for the education of a shorthand writer can never be complete.

Dr GOWERS: Gentlemen,—I may, perhaps, first of all, be permitted to justify myself for having read this paper, by saying that I am not unacquainted with shorthand writing. I learned Pitman's system twenty-nine years ago (having previously learned another system); and although I have not been a professional shorthand writer, I could at one time write 180 words a minute; and for twenty years I have written almost every day of my life more shorthand than longhand. I think that the Arabic numeral question has received a correct answer from one of the speakers—it is a matter of individual ability. I am afraid I should be digressing into a too strictly medical discussion if I were to attempt to explain to Mr Salter the influence of biliousness upon shorthand writers. It may produce a disturbance of all the functions of the brain, and especially interfere with the precision of the motor processes; a billiard player, for instance, may find his playing interfered with by such a disturbance quite as much as a shorthand writer. Then with regard to the so-called mechanical or automatic writing. The word-process may go on in the brain without arousing the process for ideas, and at the same time the process for ideas may be active in connection with a different subject; in fact, the whole of the process which I have sketched may go on in an automatic or rather half-automatic manner. No doubt the will does constantly exert an influence, but we may not be

conscious of this. I expected that the statements I made with regard to the comparative advantages of phonetic and non-phonetic shorthand would meet with some objection, but I did hope they would have received a little more support. I was thinking not merely of reporting, but of the other uses of Shorthand—its use in education and every-day work. We are not conscious of the simplicity of our familiar work; but when you come to something new—writing a new language, for instance, in shorthand—then the difference comes out. We may be unconscious of almost all the steps I have described in the process of shorthand writing; but we cannot infer, therefore, that all this process does not go on. We are entirely unconscious of many most elaborate processes of cerebral action, realising only the beginning and the end. We cannot learn these processes by introspection; but they are revealed to us by the action of disease which arrests some one element, and then the others are distinct. The question was put: May there not be a direct path established from the hearing centres to the writing centres? One would think it probable; but shorthand is never more familiar than longhand, and longhand writing is always abolished by disease of the motor speech centre. When an individual can speak but cannot write, it is because there is disease of the lower nerve-structures, and there is paralysis, although the speech centres in the brain are unaffected. Whenever there is no paralysis, *i.e.*, loss of power in the tongue and lips, and yet there is loss of speech, there is always disease of the speech centres in the brain, and the power of writing is absolutely gone.

Mr Matthias Levy: I ask permission to say one word. I am speaking in the presence of a large body of shorthand writers, and I am sure I shall have their sanction for saying it cannot be permitted that Mr Snell's observations should go forth from this Congress uncontradicted, that shorthand writers will not go into any Court and take any case. It is most important that that contradiction should be made; and I content myself with the simple contradiction without taking up any further time.

SHORTHAND IN THE KINDERGARTEN.

By J. B. Rundell.

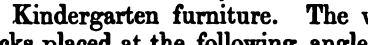
I propose to explain briefly the principles of a system of Shorthand suitable, as I believe, by reason of its simplicity and uniformity, for teaching to infants before they are taught the letters of the ordinary alphabet.

If the symbols be made in thin wood, like the specimens that I have here, children can lay them out on their desks and build familiar words with them, long before they have acquired sufficient command of the pencil or pen to draw the forms on paper. What in the language of the Kindergarten is called "stick-laying," becomes in this way a process of word building by which teachers and taught may communicate any ideas which the spoken words can convey.

The forms of the words afterwards afford examples for imitation as drawing copies, and easy drawing lessons are thus made to serve as an introduction to an extremely simple style of phonetic writing.

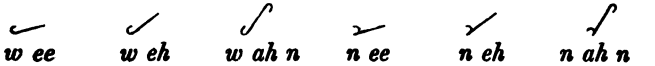
The symbols shown below in a collected form will express the sounds of words in English, French, and German. For the expression of Italian and Spanish, fewer vowel signs are necessary, and they may be of shorter length as compared with the consonants, so that the word forms may not wander too far from the line of writing. The present illustrations will, however, be confined to the three languages first named, namely English, French and German.

The sound-symbols or sticks should be laid out on tables or desks ruled in squares. Such tables or desks, as is well known, already form an essential part of Kindergarten furniture. The vowels *ee, eh, ah,* are expressed by sticks placed at the following angles with the line of writing.



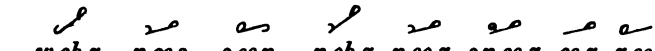
All vowels are expressed by lines struck forwards and upwards. Such of the consonants as are expressed by straight strokes are written downwards.

The symbols I have chosen for *w* and *n* are small hooks, ⌒ and ⌒. By their help children may be taught to form the following words:—



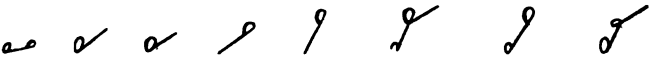
w ee	*w eh*	*w ah n*	*n ee*	*n eh*	*n ah n*
we	*weigh* or *way*	*wan*	*knee*	*nay* or *neigh*	*nahn* (Ger.)

The symbol for *s* is a small loop, and that for *z* (English) a loop of the same size with the part of it which would be written downwards thickened or blackened. We can now build, among others, the words:—



s w eh n	*w eh z*	*n ee s*	*s ee n*	*n eh z*	*n ee z*	*s n ee z*	*ee z*	*z ee*
swain	*weighs* or *ways*	*niece*	*seen* or *scene*	*Naze* or *neighs*	*knees*	*sneeze*	*ease*	*sie* (Ger.)

The sound *sh* is expressed by a loop of somewhat larger size than the preceding, and the sound *zh* by a similar loop blackened on the descending side. We can now build the words:—



sh ee	*s ee z*	*sh eh*	*zh eh*	*eh zh*	*ah zh*	*n ah zh eh*	*s ah zh*	*sh ah s eh*
she	*sees seas seize*	*shay*	*J'ai* (Fr.)	*Ai-je* (Fr.)	*Age* (Fr.)	*Nager* (Fr.)	*Sage* (Fr.)	*Chasser* (Fr.)

The sounds *ch* and *j* (English values) are expressed by loops of a still larger size, made longer in proportion to their breadth. Like the others, they may be turned in any direction found suitable for easy writing and recognition. The following words will serve as examples;



ch ee z	*ch eh s*	*s ee j*	*j eh z*	*eh j*	*ee ch*	*ch eh n*	*j eh n*	*w eh j*
cheese	*chase*	*siege*	*jays*	*age*	*each*	*chain*	*Jane*	*wage*

The aspirate is expressed by a very small tick at the beginning of the vowel stroke; *e.g.*



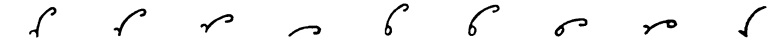
h ee *h eh* *h ah*
he *hay* *ha*

Some of the vowels are expressed by curved symbols, as for instance



aw *oh* *oo* *ü* (Ger.)
awe *oh* *oo* *u* (Fr.)

By means of these, and the consonant symbols explained above, the following words may be built up :—



n aw n *n oh n* *n oo n* *ün* *s aw n* *s oh n* *s oo n* *n oo s* *h aw*
gnawn *known* *noon* *une* (Fr.) *sawn* *sewn* *soon* *noose* *haw*

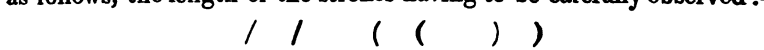


h oh *h oo* *h oo z* *sh oo z* *ch oo z* *J oo z*
hoe *who* *whose* *shoes* *choose* *Jews*

The sounds *t*, *d*, *th*, *dh* (Welsh *dd*), *ll* (Welsh), and *l* are expressed as follows, the length of the strokes having to be carefully observed :—



Examples of their use are afforded by the following words :—



t ee *ee t* *d ee* *h ee d* *h ee th* *l eh dh* *dh eh l* *l ah n* *ll ah n* *oh th* *dh oh*
tea *eat* *Dee* *heed* *heath* *lathe* *they'll* *lân* *llan* *oath* *though*

Some of the consonant symbols are longer than the above consonant characters, and some are shorter, as for instance :—



t eh k *k eh k* *k eh t* *t eh t* *t eh p* *b eh k* *g eh p* *n ah kh* *l ah th* *l ah f*
take *cake* *Kate* *Tait* *tape* *bake* *gape* *nach* (Ger.) *lath* *laugh*

The complete alphabet, with illustrations of the use of the symbols, will be found on this frame, which was first exhibited at the International Inventions Exhibition, South Kensington, in 1885.

The wooden symbols have also a secondary or subsidiary use. They will serve to make geometrical and floral patterns, and so be useful in teaching design and in affording scope for a child's own talent in that direction. [Examples of such designs were shown.]

The process of word-building with symbols each of which has a clearly defined sound will tend to clearness and correctness of enunciation on the part both of the teacher and the taught. The power of imitating the sounds found in foreign tongues and not in English can be acquired by infants more easily than by adults.

The adoption of this mode of instruction in the Kindergarten will consequently help children greatly in acquiring a knowledge both of drawing and of conversation in foreign languages, and these are two of our admitted educational deficiencies.

When the spelling of any language, as for instance of English, is irregular, it is acquired through the eye rather than by the ear. As the forms of the Shorthand symbols do not resemble those of the letters of the Roman alphabet their use cannot make the acquisition of the ordinary spelling any more difficult than it would otherwise be.

The rate of full phonetic writing according to the alphabet now exhibited is from 70 to 80 words per minute. That of ordinary long-hand is from about 20 to 30 words per minute.

Dr WEBER: I should like to say a word about this paper of Mr Rundell's, as I have had some experience in the matter. Some time after I had learned the system of Duployé I began to teach my little sister five years old, and she made wonderful progress. Then some of her little friends came to me, and I soon had a class of about ten children ranging from four to six years of age. None of them certainly could read or write; but when they went, at the age of seven, to the elementary school, they were more advanced than they otherwise would have been; and instead of this method spoiling their correct spelling, it made them more rapid in learning than other children.

Dr GLADSTONE: Gentlemen,—The paper which Mr Rundell has favored us with consists really of two questions; first of all, the desirability of teaching the value of sounds to small children in infant schools by this kindergarten method; and, secondly, the particular form which he has employed. The desirability must, I think, be clear to all of us. Of course, we have to teach writing to little children, and we have to shew them the writing as connected with sound. Now, in the ordinary way of teaching writing, on account of the bad spelling, or our orthodox spelling, it is very difficult to get the right idea into the mind of a child; but if a child is encouraged to express the particular sound in a way that is agreeable, such as the "stick laying," he can do it more easily. This plan has been adopted in many of our Kindergarten (infant) schools. It is very desirable that it should be done according to some fixed principle. As to whether this is the best form or not, is a question about which there may be a good deal of difference of opinion. I say nothing about that at present, because I have not sufficiently thought about it. I would ask Mr Rundell whether he has seen this method introduced into any of the infant schools. If not, and he would like an opportunity of doing so, I have no doubt we could get some teachers to introduce this method, and give it a fair trial.

Mr RUNDELL: In reply to Dr Gladstone, I may say that I have taught this system to a small class at Chiswick—not of the youngest children, but those a little older. I have also made use of it in teaching them the pronunciation of French and other things. I have also used it as a means of correcting the very prevalent faults in pronunciation. For those who would like pronunciation to be pure, and according to the standard, there is nothing that should be encouraged more than this kind of teaching, which will give a clear phonetic value to these simple signs. I gave one lesson to a lot of small children, and taught them by means of it the importance of

co-operation; and I think there is no more important principle than that of co-operation which we can instil into the minds of the young; it will bear fruit in the future.

Mr E. GURNEY: I should like to mention that the suggestions and proposals of Mr Rundell are those which I have adopted and practised in the education of a little boy, who is present, and also one in my own family. I may be able to give you some illustrations of the system when I read my paper on Saturday, as our time has now expired.

[A Swedish child then gave an illustration of proficiency in writing Shorthand.]

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I am happy to say that the Papers and discussions this afternoon have proved a source of much information; and I only regret that I am unable to sum up all the highly interesting particulars which have been placed before us. I have no doubt that the record of these proceedings will be carefully studied, and that they will be fruitful in beneficial results for Shorthand in education.

By the kind permission of Colonel Carington, an opportunity was afforded the members of the Congress to visit the Houses of Parliament in the afternoon, and a party of about seventy, who were conducted over the building by Mr Gurney-Salter, took advantage of the permission thus extended.

In the evening a *conversazione* was held in St. James's Hall Restaurant, Piccadilly, and was largely attended. A selection of music was performed, under the direction of Mr Wilhelm Ganz, by the following *artistes* :—Vocalists—Miss Agnes Larkcom, Miss Alice Fairman, Mr Bernard Lane, Mr J. Donnell Balfe, and Mr Douglas Boyd. Instrumentalists—Mr Charles Oberthür, Mr Charles Ganz, and Mr Wilhelm Ganz.

EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL.

1. Is there any Professorship of Shorthand maintained at the expense of the Government?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Shorthand Writers' Association, and Holland Bros.	No
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax, Nova Scotia	No
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	No
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Colombo Observer*	No
America U.S.	Mr Murphy, Washington, and Mr Bishop, New York	No
Germany	Dr Zeibig, Dresden	In Dresden it is the duty of the members of the Royal Stenographic Institute officially to give instruction in Stenography, and they receive for every such course, which is computed to be for half a year, a fee of 210 marks. The pupils who receive the instruction in the course pay no fee. They are only required to provide their apparatus
,,	Herr M. Bäckler Berlin	After giving the same information as to Dresden in other words, adds "No arrangement of a similar kind is to be found in any other country of Germany"
,,	Dr Lautenhammer, Munich	*Bavaria.*—Every College has a Teacher of Shorthand, who is maintained at the expense of the Government
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	No
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	There is no Professorship of Shorthand
Denmark	M. Dessau, Copenhagen	The Diet causes a course of Shorthand lessons to be given every year to prepare Shorthand Writers for the Diet. This course is given by the Chief of the Diet's office, who is paid a salary for it. The course begins in October, and consists of two hours' instruction daily till the close of September, when it ends with a competitive examination. Only those who pass this examination can be appointed by the Diet.
Norway	M. Cappelin, Christiana	No Professorship of Shorthand is maintained at the expense of the Government; but every year a free course is given by the Director of the Parliamentary Office, to which the Storthing votes a subsidy every year

2. Is Shorthand generally taught in Schools of all classes?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Shorthand Writers' Association, and Holland Bros.	No
,,	Mr McLean, Court Reporter, Ottawa	It is becoming more commonly taught
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax, Nova Scotia	No
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	No. The field of employment is too limited
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Colombo Observer*	It is very little taught in schools
America U.S.	Mr Murphy, Washington	No
,,	Mr Bishop, New York	Not in schools of all classes. It is taught in a few special schools, and more particularly in commercial institutions, which are not Government establishments
Germany	Dr Zeibig, Dresden	Gabelsberger's Shorthand is taught in the Gymnasiums, Real Gymnasiums, and Seminaries for Teachers, and the Real Schulen. The Royal Stenographic Institute is the officially appointed Examiner for the appointment of Teachers of Shorthand. The instruction in Shorthand does not begin in the Gymnasiums, and Real Gymnasiums, and Real Schulen before the lower third, and in the Seminaries before the fifth class. The teachers receive a fee for the instruction out of the funds granted for the respective instructions
,,	Dr Lautenhammer, Munich	*Bavaria.*—Shorthand is taught in every College
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	No. The Director of the Official Service gives a course of Shorthand annually; but it is scantily attended
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	The Government has already been petitioned to have Shorthand taught in the public schools, but has thought proper to refuse, because it would have found itself in this dilemma: either it would have left the choice of the system to the discretion of the teachers, and thus have exposed itself to having the worst methods taught under its patronage; or it would have imposed a single system, for the choice of which it was not qualified. In either case it would have assumed a responsibility which it has seen fit to decline. In the Free Schools there are, perhaps, some where Shorthand is taught as a supplementary and optional branch, but no practitioners are known to have been taught in them

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Denmark	M. Dessau, Copenhagen	Shorthand is only admitted as a branch of instruction in the College for Naval Officers, and in a few private schools, mostly Commercial Academies
Norway	M. Cappelin, Christiana	Shorthand is not taught in any of the public schools, except in the Mercantile Academy of Christiania, where it is an optional subject

Answer by Mr BISHOP, *of New York.*

I feel on the one subject of Shorthand in Schools, that by the indefiniteness of position in Phonography,—one position indicating so many different coalescing vowel sounds, one being indicated just as strongly as another, so much depending on the memorizing of word-signs, and on connection with the general text,—that for very young students an insuperable barrier has been presented; that while, with the student pretty well advanced in knowledge of English, these difficulties have been less serious, they have been serious, even there;—that what is needed is, that one sign or one position shall have an absolutely definite signification, so that all uncertainty as to the deciphering of clearly written notes, no matter what the subject matter be, and no matter how technical, peculiar, classical or scientific the writing be, shall be gotten rid of.

3. Is a knowledge of Shorthand accepted in Public Examinations as a substitute for some other branch of knowledge, or as an extra?

Canada	Shorthand Writers' Association, and Holland Bros.	It is accepted as an extra, carrying an increase in salary of 50 dollars a year
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax, Nova Scotia	No
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	No
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Colombo Observer*	No
America U.S.	Mr Murphy, Washington	In Civil Service Examinations for some of the Government Departmental Clerkships, knowledge of Shorthand (added to the ordinary requirements) is accepted as sufficient for a position
,,	Mr Bishop, New York	No
Germany	Dr Zeibig, Dresden	It is not accepted as a substitute for any other branch of knowledge
,,	Dr Lautenhammer, Munich	It is accepted as an extra
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	No

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	No
Denmark	M. Dessau, Copenhagen	No
Norway	M. Cappelin, Christiana	No

4. Is a knowledge of Shorthand a requisite for employment in any of the Government Offices?

Canada	Shorthand Writers' Association	Yes, for private secretaryships and other offices of that kind
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	It is an accomplishment which brings the writer increased salary
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	Not requisite, but advantageous
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax, Nova Scotia	Not under the Provincial Government
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	It is not essential, but it might be a point of advantage
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Colombo Observer*	No
America U.S.	Mr Murphy, Washington	No, except for positions as Secretary to the head of a Bureau or Department
,,	Mr Bishop, New York	In many Government offices shorthand amanuenses are employed; their ability to write shorthand is a first requisite, but they have also to pass a Civil Service examination for general education
Germany	Dr Zeibig, Dresden	Only for the appointment of members of the Royal Stenographic Institute
,,	Dr Lautenhammer, Munich	No
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	No
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	No
Denmark	M. Dessau, Copenhagen	No
Norway	M. Cappelin, Christiana	No

5. To what extent is Shorthand used in the offices of Lawyers, Merchants, etc. ?

Country.	Informant.	Reply.
Canada	Shorthand Writers' Association	It is considerably used in railway, mercantile, and legal offices
,,	Holland Brothers, Ottawa	It is used extensively, and every year the number of Shorthand Writers employed is increasing
,,	Mr Boyle, Ottawa	Very considerably, also type-writers
,,	Mr B. Russell, Halifax, Nova Scotia	Several of the leading firms employ Shorthand Clerks, but very few others do so
India	Mr Wilson, Calcutta	Very little
Ceylon	Mr Joyce, *Colombo Observer*	Very little
America U.S.	Mr Murphy, Washington	Quite extensively in the large cities
,,	Mr Bishop, New York	Largely
Germany	Dr Zeibig, Dresden	Its application for this purpose is a very important one; a knowledge of, and proficiency in, Shorthand are not unfrequently conditions for the attainment of more lucrative positions, especially in the greater mercantile establishments
,,	Dr Lautenhammer, Munich	Stenography being taught in all schools, nearly every clerk, lawyer, notary, merchant, officer, etc., employs it
Holland	Heer Steger, The Hague	Shorthand is not used generally in the offices of merchants, &c.; if so used at all it is quite exceptional
Belgium	M. La-Comblé, Brussels	Shorthand is but little used in Belgium, except in the Houses of Parliament, Provincial Councils, the Common Councils of the large towns, and the Communes of the country, at all of which places the Official Shorthand writers attend
Denmark	M. Dessau, Copenhagen	Shorthand is only used in a few of the larger mercantile offices
Norway	M. Cappelin, Christiana	So far as is known Shorthand is not used by lawyers; by merchants it is used, but only to a small extent

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS.

Answers by Monsieur DEPOIN, *Paris, and* Dr WEBER, *Luxemburg.*

Numerous systems of Shorthand are represented in the French Parliament. They may be divided into two branches—(1) Those derived from English systems, the principle of which consists in the habitual omission of vowels. Bertin, Prévost, Plantier, and Barrué adapted the systems of Taylor and Pitman to the French language. Delaunay transformed Prévost's method, adding to it a number of very ingenious abbreviations, relying on context, shading, and position. (2) The French School, of which Coulon de Thévenot and Conen de Prépéan were the founders, and which has for its basis the representation of all the sounds of the language, vowels as well as consonants. The system of Grosselin and that of Aimé-Pâris (a notable practitioner of which is Monsieur Guénin) belong to this school. The system of Duployé, represented at the Congress by M. M. Mayeras and Depoin, carries simplification to the furthest point hitherto reached in connection with the theories of the French School. At the present time it is undoubtedly by far the most widely spread in France. The central society, "L'Institut Sténographique des Deux-Mondes," reckons more than 3,000 members holding diplomas. Forty Stenographic Societies have been founded for the propagation of this system, whereas there only exist four societies in France belonging to other systems, namely, one to the Prévost-Delaunay School, one to the Grosselin School, and two to the Aimé-Pâris School.

Answer by Heer STEGER, *of The Hague.*

I desire to give some further information with regard to shorthand writing in Holland, which will, perhaps, be read with some interest. Official Shorthand dates, in our country, from February, 1849. It was at that date that I first proved that there was a system of Dutch Shorthand capable of rendering speeches pronounced with the greatest possible speed. This system was composed by M. Henri Louis Petar Van Elven, a clerk in the Home Office. I was his first pupil. However, although this system has enabled me to obtain very flattering certificates from many members with regard to the manner in which I have reported their speeches, it has been much modified by me since that time; so that one might say that the system actually practised in the States General is the Van Elven-Steger system. When M. Van Elven taught me his system, he was already tolerably advanced in age, so that he himself never practised it. Since that time, placed at the head of the Dutch shorthand writers, I have taught the system to many persons. The present staff, composed of fourteen shorthand writers, includes twelve of my pupils. Therefore, the system of Shorthand actually in use in the Official Office reckons an existence of nearly forty years, and never hitherto has it been subjected, on the part of the members of the Chamber, to the least complaint. On the contrary, it is generally praised and approved. But in our country, as well as elsewhere, there are, alas, some persons who, whether from interest or from folly, blacken and try to overthrow the best things. Thus it has happened that for about five years we have occasionally seen Manuals of Shorthand of all kinds published. It is true that as long ago as 1869, one of the young shorthand writers of the States General, Mr Rietstap, published an adaptation of Gabelsberger's system to the Dutch language, himself following all the time the Van Elven-Steger system; but that was simply a scientific question, a *protestatio actui contraria*, because Rietstap, while professing his esteem (which I share) for the clever invention of Gabelsberger, continued, nevertheless, to practise his (or rather our) system. But since that time we have seen many other things happen. In 1885 T. R. Goudschaal, a captain, not of Shorthand but of the Dutch Army, and W. Bussmann published a new Shorthand, because the Official system, according to their contention, is worth nothing. This Captain of Infantry confesses that the Official system has for nearly forty years gained the most brilliant success, but—try, good reader, to keep your countenance—it is not owing to the system; it is because the official shorthand writers who use it are such capable men that they can obtain the best results with the least means. Let M. Goudschaal make the experiment! I advise him to arm his soldiers with guns of wood and to lead them thus accoutred against the enemy. We shall see if their bravery and their discipline and all their other good military qualities will be a sufficient

substitute for the only instrument which is capable of stretching the enemy at their feet. Other systems of Shorthand, in addition to these, have been published in the last few years. An application to the Dutch language of the methods of Stoltze and of Isaac Pitman, the former by M. Brand Van Straaten (professor of mathematics and of languages at Dordrecht and Reinbold), the latter by a person entirely unknown in the world of Shorthand or of literature, named F. De Haan. There is also a system of Phonography published by the bookseller Hoovenaar Rutering, at Deventer, and a system of Shorthand by the caligraphist of Amsterdam, J. G. Dekker, who has never given proofs of his knowledge of stenography. Those are, if not all, at least the principal novelties in Shorthand in the last few years. It is needless to say that none of these systems has the least chance of supplanting the Official system, which has given its proofs, and of the simplicity of which a judgment may be formed from the specimen of writing in current hand placed at the end of my book, on Mr Isaac Pitman. Observe that in that specimen there is nothing like a single abbreviation. The English is rendered in all its letters. But, apart from this (I do not wish to speak against any one of these new systems which have been presented to us in the last few years), even supposing that they are as good as, or better than, the only system used in Holland since 1849, it would be a matter for regret that an attempt is made to divide the persons who desire to apply themselves to our art by all kinds of new systems. This sad competition which takes place among us, as in Germany above all, and also elsewhere, without sufficient reason, is in my opinion a great cause why Shorthand does not spread as widely as is desirable, and why it will never become even in a single country "the common property of all educated people"—to use Gabelsberger's phrase. If I had the honor of taking part in your Congress, I should try to obtain a majority for this idea, which I recommend to the serious attention of my colleagues. In every country a single system of stenography which had given its proofs ought to be accepted to the exclusion of every other—thus I should propose for Germany, Gabelsberger's; for England, Pitman's; and for Holland, ours, in the same manner. As long as nothing but the desire to make a name for oneself, or pecuniary considerations, or I know not what, excites individuals—even some who are not shorthand writers—to wish to try to supplant the system of Shorthand generally adopted in the country by the professional shorthand writers, the latter ought to oppose as a single man an act so destructive to all unity of stenography, and all propaganda of our art.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.

Morning Conference.

PRINCIPLES AND STRUCTURE OF SYSTEMS.

Mr T. A. Reed in the Chair.

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SHORTHAND CONSONANTAL CHARACTER.

By F. H. Valpy.

The subject that I have chosen is "The Functions of the Shorthand Consonantal Character." Without for one moment wishing to pose before you as an individual endued with any blood-thirsty tendencies, I wish to say that it shall be my humble and honest endeavor either to induce you to assent to certain fundamental principles that I shall advance, or to leave you hopelessly impaled upon the horns of an inextricable dilemma. I must say, however, at the onset that in neither case, I am afraid, is the prospect altogether reassuring to a majority of my hearers; for should you subscribe to the truth of my propositions, you will be necessarily enforced to abandon, as utterly untenable, many cherished and inveterate notions with regard to the theory and practice of the art of Shorthand.

To plunge at once *in medias res*, and without any more preface, I beg to take at random some one representative consonantal shorthand character, say — which I will call *kay;* not, be it clearly remembered, in obedience to any extant system whatever, but as the first consonant that comes to mind, following the longhand nomenclature *kay*, which I beg to be allowed to remark, in passing, is a very foolish and illogical nomenclature. For while some of the consonants in the English language are called *dge, pe, be, te, de, ve, se,* others are called *ef, el, em, en, es* and *er;* but with equal reason the order might be reversed, and the first lot called *edg, ep, eb, et, ed, ev, es,* and the second *fe, le, me, ne, se* and *re.*

Now I ask, Is this shorthand consonantal character — vowel-bearing *per se,* or is it not? In other words, on the one hand is it absolutely a dead letter, absolutely unpronounceable, until it has been galvanized into life, and provided with a power of sound by the addition of a vowel mark on the one side or the other, whether joined to, or detached from, the consonant; so that—let

us say for example—this ·— with a dot before it represents *ak, ek, ik, ok, ook,* etc., or the same —· with the dot after it represents *ka, ke, ki, ko, koo,* etc.? Or, on the other hand, does it bear these sounds by implication only, in which case this — when standing alone without the expressed vowel is allowed to denote either *ak, ek, ik, ok, ook,* or *ka, ke, ki, ko, koo,* according to the special requirements of each individual case? Or, is a third situation possible, and is this — both vowel-bearing and non-vowel-bearing; that is to say, is it vowel-bearing when the vowel is not expressed, and non-vowel-bearing when the vowel is expressed?

And here arises a crucial question: If this — is vowel-bearing only when the vowel mark is not expressed, how are the eye and brain informed whether it bears its vowel before or after it? For I contend most emphatically that there is but little more similitude between the sounds of *ak, ek, ik, ok, ook,* and the sounds of *ka, ke, ki, ko, koo,* than there is between the proverbial *chalk* and *cheese,* or between the two Christian names *Mary* [= ME RE] and *Emma* [= EM ER, the *er* bearing the vowelitic, or as Murray well expresses it, the *retracted* pronunciation]. Of course I need hardly say that the unfortunate longhand nomenclature appears to have settled the question at once and for ever; for this — which is called *kay* bears unmistakeably the implied vowel after it; and I am sorry to say that it is because so many shorthand authors have so subserviently followed this erroneous longhand nomenclature, that their systems have failed to obtain anything like a *general* recognition from an educated and otherwise appreciative and sympathetic public. Surely if a letter has the *le* pronunciation as in *limb,* it is right to call it *le* and not *el;* and *vice versâ,* if a letter has the *el* pronunciation, as in *elm,* it is right to call it *el* and not *le.* So again if the *re* is used as in *rain,* it is right to call it *re* and not *er;* and *vice versâ,* if *er* is used as in *earnest,* it is right to call it *er* and not *re.*

I can well understand this — (if implying in an unmistakeable manner to the eye a vowel following it) either to mean *ka, ke, ki, ko,* or *koo;* and I can also understand some modification of this — (either by length, thickness or direction, or even some other mark altogether, implying a preceding vowel) to mean *ak, ek, ik, ok,* or *ook;* but I cannot understand how the one and the same — can read at one and the same time both *ka, ke, ki, ko, koo,* and also *ak, ek, ik, ok, ook,* according as the special circumstance of each case requires. In other words it appears to me that this — must either stand for one series or for the other series, but certainly not for both; or else there is nothing phonetic in the character whatever, and it may signify an almost indefinite number of words and syllables. Whereas if it is known whether this — (by its conformation, size, thickness or direction) bears its implied vowel *either*

before *or* after it, then the number of these words or syllables that it is possible for it to represent is reduced by exactly one half; and thus also legibility is rendered at least possible, in conjunction (if need be) with context, position, or very occasionally the expressed vowel, and other extraneous aids. Whereas if this — bears its vowels both before and after it, it is absolutely unintelligible, guesswork is resorted to as a matter of necessity, and legibility is rendered almost an impossibility. I constantly should be questioning myself mentally, Is this a *me* or an *em*; is this a *ne* or an *en*; is this a *le* or an *el*; is this a *re* or an *er*; is this a *pe* or an *ep*; is this a *be* or an *eb*; is this a *fe* or an *ef*; is this a *ve* or an *ev*; is this a *ke* or an *ek*; is this a *ge* or an *eg*; is this a *se* or an *es*; is this a *ze* or an *ez*; is this a *dge* or an *edg*; is this a *the* or an *eth*; is this a *she* or an *esh*; and so on throughout the alphabet.

The absurdity in attempting in shorthand to follow the longhand nomenclature of the consonants (to which I have already alluded in the case of *kay*) is further exemplified in the following instances. If I require the syllable *ab*, and I want to express the vowel, I must place that vowel before a consonant, which I very erroneously call *be*; but when the vowel is thus joined, I do not obtain the syllable *ab* at all, but *a-be* or *abbey*. Again, suppose I require the musical instrument *oboe*, I can express the first *o*, and if to this I add the normal consonant (which I call *be*) I obtain *o-be* and I know at sight whether the word required is *oboe* or *obey*. But under no circumstances can I write an *o* and then a *be* and call the combination *ob*. It forms, as I say, *o-be*, that is *oboe* or *obey*, but certainly not *ob*. Again, if I require the word *alley*, *alloy* or *ally*, I place an *a* before what I very erroneously call an *el*, and what is produced? Most assuredly not *alley* but *ael* or *ale*. And again, if I require the word *aloe* I am at liberty to imply the *a* in the letter *el* because this normal *el* expresses quite correctly enough the first syllable *al*; and to this *el* (bearing the implied vowel before it) I add the *o* and the word *el-o* or *aloe* is formed and is intelligible. But under no consideration whatever can *el* and *o* read *low*, but *elo* or *aloe* or *allow* as above. So to form an unpretentious table it would appear that

a and *eb* reads *ab*
a and *be* reads *abbey*
a and *el* reads *ale*
a and *le* reads *alley*
o and *eb* reads *ob*
o and *be* reads *oboe* or *obey*.

The consonantal character in Shorthand, however, has to be considered from another point of view. That is, when it *obviously* bears no vowel at all; as when the whispered initial *f'* precedes the principal consonant *re* in *free*, and the final whispered *'k* follows

the principal consonant *el* in *milk*; and these are absolutely dependent upon their principal consonant for the full sound of the syllable. These must of necessity meet the eye in forms or modifications clearly distinguishable from the *fe* and *ef*, and from the *ke* and *ek*; and under no consideration must the word *free* be written in such a form as to read also as *affray*, *ferry* or *offer*; nor must *milk* be written in such a way as to read also as *milky*, *mullock* or *Amalek*.

To sum up, therefore, it would appear that one of two things must be true; either that this — is a dead letter and absolutely unpronouncable without the expressed vowel, except in the case of the dependent attribute mentioned above, where it is only whispered; or it is pronounceable by means of an implied vowel. But in the latter case there is nothing to instruct the eye whether that implied vowel stands before or after it; that is to say this — may mean *ka, ke, ki, ko, koo,* with all the other modifications of the series, or it may at the same time also mean *ak, ek, ik, ok, ook,* also with all the other modifications of *that* series. And again, if this — is used medially there is nothing to denote whether a certain combination should read *discussion* (with the KE sound) or *dissection* (with the EK sound); or again if this — is followed by the sibilant, there is nothing to inform the eye whether the syllable should read *case* or *aches*. If, on the other hand, this — is a dead letter, and unpronounceable without the expressed vowel, we arrive at the unfortunate fact, acknowledged throughout the shorthand world, that in reporting a swift speaker it is impossible to express the vowels; and thus this — when written alone would read neither as *ka, ke, ki, ko, koo,* nor as *ak, ek, ik, ok,* or *ook*; but would stand out in the boldest possible relief as a lamentable instance of "giving to an airy nothing a local habitation and a name."

This then is the dilemma: if this — is vowel bearing, when standing alone, it is ambiguous, misleading, and unintelligible, inasmuch as it is impossible to define whether the vowel either precedes or follows it; on the contrary, if it is non-vowel-bearing, but depends upon an expressed vowel to galvanize it into life and to render it pronounceable, then the fact stares us in the face that the expression of that vowel is a virtual impossibility.

My contention is that in the nomenclature of a shorthand alphabet you must not only have a *pe, be, fe, ve, se, ze, te, de, she, zhe, le, re, me, the, dhe,* and *ne,* together with the vowel-like consonants *we, ye,* and *he,* but the same nomenclature must contain an *ep, eb, ef, ev, es, ez, et, ed, esh, ezh, el, er, em, eth, edh,* and *en.* And it will be observed that I have omitted to invert the three vowelitic consonants *we, ye,* and *he.* This I have done advisedly; for the *we* inverted becomes *ew* or *oo,* the *ye* inverted becomes *ey* or *i,* and the

he inverted becomes *eh* or *a* ; and thus the three most important vowels are given by an actual modification of the consonantal characters. And lastly the shorthand alphabetical nomenclature must contain the whispered consonants, as *f'* and *k'* in *free* and *milk* (connected to the vowel-bearing consonants without any vowels intervening) ; and these marks must also be distinguishable to the eye from the same consonant that bears its vowel before it, as well as a modification of the same consonant that bears its vowel after it. These modifications may be effected by differences in size, direction, or thickness ; but these three-fold differences must be distinguishable to the eye. Thus the consonantal nomenclature should show in the book

pe *ep* *p'*
ke *ek* *k'*
fe *ef* *f'*

and so on all through the alphabet, with the exception of *we*, *ye*, and *he*.

Three is the mystic number both on the earth, above the earth, and beneath the earth, and Shorthand cannot for one moment be allowed to stand out as the one isolated exception to this universally accepted rule. And consequently I maintain that the consonantal character in Shorthand has three distinct attributes, and that these should be distinguishable to the eye and brain *per se* without any extraneous assistance whatever.

Let us examine the subject for one moment from a purely physical point of view. When this sound — *kay* is expressed, what happens ? Why simply that the air passages of the mouth or throat being previously closed, are opened, and the breath is trajected, the sound dying away at will, *kay*. But where *ak* is expressed, a diametrically opposite movement takes place. Here the mouth is previously standing open ; it inhales the external air, and in this act of inhalation the sound *ak* is formed, after which the air passages are closed with a jerk or snap (so to speak) and the sound is determined in an instant *ak*, not dying away at will as in the case of *kay*. The movements required for the formation of these two sets of sounds being diametrically opposed to each other, is it too much to ask, in all seriousness, that the shorthand characters that represent these opposing sounds should be distinguishable, the one from the other, to the eye, at a glance? I contend that such a requisition is by no means unreasonable, and I ask sympathy from those of my hearers who already appreciate the ability of distinguishing between a *le* and an *el*, and between a *re* and an *er*, without the aid of context, position, or the expressed vowel. Is this not a step in the right direction, or rather two steps in the right direction ?

For these reasons I beg respectfully to submit to your consideration the following general proposition:—

"That no system of Shorthand can be deemed perfectly satisfactory, whose consonantal characters, marks, or signs, do not express, *per se*, unmistakeably—as well to the eye at a glance by their individual distinct and separate conformations, as to the brain on the instant by their individual distinct and separate alphabetical nomenclature—whether their implied vowel either precedes or follows them, or whether they are immediately dependent upon another principal consonant without a vowel intervening; and all this, entirely irrespective and independent of any extraneous aid whatever, whether from position, from context, or from the expressed vowel."

The CHAIRMAN: There are one or two Papers that have a close relation to the subject of Mr Valpy's Paper, and I propose that they should be read, and then the discussion may take place on them. Perhaps the Congress will allow me the pleasure of reading a telegram that I have just received from Vienna, from the Central Shorthand Union of that City. It is very brief, and to the point. "Hearty salutations and best wishes." (Cheers.)

ON THE PRINCIPLES THAT GOVERN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SYSTEM OF SHORTHAND.

By Prof. J. D. Everett, F.R.S.

There has been much controversy of late years on the principles which ought to govern the construction of a system of Shorthand, and the controversialists have often appeared to me to display a great lack of candour.

Every fair-minded person who has paid any attention to the relative merits of different systems, or who has himself tried his hand at system-making, knows that the best result can only be attained by judicious compromise. One advantage cannot be obtained in its highest degree without the sacrifice of other advantages, and no sound judgment can be arrived at by setting up one particular point of superiority as the sole test of excellence.

To be able to write a given passage with a very small number of movements of the hand is a conspicuous advantage.

To have the writing so simple as to require little mental effort in its performance is another.

To have the words well distinguished from one another is also an important essential.

To employ characters which all slope the same way is advantageous in so far as it enables the writer to make a greater number of movements in a given time.

To give an unfailing indication of the presence or absence of a vowel, before and after each consonant, is a very great advantage as compared with the mere writing of consonants.

To have facility for indicating the actual vowels when desired, without much addition to the labor of writing, is often an immense benefit.

This is by no means an exhaustive list of the good points which a system of Shorthand may possess. But for the most part these different advantages cannot be simultaneously enjoyed, and we must be prepared to sacrifice a smaller benefit for the sake of obtaining a greater. Is there, or is there not, such a thing as scientific construction of a system of Shorthand? If there is, what are the tests for distinguishing a scientific from an unscientific system?

I think we can hardly do better than define a scientific system as "one which obtains the best results by the simplest means." All departures from unity of plan, all exceptions to rules, and all special signs for individual words are, as far as they go, blemishes which derogate from the claim of a system to be called scientific.

A system which can obtain good results by the direct application of a moderate number of rules of a hard and fast character—rules so unambiguous that the interpretation of what is written can be inferred from them beyond all shadow of doubt, has a very high claim to the title of "scientific."

Science was defined by the late Professor Clifford to be "the power of predicting results;" and the business of science as applied to Shorthand, if we are to accept this definition, is to predict what will work best. Some sciences are deductive—they can be spun, so to speak, out of the human brain; but others are based mainly on experiment; and the science of Shorthand, if it exists at all, must come under this latter category.

If we attempt to devise the best set of characters *à priori* by having recourse to geometry, we are met by the fact that the characters will have to be traced by the human hand, and it is by no means evident that such forms as occur in elementary geometry are those which the hand can strike with the greatest rapidity or with the greatest precision. I have sometimes thought that valuable hints might be obtained by shorthand inventors—especially inventors of what are called script systems—by studying the various curves which are produced by combining two simultaneous vibratory movements with an onward movement of the paper on which they are recorded. Such curves are familiar to experimenters in acoustics, and some of them bear a very close resemblance to the *e's*, *u's*, and *m's* of common writing, which we know to be excellent letters for rapid, and at the same time accurate, formation.

But, besides readiness in formation, another quality is required in shorthand characters—facility of identification in reading. Possibly the best result may be obtained by a compromise between the geometric and the script methods. Geometry will furnish us with those forms which are most widely distinguished one from another, and

these forms may then be modified in the manner to which the hand most readily inclines. This last remark applies especially to combinations of two or more characters. When a man is writing rapidly, the momentum of the moving parts cannot be all at once destroyed, and the lingering effects of it display themselves in a tendency to round off corners. In constructing a sound geometric system—one that can stand the pressure of real work—things must be so ordered that the words when thus transmuted shall still remain differentiated one from another.

An old school-fellow of mine(1) many years ago was training himself for the duty of a shorthand clerk, at Gurneys', by reading old note-books, which were lent him for the purpose. I remember asking him if he did not find that the words were very much spoiled in the writing, and getting from him the reply "Yes, but they always spoil them the same way." It is the business of a shorthand maker to see that his words, when thus systematically spoiled, shall still be distinguishable.

Much that has been written upon the possibility of distinguishing one word from another, proceeds upon the assumption that characters will be very accurately traced in the reporter's notes, and I have again and again, when substitutions of one word for another have occurred in newspaper reports, heard the remark made that the writer must have been a very bad phonographer to make such a mistake, for there was a distinct difference between the two words as given in the "Manual" or in some other text-book. I have generally found that the men who thus blame the reporter have themselves never got beyond 80 or 100 words a minute.

In every system there is a certain amount of spoiling that will begin to make it illegible, and beyond this point the worse the spoiling the worse will be the mistakes, or the more complete the inability to decipher at all. It is the business of the inventor to put this danger-point as far on as possible.

With a view to this end it is important to find out what are the most trustworthy means of differentiating our words, and of making them recognizable under all the disguises which they may assume. Something depends on having sharp forms which are not liable to be much spoiled at speed. Something depends on having the characters not too much alike, so that even if altered they will be more like their proper selves than like any other character. Especially is it necessary that we shall never have as many as three characters liable to be confounded together. But much also, I maintain, depends on the power to indicate definitely any prominent vowel sound; for again and again I have found in this the clue to a tangled maze.

I also claim that this is the one step which was wanting to enable

1. Now Sir Gordon Sprigg, Premier of Cape Colony.

strings of words to be joined together. Gurney's system, with its full insertion of vowels appears to have *admitted some word-joinings into its practice in former years,* but to have, on the whole, lost more than it gained by such liberties. This I attribute to the fact that only three distinct vowels could be indicated. I have been trying the experiment for years past with a system which admits of indicating thirteen distinct vowels at speed—having for many previous years written the same system without word-joinings—so that the experiment was a fair one; and I find the word-joinings to be an undoubted and very great improvement—a result which is abundantly confirmed by similar experiments made by others.

PRINCIPLES THAT SHOULD GOVERN A SHORTHAND SYSTEM ADAPTED TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

By J. M. Sloan.

"Brevity is the soul of wit," so I will endeavor, in as few words as possible, to convey to your minds my ideas as to the principles that should govern a shorthand system adapted to the English language. I divide the subject into two parts, viz., the Alphabet and Abbreviations.

Alphabet.—As the Alphabet is the foundation of every system, it is of primary importance that it should be a practical one; that is, without the use of any abbreviations whatever, the student should be able to write at least 80 to 90 words per minute. Unless this be accomplished, in my opinion, the system cannot be a legible one, because if the alphabet can only be written at 25 to 30 words per minute, it is necessary to introduce so many abbreviations to bring it up to reporting speed, that the natural consequence is, that a mere skeleton is left, rendering a transcript very difficult, and often impossible. It does not require great intelligence to understand that the more powerful an alphabet is, the fewer abbreviations are required, consequently more sounds are retained, which give extra legibility. In addition, it is a great advantage to a shorthand clerk to have simply to learn an alphabet in order to put the art to practical use. The advantage is also great to the reporter, as he has fewer abbreviations to learn, and the writing is far more legible, as all monosyllables can be written alphabetically in full, *i.e.*, the vowel either written or indicated in its proper place without lifting the hand. The English language abounds in monosyllables, and in all detached-vowel systems where the consonants do not convey any definite sound, the reporter knows these little words are very difficult to decipher; in fact, so much so that in some cases they are positively unreadable. I maintain that no system can be legible that does not either insert or indicate the vowel in its exact position in every monosyllable. I fancy I see some one smiling and saying, "Oh! that is all very fine, but it is impossible." My reply is, that there is nothing impossible

under the canopy of heaven, and as regards this feat, it has been already accomplished. I will now give a general idea as to the formation of a practical alphabet. The pairs *p b*, *k g*, etc., should not be distinguished by thin and thick characters, but by length. The reason is obvious, because in rapid writing it is impossible to form thin and thick characters with certainty; the result is confusion, every *p* means *b*, every *k* means *g*, etc., and the context only decides, if it can, between their conflicting claims. Nothing should be left to the context, if it can be avoided, and the foregoing arrangement overcomes this difficulty. Thickening, if introduced, should only be used to indicate one letter. Not more than three sizes should be employed, theoretically, and so arranged that practically two sizes only may be used. Vowels should either be indicated or written in their proper places. When written, they should be inserted in such a manner as to join the consonants rapidly together, tending rather to increase speed than diminish it. I think you will admit that an alphabet fulfilling all the conditions I have stated would necessarily be a superior one.

Abbreviations.—There is really pleasure in making abbreviations on an alphabet such as I have described, because the abbreviations necessary will not destroy the legibility of little words, as they can be written alphabetically in full. Generally speaking, it is only words of three and more syllables that require to be abbreviated.

Abbreviations should be made by rules, with no exceptions. All prefixes and affixes should be indicated by one movement of the hand, and in such a manner as not to burden the memory in learning them, as a free memory gives a free hand. Grammalogues and word signs should be conspicuous by their absence. No position should be used; that is, a given form should not alter its signification if placed on the line, above, or through it, as in rapid writing one position is apt to be mistaken for another.

In conclusion, in my humble opinion, the complete Reporting Style should be so simple as to be acquired in twelve to twenty hours' study; in short, so simple that no one can fail to learn it—a system that enables boys to leave school for the various departments of business or professional life, practical shorthand writers.

Mr Pitman: In my opinion Professor Everett's Paper is one of the most valuable that has been read during the Congress. I shall have the very greatest pleasure in presenting it in my *Journal*, but I want to make a few practical remarks upon Mr Valpy's Paper. It concerns the names that we use to express the letters of the alphabet. The old proverb is applicable here, "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and the proof of the value of a set of names to designate the letters of the alphabet is to be found in either or both of two places, the schoolroom and the printing office. Now I have been a teacher and a printer all my life, a public teacher for eleven years, a teacher of a Sunday school for a dozen years before that, and a printer for forty-five years. I could hardly gather with any certainty from Mr Valpy's paper whether he wants all the letters to have a preceding vowel or a following vowel, or whether some shall have the vowel preceding and others the vowel following. I respectfully ask him to enlighten me on that point.

Mr VALPY: Each letter should have three names, with the exception of *way*, *yay*, and *he*.

Mr PITMAN: Those are not letters in the same sense as the others. They are what I call hybrids. *P*, in Mr Valpy's nomenclature, will be *pe*, and *ep*, and a whisper. I cannot whisper a *p*. I close my lips and cannot pronounce any sound without a vowel after it. In a printing office, where the letters are as much entities as the men themselves, it would be impossible to conduct the business by calling the letter *P*, *pe*, and *ep*, and a whisper.

Mr BENSCHER: I think that the last observation of Mr Pitman was perfectly correct. A consonant by itself cannot be pronounced, and, therefore, my idea is, that the vowel ought to be given with the consonant, and the way the two consonants are written down one after another ought to show which vowel is used. I myself for the last eighteen years have used two different Shorthand systems in Germany, the Stoltze and the Arends. The Gabelsberger I commenced, but only used it for a year, and then I was forced to drop it. Stolze used the thick and thin consonants to show the vowels; whilst Arends, on the other hand, said that the thickening and thinning of the consonants is impossible in practice. I myself have never found much difficulty in using the thick and thin strokes. But it is better if that can be avoided. I agree that two or three lengths might very well be used, and, at the same time, that system is best which allows of the least doubt. Some doubt there will always be, and if anybody should ask me as to the possibility of creating a new and successful Shorthand system, I would give the American reply, "There is room on top." We are not here to dispute about the different Shorthands, but I think every one of them can be altered and improved upon. When thick and thin lines are used a good shorthand writer can see the difference, and a bad shorthand writer cannot read it whether it is thick or thin. My idea is, that every vowel ought to be written, and not merely indicated. If abbreviations can be avoided, well and good; but, unfortunately, they cannot, and no system exists which can do without them. Such abbreviations, however, should always be of a kind that can be combined in a number of words. If a consonant is written without anything following, it should always mean that a particular syllable is to follow. For instance, if a consonant written by itself means *unction*, then *f* is *function*. But, of course, every reporter will form his own abbreviations. I have had a good deal of experience in reporting, and I find in every special branch we must shorten our own words. I once had the doubtful pleasure of being shorthand writer to a Court of Louisiana. I had never done any shorthand except in German before, and there they used a language mixed up of French, Spanish, and English. I did not know what to do. I looked at the judge and he looked at me. Then I had to go by sound, to accustom myself for the first few moments to what was said, and then write it down. If you confine yourself to systematic abbreviations, I wish you to go into such a Court, and try to write down what is said.

Mr RUNDELL: There are some remarks of the last speaker that I cannot pass over. If he is thinking of a system of Shorthand for rapid writing as distinct from an easy system, he cannot afford to throw over position. I hold in my hand what is, in my opinion, the shortest system, in which nine positions are regularly observed. I have a series of exercises written against time to show whatever faults occur, but the position is clearly observed. With reference to the question of pronouncing consonants without vowels, I would ask Mr Pitman if this character *p* cannot be pronounced without a vowel: I would also ask what is the final vowel in the word *heap*.

Mr MAX BACKLER (Berlin): I cannot agree with Mr Davies that this discussion on the principles of Shorthand shows that we are all discontented with existing systems. That is only true to a very small extent. A great deal of good work has been done with various systems, and I have been astonished to see that the geometrical systems are worked here in England with such ease and coolness. We are contented with what we have, but it is the nature of the human spirit always to move forward, and that is what we will do. Neither can I agree with Mr Benscher's contention that we

must avoid abbreviations as much as possible. We have some in longhand, and we ought also to have some in shorthand. Shorthand is intended to be wrritten short, and I cannot think that any system can do its work without abbreviations. We must adopt them according to the frequency of the words, and not in the manner pointed out by Mr Benscher. The use of positions in writing is in my opinion no hindrance. Whilst in most cases differences in Shorthand are very small, I know nothing that is easier than difference in position. Strokes and curves may be mingled together, but it is not possible to confound one position with another, or at least confusion is not so likely to occur.

The CHAIRMAN: I wish to make two announcements. The Press Club has very kindly elected for a month, as honorary members, some of our foreign friends. Those gentlemen will consider themselves temporary members of that club, and avail themselves of its advantages. Another telegram has just arrived, which I think I ought at once to read. It is from New York—"Convey Shorthand Congress fraternal greetings and hearty wishes; grand success. German-American Stenographic Society, Gabelsberger." (Cheers.)

Mr POCKNELL: You certainly cannot do without abbreviations, but they ought to be formed upon a method or principle. It is no use applying abbreviations without a principle. The difficulty in using abbreviations has arisen from our having only twenty-six signs in the alphabet, but in Mr Valpy's system and mine you have some eighty signs more or less. There is one point I should like to mention, that it is impossible satisfactorily to lay down the principles of a system which shall apply at once to correspondence where you have to show the absolute sound of a vowel, and also to reporting where you cannot afford time to put the vowel sign in. In that way most previous systems have made a great mistake. Mr Pitman, for instance, had a very admirable system for correspondence founded upon his phonetic longhand method, but when he applied those principles to reporting he had to leave out the very elements of the sound. Mr Reed has said that to use one vowel in about thirty words is sufficient, but that will not be "writing by sound," and therefore you must indicate your vowel places; and in a language like the English, which you understand before you begin to write shorthand, you do not want to express the vowel and its value, so long as you know where its place is. That is a principle that can be made applicable to both correspondence and reporting; and then, when using the consonants alone, we know where the vowel is without writing it. In my system, it is intermediately at the junction of simple and compound consonant signs; in Mr Valpy's, it is shown by the preferential use of a long stroke or a short one.

Mr GUEST: I admit that if there are no vowel sounds indicated, the outlines will not be sufficient for corresponding purposes; but Mr Pocknell seems to think that in the whole world there is no system that indicates the vowel sounds except his own "Legible Shorthand;" but he ought to know thoroughly well that in "Compendious Shorthand" a very large number of vowels are indicated, not exactly as he indicates them, but in a better way than by the outline itself. I may be allowed to say that as the consonant outlines in "Compendious Shorthand" are capable of expressing every possible combination of consonants without a vowel, it follows that either at the beginning or end of every such combination there must be a vowel, because there is no word without one. I agree with Mr Pocknell it is not always necessary to indicate the exact vowel so long as the position is shown; but there are times when it is necessary, and therefore the best system is one which will indicate the position of all the less important vowels, and give opportunity for inserting vowels which may be necessary for a more complete expression of the word, either by the mode of connecting the consonantal outlines or by detached vowels. There was a great deal of shrewdness and common sense in the remarks made by Mr Davies. He claimed that a shorthand alphabet should be short, and that as nearly as possible even fast writing should be done without abbreviations. Another speaker said abbreviations should be used only for the most frequent words. Now, those two remarks put together assure me that I am exactly on the right path. I avoid, on the one hand, the extreme irksomeness of detached vowels; and, on the other, the slowness which necessarily results from the system described by Mr Valpy, in which all the vowels are indicated whether you want them or not.

Mr BUTTON: As a professional writer, I do not believe that it would be possible to discard position, but I may also say that I do not think we have as yet a system that can in any sense be looked upon as likely to become universal. My judgment is that what we have heard this morning will bring us nearer to such a system. Any system which is to have the needed power of following a rapid speaker must enable you to place the vowel without lifting the pen. I happen to write what in my judgment is a magnificent system, Phonography; but having had the privilege at times of reading over notes with writers of other systems in which the vowel has been indicated, I have noticed that that is an immense advantage, and I should say that in any future system that will be required. Referring to abbreviations, it seems to me that we are apt to think too much of them. Some speakers have a vocabulary of not more than 2,000 or 3,000 words, and those who have the greatest mastership of the English language perhaps do not use more than 10,000 or 14,000 words. If that is so, what is required is not simply a mode of corresponding, but one that will enable a professional writer to follow a speaker with the greatest ease, and allow other people to read the notes.

The CHAIRMAN: Another friendly communication has just reached us through Lord Rosebery from the Academy of Tachygraphy in Barcelona, congratulating the Congress, and expressing the great interest it feels in its deliberations.

Mr BEHRENS (Lübeck): I wish to say a few words about an association in Germany of German shorthand writers. The principles upon which it is based may truly be called international. In all civilised countries there are several systems contending for superiority, and what one praises as being its greatest advantage another calls the greatest disadvantage. The English and French systems are all geometrical, while our German systems are script systems. Which is right, nobody can say; because we have no fixed principles by which to judge the different systems. The association I have referred to consists of three divisions. The first division sums up the various experiences in different systems, dealing with such questions as how many simple characters of one stroke may be found, what are the functions of a hyphen between two characters, etc. Another division examines the language to be represented, what sounds occur most frequently, what combinations, prefixes and suffixes, are most common. The third division deals with the power of shorthand characters to be written quickly and certainly. We have not yet seen the ideal system, but we want a great genius to unite all the previous advantages into a new system. I should be glad to hear of similar associations being formed in other countries.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: The subject for our discussion is the Principles of Shorthand, and I think it would be well if we kept to that, and did not branch off into the question whether Mr So-and-so's system carries out those principles more fully than someone else's does. That always tends to produce a little asperity, and in such a Congress as this we should endeavour, above all things, to show a friendly feeling. I very much regretted to hear on Wednesday evening one gentleman speak of Gurney's universally-known system as being a fossil system.

The CHAIRMAN: That was only a pleasantry.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: I think the great principle of Shorthand should be utility. Shorthand is a practical thing, and striving too much after scientific or pseudo-scientific principles often leads inventors into a snare. Some inventors have formed alphabets on the supposed analogy between the vocal organs and the marks they make on the paper. No doubt they are right, phonetically, in always having thick or thin, long or short, or something of that sort. The real principle should be that indicated in the very useful information we have just heard from the gentleman from Germany, who told us that the German shorthand writers meet together and discuss the practical result of various ways of writing a word. That is the only sound way in which the perfect system ever will be constructed.

Mr KITSON: I am very sorry indeed if the word "fossil" which I used the other evening has given rise to the slightest misunderstanding. It was said jocularly and

in the best possible spirit, and merely as a joke. No one has a greater respect for Gurney's system than I have. In the amount of work which it has done, it is one of the most valuable that was ever invented.

The CHAIRMAN: No doubt the *genius loci* was at work. Mr Kitson remembered that he was in the Geological Museum.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I am sure Mr Kitson's words will have quite removed any misunderstanding on the part of writers of the Gurney system. I did not personally feel any annoyance, and thank him for his explanation. I wish to say a word as President of the Shorthand Society for the present year. I think Mr Wright and Mr Behrens have done us very good service by their observations. They have pointed out that it is desirable that practical shorthand writers should meet together, compare experiences, and exchange opinions as to principles and possible improvements in the art. That is the object of the Shorthand Society. That society meets once a month, except in the vacation, to discuss exactly such problems, and the more practical shorthand writers will attend and give us the benefit of their experience, the better the results will be. We have many practical shorthand writers as well as some theorists, but we want more. Referring to some of the remarks which have been made in this discussion, I will venture to suggest that there are now data for something like an inductive process with regard to Shorthand. In my paper on the history of the Gurney system, I endeavored to show that from the facts of that system something like an induction might be attempted, and suggested that the experience for more than one hundred years of men, many of them of intelligence, all trying to sharpen their tool to the utmost, might be of service to other shorthand writers. I ventured to call attention to the result of their experience in favor of lifting the pen, which is contrary to the generally received opinion here and abroad (to be explained possibly by the character of the system requiring a different action of the hand), and in favor of increased vocalisation. However, whether that particular experience be useful or not, my present purpose is to call attention to the fact that there are data for something like an inductive process in Shorthand. Professor Everett has mentioned a fact which confirms the statement in my paper that we have a reporting style. I should have quoted his story about Sir Gordon Sprigg if I had been aware of it, to show that we have a reporting style.

Mr J. T. STEELE (Whitehaven): As a junior member of the Shorthand Congress, and one whose study of Shorthand is very recent, I may state what, I think, lies at the root of Mr Valpy's remarks, that in my study of Phonography I never found the difficulty he complains of with regard to consonantal nomenclature. To me the horizontal stroke called *kay* was never believed to represent the sound *kay*, but simply the *kay* minus the *ay*. The *kay* was simply the name of the letter, not the sound. Other systems of Shorthand, with a few exceptions, have the same idea underlying their alphabets. Mr Valpy makes a difficulty out of an "airy nothing," and then proceeds to sweep it away. I was much amused with Mr Sloan's remarks about its being impossible to preserve the distinction between thick and thin strokes in fast writing, for he afterwards said that letters might be thickened to signify an added letter. In practice it is very rarely that a mistake is made in reading a thin letter for a thick. The fact that the letters are in phonetic pairs prevents that.

The CHAIRMAN: A communication has been sent to us from Mr Haseman, who lays before us the details of a system which he calls International Phono-Stenography. He invites the Congress to consider it, and to pass a resolution declaring that it is the only system worthy of adoption. I shall have much pleasure in laying this on the table for inspection. I do not invite the Congress to consider his resolution, because I do not think it would attain any practical result, and it was not the design of the Congress to pass resolutions of this character.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Dr Gowers, whom we had the pleasure of hearing yesterday, has entrusted me with a suggestion—that it would be useful practical work if this Congress could set on foot some arrangement (perhaps by means of a permanent

committee) by which literary men as well as shorthand writers would be able to use in their manuscripts a code of abbreviations which printers would recognise. We know that reporters, in writing out for the Press, commonly use abbreviations, which Dr Gowers and other literary men have not felt themselves at liberty to use. He suggests that a code might be adopted which would minimise the work of any man who sends anything to the Press. We cannot discuss it here, but I venture to propose that a small committee be appointed, of say four or five, who shall report to-morrow morning at the business meeting whether anything can be done in this direction. I move that a committee be appointed for the purpose I have described, consisting of Mr Pitman, our Chairman, Mr Theodore Wright, Mr Bannerman, and myself.

Mr Tolcher seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

PASIGRAPHIC SHORTHAND.

By Edwin Guest.

A Pasigraphic Shorthand is a form of brief writing applicable to all languages, but throughout this paper "all" is to be usually understood to mean the greater languages of the Aryan and the Semitic groups, which for the Central and Western Worlds are sufficient for all practical purposes.

The organs of speech being the same in all men, all the sounds of any language can be produced with proper instruction and training by any race of men. Although some races do not employ certain sounds which are very commonly used by others, the majority of sounds have a strong general resemblance. In root words of the same group there is also a general resemblance in the ideas represented by the sounds of root syllables.

The range of deviation is greater in the vowels than in the consonantal sounds, and English, the most widely spread among the languages of civilization, contains, with a few exceptions, all the consonantal sounds. Our widely spread and rapidly extending language can be expressed by experts by its consonantal sounds almost exclusively, but to accomplish this incessant practice is necessary. The expertness required for this is of the highest professional character—an expertness scarcely compatible, except in phenomenal cases, with the extension of the category of sounds much beyond those of the English Phonetic Alphabet, as given in the "Manual of Compendious Shorthand."

But an alphabet of sounds not capable of extension, or in which means are not provided for extensions, cannot be considered pasigraphic.

Therefore it may be said that a Pasigraphic alphabet is something different from, and beyond a Shorthand alphabet proper.

But the learning of a system of Shorthand for any practical purpose whatever is a serious undertaking, and in my opinion it is highly reprehensible to invite students to learn a system of Shorthand for a subordinate purpose which cannot be advantageously

employed if required for a principal purpose of Shorthand, namely, the reproduction of rapid speech.

These being the conditions, a form of Pasigraphic Shorthand to be satisfactory should, I think, consist of the best possible form of Shorthand for English, *plus* a supplementary means of expressing all the usual sounds of other languages.

To start with a system incapable of the best work, as a Shorthand proper, in the language most commonly required by the practitioner, would be a mistake on his part, even though he may see no immediate probability of his requiring to use it for reproducing oratory, for a powerful system need not be more difficult to learn than a feeble one, and it will often be simpler. No young man knows when he sets out in life what he may require, and it is the highest worldly wisdom to start with his mental tool-box furnished in the completest possible manner.

To continue the metaphor of the tool-box, he should have its contents so arranged that the most frequently-required tools shall be always in prime condition and in the most convenient possible position for getting hold of. Tools not frequently required may be relegated to the less prominent positions, subject to the condition of being promoted to better positions should a change of work make the change expedient.

It may be even proper to leave little used tools in a partially unready condition, in order to economise the energy which would be wasted if an unused tool were to be ground regularly to a fine cutting edge like the others required more frequently.

The more the tools are multiplied the fewer turns for use will come to each in any given period. So in Shorthand. The exigencies of speed compel us to write for the most part mechanically, for whatever cannot be done without reflection cannot be done with sufficient rapidity to enable the hand to follow the voice.

I have elsewhere demonstrated that when the hand is producing 300 stenographic marks per minute it is working at its maximum speed ("Compendious Shorthand," pars. 3 and 4), and that speed of working leaves no room for reflection as to the forms of expression. The fingers, the ear, and the brain must have been so thoroughly trained to work together that the action almost seems confined to the ear and the fingers without the intervention of the mind. Shorthand requires to be written automatically to be rapid, just as fast longhand writing is automatic.

I estimate that eighty-four varieties of sound will be sufficient for practical purposes for all the principal languages; about half being vowel sounds and the remainder consonantal. But it appears to me not possible for all these to be made automatic, or, to return to the metaphor, to be kept in a high state of readiness for instant use, unless accompanied by an enormous waste of effort. About

half this number of tools are quite enough to have in the front row and the other half may advantageously be placed in the second, third or fourth rank behind, according to the frequency with which circumstances require them to be used.

My front rank tools include 25 consonantal signs of English sounds (the *r*'s and one *l* being here counted as consonants) and twenty vowels, including the three commonest foreign vowels.

They are grouped in threes in the natural order, the lip-letters *p, b, m,* forming the first group, the tooth-lip letters *f, v, w,* the second, the tip-tongue letters *n, t, d,* the third, and so forth, as illustrated in my paper on "Shorthand's Place in Education." The triple grouping and the order of procession of the groups are important points for reasons given in the "Manual of Compendious Shorthand," but which time does not permit me to repeat here.

The seven signs following are those chiefly employed in my next illustrations.

English Gutturals.			*Aspirate.*	*Coalescents or Semivowels.*		
Y	K	G	H	L	'R (er)	R' (re)
						

French liquid *ll* = *ee*	Spanish *ll* = *lya*	Welsh *ll* *hl*
temporary form 	temporary form	temporary form 
permanent form	permanent form 	permanent form 
abbreviated do. do. | = *ee*		

The English language is so comprehensive that already we have in it almost a universal alphabet so far as the consonants are concerned, and the addition of less than a score of other consonantal signs would include the remainder. No other civilized language is so rich in consonants. All the extra sounds, too, have what we may consider their prototypes in English, and when heard casually it will suffice temporarily to refer them to these prototypes with a figure attached, which will indicate their importance as regards frequency of employment. Thus, the French liquid *ll* may be expressed as l^3, the Spanish *ll*, l^3, and the Welsh *ll*, l^4, by an English student who is more often called upon to write French than either Spanish or Welsh.

A Welsh student, or any student often using Welsh, might, on the contrary, give preference to the Welsh sound, and promote it to a position before the corresponding French or Spanish sound. In this case the student would in fact so frequently require to express the Welsh *ll*, that he would at once find a place for it in his front rank, that is, he would memorize its stenographic form, and the frequency of its recurrence in his case would make the form quickly automatic and keep it so, without special effort. For him it would be worth memorizing, and the following would be its form,

, the analysis being " H " the initial tick, " L " the small concave curve. Welsh *ll* equals English *hl*.

Where Spanish and French were both very commonly used, the characteristic sounds of double *ll* in both languages would be memorized at once, and the signs be made permanent. Thus *Sevilla* (Sp.), sounded *sevilya*, would be written by the Spaniard and by the Englishman The Frenchman (and the Englishman who writes French often,) would write *brille* or briefly, ; but the Englishman who writes French seldom, not desiring to burden the memory with an extra form, would write the temporary form , his form for English "brill," with the common figure 2 beside it. The numbering with common figures would become rapidly automatic without any special effort. The German *ch* and Russian *x* would, in the same way, by the German or Russian be consecrated in a permanent stenographic form, thus founded upon the prototype *k*. On the other hand the student not requiring to record this sound frequently, would, on the rare occasions when it occurs, simply use the temporary form 2 Any other modification whatever of an original type, whether vowel or consonant, would be formed in like manner, first temporarily with an ordinal number, and subsequently, if required, by a permanent form derived from a phonetic analysis of the sound. It is obvious that when following the living voice there is no time for phonetic analysis, but the mind will with very little practice instantly refer any new sound to a proper type, with a new numerical distinction which affords a close approximation to correctness. The exacter analysis would follow at leisure.

But the importance of a Pasigraphic Shorthand for oral purposes is immensely surpassed by its importance for corresponding purposes. Comparatively few persons will ever require to write verbatim speeches in half-a-dozen different languages, whereas if a convenient and easy means of doing it were available, there would scarcely be any limit to its utility in commercial, political, literary, and social correspondence, if it could be employed by the masses of the people in every country.

The comparatively slow progress of Shorthand writing among the masses during the 300 years which have elapsed since Dr Timothy Bright revived the art in England, leads me to the conclusion that some form of transition shorthand ought to be employed for pasigraphic, that is, for international and universal purposes.

Perhaps no one here requires to be told that any Shorthand alphabet not excessively simple and easy would excite derision if put forward in this assembly. At a previous sitting I hope I satisfactorily demonstrated the desirability of teaching such an alpha-

bet to infants, even before the common alphabet, and that there is no difficulty in doing this.

It is not the initial, but the advanced stages of Shorthand which present difficulties, and unless these advanced stages can be dispensed with during a certain period, an enormous time must elapse before the dream of Thomas Moat will be fulfilled. Writing in 1833, he declared that some future author would be crowned with that success that should entitle him to the deserved appellation of "Universal Stenographist," when his work should be reduced to that elegant simplicity which must characterise its worth and ensure its general adoption and lasting establishment.

It is to such a simple transition method that I believe we must look for the first important step of progress towards realising the dream of a universal system of communicating ideas, and I will conclude this paper by giving you a few illustrations of the leading principles of the method I propose.

Illustrations by living subjects applied to English, French, and Italian.

PRINCIPLES TO BE ILLUSTRATED.

(1) The basis in the Compendious Shorthand Alphabet.

(2) An alphabet of ideas, the signs of which are already uuiversally known.

(3) How the second is derived from the first.

(4) Existing brief forms already known to most of the civilized races, applied as word-signs.

(5) Other word-signs nearly universal in stenography, or in other arts and sciences.

(6) Stenographic employment of the common alphabetic letters printed and written.

(7) The stenographic employment of some widely known signs of general grammar.

(8) The stenographic employment of natural hieroglyphics of a simple character.

(9) Applications to various foreign languages.

(10) Its universality as a medium of communication.

(11) French taught through it.

(12) Italian taught through it, in a very small number of lessons.

The illustrations were mostly omitted through lack of time, but after the conclusion of the sitting, one of Mr Guest's pupils, aged eight, read a short passage expressed in Pasigraphic characters, the same set of characters serving equally to suggest to the young pupil the correct equivalents in English, French, Italian and German. The illustration was considered most interesting and satisfactory by several leading experts, which included Mr T. A. Reed, Mr Gurney-Salter, Dr Zeibig, and other English and foreign stenographers.

THE REPRESENTATION OF FIGURES IN SHORTHAND.

By T. A. Reed.

Many schemes have been devised for the representation of figures by Shorthand symbols as distinguished from the Arabic numerals; but I have seen none that have appeared to me to be of a thoroughly practical character. They have usually consisted of letters of the Shorthand alphabet combined in very much the same way as ordinary words, from which they are sometimes distinguished by being underlined or encircled or otherwise ear-marked, which, it is needless to say, is inconsistent with brevity.

In the first place, let me say that I do not think that ordinarily we need a briefer representation of figures than those in common use. Taken as a whole, they are quite as brief as Shorthand; in fact they are practically Shorthand characters. Taking the numbers separately, I question whether in any system of Shorthand the words *one*, *two*, *three*, etc., would be written more briefly than they are by our familiar figures. It is true they are words of but one syllable, but they would require, I think, in all systems, more than one simple character to represent them. Then in combination of say two figures, as 24, 98, there are in English three syllables represented; in other languages sometimes more, as quatre vingt dix huit (98), ein und zwanzig (21); and these could hardly be written distinctly in Shorthand letters more quickly than they can be expressed by the Arabic numerals. In combinations of three or more figures, as 186, 2,347, the number of syllables is augmented by the occurrence of the words "hundred," "thousand," and "and;" and in such cases the relative brevity of the figures is of course greatly increased. The last combination, for example, consists of no fewer than eleven syllables (two thousand three hundred and forty seven), and is just of the same length as the phrase, "I shall be glad if you will write to me soon." I know of no system of Shorthand in which those words could be written more quickly, even with the aid of phraseograms, than by the characters 2,347. Take again, a long combination like 264,583,766. Here we have twenty-five syllables, equivalent to the phrase, "Will you have the kindness to let me know, if you can do so, where you are lodging when you are in town?" and I fancy that these words written in Shorthand, by whatever method, would occupy both more space and time than the symbols given above.

But it may be said that even admitting that the Arabic characters are as short as, or even shorter than, the ordinary stenographic symbols would be, that is no reason why they should not be made shorter still. Assuredly it is not—always supposing however that the shorter characters are as distinct and legible, and I think it will be generally admitted that they are not. There is no difficulty in assigning a simple Shorthand character to each of the ten figures and combining

them in the usual way for all groups, and such combinations would certainly be shorter than their Arabic equivalents. Take, for example, such a group as  as representing 2,468, the Shorthand letters could certainly be  written more quickly than the common figures, but who will say that they are as distinct and unmistakeable as the latter? The figures stand out clear, sharp, well defined, and legible, without the aid of any context whatever. As to the Shorthand letters, I suppose every Shorthand writer will admit that in rapid writing he sometimes writes what should be a straight stroke a little sloping, and in reading is doubtful which was intended, being able to decide between them only by a reference to the context. Now, with figures there is often no such thing as context. Each figure must be independent of its fellows; and I for one confess that I should be unwilling to write say (for 9, and ⟍ for 6. Nay, one is not always sure in writing whether a stroke is meant to be curved or straight, and, apart from the context, this might lead to serious embarrassment in endeavoring to decide between one figure and another. There is practically very little difficulty in ordinary writing and reading, owing to the run of the sentences, with which everyone is familiar. There is no particular run of the figures, and hence the undesirability of using characters as to which the slightest doubt can arise.

Another objection to the use of Shorthand characters for figures has often been pointed out, and needs only to be mentioned. It is that the Shorthand symbols, unless they are, as I have said, ear-marked, (and this requires time,) may easily be mistaken for ordinary words. The common figures are rarely liable to such confusion (except perhaps in the case of the figures 1 and 6 when written separately) and they have the advantage of being so different in form from Shorthand characters that they are easily recognised, and thus become useful landmarks for reference when the Shorthand writer wishes to find out a particular passage in his notes. One commonly hears a Shorthand writer say to another who is looking out a passage for the purpose of comparison, "Do you see the figures 963? it is just after that." The other turns over his leaves quickly, the little group of three figures catches his eye at once, and the passage is easily discovered.

For these reasons I have never used Shorthand characters for figures. But for the expression of round numbers and fractions, I have thought it desirable to adopt special forms of abbreviation; and as I have used them for some years with advantage I have thought that a short presentation of them might not be unacceptable to the Congress. They are not peculiar to Phonography, but may be applied to any Shorthand in common use. It will be observed that in the case of these round numbers, several "noughts" are sometimes required to represent a single word—two noughts for a hundred, three for a thousand, and so on; so that the speed of writing as compared with that of speech, is diminished, and it is for this reason that a greater abbreviation is required.

The plan that I have adopted for the representation of hundreds and thousands is to express the former by a small dash on the right-hand side of the figure with which it is connected, as

1— = 100
2— = 200
8— = 800

and the latter by a longer dash (straight or sloping slightly upwards), under the figure with which it is connected, as

 = 1,000

 = 2,000

 = 8,000

The words hundred thousand can, of course, be represented by the two dashes, as

 = 100,000

 = 200,000

 = 800,000

When the word "pounds" follows a figure, meaning either weight or money, I represent it by a simple dot; thus,

 = £1 or 1 lb.

 = £5 or 5 lbs.

 = £400 or 400 lbs.

 = £10,000 or 10,000 lbs.

 = £300,000 or 300,000 lbs.

The dot is a very convenient mode of representing pounds, since it forms a division mark between pounds and shillings, no other being needed, as

4.2.6 = £4.2.6

I have also adopted a brief method of representing the common fractions ½, ½, ¾, which enter so largely into our monetary system in connection with the divisions of a penny. These fractions occupy an unnecessarily long time in writing, especially the last, ¾, which requires no fewer than six inflexions and two intermediate liftings of the pen, equal to eight inflexions. My method of shortening is this. I write the fraction immediately above the principal figure, representing the ½ by a simple dash, ¼ by a dash with a slight tick preceding, and ¾ by a dash with a slight tick following, as

 = 3½

 = 2¼

 = 6¾

The fraction $\frac{3}{4}$, when occurring alone, I write $3_{\cdot}$, and $\frac{3}{8}$ I express by 3 It will be seen that in each case the numerator and the denominator are combined in one form, so that a great saving of time is effected. Other fractions, which are much less frequent, should, I think, be written in the ordinary way.

When the word "or" occurs between two numbers, I write the second figure under the first; thus, $\frac{3}{4}$ = three or four; $\frac{7}{8}$ = seven or eight. The expression of "or" is thus rendered unnecessary.

The word "hundred-weight," which, containing seven consonants, requires a rather long outline in most, if not all, Shorthand systems, I find it convenient to represent by two dots; thus, 6: = 6 cwt.; $3_{\cdot}$: = $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.; $\overline{4}$: $4\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.; 2: 2. 4 = 2 cwt., 2 qrs., 4 lbs.

"Per cent." may be written with the letter *p* following the figure, as (using the phonographic alphabet) $_5\diagdown$ = 5 per cent; $\bar{2}\diagdown$ = $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. "Per cent. per annum" I express by two *p*'s; thus, $\overleftarrow{4}\diagdown\diagdown$ = $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum; $\frac{4}{5}\diagdown\diagdown$ = 4 or 5 per cent. per annum.

The common terms "square yard," "square foot," "cubic yard," etc., I write thus (I use again the phonographic alphabet, but of course the principle can be applied to other systems):—

(sk, rd) = square yard.
(sk, ft) = square foot.
(k, rd) = cubic yard.
(k, ft) = cubic foot.
(k, n, ch) = cubic inch.
(p, r, sk, rd) = per square yard.
(p, r, sk, n, ch) = per square inch.

"Degrees" can be conveniently written with the ordinary sign "°," and "Fahrenheit" and "Centigrade" can be expressed by the letters "f" and "cnt" respectively, following the figures; thus, $30^{\circ}\diagdown$ = 30 degrees Fahrenheit; 13° = 13 degrees Centigrade.

Mr Webb: In my somewhat lengthened experience, I have always adopted the system of using the common figures in writing shorthand, and I have succeeded, though sometimes with great effort and difficulty, in taking down strings of figures. On one occasion in particular, I remember the late Mr G. B. Bidder poured them forth with great rapidity, but I took them. In the Gurney system we have abbreviations for hundreds and thousands by dots, but, having for the first time seen the illustrations which Mr Reed has given, I must say that his system of abbreviation of figures is much better than any other I have ever seen.

Mr Bell (Stanwick): Do you not think that an initial letter suggests the idea more vividly than an arbitary stroke? It cannot be mistaken for anything else. *N* written under the figure cannot be read as a separate word.

Mr Gurney-Salter: I wish also to thank Mr Reed for his explanation of what seems to me an excellent method, likely to be useful to us all, of writing figures.

But as to one matter that he mentioned, I think it is the experience of shorthand writers that figures take them *longer* to write than an equal number of syllables in words. Suppose, as has frequently happened to me, you have a string of figures in an estimate, say for ironclads, £1,025,647 9s. for 1886-7; £2,346,987 5s. 6d. for 1885-6; another row of figures for 1884-5; and so on—nothing but figures for two or three lines,—according to my experience you are thrown behind in a way that you would not be with the same number of syllables in words. Mr Reed has given what I may call a logical proof that they take no longer; but there are many things as to which you can say *solvitur ambulando*; and in my experience you cannot take down figures with anything like the same rapidity that you can write a number of words, containing as many syllables.

Mr T. A. Reed: Mr Pitman uses the letter ⌣ *n* for hundred. I have done that frequently, but I always prefer a straight stroke to a curve. Then Mr Pitman uses ⌣ *n,th* for hundred thousand, but they are both curved letters; and I do not like the outline because it looks something like a shorthand word. With regard to the interesting point that Mr Gurney-Salter has mentioned as to the rapidity with which figures are uttered, I can only say that as he was repeating the figures I took them down with ease. I am sure I could not have so easily taken down a corresponding number of ordinary words. One difficulty is, that you *must* write every figure, but when a speaker is very rapid, a word or two here and there may be omitted without the least injury to the sense. The omission or change of a single figure might be a very serious matter indeed.

Professor Everett: I have always found that when I write small numbers in Shorthand they are more legible than when written in ordinary figures, and in reading shorthand notes I have found that figures are liable to give trouble. (The speaker explained on the black-board his mode of representing figures by his Shorthand alphabet.)

Mr Janes: For many years I have found that the ordinary figures were sufficient for all purposes, with a dot for each "0," a stroke underneath for thousands, and two strokes for millions. A more complicated system is likely to fail if you only use it occasionally.

Mr Guest explained the method of writing numbers by his system of "Compendious Shorthand."

THE AD LIBITUM EMPLOYMENT OF ABBREVIATIONS.

Translated for the Shorthand Congress from the Italian of Captain Oscar Greco, by Edwin Guest.

Siglorum usus ad libitum scribentis.

That is the settled maxim of the Parthenopian Stenographic Society of Naples, and with this principle a new direction to be given to modern Stenography has been initiated.

The object of modern Stenography is twofold—to record the speeches of the orator and to facilitate study. When used for the former purpose it becomes a profession, and procures for its practitioners a worthy remuneration, but when merely employed as a help to study and for the sake of economising time in writing, it stands lower in the scale.

In order that it may respond to both these objects a system of Stenography should be endowed with two most important qualities.

It should not only be rapid as compared with ordinary writing, but it ought to be easily legible, since a stenographic system cannot have any great development which does not to celerity join legibility.

Only one system, that of Gabelsberger, which reposes on logical and rational principles, lends itself to this double application of modern Stenography; all others, omitting more or less in writing, letters, syllables and even entire words, sacrifice legibility to speed.

While other systems, invented solely for verbatim reporting have arbitrary signs and contain a mass of abbreviations, without logic or reason for their formation, that of Gabelsberger presents the greatest rationality in all its parts.

In this, the selection of signs for the letters of the alphabet is not capriciously made, but judiciously and in conformity with the modes of action of the vocal organs in emitting the various sounds.

In this, the phonetic principle, "write as the words sound," is applied in all its extent; in it, the vowels are not omitted but are indicated in the consonants themselves, in modifying their form and position; in it, finally, the abbreviations necessary to overtake speed are not made arbitrarily but upon definite laws founded upon etymology and syntax.

It is not necessary in this system to commit to memory a mass of abbreviations which overweight the memory and render the study of Stenography difficult; but it is enough to know the rule to form any abbreviation whatever. Hence the Gabelsbergerite has no need to commit mechanically to memory a selection of some thousands of arbitrary abbreviations as in the other imperfect systems, but learns only the rules for forming every kind of abbreviation.

These rules are most simple, since they are reduced to three only, namely,

(1) Only the root of a word is written, omitting the termination; or

(2) The termination is written, omitting the root, or

(3) A part of the root, as well as a part of the termination, is written.

Any word may be abbreviated according to one or other of these three modes, and the choice is left to the judgment of the stenographer to use one or other of the rules according to the nature of the word and its place in a phrase.

And since by the use of a greater or less number of abbreviations a greater or less speed is obtained, so from this axiom is deduced the following principle—when it is not a question of taking a speech—when great speed is not a necessity in order to follow the rapidity of speech—it is not necessary to use many abbreviations.

In other words the use of abbreviations is subordinated to the use of Stenography; when Stenography is used as tachygraphy, to obtain the maximum speed many abbreviations are used, but when employed as brachygraphy, to supersede ordinary writing and as a help to study, not many abbreviations require to be used.

Hence the Gabelsbergerite is not obliged on all occasions to use abbreviations; he can use them more or less plentifully at pleasure, according to the object with which he writes Stenography.

Thus the "sigle," that is, any omission of letters or syllables in a word—every kind of abbreviation is facultative, and can be made or not made, at the will of the stenographer.

This facultative principle is a special characteristic of the Gabelsberger system, for others offer no such advantage, because the words are not abbreviated according to any general rule, but for every individual word there is a special abbreviation made according to caprice without standard and without laws. The advantages of the facultative principle are,

(1) The ordinary writing may be entirely superseded by Stenography.

(2) Its acquirement is rendered most easy.

(3) It can be taught in the earliest elementary classes.

(4) It is adapted to all the wants of intellectual life.

(5) It can attain any desired speed.

(6) It can either be applied as a help to study or as a business and profession.

And all these advantages are only obtainable with the excellent system of F. X. Gabelsberger, and with the Parthenopian aphorism "siglorum usus ad libitum scribentis."

PAPER ON A NEW WRITING PRINCIPLE.

By Ant. Vogel, Munich.

I think it will be of interest to the shorthand writers assembled from all civilized countries, and especially so to the true friends of progress on the shorthand field, to learn that, apart from the known writing principles of modern Shorthand, there is yet a means by which the capacity of professional men can be considerably increased. This means consists in the largest possible extension of those advantages which are attained by altering the position of words, and which have been but little utilized in former shorthand systems. A method of writing on one straight line, placing the words at distances not exceeding 2 to 3 m.m., as a rule, affords the possibility to avail of the following combinations for the purpose of symbolically indicating preceding syllables and words which frequently recur in speeches, and which in former systems are being expressed by logograms. These combinations are: high position,

low position, distant position (at a distance of about 5 to 6 m.m.), simultaneous, distant, and high position, position of the following word above and below the preceding one, and low position touching or cutting the writing line.

In my "Neue Deutsche Debattenschrift," which is built up on this principle, I use the following arrangement for the indication of certain syllables and words, viz.: *er*, *der* by low position, *ver* by low position touching the writing line, *zu* (particle) cutting the writing line, *das*, =*dass*, *des* (high position), *die* distant position, *ein*, =*e*, =*er*, =*es*, =*en*, =*em*, by both distant and high position, *den* = *denn*, *dem* by placing the following word above the preceding one, *in der* by placing the following below the preceding word, and *es* by close position.

Mr D. S. DAVIES (Carmarthen): I am glad to see so much talent employed in getting at the principle for the construction of Shorthand systems. The fact that there are so many at it indicates great dissatisfaction with everything that at present exists. There are hundreds of Shorthand systems. I have given up counting them, but since I came to this Congress I have seen a great list of them. It all means dissatisfaction with the systems formerly in vogue. The perfect system will not be the work of any one mind, it will be the result—the cream of all minds. I shall not detain you long, but I will give you the results of my own labors. I have been at this work, silently, for about half the length of the public life of Mr Pitman, but nobody ever heard of it until this year. This may be a hint that other minds may be even now at work, and may have been at it in silence for the last twenty or thirty years, and will spring upon us some day a shorthand system that will contain in one the beauties of all existing systems. After an amount of labor, which none can appreciate save those who have attempted the construction of a new Shorthand system, I have come to the following conclusions:—(1) That the Shorthand of the future will necessarily be based on the ordinary Roman longhand: that this beautiful writing contains much greater power than the geometric basis which has been the basis of all English and American Shorthand systems until very recently. (2) Consequently there will be no first, second, third, and fourth position—above the line, on the line, through the line, and below the line—which has always been a snare. (3) All the necessary vowel sounds will be described in their natural order without lifting the pen. And the vowel signs will be provided of the class of strokes which require no expense of effort. Initial and final vowels will never be omitted. The hand must be honestly taught to write the vowel first when it begins a word. This does not mean that every vowel must be written on every occasion, but that everyone that is deemed necessary will be written in its natural order without lifting the pen. Present systems generally write the consonants first, and afterwards peg around them the vowels—*p t o*, pot; *p t ah*, pat; *m r oh*, more, etc. This, I think, is their fundamental error. (4) The consonants will all be upright (downward or upward) strokes on the right hand slope, and all the horizontal strokes (straight or curved) will be confined to vowels. (5) Word-signs or grammalogues will be generally avoided, and abbreviations will be made on the principle already practised in longhand. (6) The Shorthand alphabet must be itself short, so that there would not be much need of shortening afterwards. Shorthand should be able to do three-fourths of the heaviest work without any abbreviations. There is something monstrous in the idea of having to master a whole library—a cartload of books merely to know how to write—we must have some time at our disposal to learn what to write; and this is the more difficult part. I once read of a French machine warranted to peel 800 potatoes in a minute; but the trouble was, nobody wanted to peel 800 potatoes in a minute, and very few were able to gather so much material together in a minute. The Shorthand of the future will be a perfected alphabet, and will not require our whole lives to master its principles and provisions; and a good proportion of our lives will be left us for the acquisition of materials—thoughts—not only how to write, but what to write, which is by far the more important.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

LUNCHEON AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

By the Invitation of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.

In the afternoon the members of the Congress, about 200 in number, lunched in the Egyptian Hall at the Mansion House, by the invitation of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (Sir Reginald Hanson).

After luncheon,

The LORD MAYOR said: Gentlemen,—I suppose if one begins, as is natural, by saying that there is one toast which is given in every assemblage of Englishmen, it is certainly familiar to almost every Englishman to whom I speak who has ever been at a public dinner; but if there is an assembly to whom this would be still more familiar it is a gathering of those whom I see before me. (Cheers.) It would be idle for me to attempt to say anything new, because I suppose you must have heard every possible attempt to impart any novelty to this toast which has ever been tried, either by any of my predecessors, or by any other chairman in this metropolis, or in the whole of the United Kingdom, or wherever Her Majesty holds sway. But there is this comfortable thought, that the toast is always given and received with the same feeling and the same enthusiasm as animate my mind now; and I doubt not that it will be received with all loyalty by yourselves, and with affectionate respect by our foreign guests and visitors who have honored us by their presence to-day. I give you, gentlemen, "The health of Her Majesty the Queen." (Cheers).

The toast was duly honored.

The LORD MAYOR: Gentlemen,—I have always considered that the luncheons, at all events—I hope the dinners, but certainly the luncheons—at the Mansion House should be occasions for social enjoyment, and not by any means a matter of serious business to any of us; and with that in view, and certainly to gratify my own propensities, I have always endeavored to make the speeches on my own part as short as possible, nor shall I in this (the last month of my position as Lord Mayor) deviate from the custom which I have proposed to myself from the first. I shall give one toast, but that toast will be a comprehensive one, and I hope will include the representatives of the body of gentlemen who have been good enough towards the end of their labors of this week to accept the invitation which I gave them to this the official residence of the Lord Mayor, a residence which I shall so shortly have to quit. Some unkind person who did not know the history of England, and did not know the Lord Mayor, suggested to me, "Why did not you invite all these gentlemen at the very earliest part of your career, and then, in com-

mon gratitude, they would have reported all your speeches verbatim?" (Laughter.) "Well," I said, "you do not know the reporters, and you do not know the Lord Mayor." (Laughter.) First of all, if the reporters had come at that time, as possibly they would have come if I had had the opportunity of asking them, they would still have reported me just as they report everybody else, in the interests of the public, and not in those of the individual. (Cheers.) I feel quite certain that in common gratitude, as my friend suggested, they would have left me—I won't say severely—alone, but they would have left me in that obscurity which I fully merited. ("No, no.") Now, I do not propose at all to go over the thrice-told tale of the history of stenography. You, most of you, know a great deal more than I do about Dr Timothy Bright (laughter), and you know, or you ought to know, about all the various systems which have been invented from his day to the present; and probably even to-day there may be a new system still in the process of incubation. I know nothing of this, but I speak rather as the head of a great commercial city, and I will venture to repeat what I said a few weeks ago, because I see that it has met with some approbation in quarters which are entitled to respect. When addressing those who were present at the City of London School, I said that I thought a good work was being done there in teaching, even to some slight extent, a system of shorthand amongst the boys. Now, I have visited with great pleasure a great many schools both in London and other parts of England during my year of office, perhaps more than any of my predecessors, and I have seen with great interest how, in some of them at all events, they are devoting themselves more and more to the development of those studies which will improve the prospects in commerce of the boys of England—prospects which have been, some people say, somewhat shaken in past years, so that we do not hold the supremacy which we formerly did. That, of course, opens a wide question which it would not be right for me at all to discuss before this assembly, except to say that, with regard to commerce, I do think a knowledge of shorthand would be of extreme advantage to our boys; and, in fact, to every one of us. During the fifty years of Her Majesty's reign, Shorthand has developed and grown in popular esteem and popular knowledge to a marvellous extent. (Cheers.) I, therefore, do feel that it must be a very valuable subject to teach boys at school. It certainly teaches them perseverance, endurance, and accuracy, just as much as any other study (hear, hear), and it may be of the utmost advantage to a boy when he enters upon a commercial or any other career. (Hear, hear.) That one point, I think, I am justified to a certain extent in dwelling upon, as the Lord Mayor and the head of a commercial city, because I have myself seen a great deal of the advantages of Shorthand, and I have felt how greatly I should have been assisted in the work which I have had to do during the past twelve months if I could

have taken down in shorthand the things which I have heard said, or the various points which have occurred to me; certainly it would have made my labors very much lighter than they were. The toast which I have to give is that of "The International Shorthand Congress," and I shall couple with that several names. And first I shall give the name of a gentleman whom I am extremely proud to have on my right hand. (Loud cheers.) Although I am entirely ignorant of the different systems of stenography, still the name of Mr Isaac Pitman is the first I ever as a boy heard of in connection with the art of Shorthand, and whatever difference of opinion there may be with regard to the various systems, about one point there is, I believe, no difference of opinion at all, namely, that Mr Pitman is the most eminent inventor whom we have the opportunity of seeing in England living at the present day. (Cheers.) It is a pleasure to me to some extent to follow on the expression of sympathy of those who have studied that art, and also presented him with a testimonial of their esteem two days ago,—and say it is a pleasure to me, as Lord Mayor, to welcome him here, and on behalf of those whom I generally represent to say that to him and to those who are representatives of the art of Shorthand we owe very much; and we believe in times to come we shall owe them still more, not merely from the commercial point of view, but from the general point of view of the increase of knowledge throughout the civilised world. (Cheers.) I have also to couple with this toast the name of one of our exponents of this art—Mr Storr, of the Reporters' Gallery. (Cheers). The Reporters' Gallery fills us with somewhat mingled feelings. I suppose every Englishman is not entirely of opinion that there is no word spoken in both those Houses which the world would not willingly let die. (Laughter.) It may be that some of them—it may be that a good many of them—might fall into oblivion, might never be taken down even in shorthand, much less extended, and the world would not be one whit the worse without them. As a humble outsider, I do not venture to pronounce an opinion on that point; but I do say this: if speeches are to be made, and to be made to the public, they should be made with a sense of responsibility, particularly on important matters; and they should be taken down, and well and fairly taken down. We have heard, or you have heard and I have read, of the various methods in which they may be taken down. There was one reporter, his name was not mentioned, at least I did not catch it, of whom a learned judge, Mr Justice Maule, said that he improved his judgments wonderfully; that he took down in shorthand what he never said, and made his judgments read a great deal better than he had ever intended. (Laughter.) Whereas, on the other hand, we all remember that when Dr Johnson was writing a big speech, he would "not allow the Whig dogs to have the best of it." Now, if a reporter is to act truly and fairly, he must neither do the one nor the other; and I do believe

that in every case where we get practised men, whatever their sentiments may be, their feelings, political or religious, they know too much what is due to their craft—I might almost say to their guild—but I think shorthand writers have not yet such an institution as a guild or a chartered institute, although I hope they may eventually possess one (cheers)—at all events, they know that they owe it to their position as men of honor that they should fairly take down everything that they hear, and accurately represent it to those to whom the remarks are addressed. (Cheers.) We owe, then, a deep debt of gratitude to the gentlemen in the Reporters' Gallery in the Houses of Parliament, and I couple with that part of the toast the name of Mr Storr. I have also the pleasure of adding the names of Dr Gantter, of Frankfort, and M. Depoin, of Paris; both of them I understand are most distinguished members of the fraternity, and both holding very important official positions; and also the name of Mr Seki, of Japan (cheers), who, I believe, is not only an eminent journalist, but also a shorthand writer of eminence in that country. I will not further dilate on the merits of these gentlemen, for I feel certain that they are so well known to you that any shortcoming on my part will be made up by the enthusiasm with which you will receive their names. I give you the toast of "The International Shorthand Congress," coupled with the names of Mr Isaac Pitman, Mr W. Storr, Dr Gantter, M. Depoin, and Mr Seki. (Cheers.)

The toast was duly honored.

Mr Isaac Pitman: My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen,—I esteem highly the compliment you have paid me in having placed me in the front of more worthy gentlemen who will address you. I would say, that in respect to the characteristics of the present, or as we call it the new, age, the two chief features of it are facilitation and reformation. The International Shorthand Congress particularly refers its labors to the first of these principles—the facilitation of the processes of life. I think that we have almost gone as far as we can go with respect to that principle. We can hardly increase the rate of animal locomotion, of railway travelling, or of the expression of thought in writing, or the transmission of thought, when reduced to writing, or of the numerous collections and deliveries of letters by the post. I think, in short, that we have got to the end of our tether with respect to the important matter of facilitation, or the quickening of things with respect to time. But with respect to the second principle, reformation, we have yet much to do. There has been much accomplished, but as far as my judgment goes there is a great deal more to be done than has been done in the matter of "putting things to rights." One of the pithy sentences of Lord Bacon is this: "Since things alter for the worse spontaneously, if they be not altered for the better designedly, what end will there be of evil?" To that

important query I can only answer there will be no end, but evils will multiply to eternity, and here is ample scope for the labors of reformers. Then, if we inquire how it is that things alter for the worse spontaneously, there can be but one answer, namely, that the love of self and of the world prevails over the love of the Lord, and the love of truth. I can find no other cause for the spontaneous deterioration of things. In a household, if things be not "tidied up" now and then, confusion, dirt, and misery will be the result; and it is the object of every mother and housekeeper to put things to rights, and to tidy up that which has become disordered through the lapse of time and the tendencies of human nature. Therefore the work of reformation is the principal thing to which we should direct our attention. Let us all make up our minds to use the numerous facilities for the lessening of labour, and the saving of time in travelling and in writing—in transmitting our bodies from one place to another, and our thoughts from one person to another; and while we employ all these facilities, let us direct our chief energies towards the reformation of those things which we see to be wrong. Our labors will then tend to establish truth in the world, and truth will always lead to good and the improvement of the morals of mankind as the fruit and evidence of a religion acceptable in the sight of God and good for men. Gentlemen, I thank you for listening to these broken accents, and am especially grateful to the Lord Mayor for the interest he takes in the subject of Shorthand, and in the success of the International Congress. (Loud cheers.)

Mr W. Storr (responding on behalf of the Parliamentary Gallery): The first impulse of everyone present will be to offer the heartiest congratulations to Mr Pitman on the freshness and vigour which he has displayed, and on the hope and determination by which he is still animated at his advanced age and after his manifold labors. It will be our unanimous desire to express the wish that his health and life may long be spared to prosecute his self-denying labors, and that he may have the satisfaction to see them crowned with even a still larger measure of success. (Cheers.) The onerous and now embarrassing duty of responding to this toast has been assigned to me in the expected absence of some colleagues whom I am glad to see present, and in the certain absence of others who have been only too glad to forget all about shorthand and to escape from London at the close of a long and wearisome session. (Cheers.) But some of them have previously made efforts to contribute to the success of this Congress, and then, like the warrior, they

> "Fled full soon, not on the first of June,
> And bade the rest keep fighting."

(Laughter and cheers.) On behalf of those who use Shorthand for journalistic purposes, both in Parliament and out of it, both in

London and the provinces, I beg to thank the Lord Mayor for the recognition which Shorthand, its inventors, improvers, teachers, writers, and advocates have this day received from the chief magistrate of the Imperial capital. (Cheers.) The recognitions given under this roof have this special value, that they become the hall-mark of a moral approval which recommends those who receive them to the appreciation of a larger circle of sympathisers and friends. (Cheers.) It is not understood that this recognition is given to Shorthand as an art, or to practitioners because they are experts in that art; we understand it to have a much wider signification. We understand it to mean that, as Shorthand has been closely identified with public and private activities; as it has been the handmaid of political, social, religious, educational, and journalistic progress, in the metropolis, in the provinces, in the whole Empire; so it is believed to have before it a future of expanding usefulness, to which the past and the present are merely the germs of promise. (Cheers.) One of the most original comments I have seen on the proceedings of the Conference is that the increasing use of Shorthand for the reporting of speeches has diminished the value of those made in Parliament, and has tempted public men to address the country from platforms rather than from the floor of the Senate. Although that opinion testifies to the growing influence of the Press, and the magnitude of the service rendered by Shorthand, I maintain that there is of necessity a marked difference between the speeches that are made out of Parliament and the speeches made within its walls; the two are addressed to different audiences, and have different objects in view. (Hear, hear.) Putting aside obstruction, which I believe will ultimately disappear from parliamentary debate (hear, hear), there is not a word spoken in Parliament which is not wanted by some persons as the representatives of others who are interested or affected. No one wants everything; but there is nothing which somebody does not want. No newspaper can meet all wants without committing suicide; and the principles of our Government require that every legitimate want of the kind ought to be met, as it may be by the co-operation of the shorthand writer and the printing press. As the progress of the Reformation is historically associated with the invention and the development of printing, so the stupendous growth of journalism in this country since the repeal of the Paper Duty and the Advertisement Tax has been co-temporaneous with the popularization of Shorthand by Mr Pitman. (Cheers.) Dogmatic editors may differ from him, and see finality and order in an orthography where others clearly see that everything is pell-mell. (Laughter and cheers.) Such critics only illustrate the fanaticism they impute to others. (Cheers.) It is true in this case that an old man dreams dreams; but there are younger men who see visions; and I have had an apocalypse. I was carried in the spirit into some part of the twentieth century, and made a visit to London. The

ruling passion carried me straight to the House of Commons; I forgot to ask whether there was a House of Lords. In the House of Commons I noticed the Press Gallery full of journalists, but my attention was directed to two chairs on the floor of the House, which I was told were used by official shorthand writers. I noticed that they took five-minute turns and disappeared. I asked my guide "What is done with their notes?" and the guide said "I will show you in a few minutes." Soon afterwards, in an outer room, I witnessed a distribution of short printed proofs; and on reading one of them I found it was a report of what I had heard in the House a quarter of an hour previously. I next visited the office of *The Times*, and was politely shown the printing office in which compositors were setting-up at type-composing machines; but the "copy" before them was either shorthand or manuscript produced by type-writers; there wasn't a bit of longhand copy in the place. (Laughter and cheers.) I went into a school and found a teacher giving a writing lesson on the blackboard, but the letters were shorthand characters. I asked for the copy-books, and found that the exercises were in shorthand. I said, "I want the longhand copy-books." The teacher said, "Do you mean the script that was used in the nineteenth century?" (Laughter.) I said that was so, and the teacher explained that they had ceased to teach longhand except in connection with foreign languages, because it was only required for foreign correspondence, as all manuscripts in England were either in shorthand or produced by type-writers. (Laughter and cheers.) "Any other change?" I asked, and the teacher said the tables of money, weights, and measures had been abolished, and all arithmetic was done in tenths. I asked what was the result of these changes, and the teacher said the scholars passed the standards a year or two earlier than they did in the nineteenth century, and so they had time for languages and for technical instruction, and they held their own against foreign competition in the English market, and carried the trade of England more successfully into other countries. (Cheers.) I went into the Imperial Museum, and in the Manuscripts-room I found three glass cases side by side. One contained manuscripts made before the discovery of printing. The next contained specimens of longhand written in the nineteenth century. The next contained the discarded tables of money, weights, and measures. On the wall above them were three portraits—one of Caxton, one of Pitman, and one of the Prime Minister, who passed the decimal system. Beneath them, in letters of gold, there was a legend to the effect that they were three Englishmen who had conferred inestimable blessings on all English-speaking peoples, and through them on all mankind. (Loud cheers.)

Dr Gantter (Frankfort-on-the-Maine): My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen,—I am not prepared to make a long speech, and all that

I can do is to say that I am extremely happy to have heard the friendly words of your lordship. I can give the assurance on behalf of my German compatriots, and I am sure also on behalf of the foreign visitors to this International Shorthand Congress, that they have found an echo in our hearts, and that we shall carry with us into our country the most vivid remembrance of these Congress days. We have met with colleagues in foreign countries; we have learned many things from them, and perhaps they also have learned some little things from us. (Cheers.) The first thing we learned was the high position which Shorthand and public reporting hold in this country—the country of constitutional self-government and eloquence—qualities which are usually connected with the successful use of Shorthand. We see your Metropolis, and find that amidst the trouble of business work, full attention is given to every aspiration promoting the service of public life. So our remembrance of this International Shorthand Congress in London will be a very warm one, and our visit to the Mansion House will be regarded as one of its most delightful incidents. (Cheers.) We have been received in a manner so cordial and hearty that I could wish for the eloquence of your members of Parliament in order to thank your Worship and the City of London for this princely reception. But, my Lord Mayor, I have to speak in a foreign language unfamiliar to me; and I trust your lordship will excuse me, for my will is better than my English. (Cheers.)

M. Depoin: My Lord, Messieurs,—Le Congrès International de Londres inaugure adjourd'hui, grâce à vous, une ère nouvelle dans le monde de la sténographie. Jusqu'ici les assemblées de ce genre, tenues dans diverses capitales, n'avaient réuni que des partisans d'une même méthode; aussi leur influence a-t-elle été limitée. Vous avez visé plus haut, et tout en voulant manifester votre reconnaissance et votre admiration pour votre éminent et vénéré maître, Isaac Pitman, vous n'avez pas cru que sa gloire serait amoindrie si, à côté des succès de la phonographie, on apportait de tous les points du globe, pour les enregistrer devant vous, les résultats des efforts tentés, chez d'autres nations, par des inventeurs ingénieux et par des sociétés puissantes. Cette impulsion que vous avez donnée pour le progrès universel de l'écriture abréviative sans distinction de partis, cette impulsion sera suivie, n'eu doutez pas. Ce sera votre honneur de l'avoir fait naître, et les peuples se disputent déja à qui vous suivra le premier, à qui vous imitera le mieux dans votre impartialité, dans votre courtoisie, et, faut-il ajouter encore, dans vos attentions et dans vos prévenances pour les visiteurs étrangers. En mêlant le charmes de plaisirs délicats et variés à l'intérêt des débats scientifiques, vous avez montré comment vous savez maintenir vos nobles traditions d'hospitalité. Au nom de tous, je vous en remercie; au nom des Français, je tiens à vous dire que notre plus grand désir est de vous témoigner le plus tôt possible

notre gratitude, en vous recevant à notre tour à Paris. Les sténographes forment une immense famille ; pionniers d'un monde nouveau, il leur a été dit aussi, " Croissez et multipliez, et remplissez la terre !" Le champ que la science doit fertiliser est assez vaste pour que nos diverses tribus ne songent qu'à le féconder par leur travail, au lieu de se battre sur le choix des outils. Pitmanistes, Gabelsbergiens, Stolziens, Duployens, praticiens de tous les systèmes, doivent marcher la main dans la main, sous le drapeau de la science et du progrès, comme les soldats nés sous des climats différents combattent sous l'étendard du leur commune patrie. Telle est votre pensée, telle est la notre : honneur aux organisateurs du premier Congrès international de sténographie, qui ont donné à leurs collègues de l'univers le signal de la paix et de la confraternité ! Je bois au comité, je bois à la reception si cordiale qui vient de nous être faite ! Je remercie de tout cœur l'Angleterre de sa cordiale hospitalité, je remercie en particulier la grande Cité de Londres dans la personne de son très honorable Lord Maire ! (Cheers.)

Mr SEKI : My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen,—I thank you for your most cordial welcome to us foreigners, who have assembled from various parts of the world to promote this useful art of shorthand writing, and for extending your cordiality, even to me, who came from the farthest corner of the earth,—from a country with which, perhaps, at the time when Mr Pitman invented the modern phonetic system you never dreamed to have such an intimate intercourse as you have now. My Lord Mayor, I can safely assert that anything useful can penetrate every corner of the world ; and so it has been with this art. (Cheers.) It is not long since the light of civilisation dawned on that most Eastern land, Japan, and together with other sciences and arts shorthand writing was introduced ; but it spread so rapidly that now in the Japanese Government and newspaper offices its use is almost indispensable. We also take down notes of public speakers, the debates in the city Council, the proceedings in the Courts of Law, etc., by Shorthand. In fact, its usefulness is twice as great for us as for you, as it enables us to dispense with writing the Chinese square characters which are in common use in Japan. Though I am not, unfortunately, a shorthand writer myself, being the editor of the Tokio native daily paper, the benefit which I derive from this art is extremely great, for which I owe the inventor and the promoters of this art very much. I can assure you that you have already many followers and pupils in Japan ; and hereafter we will try to promote the cause in my own country with an increased zeal. (Cheers). I again thank my Lord Mayor, who promotes the progress of this useful art with his ever generous encouragement. (Cheers.)

Mr T. A. REED : My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen,—I rise to

propose a toast which I know will be received with all the cordiality which it merits. I see that you anticipate me; your looks show that you are in a condition—I will not say of "agitated," but of "animated, expectancy" (cheers): you know what I mean, "The health of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor." (Loud cheers.) My lord, in the name of this International Shorthand Congress, over the Committtee of which I have had the honor to preside, I beg to tender you our very grateful thanks for the munificent hospitality which you have extended to us. (Loud cheers.) It would be an impertinence on my part to descant on the manner in which your lordship fulfils the functions of the high office which you hold. I am sure your lordship must be almost tired of listening to the well-deserved eulogiums that are passed upon you here and elsewhere, and I know it will be more agreeable to you if I spend the few minutes that are allotted to me in calling attention to one or two points in which our visit to the city will be seen to be peculiarly appropriate. It may seem that there is very little relation between the city and shorthand, but I hope to show that that relation is of a more intimate character than may at first sight appear. In the first place, I think I may venture to assert that there is no area in the world of the same size as that which the City of London occupies, in which shorthand writing is used more extensively than in the City of London. (Hear, hear.) I suppose there is hardly a large establishment of any importance where shorthand writing is not daily and hourly used; and how much time is saved in this way in the conduct of mercantile and other correspondence, it is hardly necessary for me in a company of this kind to state. Then, again, my lord, there is another matter which may not be perhaps at first sight so obvious. I find that the very earliest official appointment of a shorthand writer was in the City of London,—I refer to the appointment of a shorthand writer by the Corporation of London to take shorthand notes of the cases tried at the Old Bailey some 150 years ago. But that is not all. Some few years since, when pursuing some researches at the British Museum, I came across a very notable suggestion with regard to this appointment of a shorthand writer at the Old Bailey. It was stated that the shorthand writers there employed wrote very different systems, and that the result was, or might be, that a difficulty would arise with regard to the interpretation of the shorthand symbols employed by those different shorthand writers at times when it might be necessary to refer to their notes for legal or other purposes; and it was accordingly suggested that there should be a uniform City of London system of Shorthand (laughter)—that as there is a standard yard measure I believe somewhere in the Houses of Parliament, so there should be a standard City Shorthand alphabet written up in some prominent position in the Guildhall, to be always referred to whenever there was a doubt as to the precise meaning of some of the stenographic symbols employed by the shorthand writers of that

day. (Cheers.) This idea unhappily fell still-born upon the world, and the result is, my lord and gentlemen, that while the City of London possesses the advantages of having its own Lord Mayor, as we know to our unspeakable satisfaction to-day (loud cheers), its own Corporation, its own Recorder, and I know not what besides, it does not enjoy, but has narrowly missed, the luxury and privilege of having its own system of Shorthand. (Laughter.) I do not know that it is not a happy circumstance that this idea did not fructify, because I hardly know what shorthand inventor, even my old friend Mr Pitman, would dare to enter the lists with an opponent who was protected by the ægis of a body so august and powerful as the City of London. Well then, my lord, there is another connection between the City and Shorthand to which I may be permitted for a moment to refer. Your lordship alluded to it to some extent in your opening observations, and I desire now to emphasize it. The City of London School in recent years has introduced shorthand into its curriculum; not, I believe, as a compulsory but as an optional subject; and I think I am right in stating that this was at the suggestion of your lordship. (Cheers.) There is one other matter, perhaps not quite so pertinent, which I have thought of whilst sitting here this afternoon, namely, that a very old phonetic spelling-book was written by Dr Gill, who was head master of a school in this city. It is a very old volume, and an extremely interesting one. I happen to have a copy of it, and have placed it in our Shorthand Exhibition. On all these grounds it seems to me that our visit here is extremely appropriate, and I am sure that I have shown sufficient reasons why we should drink the toast that I have had the honor to propose, with all that cordiality and all that enthusiasm which we so often witness and chronicle on behalf of other people, but which now, thanks to his lordship's munificent hospitality, we have the opportunity of manifesting for ourselves. (Loud cheers.)

The toast was enthusiastically honored.

The Lord Mayor: Gentlemen,—I am very much obliged to you for the cordial reception which you have given to the toast proposed in such friendly terms by Mr Reed, who has had so much to do with your Congress during the past week. I do not propose to be so ungrateful as to occupy you at any length, or to say more than a very few words in recognition. And, first, as a disclaimer, I cannot take to myself any of the merit which he has attributed to me as having introduced Shorthand into the City of London School. That was done some years ago by those who had the management of that school. It was merely my duty, as it was my privilege and exceeding pleasure, to be present at the distribution of the prizes; and having made a few remarks on the progress that Shorthand was making in the school, I ventured to suggest that perhaps even more attention might be paid

to it, although I was perfectly well aware of the multiplicity of subjects taught, many of which could by no means be neglected. But if anything further can be done to encourage the progress of so useful a study by giving an additional prize to those already given, I shall be very glad to commemorate the happy occasion when I had the opportunity of assembling round this table not only the chief shorthand writers of England, but also those of the Continent. (Loud cheers.) And in that case, perhaps. what did not take place more than a century ago, when the proposal, as I understand Mr Reed, was made, that there should be a City of London School of Shorthand Writing, may in the future assume a living form. But when we hear that more than a century and a half ago, when I pride myself that my family came into the city—that long before the Hansoms were there the Gurneys were well known in that branch which they have ever since continued—I feel not only the insignificance of my own position, but I feel also how deep an interest the city has always taken in, and how long it has been connected with, that art which we are here to commemorate. It has been my privilege to follow the example of my predecessors in the office which I am now shortly quitting, that whenever a Congress has been held in London, or in the city, having for its object the advancement of science or art, or any other branch of human learning, they should hold out to them the right hand of fellowship, whether such Congress consisted of our fellow countrymen or of those who come from abroad to meet in this great city. (Cheers.) I have been very glad to follow their example, and it has been a great satisfaction to me during my year of office that they have assembled in such numbers, and that I have had the opportunity in the name of the city of offering to them that right hand of fellowship, and that hospitality of which I am glad that so many have been good enough to avail themselves. (Cheers.) And if this is in any respect to be an era, or a noteworthy occasion during this Congress, it will be to me an unbounded satisfaction that I have had an opportunity at the end of your week of in some humble way contributing, if not to the usefulness of your meeting, at all events to your enjoyment. Gentlemen, I thank you. (Loud cheers.)

FRIDAY EVENING CONFERENCE.

Mr H. H. TOLCHER in the Chair.

REPORTING BY MACHINERY.

By Henry Richter.

(A "Reporting Machine" was produced illustrating the Paper while being read).

The object of this "Reporting Machine"—as it may be described for want of a more adequate term—is to provide a written transcript of shorthand notes within a few minutes of the delivery of a speech. It is quite true that in the majority of cases no such necessity exists, and even if a speaker, or employers generally on whose behalf notes are taken, should consider a simultaneous transcript desirable, it would be useless to express any such wish since it could not be complied with. On the other hand, it may be assumed that, under certain circumstances, great advantage might be derived from an immediate transcript, and that the demand for it would increase after its being once known that the possibility of meeting it now exists by this Reporting Machine.

This machine is not intended, however, to do the work of a shorthand writer, and it will not do simply to drop in a penny for the model to work; it is intended rather to enable a swift and advantageous *distribution of labor*, so as to admit of any required number of reporters setting to work simultaneously.

Assuming that an orator speaks six times faster than a shorthand writer can transcribe notes into longhand, the following staff would be necessary: one note taker; six transcribers; and one reporter, who may be described as the sub-editor distributing and arranging the work of his seven colleagues.

The wheel of this machine will hold more than a thousand yards of tape on which the notes are taken. Supposing that an orator speaks at the rate of a yard a minute, the quantity of tape would last for three to four hours; but it may be taken as a fair average that a speech will not exceed 300 yards in length.

The tape is conducted through two wires fastened close to the writing board, and it is so wound up that it feeds the wires from the *top*, so as to increase the friction of the tape running through the wires, and thus keep it straight for writing purposes. One great advantage is at once attained by this arrangement, which will be clear to the most uninitiated, and that is that the writer is no longer required to turn over a new leaf, which is a time-absorbing operation not only in ordinary life, but also in reporting. There is more time saved still by the writing hand not being obliged to turn back to commence a fresh line. The hand holding

the pen or pencil need not leave its place, but it may do so at will, if a change in the position of the hand should be desirable. The left hand gently pulls the tape as the speech goes on, and the tape filled with notes thus proceeds to the writer's left-hand neighbor, the sub-editor. This gentleman has an important task to perform: he has to cast a rapid glance over the notes, and cut the tape at the end of each sentence. This operation will, however, be facilitated by the writer having taken care always to leave an appreciable distance at the end of each sentence; in fact, the time saved by not having to turn over, or to turn back to the beginning of the line, quite enables him to mark the ends of sentences by bold vertical strokes. The two ends cut asunder are immediately numbered by the sub-editor, so as to be able to fit the pieces together again, or paste them on sheets of paper after the work is done.

Each transcriber has a set of papers before him, which is numbered as follows—always assuming that the number of transcribers employed is six:—The transcriber next to the sub-editor numbers his first sheet 1, the second 7, the third 13, and so on, always omitting six numerals. The transcriber next to him numbers his sheets 2, 8, 14, etc., and the one following has 3, 9, 15, etc.

Now, No. 1 receives the first strip of tape from the sub-editor, and transcribes it upon the sheet numbered 1. While doing so, his neighbor receives strip No. 2, which he transcribes on his first sheet which is numbered 2, and so forth. Each transcriber will thus have plenty of time, and possibly even to spare, to transcribe the notes carefully and peruse them over again, making corrections in style or otherwise, if necessary, before his turn arrives again. Each sheet is then handed to the sub-editor—never mind whether it is filled to the last line or not—who places them consecutively according to their numbers.

By this arrangement the reporters are fully able to keep up with the speaker, and a verbatim transcript of the speech can thus be supplied within a few minutes of its delivery.

There is just one case possible when this scheme will refuse to work, and that is, when a shorthand system is availed of which is so illegible or indistinct that nobody but the writer himself can transcribe the notes; but in my opinion this is exactly a reason why the introduction of this machine should be vigorously supported, as it would be a very forcible means of doing away with any and every system so insufficiently constructed.

I may here mention that in the German Houses of Parliament where the systems of Gabelsberger and Stolze are exclusively used, it is made an invariable rule that the two shorthand writers who simultaneously take the speeches down exchange their original notes

for transcription, and not only do they find these perfectly legible, but the very reason of this arrangement is to find out any errors or misconceptions to which a single writer might be liable, if he transcribed his own notes.

I am of opinion, therefore, that the greater or smaller degree of satisfaction which the use of this reporting machine may give to a particular system may be looked upon as a standard of that particular shorthand system.

Mr POCKNELL: I should like to ask, why this is called a "Reporting Machine?" I should call it a machine for facilitating the transcription of notes.

Mr HOWELL: Strips of notes cannot be kept, but shorthand writers have to keep their notes for the purpose of referring to them again and again. I think it would be most unsatisfactory, if a special part of a speech is to be referred to, to have to look through a hundred yards of paper.

Mr NANKIVELL: This is more of a toy than a practical machine. If the tape should break, where then is the reporter who is working on it? The cutting of the notes into slips seems to me to offer a very dangerous chance of resulting in what in a newspaper office we should call "pie." The slips might get mixed together, and then the speech would come out very different from what it should have been.

Mr T. A. REED: It seems to me that the only advantage of this machine is that of keeping the transcription up very close with the notes themselves. If you have an ordinary note-book with leaves on which you can write, say four folios in two minutes, your last page could be immediately taken out, and, if desired, cut in halves, so that there would be only one minute's note to transcribe, which could be done in five minutes. Whether or not it is necessary to have a machine to save those few minutes, I leave the Conference to decide.

Mr MACKENZIE: Last night the Press Association had a corps of six or seven men taking turns at Mr Chamberlain's speech, and I venture to say that, within fifteen minutes after the conclusion of the speech, it was all written out on "flimsy" for newspaper purposes.

Mr STORR: The radical objection to all machines of this kind is that they do not provide for the exercise of the mind in any sentence. All reporting is not taking a continuous speech. Certain things have to be stated in such a manner as to be intelligible to the reader. In such cases the apparatus would break down.

Mr HOWARD: I would ask, if the machine has ever been practically used?

Mr RICTHER (in reply): The objection has been raised that the slips might get confused, so that you could not make out afterwards how the speeches should be put together. Immediately the slips are cut asunder, they must be numbered and pasted on a sheet of paper. If you do that, you have exactly the same substantial sort of thing as an ordinary shorthand paper. Another gentleman has said that if there was a staff of six or seven to take their turns, they could do the same thing. That is quite correct, but then you require six or seven verbatim note-takers, while in my case only one is required, and all will agree that it is far easier to transcribe than to take a verbatim note.

Mr NANKIVELL: Will you explain how you act if there is a break in the tape?

Mr RICHTER: The quality of the paper will not admit of that.

Mr POCKNELL: This machine is likely to be of use in carrying out the proposal that Mr Rundell has made to have a staff of shorthand readers in Government offices.

SHORTHAND FOR WOMEN.

By Miss Kensit.

In venturing to lay before you a paper on the subject of Shorthand, and the possible effects of its more general introduction among women, I am constrained to explain that it has been undertaken only in the fear that among the many and important details that have to be considered during this week of Congress, Shorthand in its relation to women might possibly be overlooked; not, as I am willing to acknowledge, from want of courtesy, but from a natural absorption of the lesser into the greater.

In this, as in every age, the strength of women is open to discussion; but the question that arises in this generation is not one of the desirability of women's work, but of the necessity. Parents can no longer say, "Is it fitting for my daughters to assume the weapons with which men fight through the battle of life?" but rather that "Since they must fight, let them be well armed."

Classics, mathematics, physics, philosophy, science, and art, all find a place in the education of the woman who, as is most usual, wishes to take a part in the educational movements of to-day; and these too have to be garnered and stored in a brain of narrow limit. Indeed, I have often thought that it is the very wideness of the field that is embraced by women, that has prevented their achieving any solid distinction; and of this I will speak later.

Though we have our lady doctors, lawyers, auditors, and as I have even heard, our lady stockbrokers, there is still a disparity between the number of women occupied in these professions and those engaged as shorthand writers, and it is to this point that I would direct your attention. I will endeavor to show that there is no branch of work more eminently adapted to the brains and fingers of women, and nothing more likely to tend to the improvement and proper development of the female brain.

Girls, especially unoccupied girls, are given to taking up odd studies with enthusiasm, only to find themselves after some months' study as far from the perfection of knowledge as ever; and this I imagine is more frequent in the case of a woman than a man. This is due in great part to the fact that there are but few exact sciences in the world of knowledge, and that these few do not, as a rule, enter into the category of a lady's accomplishments. I apprehend that no form of education is perfect unless the exact sciences have found a large share therein; and in taking up the study of Shorthand, I believe that such a science, or art governed by a science, is to be found.

When the actual note-taking begins, other capacities are called into play, and foremost among them is the power of concentration. Quickness of fingers women have naturally; also, I may say,

quickness of thought; both of which form a large part in the practice of Shorthand. But concentration is *not* among the natural gifts of women. Their brains are quick to move, but have not the same staying power that is engendered by the discipline of a man's education. Fortunately, however, it can be acquired, and once a woman has mastered the art and attained a fair rate of speed, I venture to assert that she can, if she wishes it, be unexcelled. In gaining a knowledge of Shorthand, other and more important characteristics are developed, all tending towards the improvement of the capacity of women for business routine; and how much more satisfactory, I may add, is the complete knowledge of one thing than the smattering of a wide field of subjects, which is in most other professions almost a necessity.

Also among the many advantages that Shorthand has for women, is its adaptability to almost any mental calibre, so varied are the uses to which it can be put. There is the clerk of the office, who takes down letters and transcribes them into longhand—work which may become as mechanical as a machine. There is the assistant to a person of literary fame, who, on the contrary, must be the possessor of encyclopædic knowledge, able to prepare work for the press, and, in short, be all but the genius who directs him. There is the sermon-taker, who must be able to give an intelligent sympathy to the subject in hand, however antagonistic to his personal views. There is no end, and indeed there is scarcely yet a beginning, to the wide sphere of usefulnesss to which Shorthand will eventually be put.

There is no need for women to enter the criminal law courts, the inquest room, or, as I have actually heard of, to be live-stock reporters; they can take their choice, can seek the seclusion of private secretaryships, the interest of the lecture hall, or the excitement of political debate; and in none of these occupations will they lose caste or bring ridicule on their sex.

The girl who has a knowledge of Shorthand will have a marketable value in the labor marts of our great cities; her services will be worthy of a certain remuneration, and she can at any time support, or help to support, herself. If such is at the time unnecessary, she has at least the comforting assurance of a profession that will secure her from the cares of poverty or the charity of friends. She will find that in learning Stenography she has not only mastered an art, but that she has acquired a precision of thought, a quickness of memory, and a power of concentration, which will assist her in any other profession she may prefer.

She will also (which is far better) have become a specialist. There is a wise tendency among men towards specialism. The "all-round" man of science is a thing of the past, the "all-round" doctor is becoming so; but the "all-round" governess, who teaches

languages, mathematics, science and arts, and a host of smaller accomplishments, is still, unfortunately for herself, a very common article, and as we often hear, a glut in the market.

Let our women and girls learn that it is by the concentration of their powers on one branch of work that they can alone achieve success and become of value in the working world; and if their tastes lead them in the direction of Stenography, we can assure them that there is no undertaking in which so small an outlay will produce so great and beneficial a result.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure I am only expressing the feelings of you all when I say that we are very much indebted to Miss Kensit for the very able and careful manner in which she has prepared this paper.

Miss ELLIS: It has been one of the pleasantest times I have ever had to listen to the paper, because we lady writers are so few in number, and so divided as it were. If some plan could be devised to unite us in some Society so that we might work as a branch conjointly with men, it would greatly help us along. I think Shorthand is one of the most desirable occupations a lady can undertake. I have followed the profession for years, and with good monetary results, and I have always found it a most pleasant and suitable occupation. I would add my testimony as to the great assistance that gentlemen have always given me: without it I should have done nothing, and to it I am largely indebted. I have not taken much part in reporting public meetings; I have followed sermon reporting; but at the few public meetings at which I have been present I have been treated with the greatest courtesy by the gentlemen at the reporters' table. I have been allowed to take the most prominent place, and the names of the speakers have always been given me. I mention these facts to encourage other lady shorthand writers to persevere, and to try for that kind of thing. It is a very laudable object. I felt very nervous the first time I tried it, but I wish to encourage others, and to assure them that they will always be treated with great courtesy by the gentlemen in the same profession. A lady who follows it should be of a strong constitution: it will not suit those who are delicate. I am not speaking of the position of shorthand clerks: that is one that any young lady may take up; but if they aim at the higher branches, such as public reporting, they ought to have strong constitutions. In doing the work, the nervous system is so highly strung that a delicate person would break down under it. I myself, although tolerably strong, have felt some evil results from it. A lady need have no fear in trying to teach. If a lady will respect herself, she will find at all times that gentlemen will respect her. I would bear this testimony with regard to those of my pupils who are present, that they have always treated me with great respect and attention, and I am happy to say many of them have made great progress in the world. Lady teachers can turn out as clever pupils, as bright men in the stenographic profession, as any male teachers can, if they pay proper attention to them. A word on the subject of concentration, This is one of the most essential points, and one with regard to which I find lady pupils frequently fail. They will not concentrate their attention while learning the system before they commence to practice, and unless they do that they are never likely to become good shorthand writers. I thank you for the great courtesy with which you have listened to me.

Mr CROXTON (Manchester): I have been very much interested in the remarks made by Miss Kensit and Miss Ellis. I might mention that we have been having some talk about shorthand for women in Manchester. Miss Reynolds read a paper there on the subject, mentioning several facts of great interest with regard to the salaries ladies receive in America for shorthand writing. After hearing that paper, the Mayor suggested that a movement should be started in Manchester to establish a class for women. Miss Faithful is also going to do something in the matter, so that I think we shall be able to assist the women of Manchester at any rate to obtain a knowledge of shorthand. Many men will be somewhat afraid of women taking up the subject.

It is perhaps all very well if women will confine their knowledge of Shorthand to their own private memoranda, but when it comes to their being shorthand clerks and reporters, it makes men tremble. I think on the whole a woman's constitution cannot stand the wear and tear of a reporter's life. Of course, American ladies are very strong-minded, and are supposed to stand anything; but I think the value of Shorthand to ladies in England will be more in private life than in anything else.

Mr HOWELL: No one who has listened to the paper can doubt that Miss Kensit has thought the subject out very well indeed. Shorthand for ladies has of late years opened out a new field of labor. An elder sister of mine learned Pitman's system, and, after a year's practice, was able to help me, to my great relief and gratification. But there are certain cases in which ladies could not possibly be of any use. I do not wish to throw cold water on Miss Kensit's suggestion that ladies should attend political meetings, but when a rush is made for the reporters' table a great deal of presence of mind is required, and the absence of ladies is preferable on such occasions.

Mr JAMES: I think we ought to be far too much advanced to entertain any notion that we can restrain the energies of ladies, or that we ought to do so. They, if they wish, have a perfect right to lead independent lives, and must not be regarded as satellites revolving round the larger planet, man. They must, like ourselves, find out what they can do, and what is best for them.

Professor BRIDGE: In the States we have quite a number of lady official reporters. In the State of New York we have two ladies who do just the same class of shorthand work in the Courts as men do, receiving the same amount of compensation and standing as high in grade. One lady receives about 6,000 dollars a year. In the lower grades we have a large number of ladies, ranging in age from eighteen to thirty-five, who are receiving excellent wages and doing excellent work as secretaries, as amanuenses, and as reporters on papers. We have a large number, too, engaged in type-writing. Four years ago it was my privilege to report the meetings of an ecclesiastical body for a month, and having more work than four reporters could do, we sought for a person to help us, and at the same time to run a type-writer. I found a lady who, eleven months before, had opened a type-writing institution and had been constantly at work in that department. She was also a shorthand writer, and she told me that from the day she opened the institution she had had all she could possibly do in Philadelphia. It is the same there as in New York, Chicago, Cincinnati, Buffalo, and other large cities. The ladies have free scope to do all the work they can do if they are competent. I know of no jealousy among us because the women are taking an active part in shorthand writing. A lady is occupying my position while I am absent from America, doing my work as far as the Shorthand is concerned. I am very glad to say that, so far as we see in the States, there is no reason why women should not receive the same pay as men for doing the same work, if they do it well.

Mr HADDON: I should like to ask Miss Kensit if I rightly understood her to say that it was not necessary to have a smattering of knowledge, which, I think, all reporters acknowledge is requisite. To-day, in the City of London, I employ ladies as clerks, and I find they are very much faster writers of longhand than ordinary male clerks.

Miss KENSIT (in reply): I assume that a lady has an ordinarily good education before beginning the study of Shorthand. I am very pleased to hear of the success of ladies in America, and I think what has been done there can be done here. I have had no experience at political debates, but at other meetings I have always found myself well treated, and have had no difficulty.

THE SHORTHAND CLERK.

By E. A. Cope.

The application of Shorthand to the everyday purposes of business life is now so general, that we are apt to forget how very recently its introduction into the office was regarded as an innovation. Who was the first man to make the innovation, we are never likely to know with any certainty. Sir Edward Watkin has been credited with the honor, but does not himself insist upon the claim. It is undoubtedly through his instrumentality that Shorthand was brought into use in connection with railway work, and ever since he discovered by personal experience the value of Shorthand in the office, he has propagated the idea with characteristic persistency. "My first use of Shorthand for correspondence," he says, "was in boyhood, as my father was, for those times, an adept in the art—working on the old Byrom ways. I have therefore always had Shorthand in my head: but when it became my turn to administer affairs of business, I half killed myself by writing and dictating—which was then the fashion—in longhand. So I learned—for I had to learn it—to *speak* my letters to a shorthand writer. Thus I could work away, at last, fast enough to keep four or five men at work, taking notes and writing out for a whole day on emergency. And I am now so inured that I can do better style and precision by speaking the matter, than by writing it out myself in longhand. About forty-five years ago I suggested the use of Shorthand to a friend of mine—a solicitor—and he told me, years afterward, that that shorthand clerk had made him a fortune. In fact he could do six times the work in correspondence; and when we remember that a lawyer writes 'letters,' 'long letters,' 'special letters,' and 'very special letters,' it will be easily seen how much increase of harvest Stenography brought. What the clients said about it, I did not inquire.

"In 1853-4, when I became General Manager of the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway, I first started a shorthand class in connection with my plan of clerk apprentices. These apprentices had each to learn Shorthand. Mr Henry Pitman was, and is, the teacher at Manchester.

"When I became Chairman of the South Eastern Railway, I did the same thing in London, in 1865; and I have introduced the plan in different spots on both sides of the Atlantic.

"I should be sorry to claim to be the 'original inventor' in this or in many other things, when probably, if I cared for praise, I might put in a claim."(1)

Possibly during an earlier period than that which these remini-

1. Letter from Sir E. Watkin to E. A. Cope, 18 June, 1887.

scences cover, an individual here and there may have recognised the advantage of dictating correspondence to a shorthand writer, but I think it doubtful. To us the advantage is so obvious, that its tardy recognition excites our wonder. Why did not the shorthand clerk come into vogue in the stirring days of Byrom and Weston? Perhaps there was no urgent need for his appearance so soon. But another explanation may be hazarded. Originating intellects are so rare, and imitative intellects are so abundant, that the most obvious thing is just what the multitude always misses seeing, until someone with a little clearer vision than the ordinary points it out, whereupon the multitude instantly declares with the unanimity that distinguishes the unimaginative crowd, "Anybody could have seen that."

We shall be tolerably correct in saying that the shorthand clerk —the specialist whom the use of Shorthand in the office has brought into existence—is the product of the last half-century. It is during the last two decades of that period that the extension of the use of Shorthand in the office has been most rapid. It has invaded the railways, the insurance offices, banks, and the offices of surveyors, merchants, lawyers of both branches, accountants, and indeed every office where correspondence is required. Into every department of commercial life Stenography has penetrated, and the interests it now subserves extend over the whole field of professional and mercantile activity. Thus it has come to pass that at the present time shorthand clerks are, by far, the most numerous class of shorthand practitioners. In view of this fact, their qualifications, status, and prospects, are matters that may well engage the attention of this Congress.

It is impossible to appreciate aright the value of the work performed by the shorthand clerk, or the qualifications required for the satisfactory performance of that work, without some clear idea of the nature and variety of the duties it includes. At the outset it must be remarked that, except as regards the lowest grades, the common notion that the work of the shorthand clerk is merely mechanical, is very wide of the mark. Among the duties that fall to his lot, the simplest and the most general is that of correspondence. Now it is true that in very many instances this work can be accomplished with a minimum of attainment. Given a moderately deliberate dictator, careful as to the structure of his sentences, and not overburdened with business, and an ordinary degree of readiness in note-taking, and accuracy in transcribing, supplemented by a neat handwriting, correctness in punctuation and the use of capital letters, and the ability to spell most words according to the approved fashion, will undoubtedly suffice. But in the majority of houses this low level of skill would be found inadequate. Dictators are not always deliberate, or even careful as

to structure of sentences. The busy man, anxious to improve each shining second, will torture his shorthand clerk, in the intervals between two appointments, by dictating to him as fast as he can reel them off, the replies to a mass of letters. One after another they are dictated, almost without intermission. There is no time to revise the English, or to correct slips of the tongue; no time to explain peculiarities of spelling, names of unfamiliar persons or places. Everything is poured forth at express speed. Sometimes the letters have to be sent off without the Principal seeing them.

All this entails upon the shorthand clerk considerable responsibility. However hastily or carelessly the letters have been dictated, they must leave the office in perfect form. This means judicious revision of phrases here and there, impossible with safety except where the intention and object of the letter have been completely grasped. It means also painstaking references for names, a thorough familiarity with the technicalities of the business, as well as a high degree of manual dexterity in note-taking. Before such a task the "merely mechanical" man would fail utterly.

Another development of this branch of shorthand work is correspondence in foreign languages. Sometimes the employer dictates in English, leaving his clerk to make the translation. Sometimes he dictates in the foreign language, and the notes are taken direct in that language. Some correspondence clerks have assured me that when a letter is dictated to them in a foreign tongue they translate it mentally, and take down the English equivalent, re-translating this in the course of the transcript. The method strikes me as clumsy. It resembles that of the parson, who preached other men's sermons, but translating them into Welsh, and then re-translating them into English, so effectually disguised them that the original authors would have failed to recognize their own productions. As regards the shorthand clerk, whichever of these plans is adopted, there is required, beyond all doubt, a high degree of ability and skill.

But correspondence is only a portion of office work in Shorthand. The junior reporter, who misrepresents public speakers in so-called verbatim reports, and looks down with lofty contempt upon the "mechanical" occupation of the shorthand clerk, would go frantic if he were required to take down the long specifications dictated daily in the offices of engineers, builders, and quantity surveyors, in which the utmost conciseness of expression is gained by omission of all superfluous words, sentences being reduced to skeleton form, with three-fourths of the expressions purely technical—meaningless as Greek to all outsiders. That junior reporter, too, would need all his wits about him if he were called into a lawyer's office, and bidden to take down at a minute's notice from rapid dictation, as many a shorthand clerk has to do, a long deed,

bristling with "aforesaids" and "hereinafters," with "executors, administrators and assigns" turning up in a surprising profusion. For be it noted that in these two typical illustrations of the shorthand clerk's work—specifications and copies of deeds—absolute accuracy is indispensable. The engineer, builder, or surveyor, who has dictated his specifications, will examine the transcript with the minutest care; the lawyer will probably compare the transcript of the deed with the original, and so detect every trivial error. It is impossible to take liberties with the language.

Now, has anybody here ever come across a "verbatim" published report of any speech, which could be relied upon as giving, from beginning to end, the actual words uttered by the speaker? I confess that I have not. Again and again I have compared "verbatim" reports published in different papers, of the same speech; but I have seldom found any two reports agree for more than two consecutive sentences. If you are interested in seeking to discover whether Mr Gladstone or Lord Salisbury prefers to say "happen" instead of "occur" or "take place," you may study the newspapers in vain; for if the *Daily News* declares that the orator said "happen," *The Times* will tell you that he said "occur," and the *Standard* will be positive that the expression used was "take place." The shorthand clerk is by the necessities of his work compelled to cultivate far more verbal accuracy both in note-taking and transcribing than the ordinary newspaper reporter finds needful. It is not permitted to him to indulge in the frivolity of describing a client as in a state of "animated expectancy."

Beside work of the kinds already mentioned, there are reports, abstracts of proceedings, minutes at board meetings of public companies, vestries and local bodies, briefs to counsel, counsel's opinions, and a multitude of other documents of every description, which are now commonly dictated in more or less complete form to the shorthand clerk. A solicitor told me recently that in his office, except as regards drafts which have to be submitted to other people, he has practically abolished drafts of documents altogether. Everything is copied direct from shorthand.

Much of this work requires a high standard of general ability, and great facility in note-taking. For among the employers of Shorthand are many who dictate with a rapidity that approaches the speed of ordinary conversation. It is not easy to define the limits of rapid composition, but a man who begins early in life to dictate daily to a shorthand clerk generally acquires a marvelous power of quick dictation which taxes the energies of the most skilful writer. The business men of this generation commenced their training as dictators at a time when their minds were plastic; and, as a rule, they are ready and rapid in composition and dictation. They demand from their assistants a correspondingly high degree of skill.

The shorthand clerk is usually the hardest worked man in the office; he is wanted at all sorts of odd times. Something urgent comes in suddenly, and upsets all previous arrangements. Upon the shorthand clerk falls the great part of the burden. He is called into the private room; "Take this down, and write it out at once," the task may be long, the dinner-hour may come and go; still he sits at his toil, scribbling away till his wrist aches, and his eyes grow weary. See him when mail-time approaches. Sheet after sheet of note-paper he covers, his eyes often glancing hastily at the clock, for the employer has probably, as busy men too often do, left his letters till the very last minute, and is now terribly anxious not to miss the post.

The shorthand clerk is the great time-saver in the office. His presence increases vastly the amount of work that the employer can get through, and is thus particularly profitable to the employer. This circumstance should lead to great liberality on the part of the latter in the matter of salary, but as a rule it does not. In the best offices shorthand clerks are generally paid well, but it is a fact that on the whole, the scale of remuneration which has never been very high, is falling. Shorthand is looked for almost as a matter of course, and many employers will not engage a clerk who is entirely ignorant of "the art." A great Christian "philanthropist" whose enormous profits in business enabled him to secure a wide reputation for munificient donations to missionary societies, used, when he took the chair at literary institutions, to recommend young men to learn Shorthand and foreign languages, as a means of improving their positions; but whenever a youth equipped with a knowledge of Shorthand and two or three European languages applied for a post in his establishment, the answer always was, "We expect you to devote to the firm whatever accomplishments you possess, *but we make no difference in the salary.*" Of course not: he couldn't afford it without detriment to the missionary societies. The tendency to require additional accomplishments and particularly Shorthand, but to "make no difference in the salary," is very strong in the present day. Even where that tendency does not manifest itself in its worst form, salaries among shorthand clerks vary considerably. It was said some time ago that a scale of remuneration based upon the number of words that a writer could achieve per minute was gaining ground; thus a writer of 150 words per minute would receive £150 per annum, and one of 140 words per minute £140 per annum, and so on. I confess that I can find no warrant for this opinion. In the best offices salaries of men really competent to undertake difficult work, range from £150 to £200 a year, the former rate being far more common than any larger sum, and the latter being comparatively rare. In inferior offices, the salaries range from £100 a year downwards to vanishing point, it being

apparently the opinion of some employers that when a youth has learned shorthand, he is qualified to live by faith alone.

The problem how to improve the status of the shorthand clerk and secure for his work the recognition which it merits, is one that comes to the front from time to time; but there are enormous difficulties in the way. The obvious tendency to lower the remuneration is attributable to many causes. Prominent among these is the competition which results from the circumstance that a knowledge of shorthand is now becoming general, and will become more general still. But this itself is not a sufficient reason for reducing remuneration. The ranks of the legal profession are more crowded than ever, but the remuneration does not fall. There is, it is true, a large demand now-a-days for a moderate degree of shorthand skill. Many a man who has little need for a shorthand assistant, finds it convenient to have one at hand, but inconvenient to pay him well. So long as he is satisficd with a low degree of efficiency, no one can complain that the remuneration is small. But with shorthand clerks of the more skilled and experienced sort—men who by years of hard work have brought themselves to a high pitch of general efficiency—it is a serious matter that they are offered less pay, and find their emoluments reduced in consequence of the competition of inferior men. People in the front rank of other callings do not suffer in that way. Able architects, barristers, accountants, vocalists, etc. do not receive less reward for their work, although their professions are thronged with people of lesser ability.

The fact is that although shorthand clerks are the most numerous class of shorthand practitioners, they are the least organized. If the thoroughly competent and really able men among them would only unite, their interests might be as effectually safeguarded as are those of any other people who combine. Employers with important businesses under their control, want the best men that can be got, and cannot afford to engage the services of a succession of half-educated, imperfectly trained, and therefore cheap men. If there were a society in existence, composed exclusively of thoroughly competent men, admitted to membership only after passing a stringent eximination, not only in Shorthand, but in general knowledge, and employers came to understand that there, and there alone, could they depend upon getting the quality of man they need, on the one condition that they should reward the labor according to a scale recognized by the society, I believe that in course of time that scale would come to prevail. The only real obstacle to such a consummation proceeds from shorthand clerks themselves. The British clerk is a curious creature. He is impervious to ideas, and has, in abundance, all those deficiencies which Matthew Arnold detects in the middle class. Above all, he is nervously anxious not to copy any of the methods of the British

workman. In any attempt to combine, he sees trades-unionism; and trades-unionism is to the average British clerk a terrible bogey. Then, again, British clerks do not mix well. You may have noticed in some small country towns, where the struggle after the "genteel" supplies the chief motive-force in life, that society is divided into an extraordinary number of social grades. The man who has an income of £10 a year more than his next-door neighbor, regards the latter as socially his inferior; and is himself looked down upon by his neighbor on the other side, whose income exceeds his own by a similarly enormous amount. This is a fair illustration of the feeling that prevails among large sections of English clerks, and makes union among them almost impossible. Add to these peculiarities a certain fatalistic apathy that seems to pervade the class, and the failure of all attempts at organization becomes intelligible. The shorthand portion of the fraternity forms no exception to the rule, and shows no sign of bestirring itself to maintain its positlon. Perhaps the members of this Congress can devise or suggest some means of awakening the shorthand clerk from a lethargy which is foolish, and may become fatal.

Mr POCKNELL: One word in reference to a statement which has created some consternation among the reporters. Mr Cope has mentioned that we could scarcely find exactly similar reports by half-a-dozen different reporters. I am quite sure he referred only to reports appearing in newspapers, and not to the notes of shorthand writers in Courts.

Mr JANES: I think if the author of the paper will recollect for one moment the conditions under which a newspaper reporter has to transcribe his notes, that after he has done so in the early hours of the morning they are taken away from him and dealt with in the printing room, and that he does not see the revise, he will understand that there may then be a difference as to a word here and there in the different reports.

THE MINOR USES OF SHORTHAND.

By Alfred W. Kitson.

The primary object of learning a system of Shorthand is, in a large number of cases, to record the utterances of the human voice. If the hand could write longhand characters with sufficient rapidity to follow a speaker, it would appear probable that as the more lengthy forms existed first and for many centuries held undivided sway, Stenography would never have been called into being. The hand is, however, limited as to the speed of its movements, and the ordinary letters cannot, even under the most favorable circumstances, be traced at more than a comparatively slow rate. When the time arrived in the history of civilisation for the exact words used by an orator to be demanded by a reading public, a more expeditious style of writing became an absolute necessity. It soon occurred to observant people that the abbreviated characters could be employed with advantage for purposes other than that of keeping pace with a speaker. A secondary object, but by no

means an unimportant one, of mastering the difficulties of Shorthand, has been therefore the making of memoranda, the copying of extracts from books, the drafting of literary matter, the keeping of a diary, and correspondence with others using the same system. Many of the systems which have been invented have been in fact more suited to the purposes just named than to verbatim reporting. A third object in studying Shorthand has been that of obtaining secresy. We have an instance of this in the case of the diarist Pepys, who jotted down many remarks which could scarcely have been safely entrusted to the keeping of a more legible mode of writing than that which he employed. It is probably the experience of most writers that private memoranda may be safely left to undergo the scrutiny of the members of the household, but how long that state of things will last now that everybody is said to be learning Shorthand, it is impossible to say. If that secresy which in the old works upon the art is often put forward as one of its advantages, is destroyed, it will be prudent to avoid making use of a widely-known system.

Among the possible uses of Shorthand is that of communication between deaf persons and those who are in the enjoyment of their sense of hearing. We phonographers well know how convenient a means of communicating ideas the system is. At the meetings of the various committees whose concentrated labors have brought into existence this Congress, there has been a frequent interchange of views in this way. When we were at school we were taught that whispering in company was rude, and the kind of communication just referred to bears a strong resemblance to the passing on of secrets by whispers, but as we were not told in our younger days that "*Phonographic* communications corrupt good manners," we felt perfectly at liberty to ask or answer questions and to make or receive suggestions bearing on the subject of our deliberations, without interfering with the general course of business. Two phonographers seated side by side at a public meeting can in the most ready and silent manner carry on a written conversation. So in the case of deaf persons, facility in the use of a generally known system of shorthand would be an immense improvement upon the present cumbersome way of writing in longhand—a severe trial of patience to both parties.

The use of Shorthand to the student is very great. By means of it he may do something more than take the bald heads of his subject. He need not copy verbatim; that is never a satisfactory process, because it does not necessitate mental activity. The spirit of the author may be clothed with other language much more readily by the shorthand writing student, than when the work has to be done in longhand. After a certain stage is reached, the thought given to the form of the characters employed is so trifling as not to interfere to any appreciable extent with the attention required for properly studying the book itself and the meaning and value of the notes that are made from it.

One cannot too strongly insist on the advantage of employing Shorthand when engaged in literary composition. The ability to write quickly the ideas which we wish to fix permanently is of such incalculable advantage to literary men that it is well worth their while to learn a good system for no other purpose than that of composing, amplifying, and correcting their language preparatory to its being copied for the press. Shorthand lends itself most readily to the process of correcting. The operation of striking out a word and inserting a more suitable one is instantaneous, and the amendment if done with ordinary care is perfectly comprehensible. The necessity of transcribing is the one great drawback to this method of composition, and every autho who has adopted it sighs for the happy time when compositors will, as a matter of course, set up in type straight from the shorthand MS.

Among the minor uses of Shorthand is that in connection with Book-keeping. Entries in the ledger are in themselves so brief that longhand is sufficient for them, but the subsidiary books, especially the day book, may most conveniently be kept entirely in Shorthand. The speed and accuracy with which a trained clerk may jot down items of sale or purchase, will commend the plan in these time-saving days.

We have lately heard a good deal about policemen learning Shorthand. One can easily draw a rather amusing picture of a member of the force while chasing a nimble thief, taking notes of his dress and personal appearance in order that if he should by his superior activity escape, so full a description should be inserted in the *Hue and Cry* that ultimate capture is a question of but a few hours. Marvelous tricks are often played with a policeman's memory as to the exact words used by a prisoner on being taken into custody, and one can only hope that when Shorthand is employed an accurate note will be taken on the spot and faithfully read when the case comes on.

In a very large establishment not many miles from this place, a youth writing Shorthand is kept to record the entrance and exit of the hundreds of workpeople. A system of checks was employed for a time, but failed. Then the names were taken in longhand, but the present plan is found to answer best. Each man as he passes mentions his name, and it is taken down without the least loss of time, and the wages book is made up from the shorthand list with entire satisfaction to employer and employé.

For the purpose of keeping a diary, Stenography is undoubtedly of the greatest use. We have it on high authority that "Brevity is the soul of wit." If this is universally true, a diary in longhand should be a most amusing book; but so far from this being the case, it is, generally speaking, a most melancholy work. Very little time is given to it, and when written in longhand, such a thing as for instance a day in the country will be described thus: "Fine. Caught 10.15 train. Long walk. Lost umbrella. Good dinner. Back 9.30." If Shorthand be employed, one may in about the same time give an account

of what has been seen and heard, admired and enjoyed, and the circumstances under which the umbrella was lost may be told in such a way as to be quite interesting reading when the book is taken up perhaps a quarter of a century afterwards.

There is a curious kind of timidity which one hears expressed sometimes with regard to trusting anything to the keeping of Shorthand—a strange sort of fear that at some future time, when the information is needed, the mystic symbols will not give up their secret, and some consequences, as terrible as they are uncertain, will follow. There is really no ground for this, if care is taken to write correctly and in accordance with the rules of the system employed. If unsuitable writing materials are used and the characters are slovenly drawn, there undoubtedly may be risk that when appealed to they may from sheer obstinacy avenge themselves upon the thoughtless writer. If a person puts away a paper written in Shorthand, and then by negligence forgets the art of deciphering it, he is like a man who places a treasure in an iron safe, and then loses the key. Put your trust in Shorthand. If you treat it well, it will not betray you; but being of human contrivance, it remains human in this that it resents most bitterly anything in the nature of neglect.

What may be called the minor uses of Shorthand, of which some have been alluded to, are really of considerable importance to persons who while wishing to keep alive their knowledge of the art, have but few opportunities of practising it. Nothing is more common than to be told that certain individuals learned Shorthand in years gone by, but have forgotten it because they have had no continuous use for it. It seems a pity that after devoting time and trouble to such a study, it should be allowed to drop. It would not be lost if use were made of it in the innumerable ways in which it lends its aid in every-day life. This need not be what may be called writing for writing's sake, but it is the turning to account an art the advantages of which increase in proportion to the use that is made of it. The saying "The more you do, the more you may do" applies with peculiar force to Stenography. A man who is in the habit of calling in this general servant at every hour of the day, soon finds it so indispensable that he cannot but regard with extreme pity all the unfortunate individuals who have to pass their lives without its valuable help.

THE VALUE OF SHORTHAND TO THE STUDENT AND TO THE PRACTITIONER OF MEDICINE.

By W. R. Gowers, M.D., F.R.S.

Among the miscellaneous uses of Shorthand, not the least important is its value to the student of every kind. First to the student who learns by listening to oral lectures. Many students take notes of lectures in longhand. The process, however, inter-

feres much with the thorough comprehension of the lecture, and so some students prefer simply to listen—to "take in" all they can, and trust to "reading up" the subject afterwards in books, to supplement their recollection, and to learn the details that they fail to remember. Shorthand enables the student to secure the necessary abstract in writing, and at the same time to give almost as much attention to the subject as if he took no notes. But for this he must have a thorough mastery over the art. The temptation to the student who writes Shorthand is to take down too much. A *verbatim*, or really full report, of a single lecture will occupy the whole of the evening in its revision and correction, even if it is not written out; and most students have to hear and master three or four lectures a day. To take a full report is a mistake; a good and terse abstract is what is needed; and, as I say, this can be taken in Shorthand without any interference with the needful attention to the subject-matter. Nay, the making of the abstract deepens the impression made by the speaker's words; and the student is actually able to carry away in his mind more of the lecture than if he merely listened to it, or made an abstract in longhand. Longhand notes, like a leaden weight, keep the student constantly behind the lecturer, so that he has from time to time to omit, in order to catch the speaker up. But the whole value of Shorthand depends on the efficiency with which it is written. If the student has to attend to his writing he cannot attend to the lecture. Hence the oft-repeated lesson that Shorthand should be taught, and taught thoroughly, at school; so that the student is well equipped with this most useful weapon in his pursuit of knowledge. If he has not learned it at school, it will still be well worth while for him to devote the needful time at the outset of his studies. He need not seek to acquire a very rapid speed; but he should be able to write 100 words per minute with the perfect ease of almost automatic action.

Shorthand is most useful to the student of what are called arts and literature. The facility which it gives of making brief abstracts of important facts and opinions is extremely valuable. My own old Latin and Greek text books are studded with Shorthand notes—notes of translation, notes on grammatical construction, on geography, on history, etc. But its value to the student of science is still greater. The well-known maxim of Capt. Cuttle should be the motto of every student and investigator; and he who can write Shorthand will, as a matter of fact, secure twice as many notes, and notes that are twice as useful, as he who does not write Shorthand. "There is not time to make a note of it" is always hampering the longhand writer; but to the writer of Shorthand the very meaning of the word "time" is almost changed. Minutes acquire the value that hours have to others.

To the student of medicine, these remarks apply with peculiar force. Besides the set lectures that he has to attend, much of his teaching is at the bedside of the patient, or in the room in which out-patients are seen; and of the facts that come under his notice, and the lessons he receives, two-thirds, at least, are lost, unless Shorthand enables him to secure them. When he ceases to be a nominal student—for he should never really cease to be one—its value still continues; for in nothing is its advantage more strongly felt than in the process of taking notes of the cases of disease that come under his observation and care—notes which are often necessary, not only for his sake, but for the sake of the patient. Whilst the patient is describing his symptoms they can be taken down in as full detail as is needful; and all the results of the examination can be recorded in a few minutes. I speak from experience—grateful experience—for I possess Shorthand notes taken by myself of not less than twenty thousand cases of disease. Of one kind of disease alone I have notes of nearly five thousand cases; and I am sure that the notes would not have been half as numerous, and not more than one-third as useful, had they been taken in longhand. And yet, strange to say, in no profession is Shorthand less used; and I have observed with much surprise that I am the only member of the medical profession taking part in this Congress. In the scientific work of medicine it is the same story. The facility the art gives in abstracting the work of others, in collecting facts, in arranging materials, in preliminary composition, in all but preparation for the press, its value is felt at every turn. But for all this, Shorthand must be well known. The worker must be able to write without thought, and to read without effort; and the time spared from other work to acquire the needful dexterity will ultimately be repaid a hundred-fold.

THE TYPE-WRITER.

By Mr E. Howard.

In a paper read about a year ago before the Institute of Shorthand Writers, I discussed at some length the merits of the various type-writers at present in use, and arrived at the conclusion that the Remington machine was undoubtedly the best. I do not propose, therefore, to go into the question of the relative merits of the various machines on this occasion. (But though my remarks will be made with special reference to the Remington machine, there are several other machines, notably the Caligraph and the Hammond, which compete with the Remington more or less successfully, and my remarks will apply with few modifications to those machines.)

I propose, then, to ask you to consider, firstly, the advantages of the

type-writer; secondly, the objections, real and supposed, which lie in the way of its being practically adopted by the shorthand writer; thirdly, the methods in which the type-writer may be employed (though my remarks on the second and third heads will frequently merge into each other); and, in conclusion, I shall offer a few general remarks arising out of the whole subject.

First, then, as to the advantages of the type-writer. The chief of these is undoubtedly the superiority of the transcript. Now it will, I am sure, be admitted by all that a shorthand writer is no exception to the general rule that should prevail among professional men: he owes a duty to his client and to himself to do the best possible work; and if he fails to do this he must, in the long run, suffer the consequences. If we suppose two shorthand writers equally accurate in their work, equally prompt and expeditious, and equally vigilant as business men, but one careful about the neatness, legibility, and compactness of his transcript, and the other careless in this regard, there can be no manner of doubt as to the direction in which business will tend, even in a country like our own, where it has a tendency to run in long-established channels. Now, I put it to you if the type-writer had been the primitive literary instrument and not the pen, would any of you have ventured for a moment to speak of writing as the neater and more legible production? And surely this is the true way to compare their merits; for the early start that the pen has obtained over the type-writer can only give it a temporary advantage, except where its greater simplicity and portability gives it some never-to-be-lost advantages over its new trial.

As bearing upon this point, I may state what has occurred within my own experience. At the close of the case of "Baker *v.* McGeorge," Mr Baron Pollock was asked to allow the costs of the shorthand notes. He declined to do so; and, after some discussion, Mr Vaughan Williams made the following observation—"Now that no inference can be drawn from your lordship looking at them, I would like you to see the shorthand notes, because they are so beautifully printed with the type-writer. The shorthand writers give us a transcript in that form now." The notes were handed to the learned judge, when he remarked—"Very good. That reminds me that when I was acting as arbitrator and was asked whether I wished for shorthand notes, I always used to say—'If you are going to print them they may be worth having, but I do not want copies of written shorthand notes. I do not know what the cost of this is. Is it expensive?—*Mr Vaughan Williams:* It costs the same, I believe, my lord.—*Mr Baron Pollock:* You mean the same as writing?—*Mr Vaughan Williams:* The same as writing; and it is so much more easy to read.—*Mr Baron Pollock:* It is not so costly as printing!—*Mr Vaughan Williams:* Not so costly as printing.—*Mr Baron Pollock:* It is very convenient.'" Similar observations were made at the close

of a case in the City of London Court, in which my firm sent in a long transcript made on the type-writer.

Some, however, doubt, or affect to doubt, the existence of this superiority. In the first place, a comparison is, I think, very unjustly drawn between type-writing and printing, whereas, of course, the true comparison is between type-writing and writing. Another objection sometimes urged to type-writing work is found to have its origin in this, that violet or even red ink has been used. Undoubtedly transcripts so made are very trying to the eyes. But there is no difficulty whatever in making transcripts in black ink. A third objection is due to the circumstance that much type-writing is done on very thin paper. When several simultaneous copies are required, this has to be done, and I have in my experience heard complaints of such work, for the paper used for this purpose, although of the very finest quality and very tough in its fibre, is extremely translucent; and the writing on the sheet one is reading is somewhat obscured by the sheet underneath. English counsel are so accustomed to paper of real substance and solidity that I have known them to object to this thin paper, and I certainly would not dream of presenting to a member of the English Bar one of half-a-dozen simultaneous copies, as is frequently done in America. Two very good simultaneous copies on fairly stout paper may, however, be made, especially if a hard cylinder is employed, or a transcript may be made on thick paper, and a copy on thin paper filed away for reference. To reporters, this method of making numerous simultaneous copies will be found invaluable, for the copies, of which even twenty may be made simultaneously, are, of course, far more easily made and far more legible than those produced with a stylus; and, indeed, for general purposes, this method of duplicating copies ranks as one of the chief advantages of the type-writer.

Mr Underhill, a shorthand writer of New York, employs, where a number of copies are required, the lithographic process; and I had the pleasure when in New York last year of seeing his lithographic machines, which were worked by electric current; and as showing what can be done in this country I have had a front page of transcript re-produced by this process, of which copies may be had by any who wish for them. There is one great advantage which this method possesses even over letter-press printing. Every shorthand writer who has had any considerable experience must have been frequently annoyed by the printer's errors which have crept into his work, and for which he has to bear the blame; while if the lithographic process is adopted each copy is a facsimile of the identical sheet which has been revised by the shorthand writer.

A third great advantage of the type-writer is the speed of which it is capable. There is no doubt whatever that the type-writer is much faster than the pen. There may have been a good deal of exaggeration on that point; but the broad fact remains that a rapid, or even

an ordinary operator, will outstrip a rapid writer with the greatest ease. But I may remark that the advantage of the type-writer over the pen, like that of the bicyclist over the pedestrian, is best seen at long distances. At one hundred yards, or even at a quarter of a mile, the advantage of the bicyclist over the pedestrian is very slight, but the advantage of the former increases with the distance run. So, if you adopt the minute test, and compare the most rapid penman with the most rapid type-writer, the superiority of the type-writer over the penman would be about as three to two—if, indeed, this is not an understatement—but in a long day's work, this superiority of the type-writer would be more marked—certainly as much as four to two. The advantage of the type-writer over the pen is greatest where one dictates direct to the operator; and least, where transcribing shorthand notes. An operator of very ordinary skill will write 30 folios of 72 words an hour from dictation, and a really skilled operator can write 45 to 50, or even more. Thus, Miss Emmeline S. Owen, an English lady who has lived in America some years, wrote from my dictation the other day nine folios and 21 words in ten minutes, or at the rate of upwards of 55 folios an hour, from a Patent Case; and I have no doubt that she could have maintained this high rate of speed a considerable time. This, however, was, of course, racing speed; and the work was certainly not so satisfactory as when produced at an ordinary speed. Those who wish can see the specimen, and ample opportunities will be afforded during the Congress for arriving at the truth of this matter, free from exaggeration on the one hand or understatement on the other. In transcribing from shorthand notes operators do not, as I have said, usually appear to such great advantage over ordinary writers as they do when writing direct from dictation. But still the advantage is great. An operator when transcribing Shorthand will write much faster than the penman, but with short pauses or breaks. While the longhand writer will be continuously going, keeping his left hand on his note-book, the type-writer generally loses some little time between his short "brain-fulls," if I may coin the word. The chief reason, however, is, as I imagine, that most type-writer operators have acquired the art late in life; while the average penman began when he was a mere child; and, therefore, while the one can write without keeping his eyes on the sheet, the other has to look continuously at the key-board. But as it is the fact that the blind can use the type-writer with great facility, it is clear that the type-writer can, and he should earnestly strive to, acquire the habit of writing without looking at the key-board, except now and then in hurried glances; and I have no doubt that under such circumstances a speed of upwards of 40 folios an hour when transcribing could be maintained.

I now come to the second branch of the subject. What are the difficulties, real and supposed, in the way of the adoption of the

type-writer by the shorthand writer? There are four which occur to me. Firstly, the expense; secondly, the difficulty of obtaining skilled operators; thirdly, the noise produced by the machine; fourthly, the difficulty in making corrections.

Firstly, as to the expense. Machines of the key-board class (and others are, for practical purposes, absolutely useless), cost about twenty guineas. Each professional shorthand writer practising in the Court, either on his own account or on the staff of another firm, requires frequently four dictatees; and occasionally, if he has long extracts, five or even six. I think, therefore, it must be taken that four machines will be required for every such writer when he uses the type-writer exclusively, and this will involve an expense of about £100. The machines, however, are very durable, and will certainly last two years, and unless used constantly very much longer than that. When worn out they can be replaced for £11 each. Therefore if £5 be taken for interest, and £25 for depreciation, this will represent only £30 a year, an expense which may easily be recouped by the second copies which will be required; which, as I have said, can be made simultaneously. But probably few shorthand writers will care to purchase, in the first instance, machines sufficient to do all their work. They will prefer to introduce the new process somewhat gradually, and at first content themselves with making judgments aud other short transcripts by its aid. At the expense of confusing the second and third branches of my subject, I may say that many shorthand writers who are anxious to save the expense of dictating their work to shorthand dictatees, and yet wishful to spare themselves the drudgery of transcribing their own notes, will often find it convenient to dictate to one operator direct. In this way they may do their thirty to fifty folios an hour, and the transcript will certainly be much better "edited" than if the shorthand writer transcribed it himself, as it will be found to be easy for the shorthand writer to read mentally a few sentences ahead of the point where he is dictating. In this way a type-writer will very soon pay for itself; for naturally an operator doing this work will not expect to be paid at so high a rate as one who takes from dictation first, and afterwards transcribes. I may say that I have frequently dictated from my own notes to two operators at the same time when the operators have not been very rapid or when very little editing has been required. Indeed, my articled pupil has, where the subject-matter has been simple and easy, and where he has had an opportunity of being present in Court, dictated my notes in this way to two operators. There is no doubt, however, that the best possible method of getting out an average note is, to dictate to a good dictatee who may transcribe his note on the type-writer, or re-dictate to one or two operators. In offices where shorthand notes are read to longhand writers there is no doubt that the plan of reading to one good operator will be found very much more convenient. In

the first place, the work is rendered far easier to the person dictating, for he will have his mind entirely on the one subject instead of a divided attention on two; and, as a consequence, fewer errors will be found on revision.

A second objection, as I have already intimated, is the noise made by the machine. Where five or six machines are going in one room, the noise is certainly distracting to anyone who has been engaged in mental work for many consecutive hours. But the shorthand writer will naturally keep out of such room when he is dictating his notes, and the difficulty, if felt by the operators, will be greatly reduced by putting up partitions. An ideal shorthand writer's office would be one in which each shorthand writer had a small private room in which he might dictate to one operator, write himself, or dictate to a shorthand dictatee, as the case might be; and in which a separate room was assigned to each pair of operators, so that on occasion a shorthand writer could dictate to the two, or to a dictatee who could dictate to the two, without any distraction arising from the work that was being done by others.

Another difficulty which exists at the present time, but which will, I am persuaded, soon disappear, is that of securing good operators. I say it will soon disappear, and I say so for two reasons. First, because each good operator will undoubtedly create a demand for others; and, secondly, because as the machine is very easily learned, this demand will be rapidly supplied. Let me illustrate this by a case within my experience. A shorthand clerk in the City, with very easy office hours, was earning a very good salary. He is one of the few who at present uses the type-writer, and he uses it well. He did evening work at my office, and I was so pleased with him that I offered him a salary considerably in advance of that which he was receiving. He at once gave notice to his employer. His employer advertised for another shorthand clerk, who used the type-writer, but failing to get one to his satisfaction, he offered the clerk a large increase of salary. This illustrates the value to the shorthand clerk of skill in the use of the type-writer, and I have found such instances to be levers with which to spur many on to learn the use of this machine. One of the saddest features connected with the introduction of new machines, is that it displaces those who are already engaged in a particular calling, and substitutes new men who are willing to acquire the new methods. This need not be the case, however, with the type-writer, for it is so easily learned that if a shorthand clerk permits himself to be displaced by one who has learned the use of the new machine, it can only be owing to his own lack of energy. I may say in this connection that my articled pupil, Mr Henry Clarke, after about six weeks' practice, had acquired a speed of seventeen folios an hour, which was equal to his longhand speed. After seven months' practice, he can now write twenty-two to twenty-

eight folios an hour when transcribing shorthand, and he does his work at that speed with very great accuracy, and, being only 17 years of age, he has not, of course, reached his maximum. Do not imagine for a moment that the type-writer is difficult to learn, or make the mistake of comparing it with the piano in this respect. There is, of course, the point of resemblance that both have keys which are depressed by the fingers; but the difficulty of acquiring mastery over the type-writer is not for one moment to be compared with the difficulty of acquiring a like degree of mastery over the piano. In playing the piano, several notes have frequently to be touched at the same time; in the type-writer only one; the keys of the piano have to be struck with varying degrees of force; with the type-writer a fairly uniform touch is all that is required. The time between the striking of the notes of the piano must be varied, and varied with wonderful precision; in using the type-writer, it does not matter whether the keys are struck in slow or quick succession; in playing the piano, the fingers must rest on the keys for varying periods; in operating the type-writer, a sharp staccato blow is uniformily required. The truth is, that the type-writer may be learned in a few weeks, so that it may be written with the average speed of writing; though a very rapid penman, whose exceptional skill has only been acquired by years of practice, will take a greater time before he reaches his longhand speed. Dictatees and shorthand clerks should, however, bear in mind that after a very few days, when not pressed for time, they may make their transcripts, or write their letters with the type-writer, and in this way their practice will cost very little time, for they should, of course, only debit the machine with the time consumed over and above that which would have been consumed, if they had written the transcripts in longhand; and they will soon find this a minus quantity. Bearing these facts in mind, the difficulty of obtaining operators is certain to disappear rapidly.

Then it is objected that corrections, if made with the pen, are more prominent in the case of a transcript than in the case of writing, and that to make them in the machine involves difficulties. This is certainly true to a certain extent. An excellent plan, however, is to make a duplicate by means of carbon paper on extremely thin paper; have the duplicate read over against the shorthand note, and the corrections made very boldly in red ink on the flimsy. Let an operator take away the sheets as they are revised, and make the corrections in the machine. If the transcript is fairly well done, and contains only a reasonable number of errors, the corrections may be made, and the transcript ready for binding, within a few minutes after the work of revision is completed. The specimens I have handed about contain many errors purposely made with a view of showing this method of making corrections. The after-value of the flimsy will be apparent to all. I may say, here, however, that the type-

writer is no exception to other new and improved tools in that it demands a degree of care and skill in the user which the older tool did not require; and those learning the type-writer should be careful to learn it well rather than to learn it quickly, with a view to neatness and the saving of labor in making corrections.

The question arises as to the remuneration of the shorthand writer and of the type-writer. Is the type-writer going to have the effect, which machinery so often has, of bringing down rates? I hope and believe not. My own belief is, that so far from there being any fear of such a result, the use of the type-writer will help us to maintain our rates. Mr Baron Pollock's observation is echoed by most counsel and solicitors. "Is it expensive?"—implying that some enhanced price might be demanded. My firm has sometimes been asked—"Do you charge extra for this? but it has never been suggested that we should charge less. The shorthand clerk who learns the type-writer will naturally be able to demand a higher salary, and only those will suffer who stand still. With regard to the dictatees employed by the shorthand writers, I think it would be very hard on them if the rate should be lowered. They may be able, by the aid of the type-writer, to write a good many folios an hour more than with the pen, and to write them with very much less labor and fatigue. But they have acquired another art; they produce a better result than hitherto known; and I for one will not be a party to giving any less than the regular rate to type-writer operators, except, perhaps, to a pupil, or by charging a trifle, say a shilling on the pound earned for the use of the machine, or something of that sort. If the dictatee does his work conscientiously and well, the shorthand writer should not wish to benefit by such result, except in the less trouble that he in turn will have in revising his transcript, and in the assurance that he will please his clients.

But it will be said that most of the operators in America are ladies, that such will probably be the case here, and that that circumstance will inevitably lead to a reduction in rates. Again I say I think, and I hope not. There is no doubt that the type-writer does open another avenue for the employment of women, but of this I think no man has a right to be jealous, indeed all should be glad that women, who have so few opportunities, and whose lot is certainly far harder than men's, should have another sphere of useful activity open to them. If, however, anyone is selfish enough to object to the employment of women as shorthand writers and type-writer operators, by so much it behoves such a person the more, and not the less, to qualify himself for this competition that awaits him. I know in a general way that type-writing, which is the recognised calling of a large number of cultured ladies in America, is well paid; our American friends will be able to tell us how far differential rates there prevail. They certainly used not to; and any introduction of a system in difference of pay

as between men and women is a thing that ought to be strenuously fought against in the interests of both sexes.

So much of the work of a shorthand writer has to be done at night and under high pressure, that one is loth to ask women to undertake it; and yet in America, where women may be more strongly-minded, they are certainly not stronger-headed. In America I have frequently dictated to American ladies, simultaneously, till quite the small hours of the morning. In England I have dictated to my sister on the type-writer up to three o'clock in the morning on several occasions; and she was quite as fit for work on the following morning as I was; and depend upon it any rightly ordered office is the better for women being employed in it, for the respect which must always be paid to refined and cultured women will undoubtedly tend to raise the tone of all engaged.

There is one last point which I wish to touch upon, and it is this. Some are confused with the supposed difficulty of ascertaining which is the best machine of to-day, and with the impossibility of telling which may be the best to-morrow. The best machine of to-day is, I believe, the Remington. If any do not think so, it is probably because they have in some way misused their machine, or because they have become accustomed to some other which pleases them so much that they cannot believe in anything else. Type-writer operators are often certainly very enthusiastic in their praises of the machine they employ. A young lady whom I met in New York, Miss McCarthy, one of the most skilful operators there, almost worshipped her Remington machine. She could earn on an average £5 a week with it, on occasions £10, and she could hardly believe that it was not a perfect machine. Some Caligraph or Hammond operators are probably as enthusiastic. Some may say, however, it is possible that within a short time a very much better machine will be produced. But why, I ask, wait for this? If such better machine were produced, would you still want to wait for a better, for the perfect machine of the future is a long, long way off? No. It is not, I am now convinced, wise to wait. The improvements in the type-writer, as in other instruments, will probably be very gradual; and, moreover, it will not, of course, be necessary to at once discard an old machine because another is introduced which may be a trifle better, or even a great deal better. If the type-writer takes such a long time to supersede the pen, why should the new type-writer at once supersede an old one? Of course, it is conceivable that some machine very much faster and better than the present may be produced within a short time; but it is unlikely; and such machine will probably be very much more difficult to learn. I say so for this reason. All, or nearly all, the speed can be got out of the present type-writer of which a machine is capable when one key only can be depressed at a time; for if you observe a skilled type-writer at work you will see how rapidly

his fingers move. Therefore, if a machine is produced which is a very great deal faster than the Remington, it must be one capable of having two or more keys struck at the same time. There is no other way of appreciably increasing the speed of the type-writer. Keys with double characters on them will not avail much. Such extra keys could not be sufficiently numerous to yield any greatly increased rate of speed. Well, now, a machine in which two or more keys can be struck simultaneously will demand a higher degree of intelligence and skill on the part of the operator than the machine of the present form, and the chances of making errors will be increased. Just as shorthand takes longer to learn than ordinary writing, so probably would such a machine take longer to learn than the type-writer of to-day; therefore I do not doubt that machines requiring the simpler method of manipulation will continue to be sold for a very long time, perhaps always—and a second-hand machine, if one wished to dispose of it, would probably always have a market value. But there is another reason for not delaying in this matter. It must be remembered that each year one's ability to acquire new arts, and to adapt oneself to new circumstances, becomes lessened; and the dictatee, who puts off learning the type-writer, may some day wake up and find that he is too late ever to reach the first rank among operators. On the other hand, if a person has acquired skill in the use of any key-board machine, he has in so doing acquired the habit of spelling without seeing even what he is writing; and even if he should ultimately think it desirable to learn an entirely new machine with an entirely new key-board, if such should be produced, he would undoubtedly acquire dexterity in the use of the new machine in much less time than would a person who had never used the type-writer at all. I would, therefore, venture to advise all who have much writing to do to learn the use of the type-writer without delay, in order that they may not suffer from the changed methods which are certain to be adopted in this country at no great distance of time.

[An experiment was then made on a Remington machine. Miss Owen, the operator, wrote from dictation, with three very slight literal errors, 219 words in three minutes, or at the rate of 73 words per minute.]

Prof. BRIDGE: I am very glad that this exhibition has been given because it is as common as *a b c* with us. In my own office type-writers have been used for seven years. I have tried the Caligraph, the Remington, and the Hammond. The Remington is heavy and durable, but it will get out of alignment: the Caligraph is not so heavy, but it too will get out of alignment. It differs from the Remington in that you can write every letter, the capitals and the lower case, without moving a little board. The Hammond is more portable, and you can, if you wish, have seven kinds of type on one page. We use all three in our office. They are all excellent machines.

Mr DAVIDSON: I should like you to take into consideration what you want in a good type-writer. You first want good work, then you want speed and durability. Now, Mr Howard has started with the supposition that the Remington is the best type-writer, and he carries that throughout all his paper; but in the Caligraph you

can only require about one-half of the depression that you do in the Remington. Therefore, if the young lady who has so skilfully operated had been using the Caligraph, she would, with the same exertion, have written certainly twenty words more than she has done. At the same time the weight of the Caligraph carriage is reduced, and I think that the Caligraph is the best machine.

Mr LADBROOKE: While hearing the lady writing, I could not but feel that the noise is one of the difficulties. I should like to know whether the muscles employed in working the type-writer differ from those called into play by the pen. In case of pen paralysis setting in, would the machine be a relief?

Mr FISH: I used the Remington for nine years, but in a very much shorter time I attained a higher rate of speed on the Caligraph. On that account I think it the best machine. There is very much less labor in working the Caligraph than the Remington, and my own experience teaches me that it is quite as strong, and in fact stronger than the Remington. My first Remington, double case, was worn out in less than two years. I do not anticipate that my present Caligraph will be worn out in that time. I hope it will do a very much larger amount of work.

Mr JANES: Whilst watching the young lady operating, it seemed to me that the muscles called into play were very similar to those employed in piano playing. I should like to know whether the young lady is a piano player, and if the experience that many ladies have in piano practice would render the Remington specially adapted to ladies.

Mr A. J. WRIGHT; I have found that the effect of the noise of three machines in one room upon the operators and myself has been so serious that, if I had not been able to enlarge my borders, I should probably have altogether discontinued to use type-writers. The noise is a very serious thing when women or young girls are employed, because the tendency is so to irritate the brain through the ear, that unless the operators are peculiarly strong and robust it brings on hysteria.

Mr T. SNELL: I have four young ladies in my employment, and have eight Caligraphs and eight Remingtons. I discarded the Remington for the Caligraph, and I find the latter is better. The difficulty we had with the Remington was that as soon as any slight defect occurred there was no one to put it in order; but now Messrs Wyckoff, Seamens, and Benedict have a staff of skilled mechanics in London, and as soon as your machine gets out of order they undertake to set it right at once. Still that does not apply to the provinces. At Manchester, where my type-writers are at work, they have no such staff. According to my experience, the Caligraph does not require those repairs that the Remington does. There are mechanical appliances in the Caligraph which enable anybody without any kind of mechanical knowledge to put the type into alignment. In London the Remington is as good as the Caligraph, but in the provinces it is not. Now, I have taken up the Hammond, and so far as I have gone I think it preferable to the other two, but my experience with it is limited.

Mr CAVENDISH: In America I was informed that by a very simple system of abbreviation 150 words per minute could be written with ease on the type-writers; and that but for the noise they make they would be used for reporting in public places. The Caligraph makes slightly less noise than the Remington, and the Hammond three or four times as much as the others together.

Mr AVERY: This lady is, no doubt, a practised writer. I should like to know from Mr Howard how many words an ordinary writer could write in a minute.

Mr BUTTON: I have been informed that the Caligraph is by the same inventor as the Remington, and that it is a later machine. I should like an authoritative answer to the question whether that is true; because if it is, as we all know that men make improvements, I should be disposed to prefer the Caligraph.

Mr HOWARD (in reply): The Remington and the Caligraph are, as anyone can see, essentially the same in principle, and that is the reason why I did not descant

at any length upon the merits of the machines; but the history of the invention I will try to state very shortly. There was a split between the owners of the patents, and one set went in one direction and the other in another. The Caligraph is the product of the inventive skill of one set, the Remington of the other. That is my understanding from information derived from Mr Dunsmore, who owns almost all the patents connected with both the Caligraph and the Remington. With regard to the question of noise, I do not admit it is of great importance. With regard to ordinary speed, a pupil of mine began to learn the type-writer last January; at the end of the month his speed was seventeen folios an hour, and now he can in an hour do twenty-eight folios of seventy-two words. One point was made with reference to the levers of the two machines. It was said, truly, that with the Caligraph the finger is depressed a shorter distance than with the Remington, and it was argued that that made the Caligraph more easy and rapid than the Remington. I do not take up the position that the Caligraph is a very inferior machine to the Remington. The speed of the two machines is substantially identical. If you open a door by the handle your hand will move through a greater distance than if you move it at the hinges, but it does not follow that any saving can be effected by placing your hand near the hinge. Anyone who knows anything about mechanical laws knows that the two levers are absolutely equivalent. If the Remington people say theirs is better, they make a mistake; and if the Caligraph people say theirs is better, they also make a mistake. With regard to the type-bar, I assert unhesitatingly that the Remington is better than the other. The bar being shorter it is indisputable that any lack of fit does not effect such a result at the extreme end as in the case of the Caligraph, where the type-bar is longer. I have not had any experience of the Caligraph, but it may be that it is as durable as the Remington. If so, the only reason can be that though they have an inferior principle their workmanship is better. The "journal" in the Caligraph is far weaker and narrower than in the Remington. It is an over-statement to say they have a means of adjustment in the Caligraph, but they have a very admirable contrivance for tightening. I am very glad that the merits of the Caligraph were descanted on, but I am very sorry that a large and rich company like the Caligraph Company did not send over a skilled operator. I cannot see why a Caligraph should not be capable of as great speed as a Remington. Whether I am an exceptional person or not I do not know, but I have gone home at four o'clock in the evening and written continuously until eight o'clock in the morning, and though I suffered very great fatigue, I assure you my hands were not tired. They shared in the general fatigue of the body, but that was all.

Miss OWEN: The age of a type-writer has been discussed. Mr Howard, in his paper, did not actually limit the life of a machine to two years, but he said it would last two years, and in some cases longer. My machine in New York has given me bread and butter for four years, and apart from Phonography it did so for two years. That machine has worked for me fifteen hours a day; it has manifolded eight copies at a time; it did eighty-five words a minute for six weeks last spring; it has been in my house four years, and it has not cost one dollar for repairs. If necessary, I will call upon Professor Bridge, who is an American, to substantiate what I have said. Last year, in the Ohio State Convention, when the Ohio frauds were being discussed in Cincinnati, I had to transcribe almost the whole of the Democratic reporter's notes; many an hour have I spent taking dictation from him at the rate of eighty-five words a minute, and have not gone home till two o'clock in the morning. If any type-writer will stand such work as that, it deserves to be stood up for.

Mr T. A. REED: Permit me to read a letter which I have received from Lord Rosebery:—"My dear Mr Reed,—I am very sorry that it will not be in my power to attend the closing meeting of the Congress to-morrow, as I have engagements in the country which it is impossible for me to disregard. Will you kindly express to the members my concern at being unable to be present. My only regret in connection with the Congress is that I have been able to attend so few of its meetings, but a variety of circumstances, of which you are aware, has prevented my attending some, while others dealt with matters of so technical a nature that I should have been unable to follow the proceedings. It seems to me that you have every reason to congratulate yourself on the success of the gathering, and on the attention which it has called to the art of Shorthand.—Believe me, yours very truly, ROSEBERY."

TYPE SETTING FROM REPORTERS' NOTES.

By Mr Edward J. Nankivell,

Editor of "The Reporters' Magazine."

In these days of keen competition, whatever will serve to annihilate space or time is of the very first importance to the newspaper press. The electric telegraph, the telephone, the pneumatic tube, the type-writer, all more or less owe their development to the fact that they are important factors in the early delivery and publication of news. Indeed it may be asserted that no invention that would further reduce, however slightly, the period of preparation which must intervene between the delivery of a speech and its publication can fail to be of the utmost service to newspapers, more especially, perhaps, to the evening newspapers. Therefore, the question arises whether type setting from reporters' notes is possible; and, if possible, whether it would perceptibly reduce the interval between the delivery of a speech and its publication.

To be in a position to form an opinion on this point we must consider the present mode of reporting and reproducing a speech. To get at the best illustration for our purpose let us take the case of a London evening newspaper. Mr Gladstone is announced to make an important speech at a meeting of the Liberal party in St James's hall, at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon. Managers and sub-editors strain their available resources to make the most of the occasion. In fact it becomes a case of keen competition as to who shall be, not merely the first to be out with a report, but who shall be the first to present the fullest report. Everyone with an ounce of enterprise aims at a *verbatim* report. It would be somewhat dangerous to do otherwise, as the Grand Old Man is apt to be as long-winded in his individual sentences as he is in his speeches. And when, as in his case, parenthesis develops parenthesis, it would be difficult and hazardous to attempt to convey the meaning of an important statement in pithy simple sentences such as a reporter is compelled to use in the rapid off-hand condensation of a speech in the course of its delivery. Well, then, to attain the nearest possible approach to *verbatim* reporting is the prime necessity of the moment. As is well known, evening newspapers are not rich in reporters, and can only at best put two or three men into the field. Say these take ten minute turns. In ten minutes Mr Gladstone will provide the first man with rather more than half of a *Times* column. Now comes the delay. If that reporter's ten minutes' take of notes could be handed over his shoulder to a messenger and sent straight off to the compositors there would be an indisputable gain. But it would take a very expert writer from 40 to 50 minutes to transcribe those notes into longhand. As, however, the reporter is due in 20 minutes to take another turn he

must sacrifice to condensation at least half of what he has taken—a clear loss of matter, in addition to the 20 minutes' delay caused by transcription. But how would it have fared if the Shorthand had not needed transcription? Let us suppose the case of a paper with, say, Mr Pitman's staff of compositors, accustomed as they are to see little or no copy from the literary staff, except what is written in the phonographic character. A couple of good phonographers are sent to report the speech. The first takes a ten minutes' turn, then glances over his notes to vocalise an outline here and there, where the speed was too great to allow of that being done when taking the note, and in five minutes, or less, the messenger is spinning away to the office with half a column of matter, at least 20 minutes ahead of the longhand competitors. The compositors are up to their work, and their paper beats its competitors by twenty minutes in the publication of the first portion of the speech, and so on all through the speech. What evening paper do you suppose could afford to be beaten in that fashion? "All very plausible," my professional brethren will say; "but if it were feasible it is natural that it would have been done long ago. It is not feasible, however, because there are no compositors who can read Shorthand well enough to be trusted to set type from it; and if they could, reporters generally do not take such a clear note that it could be handed over to a compositor to set from." To the objection that there are no compositors who can read Shorthand well enough to be trusted to set type from it, every economist will tell you that you have but to create a demand, and competition will quickly provide the supply. Let a newspaper offer extra wages to such men, and a compositor who could not set type from Shorthand "copy" would soon become a *rara avis*. The same rule would apply to the reporter. Offer an equal temptation for the supply of reporters whose notes could be handed over to the compositor to set from, and you would find that a reporter whose notes were not so available would soon graduate downwards as an incompetent man. It is very wide of the mark to say that type setting from Shorthand notes is not possible, when Gurney's note-takers never transcribe their own voluminous notes, when phonographic shorthand writers in Chancery Lane transcribe each other's notes every day in the busy season; and when the greater part of Mr Pitman's *Phonetic Journal* is every week set up from phonetic characters.

The idea was once attempted to be put into practice on an evening paper with which I was connected. The editor was in the habit of dictating long interviews to his private secretary, and he very quickly recognised that valuable time had to be wasted in the slow and tedious drudgery of transcription. Consequently the question arose whether a compositor could, if taught Shorthand, be

trusted to set from the reporter's notes. I replied that it had been done, and that it was quite a workable idea. As a test I picked out of the waste basket a quarto page of Shorthand notes of an interview which I had just taken from his dictation, and sent it off to Bath (vocalising the first few lines only) to ascertain whether Mr Pitman's Shorthand compositors could set from it. The reply came back that they could do so quite easily, even the part which I had not vocalised. Further to test the question in a practical way, at the request of my chief I arranged with Mr Pitman to send up a Shorthand compositor for a week. But when the compositors of our establishment heard of the proposed importation there was a breathing forth of threatenings, much talk about the Union, and sundry questions as to whether I wanted to rob the men of their bread; whether I was going to bring "Shorthand chaps" into the place and give them all the "fat," and so on. As the breeze grew, both the editor and myself were glad to cancel the arrangement; and there, so far as that paper was concerned, the matter ended. But some day some practical man will get around him a staff of Shorthand compositors and first-class phonographic reporters, and seizing some great opportunity, he will completely take the wind out of the sails of all his competitors. The public will wonder how the "Evening Planet" managed to get ahead of its rivals in such a style. But the managers of the other papers will speedily recognise what has been done, and endeavor to get up alongside of their competitors. People, at first, ridiculed the idea of printing a newspaper by steam. To-day they would ridicule as a hopeless lunatic any man who proposed to print a newspaper by hand. And I cannot believe that the further saving of time in production, which may be effected by type-setting from reporters' notes, will be very much longer overlooked. When the change comes, compositors who cannot set up from Shorthand "copy" will not be wanted in newspaper offices; and reporters who now excuse the illegibility of their notes on the ground that they mix a "little of their own" with Pitman's system, will have to look out for places where the "little of their own" will not need inspection. The drudgery of writing out notes will be at an end for the more capable phonographic reporter; and the newspaper press will have made another great advance by once more increasing the marvelous pace at which it prepares the news of the day for the delectation and instruction of the public.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1887.

LEGAL AND OFFICIAL SHORTHAND WRITING.

Resumed Discussion.

Mr A. R. Marten in the chair.

Mr A. B. Lockett: I might give a hint to those who use joined vowels that they would find it of great importance if they adapted their systems to abbreviation by the long vowel system. For some time past I have had the pleasure of reading through the dictionary, and I am at present engaged in writing out all the words of the language, and I find that abbreviations can be carried out admirably by observing the long vowel sounds. It is done in one system, and it makes the outlines extremely brief. Then I should like to do away with shading, if we possibly can; I am sorry to say in the system I write we use shading, but we do not like it. I should like to see an alphabet on the principle of every letter being different from every other, if that can be, but I do not say it is possible.

Mr A. J. Wright: I wish to remark upon four or five points which are covered by the papers read the other day by Mr Tolcher and Mr Watt First, with regard to accommodation. I think I may state it as an indisputable proposition that, for the professional shorthand writer to do his work well, he must not only hear every sentence but every word, and not only every word but every syllable. If we are placed in an unfavorable position, we may hear the last syllable of a three-syllable word—"tion," for instance—but may not know whether the word is "contention" or "intention." Again, a witness may use the contraction "didn't" for "did not," and if we are awkwardly placed we may not hear the "n't." In arbitrations we have pretty much our own way; we are very much considered, and a shorthand writer has even been known to suggest an alteration of the tables, in order that he might hear more perfectly. But in the Law Courts in the Strand our case is very different. If we go into the Divorce Court, for instance, we find that where we may sit by right we cannot hear many of the witnesses. We are therefore compelled to occupy, by the courtesy of the solicitors, a seat at their table, and it has been my experience to be rather roughly used by a solicitor who wished to take my seat. I have known what it is to have my ink turned over, and my mind disconcerted, by being obliged to make room for somebody else. In the Lord Chief Justice's Court where we sit as a right, the silvery tones of the presiding judge, as he turns his head to the witness, are often entirely lost to us. Again, if we sit at the solicitors' table, and the case is a heavy one, the solicitors and parties all want to sit there, and if the judge leans back in his chair we cannot hear what he says. If we stand up and rest our book on the Master's desk, we are told that either the judge or one of the Masters objects. These are difficulties in the way of the proper performance of the shorthand writer's work, which ought not to exist. Another point I wish to mention is the inaccuracy of copies of shorthand notes supplied to counsel and judges. As a rule, transcripts when they leave a professional shorthand writer's office are punctuated and accurate, but when copies have to be supplied to the Bench and the Bar the transcript is very often sent to a law stationer to be copied, and we who are well acquainted with Chancery Lane know the class of men who have to make the copies during the night, men who in five out of six cases are muddled by too much beer. Consequently, as the copies are not examined, we may occasionally in one of the Appeal Courts hear the presiding judge say, "This is the marvellous accuracy of your shorthand writer." It is forgotten that what is referred to is not the shorthand writer's transcript as it issues from his office. Another point is monopoly. I object to all monopolies in our business, beginning at the Houses of Parliament, and ending at the Bankruptcy Court. I have suffered from monopoly in the Houses of Parliament. Some years ago I succeeded in getting within the ring, and was there two days taking a Railway Passengers' Duty Committee. Finding myself unable to hear well on the

first day, I appealed to the Chairman of the Committee on the second, and he allowed me to sit at the same table with the Parliamentary Shorthand Writer. Thereupon the Parliamentary Shorthand Writer communicated with the Clerk of the Committee and the Chairman, and a rumor reached me that the subject would be mentioned in the House of Commons. The Parliamentary Shorthand Writer also communicated with my clients, and although the inquiry lasted many days, I was, at the end of two days, politely dismissed. Next, I object to the monopoly in the Admiralty Court. I have two friends who have a good deal of business in that Court, and they would give me employment there, which would very much increase my income, but it is a mistaken notion that no notes, except those of the appointed shorthand writer, will be received on appeal. It is true that the Court is open, but there is no accommodation whatever there for the outside shorthand writer, except at the solicitors' table. Then I object to the monopoly in the Bankruptcy Court. There, also, I have lost good business because I am not allowed to go before a Registrar or other officer and take notes of a private examination. There is another Court which I wish to mention, but which does not come under the head of a monopoly. As I understand, the judge of that Court has a clerk who is a shorthand writer. He is paid a salary by the Treasury, but solicitors have got to know that a note is taken by him of every case in the Divorce Court, and they abstain from instructing a shorthand writer because, if the worst comes to the worst, they can have a transcript by paying the usual charges, and if they never need a transcript they save a guinea. I wish also to say a word about official appointments. I feel quite certain that this subject will be brought forward again, and at no distant date, and I think that the Council of the Institute of Shorthand Writers should give it their very serious consideration, with the view of raising valid and sound objections to official appointments, and of devising an alternative scheme, which should have the effect of securing all the advantages, while avoiding all the disadvantages of official appointments. Some arrangement of this kind may be developed. Let a note of all public proceedings be taken in every Court by one shorthand writer only; let the plaintiff's solicitor have the appointment of the shorthand writer, and let that appointment be endorsed on the record, or other similar document, at the time of filing; let the solicitor be entitled, as a matter of right, to make some small charge for endorsing the record and instructing, by letter or otherwise, the shorthand writer; let the solicitor on each side pay the shorthand writer a moiety of the present customary charges, and let the solicitor for the successful party be allowed this charge in the party and party costs as a matter of right; let the transcript, if any, of the notes for the purpose of the litigation be made only on two conditions—first, the express instructions of the litigant to the solicitor; secondly, the request of counsel. If the litigant himself orders a transcript let him pay for it; if the counsel orders a transcript let the solicitor obtain his written request to that effect, and let the production of that request before the Taxing Master entitle the solicitor to the customary shorthand writer's charges. These suggestions, of course, are only tentative, but they may be developed or amplified to suit almost every case. This suggestion would have the effect of securing a note in every instance. It would give the solicitor discretion to employ whatever shorthand writer he chose, and therefore it would not interfere with the patronage, if I may so call it, which every shorthand writer enjoys, and the endorsement of the shorthand writer's name on the document would be an official recognition. The only other subject that I wish to refer to is police reporting, especially with regard to Ireland. I think it is a disgrace to the English Government and the English nation that it should be possible for a man's liberty or property, or even his life, to be sacrificed or jeopardised by the imperfect notes of police constables who cannot, from the nature of their avocations, be expected to be good shorthand writers. In considering this subject of reporting in Ireland one has to remember that the Irish people have been taught, by centuries of misgovernment, to look upon Englishmen in general, and the English Government in particular, as their bitter and everlasting enemies, so that when the policeman or the reporter goes amongst them he is looked upon as the visible and tangible representative of their enemies. If I had to go to Ireland to report, instead of seeking protection from a body of police I would go straight to the principal speaker, would tell him the business on which I was there, that I wanted to do my work accurately and well, and would

suggest to him that if he was not afraid to speak to his countrymen words which the Government might think reprehensible, he would not be afraid that they should be accurately reported. I would ask him to take me on the platform and give me proper accommodation and protection for doing my work as one who desired to give him fair play and free speech.

Mr G. B. SHELL: I regret that I was prevented by my official duties from attending here during the first portion of this discussion on Thursday last, as the few hours left during this last day of our session afford but little time for consideration of the questions that I should have brought under your notice. Most of you are aware that in the year 1861 I was selected as one of the three official shorthand writers appointed to the Bankruptcy Court, under the Bankruptcy Act, 1861, and that I have therefore held that position for the last twenty-six years. You may consequently imagine that I am going to speak in favor of the appointment of official shorthand writers to the other Courts of Law. On the contrary, I am here to tell you that in my opinion such appointments would be most injurious to the general interests of the profession, and absolutely destructive of the individual interests of the shorthand writer. If I had had time to do so by a review of the various official appointments that have been made, and the consequences that have resulted from them, I could have shown you conclusively the manner in which the general interests of the profession have been most seriously injured. But it is sufficient for me to call your attention to some of the necessary consequences of official appointments, and how seriously they must affect your individual interests. In the first place, what I may call your vested interests would be completely destroyed. You have each of you a more or less certain *clientèle* upon which you can safely depend for your livelihood. Some of you have very large business connections which have been built up by your fathers, transmitted by them to you, and which you hope in like manner to transmit to your sons. All these, of course, would be swept away, and the only answer you would receive to any application for compensation would be that individual interests must always give way to Imperial necessities. Then the moment these appointments were made your status in society would be lowered, you would lose the character you now enjoy of free and independent professional gentlemen, and you would occupy the position of mere clerks, whilst your pockets would suffer even more grievously. It is one thing to make appointments to a single Court, like the Bankruptcy Court or the Admiralty Court. But, when you come to consider the question of supplying, under a new system, official shorthand writers to all the divisions of the High Court, you must see that the business to be dealt with would be larger even than that of the Houses of Parliament. No Governmental department could undertake such a task as the selection, regulation, and management of such a mass of official machinery. The qualifications of candidates for the vacancies that would from time to time occur would have to be determined. This would be done by one of two methods, viz., either by competitive examinations and the distribution of the appointments amongst the successful competitors, or by the appointment of a leading professional expert, by whom would be enjoyed a similar monopoly to that which exists with regard to Parliamentary business, and you would become his clerks, and subject to his appointment and dismissal. If the system of competitive examination were adopted, the judges of the various Courts would probably select from the successful competitors the official shorthand writers of their Courts, and you would thus become judges' clerks of a more or less dignified character. But, by whatever system you were appointed, you would be paid either by fees or by salaries. Supposing you were paid by fees as, for instance, we are in the Bankruptcy Court, as official shorthand writers, your duties would have to be performed personally; you would be unable to undertake more business than you could personally execute; you would not be able to enlarge your income as you can now by the employment of assistants; and it would consequently be limited to the results of your own personal work. And if you were paid by salaries, you certainly would not receive salaries amounting to anything like the incomes you are now making. Then, further, in this connection you have to consider that a time must come in the life of every shorthand writer when by age alone he is incapable of efficiently performing his duties. No Governmental system would ever include the payment of a pension to the shorthand writer so incapacitated. He would simply have to resign in favor of a younger and more

competent successor, and depend for the future upon the savings he had been able to effect from the salary or limited income I have described. For my own part, I think these are sufficiently solid reasons against the suggestion of official appointments, and I trust that you will agree with me in so thinking.

Mr TOWELL: I entirely disagree with what Mr G. B. Snell has just said as to Parliamentary shorthand writing. I think a solicitor is just as capable of judging of the necessity of instructing a shorthand writer and of the ability of that shorthand writer to take notes in a committee of the House of Commons as anywhere else; and if he were allowed so to do, in my opinion, that plan would be far more acceptable to the public, and give greater satisfaction than the present monopoly does. It is said that there is room for great improvement in the way in which shorthand writers are now allowed to carry on their practice in the Courts of this country. But what has brought about the present state of things? There is a tendency now-a-days for gentlemen possessing the means, as Mr Tolcher has neatly pointed out, to engage a large staff of assistants, and tell their clients that they can have a transcript, if necessary, by seven or eight o'clock the same evening. But I wonder how Sir Charles Russell would get on if we had official shorthand writers. Does he think he would get a transcript of 400 or 500 folios in the lobby of the House of Commons the same evening? From what experience I have had of gentlemen occupying official positions, I should say he would not. I see here Mr Button, who has an official position in the Divorce Court. I have heard him say to a solicitor, "My dear fellow, you must wait for your transcript—I am the official shorthand writer;" and the solicitor has had to wait. In my opinion, the appointment of official shorthand writers would not tend to the progress of business in this country. I will undertake to say there is no case of the least importance tried in our Courts of which a shorthand note is not taken. I am sorry to say there are always too many shorthand writers waiting to receive instructions to take notes, and no one ever heard of a solicitor not being able to get as many shorthand writers as he required within a few minutes. If official shorthand writers were appointed, there would be many disadvantages; a few of which I could mention. No doubt Sir Charles Russell thinks it would be very nice to cross-examine a witness without giving him the least time for reflection; but I think it is only fair that a witness, perhaps for the first time in the witness book, should have at least the time which he now gets while the judge is engaged in taking a note of his evidence. Then whoever heard of the two opposing counsel's notes agreeing? And the judge's notes constantly differ from both of them. Supposing only an official shorthand note was taken, and a dispute arose about a few particular words, must the Court be kept waiting until the official shorthand writer has searched through probably many hundreds of folios, and found the particular words? Even when he had done so, there would be sure to be a dispute as to whether his note was accurate, and the tendency would be to say, "Oh! let us get on—there is the Court of Appeal." We have appeals enough at present. There is an appeal in every twopenny-halfpenny case, and that really creates the block in our Courts of Law. The present system of carrying on our business would be a good one, if we only received a little more recognition. The only recognition we get at present is that in the Appeal Court the judges have the power of allowing the attendance fee, and the costs of the judgment in the Court below. That is a step in the right direction; but it ought to be, I maintain, in the discretion of the judge who tries the case to order that a shorthand note of the evidence and summing-up should be taken, and, if a transcript were necessary, that it should be made and allowed for on taxation. When we get such recognition, it will be more satisfactory to the public than any monopoly which would necessarily be created by official appointments.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I do not propose to enter into the controversy between official and non-official shorthand writing. There is a great deal to be said on both sides, and our time is nearly exhausted. One or two of the speakers, in describing the disadvantages, from their point of view, of the official system, have referred, by way of illustration, to the work with which I am connected. I do not for a moment think of touching on those references, especially considering the manner in which you received them; indeed, I am not sure that I heard all that was said. I will only

say that I think the question might as well have been discussed in the abstract, and I take the general assent you have just expressed as confirming me. What I wish to speak about is, the question of shorthand writing, with a view to prosecutions in Ireland, of which I have had some experience indirectly. We know that a shorthand writer, when reporting a rapid speech—if the circumstances are unfavorable for writing—cannot, unless he is a first-class man, take down all that is said, and, when he has to shorten, he may be tempted to leave out a very essential part of a sentence. We must remember that there is not always that accommodation for Government reporters which has been supposed. I do not mean that the leaders have not been willing to afford it. I am sure that if those London shorthand writers who followed Mr Parnell, Mr Sexton, Mr Dillon, and others, six or seven years ago through all the long course of speeches in the Land League agitation were present, they would say that their experience of the leaders of the Irish Party was that they were uniformly courteous, and willing that the reporter should be enabled to take a proper note. Still, it is only natural that when the feelings of people in large meetings are somewhat aroused, there should be occasions when things do not work quite smoothly. I know that it happened in Ireland at that time that two London shorthand writers were, not exactly in peril of their lives—though perhaps it would not be much exaggeration to say that—but had to hastily withdraw from the platform by the advice of the manager of the meeting, who said that he could no longer ensure their safety. Without for a moment saying that there is not a sense of fair play amongst all classes in Ireland, still, for all that, a professional shorthand writer cannot always feel quite safe when he is acting as a Government reporter. I only wished to say this much in order that we might have the matter fairly before us; otherwise a political aspect might be imputed to our discussions in this room. We are talking as shorthand writers, and we should extremely regret it if anybody supposed we were criticising the action of the Government. We know the great difficulty in which they are placed in this matter, and I hope we shall be very careful not to give any political coloring to our discussion.

Mr C. Button: With much of Mr A. J. Wright's speech I most cordially agree, but from my experience of official shorthand writing I am fully convinced that we ought not to meet with so much reprehension from our professional brethren as we do. I desire very carefully to distinguish between note-taking and transcribing. My idea is, that unquestionably a shorthand note should be taken of every case, and that that note should be in Court for all purposes connected with the administration of justice. The judge might require it, or the parties might require it, and, I believe, that sooner or later the Government will extend that system to all the Courts. With reference to what was said by Mr Wright as to the Probate and Divorce Court, I can speak with some authority. The judges of that Court had not, until the Judicature Act was passed, the privilege of having a clerk. A gentleman is appointed as assistant-clerk to the Court, who also was appointed by the judge as the official shorthand writer. It very often happens that there are two Courts in the Probate and Divorce Division sitting at the same time. The official shorthand writer in such cases appoints his own deputy. Mr Wright will pardon me for saying he was in error in stating the shorthand writer was the judge's clerk. That gentleman I know has not the honor to be clerk to the judge, because the present President never had a clerk, and Mr Justice Butt, as most of us know, has a clerk of his own, who does not write shorthand. I know this arrangement cuts very hard against professional shorthand writers, and against the official shorthand writer too when it is known that a note is taken in every case. Undoubtedly there are, in the course of years, hundreds of cases in which no fee whatever has been paid for the note which has been taken, upon the express assumption that a transcript can be got at any future time if required. I repeat that is perhaps hard. In regard to the observation made by Mr Towell, my own personal experience is—and I am sure counsel practising in the Probate Court would bear out my statement—that over and over again notes have been sent to their houses by seven or eight or ten o'clock in the evening; but if a man asks you for the notes of a case which was taken three or four years ago, and you have already to get out the same night the notes of a case taken during that day, you will take care to have the last got out first, and the other must wait, though, if necessary, as is not unfrequently the case, you sit up

till early in the morning to get the other case out too. But if they were not taken officially, often they could not be had at all. I can endorse what Mr Snell says. I do not think it is wise that any official, paid by the State, should be allowed to take private work. Undoubtedly the whole system requires alteration.

Professor EVERETT: I should like to remind the Congress of one or two considerations with regard to police reporting. The police often have to give evidence as to what they have seen and heard. Now are we prepared to say that they will give that evidence more truly if they do not take any note to assist their memories? Would not a note taken immediately after the occurrence be more likely to be accurate than a mere statement of recollection of events which had occurred some time before? This applies not only to reports of public speeches, but also to the reports of events that come before ordinary police courts. I have seen suggestions in public newspapers that it would be well if the police were trained to write shorthand, so that they might take a note of anything that occurred immediately after its occurrence. I think that is common sense. If the police are so stupid that it is impossible for them to learn shorthand, then it is better that they should trust to longhand; but I would ask the Congress to consider whether it is impracticable for the police to obtain such a mastery of shorthand as to be able to write it with more effect than longhand. These remarks apply equally to speeches made in public. If the police are not allowed to take notes of what they hear, they will have to give evidence from recollection, when, of course, they are likely to make grave mistakes. I only know one case in which a police reporter has really cut a good figure in the witness-box, and that is the one I mentioned the other day; but in all cases the evidence is given for what it is worth. It is manifest to the Court that the man has not done his work as well as an official reporter might do it, but still it is taken in the same way as the evidence of a man who tells you what he heard a speaker say; and there is this advantage—the policeman has taken a note at the moment, and therefore is not so likely to be mistaken as if he trusted to his recollection.

Mr T. A. REED: It seems to me that the difficulty lies in the fact that when a policeman has taken a shorthand note, a false value is apt to be given to his testimony. It is thought that, because the note was taken in shorthand, it must be right; but we know here how far that is from being true. A noteworthy instance occurred in my own experience nearly forty years ago. I had taken full notes of a number of speeches in the Chartist disturbances in 1848. Some of the speakers were tried at the Liverpool Assizes, and I was subpœnaed on behalf of the Government to produce my notes, of which I had made a transcript. Some policemen were called as witnesses with regard to those very speeches; their evidence was taken, and upon it the prisoners were convicted; but I was never called. I have always suspected that my notes did not confirm those of the policemen.

Mr J. C. WATT (Edinburgh): I wish to concur in what Mr Gurney-Salter says. I think this discussion ought to be raised above any personal level. Probably the youngest of us will not survive more than twenty-five years as an active shorthand writer; and what we have to consider is the interests of a very great profession in the future. The question is, are you to tolerate shorthand writing becoming a monopoly? I do not use these words in any offensive way, but simply as the subject for abstract discussion. The Government will not be content with Tom, Dick, and Harry taking notes in a Court of Justice; and therefore you ought to consider whether it would not be better, in the interests of the profession, to have officials who will be responsible for the transcription of notes, rather than to have a gigantic monopoly formed on the basis of what is already existing. I should also like to say I do not think that Mr Snell's observations ought to go out from this Congress as authoritative and uncontradicted—that a shorthand writer capable of doing his work is not able to take any case, however technical, without previous knowledge, and to give an accurate transcript of the evidence. Such a statement is contrary to my experience. I would undertake to find men in Scotland thoroughly competent to take accurate notes of any proceedings without previous knowledge. With regard to Mr Towell's remarks, I wish to emphasise what I have already stated, that we have had twenty-five years' experience of official shorthand writing in Scotland—official

in the sense of the parties being consulted as well as the Government or Court—the parties having the appointment in some cases, while in other cases the judges have assumed the right of appointment. That has not been found to be productive of a shadow of the difficulty that Mr Towell refers to. Notes can be had in the evening as early as counsel can possibly use them. Then, as to the employment of policemen as note-takers, I have no wish to impart a political tone to this discussion, but it seems to me that a Government occupied in restoring what they consider order in any country is entitled to employ its own emissaries in the matter of note-taking. In Scotland, the chief constables of Morayshire and Kircardineshire, and many of the rank and file of the force, are competent shorthand writers. All over the north-east of Scotland certainly there are constables who can write shorthand accurately and speedily.

The CHAIRMAN: Before concluding the discussion on this subject, I wish to make some few observations on matters which have arisen in the course of it, and to add one or two remarks which have not hitherto been made. First, I desire to put more clearly a somewhat confused and misleading statement made by me in opening the discussion as to the position of shorthand writing in the Law Courts. There are two distinct branches of it—one, what is known as law reporting, *i.e.*, the preparation of the recognised printed law reports, which is in the hands of barristers; the other, legal shorthand writing, which refers entirely to verbatim note-taking by professional shorthand writers for the use of the litigant; and I should have said there is, practically, no official recognised system of legal shorthand writing. With reference to the Institute of Shorthand Writers, I wish to add a word or two to the explanation of its objects already given. At its inception, all shorthand writers in *bonâ-fide* practice in the Courts of Law, were necessarily admitted as members without examination of any kind. For the next five years the Council instituted a modified examination; but since the expiration of that period in August last, all candidates for membership are required to produce to the Council certificates of having passed a preliminary educational examination, such as the Oxford and Cambridge Local, the London Matriculation, or of some other recognised body, and of having served five years' articles with a member of the Institute, and, finally the candidate is subjected to an examination as to his power of note-taking in Court. Some of us think, as, I confess, I do, that the passing of an examination of an elementary character in law should be a *sine quâ non*. I should also have told you that the Institute is duly registered at the Board of Trade under clause 23 of the Companies' Act, which provides that any society or body formed for scientific or similar purposes, and not for profit, may be registered under the Act without certain obligations which are imposed upon limited liability companies. Mr Watt, of Edinburgh, in the course of his most able and interesting paper (the whole of which, and not merely the condensation which, in the interests of our time he read to us, will, I hope, appear in our printed *Transactions*) spoke, as I understood him, somewhat disparagingly of the condensation of transcripts of the notes in legal proceedings. I am not sure that I agree with him in that respect. Judges from time to time have commented upon the extreme length of such transcripts, which, no doubt, much restricts their usefulness, and I have, I confess, sometimes looked with a feeling akin to shame, upon an immense pile of transcripts in Court from day to day increasing in height and weight. I would throw out for your consideration whether some plan might not be devised for obviating this; something similar, for instance, to the practice in Parliamentary Committees where, though the evidence is reported *verbatim*, the discussions which from time to time arise, and which are a fruitful cause of the length of the notes, are put into "short lines" as it is technically called, the purport and effect of the discussion being clearly and shortly given. One of the great difficulties with which shorthand writers have to contend arises from the fact that they have to serve, as it were, two masters. In the first place the solicitor desires to have a *verbatim* transcript which he may afterwards carefully sift in the hope of finding some peg upon which he may hang an application for a new trial; on the other hand, the counsel for whose use the notes are mainly intended, and the Court of Appeal before whom they may come, would, no doubt, be better pleased with a much more condensed note. It is obviously impossible to suit both purposes, and therefore, in the absence of any direction from the judges on the subject, the shorthand writer can only carry out the wishes of his immediate client in this respect, although possibly against his

judgment. Mr Tolcher has read to us a letter from Mr Ince, conceived in a most friendly and encouraging spirit, and containing a suggestion which I had expected would have led to some consideration and discussion. In his letter Mr Ince points out the desirability, if practicable, of an earlier delivery of transcripts. He points out with great force that the value of shorthand notes in legal proceedings would be very considerably increased if they could be delivered the same evening instead of the following morning, when there is no time to carefully read and consider them, and he suggests, though with some hesitation as to its practicability, that some system, analogous to the Gallery system of short "turns," might be adopted. Several difficulties occur to me. First, the expense would be increased. In the next place the quality of the work must suffer in some cases from the very frequent changing of the shorthand writer, who, though he would in the case of straightforward evidence have little or no difficulty in at once picking up the thread of the matter, might, in the case of a difficult, technical, and rapid discussion, be unable, as it were, to get fairly into the saddle before the time came for him to be relieved. I understood Mr Storr to admit, in answer to a query of mine, that the very short turns of two minutes and a half to which he referred, must necessarily lead to some deterioration in the work, but, he added, that at a very late hour short turns were quite unavoidable. Another difficulty is, that as complicated and extensive arrangements would have to be made, it would be necessary that the shorthand writer should have his instructions the previous day. The solicitor would be unable then to do what now, in the pecuniary interest of his client, he can do—namely, countermand the transcript if, at the rising of the Court, for any reason the transcript should not be necessary. Again, some might consider as an evil the fact that the probable result of such a system would be to throw more business into the hands of the larger firms who, with their more numerous staff of assistants, would be better able to carry it out. Mr Ince's suggestion is, however, a very valuable one, and perhaps at some future Congress (for I hope this is only the first of a series) the suggestion may receive the consideration which its importance seems to demand. I wish fully to endorse all that has been said as to the unsatisfactory nature of the arrangements made for shorthand writers in the Courts of Law. I fear, however, that we cannot hope for very much improvement in this respect. The unfortunate structural defects of the Courts render it impossible that any position can be assigned to the shorthand writer which should meet all his requirements. Still, something better might be done for us than has hitherto been done. I am most happy to be able to acknowledge the courtesy and consideration shown us after the construction, and just before the opening, of the Courts by the then First Commissioner of Works, Mr Shaw Lefevre, and by many of the judges, who, when the mischief was to a great extent done, were good enough to do all in their power, though that was not much, to meet our views. Unfortunately in this matter again, some of those interested were not consulted, and had no opportunity of expressing their wishes till too late. Some discussion has taken place as to the desirability and practicability of an official system of shorthand writing in this country. The subject is a large and an important one, and the limited time at our disposal has not been sufficient for anything approaching a proper consideration of this question. In my humble judgment an official system, such as is generally understood by that term is not, on economical and other grounds, suited to the requirements of the Courts of Law. I would rather see a system of recognition of the present practitioners under a Rule of Court, which should provide for a shorthand note of evidence and judgment or summing-up being taken in every case by a qualified shorthand writer, the transcript not being made unless it were necessary. But if, in the wisdom of the high legal authorities, it should seem desirable to carry out any scheme of official shorthand writing, I would earnestly hope that two things will receive their most careful attention. First, that the shorthand writers entrusted with so responsible a duty should be thoroughly proficient and experienced men; and, next, that they should be placed in such a position and have all the facilities which the arduous and important character of their duties necessitate. I cannot better define what I mean than by saying that the shorthand writer in the Courts of Law should occupy, in all respects, the same position and possess all the advantages of his *confrère* in the Parliamentary Committee Room. With these observations I beg to declare the discussion of this question closed, so far as regards the present Congress.

SHORTHAND IN EDUCATION.

Professor ZEIBIG in the chair.

SHORTHAND'S PLACE IN EDUCATION.

By Mr Edwin Guest.

Education, as I understand the term, is, "The balanced development of all the faculties." I accept the old formula *mens sana in corpore sano* as complete, if *mens sana* is taken to mean the cultivated soul as well as the instructed mind. The object of the educator should be to produce in a sound body a whole soul as well as a sound mind. That is to say, the educator should address himself to the development of the physical and moral as well as to the mental faculties.

The enlightened teacher will be solicitous at every possible turn to assimilate his methods to the modes of working which nature adopts. Nature alone makes no errors. From the moment of birth to the moment of death, life is, or should be, a continuous process of education. Every effort of every kind, physical, moral, or mental throughout life advances or retards the development of the faculties—advances or retards the education of the individual who makes the effort. The greater the efforts made in number and power, so long as they are in due proportion to the existing capacity of the subject, the greater is the capacity for further effort and the higher the state of the education of the individual. Education consists much more in "the ability to do" than in "the capacity to know."

If we follow the course adopted by nature, we find that the first efforts of the infant are physical, and that they have physiological causes. It cries for food because the emptiness of the stomach causes pain. When proper food is properly administered it sleeps, because in the newly-born infant the undeveloped faculties are incapable of effort. Of the five senses, perhaps, the taste and the smell are alone used, for a time. But soon, the often-reflected image of the mother's face in the infant's eye and the sound of her voice in its ear, bring two other senses into play; and, perhaps lastly, ideas are excited by the sense of touch through the hand. Thus physical education necessarily precedes all other.

Long before an infant is capable of any observable mental effort it has learned to love, to caress and to appreciate caresses—those of its mother, its nurse or its little playmates. Therefore moral precedes mental education. Without burdening my pages by producing easily adducible historical evidence to show that physical education should precede mental education, I will assume that the natural analogies suggested sufficiently prove my point, and that

in any natural educational method, the development of the physical faculties will precede all other endeavors to educate the young.

I will leave the development of the senses of smell and taste to other specialists, and confine my remarks on this part of the subject, to the education of the three other senses, the ear, the eye and the hand. The great fault of most of the ordinary school methods lies in giving children too much to think of and too little to do. There is too much theory and too little of a practical character, wherewith to guide into educative channels, the exuberant activity natural to healthy children. If their little hands are trained to construct they will be less employed in destroying, the tendency towards destruction being less due to the spirit of mischief than is commonly supposed. What is regarded as the spirit of mischief is simply a restlessness which demands and will find employment, but which would be equally or better satisfied in building up than destroying if the child only knew how to build up. If children learn to be destructive it is the fault of their training, which, if properly adapted to the devouring necessity children feel for employment, would soon be superseded by the constructive spirit. Every fresh effort at construction, if properly directed, would add to the stock of the child's knowledge. It must be very difficult to conceive of the existence of an ignoramus who is quick of hearing, quick of eye and quick of hand, unless it be in some uncivilized or semi-civilized community, where the means of mental development are altogether wanting. On the other hand, both history and experience show us how easy it is among the most highly civilized to find wise fools. It is a mere truism to say that these three senses, the ear, the eye, and the hand are the great gateways of all our knowledge. John Locke, J. Jacques Rousseau, and all who have considered philosophically the subject of education, declare that it is only through the senses that we can at first have any of the notions upon which the mind depends for its progress in mental education. As a rule, facts which cannot be made evident to the senses, can only be grasped by the undeveloped mind by long and tedious explanations or processes of reasoning, but facts which are evident to the senses are taken in instantaneously and are then as completely known as they can be after the lapse of any number of years. But a fact of which cognisance can be taken by all the five senses is more completely known, and more permanently known, than another of which cognisance can only be taken by one, two, three or four senses out of the five. Knowledge so obtained, intuitive knowledge—is the most rapidly as well as the most positively obtained, and this is no doubt the reason why in the first five years of a child's life it learns far more than in any subsequent five years of its existence. Whatever has a real existence, perceivable by the senses, has only to be stated or shown, to be instantly accepted.

On the other hand, mental powers, the power of comparison for purposes of induction, reason, in short, is the feeblest at the very period when observation is the most lively and acute. Is it not therefore evident that the best period for presenting facts of which the senses take cognisance is that which precedes the awakening of the mental faculties. Is it not therefore evident that to multiply at an early age the means of observing is to multiply the channels of intuitive knowledge and to broaden at the proper time the basis upon which all the superstructure of mental knowledge must afterwards be based. The observation of facts and the retention of them by the memory are the means by which nearly all knowledge must always be obtained.

This is evident from the apparent stupidity of really shrewd and potentially clever men whose mental education has been totally neglected. The educated man is a man of *savoir faire*. He must *know*, but he must also know *to do*. His education is obviously not complete unless he has learned to think and properly express his thoughts, but it is not less really, though less obviously incomplete, if he is defective in manual or visual ability. To neglect the development of expertness in the hand, ear or eye, is to deprive a child of resources of the highest importance in practical life, whether for his material and social advancement or for healthy amusement. It is in short as criminal in a parent to neglect physical development as it would be to deliberately neglect the cultivation of his child's memory or any mental or moral faculty.

But of the three great instruments, the ear, the eye, and the hand, the hand is *par excellence* the executive organ. The hand is one of our most effective means of action. Not a few of us live by our handiwork, and it is to his hand that the great artist owes his title and fortune as much as the artisan his daily bread. It is the hand which gives form and consistence to whatever the mind can conceive, and to most of those things which the eye perceives. It has often been pointed out that the best way of learning a thing is to try to teach it. It may with more perfect truth be said that the mind never so completely realises an idea as after the hand has succeeded in pourtraying it. A merely mental idea may have but a shadowy and hazy existence in the mind, but no idea that can be pourtrayed by the hand can be other than clear and definite. Again, whatever the hand can pourtray must necessarily have position, or parts and dimensions. Whatever has position or parts or dimensions, has proportions, and most easily lends itself to reasoning and to mental culture. It is especially to the development of skill in the hand that we must look for success in all methods of industrial and technical education. The neglect of the hand then as a gateway of precise knowledge in the earliest efforts at education, is one of the greatest defects of our methods of teaching in primary

schools. The materials for subsequent mental training supplied through the hand are more valuable, because more exact than can be otherwise obtained, and in providing them, the hand with every fresh effort becomes a more and mere powerful implement for subsequent use in education. It is for the same reason that modern educators agree that drawing is an indispensable part of all education, primary or secondary. Not that the mere ability to imitate a copy set before the pupil is so indispensable. The ability to reproduce for the information of one's self or others any idea which the mind has conceived, whether by an imitation or by the use of words or conventional signs, is that which is really indispensable. It is nearly as necessary as speech itself, or the power of calculation. In the form of writing, the education of the hand is recognised as an absolute necessity, in the formula of the three R's, which are universally recognised as essentials in the primary school. In writing, the ideas assume a more real and definite shape than they usually have in the mind before they are expressed. Many persons who write much will tell you that they are unable to express their ideas with the clearness they desire until they get the pen into the hand and commence to write them. Shorthand writing and drawing are merely special forms of writing, and all writing—shorthand writing as well as common writing—is an elementary kind of drawing.

Another common defect of ordinary school methods is the neglect of the means of co-ordinating the elementary subject of writing with the advanced subjects of drawing, geometry and designing.

The idea of basing all education on personal, and particularly on manual dexterity, is at least as old as the Reformation. Martin Luther was an earnest advocate of the principle, and the famous eleven precepts of Comenius, a contemporary of Shakspere, shows that he considered the hand of equal importance as an instrument of education, with the memory, or any other mental faculty. His whole system was based upon the employment of the child's personal activity. The latest practical advances made by Pestalozzi, and particularly Froebel, have been embodied in the Kindergarten system, the principles of which have secured, and are securing universally, the approbation of the wisest educators.

If my reasoning so far has been assented to, I think you will have no difficulty in agreeing to the following further propositions, moral education being for the sake of convenience left out of consideration.

1. In a good educational method, the knowledge presented in the earliest period of educatien will be limited as much as possible to the form of intuitive ideas, *i.e.* those of which the five senses can take cognisance.

2. The ear, the eye, and the hand will be especially cultivated.

3. The faculty of reproducing ideas by the hand will be developed to the utmost possible extent.

(*a*) In order to give as definite a form and shape to ideas as possible.

(*b*) In order to get the greatest possible utility out of the hand during the school period; and

(*c*) In order to lay the foundation early for a course of technical or industrial education.

4. In the earliest period of education the course of instruction will exercise manual ability to the utmost possible extent.

Now it happens that there is one means of development which combines in a higher degree than any other the chief of these desiderata. It is now very well known, not only to the shorthand world, but to the greater world outside it, that means exist for accurately and infallibly reproducing ideas with a speed which corresponds to the rate at which they can be expressed by the tongue, if not at the rate at which they can be conceived. Those who have acquired any system of Shorthand know what an admirable means it affords for self-education, if intelligently applied. They know how much the practice of Shorthand sharpens all their faculties and makes them quick of eye, quick of ear, and quick of hand. They know that the elements of Shorthand consist of the simplest possible materials, of marks simple and uncompounded, as simple as the dot over the *i* of common writing, or the crossing of a *t*, and far simpler than the majority of the letters of the common alphabet. Provided a child is not called upon to make rapid combinations of those elements, no shorthand writer will be much surprised at the proposal to introduce the shorthand alphabet into even the Infant School.

I am not now arguing for a particular shorthand alphabet, for although there are, no doubt, degrees of suitability in stenographic alphabets, for school use almost any modern alphabet can be used with advantage. The main conditions are that the signs should be the simplest possible, the most uatural possible, and as fit as possible to suggest the more complex elements of the common letters of printed books. In all educational methods the axiom must always be, "From the simple to the complex, and the most easy things first." My paper would of course not be complete unless I showed you my own proposals which are based upon my "Compendious Shorthand;" and I trust you may see that they are particularly suitable for employment in primary education, but I am far less solicitous that my particular system should be introduced into schools than I am that the principle should be accepted that

Stenographic signs being necessarily simpler in form than the signs of the ordinary alphabet, should be presented before the latter, and as a stepping-stone to them.

For those who may be disposed to object on account of the supposed greater difficulty of stenographic signs, I will endeavor to prove by a few practical demonstrations, that the particular method I adopt is simpler than anything taught in any school outside the Kindergartens, and as simple, effective, easy, and pleasurable to infant minds, as the best of the Kindergarten processes.

Practical Demonstrations.

A Shorthand Alphabet which may with the greatest advantage be learned :—

1. For the purpose of expediting the process of learning the Roman Alphabet.
2. For the purpose of learning to speak properly, in the oral expression of ideas.
3. For the purpose of expediting the process of learning to read English (and other tongues).
4. Ditto, ditto, etc., to write English (and other tongues), including general grammar.
5. Ditto, ditto to draw maps and plans.
6. Ditto, ditto Freehand and Geometrical drawing.
7. Ditto, ditto Designing.
8. Ditto, ditto Arithmetic, Mensuration and Geometry.
9. As an aid to general culture.
10. If desired, (at an advanced period,) as a means of recording verbatim rapid oratory.

Most of the illustrations will be educational applications of the following twelve consonants drawn from the alphabet of "Compendious Shorthand :"—

Lip-letters.			*Tooth-lip letters.*			*Tip-tongue letters.*			*Throat letters.*		
P	B	M	F	V	W	N	T	D	Y	K	G
–	—	—	ı	|	|	,	/	/	`	\	\

Resumed Discussion.

Professor Everett: I do not propose to enter into the question of psychology, as to the effect of Shorthand upon the minds of youths, though I believe it to be a very efficient instrument of culture; but I wish to lay before you some facts. I think the business of the Congress is rather to discuss facts, and compare notes with regard to actual experience, than to go into abstract questions. Mr Guest's paper has been devoted to the teaching of Shorthand to young children, but that is not all that is embraced in the title of the paper. This is the only opportunity I have had of laying before the Congress some facts as to the use that can be made, and has been made, of Shorthand in facilitating the general work of the school. The question is sometimes raised, "Can Shorthand be made to take the place of longhand?" Now, I want to show you that it can to a great extent be used in doing school exercises. I will without more introduction read a communication from Mr Alphonzo Gardiner, head-master of Little Holbeck Board School, Leeds, on the use of Shorthand in ordinary school work:—"I find that boys of twelve years old, who have reached the sixth Standard, are quite competent to take up Shorthand, to learn it

readily, and to make use of it in their school work after a few weeks' practice. For exercises in grammar and composition, it is especially useful; and long before a lad knows the system thoroughly, he is able to make use of his knowledge and to write his exercises partly in Shorthand, putting into longhand the words he is not able to write in shorthand. The greatest argument brought against young boys learning Shorthand is that it spoils the spelling. So far my experience does not bear out this objection. A boy of average intelligence will not suffer in this respect, if care be taken that he duly learns the correct spelling of all words that are not known to him or that he is not quite familiar with. In fact, spelling is usually improved, because a boy has to exercise more care in order to be accurate. But the greatest use I have found for Shorthand in school has been with the young teachers. Here the saving of time is immense. The amount of writing that a young teacher has to do is something serious, on account of the time it takes. He has to teach all day, and at night to prepare his lessons for the next morning, when they are gone through by the master usually for an hour before morning school begins. By means of Shorthand, an hour's work in writing can be done in quite a quarter of the time, even by a learner. As soon as a young teacher comes to me (at about 14 years of age), I begin at once teaching him Shorthand, and require him to make use of what he learns, week by week, until at last he is sufficiently advanced to write all his exercises in Shorthand without any admixture of longhand." The system of Shorthand employed was my own.

Mr T. CHILDERSTONE: I am very glad to have the opportunity of addressing a few words to the Congress on the subject of the teaching of Shorthand in schools. I am officially appointed by the London School Board to two of their great centres, and I have also twelve other schools, public and private. I wish this morning to endorse the remarks which the last speaker has made about the teaching of Shorthand in schools being likely to interfere with the spelling. I can assure you that it greatly tends to improve the spelling, which in all the schools is very bad indeed. As soon as you begin to teach Shorthand you invariably fix the true spelling of the word upon the memory by the application of the phonetic characters. I am teaching 500 boys every week, and was only yesterday appointed to a ladies' school, with 40 pupils in the class. I passed an examination for the School Board of London, and I began one class last night, which had had two incompetent teachers, and I was asked to start a class again. I see several gentlemen smiling, and it may be you fancy I am endeavouring to put myself before other people, but it is nothing of the sort. There is a tendency abroad for those who have simply a smattering of the subject to pose as teachers, and the other day some gentleman made very good remarks about the advertisements which represent that Shorthand can be taught in a certain number of lessons. I never allow a pupil to enter my school unless he puts himself under me for six months, as I am sure you cannot acquire the principles thoroughly in a less time; and if you want to become an expert shorthand writer you must go on practising for six years, and not only study Shorthand, but make yourself proficient in French, German, Latin, and other kindred subjects. Shorthand by itself is useless. It does not matter what system you write, it is the mind which makes a shorthand writer. He must have general knowledge. I am a disciple of Mr Pitman. I do not say that his system is perfect, but I teach it exclusively, though I know something about other systems, and like a good many others present, I am the inventor of a system.

Dr WEBER: I want to lay before you some facts about the manner in which the teaching of Shorthand is carried on in the schools of France. I will not even mention the name of our system, as names are objectionable; but it is essentially adapted to instruction in elementary schools. In France there are to-day 3,000 elementary schools in which Shorthand is taught before anything else. It brings before the minds of young children many things which they cannot grasp at the time we begin to teach them. One of the principal utilities of the method appears in the case of dictation. It saves time, because the schoolmaster writes on the blackboard, and then the pupils copy it. By these means the spelling is improved, the best proof of which is that almost all the primary school inspectors are with us, and we have many certificates from them, in which they bear testimony to the fact that the pupils from the schools in which Shorthand is taught are, as a rule, more competent than those from

other schools. We also use it in teaching geography, and the pupils find a certain amount of pleasure in reading and writing on the maps. But the chief benefit derived from this teaching of Shorthand is that it renders possible exercises in style which would not be done in any other way. When we put children to exercises in style in longhand the many mistakes they make in orthography disgust them, and they are not easily brought to take an interest in it, but when they only write the sounds they do not see the mistakes. I think those exercises in style are about the best means of forming the minds of the children. Some time ago we addressed a petition to the French Parliament, and we are almost sure now that stenography will be introduced into all French elementary schools. Having such an example as this before them, other countries might be spurred on to get their Parliaments to act in the same way.

Mr A. B. LOCKETT: I strongly object to the idea going forth to the world that it takes six months to learn Shorthand; because, as the speaker said, it is not the system but the learner.

Mr CHILDERSTONE: I said to become an efficient shorthand writer.

Mr PITCAIRN: I have heard some people talk about teaching infants the Shorthand alphabet, and Dr Weber has told us that Shorthand is taught even in the elementary schools in France. I should like to ask him whether a Shorthand alphabet can be taught to infants. Theoretically, one would think it would be exceedingly difficult, because the Shorthand characters depend in all systems to a large extent upon direction, and in many systems they depend upon position. Now those are two ideas which are not inherent in the infant mind. If you take the ordinary alphabet, and notice how children learn it, you see that they have the letters upon single blocks, and they know them in whatever direction they are placed. If you had a shorthand letter upon a block in the same way, you could not tell what it was if it was turned round. I can understand how children can be taught whole words, and possibly that might be the best way of teaching them. I believe that ordinary reading is taught up to a certain point really more quickly by learning each individual word than by spelling it out. Of course, when the boys arrive at the sixth Standard, or are 12 years old, they are able to learn the Shorthand alphabet.

Mr NANKIVELL: I have made one or two experiments with my own children—one six, and the other eight years old,—and I have found it a much simpler and easier task to get them to grasp and form the Shorthand alphabet than the ordinary longhand alphabet. It seems to me to be reasonable that where you have nothing but a single stroke, and the difference between a thick and a thin stroke, it is more easy for a boy to learn it than it is to learn the ordinary alphabet.

Dr WEBER: There are no differences of position in our alphabet, and no shading either; and we actually teach children from five to seven years of age in about a month, or a month and a-half. That is a fact which cannot be denied.

Mr V. HUMPHREYS: I do not like to differ from the authorities who have spoken, and particularly from Professor Everett, whose system I write; but having had a little experience in teaching children Shorthand, I am thoroughly convinced that no more ridiculously foolish idea ever entered a man's mind than that of fancying that he can take a child of tender years and teach him Shorthand, and make him efficient. I do not think that every man in the world should learn Shorthand, because I do not believe that every man in the world can apply it to any practical use; and it is simply ridiculous to burden the child's mind in an elementary school with what, in all probability, it will never apply to any practical purpose. Nothing can be more wearisome to a teacher than to try and drum into a child's intellect the idea of Shorthand. In order that any person may learn Shorthand, so that when he grows up he may make money out of it, he must start when he has a fair and intelligent idea of the English language, because at the very outset he begins to write difficult words, and must to some extent understand what they are intended to express. I have no objection to Shorthand being taught in the higher stages of Board Schools, but I think it is absurd to introduce it into elementary classes.

Dr WEBER: I must take objection to what the last speaker has said. First of all, I do not consider that Shorthand should only be used by those who wish to make money out of it. If Mr Pitman had stuck to that principle and had kept up the price, he would never have had such success as he has had. Shorthand, to be worth anything at all, must come to everyone. If the price of a Shorthand work is a cent, so much the better. Let everybody know it, and practise it; it must not be an abstract science, it must be used by everybody. Another remark that the last speaker made was that young children do not sufficiently know the words and understand them, and, therefore, they are not able to write them. One of my neighbours is a teacher in a Board School, and yet she has often come to me to ask for the explanation of an English word. If she does not know the words, how about the children? My idea is, that if Shorthand can be learned by the lady teachers at Board Schools, it can just as well be learned by children five or six years old.

Mr LEHMANN: I would like to say a few words following in the same vein as Mr Humphreys, and perhaps you will excuse me if I begin by talking about myself. When I was eight years of age I learned Shorthand, but I was not allowed to go into Court and take a note until I was about eighteen. I was, I suppose, as sharp as most young boys. But it is a great mistake to compare the Shorthand taught in schools with the practical work that a shorthand writer has to do. I think no professional shorthand writer would object to everybody learning Shorthand, but it is out of the question to suppose that they can do anything practical with it without giving it years of attention, because it is a difficult art.

Mr C. BUTTON: It is all very well to talk about acquiring Shorthand rapidly, but we know there are degrees of efficiency, and when years of study have been spoken about as being necessary, it means that years must be spent before the degree of proficiency is attained which will enable you to meet any amount of pressure that may be put upon you. If that is meant, I say unhesitatingly that half that is said about the easy acquisition of Shorthand is the sheerest nonsense. In looking over the Exhibition I saw a sheet which was said to have been written by a boy eleven years old, and if I remember rightly, it was also said to have been done in three minutes at an average rate of 100 words per minute. Now I know something about the teaching of Shorthand. I have seen about the streets phonographic characters indicating that "Phonography can be readily learned by anyone." If that illustration in the Exhibition to which I have alluded means that that is a fair sample of what can be done by any boy of eleven years of age, I say it is a delusion and a snare. If you tell me it is the work of a prodigy, of course I will accept it and have nothing to say against it. There was such a person as Jedidiah Buxton, the calculating boy, but we do not allude to him as an example of an ordinary arithmetician. The same might be said of the late George Bidder. It would be ridiculous for a parent to pay a man to teach his children, and assume that they would be able to write with the accuracy and speed shown on that sheet in the Exhibition.

Mr GUEST: I entirely agree that it is not only absurd but cruel, and even criminal, to attempt to teach Shorthand to children, I do not do it. My boy of eight can write Shorthand, but he is not allowed to do it. All he is allowed to do is to put down the characters one after the other, and each is the expression of a simple idea, without any junctions or complications.

Mr PETRIE: I should like to say one word which may, perhaps, clear the ground. Do not, for goodness sake, let it go forth from this Congress that we are afraid of Shorthand being taught to everybody. We are not afraid. The more it is taught the better for us professional men. Commercial men very often send to me for amanuenses, but, would you believe it, though we have in this city of London Shorthand mills which are turning out so-called competent phonographers at the rate of so many hundred a week, and others which turn out writers of adaptations of French systems at the rate of so many scores a week, I cannot find the competent shorthand clerks to send to the employers who want them. Far be it from me to run down the general practice of Shorthand, but I give you that statement as a matter of truth. One employer in Eastcheap not long ago said he had had two shorthand clerks from one of

those mills, but he had got rid of both of them, and the science or art or Shorthand had very much gone down in his opinion. We know what it takes to make a good shorthand writer. It requires long years of practice; and the idea that professional shorthand writers are afraid of Shorthand being taught broadcast is ridiculous.

Mr POCKNELL: I would ask Mr Guest whether in teaching children the simple marks, he applies any meaning to them. Except to train the hand, it is no use to teach them to make such strokes. If in one school a certain stroke means *h*, in another *t*, and in another *m*, instead of bringing about a universal language, which all shorthand writers profess to want, we shall get Babel over again. It is, however, a ridiculous notion that the teaching of Shorthand in schools will swamp the profession. It may as well be said that the teaching of arithmetic to every child will swamp the profession of accountant.

Dr E. GANTTER (Frankfort-on-Maine): As the representative of that country in which Shorthand's place in education is most appreciated, may I state the opinion of German stenographers? We think that Shorthand is not an art to be taught in elementary schools. And why? We ask what an elementary scholar can do with Shorthand. Shorthand is a practical art. It is possible to teach it to young boys and girls, but it is not necessary, and there is so much to be learned that we ought first to teach the necessary and afterwards the useful things. I do not admire boys of six or seven, or eleven years, being brought forward as wonders able to take notes of rapid speeches. They are the exception, and not the rule. If you teach Shorthand to such young boys, you give them a toy, and not a useful instrument.

CONCLUDING PROCEEDINGS.

Mr T. A. REED in the chair.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Gentlemen, I have to report, on behalf of the committee you appointed yesterday, that we have agreed upon a list of contractions which are at present recognised by printers in the MSS. of reporters, and are more or less used by literary men, but that we have not had time to prepare a complete list of actual or desirable contractions; and we feel sure that the list which I have now the honor to lay on the table might be very considerably extended. We therefore recommend the appointment of a standing committee to frame a list of contractions suitable for literary men, for shorthand writers, for reporters, and in fact for everyone; to arrange it with the printers, and then to publish it in our *Transactions*. I beg to move that such a committee be appointed, consisting of Mr Reed, Mr Pitman, Mr Theodore Wright, Mr Bannerman, and myself (who were appointed yesterday), Mr Storr, and Mr Marten, with power to add to their number.

Mr TOLCHER seconded the motion.

Mr NANKIVELL: I would suggest that the committee take steps to get the Post Office to adopt the list of contractions. They would thereby earn the eternal gratitude of sub-editors, because telegraph

clerks adopt all sorts of contractions of their own, and they are an endless source of trouble.

Mr JANES: I would suggest that there should be one definite contraction for "the" and another for "that." The telegraph clerks will mix those words up. On one slip a sub-editor finds a vertical stroke stands for "the" and a crossed stroke for "that," and on another the crossed stroke stands for "the" and the vertical stroke for "that."

The CHAIRMAN: That is a point which I brought before the Committee last night. Any suggestion that members may make to the Committee will receive their best attention. It is proposed that, as soon as the Committee have come to a decision, the results shall be published in the volume of *Transactions*, and no doubt efforts will be made to bring it before such authorities as are interested in the matter.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: The next matter we have to consider is our decease at the present moment, or our possible continuance in any way. A strong desire has been expressed that we should not peacefully, nor after any other fashion, expire, but that our existence should somehow or other be continued. It has been suggested that if a committee were formed of a representative character, they might constitute a nexus between this Congress and any future Congresses that may be held. The exact constitution of that committee, and what its powers are to be, are matters open to discussion, and I shall be happy to hear any observations on the subject. It so happens we have two invitations, one from Munich to hold the second Congress in 1889 in that city, and the other from Paris, to hold it there in the same year. It is obvious that we cannot have two Congresses in 1889.

Dr DREINHÖFER: There was also an invitation from Berlin three or four months ago.

The CHAIRMAN: We have either to settle the matter now or appoint some committee for the purpose of considering it. That is the position in which we stand. In the first place we have to decide whether we shall continue in existence at all; then, if that is decided in the affirmative, how we shall continue in existence; and then where we shall go.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I have talked over the matter with a good many gentlemen who have been attending the Congress, and, so far

as I can gather, there is a general wish that this should be the first of a series of Congresses. I therefore venture to move that what, I believe, is elsewhere called a Nexus Committee, be appointed to ensure the continuance of these Congresses. The Committee should be a small representative one, not to do the actual work when the the time comes to make preparations for another Congress, but a Committee which may be, if I may use the expression, a microcosm of ourselves. The questions of the constitution of the Committee and of the place where the next Congress shall be held, will be the subjects of the second and third resolutions. As far as I can ascertain, much doubt is felt as to the desirability of embarrassing the Committee with any code of rules as has been suggested by Dr Westby Gibson. The object is simply to keep the Congress alive.

Dr WESTBY-GIBSON: I beg to second the resolution. Of course, every one present will know the reason why I do so. From the very commencement of the International Shorthand Congress, that has been my view. Sixteen months ago I issued a circular, expressing my views, and containing a constitution and rules. Of course, I did not expect that they would be accepted without consideration, and I said so; but any one looking at my pamphlet on the origination of the Shorthand Congress will see that many suggestions are there made which will help to carry out the object of this resolution.

Mr NANKIVELL: As one who was very much opposed to the continuation of this Congress before we entered this Theatre, but as one who has entirely changed his opinion in consequence of the overwhelming success of the Congress, I heartily support the resolution.

Dr GANTTER: I also have much pleasure in supporting the motion proposed by Mr Gurney-Salter. I think it is the general wish of us all that the existence of this Congress should be continued, and the wish will be carried out by the appointment of this Nexus Committee.

Mr PETRIE: I think it would be a pity if we did not carry out in some way the idea mentioned by Sir Charles Russell, when he spoke about a guild of shorthand writers. To such a committee as is now proposed that question might be referred.

Professor BRIDGE: As a sort of representative of the shorthand writers in the States, I may say that we have a desire that these Congresses should be continued. We should be most happy to see you in America, provided you come at the right time. The phonographers in the States can only leave in July and August, because our vacation closes in August.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr V. HUMPHREYS: I should like to propose that the Council and officers of the Shorthand Society be in a body elected on the committee to take charge of this matter. The Shorthand Society represents every system that is written. ("No, no.") If it does not do so, it ought to. It has its offices in London already, and I think it would be a very great convenience if the Council and officers of that Society were appointed on the committee, with power to add to their number.

Mr POCKNELL: I would add, the Institute of Shorthand Writers.

Mr V. HUMPHREYS: All the other institutions and societies will in all probability affiliate with the Shorthand Society.
The motion had no seconder.

Mr NANKIVELL: I would suggest that the Executive Committee or the present Arrangements Committee be the Nexus Committee.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I have been consulting with the French and German gentlemen attending the Congress, and their opinion seems to be that it would be very desirable not to have a large Committee for the present purpose—not a Committee to do the work when the time comes, but simply a Committee to carry on our existence. They first of all proposed to me that England should be represented by two members, and when we contrast that suggestion with Mr Humphreys's suggestion, the difference is very apparent. I think it is evident that we could not attempt to appoint a committee consisting of the council and officers of the Shorthand Society and the council of the Institute of Shorthand Writers, and leave out the Reporters' Gallery and other branches of the profession. We must have a small, compact body. In view of the certainty that the next Congress will not be held in England, I would suggest that there should not be very many English names upon the Nexus Committee. If we are content with four English names, and the addition of Professor Everett for Belfast, and Mr Watt for Edinburgh, I think we shall find we have all we need. We must remember that there are three or four different schools of shorthand in Germany, notably the Gabelsberger, the Stoltze, and the Arends. The French also have three systems, and in an International Congress France ought to play as important a part as England. Therefore I think we cannot ask for any such large representation as has been suggested. I venture to propose that the English names be four in number. I do not know whether it would be better to appoint a small committee to decide upon the names, or to have them settled now. ("Now.") Those who have taken the leading part in this Congress would probably be those whom the Congress would select. Of course Mr Reed would be one. (Cries

of "Mr Gurney-Salter.") Then if we named Mr Marten as being an ex-President of the Institute of Shorthand Writers, and Mr Storr, who has taken an active part in our discussions on behalf of the Gallery, we have four representative English names. We owe a great deal to Dr Westby-Gibson for the initiation of this Congress and for the proposal that it should continue. I do not know whether he would take part in the Committee at this stage or whether he would rather wait until a later stage, occupied, as we know him to be, in business, and subject to attacks of illness. Under those circumstances I beg to move that these gentlemen, with the addition of Mr Watt for Scotland, and Professor Everett for Ireland, be the representatives of our own country on the Committee.

Mr TOLCHER seconded the motion.

Dr WESTBY-GIBSON: I am quite content with the recognition of myself as the originator of the Congress. I do not desire to act on this committee, unless you wish me to do so. I would prefer to come in later on, on this condition that the statement of my views, which has already been printed, shall not be regarded as having gone into the waste-paper basket.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr HARRY: I would propose that those who have been elected by the Congress as members of the Nexus Committee have power to co-opt with a certain number of gentlemen from foreign countries to complete the Nexus Committee.

Dr BENSCHER: I would second that proposal, because at the present time we do not know what foreign countries will join us.

Mr WATT: I think that the number ought to be left indefinite for this reason—that the Congress is cosmopolitan in its character, and it would be invidious to apportion six names to one country and only two or three to another.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT: I think it would be more graceful if the foreign gentlemen, who are to form part of the Nexus Committee, were elected on exactly the same footing as the English members. That would not interfere with the power to add to their number.

Mr BEHRENS: Speaking for Germany, I may say that we have agreed among ourselves to select six gentlemen, and then six can be appointed for France. I think that would be the best way, and then that committee might have the right of electing other members.

Mr TOLCHER: I do trust that in the formation of this committee our cousins on the other side of the Atlantic, who have been so ably represented here by Professor Bridge, will not be omitted.

Mr DOWLING: I hope the Colonies will not be left out. In Australia a great interest is taken in this matter. We teach stenography in connection with the technical schools of Sydney, and the Newspaper Press of that colony has a large number of reporters. The other Colonies also have a number of persons who take a great interest in Shorthand, as has been shown by the communications which you have received from them. I trust that, if possible, those gentlemen will be communicated with, and they may perhaps send delegates to the next Congress.

Professor EVERETT: I think we should go as far as we can in nominating foreign members on this occasion, without taking into our own hands the power that ought to be left to the gentlemen of the countries concerned. I think it would be the proper thing for us to appoint three members of the Nexus Committee from Germany, three from France, perhaps one from America—as there is only one American gentleman present who would be likely to be put on it—and leave the appointment of the other members to be settled afterwards according to the wish of the respective countries.

Dr GANTTER: We think that as the second Congress will be an International Congress, the Nexus Committee should also be international, and be elected by this Congress. The German stenographers present propose the names of Dr Michaelis, of Berlin; Professor Dr Zeibig, of Dresden; Senator Eggers, Dr Dreinhôfer, the President of the Arends Federation (Dr Berthold), and Assessor Otto Müller.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: The proposal which Mr Theodore Wright made was that which I had intended to make, and I think the aim which Mr Harry had in view can easily be attained by it—it does not really differ much from his suggestion if the names are readily agreed upon. Therefore I would appeal to Mr Harry to withdraw his proposal in order to substitute for it what Mr Wright has suggested, that is to say, that we should now appoint certain gentlemen whom we know as suitable representatives, and then give power to the committee to add to their number. It so happens that the names proposed by Dr Gantter are, with one exception, identical with those on my list.

Mr HARRY: I beg permission to withdraw my proposal. I trust the representatives of foreign countries will understand that my suggestion was made in the hope that they might be relieved from any trouble in the matter, and with the greatest possible respect for them

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I will propose the six names which Dr Gantter has read out.

Mr THEODORE WRIGHT seconded the motion.

Mr POCKNELL: Will all those gentlemen act?

Dr GANTTER: I have reason to believe that they will.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Dr WEBER: These are the names which we beg to put on the list for France—MM. Duployé, Guénin, Grosselin, Delaunay, Depoin, and myself.

Mr GUEST seconded the motion.

Mr JANES: Would it be possible to introduce into the list of gentlemen acting for France some representatives of the provinces as well as the capital. It occurred to me that the name of Mr R. E. Martin, of Lyons, who has for a long time taken a very active interest in French Shorthand, might fairly be put upon the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I believe he is a Duployan.

Mr JANES: Not at the present time. He has a system of his own invention.

The proposed list was agreed to unanimously.

Professor BRIDGE: I wish to propose for America three names—Mr D. F. Murphy, chief reporter of the Congress; Mr G. B. Bishop, of New York, chief reporter of the Stock Exchange; and Colonel Demming.

Mr GUEST: And Professor Bridge.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I would propose to add the name of Mr Clephane.

The five names were unanimously agreed to.

The following gentlemen were also appointed members of the committee: Mr Bengough, President of the Shorthand Writers' Association at Ottawa, and Mr Holland, for Canada; Mr Bell, Government Shorthand Writer, of Melbourne; and Mr Samuel Cook, President of

the Phonographic Association, New South Wales, for Australia; Sig. Greco and Sig. Marzovati, for Italy; Heer Steger, for Holland; M. Lacomblé, for Belgium; Dr Dessau, for Denmark; M. Dlüssky, for Russia; and Professor Balari G. Jovany, of Barcelona, for Spain.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, as to the place of meeting. As I have said, we have invitations from Munich, Berlin, and Paris. Has anyone any proposal to make?

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: As chairman of the Arrangements Committee, there was put into my hands some time ago an invitation from the Gabelsberger Association of Munich. It was not actually signed and sealed in proper form at that time, but it was substantially an invitation. The Arrangements Committee was not able to deal with it, but we decided to bring it before the Congress. We have it now in due form as follows:

The German Gabelsberger Shorthand Federation, consisting of about 350 Shorthand Societies, have the honor of proposing to this first International Shorthand Congress, that another Congress like the present be held in Germany, in conjunction with the Centenary of Gabelsberger's birth in 1889.

A bronze statue of the originator of modern German Stenography will be unveiled on this occasion in the capital of Bavaria, where Gabelsberger was born; and the Gabelsberger Stenographen Centralverein of Munich will be happy to receive the Congress, and to worthily carry out the duties thereby devolving upon them.

JOS. ALTENEDER,
(On behalf of the German Gabelsberger Shorthand Federation.)

London, 27th September, 1887.

I should mention that the other night we received a formal invitation from Dr Weber on behalf of Paris. It came in after the invitation from Munich, but it is before the Congress now. We have also received an invitation from Herr Bäckler to visit Berlin.

Herr DOM VICAR ALTENEDER: Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,—By request of the Gabelsberger Shorthand Federation, I have the honor to present a friendly invitation, and, at the same time, to ask permission to propose that the second International Shorthand Congress take place in Germany, and that Munich, the capital of the Kingdom of Bavaria, be chosen. In the month of August, 1889, there will be unveiled at Munich a monument, in bronze, of the celebrated founder of German shorthand writing, Gabelsberger. In connection with the unveiling of the monument there will be a celebration of the centenary of Gabelsberger's birth, and hundreds of friends of that system will be present. The first general meeting of the Gabelsberger Federation will be held at the same time. Gentlemen, be assured that in Munich, that metropolis of Art and Science, the city where German Stenography had its commencement, where Gabelsberger, our master, lived and worked, you will have the same

cordial reception as we have received in this, the great metropolis of the British Empire. It will be to me the greatest pleasure to report to those German Unions which have honored me by appointing me as their official representative, what a hearty reception I have met with here, and what impression the friendly intercourse with so many highly honored gentlemen and celebrated shorthand writers has made upon me. I shall tell them of the festive arrangements that were made for us, and of the profitable manner in which different important subjects were discussed. If you come to Munich we will do our utmost to give you a worthy reception, and to make your stay there as pleasant as possible. In putting before you the humble request that you will choose Munich for the next International Shorthand Congress, I do not doubt that you will willingly give your assent to the proposal, and in anticipation of it I finish with these words—May we happily meet again in Munich!

Mr TOLCHER: I only wish to ask one question, and I do so because throughout this Congress I have endeavoured, to the utmost of my humble ability, to prevent one system of Shorthand being represented more than any other. I would ask whether, at the Conference at Munich to which we have been so kindly invited, all systems will be represented or only Gabelsberger's system.

Dr E. GANTTER: In Germany the battle between the systems continually breaks out, but there are some occasions when we meet together in harmony, as, for instance, at this International Shorthand Congress, where four different German systems are represented.

The CHAIRMAN: Then all systems will be represented at Munich?

Dr E. GANTTER: Yes.

Dr WEBER: When, two nights ago, I gave you an invitation to come to Paris for the next Congress, I had some reasons to put before you. First of all, in the year 1889, the General Exhibition will be held in Paris. It will be a world's gathering, and I am sure there are many gentlemen here who will visit Paris on that occasion. Other towns will be more or less deserted. I need not explain to you what Paris can offer you. I confess that but for the Exhibition I should have given the preference to Germany, because Germany is ahead of us in Stenography. England, of course, originated the new era in shorthand writing, but after England came Germany, and then France. Now, however, France stands on a different footing. Many of you must go to the Paris Exhibition, and therefore I beg to move that the next International Shorthand Congress be held in Paris.

Mr MAX BÄCKLER: I can assure you, gentlemen, that you will be received in Berlin in the same friendly manner as we have been received here. I am thankful to Mr Tolcher for putting his question. I have a fear that if we go to Munich one system will prevail over all others. Dr Gantter has referred to the differences between stenographic systems. They are not greater in Germany than in England, but we wish that the arrangements for an International Congress should be carried out without reference to any particular system. In Berlin, where all systems have their adherents, that would be so. In that city there are a great many associations of stenographers, numbering perhaps 1,000 members. It is the great centre of stenography. Englishmen, who take an interest in reporting, will in Berlin have opportunities of seeing how the debates in the Reichstag are reported, and of making the acquaintance of the most eminent practitioners of Shorthand in Germany; but it is doubtful if those gentlemen, after the long strain of a Parliamentary Session, would be able to go to Munich. I therefore heartily invite you to come to Berlin.

The CHAIRMAN: We are now in the embarrassing position of the young gentleman who said—

"How happy could I be with either, were t'other dear charmer away."

We have three agreeable propositions before us, either one of which would be received with great satisfaction. How we can resist the attractions and seductions of Paris I hardly know, but I hope we shall not be too enthusiastically led away by what we have heard and know of the fascinations of that capital. On the other hand, we have had reasons put before us why we should go to Munich or Berlin. I do not wish to throw into the scale the weight of any influence I may possess as Chairman of the Committee of the Congress, but permit me to say that whether we will or not a great stenographic celebration is to take place at Munich, and that is certainly a very cogent reason why Munich should be selected as the place for our next meeting. It will be remembered that the starting point of this Congress was the Phonographic Jubilee. In the same way there is to be a celebration at Munich of the Centenary of Gabelsberger's birth, and that may be taken as a good reason why the next Congress should be held there. I simply throw this out as a hint, not wishing to influence the Congress in any improper way.

Mr NICHOLSON: I move that this subject be remitted to the Committee we have just named. We have two invitations from Germany, and I think the gentlemen from that country should be agreed among themselves before they present an invitation to us. Let me put to the Congress what the case would have been if invitations from two different bodies had gone forth from England for this first Inter-

national Congress. It was necessary that there should be unanimity on the part of those sending the invitation; and I submit we are not in a position to decide this question properly to-day. We do not know what the feeling of Germany is. A committee sitting quietly to consider this matter may have facts before them which we have not at present.

Mr WATT (Edinburgh): I have much pleasure in moving that the next meeting of the Congress be held at Munich. When Berlin was suggested I thought it would be a pity that the Congress should be held so far north from the centres of shorthand writing. I had thought of a southern town in Germany, and I meant to suggest it to the Committee, but I have heard of other reasons since, and notwithstanding the attractions of Paris I propose Munich.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: I beg to second the resolution. I think it is absolutely necessary that we should decide the question and not leave it to the committee, who represent various parts of the world. How they could come together to discuss the question before arriving at a decision, I fail to see. The choice is between Munich, Paris, and Berlin. If it was a question between Munich and Paris, I find the Berlin gentlemen would prefer Munich, and therefore Germany does practically present a united front. The point is therefore narrowed to Munich or Paris. We all know the attractions of Paris; but Paris is on the way to Munich; and if we go to the Exhibition in 1889, we can pass on to Munich. I have been to the two great Exhibitions in Paris, and my experience is that they were the only times when I have been uncomfortable in Paris. The enormous concourse of people there at such times is not favorable to a Congress. The unveiling of Gabelsberger's monument at Munich ensures a gathering of shorthand writers there, and it is appropriate to combine it with a meeting of the Congress.

Mr JANES: I move as an amendment that the matter be referred to the committee with an instruction to take, through the post, the opinion of every member of the Congress, and the result of that opinion to decide the point.

The amendment had no seconder.

Professor BRIDGE: If I remember aright Gabelsberger's centenary is to be on August 21st.

Mr RICHTER: The unveiling of the monument is to be on Aug. 12.

Professor BRIDGE: The Congress might meet before, and have its

closing Session the day previous, so that none of us might have any connection with the Centenary.

The CHAIRMAN: That is a matter of detail.

Mr GUEST: I have to propose as an amendment that Paris be selected for the meeting of the next Congress. In 1889, Paris will be the centre of the world.

Mr JANES seconded the amendment.

Mr BEHRENS: Germany is under a disadvantage, because two towns have been proposed. I think the better way would be first to decide between France and Germany. Then, if Germany is chosen, the next question will be Berlin or Munich.

The CHAIRMAN: That seems a very reasonable proposition.

Professor EVERETT: I think it would be very invidious for us to make a selection between two countries, but on this occasion we are spared the necessity of doing so, because 1889 will be the centenary of the birth of the father of German Shorthand, just as this was the anniversary of the first publication of the great modern English system, and the tercentenary of a very worthless system—that of Timothy Bright. By going to Munich to honor the memory of Gabelsberger, we shall not say that his system is the best, any more than we have said on this occasion that Bright's is the best. The father of modern German Shorthand, whether his work has been superseded or not, deserves that his memory should be commemorated. I think, therefore, without any reference to which country we love best, we should accept the invitation to go to Munich.

The CHAIRMAN: I am quite sure that the selection we make will not be considered by any one as invidious in the slightest degree. We are grateful to all the towns that have sent us invitations (your applause sufficiently indicates that I am right); but it is obvious that we can only select one place. The mover and seconder of the resolution are willing that it should be postponed till we take a division on the point that has been referred to.

A vote was then taken as between Germany and France; and it was carried by a very large majority in favor of Germany.

The CHAIRMAN: We are extremely grateful to our French friends for their kindness, and I can assure them we are only postponing a pleasure. Now we can fall back on the original proposition, that we meet next time at Munich in 1889.

Mr POCKNELL: I would propose to leave out the word "next." We have not yet decided that we will not meet next year.

The suggestion was not seconded.

A vote was then taken, and it was decided by a very large majority to hold the next meeting at Munich, in 1889.

The CHAIRMAN: We have some other business more or less formal to transact, but it is really important. I have to propose "That the best thanks of the Congress be given to the Committee of Council on Education for permission to hold our meetings in these rooms." It is perfectly unnecessary to say a word in support of that motion. I desire to add to it our thanks to the officials in the building, especially to the Curator, Mr Rudler, for the very great kindness they have shown us, and for the readiness with which they have fallen in with any suggestions we have made. I can assure you, as Chairman of the Committee, that we have made no request to them which has not been promptly responded to.

Mr HIBBIT seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: I have now to propose "That our best thanks be given to the authorities of the British Museum, for their kindness in reference to the exhibition of books; to Colonel Carington and the Officers of the Houses of Parliament for their courtesy in receiving the members of the Congress; and to the Manager of the *Times*, for permitting certain members to visit the *Times* printing office."

Dr ZEIBIG seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr GURNEY-SALTER, and unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: Then we have to thank Herr Ganz and the vocalists for their kindness on Thursday evening at the conversazione. I am sure we are deeply indebted to them; and when I say that their services were given gratuitously, you will acknowledge that that is another reason for our gratitude.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN: Next we owe our very best thanks to Lord Rosebery for his kindness in acting as President of the Congress. I cannot say how much we are indebted to him for the impetus he gave us by his presence, and his splendid address on the first evening; for his subsequent attendance, and for his pecuniary donation to the Congress fund.

Prof. EVERETT seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Prof. BRIDGE: I have to move a vote of thanks to the Committees of the Exhibition, the Dinner, and the Conversazione Sections. The Exhibition has been prime from the beginning; the dinner was A 1; and the Conversazione first rate.

Mr WATT seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Mr POCKNELL: On behalf of the Exhibition Committee I thank you for the resolution you have passed. We have a number of catalogues left, and I shall be happy to give half-a-dozen to each of the representatives of foreign countries, if they will kindly distribute them among their societies. It is an index of what we can do in England.

Mr TOLCHER: In return for this very cordial vote of thanks I can only say that the knowledge that you were satisfied with the arrangements we were able to make for the Dinner is the very best reward we could have. I should not like to sit down without saying a word about the General Committee. Of course we have all done our very best, and I think we may congratulate ourselves on the great success of this Congress; but we should have got on very badly if we had not received the able guidance and aid of Mr Reed and Mr Gurney-Salter.

Mr PITCAIRN: I beg to propose a vote of thanks to the General Committee, and especially to the Chairman, Mr Reed. Looking to the success of the meetings, I can hardly imagine how he and the other leaders of the Congress could have found time to do what they have done. I am sure you will all heartily join in this vote of thanks.

Dr WEBER: I most willingly second this motion. The Committee deserve great commendation for the able manner in which they have discharged their sometimes arduous duties. Now Munich has won the day. Well, I should have chosen Paris. My personal feeling at first was in favor of Berlin; but our Gabelsberger friends may be quite assured that we shall visit them. We know we shall be welcomed by them as much as they will be by us, say two years afterwards.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr TOLCHER: I have very great pleasure indeed in thanking you sincerely on behalf of my brother committeemen and myself for the very cordial vote of thanks which you have given us. When I was first selected by the members of the Institute of Shorthand Writers to serve on this committee as representing them, I confess I entered on

my task with rather mixed feelings; but when, after attending two or three meetings of the committee, I saw the truly catholic spirit in which everybody was determined to act, not thinking of any personal interest (by which I mean systems as well as men), and only considering how to secure the best interests of Shorthand, all those feelings vanished, and I was only too glad to add my humble efforts to make the Congress a success. I think everybody will agree that it has been a great success. Above all, we have to congratulate ourselves upon the recognition which Shorthand in all its branches has received from the highest to the lowest. I cannot sit down without saying that, however much time many of my brother committeemen have devoted to the Congress, we should never have done so well without the able assistance and guidance of our two Chairmen. Nobody who has not served on the committee can know or appreciate how unselfishly those two gentlemen have devoted their time to this work. I know as a fact that each of them has given up the holiday, to which he was justly entitled after the arduous work of the Session, for the express purpose of bringing this Congress to a successful issue. I have, therefore, great pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr Reed and Mr Gurney-Salter.

Mr Button: I have very great pleasure in seconding the motion. I am sure that those who have attended here day after day cannot but feel that our deliberations have been conducted with the greatest fairness.—The motion was agreed to.

The Chairman: It is my duty to acknowledge the kind vote of thanks you have passed to the two Chairmen. I will leave Mr Gurney-Salter to speak for himself, simply saying that I do not know what I should have done without his valuable co-operation. With regard to myself, there is no doubt that I have worked very hard for this Congress, but it has been a labor of love, and "the labor we delight in physics pain." The responsibility of my position has been a rather serious one, and I have sometimes felt it weigh rather heavily upon me. Just as the Congress was beginning, I seemed to have a very heavy load indeed upon my shoulders. That load has day by day been lightened; and now it has entirely gone from me. But no sooner has that disappeared than you have put another upon me—a deep sense of obligation for the kindness shown me throughout the whole of the proceedings. That is a load of which I do not desire to get rid, and could not if I desired. I shall carry it about day by day with the recollection of all the many kindnesses that have been shown me, the many warm grips from hands that I had never clasped before, the many congratulations on all sides, and the many little incidents which make me believe you have really a kindly feeling towards me. I thank you very heartily for the vote of thanks.

Mr GURNEY-SALTER: Allow me also to express my thanks. What Mr Reed has said is what I should wish to adopt as my own words. I have felt equally with him the kindly feeling shown to us as the Congress has been proceeding. I also felt great responsibility when it began, but I think we can congratulate ourselves on the success which is universally admitted. I am also grateful for the kindness and courtesy we have received during the pressure of business; and I distinctly say we owe most to Mr Reed for the conduct of the Congress. I think that the Congress is distinguished among Congresses for the business-like manner in which it has been carried out, and for the tact and judgment with which it has been managed. It is due to Mr Reed that I should say that, and I wish also to express the pleasure I have had in working with him. I have now a very agreeable duty to perform, and that is, to propose a vote of thanks to our Honorary Secretary, Dr Westby-Gibson, who, a very long time ago, put forward suggestions for the origination of this Congress; and who, in addition to other assistance, has given us the benefit of his great erudition in Shorthand literature. And while speaking of his erudition, I will venture to call attention to the excellent "Bibliography" of works pertaining to our art which he has just published through Mr Isaac Pitman. The subject is so germane to our discussions, that I thought I might be excused, while moving a vote of thanks to our Honorary Secretary, to remind you of this, the most recent fruit of his learning. I have also the pleasure of moving a vote of thanks to the two Secretaries, Mr Kitson and Mr Allen W. Reed, by whom the duties were very ably performed. I know, of my own knowledge, the immense amount of time they have devoted to it, and the thought, anxiety, and business-like faculty which they have brought to bear upon it. I therefore desire to state, in the strongest words, what others perhaps have not had the means of knowing, that our debt of gratitude to them for all the details of the arrangements is very great indeed. I beg to move a vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary and the two Secretaries.

Mr POCKNELL: I beg to second the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

Dr WESTBY GIBSON: I gratefully acknowledge the vote of thanks you have given me for the services I have been able to render as Honorary Secretary. I especially appreciate the reference that has been made to the origination of the Congress by me.

Mr KITSON: I have heard, with feelings of the most sincere pleasure, the remarks that have been made with regard to any little services I may have rendered to the Congress. It has been mentioned

that the Chairmen have given up their holiday to the Congress: I have given up a week of mine, and I am extremely pleased to have been permitted to do as much as I have done. I am delighted at the success of the Congress. My co-Secretary and myself have worked harmoniously; we have taken our different departments, and although the work has been heavy, it has been a labour of love, and we are fully compensated by the great success of this first International Congress.

Mr ALLEN W. REED: After what my friend, Mr Kitson, has said, I think there is very little for me to add. Undoubtedly there has been a good deal of hard work in connection with the Congress; but my task has been considerably lightened by the reflection that I have been carrying out the wishes of my father. I desire to take this opportunity of thanking those members of the committee, with whom I have of late been so frequently brought in contact, for the courtesy and consideration which I have always received at their hands. I beg to thank you most sincerely for the manner in which you have indicated your appreciation of any services I may have been able to render.

Dr GANTTER: I have to perform the agreeable duty of thanking this meeting for the choice of Munich. We are very glad that our French friends will come to Munich. We had no doubt that they would come, as well as those whom I may call our antagonists from Berlin. We have been so delighted with the success of this first International Congress that we should all wish to attend a second, whether it was held in Paris, Berlin, or Munich. I hope you will be as well pleased with Munich as we have been with London.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I have only now to say, "*à Munich.*"

In the evening, by the invitation of the Shorthand Writers' Association, many of the members of the Congress were present at a musical and literary entertainment at the Westminster Town Hall.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRACTIONS IN WRITING FOR THE PRESS.

[The Committee exercised their power of adding to their number, by electing W. R. Gowers, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., and Augustine Birrell, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.]

In accordance with the terms of our appointment as a Committee to prepare and publish a list of manuscript contractions recognised by printers, we have held several meetings, made careful inquiries, and agreed to the following Report:—

1. Our inquiries have abundantly confirmed the reasons for our appointment, namely, (*a*) The waste of time which many writers incur from not using contractions; (*b*) The inconvenience arising from want of uniformity on the part of those who do use them.

(*a*) A large proportion of ordinary composition consists, as is well known, of the same words occurring over and over again. For these words reporters habitually use contractions of which literary men have not as yet had the advantage. From comparisons between the quantities of manuscript which can be produced by fast writers with and without reporters' contractions, it would appear that the saving in time attainable by using them amounts to from 20 to 30 per cent.

(*b*) It appears that much inconvenience is caused by the varying and inconsistent contractions of different writers for the Press. One writer, for example, uses a contraction for "the" ("t") which another uses for "that;" "fr," which some writers use for "from," is often read and printed as "for;" the "sh," which some use for "shall," is often mistaken for "should;" and longer words, such as "different" and "difficult" ("dift"), are occasionally confused in the same way. These errors give trouble to authors and printers, and sometimes escape detection altogether until after publication.

2. Having obtained lists of the contractions in general use in the principal newspaper offices in London and various parts of the country, we found, as might have been expected, that in spite of occasional discrepancies there was substantial agreement between

them. By carefully collating them we were able to frame a list which we believe comprises all the well-known contractions of common words. The list thus compiled was submitted privately to several printers, literary men and journalists, and, having received their approbation, was sent to the principal printers in London, with the request that they would hang it up in their printing offices. The reception it has met with entitles us now to recommend it as a standard list, and as such we append it to our report.

The list, it will be observed, is confined to contractions of words in general use as distinguished from those which may be considered technical. There are many, for example, which are largely employed in legal documents, such as "Ex^{ors}" and "Adm^{ors}" for "Executors" and "Administrators," which would not always and everywhere be recognised, and might be misprinted if found in a totally different connection. Again, most writers make for themselves abbreviations of long words, which they contract more or less according to the frequency of their recurrence in the particular work on which they are engaged; but such abbreviations would not readily explain themselves apart from the subject and context. We have not at present attempted to deal with either of these classes of words.

The list as it stands cannot, we believe, fail to secure to all who use it the two advantages desired, namely, a saving of time and labor in writing and the avoidance of errors in printing, provided only that the contractions be distinctly formed, special care being taken that single letters which represent words are not joined to others. Any extra care that may at first be required to make the contractions legible will be far more than compensated for by the saving of time resulting from their use.

(*Signed*) W. H. Gurney-Salter (*Chairman*).
G. Leslie Bannerman.
Augustine Birrell.
W. R. Gowers.
A. R. Marten.
T. A. Reed.
W. Storr.
Theodore R. Wright.

STANDARD LIST OF CONTRACTIONS RECOGNISED BY PRINTERS IN MSS.

WRITTEN	PRINTED.	WRITTEN	PRINTED.	WRITTEN	PRINTED.
/	the	ab^{t}	about	lge	large
t	that	acc^{t}	account	mt^{g}	meeting
f	for	aft^{n}	afternoon	m^{t}	might
o	of	ag^{n}	again	m^{g}	morning
h	have	ag^{nst}	against	notw^{s}	notwithstanding
y	you	am^{g}	among	obj^{n}	objection
w	with	am^{t}	amount	o'c	o'clock
.		bec	because	op^{n}	opinion
		b^{n}	been	opp^{y}	opportunity
		btwn	between	o^{r}	other
r (above the line.)	termination "ever" as how^{r}, which^{r}, when^{r}, wher^{r}	c^{d}	could	o^{t}	ought, alone or as termination, as bro^{t} brought, tho^{t} thought, &c.
		ch^{n}	chairman		
		cir^{cs}	circumstance	part^{r}	particular
g (above end of verb.)	"ing," as com^{g} coming	com^{e}	committee	q^{n}	question
		dif^{ce}	difference	s^{d}	said
		dif^{t}	different	sev^{l}	several
n (above the line.)	termination "tion," "sion," or "ion"	dif^{clt}	difficult	sh	shall
		dif^{clty}	difficulty	sh^{d}	should
		xtr^{y}	extraordinary	th^{r}	their, there
ce (above the line.)	termination "ance," "ence"	ev^{g}	evening	tho	though
		ev^{y}	every	thro	through
		f^{m}	from	tog^{r}	together
m^{t}	termination "ment"	fur^{r}	further	v^{y}	very
		gen^{l}	general	wh^{r}	whether
		gov^{t}	government	w^{h}	which
omit "day" in days of week.	example—"Mon" Monday	g^{t}	great	w^{t}	without
		h^{d}	had	w^{d}	would
		imp^{ce}	importance	yest^{y}	yesterday
		imp^{t}	important	y^{r}	your

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ERRATA.

Page 64, line 37, *for* Margovati *read* Marzorati.
,, 88, ,, 8, *for* 1242 *read* 1842.
,, 112, ,, 3, *for* supplied *read* supplemented.
,, 112, ,, 8 from bottom, *for* Herr Richter's *read* Dr Zeibig's.
,, 112, ,, 4 from bottom, *for* who *read* and Mr Hill.
,, 140, ,, 14 from bottom, *for* proper *read* system.
,, 184, ,, 23, *for* A. T. Cook *read* A. J. Cook.
,, 201, ,, 25, *for* Main *read* Mair.
,, 206, ,, 10 from bottom, *for* come *read* comes.
,, 302, ,, 27, *for* Boyce *read* Joyce.
,, 336, after this page each of the ten duplicated pages (327 to 336) should be marked with an asterisk.
,, 344, before the remarks of Herr Bäckler those of Mr Davies should be transferred from page 360.
,, 386, line 26, *for* Janes *read* James.
The name Marzovati occurs frequently in the volume; *read* Marzorati.

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INTERNATIONAL SHORTHAND CONGRESS, LONDON, 1887.

A CORRECTED

CATALOGUE

OF AN

Exhibition of Shorthand Books, MSS., Typewriters, &c.,

(Collected by EDWARD POCKNELL, FRANCIS H. VALPY, and H. RICHTER, on behalf of the Exhibition Committee),

AT

ST. JAMES'S HALL RESTAURANT, PICCADILLY, W.

Open from 2 *p.m. on September* 26*th to* 8 *p.m.; and on September* 27*th to October* 1*st inclusive, from* 10 *a.m. to* 8 *p.m.; except on September* 29*th, when the Exhibition will remain open till* 11 *p.m.*

NOTICE.—Books in the "Chronological Collection of British Systems," and in the "Loan Collections" and some other Exhibits, may be inspected on application to the Attendant, under regulations.

CHRONOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS.

ARRANGED BY ED. POCKNELL AND F. H. VALPY.

[The first date is the "date of first publication;" the second date is that of the volume exhibited. The name of the exhibitor is in *italics*.]

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2. 1602. Willis, John, 1628, MS. copy of 9th edition, from late C. Walford's Library.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
3. 1602. Willis, John, 1632?, MS. copy of 10th edition, lent by Mr. Knights, Norwich.—*T. A. Reed.*
4. 1602. Willis, John, 1632?, copy of above.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
5. 1620? Shelton, Thomas, "Tachygraphy," newly corrected and enlarged, 1645.—*Ed. Pocknell.*

6. 1620? Shelton, Thomas, 1660, "Tachygraphia," in Latin, with portrait and an English copy bound together (see also English copy with No. 10).—*Ed. Pocknell.*
7. 1620? Shelton, Thomas, 1646.—*Isaac Pitman.*
8. 1630? "Characterisme" (Anonymous), 1630? MS. copy from MS. in Sloane Collection, British Museum.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
9. 1635 Metcalfe, Theophilus, 1655, 55th edition, portrait.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
10. 1646. Rich, Jeremiah, 1659? "Pen's Dexterity," portrait.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
11. 1646. Rich, Jeremiah, 1700.—*Isaac Pitman.*
12. 1658. Everard, Job, 1658 (see also Mr. Barnett's Loan Collection).—*Shorthand Writers' Association.*
    1668. Wilkins, Dr. John, 1668 (see Mr. Guest's exhibit. See the Shorthand at p.376 of Wilkins's Essay.)
14. 1672. Mason, William, 1699, "Art's Advancement," portrait. *Ed. Pocknell.*
15. 1674. Botley, Samuel, 1674? "Maximum in Minimo," two portraits.—*W. Rogers.*
16. 1680. Stringer, Nathaniell, 1686, "Rich Redivivus," portrait. —*Ed. Pocknell.*
17. 1700. Barmby, Henry, 1708, Title page copied in MS.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
18. 1707. Mason, William, 1707, "La Plume Volante," portrait. —*Ed. Pocknell.*
19. 1715. Lané, Samuel, 1715.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
20. 1727. Weston, James, 1727, Large paper copy, portrait.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
21. 1727. Weston, James, 1738, Portrait.—*W. B. Gurney & Sons.*
    1736. Gibbs, Philip, 1736 (see Collection of Histories).
23. 1747. Macaulay, Aulay, 1756.—"Polygraphy," engraved frontispiece.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
24. 1750. Gurney, Thomas, 1772.—"Brachygraphy," 8th edition, Portrait.—*Ed. Pocknell* (see also the "Gurney Collection").
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27. 1758. Angell, John, 1758.—(See also 2nd edition in Collection of Histories).—*Ed. Pocknell.*
28. 1760. Taplin, Henry, 1760.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
29. 1761. Swaine & Simms, 1766.—"Cryptography,"—*Edward Pocknell.*
30. 1762. Lyle, David, 1762.—*Isaac Pitman.*
31. 1766? Hodgson, Edward, No Date.—2nd edition.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
32. 1766. Holdsworth & Aldridge, 1766.—"Natural Shorthand," —*Isaac Pitman.*
33. 1767. Byrom, Dr. John, 1767.—Posthumous publication.—*Ed. Pocknell.*

34. 1774. Palmer, John, 1774.—(See also copy in Mr. Levy's Loan Collection).—*Ed. Pocknell.*
35. 1775. Graves & Ashton, 1775.—The whole art of "Tachygraphy."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
36. 1775. Williamson, W., 1775.—*J. D. Barnett.*
37. 1776. Universal Shorthand (Anonymous), 1776.—*Isaac Pitman.*
38. 1779. Blanchard, W. I., 1786.—"Complete Instructor."—*W. B. Gurney & Sons.*
39. 1779. Hervey, Thomas, 1779.—"Writer's Time Redeemed." *Ed. Pocknell.*
40. 1780. Mavor, Dr. William, 1792.—Universal Stenography, 3rd. edition, Portrait added.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
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43. 1786. Taylor, Samuel, 1786.—Original edition, "An Essay intended, &c."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
44. 1787. Bordley, Simon G., 1787. (Script System.)—*Shorthand Writers' Association.*
46. 1791. Tailor, R., 1791.—A piracy of Taplin (see No. 28).—*Ed. Pocknell.*
47. 1796. Molineux, Thomas, 1821.—5th edition, with portrait of Byrom.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
48. 1799. Doddridge, Dr., 1799.—Improved Rich's System, with Appendix in a separate pamphlet.—*Walter Haddon.*
49. 1800. Prosser, M. Radcliffe, 1806.—2nd edition.—*J. D. Barnett.*
50. 1800. Hodson, Thomas, 1800.—In Vol. I. of "Accomplished Tutor."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
51. 1800. Richardson, Samuel, 1800.—1st edition.—*Isaac Pitman.*
52. 1800. Richardson, Samuel, 1802.—2nd edition.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
53. 1801. Crome, J. (published by), 1801.—*Isaac Pitman.*
54. 1802. Roe, Richard, 1802.—"A New System, &c." (Script System.)—*Ed. Pocknell.*
55. 1803. Nightingale, Joseph, 1823.—Portrait.—*Isaac Pitman.*
56. 1804. The Amanuensis (Anonymous).—*Isaac Pitman.*
57. 1806. Nicholson, George, 1806.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
58. 1810. Clive, I. H., 1830, "Linear System," with King Charles I. Cypher at end.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
59. 1811. Oxley, Thomas, 1816, "Facilography." (Script System.) 2nd edition.—*J. D. Barnett.*
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116. 1840. Pitman, Isaac, "Phonography," 1840.—Penny Sheet from Steel Plate.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
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118. 1840. Carpenter, William, 1840.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
119. 1840. Eyre, G., 18.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
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123. 1840. "British Shorthand," 1841, Published by Odell.—*Ed. Pocknell,*
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139. 1858. Cooper, Thompson, 1858.—See also Collection of Histories.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
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143. 1862. Redfern, F., 18 .—*Ed. Pocknell.*
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144. 1863. Thompson, John, 1863—"Phonography;" a Script System.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
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146. 1864. Carr's Vowel Shorthand.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
147. 1864. Hall's Expeditious Writing, 1864.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
148. 1868. Gardner's Stenography.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
149. 1869. Young, Murdo, 1869.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
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154. 1874. Hunter, S., 1874.—*T. A. Reed.*
155. 1874. Wailes, Dr. Robert, Manual.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
156. 1875. Wailes, Dr. Robert, Supplement, ditto.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
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157.* 1876. Bruce's Radial Shorthand.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
158 1877. Williams, Rev. J., 1877.—Alethography, with translation in Welsh.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
159. 1878. Anderson, Thomas, 1878.—Synopsis.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
160. 1879. Hunt, Joseph, 1879.—"Aristography."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
161. 1880. Cobbin, J. L., 1880.—Published at Cape Town.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
162. 1880. Wailes, Dr. Robert, 1880.—Joined Vowel System.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
163. 1880. Lewis, A. L., 1880.—The Lewisian System on a card.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
164. 1880. Noble, J. A., 1880.—Dot and Dash System.—*The Shorthand Society.*
165. 1881. McLagan, Henry, 1881.—Lithographed on Sheet.—*Ed Pocknell.*
166. 1881 Pocknell, Edward, 1881.—Legible Shorthand—Vowel-Place-Indication System.—*Ed. Pocknell.*

166.* 1881. Locomotive Shorthand.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
167. 1882. Guest, Edwin, 1882.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
168. 1882. Janes, Alfred, 1882.—*A. Janes.*
169. 1882. Peachy, D. A., 1882.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
170. 1883. Lowes, J. D., 1883.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
171. 1883. Westby-Gibson, Dr., 1883, Poem, "England," in Author's Script System.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
172. 1884. Miller, R. E., 1884, Gurney Improved.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
173. 1884. Armitage, Miles, 1884.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
174. 1884. Gurney, W. B. and Sons, 1884, 18th and latest Edition.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
175. 1885. Valpy, F. H., 1885, "Audeography," Vowel-Place-Indication System.—*F. H. Valpy.*
176. 1885. Märes, George Carl, 1885, "Rational Shorthand."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
177. 1885. Lockett, A. B., 1887, Fourth Edition.—*A. B. Lockett.*
178. 1885. Simson, James, 1885.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
179. 1885. Janes, Alfred, 1885, "Phonetic Shorthand."—*A. Janes.*
180. 1886. Sloan, J. M., 1886, "Sloan-Duployan."—*J. M. Sloan.*
180.* 1886. Swifthand.—*Shorthand-Writer's Association.*
181. 1887. "Script-Phonography," 1886.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
182. 1887. Harris, G. A., 1887, "Eureka."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
183. 1887. Davies, D. S., 1887, "Sonography," a Script System.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
183.* 1887. Browne, Alfred M., "Browne's Phonetic Shorthand," A Syllabic and Vowel-Place-Indication System.—*A. M. Browne.*
184. 1887. Neville, J., "Scientific Shorthand."—*J. Neville.*

2.—*American Systems of Shorthand.*

1. 1823. Gould, Marcus T. C., 1832.—*Isaac Pitman.*
2. 1831. Towndrow, T., Complete Guide, 2nd edition (New Haven), 1832.—*The Shorthand Society.*
3. 1831. Towndrow, T., Complete Guide (Boston), 1837.—*The Shorthand Society.*
4. 1845. Andrews & Boyle, 1848, "Reader."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
5. 1845. Andrews & Boyle, 1849, "Class Book."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
6. 1849. Longley, Elias, 1880.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
7. 1854. Graham, A. J., 1858.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
8. 1855. Pitman. Benn, 1855, "Manual."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
9. 1858. Mitchell, Thos., 1858.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
10. 1864. Lindsley, D. P., 1869, Takigraphy.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
11. 1867. Munson, J. E., 1867.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
12. 1870. Burnz, Eliza B., 1874.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
13. 1871. Scovil, W. E., 1876, Canadian System.—*F. J. Fay (Dublin).*
14. 1875. Haven, Curtis, 1883.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
15. 1877. Cross, J. G., 1879, "Eclectic."—*Ed. Pocknell.*
16. 1879. Richardson, James, Neophonography, 1879.—*The Shorthand Society.*

17. 1882. Scott-Browne, D. L. (Part I.)—*Ed. Pocknell.*
18. 1882. Thornton, G. H., 1883.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
19. 1882. Pitman, Benn, "The Reporter's Companion," 1882.—*The Shorthand Society.*
20. 1882. Longley, Elias, "The American Phonographic Dictionary," 1882.—*The Shorthand Society.*
21. 1883. Longley, Elias, "The Reporter's Guide," 1883.—*The Shorthand Society.*
22. 1885. Verity, J. S., "A New System of Phonography," (Privately printed, 100 copies only,) 1885.—*The Shorthand Society.*
23. 1887. Towndrow, Thomas, "Complete Guide to Shorthand," 1887.—*Thomas Towndrow, Mount Vernon, New York.*

3.—*Histories of Shorthand.*

1. 1736. Gibbs, Rev. Philip, 1736? First English History.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
2. 1758. Angell, John, 1765 (second edition).—*Ed. Pocknell.*
3. 1816. Lewis, James Hy., 1816.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
4. 1847. Pitman, Isaac, 1847, in *Phonotypic Journal.*—*Ed. Pocknell.*
5. 1856. Pitman, Benn (Cincinnati), History of Shorthand in Phonography, 1856.—*The Shorthand Society.*
6. 1858. Cooper, Thompson, 1858.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
7. 1862. Levy, Matthias, 1862.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
8. 1882. Anderson, Thomas, 1882.—*Ed. Pocknell.*

4.—*German Chronological Collection* (*see German Systems of Shorthand*).

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5. 1790. Rees, Thomas, 1796, 3rd edition.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
6. 1792. Bertin, Theodore Pierre, adaptation of Taylor's System to the French.—*The Shorthand Society.*
7. 1802. Stenography, 1802, published by Lackington, Allen and Co.—*Isaac Pitman.*
8. 1802? Stenography, 1802, published by Lackington & Co.—*Isaac Pitman.*
9. 1812. Odell, G., circa 1860, 49th edition.—*Isaac Pitman.*
10. 1812. „ „ 1866, 52nd edition.—*Isaac Pitman.*
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18. 1825. Mac Dougal, Duncan, 1835.—*Isaac Pitman.*
19. 1830. Curtis, 1835, "Shorthand made shorter."—*Isaac Pitman.*
20. 1832. Cooke, J. H., 1832.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
21. 1836. Kerin, Charles, 1836.—*E. J. Painter.*
22. 1842. Woodhouse, S. S., 1842.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
23. 1856. Lyle, 1856.—*Shorthand Writer's Association.*
24. 1857. Coleman, Morris, 1857.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
25. MS. Bible in Taylor's System, Written by T. J. Woods, President of the Shorthand Writer's Association, in Microscopic Characters.—*T. J. Woods.*
26. 1858. Ditto, 1858, in Larger Characters.—*T. J. Woods.*
27. 1862. Levy, Matthias, 1862?—*M. Levy.*
28. 1868. Thompson, A. H., N.D.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
29. 1869. "The Young Reporter," 1869, Lockwood, publisher.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
30. 1875. Wills, G. H., 1875.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
31. 1882. Janes, Alfred, 1882, "Standard Stenography."—*A. Janes.*
32. Notes in Taylor's System.—*H. H. Tolcher.*

[NOTE.—Dr. Westby-Gibson, in his "Bibliography of Shorthand," 1887, says Blundell, Fretwell, Grogan, The Penny System, Saxton, G. Smith, Templeton, and Thatcher were followers of Taylor; also that there are foreign adaptations by Amanti, Berthold, Borsos, Breton, Danzer, Delpino, De Prépéan, Montigny, Mosengeil, Plantier, Prevost, Roby Rodriquez, Scott de Martinville, and Steger. The late Hon. Ion G. N. Keith-Falconer (in the "Encyclopædia Britannica") states that the system came into use in France, Italy, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Portugal, Roumania, Hungary, &c.]

GERMAN SYSTEMS OF SHORTHAND.

[NOTE.—The Historical Works Nos. 1 to 15, and Nos. 466 to 482, lent by the Royal Stenographic Institute, Dresden, will be found among the "Chronological Collections" of the Exhibition.]

1.—*Allgemeine Geschichte der Stenographie.*

(General History of Shorthand.)

1. Anders, Entwurf einer allgemeinen Geschichte und Litteratur der Stenographie.
2. Zeibig, Geschichte und Litteratur der Geschwindschreibekunst.
3. „ Constitutionalismus und Stenographie.
4. „ Mittheilungen aus dem Gebiete der Stenographie.
5. Krieg, Katechismus der Stenographie.
6. „ Die Stenographie auf der Wiener Weltausstellung.

7. Krieg und Zeibig, Panstenographikon.
8. „ „ Notae Tironianae.

2.—*Geschichte der Stenographie bei Römern und Griechen.*

(History of Roman and Greek Shorthand.)

9. Krause, Grammatica Tironiana.
10. Lehmann, Quaestiones de notis Tironis et Senecae.
11. „ Die tachygraphischen Abkürzungen der griechischen Handschriften.
12. Lehmann, Das Tironische Psalterium der Wolfenbüttler Bibliothek.
13. Ruess, De puncti vi in notis Tironianis.
14. „ Ueber die Tachygraphie der Römer.
15. „ L und die Durchschneidung in den Tironischen Noten.

THE GABELSBERGER COLLECTION.

ARRANGED BY H. RICHTER, F.Sh.S.

On behalf of "The Royal Stenographic Institute, Dresden," and "The German Shorthand Federation (Gabelsberger)."

3.—*Geschichte der Gabelsbergerschen Stenographie.*

(History of the Gabelsberger Shorthand System.)

16 to 18. Kgl Sächs Stenograph. Institut, Ausschuss Berichte 1854-1857, Band 1-3.

Kgl. Sächs Stenograph Institut, Ausschuss Berichte 1865 (siehe Nachtrag (Appendix) Nr. 490).

19. Kgl. Sächs. Stenograph. Institut, Zusammenstellung der von dem Königl. Sächs. Stenograph. Institut bei Revision des Gabelsbergerschen Systems gefassten Beschlsüse.
20. Do., Vorträge der allgem. Stenographenversammlung, 1857,
21. Do., Uebersicht über die Thätigkeit der Mitglieder des—
22. Häpe, Das Stenographische Vereinswesen.

„ Denkschrift, die Gründung einer Stenograph. Academie (siehe Nachtrag (Appendix) Nr. 488).

„ Die Organisation des Königl. Sächs. Stenograph. Instituts (siche Nachtrag (Appendix) Nr. 489).

23. Oppermann, Zum 25jährigen Jubileum der Dresdener Beschlüsse.
24. Oppermann, Bericht über die ersten 25jahre des Gesammt Vereins der Gabelsb Stenograph-Vereine im Konigreiche Sachsen.
25. Rotter, Gedenktafeln der Schule Gabelsbergers.
26. Wartig u. Zeibig, Handbuch der Stenograph. Litteratur.
27. Kgl. Stenograph. Institut, Katalog der Bibliothek des—
28. Gab. Stenograph. Central Verein zu München, Berichte über die Jubelfeier 1868 zu München.
29. Dörfer, Der erste deutsche Stenographentag 1874, zu Leipzig.

30. Stenograph. Verein zu Prag, Der zweite desgl. zu Frankfurt a/M.
31. Weiss u. Fröhliger, Der dritte deutche Stenographen Tag 1884 zu Berlin.
32. Calzoni, La Stenografia in Italia
33. Conn, Der Stenograph Dienst im österreichischen Parlament.
34. Faulmann, Entwickelungsgeschichte des Gabelsbergerschen Systems.
35. Faulmann, XXIV. Tafeln dazu.
36. Fischer, Briefwechsel zwischen Gabelsberger u. Wigard.
37. Gerber, Gabelsbergers Leben und Streben.
38. Kirchberger, Geschichtstafeln der Gabelsb. Stenographie
39. Krumbein, Kurzgefasste Geschichte der Gabelsb. Schule.
40. Noë, Die ersten sechs Jahrzehnte der Gabelsb. Redezeichenkunst.
41. „ Italienische Uebersetzung davon.
42. Prazak, Ctyricet let tesnopisu ceského.
43. Schmidt, Maria, Das erste Decennium des Damenvereins für Stenographie zu Dresden.
44. Suter, Uebersicht über die Gabelsb. Stenographie in der Schweiz.

4.—*Statistik.*

(Statistics.)

45 to 75. Kgl. Sächs. Stenogr. Institut, Jahrbuch der Schule Gabelsbergers, 31 Jahrgänge von 1858-1887.
76 to 85. Tiroler Stenogr. Verein, Tiroler Stenographen-Kalender, 10 Jahrgänge.
86 to 88. Damenverein zu Dresden, Almanach für stenograph. Damen, 3 Jahrgänge.
89. Prima Società Stenogr. Italiana, Annuario Stenografico Italiano, Anno primo, 1873.
90. Pocta, Kalendar ceskych Stengrafu narok, 1887.
91. Trachbrodt, Stenographenkalender.

5.—*Nutzen der Stenographie im Allgemeinen und für einzelne Berufsfächer.*

(Advantage of Shorthand for general and professional purposes.)

92. Kirchberger Ueber die Bedeutung der Stenogr. Eggers, Zur Kritik der deutschen Stenogr.-Systeme (Siehe Nachtrag (appendix) Nr. 491.).
93. Szepessy, Az élet bármely pályaján Szükséges a gyorsiraszát birni.
94. Lirs, Slovo o tesnopisu a prospesnosti jeho.
95. Palmén, Stenografie och dess anoänding i dagliga lifvet.
96. Zeibig, Die deutsche Stenogr. und die öffentlichen Interessen.
97. „ La Stenografie e gl' interessi pubblici.
98. „ Die Stenogr., die Schule und das Leben.

99. Oppermann, Ueber das Verhältniss der Gabelsb. Stenogr. zur Currentschrift.
100. Näther, Ueber das Verhältniss der Orthographie zur Stenographie.
101. Zeibig, Die Frauen und die Stenographie.
102. Morawetz, Die Stenographie im Dienste des Kaumanns.
103. Uhl, Die Stenographie im Eisenbahndienste.
104. Greco, La scrittura Gabelsbergheriana applicata al' arte marittima.
105. Von Bömcken, Die Stenogr. und ihre Verwendung im Militärstande.
Eggers, Die Stenogr. in den Militar-Bildungs-Anstalten (see Appendix No. 465).
106. Goudschal, De Stenografie en haar ir Gebruik voor den Offizier te Velde.
107. Gab. Stenogr.-Central Verein zu München, Promemoria, betr. die Verwendung der Stenogr. im gerichtlichen Dienste.
108. Zeibig, Die Rechtspflege und die Stenographie I. Theil.
109. „ „ „ II. „
110. „ Die Stenogr. in der Rechtspflege und Verwaltung.
111. Schmidt, Die Verwendung der Stenogr. im gerichtlichen Dienste.
112. Lamm, Die Bedeutung der Stenogr. für die Rechtspflege.

6.—*Unterricht.*

(Instruction Books).

113. Häpe Die Stenogr. als Unterrichtsgegenstand.
114. Eggers, Die Stenogr. in den Schulen.
115. Gerber, Gab. Stenogr. an Bayerns Mittelschulen.
116. Gratzmüller, Wie kann die Erlernung der Stenogr. an den bayrischen Gymnasien gefördert werden.
117. Steintheil, Die Stellung der Stenogr. zum Gymnas.
118. Conn, Die Stenogr. als obligater Lehrgegenstand an Mittelschulen.
119. Krieg, Denkschrift betr. die Einführung der Stenogr. an den Gymnasien und Realschulen.
120. Tietz, Zur Stenogr. Unterrichtsfrage.
121. „ Ein Urtheil über die Verhandlungen der westfälischen Gymnasial und Realschuldirectoren über den stenogr. Unterricht.
Schmidt, Die Gab. Stenogr. als obligat. Lehrgegenstand auf höh. Unterrichtsanstaten (Appendix, 492).
122. Dessau, Stenografien som skolefag.
123. Bezensek, Izojesce Stenogr. tecajih na velikoj gimnaziji zagrebackoj.
124. „ The Introduction of Shorthand into Bulgaria.
125. Fischer, Der stenograph Unterricht.
126. Rheinisch Westfälischer, Stenogr. Verband. Zur Methodik des stenogr. Unter.

127. Rotter, Unterrichtsstastick der Schule Gabelsb.
128. Krieg, 2,000 Addressen stenogr. kundiger Lehrer. in Sachsen.
129. Commission Bericht und Verhandlung über die Einfüchrung de Stenogr. an den höheren preussichen Schulanstalten 1862.
130. Commissionsbericht über denselben Gegenstand.

7. *Praxis.*

(Original Shorthand Notes.)

131. Kronsbein, Ueber das Wesen der Praxis.
132. Faulmann, Facsimiles der Stenogramme der Kammerstenographen.
133 to 135. Schönschriftliche Arbeiten der Theilnehmer an den Unterrichtscursen des Königl. Stenograph. Instituts 3 Bände.
136. Preisschreiben derselben Theilnehmer.
137. Stenogramme von Prof. Dr. Zeibig, Prof. Oppermann, Prof. Dr. Rotter, Dr. Rätzsch, Dr. Neupert u. Ingen. Hille sowie finländ. Stenogramme mit Uebertragung.

8. *Lehrmittel und Lesestoff. Gabelsbergerschen Systems.*

(Books for teaching and reading.)

138. Gabelsberger, Anleitung zur deutchen Redezeichenkunst.
139. „ „ 2. Aufl.
140, 141. „ Stenograph. Armeebefehl, Manuscript, Bd. 1/2.
142, 143. „ Neue Vervollkommnungen in der deutschen Redezeichenkunst.
144. „ Stenogr. Lesebibliothek.
145. Albrecht, Lehrbuch der Gabelsb. Stenogr. 1. Cursus.
146. „ „ 2. „
147. „ Lesebuch.
148. Bamberger Sten.-Verein, Andachtsbuch für Catholische Christen.
149. Baumgarten, Musicalische Stenographie.
150. Beyerlen, Lehrkurs der Gabelsb. Stenogr.
151. Bleyer, Stenogr. Schreibhefte.
152. „ Lesebuch.
153. Conn Lehrbuch der Kammerstenogr.
154. „ Stenogr. Vorlegeblätter.
155. „ Lesebuch.
156. Christ, Die Harzreise.
157. Drechsler, Die Gabels. Stenogrb.
158. Dütschke, Der Weihnachtsabend.
159. Engelhard, Lesebuch,
160. Fischer, Lehrgang der Gabelsb. Stenogr.
161. „ Lehrgang der Satzkürgung.
162. „ Handbuch der Gabelsb. Stenogr.
163. „ Wörterbuch.
164. „ Schiller und Goethe-Album.
165. „ In Freud und Leid.

166. Faulmann, Lehrgebäude.
167. „ Schule der stenogr. Praxis.
168. „ Unterrichtsbriefe.
169. „ Fremdworterbuch.
170. „ Lesebuch.
171. „ Anthologie.
172. „ Goethe's Werke.
173. „ Schiller's Werke.
174. „ Schiller's Don Carlos.
175. „ Goethe's Faust.
176. Frankf. stenogr. Gesellschaft, Schiller-Album.
177. „ Sten-Verein, Gedenkbuch.
178. Geiger, Compendium.
179. Glöckner, Minna von Barnhelm.
180 to 186. Glöss, Universalbibliothek der Gabelsb. Stenogr. 7 Bände.
187. Göttinger Sten-Verein, Allgemeines Commersbuch.
188. Gratzmüller, Preisschrift.
189. „ Vier Bücher von der Nachfolge Christi.
190. Hagena, Stenogr. Vorschriften.
191. Hanel, Unterrichtsbriefe.
192. „ Lesebuch.
193. „ Blätter und Blüthen.
194. „ Slavische Volkslänge.
195. Heger, Stenotachygraphie.
196. „ Handbuch der Stenotachygraphie.
197. „ Grammatik der Stenotachygr.
198. „ Handbuch der Stenotachygr.
199. „ Lehrbuch der „
200. Heinrich, Th., Grammatik der Stenogr.
201. „ Lesebuch.
202. Heinrich, A., Gabelsb. Stenogr.
203. „ Vortrags-und Lesebuch.
204. „ Die Debattenschrift.
205. Heyde, Lehrbuch.
206. „ Lesebuch.
207 to 209. Heyde, Stenogr. Lehrstunden 3 Bände.
210. Heyde u. Zeibig, Stenographen-Lieder.
211. Himmelbauer, Satzkürzungen.
212. Igel, Anthologie.
213. Kapretz, Stenographie.
214. Kettner, Illustrirte Bibliothek.
215. Kirchmann, Volksstenographie.
216. Kirsten, Wandtafeln.
217. Krafft, Leitfaden der Stenographie.
218. Krall, Anthologie.
219. Kretzschmar, Lehrgang der Stenogr.
220. „ Lesebuch.
221. „ Wörterbuch.
222. Krieg, Lehrbuch.
223. „ Schreibhefte.

224. Krieg, Unterrichtstafeln.
225. „ Systemskarte.
226. „ Lesebuch.
227. „ Goethe's Faust.
228. „ Poststenographie.
229. „ Gerichtsverfassungsgesetz.
„ Das neue Testament (Appendix, Nr. 493)
230. Kühnelt, Lehrbuch.
231. „ Militärstenograph.
232. Lautenhammer, Wilhelm Tell.
233. Leinner, Kürzungsverfahren.
234. Liebert, Katholisches Gebetbuch.
235. Lorenz, Lesebuch.
236. Maier, Lese-und Schreibeübungen.
237. Markovits, Lehrbuch.
238. Meyer, „
239. Müller, Lehrgang.
240. Nietzsche, Lehrbuch.
241. Petzendorfer, Hermann und Dorothea.
242. Pohle, Vorschriften.
243. Prager Sten.-Verein, Königinhofer Handschrift.
244. Puschkin, Lehrgang.
245. Rätzsch, H., Lehrbuch.
246. „ Vorlegeblätter.
247. „ Uebertragung der Schreibübungen.
248. „ Lehrgang.
249. „ Lesebuch.
250. Rätzsch u. Heyde, Lesebuch.
251. Ratzsch, R., Das System Arends.
252. „ Militärtechnische Ausdrücke.
253. Richter, Zahlensystem.
254. „ Ein wohlverdienter Orden.
255. de Ronse, Lesebuch.
256. Rospini, Münchhausen.
257. Roth, Gedenkbläter.
258. Ruthe n. Harwig, Lese-und Uebungsbuch.
259. Schardius, Marie, Damenstenographie.
260. Scheller, Lehr-und Lesebuch.
261. Schiff, Lehrgang I. Theil.
262. „ „ II. „
263. „ Geschäftsstenograph.
264. „ Uebungsbuch.
265 to 269. Schiff, Stenogr. Lesekabinet. 5 Bände.
270. Schmidt, Gelegenheitsgedichte.
271. Schober, Satzkürzungslehre.
272. Schreiber, Stenographie.
273. Schreiber, Lehrbuch.
274. „ Satzkürzungen.
275. Schrey, Lehrgang.
276. „ Debattenschrift.

277. Staindl, Lehrplan der Stenograph.
278. „ Militarstenographie.
279. Stern, Militarstenographie.
280. Sturm, Uebungsstoff.
281. „ Shakspearealbum.
282. Suter, Lehrbuch.
283. Tietz, Grundriss.
284. „ Lesebuch.
285. Trachbrodt, E., Die Stenographie.
286. „ Satzkürzungslehre.
287. Trachbrodt, A., Lesebuch.
288. „ Humoresken.
289. „ Lose Blätter.
290. Wiener Bureau, Lehrbuch.
291. Wigard, Lehrbuch.
292. „ Lehrmeister.
293. Wolf, Vademecum.
294. Zeibig, Markt in Damaskus.
295. Zeplichal, Lehrbuch.
296. Ziegler, Iphigenia auf Tauris.
297. Zwierzina, Sigel und Abbreviaturen.
298 to 302. Zwierzina, Gabelsb. Steno. Bibliothek.
303. Zukertort, Lehrgang.

9. *Uebertragungen des Gabelsbergerschen Systems auf fremde Sprachen.*

Adaptations of Gabelsberger's System to Foreign Languages.

a, England.

304. Geiger, Stenography on Gabelsberger's principles.
305. Richter, English Journal for Writers of Gabelsberger's Shorthand.

b, Niederlande. (Holland.)

306. Rietstap, Leerboek der Stenographie.
307. Goudschaal en Bussmann, Nieuw Kortschrift.

c, Danemark. (Denmark.)

308. Dessau, Kortfattet Loerebog i Gabelsb. Stenografi.

d, Schweden. (Sweden.)

309. Huber, Kort Lärobok i Svensk Stenografi.
310. Borgenström, Lärobok i Stenografi.
311. Swan, Lärobok i Stenografi.
312. Fabritius, Lärobok i Svensk Stenografi.
313. Petersen, Lärebog i Hurtigskrift.
314. Hansson, Stenografiska Läseöfningar.
315. Fabritius, „ „

e, Ungarn. (Hungary.)

316. Markovits und Szombathy, Magyar gyorsirástana.
317. Markovits, Gyorsiraszat.
318. Nagy, Gyorsiraszati rovid tankonyve.
319. Leszlenyi, A Magyar gyorsiras elmélete.

320. Bódogh, Gyorsiras-irodalmi Konijvtal I.
321. „ „ „ „ II.
322. Szilagyi, Gyoriraszat tankonyve.
323. Hegedus, A Vita és Parlamenti iras gyakorlati tank.

f, Finland.

324. Neovius, Opastus suomalaiseen pikakirjvitukseen.
325. Neovius, Oppikirja suomalaisessa pikakirjoituksessa.
326. Sten.-Verein zu Helsingfors, Schriftproben für finische u schwedische Stenographie nach Gabelsberger.
327. Sederholm, Luknharjotuksia suomlaisessa pikakirjoituksesaa.

g, Böhmen. (Bohemia.)

328. I. Prager Stenogr.-Verein, Tesnopiscesky.
329. Rosicky, Klic tesnopisu ceskemu.
330. Parzák, Ceska Citanka tesnopisná.
331. Krondl, Slovnicek.
332. Fidler, Tesnopisná citanka I.
333. „ „ „ II., III.
334. Hanel, Citanka I.
335. „ „ II.
336. „ „ III.
337 to 340. Hanel, Tesnopisna Biblioteka. 4 Bände.
341. Hanel, Ucebne tisty tesnopisné.
342. Mach, Národini pisne.

o, Bulgarien. (Bulgaria.)

343. A Bulgarian publication.

i, Kroatien. (Kroatia.)

344. Bezensek, Stenograficka Citanka.
345. „ Nauk o Stenografiji.
346. Magdic, Stenografija Hrvatska.

k. Polen.

347. Mendocha, Krotki rys Stenografii polskiéj.
348. Olewinski, Nauka stenografii polskiej.
349. Polinski, F., „ „
350. „ Szkola praktyczna Stenografii.
351. Polinski, R., Nauka stenografii.
352, 353. Jackowski, Nauka stenografii polskiej I. u. II.

l, Russland. (Russia.)

354 to 363. Ten Russian publications.

m, Slovenen.

364. Hafner, Slovenska stenografia.
365. Cerny, Slovensky tesnopis.
366. Kapretz, Slovenische Stenographie.

n, Frankreich. (France.)

367. Puschkin, Sténographie Universelle.
368. Krieg, Sténographie Internationale.
369. Halter, Sténographie Universelle.
370. Rausser, Französiche Stenographie.

371. Grünbaum, Sténographie élémentarie.
372. „ „ supérieure.
Siehe Nachtrag Nr. 487. Geiger, Systeme de stenogr. universelle.

o, Roumänien. (Rumania.)

373. Racuciu, Stenografia Romana.
374. Sucevanu, „
375. „ Curs sistematic de Stenografie romana.

p, Italien. (Italy.)

376. Leinner, Stenographia Italiana.
377. Noë, Stenografia.
378. „ Abbreviazione logica.
379. Calzoni, Stenografia Italiana.
380. Bolaffio „ „
381. Greco, Lettura Stenografica.
382. Muca, Guida.
383. Farulli, Lezioni.
384. Pianchi, Sillabario.
385. Bartolini, Elementi.
386. Uffreduzzi, Le mie Prigioni.
387. Fea, I promessi sposi.
388. Muca, Niccolo dé Lapi I.
389. „ „ II.
390. Ital. Central-Verein, Arte e natura.
391. Giovannini, Come ando a finire.
392. Prima soc. stenogr. Ital., Ettore Feramosca.
393. Muca, Ada.

q, Spanien. (Spain.)

394. Neumeier, Taquigrafia.

10. *Gabelsbergersche Zeitschriften.* (Periodicals.)

a, Deutsche. (Germany.)

395. Deutscher Gabelsb Stenogr. Bund.
396. Sporken, Deutsche Stenogr. Zeitung.
397. Gantter, Der Schriftwart.
398. Frankfurter Institut, Frankfurter Zeitung.
399. Stenogr. Verein Oldenburg, Mittheilungen der nordwestdeutschen Stenogr.
400. Hänisch, Stenogr. Chronik.
401. Scheel, Holsatia.
402. Korrespondenz der Gab. Schülervereine.
403. Geiger, Kosmopolitische Blätter.
404. Lautenhammer, Münchner Blätter.
405. Lautenhammer, Stenogr. Lesebibliothek.
406. Ruess, Augsburger Monatsblätter.
407. Zeiss, Landshuter Monatsschrift.
408. Stenger, Stenogr. Unterhaltungsblatt.
409. Kgl. Sächs. Sten. Institut, Korrespondenzblatt des, 1886.
410. „ „ 1887.
411. „ Lesebibliothek.

412. Kgl. Sächs. Sten. Institut, Echo
Heyde und Krieg, Stenogr. Militär-Zeitung (S. Nachtrag, appendix, Nr. 494).
413. Albrecht, Allg. Deutsche Stenogr. Zeitung.
414. Wagner, Die Stenographie.
415. Trachbrodt, Illustrirte Zeitung.
416. Christ, Stenographenwelt.
417. Noske, Oesterr. Blätter für Stenogr.
418. Von Kaschnitz, Wiener Unterhaltungsblatt.
419. Von Leinner, Militarstenograph.
420. Scheller, Der praktische Stenograph.
421. Edelmann, Kammerstenograph.
422. Weinbrenner, Mährische Blätter.
423. Schenk, Tiroler Blätter.
424. Musil, Teplitzer Stenogr. Blätter.
425. Hable, Aussiger Monatsblätter.
426. Von Konkovszky, Concordia.
427. Svihalek, Illustrirte Gartenlaube.
428. Socin, Stenogr. Blatter aus der Schweiz.

b, Frendsprachige. (Foreign.)

429. Fabritius Tidning for Stenografi.
430. Hansson, Referenten.
431. Keventer, Sleipner.
432. Goteborgs Gabelsb Verening, Stenougrafeu.
433. Markovits, Gyorsiraszati Lapok.
434. Forrai, Fovarosi gyorsiro.
435. Ruzicka, Tesnopisné Listy.
436. Krondl, Tesnopisna Beseda.
437. Hanak, Vestnik tesnopisny.
438. Czajkoroski, Wiadomosci Stenografii
439. Mendocha, Gazeta Stenograficzna.
440. Polinski, Biblioteka Stenograficqna.
441. Ustinoff, Russian Journal.
442. Bezensek, Bulgarian Journal.
443. Konstantinoff, Bulgarian Papers.
444. Soc. Stenogr. Tirolese, Foglio Stenogr. Italiano
445. Prima Soc. Sten. Italiana, Lo Stenografo.
446. Marin, L'Arte Stenografica.
447. Tucci, La Coltura Stenografica.
448. Berni, Lo Stenofilo.
449. Fano, Gazetta Stenografica.
450. Greco, La Stenografia.
451. Vicentini, Il Risveglio.
452. Muca, Napoli Stenografica.
453. Farulli, Rivista degli Stenografi.

11. *Verschiedenes* (Sundries.)

454. Berichte von Stenogr. Vereinen über ihre Thätigkeit.
455. Statuten u. Kataloge verschied. Stenogr. Vereine.
456, 457. Gloss, 2 Portomanaikalender.

458. Autogramme Gabelsb. Stenographen.
459. Thiele, Die Führer der Gabelsb. Schule.
460. Cavalli, Giornale-Album.
461, 462. Cavalli, Album Gabelsb. Stenographen, I. u. II.
463. Cavalli, Album, Fremde und deutsche Stenographen.
464. Christ, Was ist Stenographie.

12. *Nachtrag* (Appendix).

465. Eggers, Die Stenographie in den Militar-Bildungs Anstalten.

Dewtsche Stenographiesysteme vor Gabelsberger.

(General History of Shorthand—Appendix.)

466. Anonymus, Tacheographia.
467. Anonymus, Ramsay Tacheographia.
468. „ Mysterienbuch.
469. Horstig, Stenographie.
470. Anonymus, Deutsche Stenographie.
471. Mosengeil, „
472. Danzer, Stenographie.
473. Anonymus, Tachygraphie.
474. Leichtlen, Geschwindschreibkunst.
375. Heim, Deutsche Tachygraphie.
476. Stärk, Stenographie.
477. Thon, Geschwindschrift.
478. Erdmann, Die Schreibkunst in ihrer höchsten Vereinfachung.
479. Brede, Kurz-oder Linienschrift.
480. Nowak, Geschwindschrift.
481. Anonymus, Tachygraphie.
482. Lady Scott, Homographie.

12. *Nachtrag* (Appendix continued).

483. Bergen, Stenographic.
484. Garriga, Taquigrafia.
485. Schubring, Die Gabelsb. Stenographie in Preussen.
486. „ Diplom der Wiener Weltaustellung, 1873, für das Königl. Sächs. Stenogr. Institut.
487. Geiger, Systeme de Stenogr. Universelle.
488. Häpe, Denkschrift über die Gründung einer Stenograph. Academie in Deutschland.
489. Häpe, Die Organisation des Kgl. Sächs. Stenogr. Institut.
490. Kgl. Sächs. Stenogr. Institut, Ansschussberichte von 1865 Korrespond. Blatt).
491. Eggers, Zur Kritik der Deutschen Stenogr. Systeme.
492. Schmidt, Die Gabelsb. Stenogr. als obligatorischer Lehrgegenstand auf den höheren Unterrichtsanstalten.
493. Krieg, Das neue Testament.
494. Heyde und Krieg, Stenogr. Militär Zeitung.

B, *Exhibited by H. A, Pierer, Altenburg, Y.S.*

1. Fischer, Robert, Geh. Regierungsrath, Handbuch der Gabelsbergerschen Stenographie, 1885-1887.

2. Fischer, Lehrgang der Gabelsbergerschen Stenographie, 1887.
3. „ Schülssel dazu.
4. „ Satzkürzung der Gabelsbergerschen Stenographie, 1882.
5. „ Schlüssel dazu.
6. „ Stenogr. Worterbuch nach Gabelsb. System.
7. „ Der Stenogr. Unterricht „ „ 1886.
8. „ Stenogr. Schiller und Goethe-Album.
9. „ Stenogr. Schreibhefte I. und II., 1881.

C, *Exhibited by Henry Richter, F.Sh.S.*

1. Richter, Album of Ornaments in Gabelsberger—Richter's Stenography, 1887.
2. „ Table showing the principles of G.-R. Stenography.
3. „ Reporting Machine.
4. „ Programme of Celebration of Gabelsberger's 90th Birthday by the Gabelsb. Stenografen Vereine zu Elberfeld, 1879.

D, *Exhibited by Emil Roth, Giessen*

(London Representative: A. Siegle, 30, Lime Street, E.C.)

1. Wappen und Allegorie der Stenographie. (Cartoon.)
2. Bergen's Stenographischer Bilderbogen.
3. Various Diplomas adopted by the German Shorthand Societies.

E, *Exhibited by the Central Bulgarian Society for Stenography in Sofia.*

1. Bye-Laws of the Society.
2. Eight numbers of the "Stenographic Journal."
3. Four Pamphlets on Bulgarian Shorthand.

F, *Exhibited by A. Bernh. Helmers, Landskrona, Sweden.*

1. Lärokurs i Stenografi (Gab. System).
2. One number of "Sleipner," a Swedish Shorthand Journal.

ARENDS' SYSTEM.

Books furnished by the Arends Central Stenographic Association, Berlin, through Dr. Berthold, *President.*

1. Arends, Leitfaden der A. Stenographie, Theil I.
2. „ „ „ II.
3. Arendsche, Stenographie in Briefen.
4. Arconds, Militairstenographie.
5. Grosse, manuel de la Stenogr. de Arends.
6. Moller-Ingram, manual de la estenogr. Arends.
7. Bergsten, ration, Stenografi af Arends.

8. Dohnányi, Gyorsirás Arends.
9. Medoru, Shorthand, by Arends.
10. Konrad, Arendsche Stenog. für d. lat.-Sprache.
11. Wendtland, Arendsche rat, Volksstenographie.
12. Janke, Nebungsmatenal efd, Arendsiohe Stenog.
13. Berthold, stenogr. Lesebenh.
14. Stenogr. Blatter, 1886, Jahrgang VII.
15. Der Stenograph, 1886, „ VIII.
16. Stenogr. Courier, 1886, Jahrgang IV.
17. Hermes, 1886, „ V.
18. Kalender fur Arendssohe Stenographen, 1887, Qahrgang X.
19. Grosse, die Pàdagogik a die Stenographie.
20. Arends, Libussas Wahl.
21. Exemplare III. Sendschrift, etc.
22. „ V. „

STOLZEAN SYSTEMS.

EXHIBITED BY MAX BAECKLER.

1. E. Blenck, Die geschichtliche Entwickelung, die gegenwärtige Lage und die Zukunft der Sténographie.
2. O. Müller, Die Organisationsbestrebungen der Stolzeschen Schule.

Lehrbuch.

3. W. Stolze, Rheoretisch-praktisches Lehrbuch der deutschen Sténographie. I. Teil: Anleitung. II. Teil: Schlüssel. III. Teil: Ausführliches Lehrbuch.
4. Stolze, System der deutschen Sténographie, Schul und Korrespondenzschrift, 2 aufl.
5. Schlüssel zu den Schreibaufgaben und Leseübungen im System der deutschen Sténographie, 2 aufl.
6. Röhl, Anleitung zur Debattenschrift. I. Teil: Oberstufe des Systems der deutschen Sténographie.
7. Dr. Dreinhöfer und W. Kaeding, Unterrichtsbuch der Stolzeschen Sténographie. I. Teil: Kursus. II. Teil: Uebungs und Lesebuch. III. Teil: Musterübertragung.
8. Kaeding, der Unterricht in der Stolzeschen Sténographie.
9. Simmerlein, Das Kürzungswesen in der stenographischen Praxis nach dem Stolzeschen System.
10. Weigert, Anleitung zur Debattenschrift.
11. Freund, Verzeichnis der Wortkürzungen.
12. Friebe, Verzeichnis der Kürzungen.
13. Wrubel, Instruktives Diktirbuch.

Ueberhragungen auf fremde Sprachen.

14. Michaelis, Nouveau système de stenogr. Française, 1862.

15. Derselbe, Système simplifié de sténogr. Française, 1874.
16. Ders, A new system of English Stenography, 1862.
17. Ders, A simplified system of English Stenography, 1873.
18. Dasselbe, 2 aufl, 1882.
19. Ders, Estenographia, española, 1876.
20. Dasselbe, 2 aufl.
21. Ders, Stenogr. Italiana, 1875.
22. Dasselbe, 2 aufl.
23. Ders, Estenogr. Portugueza, 1884.
24. Dettmann, Complete Textbook of Phono-Stenography, 1887.
25. Paulson and Messer, Russiche Stenogr. Chrestomatie, 2 Teile.
26. Dieselben, Selbstlehrer der Russischen Stenogr., 1875.
27. Gyurman, Lehrbuch der Ungarischen Stenogr.
28. Ders, Lesebuch dazu.
29. Warkernagel, Lateiwisrhe Stenogr., 1858.

Zeitschriften.

30. Archiv für Sténographie, 38 Jahrgang, 1886.
31. Centralblatt für W. Stolzesche Sténographie, 8 Jg., 1886.
32. Magazin für Sténographie, 1-7 Jahrgang, 1880-86.
33. Stenographische Lesehalle, Jg. 1-4, 1883-86.
34. Stenogr. Unterhaltunsblätter, Jg., 1886.
35. Zeitschrift für Stenographische Praxis, 3 Jahrgang.
36. Stenographische Nachrichten aus Berlin, Jg., 1886.
37. Notarious (Zeitschr. f. lateinische Stenogr. nach Stolze), Jg., 1873.

Verschiedenes.

38. Zur Einführung der Sténographie in die Schulen.
39. Die Sténographie in der Schule.
40. Die Aufnahme der Sténographie in den Lehrplan der Seminare.
41. Verfassung für die Verbande der W. Stolzeschen Schule.
42. Tableaus enthaltend Darstellungen des deutschen Systems von Stolze, des Kürzungswesens, und der Uebertragungen des Systems auf die englische und französische Sprache. Ferner ein Tableau enthaltend die getrue Nachbildung der Titelblätter der bisher erschienenen 49 Auflagen der Anleitung zur deutschen Sténographie " von Stolze, Zusammenstellung der in der Kölnischen Zeitung erschienenen Berichte über die letzte Reichstagssession (1887), Original stenogramme nebst Uebertragung, Schülerarbeiten in deutscher, englischer and ungarischer Sténographie nach Stolze usf.

EXHIBITED BY THE LORDS OF THE COUNCIL ON EDUCATION (IN THE SCHOOL OF MINES, IN JERMYN STREET).

1. Michaelis, G., Das T H in der Deutschen Rechtschreibung, 8vo, boards, 1860.
2. „ Zeitschrift für Sténographie, 1855-70, 4 vols, 8vo. cloth.

3. Michaelis, G., New System of English Stenography, on the Principles of W. Stolze, post 8vo, sewed.
4. „ Little Tiro, A Practical Compendium of English Shorthand, post 8vo, sewed, 1864,
5. „ Nouveau Système de Sténographie Française, d'après la Méthode Stolze, adoptée en Prusse, 8vo, boards, 1862.
6. Paulsen and Messer, Russische Sténographie, 8vo, cloth, 1866.
7. Stolze, Sténographie, Statische Nachrichten über die Verbreitung der Stolze'schen Sténographie, Stenographische Lesestucke, Anleitung zur Deutschen Sténographie, Die Stolzesche Sténographie, Das Stolze'sche System der Deutschen Sténographie, Grundzüge zur einer Lateinischen Sténographie nach Stolze'schen Prinzipen, 6 parts in 1 vol, 8vo, half calf, 1858—71.
8. „ Theoretische-Practisches Lehrbuch der Deutschen Sténographie, 2 parts in 1 vol, 8vo, boards, 1841.
9. „ Ausführlicher Lehrgang der Deutschen Sténographie, 3rd edition, 8vo, cloth, 1861.
10. „ „ Tafeln zu dem, 8vo, cloth
11. „ Stenographisches Lesebuch, 2nd edition, 2 parts in 1 vol, fcp. 8vo, cloth, 1861.
12. Winter, C. H., Stenographische Fibel, Ein Uebungsbüch zur Erlernung der Stolzeschen Sténographie, 3rd edition, 2 parts, 12mo, cloth, 1857-8.
13. „ Kurze Anweisung zur Erlernung der Stolzeschen Sténographie nach der "Stenographischen Fibel," 12mo, cloth, 1857.
14. Zietzki, G. H. W., Methodischer Lehrgang des Schreibens, parts 2, 3, and 4, fcp. 8vo, sewed.
15. „ Der Schreib-Unterricht in seiner Bedeutung für Erziehung und Praktisches-Leben, 8vo, sewed, 1869.

FRENCH SYSTEMS.

(*Note.—Some French Systems will be found in the Loan Collection.*)

SYSTEM PREVOST DELAUNAY.

EXHIBITED BY HENRY RICHTER, F.SH.S.

1. Delaunay, Alb., Cours de Stenographie, 1878.
2. „ Entretien sur la Stenographie.
3. „ Conférence sur l' Utilité et les diverses Applications de la Sténographie, 1878.
4. Turin, Paul, De la Redaction des actes.
5. „ L'Unite Stenographique, July, 1886.

DUPLOYÉ COLLECTION.

ARRANGED BY J. M. SLOAN.

Works printed in the Duployé characters.

1. Autographie en Sténographie Duployé.
2. Antoine Bardon.
3. Almanach Sténographique, 1877.
4. Ditto Ditto 1878 (illustré).
5. Ditto Ditto 1879 to 1884.
6. Athalie
7. Abrégé de la Méthode, ou Cours de Sténographie fait par M. Duployé dans les Grandes Ecoles de France.
8. Aventures de Robinson Crusoe (illustré).
9. Alice (illustré).
10. Aventures de Jean-Paul Choppart.
11. Bertrand le Vieux Grenadier.
12. Bonhomme-Misère
13. Catechisme de Vélocigraphie-Duployé.
14. Chemin de la Croix (illustré).
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18. Ditto Ditto Florian (do.)
19. Carnet d'un Aumonier de l'Armée de Paris (Siége de 1870-1871).
20. Carte de Paris, ses Forts et ses Environs.
21. Carte du Département de l'Yonne.
22. Ditto Ditto l'Oise.
23. Connaissance Utiles et Variées
24. Dialogue XXXII. de l'Eglise.
25. Ditto sur la Création et la Providence.
26. Deux Cent Quarante Dictées élémentaires.
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28. Dictées des Exercices Orthographiques.
29. Dialogue sur l'Enfance de Jésus.
30. Dialogue sur l'Ame.
31. Dictionnaire Ortho-Sténographique Présentant les mots de la langue usuelle Groupés d'Après l'ordre Phonétique.
32. Die Stenographie Duployé für die Deutsche Sprache Bearbetet.
33. Défi Sténographique (illustré).
34. Dialogue sur l'existence de Dieu.
35. Ditto les Mystères.
36. Duployé Album.
37. Ernest.
38. Fables de la Fontaine Livres I. to XII., 12 vols.
39. Fantaisies Sténographiques (illustré).
40. Fac-Simile de Sténographie Duployé.

41. Gerbe Poétique (1er Série Poëtes du XIXe Siècle.
42. Geen Huisken Zonder Kruisken (avec petite méthode pour la langue Flamande).
43. Histoire de Notre Dame de Liesse.
44. Histoires Comiques (illustré).
45. Histoire de l'Ecriture (illustré).
46. Henri Perreyve.
47. Histoire de Jean Bart.
48. Henri d'Eichenfels du Chanoine Schmid.
49. Horace.
50. Ibrahim (illustré).
51. Imitation de Jésus Christ.
52. Jean-Baptiste.
53. La Lampe du Sanctuaire
54. Le vieux Garde-Chasse (illustré).
55. Le Fablier de l'Enfance (illustré).
56. Le Tir de l'Arc.
57. La Géologie Vulgarisée (illustré).
58. La Résurrection et l'Ascension de Notre-Seigneur.
59. Les Aventures de Télémaque, fils d'Ulysse.
60. La Grande Ménagerie (illustré).
61. Le Bossu Napolitain.
62. La Pentecôte.
63. L'Analyse Spectrale et ses Principales Applications.
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65. La Guerre d'Orient en Images (illustré).
66. La Sainte Messe (illustré).
67. Le Fablier de la Jeunesse (illustré).
68. Les Sténographes sur Portées.
69. Les Fins Dernières de l'Homme.
70. Les Petits Orphelins.
71. L'Art Poétique.
72. Le Fablier des Ecoles (illustré).
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74. Les Plaideurs.
75. La Physique Vulgarisée.
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77. Le Jeu des Echecs.
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82. Le Franc-Tireur des Vosges (illustré).
83. L'ami du Jeune Étudiant.
84. La Rigolade Sténographique (illustré).
85. Les quatre Évangélistes.
86. L'Enseignement par la Sténographie.
87. Le Grand Sténographe (illustré).
88. L'Ami du Jeune Étudiant en Vacances.
89. La Question Brulante (illustré).

90. Manuel de Cuisine, Tome I.
91. „ „ Tome II.
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97. Méthode de Sténographie pour Écoles.
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101. Pochades Sténographiques (illustré).
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105. Quatre-Vingt-Trois Dictées.
106. Quatre-Vingt-Seize Dictées Élémentaires.
107. Rose de Tannenbourg.
108. Recueil de Dictées.
109. Répons de la Messe.
110. Sténographe Duployé (écriture du XXe siècle).
111. Séance de l'Académie des Singes (illustré).
112. Satire de Boileau, le Diner (illustré).
113. „ „ Sagesse—Noblesse.
114. „ „ Paris—Rime (illustré).
115. „ „ l'Homme.
116. „ „ la Satire (illustré).
117. Scène Vendéenne et autres récits (illustré).
118. Traité des Abréviations que comporte la Sténographie.
119. Travaux Agricoles.
120. Trois Cents Dictées, graduées et raisonnées.
121. Un Mouchard, Le Hussard Noir, et autres récits.
122. Une Poignée d'Historiettes Amusantes (illustré).
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124. Vie des Saints du Mois de Janvier to December, 12 vols.
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126. Vêpres et complies (illustré).
127. Vies de Sainte Catherine et de Sainte Barbe.
128. Voyages à Travers l'Afrique Equatoriale (illustré).
129. Victoire.
130. Vie de Notre Seigneur Jésus-Christ (illustré).
131. Variétés (illustré).

EXHIBITED BY M. J. DUPOIN, INSTITUT STENOGRAPHIQUE OF PARIS.

1. Le Journal des Sténographes, 6th year (in character).
2. Epitre sur l'utilitié la Sténographie, 1885.
3. La Sténographie Duployé, by Jean P. A. Martin, 1884.
4. A quoi sert la Sténographie.
5. Histoire de l'Ecriture, by Dr. J. Weber.

6. L'Ecole Sténographique Revue, published by the Société Française de Sténographie Duployé.
7. L'Ecriture des Colonies (Conference of the Geographical Society at Lyons), by Jean P, A. Martin.
8. Etude sur l'Histoire de la Sténographie, by M. E. Godmer (and in character).
9. L'Instruction par la Sténographie.
10. Les Cercles Sténographiques.
11. Sténographie dans l'Armée, by Mons. Rey.
12. La Sténographie dans la Magistrature, by Mons. Dupont.
13. La Presse et la Sténographie.
14. La Sténographie dans les Ecoles, by J. P. A. Martin.
15. Annuaire Sténographique International, published by La Société Française de Sténographie Duployé, under the direction of M. J. Dupoin.
16. Travaux d'Art, faits par Monsieur Vitte Georges Gustave, 1887 (Curious MS. coloured designs worked out from the Duployé characters), 18 sheets foolscap.
17. Le Journal des Sténographes Hebdomadarie (several numbers), illustrated with woodcuts.
18. Le Téléphone, Revue de fin d'Année, pour 1887, by M.E. Godmer.
19. Publications Diverses et Tracts de la Société Française de Sténographie.
20. Journaux Duployans, l'Eclair, Le Rappel, Le Progrès, La Renaissance, La Gazette, Etorwarts, Organe du Cercle de Luxembourg, &c., &c.

ITALIAN SYSTEMS.

EXHIBITED BY THE GABELSBERGER-NOE STENOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, NAPLES.

1. Portrait de Noë.
2. Henri Majetti-Cenno storico e utilita della stenografia.
3. Journal "La Stenografia," année 1887.
4. Raphaël Majetti, La Stenografia, conference, 1886.
5. Bibliotheque stenographique populaire a 15 centimes chaqun volum. Vol. Ier Henri Majetti-Gabelsberger e il suo sistema stenografie.
6. Vol. IIIme Rudolf-Koeniggratz : Langue et écriture.
7. „ Enrico Noë a Napoli, 14 e 15 maggio 1887, on parle des accueillances qu'on fit à H. Noë à Naples.
8. „ Trois avis au le public pour l'ouverture des cours de sténographie.
9. La Sténographie a l'Exposition national de Turin, 1884, Journal album.
10. Henri Noë, L'abréviation logique, Triest, 1887.
11. Popular Stenography Gabelsberger's System, by "Eurico Majetti."
12. Ten stories on the Utility of Stenography, 1887.

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6. A Compend of Phonography.
7. A Manual of Phonography.
8. The Phonographic Reader.
9. Questions on the "Manual of Phonography."
10. The Phonographic Reporter, or Reporter's Companion.
11. Reporting Exercises.
12. Key to the "Reporting Exercises."
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15. A Phonographic and Pronouncing Dictionary of the English Language.
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17. Technical Reporting. By. T. A. Reed.
18. Phonography in the Office. By A. Kingston.
19. The Phonographic Railway Phrase Book.
20. French Phonography. By Thomas Allen Reed.
21. La Sténographie Phonétique. By J. Randall Bruce.
22. Phonographia, Sef Llaw Fer, &c. By the Rev. R. H. Morgan, M.A.
23. List of the Phonetic Society.

Shorthand Reading Books.

(Printed in Phonography from engraved metal characters.)

24. Extracts, No. 1, in the Corresponding Style.
25. Extracts, No. 2, in the Corresponding Style.
26. Extracts, No. 3, in the Corresponding Style.
27. The Book of Psalms, in the Corresponding Style.
28. The Narrative of the Pilgrim's Progress, in the Corresponding Style.
29. Self-Culture. By Professor Blackie; in the Corresponding Style. Key to ditto, in common print.
30. Tales and Sketches. By Washington Irving; in the Corresponding Style.

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33. Selections, No. 1, in the Reporting Style.
34. Selections, No. 2, in the Reporting Style.
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38. The Legend of Sleepy Hollow. By Washington Irving; in the Reporting Style.
39. The New Testament, in an easy Reporting Style.
40. The Book of Common Prayer, in an easy Reporting Style.
41. The Phonetic Journal. Published every Saturday, 16 pages.
42. „ „ Vol. 1886.
43. The Bibliography of Shorthand. By Dr. Westby-Gibson.
44. A Chapter in the Early History of Phonography. By T. A. Reed.
45. Phonographic Head-line Copy Books. Prepared by E. J. Nankivell.
46. Ivanhoe. By Sir Walter Scott. Phonographic edition by Edward J. Nankivell.

Tracts.

47. Phonographic Associations: how to Organise and Conduct them. By Mr. E. A. Cope.
48. Lecture on Phonography. By Mr. J. H. Younghusband.
49. A Persuasive to the Study and Practice of Phonography.
50. A Recommendation of Phonetic Shorthand.
51. The Vowel-Scale of Phonography.
52. Speech of Mr. Isaac Pitman at the Annual Meeting of the Shorthand Society, 1884.
53. Duployé's Shorthand, a Review. Reprinted from the *Phonetic Journal.*
54. History of Phonography.—How it came about.
55. Sloan-Duployan Shorthand. Reprinted from the *Phonetic Journal.*
56. Comparison of Phonography and Everett's Shorthand.
57. Everett's Shorthand, a Review. Reprinted from the *Phonetic Journal.*
58. Review of Pocknell's "Legible Shorthand."
59. A Statistical Review of the Literature of Shorthand. By Cornelius Walford, Barrister-at-Law.
60. Pitman *v.* Hine, Report of an Action at Law for Infringement of the Copyright of "Phonography."
61. Hints on Teaching and Lecturing on Phonography. By Henry Pitman.
62. A Prize Essay on the best method of Teaching Pitman's Phonography.
63. The Phonographic Student.

64. Chart of the Phonetic Alphabet.
65. Sheet Lessons (16) for use in classes.
66. A Circular for Phonographic Teachers, for the purpose of raising classes.
67. Bills or posters for similar purposes: 17in. by 22in.
68. Tracts (in the common spelling) explanatory and recommendatory of the principles and Practice of Phonetic Shorthand.
69. Papers on Penmanship. By Frederick C. Cleaver, C.S.K.

Stationery, &c.

70. Pitman's Jubilee Reporting Note Book. Elastic Back Note Books.
71. Reporter's Note Book, single or double lines.
72. Reporting Paper, with single or double lines.
73. Transcribing Paper, quarto, unruled.
74. Shorthand Letter Paper, ornamented with a sentence in Phonography.
75. Phonographic Writing Paper.
76. Reporting Covers, to hold reporting paper.
77. Phonographic Pencils.
78. Reporter's Pencil Cases, with divisions for four or six pencils.
79. Shorthand Pens. The Jubilee Shorthand Pen, Reservoir Pens, Phonographic Pens, Reporting Pens.
80. Reporter's Rest, or Desk for the Knee.
81. Permanent Woodburytype Photograph of Mr. Isaac Pitman.
82. Permanent Woodburytype Photograph of Mr. T. A. Reed.
83. Carte de visite of Mr. Isaac Pitman.
84. Photograph of the Phonetic Institute, Bath.

Works in Phonetic Printing.

85. Tablets, or the letters of the Phonetic Alphabet.
86. First Book in Phonetic Reading.
87. Second Book in Phonetic Reading.
88. Third Book in Phonetic Reading.
89. Fourth Book in Phonetic Reading.
90. Fifth or Transition Book.
91. The Gospel Epic. A Harmony of the Gospels, Versified.
92. Parables, Miracles, and Discourses of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
93. The Testimony of Jesus; or Plain Proofs from the Old and New Testaments compared.
94. The Squire of Ingleburn; and what he did with the "Lawson Arms."
95. A Plea for Spelling Reform. By I. Pitman.
96. Max Müller on Spelling.
97. A Glance at Phonotypy or Phonetic Printing.
98. A Defence of Phonetic Spelling. By R. G. Latham, M.A., M.D., F.R.S.

Phonographic Periodicals.

99. Etymology in Earnest; or Greek and Latin derived from English, a satire by Dean Swift.
100. Reporter's Magazine. Edited by Edward J. Nankivell.
101. Reporters' Journal. Edited by J. H. Ford.
102. Shorthand Magazine. Edited by J. H. Ford.
103. Shorthand Weekly News.
104. Scottish Phonographic Magazine.
105. Shorthand Monthly.
106. Norwich Shorthand Globe.

Earlier Publications.

107. Set of Manuals of Phonography, 1837 to 1887 (*Commencing with "Stenographic Sound Hand,"* 1837).
108. Set of "Reporter," 1843 to 1887.
109. „ Phonetic Journal (Complete).
110. Phonographic Correspondent, 1844-1871.
111. Phonographic Star, 1845-1850.
112. Phonographic Magazine, 1849-1853.
113. Phonographic Reporter, 1849-1866.
114. The Phonographer, 1857-1860.
115. Reporter's Magazine, 1864.
116. The Shorthand Clerk (Evans), 1880.
117. Phonographic Reader, 1884.
118. Reporter's Assistant, 1867, 1883, 1885.
119. Selections from the Best Authors. By Isaac Pitman.

Histories.

120. History of Shorthand, 1852—1868.

Dictionaries.

121. Phonographic Dictionary, 1845-6 (Ipswich Phono-Press.
122. „ Vocabulary, 1850, 1852, and 1867.
123. „ Dictionary (draft), 1869.
124. „ „ 1878, 1884.

Alphabets and Copy-books.

125. Alphabet, 1843.
126. Copy-book, 1842.

Readers.

127. Phonograpic Reader, 1858 and 1862 (10th Edition).
128. „ „ 1869 and 1870.

Journals.

129. Phonotypic Journal, 1843—49.

Teaching.

130. Phonographic Teacher (An Essay), 1847.
131. „ Teaching (Prize Essay), 1867.
132. „ Teacher. By Sunergos, 1877 (6th Edition).

Works in Character.

133. Æsop's Fables, 1886.
134. The Bible, 1867, 1885.
135. Self-Culture. By J. Stuart Blackie, 1875.
136. Book of Common Prayer, 1867, 1869, 1887.
137. Book of Psalms, 1865, 1871, &c.
138. Pilgrim's Progress, 1871.
139. "John Halifax, Gentleman."
140. Debate on Irish Church Bill, 1869.
141. "Laura; or the only way to be Happy," &c., 1849.
142. Hart's Orthography (1569), 1850.
143. "The Sexes here and hereafter," 1871.
144. "The Other Life," 1871.
145. "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," 1883.
146. "Tales and Sketches," 1884.
147. "Rasselas," 1867.
148. "Diet." By Dr. Lambe, 1869.
149. Biographies. By Lord Macaulay, 1868, 1870.
150. Essays. ditto, 1870.
151. Milton's "Paradise Lost," 1871.
152. The New Testament, 1849-50, 1853, 1865, 1872.
153. The Pentateuch, 1865.
154. "The Gates Ajar," 1871.
155. "Leaves from the Note-book of T. A. Reed," 2 vols.
156. "The Dairyman's Daughter," 1867 and 1871.
157. "Waverley (Scott), 1868.
158. Sermon on the Mount, 1846.
159. "Heaven and its Wonders," &c. (Swedenborg), 1872.
160. "Gulliver's Travels," 1871.
161. "Voyage to Lilliput," 1883.

Miscellaneous.

162. Reporter's Reading Book. By Frederick Pitman.
163. Phonographic Class Book, 1844, 1845.
164. Exercises in Phonography, 1842, 1843, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1853, 1854, and 1886.
165. Phonographic Instructor, 1852—57.
166. „ Teacher, 1860—1887.
167. „ Reporter, 1843, 1845.
168. Reporter's Companion, 1849, 1853 to 1866.
169. The Reporter; or Reporter's Companion, 1869 to 1887.
170. Reporting Exercises, 1881 to 1887.
171. The Phonographic Phrase Book, 1860-64, and 1880-4.
172. „ Correspondent (Magazine), 1844-47.
173. „ Magazine (Edited by W. Hepworth Dixon), 1844.
174. „ Meteor.
175. The Reporter's Journal and Shorthand Student, 1884.
176. Monthly Illustrated Reporter's Journal, 1885-87.
177. The Phonographic Star, 1844—1851.

THE GURNEY COLLECTION.

Arranged by W. H. Gurney-Salter.

1. Note Book of Sermons taken down by Thomas Gurney, 1722-3.
2. Brachygraphy, by Thomas Gurney, 2nd edition, 1752 (?)
3. „ „ 3rd „
4. „ „ 9th „
5. „ „ 14th „ 1817
6. Text Book of the Gurney System of Shorthand, 18th edition, 1884.
7. Specimen of Writing in the System; Note Book of Joseph Gurney of the Trial of Warren Hastings, with print of the same.
8. Two Reporters' Admission Tickets to Trial of Warren Hastings.
9. Specimen of Writing in the System. Note Book of W. B. Gurney. House of Commons, Weymouth Election Committee, 1806.
10. Specimen of Writing; Notes of Ormond and Strathmore Peerage Cases, House of Lords, 1821.
11. Specimen of Writing; House of Commons Committee on Lambeth Waterworks, 1834.
12. Specimen of Writing; Notes of Select Committee of the House of Commons on Tithes in Ireland, 1832.
13. Specimen of Writing; Notes of Select Committee of the House of Lords on Public Schools, 1865.
14. Specimen of Writing; Notes of Mr. F. N. Walsh.
15. Specimen of Writing; Notes of House of Lords Select Committee on Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act, 1870-1872.
16. Specimen of Writing; Notes of Launceston Election Petition, 1874.
17. Specimen of Writing; Notes of House of Lords Committee on Manchester Ship Canal Bill, 1885.
18. Specimen of Writing; Notes Colonial Conference, 1887, with print of the same.
19. Specimen of Print from Notes, 1796, with list of 26 Trials published from Mr. Gurney's Notes between 1760 and 1792 (*i.e.*, 11 in folio; 8 in 4to; 7 in 8vo.)
20. Specimen of Print from Notes; Impeachment of Lord Melville, 1806.
21. Specimen of Print from Notes at Bar of House of Commons; Wardle's Charges against the Duke of York, 1809.
22. Specimen of Print from Notes; Trial of Queen Caroline, 1820.

E. POCKNELL.

1. *Journalist*, from February 25 to August 5, 1887, containing "Tercentenary Notabilities" (by E. Pocknell); or Biographical Sketches and Portraits of Shorthand authors of the Past and their Systems, with MS. Index to pages.
2. MS. Extracts from Peter Bales's "Brachygraphy," showing that it was *not* Stenography, but brief Longhand.

3. Piece of MS., in Old Shorthand System, found in Old Bible of 1645.
4. Shorthand facsimile, in Shelton's System, from Saddleworth Parish Register (in the press, by Mr. J. Radcliffe), and Photograph of ditto.
5. "Souvenir of the Tercentenary of English Shorthand;" or "Shorthand Celebrities of the Past," with 22 Portraits," the text by Edward Pocknell, the Portraits by Arthur Frederics, artist (pamphlet, 1887).
6. Notes in "Legible Shorthand," in Book labelled "Extracts," written by Mr. A. E. C. White, first student of the system.
7. Two Note-Books of Dictation in "Legible Shorthand," written and afterwards translated professionally by J. Kitchin (1887).
8. Leaflet of North, a Teacher of Gurney's System.
9. „ Advertisement of Clement Needham's "Pearl" System, written with Electric pen.

VOWEL-PLACE-INDICATION SYSTEMS.

BELL, POCKNELL, VALPY.

1. Alexander Melville Bell's "Reporter's Manual," 1855 (in case). —*E. Pocknell.*
1.* Alexander Melville Bell's Universal Line Writing and Steno-Phonography, 1849.—*Ed. Pocknell.*
2. Ed. Pocknell's Compendium of "Legible Shorthand."
3. „ Primer.
4. „ Monosyllabic and Progressive Exercises.
5. „ Complete Instruction Book.
6. „ "Legible Shorthand Vindicated," a reply to the *Phonetic Journal.*
7. „ Principles of Legible Shorthand.
8. „ Common Shorthand for Office Work, based on "Legible Shorthand."
9. „ Origin of English Shorthand Characters.
10. „ Principles hitherto used in Shorthand.
11. „ Reprint of Preface to David Lyle's Phonetic Shorthand, 1762.
12. „ Timothy Bright's System (1588) Explained.
13. „ "The Phonetic Basis of English Shorthand" proved (Paper prepared for the International Congress), 1887.
14. F. H. Valpy's "Audeography."
15. „ Papers illustrating "Audeography."

E. GUEST.

1. 1882. Guest, Edwin, 1883, Compendious Shorthand.
2. 1887. „ 1887, Cosmic (a synopsis).
3. 1887. „ 1887, Pasigraphic Shorthand (a synopsis).
4. 1887. „ 1887, New Diversions of Purley (a synopsis).

5. 1887. Guest, Edwin, 1887, Shorthand's place in Education (a synopsis).
6. 1887. „ 1887, Universal Visible Speech applied to the study of Languages (a synopsis).
7. 1878. Schleyer, A., 1884, Volapük.
8. 1668. Wilkins, Bishop, 1668, Essay towards a Real Character.
9. 1884. Martin, Jean P., 1884, Graphique de la Parole.
10. 1846. Gruson, Pottier, 1846, Stenographie des Gens du Monde.
11. 1868. Fix, H. C., 1868, Cours de Stenog Pratique.
12. 1747. Macaulay, A., 1756, Polygraphy.
13. 1875. Wills, G. H., 1875, Commercial Shorthand.
14. 1834. Gardner, John, 1834, S. W.'s Pocket Guide.
15. 1856. Soper, E., 1856, Practical Study.
16. Graham, A. J., 1858, Standard or American Phonography.
17. 1874. Hunter, S. 1874, Phonetic Shorthand.
18. Cobbin, J. L., 1880, People's Shorthand.

ALFRED JANES.

1. Standard Stenography.
2. James's Phonetic Shorthand.
3. (Second Edition) Phonetic Shorthand without Complications.
4. Reading Exercise in Shorthand, Genesis 42, 43, 44, and 45 chapters.
5. Leaflets, &c.

PROFESSOR EVERETT.

1. "Shorthand for General Use," containing the Complete System in a handy form.
2. "School Shorthand," containing the Complete System in a manner Especially arranged for Self-tuition.
3. Card of the Everett Shorthand, showing the Complete System with Exercises at a Glance.
4. "John Hampden" (Macaulay's Essay on), in Everett Shorthand.
5. Illustrations of the Everett System.

J. M. SLOAN.

Works printed in Sloan-Duployan characters.

1. Sloan-Duployan Instructor, 7th edition.
2. Learners' Reading Book, 2nd edition.
3. Reporters' Rules and Abbreviations, 6th edition.
4. Volume I. Sloan-Duployan Journal (illuminated frontispiece).
5. Volume II. Ditto Ditto.
6. Descriptive Pamphlet with Alphabet and Specimens (10th edition).
7. Reply to T. A. Reed's Criticism.
8. Complete Exposure of the Calumnies of the Phonetic Journal.
9. Faults, Failures, and Frailties of Pitman's Shorthand (comparing it with Sloan-Duployan).
10. Sloan-Duployan Shorthand Magazine.
11. Shorthand Celebrities of the Past.

MISS M. P. ELLIS.

1. Certificate of the Society of Arts (Third Class), 1885 (Duployé system).
2. Duployan System of Shorthand for Schools, by M. P. Ellis.
3. Duployan Phonographic Student (several numbers).

REV. D. S. DAVIES.

1. Sonography (a script system), 1887.
2. Papers relating to the above.

ALFRED M. BROWNE.

1. "A Table illustrating the difference in the legibility, consistency, and brevity obtained by the alphabetic principle of writing, as in Pitman's System, and the Syllabic method, as in Browne's Phonetic System, and proving that true phonetic Shorthand Writing is incompatible with the retention of the old 'a, b, c,' methods, as employed in Pitman's and other old systems."
2. Copy of Letter written to and read by a pupil after receiving only three lessons in Browne's Phonetic Shorthand.
3. "Browne's Phonetic Shorthand, based upon the phonetic and syllabic principles of the English Language, and consequently briefer and more legible, as well as easier to learn, to write, and to read than any other system." A primer of the system.
4. "Legible Phonography." A pamphlet descriptive of the principles upon which Browne's Phonetic Shorthand is based.

J. G. HODGES.

1. Report of the Trial of William Smith O'Brien for high treason at Clonmel, 1848, by John George Hodges, Government, Shorthand Writer.
2. Report of the Trials of John Martin and Kevin Izod O'Doherty for treason-felony, 1848, by John George Hodges, Government Shorthand Writer.
3. The leading Heads of 27 Sermons preached at Northampton by Philip Doddridge, D.D., in 1740, taken in Shorthand by a Lady, at whose death they were presented to and transcribed by the Rev. T. Hawkins, of Warley, near Halifax, Yorkshire.
4. Report of the Trial of the Action of Badische Aniline und Soda Fabrik *v.* Levenstein, before Mr. Justice Pearson, in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, 1883.
5. Synopsis of the system known as Purton's, much used by Legal Shorthand-Writers. MS.

WALTER THOMPSON.

1. Jubilee Pencils, with microscopic views of Isaac Pitman, Inventor of Phonography, T. A. Reed, Phonetic Institute, and the Lord's Prayer in Phonography.

TYPE WRITERS.

WYCKOFF, SEAMANS AND BENEDICT.

Remington Standard Typewriters, Exhibited by the Proprietors and Manufacturers.

1. No. 2, Remington Standard Typewriter, complete with accessories. This machine has 39 keys, and is capable of writing 76 to 80 characters.
2. No. 3, Remington Standard Typewriter. This machine is adapted for all kinds of legal work. It will take paper fourteen inches in width, and has 42 keys by which 86 characters can be written.
3. Samples of fine hand-made papers, specially adapted for producing the best results.
4. Drop Cabinet. This device is, to all appearance, an ordinary writing desk of fine manufacture, but by raising the lid, the typewriter is brought into position. Being evenly balanced a very slight movement of the hand is sufficient to effect the change.
5. Copyholders and typewriting accessories.

WITHERBY AND CO.

Two Hammond Typewriters and accessories.

AMERICAN WRITING MACHINE COMPANY.

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THE COLUMBIA TYPEWRITER.

SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS, W. J. RICHARDSON AND CO.

1. Improved No. 2, complete in case.
2. „ No. 1 „

REPORTING MATERIALS, &c.

MABIE, TODD, AND BARD.

Gold Pens and Fountain Pens.

M. McCASKIE.

1. Shorthand Bible.
2. Reporter's Friend (style, pen, &c.)
3. Phonographers' Ink Bottles.
4. "Perfect" Excise Ink Bottles.
5. Gold Pens (for Shorthand).
6. "The Everlasting Pen" (for transcribing).

LOAN COLLECTIONS.

LENT BY T. A. REED.

1. Addy's Bible (1687); first pages copied by Mr. T. A. Reed.
2. Gil's "Logonomia Anglica," 2nd edition, 1621 (Phonetic Spelling).

LENT BY E. POCKNELL.

(In addition to Books in several other Collections.)

1. Dumbleby's Dictionary, 1808.
2. Rockwell's Bibliography (America), 1884.
3. Dr. Westby-Gibson's Bibliography, 1887.
4. MSS. Psalms of David in Metre in Rich's (Cartwright's) System.

Universal Language.

5. G. Edmond's "Philosophic Alphabet" (containing, interleaved, some early sheets of Pitman's Shorthand), 1832.
6. G. Edmond's "Universal Alphabet, Grammar and Language," 1855.

Cryptography.

7. Gustavus Selenus (Duke of Brunswick), "Cryptomenytices et Cryptographiæ," 1624.
8. J. Falconer's "Cryptomenysis Patefacta," 1685.
9. Philip Thicknesse "Art of Decyphering," 1772.
10. "The Art of Secret Writing explained," by an Expert, 1870.

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11. T. Anderson's Catechism of Shorthand, 1882.
12. Prayer Book in "Phonography," Lithographed by T. A. Reed, 1853.
13. Ball's Principles for outlines of Phonography (MS).
14. Professor W. D. Bridge's "Shorthand Numbers."
15. Catalogue of the late C. Walford's Collection of Shorthand Works (1886), (see page 59).
16. "The Grand Master:" Correspondence between Roffe and Molineux, chiefly on Byrom's System, 1860.
17. Leaflet explanatory of Lockett's Shorthand, 1887.
18. "The Plowshare and the American Reporter, &c." (an American Magazine), by Henry M. Parkhurst (1853).
19. "Shorthand," the organ of "The Shorthand Society," vol. I. and II.—1881-1885.
20. "Tracts," one at end containing "The Reporter's Book (1843), one of Mr. Pitman's early publications.
21. MS., several Shorthand systems copied in book, by John Harland, *Manchester Guardian* (circa 1820.)

22. MS., "A Stenographic Dictionary of Arbitraries, Abbreviated Words and Phrases," by Mr. John Harland, (1832,) in which is enclosed a card of "John Harland's terms for instruction in Shorthand" when residing in Hull, 1820.
23. "Abbreviated Longhand," by E. Pocknell.

LENT BY THE SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

1. MS. Lectures on Preaching in the Cartwright-Rich System; date of watermark 1795.
2. Demosthenis Oratio de Corona, 1842, with Shorthand Transcript at end, probably in Gurney's System.
3. Pasigraphical Dictionary (English, French, and German), 3 vols.
4. Three numbers of "Modern Thought," 1882, with "Modern Thought" in Shorthand, by E. Pocknell.
5. One number of "Modern Thought," 1884, with "Shorthand of the Future," by E. Pocknell.
6. Trial of John Horne Tooke, 2 vols., the printed Transcript of the Notes by J. H. Blanchard, 1795.
7. Trial of the Hon. George Gordon, printed Transcript of the Notes of William Vincent, 1781, Portrait of Lord George Gordon.
8. John Willis, B.D., Mnemonica, 1661.
9. James Ward, R.A., Hymns in Shorthand (Holdsworth and Aldridge's System, 1766).—See Explanations in the Book itself.

LENT BY J. D. BARNETT.

Systems in addition to Seven Volumes in the "Chronological Collection."

1. Shelton, Thomas, 1647.—"Tachygraphy."
2. Everardt, Job, 1658.—"Epitome of Stenography."
3. Mason, William, 1682.—"Art's Advancement."
4. Metcalfe, Theophilus, 1750.—"Shorthand Writing," 55th edition.
5. Botley, Samuel, 1674.—"Maximum in Minimo."
6. Macaulay, Aulay, 1747.—"Polygraphy."
7. Taylor, Samuel, 1786.—Original edition.
8. Byrom, Dr. John, 1796.—Abridgement by Thomas Molmeux.
9. Mitchell, John, 1798.—"The Elementary Principles of Shorthand."
10. Richardson, Samuel, 1810.—"Treatise on Shorthand."
11. Nicholson, George, 1806.—"A New System, &c."
12. Clive, I. H., 1830.—"Lenear System of Shorthand," containing King Charles's Cypher.
13. Bennett, John, 1828.—"Shorthand Explained."
14. Hinton, E., 1822.—"Stenography."
15. Whitehead, Wm., 1835.—"Shorthand Improved."
16. Pitman, Isaac, 1845.—"Manual of Phonography."

Lent by Matthias Levy.

In addition to Levy's "Taylor's System" in the "Taylor Centenary" Collection.

1. Palmer, John, 1774.—
2. Lewis, James Henry, 1816.—"History of Shorthand."
3. Levy, Matthias, 1862.—"History of Shorthand Writing."
4. *Ingleby, Dr., 1861.—"The Shakspere Controversy."
5. Levy, Matthias, 1884.—"Shakespeare and Shorthand."
6. Levy, Matthias, 1885.—"Shorthand: its History and its Prospects."
7. Levy, Matthias, 1886.—"Shorthand Notes, and the Practice relating to them."
8. Hurst, Joseph, 1887.—Pamphlet, "How may be the objects of the Institute be further promoted."
9. A Volume of Pamphlets relating to Shorthand, containing:—
   - I. Récherches, &c., by M. Guenin, 1880.
   - II. Geschichte, &c., by Dr. F. T. Anders, 1855.
   - III. "The Young Reporter" (containing Taylor's System), (no date).
   - IV. Katalog der Bibliothek des Konigl. Stenographischen Instituts, Dresden, 1864.

Lent by Isaac Pitman and Sons.

Systems, &c., in addition to those included in the "Chronological" and "Taylor Centenary" Collections.

1. 1620. Shelton, Thomas, 1710, "Tachgraphy."
2. 1646. Rich, Jeremiah, 1764, "Pen's Dexterity." Portrait.
3. 1659. Rich's Bible, 1775.
4. 1672. Mason, William, 1719, "La Plume Volante."
5. 1687. Addy's Bible and Psalms, 1687. In Rich's System.
6. 1727. Weston, James, 1727. No portrait.
7. 1730. Weston's Shorthand Prayer Book, 1730. With portrait.
8. 1747. Macaulay, Aulay, 1756. 2nd edition.
9. 1761. Swaine and Simms, 1762, "Cryptography."
10. 1767. Byrom, John, 1767. Original posthumous edition.
11. 1767. „ 1776. Printed in Edinburgh.
12. 1775. Williamson, W., 1775, "Stenography."
13. 1780. Mavor, William, 1800. 4th edition.
14. 1780. „ 1807. 8th edition.
15. 1796. Molineux, Thomas, 1813. 4th edition.
16. 1800. Richardson, Samuel, 1803. 3rd edition.
17. 1800. „ 1810. 4th edition.
18. 1801. Blanc, Honore, 1801. French System, "Ohygraphie."
19. 1806. Nicholson, G., 1806.
20. 1815. Mitchell, James, M.A., 1821. 3rd edition.

* This volume has reference to the Collier controversy, and some *fac-simile* Shorthand notes are on page 112. The letterpress of page 197 should also be consulted.

21. 1825. Bennett, J., 1825, Shorthand Explained.
22. 1825. Dangerfield's Lecture, 1834. 2nd edition.
23. 1825. Easy Introduction to Byrom's system, 1835, "by an Eminent Professor."
24. 1826. Hinton, E., 1826.
25. 1826. „ 1828. 2nd edition.
26. 1826. Peacock, Anthony, 1828, "Methodical System."
27. 1833. Moat, Thomas, 1833. MS. Title-page.
28. 1833. Roffe, R. C., 1834.
29. 1833. Wells, John, 1837. 2nd edition.
30. 1849. Lewis's New Testament, 1849, by Coggin.

LENT BY A. L. LEWIS AND E. POCKNELL.

In illustration of James Henry Lewis's (1786-1853) *System.*

Exhibited by A. L. Lewis.

1. Portrait (about 1832).
2 & 3. Farthing Token, "The Lewisian System of Writing," 104, High Holborn.
4. "Literary Curiosity," 113, Strand.
5 & 6. Copper Blocks for Printing Head formed of Characters of Shorthand Alphabet.
7. Copper Plate for Printing Figure formed of all the Characters in the System of Shorthand.
8. First Edition of System of Shorthand, 1812. (In this book spaces were left for the characters to be filled in by hand—this copy is not filled up.)
9. Ninety-seventh (and last) Edition of System of Shorthand—no date.
10. "Historical Account," &c., 1816, Lewis's History of Shorthand. This copy filled with notes and alterations *in his own writing* in preparation for a new edition.
11. A. L. Lewis's Lewisian System (a card).

Exhibited by E. Pocknell.

12. The Lewisian System of Shorthand, 63rd Edition, 1835.
13. Prayer-Book in Lewis's System.
14. New Testament in Lewis's System, by Coggin.

LENT BY DR. WESTBY-GIBSON, LL.D.

1. Doddridge, Philip, Dr., Lectures on Jewish Antiquities, read in 1748, unpublished MS., 1 vol.
2. „ Lectures on Pneumatology, Ethics, and Theology, 2 vols., MS.
3. Jones, Rev. Richard, Diary, 1749-51, a Cambridge Minister, pupil of Doddridge.
4. „ Meditations and Poems, Shorthand, MS.
5. Washbourne, Daniel, Lectures on Religion, Ethics, and Science, 5 vols., MS., Doddridge's System, 1790.
6. Medical Lectures of Dr. Haighton at Guy's Hospital, 1814-15, 2 vols., MS., in handwriting of Mr. Clift, Curator of the College of Surgeons.

7. Wilson, Dr. Daniel, Copy of Welchman's "XXXIX. Articuli Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ," with Shorthand notes.
8. Saddleworth Parish Register, Photograph of page, in 17th Century System, an Old Ballad mixed with the Marriages and Deaths.
9. Code Verbatim Shorthand, London, 1880.
10. Westby-Gibson, John (LL.D.), one of his folio MS. Books for "History of Shorthand," with Introduction on the Origin of Writing.
11. „ Early Shorthand Systems (with Illustrations), London, 1882.
12. Bright, Timothy, Copy of the Whole Book of Titus, in "Characterie," from the Lansdowne MS., 1586.
13. Bordley, Simon, Copy of the Lord's Prayer in the first known Script-hand, from his Cadmus Britannicus, 1787.
14. Coles, Elisha, the New Testament in his System, 1674. MS.
15. Doddridge, Philip (Dr.), Letter written in his System (an adaptation of the Cartwright-Rich System—still in use), from a Clergyman to Dr. Westby-Gibson, 1886.
16. Bright, Timothy, Title page of Jane Seager's "Prophecies of the Sibills," and specimen in Bright's "Characterie," 1589.
17. Faulmann, Karl, Historische Grammatik der Stenographie, Wien, 1887.
18. Pitman, Isaac, "Phonography, or Writing by Sound," 1840, Photograph of original Card, Washington, U.S.A.
19. Lindsay, David P., The Shorthand Exercise Book, Chicago, 1886.
20. Haven, Curtis, About Shorthand Systems, Philadelphia.
21. Smith, J. Brown, the Kirografer and Stenografer, Chicago, 1878.
22. Gaffikin, Samuel, A New System of Shorthand, MS., Belfast, 1887.
23. Bright, Timothy, "Characterie," &c., London, 1588, MS. Copy of the Work in the Bodleian Library.
24. Gyllenspetz, —, Improved System of Stenography, Gurney's, with vowel alterations (belonging to Mr. J. H. Ford).
25. Bishop, Geo. R. (New York), Brief notes as to Modified Phonography, MS., 1886.
26. Faulmann, Karl, Anleitung zur Fonetischen Stenographie, Wien, 1887.
27. Westby-Gibson, John, LL.D., English Script-Shorthand, 1884.
28. Lindsley, David P., The Handbook of Takigrafy, Chicago, 1884.

MISCELLANEOUS LOANS.

1. Theophilus Williams's Academical Stenography (with curious coloured frontispiece)—*Shorthand Writers' Association.*
2. Memo. Book in Dr. Doddridge's System.—*Walter Haddon.*
3. Jewish Antiquities, written in Doddridge's Modification of the Cartwright—Rich System (not Jennings's or Doddridge's work of the name), Written about 1770.—*James Hecksher.*

4. MS. copy of Early Gurney System.—*R. Gabell.*
5. Manuscript New Testament in Byrom's System.—*Joseph Southgate, Devizes.*
6. Westdeutsche Stenographen Zeitung (Stolze), Organ of the Stenographers of Rheinland and Westphalia.
7. Lo Stenografo Italiano, Organ of the Italian Institute of Stenographers.
8. "Le Sténographe Normand," Official Organ of the Society of Stenographers of Normandy.—"Le Knout."
9. Steno-Tachygraphie in Manuscript, "Hesse."—*M. Hesse, of Triebel, Prussia.*
10. "Apollo." Zeitschrift für "Ahrends" sche Stenographen, Berlin.—*H. Matschenzk, Berlin.*
11. Manuscript English Phonography.—*Henry Hering, New York.*
12. A volume on Phonetic Spelling.—*Dr. Gladstone.*

FRAMES AND TABLETS.

DUPLOYAN.

1. Sténographie-Duployé appliquée au Langage des Sourds-Muets.
2. Jeu du Soldat Sténographique.
3. Carte de France.
4. Exercices.

SLOAN DUPLOYAN.

5. Revolution in Shorthand (Specimens of Alphabetical and Reporting Styles).

EXHIBITED BY E. POCKNELL.

1. Declaration of American Independence in Benn Pitman's System (No date).
2. 22 Portraits of Shorthand authors of the Past; being original drawings of the artist (Mr. Arthur Fredericks) for "Shorthand Celebrities of the Past" (1887).
3. Rockwell's Shorthand Tables, from his "Bibliography" (1884).

EXHIBITED BY J. B. RUNDELL.

1. Framed diagram.—"The Shortest Shorthand," being an adaptation of Vowel-Scale Phonography (Pitman's Consonants in nine positions) to English, French, German, and Italian. Honourable mention at the Vienna International Exhibition in 1873.
2. "Shorthand for Schools." A system of joined vowels adapted to English, French, and German. The symbols made of wood may be used in the Kindergarten. Three frames.

EXHIBITED BY A. B. SPARKHALL.

1. A Calendar with Arabic, and apparently Shorthand Signs.

EXHIBITED BY E. S. GUNN.

1. Two Framed specimens of Writing in Pitman's System, by phenomenal pupils.

BRITISH MUSEUM EXHIBITION.

(Edw. Augustus Bond, C.B., LL.D., *Principal Librarian.*)

A.—Manuscripts Exhibited in the King's Library (Edw. Maunde Thompson, *Keeper of the MSS. and Egerton Librarian*).

*** The various Collections are shown by *italics*, as *Sloane*, *Harleian*, *Lansdowne*, *Arundel* and *Additional MSS.*

Adair, Patrick. Brachygraphia, or the Art of Short-Writing. Date about 1667. An original system. (*Sloane* 1,247.)

Alchemical Notes, with two Shorthand Alphabets for Ciphers. About 1597. (*Sloane* 613.)

Astrological Work. Anonymous. Shorthand Notes mixed with Astrological Characters. About 1596-8. (*Sloane* 3,822.)

Beale's Cryptographic Shorthand, with Caleb Morley's Treatise on Memory. Tables and Numbers to be made for ever in Cipher of 5 characters only. About 1623. (*Sloane* 4,384.)

Biggs, George. The New Testament in Shorthand. Unknown system. 1761. (*Add. MS.* 28,865.)

Bright, Timothy (Dr.) Divine Prophecies of the Ten Sibills, written by Jane Seager in Bright's Characterie, 1589, with transliteration. (*Add.* 10,037.)

—— The Whole Book of Titus, written in Charactery, enclosed in letter, March 30, 1586. (*Lansd.* 51.) The earliest instance of modern Shorthand.

Cavendish, Henry (M.P.) Transcript of his Shorthand Vocabulary, used in taking Debates of "Unreported Parliament' of 1768-74. Gurney's System. (*Egerton* 263.*)

Characterism, or a system of such rules as might be best for the Writing of Shorthand..... a new Alphabet, &c. Written in opposition to Edmond Willis's system, about 1630. (*Sloane* 1,950.)

Charles I. Cipher; the Lineal Alphabet or Character of Dashes, used in Correspondence with the Earl of Glamorgan (second Marquis of Worcester), April 18, 1646. (*Harleian* 6,988.)

Dalgarno, George. Tables of the Universal Character, so contrived that the practice of them exceeds all former ways of Shorthand Writing, and are applicable to all Languages. About 1660. (*Sloane* 4,377.)

Hardey, Jonathan. The New Testament, in Mason's first system, 1682. Dated 1686. (*Add. MS.* 28,863.)

Holder, William (Dr.) The Holy Bible written in Metcalfe's System. About 1668. (*Add. MS.* 30,385.)

John of Tilbury. De Arte Notaria, *temp.* Henry II. (*Arundel* 165.)

Lodwick, Francis. Kortschrift de Nederlantsche tale toegeeigent. 1658. Apparently Lodwick's English System adapted to the Dutch Language. See next entry. (*Sloane* 932, also 897.)

—— Concerning a Perfect Universall Alfabeth. About 1657. (*Sloane* 932, also 897.)

Rock, Jas. "Characters for Short Writing, 1689." (*Harl.* 1,955.)

Seager, Jane. See Bright, Timothy.

Shelton, Thomas. Medical Treatises in Latin, beautifully written in Shelton's System, black and red ink. About 1660. (*Sloane* 2,681.)

—— "Shelton's Characters for Short Writing, 1639." (*Harl.* 1,955.)

Tachygraphy (Greek). Works of Gregory of Nazianzen, Dionysius Areopagita, and Nonnus in Greek. A.D. 972. Among the marginal notes are many instances of Greek Tachygraphy.

Tironian Lexicon. Explication of Tironian Notes. First half of 10th Century. (*Add. MS.* 21,164.)

Tironian Psalter. Liber Psalmorum. MS. of the 9th Century, formerly belonging to the Abbey of St. Rémy. (*Add. MS.* 9,046.)

Trithemius (*i.e.*, John Trittenheim). Stenographia: hoc est ars per occultam scripturam, &c. (*Sloane* 2,758.)

Willis, John. The Arte of Stenographie, apparently copy of an early edition of his second work, and made complete in 12 chapters. About 1617. (*Add. MS.* 32,658.)

—— Regulæ de characteribus conficiendis. Said at the end to be "the twelfth and last edition." (*Harl.* 6,899.)

—— The Arte of Stenographie or Short Writing. John Evelyn's copy, dated 1636. *Add. MS.* 15,950.)

Worcester, Marquis of. An explanation of the most exact and most compendious way of Short-Writing, &c. With a blank book for Cryptographic use. Dated 1659. (*Harl.* 2,428.)

B.—Books Exhibited in the King's Library (George Bullen, F.S.A., *Keeper of the Printed Books*).

*** The dates in parentheses are obtained from other sources than the title-pages.

Adams, James. An Essay to simplify and improve Byrom's Shorthand. (1814.)
Addy, William. Stenographia. (1664?)
—— The Holy Bible, with the Singing Psalms. 1687.
Aitchison, Jasper and Jno. New System of Shorthand. Script system. 1832.
Alphabet of Reason, with Comparative Table of Alphabets. 1763.
Angell, John. Stenography, or Shorthand Improved. (1758.)
Annet, Peter. Annet's Shorthand, more easy to learn, &c. About 1750.
—— Expeditious Penmanship, or Shorthand Improved. About 1750.
Anodyne Necklace Shorthand. The whole Art of Short and Swift Writing. 2nd edition, 1713.
—— The Pretty Art of Writing Shorthand. Later edition, after 1727.
Austin, J. A System of Stenographic Music. (1820.)
Barmby, Henry. Shorthand Unmask'd. (1700.)
Blanchard, William Isaac. Complete System of Shorthand. 1779.
Botley, Samuel. Maximum in Minimo. (1674.)
Bridges, Noah. Stenographie and Cryptographie, by N. B. 1659.
Byrom, John. Universal English Shorthand. 1767.
Cadman, Daniel. School Stenography. A system of Lineal Shorthand. 1835. A Script system.
Cartwright, Wm. Semography, or Short and Swift Writing. 1642. Afterwards published as Rich's Semigraphy, 1654.
Clayton, Anthony. Mr. Weston's Excellent New Method of Shorthand. (1765?)
Clive, I. H. Abbreviated Universal Shorthand. 1810.
Coles, Elisha. The Newest, Plainest and Best Shorthand extant. 10th edition, 1707.
Dangerfield, Jno. New and Simple System of Shorthand. 1814.
De Stains, V. D. Phonegraphy, or Writing of Sounds. 1839.
Dix, Henry. The Art of Brachygraphy. 3rd edition, 1641.
Doddridge, Philip. A Brief and Easy System of Shorthand. (Cartwright-Rich improved.) 1799.
Everardt, Job. An Epitome of Stenographie. 1658.
Ewington, Henry. The Arcana of Shorthand. 1805.
Fancutt, J. Idiography. 1847.
Farthing, Jno. Short-Writing Shortened. 1684.
Gardiner, William. The Multum in Parvo, or Desiderata in Stenography. 1817.
Gibbs, Philip. Historical Account of Compendious and Swift Writing. 1736.
Gil, Alexander (Dr.) Logonomia Anglica. 1619. On Phonetics.
Gruterus, J. Notæ Tullii Tironis et Annæi Senecæ. 1603. Containing 13,000 Tironian Notes.
Gurney, Thos. Brachygraphy. Fourth edition. (1760.)
Hartlib, Samuel (Dr.) A Common Writing, &c. 1647. For Secret Communication. Signed F. L. W., but supposed to be by Dr. Hartlib.
Harwin, William. New, Easy, and Expeditious System of Shorthand. 1800.
Henshaw, William. Richardson's Shorthand Improved. 1831.
Hervey, Thomas. The Writer's Time Redeemed. (1779.)
Hinton, E. Stenography. (1826.)
Hodgson, Edward. Shorthand Contractions. About 1786.
Holdsworth and Aldridge. Natural Shorthand. (1766.)
Hopkins, William. The Flying Pen-Man. (1670.)
Hunter, Andrew. Easy System of Short Writing. 5th edition. 1822.
Kitchingman, T. System of Shorthand Writing. 1828.
Lewis, Jas. Henry. The Lewisian System of Shorthand. 1826.
—— The Shorthand Prayer Book. In Lithography. Lewisian characters. (1830.)
Lyle, David. The Art of Shorthand Improved. 1762.
Macaulay, Aulay. Polygraphy or Shorthand. 3rd edition. 1756.
—— The New Shorthand. About 1760.
Mason, William. A Pen Pluck'd from an Eagle's Wing. 1672.
—— Art's Advancement. 1682.
Mason, William. La Plume Volante. 1707.

Mavor, William Fordyce (Dr.) Universal Stenography. Second edition. 1785.
Meilan, Mark-Anthony. Stenography, or Shorthand Improved. 1764.
Metcalfe, Theophilus. Short Writing. 6th edition. 1645.
Mitchell, John. Ars Scribendi sine Penna. 1783.
Moat, Thomas. The Shorthand Standard Attempted. 1833.
Molineux, Thomas. An Introduction to Byrom's Universal English Shorthand. Fourth edition. 1813.
—— Stenographical Copy-Book. 1824.
Nicolas, Abraham. Thoographia, or a New Art of Shorthand. 1692.
Nicholson, George. Stenography, or a New System, &c. 1806.
Oxley, Thomas. Facilography. 1816. Script System.
Passmore, Wm. (Rev.) Shorthand Pictorially Taught. (1878.)
Pitman, Isaac. Stenographic Soundhand: Shorthand, founded on Walker's Principles of English pronunciation. 1837.
—— The Phonographic Journal. In Phonographic characters. No. 1, Jan., 1842. First specimen of lithographed Shorthand.
—— History of Shorthand. In Phonographic characters. 1852.
Prosser, M. Radclyffe. A Collection of Shorthand Alphabets. 1803.
Ramsay, Chas. Aloïs. Tacheographia. 1681 (or 1679). In Latin.
—— Geschwinde Schreib-Kunst, &c. German translation of previous work. 1679.
Ratcliff (of Plymouth). A New Art of Short and Swift Writing. About 1695. Abbreviated Longhand.
Rich, Jeremiah. Semigraphy, or Art's Rarity. 1684.
—— The Book of the New Testament. (About 1659.)
—— The whole Book of Psalms in Meter, &c. 1659. Bound with the above.
—— The Book of the New Testament. (About 1690.)
Richardson, Samuel. A New System of Shorthand. 1800.
Sams, Samuel. A Complete and Universal System of Stenography. 1812.
Shelton, Thomas. Tachygraphy. 1645.
—— Zeiglographia, or a New Art of Short Writing. 1650.
—— The Whole Book of Psalms in Meeter, &c. (About 1660.)
Stringer, Nathaniel. Rich Redivivus. (About 1660.)
Swaine and Simms. Cryptography . . . System of Shorthand. (1761.)
Taylor, Samuel. An Essay . . . Universal System of Stenography. 1786.
Tiffin, William. A New Help and Improvement of the Art of Swift Writing. (1750.)
West, Simon. Art's Improvement; or Short and Swift Writing. 1647.
Weston, James. Stenography Compleated. 1727.
— — Book of Common Prayer. 1730.
Williams, Theophilus. Academical Stenography. 1826.
Willis, Edmond. An Abbreviation of Writing by Character. 2nd edition. 1627.
Willis, John. The Art of Stenographie, teaching by plaine Rules, &c. 1602. Willis's first work, published anonymously.
—— The Art of Stenography, or Short Writing by Spelling Characterie. 10th edition. 1632.
—— The Schoolmaster to the Art of Stenography. 3rd edition. 1647. With curious folding plate of Affixes.

[NOTE.—The British Museum Exhibition comprises only a few works chosen from its various Libraries. A selection was originally made of about 200 works, but the space being limited to three cases (one for MSS. and two for printed works), only those English books of early date and of special interest were retained. This will account for the non-appearance of Foreign Shorthand Works and the exclusion of Modern English Systems.
J. WESTBY-GIBSON.]

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