

**THE READY WRITER, AND INTERPRETER OF THE
ROYAL LEWISIAN SYSTEM OF SHORT HAND.
EMBRACING A FULL AND COMPLETE
DEVELOPEMENT OF THE METHOD OF WRITING
AS FAST AS A PERSON CAN SPEAK, BY
CHARACTERS AS LEGIBLE AS COMMON PRINT**

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The Ready Writer, and Interpreter of the Royal Lewisian System of Short Hand. Embracing a Full and Complete Development of the Method of Writing as Fast as a Person Can Speak, by Characters as Legible as Common Print by James Henry Lewis

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JAMES HENRY LEWIS

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The Elements, or First Principles of SHORT - HAND.

1. A Point	
2. A Line <i>in four Positions</i>	
3. A Circle <i>divided by a Perpendicular & Horizontal line</i>	
<i>Semi-Circles</i>	
<i>Segments</i>	
4. An Ellipsis <i>in four Positions</i>	
1 st Perpendicular	
<i>Semicircumferences</i>	
<i>Segments</i>	
2 nd Horizontal	
<i>Semicircumferences</i>	
<i>Segments</i>	
3 rd At 45° to the Right	
<i>Semicircumferences</i>	
<i>Segments</i>	
4 th At 45° to the Left	
<i>Semicircumferences</i>	
<i>Segments</i>	

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DEVELOPEMENT OF THE METHOD OF WRITING AS FAST AS A PERSON CAN SPEAK,

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This popular and well-established system, which is founded on forty years' practical experience in the Courts of Law, and in both Houses of Parliament, is now universally adopted by the Short Hand Writers, and the Gentlemen professionally connected with the Press, whereby they are enabled to report the most rapid speakers, and to extend their Notes without any of those

DOUBTS AND DIFFICULTIES ATTENDING ALL OTHER SYSTEMS.

Invented and Perfected by

JAMES HENRY LEWIS

(OF KELLY, NEAR STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE)

Founder of the Society of Reporters, and Practical Professor of the Art: Inventor and First Teacher of the Royal Lewisian Systems of Writing, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, and Short Hand.

NINETY-FIFTH EDITION.

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NEW-STREET SQUARE

AMERICAN TO VINA

Z56
L58 r
1862

TO

H. R. H. THE PRINCE REGENT.

SIR,

In thanking your Royal Highness for your gracious permission to dedicate to your Royal Highness the present system of Short Hand, it is impossible not to reflect on the happiness of a people whose Chief Magistrate lends a willing ear to the petitions of his subjects, and extends his patronage to every branch of science and of letters that may conduce to the improvement of the national character and to the purposes of general utility.

In the extension and improvement of an art like mine, your Royal Highness is personally interested. Whatever possesses a tendency to facilitate the correct

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and copious transmission to future ages of the eloquence of our patriots, and the exploits of our naval and military forces, must contribute to preserve and extend the glory of the Prince under whose auspicious reign the prosperity of the empire has attained its proudest elevation.

That your Royal Highness may long continue to reign over a people whose manners your example has improved, and whose arts your patronage has exalted, is the sincere wish of

Your Royal Highness's

Grateful and obedient servant,

JAMES HENRY LEWIS.

Sunday, August 20:

J.H.L. 1786. 3 bf 9, P.M.

INTRODUCTION.

THE art of SHORT HAND, after struggling with the prejudice or the indolence of more than a century, has, at length, become an important object of general education, and is regarded as a necessary acquisition to the scholar and the gentleman. The value of its attainment is, indeed, sufficiently testified by the number of competitors who have endeavoured to obtain the public attention by the publication of their peculiar systems. The readiness of the professors of Stenography to communicate their discoveries and improvements to the world, has been in proportion to the encouragement afforded them by the community; and the result of competition in this, as in every other branch of human knowledge, has been its gradual advancement to perfection.

It does not appear, from the writings of the

ancients, that they were acquainted (previous to the Christian era) with any regular system of abbreviation, by which they could embody the eloquence of their orators, or promote the convenience of private composition :—yet, among the Romans, a mode of writing was prevalent for many ages, which would have afforded considerable facilities to the Stenographer ;—the movement of a stylus on a ground of wax, was unaccompanied by many of the inconveniences that attach to the modern mode of writing; and though the necessity of obliterating every antecedent manuscript, that the wax might be prepared for use, rendered the practice comparatively useless to the private individual, it might have afforded many facilities to the writer in a public court, whose first object was expedition, and who could afterwards have copied his notes upon parchment.

Some imperfect attempts at regular abbreviation were made by the clergy and the monks of the barbarous ages ; but their efforts usually terminated in nothing more satisfactory than the substitution of a single horizontal stroke for an M,—the occasional employment of the initial letter alone, — and the frequent omission of the termination. Even the abbreviations on ancient