

**THE
PHONOGRAPHIC
INSTRUCTOR**

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The Phonographic Instructor by James C. Booth

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JAMES C. BOOTH

**THE
PHONOGRAPHIC
INSTRUCTOR**

THE
PHONOGRAPHIC INSTRUCTOR;
BEING AN
INTRODUCTION
TO THE
CORRESPONDING STYLE
OF
PHONOGRAPHY.

With Engraved Illustrations.

SECOND EDITION, ENLARGED.

BY JAMES C. BOOTH.

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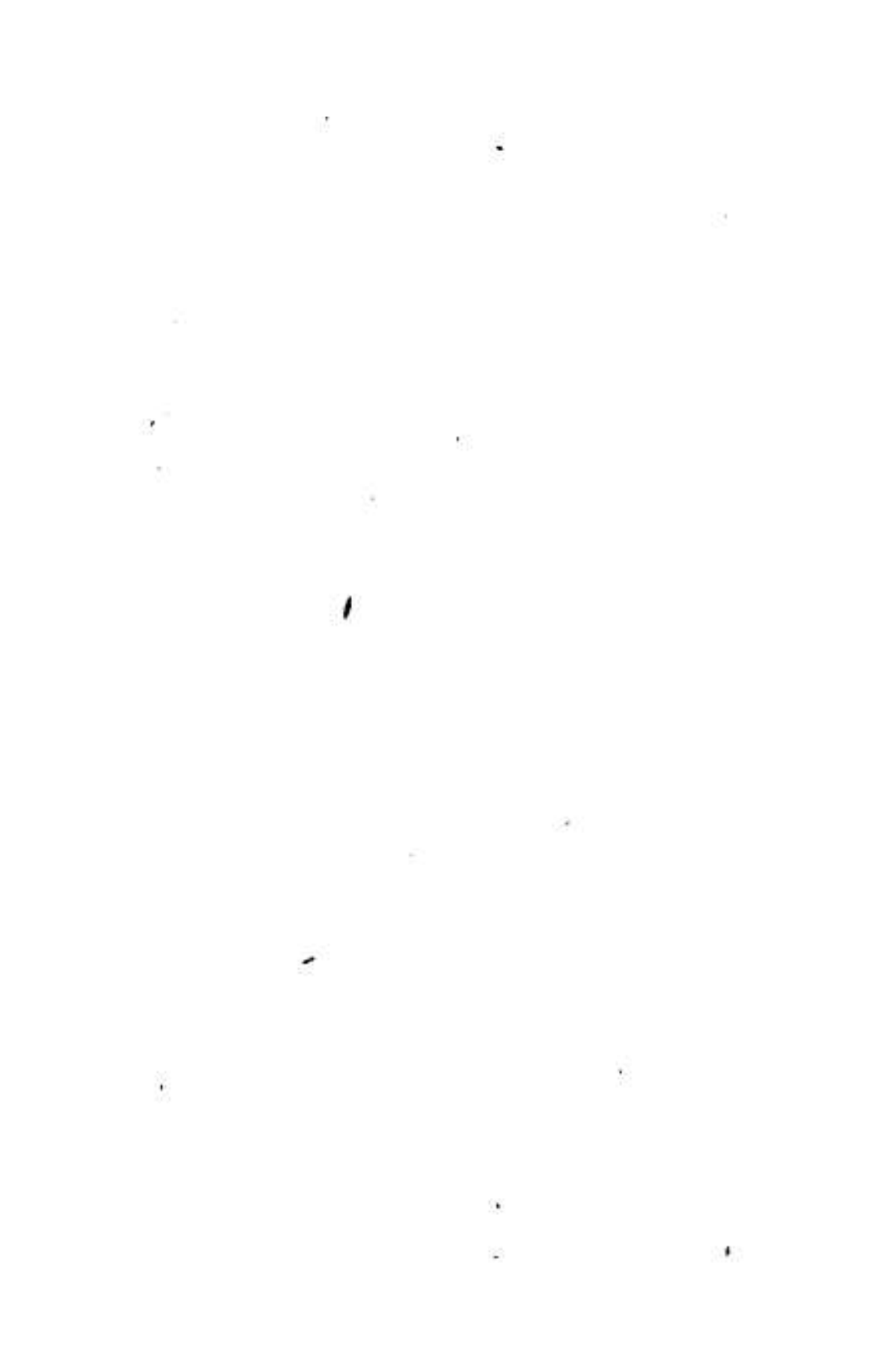
PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

PHONOGRAPHY having experienced a few slight modifications, a new edition of the INSTRUCTOR, comprising them, is now offered to the public. The opportunity has been embraced to improve the plan of the work. The exercises have been reviewed, amended, and much enlarged. The value of the work is witnessed by many phonographers, who have become expert writers by its use, and some of them laid in it the foundation of professional reporting.

It may be asked whether phonography will not be liable to subsequent alterations. To this I reply that numerous modifications were proposed and tried by thousands of experienced phonographers in England and the United States, during the last few years, and yet, since the resulting changes were very few, it is clear that there is no likelihood of future changes in the system.

JAMES C. BOOTH.

Philadelphia, 1st Jan., 1855.



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INTRODUCTION.

§ 1. PHONOGRAPHY, in the widest sense of the word, includes every method of writing by signs that represent the *sounds of language*; as usually understood, however, the term is applied to the system of Phonetic Short-hand, invented by Mr. Isaac Pitman of Bath, England, and which it is the object of the present work practically to develop.

§ 2. By the term sounds of language we mean the sounds uttered in articulate speech, as distinguished from mere noises or musical tones. To the unreflecting it might seem as if the number of these sounds were as great as the number of words themselves; upon a careful examination, however, we find that there are in fact only a few distinct elementary sounds, and that by these single elements and their combinations, all the varieties of speech are produced. In the languages of the world there are probably less than 100 distinct sounds.

§ 3. We may illustrate this point more clearly by a few examples. If we adjust the lips to a round position and deliver the voice, we have a simple uncombined articulate sound, which is the same that is heard in the beginning of the words *ode, oath, own*, and at the end of the words *beau, snow, sew, dough*. This same sound recurs in thousands of words in our language, and is therefore a true element of speech. Again, if we pronounce the words *see, say, saw, so*, we hear in each of them two sounds, the final sounds being all different, but the initial ones being precisely the same,