

**THE MODERN STENOGRAPHER. A
COMPLETE SYSTEM OF LIGHT-LINE
PHONOGRAPHY, BEING A PLAIN AND
PRACTICAL METHOD FOR ACQUIRING A
PERFECT KNOWLEDGE OF THE PRINCIPLES
OF THE BEST PHONETIC SHORT-HAND**

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The Modern Stenographer. A Complete System of Light-Line Phonography, Being a Plain and Practical Method for Acquiring a Perfect Knowledge of the Principles of the Best Phonetic Short-Hand by George H. Thornton

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GEORGE H. THORNTON

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A PLAIN AND PRACTICAL METHOD FOR ACQUIRING A PERFECT
KNOWLEDGE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BEST
PHONETIC SHORTHAND.



BY

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THE SUPREME COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, AND OF THE COUNTY AND
SUBROGATE COURTS OF NIAGARA, GENESSEE, AND WYOMING COUNTIES.

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TO
THE HON. ALBERT HAIGHT,
JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT,
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, OF NEW YORK.
THIS WORK
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,
WITH THE HIGH ESTEEM OF
THE AUTHOR.

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THE MODERN STENOGRAPHER.

INTRODUCTION.

IN presenting a new or modified system of phonography for public favor, it is, perhaps, fitting that some statement should be made as to its believed necessity. There have been so many systems heretofore published, and there are so many now in use, that, unless a system possesses especial advantages over those already before the public, it would be useless to add another to the list.

The system presented in these pages has for many years been in actual use, not only by the author, but by other stenographers thoroughly competent to test its value. It has been exhaustively tried in all the varied branches of stenographic work, and has been shown to possess unequaled advantages in every particular. It has been found to meet all the demands of *verbatim* reporting, both in point of speed and legibility.

Phonography has now been long before the public. It has been not only a theoretical exposition of a system of brief writing, but a system that has become recognized as practically fitted for reporting the most

rapid utterances. It has been widely practiced throughout the English speaking world. In our country the class of men engaged in stenographic work is one of which any profession might well feel proud. They are, for the most part, men of intellect and education. They are men who have taken up stenography with an active intelligence, as great as is required for achieving success in any other business or professional pursuit. They have qualified themselves not only by a practical education, by a keen insight into the needs of their profession, and by a long training for the attainment of the utmost possible skill, but also by the most thorough analysis of stenographic principles. Now, phonography being practiced by men of such broad culture, and being largely a progressive art, it would be strange, indeed, if there were not many valuable suggestions made for its improvement. We find, accordingly, that such suggestions have been made, and many of them of great importance in their character. And for these reasons, if for no other, a system which embraces the really valuable features, the real improvements which have grown up as the result of an intelligent experience, and which discards the weak elements by a sort of special law of natural selection, certainly needs no apology. It has been the aim of the author to embody in this work, together with his own improvements on the system, all the modifications which practical experience has shown to be advantageous.