

**NEW AMERICAN STENOGRAPHY:
A SYSTEM OF SHORTHAND
WRITING ADAPTED TO SELF-
INSTRUCTION. [PHILADELPHIA]**

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New American Stenography: A System of Shorthand Writing Adapted to Self-Instruction.
[Philadelphia] by Nicholas Ward

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NICHOLAS WARD

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AMERICAN STENOGRAPHY:

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BY
NICHOLAS WARD.

*Naturam sequimur duces,
Artis non inopes, nec sine legibus.*

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PREFACE.

THE only apology for this little book is the conviction that shorthand is an art that has not yet reached its full measure of development; and that, after an experience of twenty years with the more prominent systems now in vogue, it was judged better to incorporate the changes suggested into a new system of which they would be integral parts, than to try the thankless task of patching them on to the old. The new wine has a right to a new bottle.

Were I to claim that "the system taught in these pages" is absolutely perfect; that it is, beyond anything hitherto seen, "the simplest, the quickest, and the best," I would not be doing any more than has been done by my predecessors, of whom it must be said that they have not proven themselves patterns of literary modesty. Whether the public will entertain the same convictions as myself concerning the *NEW AMERICAN STENOGRAPHY*, and whether the system will come unscathed through the fires of rival criticism, remains to be seen; but unless I believed that in some things it was superior to anything yet published, and for that reason a little worthier to become the *Shorthand of the Future*, this labor would never have been undertaken.

THE ALPHABET.

The letters of the stenographic alphabet are arranged in pairs, so that any letter resembling another *in sound* is represented by a similar *sign*. A few of the letters are paired merely for convenience' sake. The little dots before some of the characters show where the letters commence.

CONSONANTS.		VOWELS.
B and P		A long • as in fate
G and K))	e short • " fed
Z and S	((E long ^ " feed
M and N	_ _	i short ^ " fit
D and T))	I long v " fight
V and F	/ /	O long O " foe
L and R	/ /	o short O " for
J and Ch))	a short o " fat
W and Wh	\ \	OO - " food
H and Sh))	U long / " few
Y and Th))	u short \ " fur
Q	(Oi @ " foil
		Ow @ " fowl

FIRST LESSON.

DRILL ON THE ALPHABET.

1. Silent letters are never written. In the preliminary exercises an asterisk will show what letters must be left out.

For this lesson we will take the first four pairs of letters, and the circle-vowels. At first, the writing should be done quite slowly to cultivate accuracy; but as soon as some confidence is felt, the speed should be increased. Every one of the drills and exercises should be written very many times. Repetition will gradually engender speed.

B P G K Z S M N ä ö ö
 | |)))) — — • • •

B and P are always traced downwards; all the rest, forwards. G is always *hard*, and is pronounced *gay*; it never has the *soft* sound of G in gem: for this J is used. Make the cirlet for short A as small as possible (a tiny filled-in loop will do), and observe carefully the relative sizes of the other circle-vowels.

Smallest circle-vowel representing short A.

Am		Cap		Mau	
Anna		Pack		Ban	
Mab		Bag		Nab	
Mag		Gab		Pan	

Sam		Back		Nap	
Can		Knack		Cab	

Medium-sized circle-vowel for short O, and Au. These sounds are similar enough to warrant their being written with the same sign.

Paw		Psalm		Gnaw	
Palm		Calm		Awes	
Balk		Ma		Saw	


Largest circle-vowel for long O.

Beau		Poke		Bone	
Pope		Moan		Cone	
Mow		Mope		Oboe	
Oak		Nose		Como	
Oh!		Soap		Cocoa	
So		Pose		No	

SECOND LESSON.

ALPHABET DRILL, CONTINUED.

Let us proceed to exercise upon the next four pairs of consonants, with the same circle vowels.

D T V F L R J Ch ä ö ö


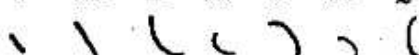
D and T are traced downwards; the same holds for V and F, and for J and Ch. The letters L and R are traced upwards.

Bad		Vat		Ran	
Pad		Fat		Rat	
Dam		Lad		Jack	
Tap		Lamb		Chat	
Fog		Fop		Daub	
Naught		Maud		Paul	
Pot		Loss		Law	
Top		Toss		Ball	
More		Solo		Boat	
Rope		Sewed		Dome	
Road		Coal		Rome	
Loaf		Dough		Joe	

THIRD LESSON.

ALPHABET DRILL, CONTINUED.

We now take the remaining consonants, with the same vowels.

W Wh H Sh Y Th Q


When W and Y are vowels, they are written according to the vowel-sound that they embody. Thus in the word *new*, *ew* is written as long U; in the word *try*, *y* represents long I. In such cases the consonant forms given above are never used.

Wag



Hat



Mash



Whack



Shallow



Yam



Hag



Shad



Than



Hack



Sham



Quack



Wall



Hot



Wrath



Hall



Pahaw!



Yacht



Hog



Shawl



Yawn



Woe



Home



Show



Woke



Choke



Both



Wore



Though



Quoth

