

UNEXAGGERATED ANALYSIS

PITMAN—SPENCERIAN CHARTIER, By J. M. Reaser, Principal.
COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT,



In the United States there are more than 500 Business Colleges teaching Spencerian Charter Shorthand.

In the last 30 days there have been more than twenty-five business colleges and High Schools adopting the Spencerian Chartier.

In the past 20 days there have been FOUR Business Colleges in the City of Chicago alone that have recognised its irresistible tide and have sent orders for books. These were formerly Pitman Schools.

WHO considers the cumulative difficulties through which one wades from his first lesson in the Pitman system until he reaches the point where he is master of it—and a careful, unbiased and unexaggerated analysis of these difficulties was rehearsed last week—is not surprised at the long and tedious journey.

He is not surprised at the time it takes the best mind, naturally gifted for his work, to reach the excellence of a full-fledged stenographer.

The expert himself will corroborate every word of this analysis.

It's the ignorant man, the person who really knows nothing of shorthand or so little as not to be able to make it of any use, who cannot take a speech or simple dictation fluently; it is this person who denies these obvious truths.

Indeed, a man need not know shorthand to examine this analysis and to recognize the truth. Biased or stubborn ignorance alone, a worship of the dead and distant past, of what is old and mouldy, these elements alone can experience a feeling of resistance to the encroachments of progress.

The same spirit would favor Fulton's boat in preference to the mighty crafts propelled by steam now ploughing the waters of the globe. To them the Lunitania is a desecration of the memory of Columbus. The Pitman system of shorthand is fast dying in this country and it's only the old Pitman teachers and writers who are too old to adopt something new that are sticking to it.

Since 1837 shorthand has been at a standstill. Students innumerable have been going over the same journey. Innumerable of them have fallen by the wayside. Few have reached a point where, with great difficulty, they write at a pacer's gait.

The very few have attained the summit. Some have never been able to master it. Pitman shorthand is no joke—no child's sport!

With night students, Pitman shorthand is a bugbear. The great majority of night students find it necessary to devote one and two years to it, if they master it to a point of usefulness. Eighty per cent never master it so as to be able to make practical use of it. One-half of them give it up in disgust in less than three months after beginning the study. The books of any school in New Orleans will show the above conditions to be absolutely true in every respect.

AN APPEAL TO REASON AND VISION.

It is desired here to occupy this space with a comparative analysis of the reason why—

The Spencerian Chartier shorthand may be taken up by school children in the Third Reader and learned even more easily than they learn longhand—much more easily.

We are prepared to show this as completely, as convincingly, as unanswerably, by appeal to reason and vision, as by students—whether experts or just beginning.

The old system is so difficult because it is a written language of consonants.

If, at any time, you write in a vowel, it is to make sure of an unusual word.

Except the innumerable word-signs, it is a written language of guessing.

Spencerian Chartier writes the vowels while it is writing the consonants.

The aim of this article is to show you clearly that—

The Spencerian Chartier System writes the vowels while it is writing the consonants; i. e., so large a percentage of them as to render the written language of Spencerian Chartier as legible to read and easier to learn than longhand.

Pitman never reached the point of considering physical advantages.

The task before him was to devise a system, which, however great the toll, would actually make shorthand possible.

That and that alone was his problem.

And fully three generations have plodded along, apparently content with his achievement.

The great majority of people know nothing of shorthand except what they hear. It is not spectacular. It cannot be driven around town like an automobile, that every one may judge of its smooth running machinery or its cumbersome.

There are pages of rules and exceptions in Pitman shorthand; his last edition, if published in this paper, would stir parents of New Orleans to indignation, and they would resent an appeal to their boys and girls to study a system as long drawn out, as hard to learn, as hard to write and still harder to read.

BEFORE OR AFTER THE CONSONANT.

When you see a consonant in the Pitman system, you never know, whatever its position, whether the vowel comes before or after the consonant.

The vowel, indicated by the Spencerian Chartier position, is always read after the first consonant.

Spencerian Chartier says write the vowel in writing the stroke.

There is no variation, hesitation, doubt.

In words of more than one syllable, in Spencerian Chartier, this first consonant and this first vowel are absolute, therefore, and sure.

If the word is longer than one syllable, the vowels are written with the subsequent strokes just as easily.

"Liable," for instance, has the "L" in the "I" position, the vowel "A" expressed by a joined hook—which is always "A"—and the "ble," just as legible.

"I'll show you one at the next stop." He had seen one riding on the trucks under the car, and at the next station he went down and called the hobo out. When the tramp entered the car he was covered with clinders and dust and looked like something from the lower regions. Hammond shook hands with him and introduced him, saying: "This is Mr. Rider Haggard." "Rider Haggard!" exclaimed the hobo. "Why, I've read all of your books and loved every one of them!"

Then he sat down and discussed literature with Haggard for half an hour. At the end of the talk Harris took him back, let him get some of the dust and clinders off and handed him a good cigar. "That fellow's not a tramp, said Haggard. 'He's a gentleman in distress.'"—Popular Magazine.

Described. "Pa, what is meant by a dealer in futures?" "A fortune teller, my son."—Washington Herald.

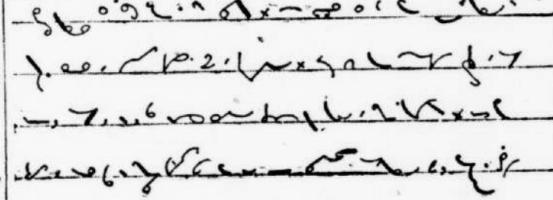
Omit the vowel signs in the Pitman system and you have "libel" as well as "liable," and many other words, and the context only can determine which is meant. If an initial vowel has to be written in Spencerian Chartier, it is written with a hook in its place, and it is read in the regular order.

Six children in the Sixth Reader studying Spencerian Chartier will be able to take dictation and read their notes fluently a month at least before six matured grown people, beginning Pitman system, can.

LITERAL TRANSLATION.

We want to give you here a literal translation of Pitman's Short-hand transcript of the words of P. T. Barnum, quoted for illustration in last week's article.

For fear, not acquainted with the system, you may think we are making merry with the great Sir Isaac, let us reproduce the shorthand itself.



Now, pray examine this, both you that write it or you that have boys and girls learning it.

Get the Pitman alphabet and study for yourself if this is not an exact transcript of the above:

"Sfrs bns s consnd iv a prt hb. M krax s tht vr ng prsn, f th skes should lrn thst shrd and tprng, and hr v mntl dslpn and nj tog, nj, too, ths lmt artn tmntm b-convnnt and prkt xx avbl. Ink convst tht wh noo nt ths to brnchs thrlr wl vr nd g hnggr in the prst jn, frthv a constnt wldng s."

HONOR BRIGHT.

Now, Mr. Papa and Mrs. Mamma, that is precisely the thing the lad whom you have studying Pitman has written when he has correctly written this utterance of Barnum.

Honor Bright, do you think it is the fault of the lad or the lassie that after they have learned to write this, they must begin all over again and learn to read it?

Don't you see the long and tedious toll they have to do before they accustom their minds to guessing correctly what they have written?

Is it any wonder there are comparatively so few stenographers who are worth anything?

Suppose you received this note in longhand, as written, "sfrs bns s consnd iv a prt hb"—suppose your friend wrote you a note like that, in the unvarying characters of longhand, in all honesty, could you make out what he was trying to say?

It is for this reason that it takes one so long to learn to write Pitman and then so long to read it after he has been plugging away weary months to learn how to write.

Spencerian Chartier, vastly simpler, smoother, more flowing and prettier to write, spells out.

The reading power of any shorthand depends on its expressed vowels.

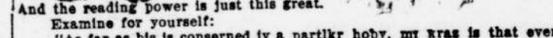
Spencerian Chartier defies the world to produce any system comparing with it in this reading power.

The Pitman system and all its off-shoots give you dots and dashes (heavy and light) in the different positions to indicate the vowels.

Try, if you can, to write-in one when you are taking a speech or even rapid dictation.

These vowel dots and dashes are the very summit of impossibility. Now, let us return, please, to Spencerian Chartier and our Barnum text!

Here is the way you write the showman's utterance in Spencerian:



And the reading power is just this great.

Examine for yourself:

"As far as bis is consnd iv a partkr hoby, m krax is that every jung prsn of both sekss shud lern at lest shrd and tprng. And her v mntl dslpn and noig togth, noig, to, that is alvrs srt, at smtm to b convnnt and prtkly avabl. I knnt convst that one who noo ths to brnchs thrlr wl hnd to go hungry in the presnt genration, for th v a constntly wldng use."

Don't you think you would understand your small boy if he wrote you that way? Understand him thoroughly—exactly?

AN APPEAL TO PROFESSIONAL MEN, BUSINESS MEN, EVERYBODY.

If you should receive a book—one you had ordered—a treatise on your own particular calling or profession that presented the subject with as many rules and exceptions, as many different ways of doing the same thing, as many exasperating suggestions of doing impossible things, as many dodges to avoid imperfect rules, as the following page of rules, taken from Pitman, page 91, lesson 22, latest edition, would you not file it among your antiques?

From that page the teacher asks the following questions and requires the following answers:

Q.—In how many ways can you express "h" in Pitman?

A.—By an upward H, by a downward H, by an asperate tick and by a dot.

Q.—When is the downward H used?

A.—The downward H is employed when it stands alone or is followed by a simple K or G, and that in most other cases (MOST OTHER CASES) the upward form is used.

Q.—How is H written medially and how do you distinguish it from S?

A.—When H is written medially care must be taken to write the circle of the H so that it cannot be mistaken for the circle S.

Q.—When is the asperate H used?

A.—The downward H is contrasted to a mere tick before S, M, L and R, and before the heavy letters, Z, mp and W.

Q.—Anything else?

A.—Yes. When convenient (WHEN CONVENIENT) the tick h may also be prefixed to a consonant hooked for R.

Q.—Have you any other way of expressing H?

A.—Yes, when the stroke H would be inconvenient, the asperate may be expressed by a light dot, placed before the vowel to be asperated.

Q.—Any other way to express H?

A.—Yes. In some of the Pitmanic systems you may thicken the W hook to express asperation, in such words as whale, whim, etc.

A GENERAL APPEAL.

I appeal to every man, woman and child in New Orleans who believes in progress; who believes that the electric light is an improvement on the old tallow-candle; who believes the electric light is more convenient and serviceable than the old tallow candle; who believes that the automobile is superior to the old-time wagon for ordinary transportation; who believes that the lightning express is superior to the old-time stage-coach for making a tour across the country; who believes in the "survival of the fittest," to stop, listen, think:

A few years ago when Spencerian Chartier Shorthand was in its infancy, there were business college men in this city who had the temerity to attack Spencerian Chartier Shorthand—anonymous with progress. To-day there is not a man to be found who is bold enough to deny a single truth in this article.

Four years ago, when the system was in its embryo state, it was furiously attacked in the highways and the byways, by the high and the low; by the tame and the vicious.

To-day there are more Business Colleges teaching the system than can be found using Isaac Pitman Shorthand. In the last thirty days there have been more than twenty-five business colleges and high schools to adopt the Spencerian Chartier. In the past twenty days there have been FOUR business colleges in the city of Chicago alone that have recognised its irresistible tide and have sent orders for books. These were formerly Pitman schools.

Short. Her days are short. Down by the water; But, oh, her bathing Suit is shorter!—Detroit Free Press.

The Arabic Language. The Arabic used in the Koran differs as much from the Arabic used in ordinary conversation and intercourse in the east as Latin differs from Italian. The Koran Arabic is that of the literary classes; colloquial Arabic is that of the common people.

Bedouin Arabs. The Bedouin Arabs are small eaters. Six or seven dates soaked in melted butter serve a man a whole day, with a very small quantity of coarse flour or a little ball of rice.

Banks. Banks existed in China, Babylon, Greece and Rome before the Christian era. The earliest records of European banks are those of Venice, founded A. D. 1171.

S. C. Oswald, Plumbing and Sewering Work
OUR SPECIALTY
PROMPT ESTIMATES. 401 OPELOUSAS AVE. PHONE ALGIERS 218

Improve Your Parks and Gardens
Hinderer's Iron Works
1112-1118 Camp Street - - - New Orleans, La.
Iron Fences Cheaper Than Wood
Iron Chairs, Tables, Settees, Flower Boxes, Hanging Pots, Arbors, Arches, Vases, Fountains and Benches for Public Parks, Office Railing, Stable Fixtures, Hitching Posts, Carriage Steps, Malleable and Gray Iron Castings, Water Troughs, Fence Material, Hygienic Drinking Fountains.
Cemetery Fences and Memorial Crosses

Do You Know
That in the average three-minute telephone conversation at least 300 words are spoken?
That, unlike the telegram, a telephone talk is a message sent and answer received?
That this is accomplished at one and the same time for the same price?
What would the cost be if you sent by telegraph the same number of words spoken in the ordinary telephone conversation?
Our splendid facilities go everywhere.
The rates are reasonable.
Save time and money by patronizing us.
We transmit money by telephone on reasonable terms.
Cumberland Telephone & Telegraph Co., Inc.

FOR YOUR
Comfort and Convenience
OUR ELEGANT AND COMPLETE LINE OF CABINET, ELEVATED, OVEN AND STANDARD RANGES NOW ON DISPLAY AT OUR SALESROOM. INQUIRE ABOUT OUR NEW CIRCULATING WATER-HEATERS.
N.O. Gas Light Company

GROCERIES Delivered to your home at prices that will compare with any in the city.
FRANK CASTROGIOVANNI, Phone Alg 531., 1000 Alix St.

Louisiana Steam Pressing Club,
547 VERRET STREET. Phone, Algiers 127.
SUITS CLEANED, PRESSED AND DYED.
Our new method steam presser makes them look like new and last long. Be sure that no one but
DORSEY gets your clothes—Prompt payment for lost or damaged clothing. Try him—He will treat you right.

The Virtue of Traveling.
There are two great fallacies based on ancient and rusty saws it were a noble deed to demolish. One is that traveling is a form of wrongdoing, founded belike on the stupid saying that a rolling stone gathers no moss. A pertinent reply would be that a mossy stone is never highly polished and that a stone is not a proper place for moss, anyway. The other undermining caution is that one ought to see ones own new country before one sees the wealth of the old countries. Unless on business bent, there is no earthly reason why one who can afford to travel should not begin at once with the richest and most beautiful countries, with Italy and Greece. Life is short and uncertain; one cannot tell what may happen to deprive one of sight and health and means day after tomorrow, therefore it is well to see and enjoy the best while one can.—Harper's Bazar.

Deadly Pulque.
In spite of her long years of independence Mexico has not solved the drink problem. The national drink of the poorer classes is pulque (pronounced "poolkay"), the fermented offspring of a plant resembling the aloe. It tastes like stale buttermilk dashed with a strong dose of stagnant water and must be drunk within twenty-four hours of fermentation. Its action is instant and powerful, and its speedy results are softening of the brain, paralysis of the nerves and death. So deadly are its effects that no employer of labor will employ a peon from the pulque making districts until he has tried everywhere else.—Chicago News.

Anticipating.
"My wife and myself had another foolish quarrel."
"About what?"
"About where we would go if we had money enough to travel."—Washington Herald.

He Never Went There Again.
Hostess (at the party)—Miss Robinson has no partner for this waltz. Would you mind dancing with her instead of with me? Hawkard—On the contrary, I shall be delighted.

Expecting Too Much.
It was a cold, raw day, but the Nev-ersweats and the Fernoughts were playing a game of ball on the prairie just the same.
The pitcher for the Nev-ersweats, his fingers half frozen, failed dismally in getting the balls over the plate.
"Aw," said the captain, "I 'ought yew wuz one o' dese cold weather pitchers!"
"I am," said the slab artist, blowing on his benumbed digits to warm them. "but I ain't a ice pitcher, blame ye!"—Chicago Tribune.

Useless Speculation.
"I often wonder," an elderly wife said sadly one day to her husband, "whether all those vows and protestations you made me during our courtship were really true?"
"Well, my dear," the husband answered mildly, "what's the difference whether they were true or not, since we both believed them?"—Washington Star.

Evil Enough.
There is evil enough in man, God knows. But it is not the mission of every young man and woman to detail and report it all. Keep the atmosphere as pure as possible and fragrant with gentleness and charity.—Dr. John Hall.

Bologna's Leaning Towers.
Bologna's two square leaning towers, the Garisenda and the Asinelli, are more startling than the tower at Pisa. The Asinelli tower is 317 feet high and was built in 1109. The Garisenda was built a year later and was originally taller, but is now only 153 feet high. Its inclination, however, is greater than that of the other tower.

Her Title.
"He married her for her title."
"You mean the other way about, don't you?"
"No; her title to a lot of valuable real estate."—Boston Transcript.

A Pretzel.
"Paw, what's a pretzel?"
"A cracker with cramps, my son. Now go to bed."—St. Joseph News-Press.

Ship Island Railroad Company
DEEP WATER ROUTE
Direct Line Between the Capital and the Deep Sea.
Summer Excursions Week End
Every Mississippiian
Should Take Advantage of This
Opportunity to Visit Mississippi's
Deep Water Port, GULFPORT.

GO WEST
VIA
Southern
Pacific
THE COMFORTABLE AND SAFE
WAY
ON Burning Locomotives
Electric Block Signals
Standard Sleepers of Latest
Designs and Electric
Lights
Hiking Car Service Best
in the World
The City Ticket Agent for Full
Particulars About Service
and Schedule, or
Write
J. H. R. PARSONS,
Gen. Pass. Agent, New Orleans, La.
C. W. MURPHY,
Pass. Agent, New Orleans, La.
225 St. Charles St.

CARDINAL'S SALT CUP.
Work of Art Designed by
Benvenuto Cellini.
The same time that the cardinal
was on one occasion
across the United States as
agent of John Hays Hammond in
his private car.
"I want to see," said Hag-
gard, "the real tramp. I haven't
believe you have as many as
Hammond, the eldest son of
Hammond, promised: