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UNEXAGGERATED ANALYSIS

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

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT,

Spencerian College Business

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 recognized its irrisistible 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 Lusitania 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 shorthhand 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 toil, 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 cumbersomeness.

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 i stance, 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.

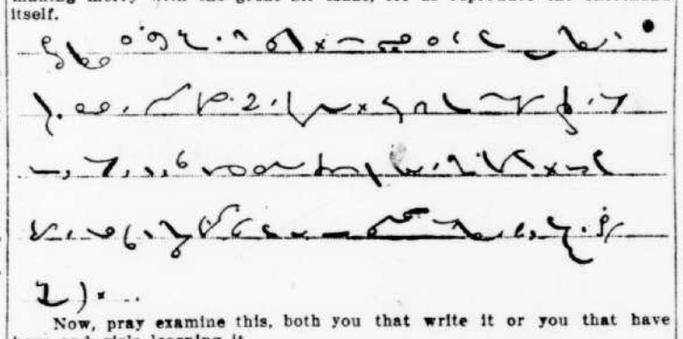
Omit the vowel signs in the Pitman system and you have "libel" as well as "liable," and many other words, and the context only can determine which is meant. If an initial vowel has to be written in Spencerian Chartier, it is written with a hook in its place, and it is read in the regular order.

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 Shorthand 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 bsns s consrnd iv a prt hb. M krax s tht vr ng prsn, f bth skses should lrn tlest shrnd and tprng, and hr u v mntl dspln and nj tog, nj, too, ths lmst srtn tsmtm b-convnnt and prkt xx avlbl. Ink consv tht wn hoo ns ths to brnchs thorle wl vr nd g hnggr in the prsnt jn, frthv a constntl widng 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 toil 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 bsns s consrnd 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.

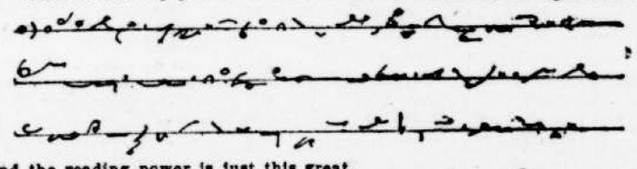
The Pitman system and all its off-shoots give you dots and dashes (heavy and light) in the different positions to indicate the vowels.

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 conserned iv a partikr hoby, my kras is that every yung persn of both sekses shud learn at lest shortand and tiprting. And her you v mentl dissipln and noig togthr, noig, to, that is alwas sert, at smtm to b convenent and pratktly avalabl. I kannt consev that one who nos thes to branchs thorly will hav ned to go hungry in the presnt genration, for tha v a constantly widning 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 contracted 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 car is an improvement on the old mule-car; 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—synonymous 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 recognized its irresistible tide and have sent orders for books. These were formerly Pitman schools.

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That, unlike the telegram, a telephone talk is a message sent and answer received?

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CHARTER

OF GREENWELL SPRINGS WATER COMPANY.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF LOUISIANA, PARISH OF ORLEANS, CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

Be It Known, That on this tenth day of the month of February, in the year of nineteen hundred and eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and thirty-fifth, before me, William McLellan Fayssoux, a notary public, duly commissioned and qualified, in and for the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana, therein residing, and in the presence of the witnesses hereinafter named and undersigned, personally came and appeared the parties whose names are hereunto subscribed, who severally declared that, availing themselves of the provisions of the laws of the State of Louisiana relative to the organization of corporations, and especially of Act No. 125 of the legislative acts of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana for the year 1888, and approved April 10th, 1880, as amended by Act 154 of the Legislative Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana for the year of 1902 and approved July 8, 1902, relative to corporations and the organization and formation thereof, they have covenanted and agreed, and do by these presents covenant, agree and bind themselves, as well as such other persons who may hereafter become associated with them, to form a corporation for the objects and purposes and under the stipulations and articles following, to-wit:

ARTICLE I.

The name and style of this corporation shall be "GREENWELL SPRINGS WATER COMPANY." It shall have power and authority to exist and enjoy succession for the full term and period of ninety-nine years, commencing on and to be computed from and after the date and day hereof.

ARTICLE II.

The domicile of this corporation shall be in the city of New Orleans, State of Louisiana. All citations and other legal process shall be served on the president of the corporation, or in his absence or inability to act, upon the vice president; or in the absence or inability of both the president and the vice-president to act, then upon the secretary, or in the absence or inability of the president, vice president and secretary to act, then upon the treasurer of this corporation.

The president shall be the executive officer of this corporation; he shall preside at meetings of the board of directors and stockholders.

ARTICLE III.

The objects and purposes of this corporation and the nature of the business to be carried on by it are declared to be as follows:

To deal in, purchase and sell natural mineral water, mineral waters, timber, lumber, sand and gravel; to construct and operate hotels, hotels, gravel plants and bottling works; to construct, work and maintain railroads, canals, plank roads, bridges, ferries and transportation by pipe lines; to construct and carry on works to supply cities and towns with electricity, gas or water; to convey water by canal or pipe lines for the purpose of irrigation or drinking purposes, to construct and carry on iron, brass and copper foundries; to create lines of telegraph and telephone; to establish chemical laboratories and manufacturies of all kinds; to open and work mines; to bore for oil, petroleum, gas, salt or any other mineral or earthern products; to establish pipe lines and other means of transportation of said products to market; to maintain docks, ships and other vehicles for the transportation of freight and passengers; for the construction and maintenance of drainage and sewerage and land reclamation; for the manufacture and transportation of lumber of all kinds; to buy, sell, convey, lease and own real estate; and to engage in such line and such business as may be necessary for the objects of this corporation, or as its directors may deem advisable, and generally to do all things necessary or convenient to properly conduct the business of this corporation.

ARTICLE IV

This corporation may sue and be sued in its corporate name; hold, have, receive, purchase, convey, sell, mortgage hypothecate, pledge, lease, and sublease, and enjoy real, personal and mixed property; also borrow money, make and issue notes and bonds; make contracts; receive grants of land or of personal property, and make and use a corporate seal, the same to alter or break at pleasure; but the failure to have a seal shall not invalidate any of the acts or proceedings of this corporation; name and appoint such managers, directors, officers, clerks and agents as the interest and convenience of said corporation may require; and through its board of directors make and establish such by-laws, rules and regulations for the proper management and regulation of the affairs of said corporation as may be necessary, and the same to alter and change at pleasure, and shall possess all the rights, powers and privileges to which corporations are or may be by any general law or laws of this state authorized and entitled to possess. Said corporation may exercise its corporate powers within any state or territory within the United States, or foreign country that will permit the same.

The capital stock of this corporation is hereby fixed at the sum of fifty thousand dollars, represented by five hundred shares, par value of one hundred dollars each. This corporation shall begin to do business as soon as the full amount thereof has been subscribed for; all transfers of stock shall be made on the books of the corporation and must be signed by the stockholder or his attorney.

The board of directors may issue certificates of paid-up stock in payment of property or goods actually delivered to this corporation or for services actually rendered to it, or for rights, privileges or franchises transferred to it, the valuation in each instance to be agreed to by the board of directors, which shall have full and final power to do so.

At all elections by stockholders each share shall be entitled to one vote, to be cast by the stockholder in person or by his attorney holding his written proxy.

ARTICLE VI.

No stockholder shall be allowed to dispose, directly or indirectly, in whole or part, of the shares of stock held or owned by him without first giving five days' written notice to the secretary of this corporation of the intention of such stockholders to dispose of his share of stock in whole or in part, which notice shall state the number of shares proposed to be sold and the price at which such stockholder proposes to sell, and whether or not he has received a bona fide offer for any portion of the shares of stock proposed to be sold. If such bona fide offer has been made, the notice shall state the highest rate offered for said stock and the name of the person offering the same. If the offer be in writing it must accompany the notice.

The secretary shall thereupon transmit to each stockholder a copy of such notice, certified by him to be correct. During the fifteen days subsequent to the said notice by the said stockholders to the secretary, the other stockholders of this corporation shall have the privilege and option of purchasing the shares of stock proposed, to be sold at the price named in such notice, or at the highest price offered by any bona fide purchaser. If, however, the prices above mentioned exceed the value of such stock as shown by the books of this corporation at the end of the fiscal year immediately preceding the notice, then, and in that event, the stockholders shall have the privilege and option of purchasing the shares of stock proposed to be sold at their book value as herein stated. Should more than one stockholder desire to purchase said stock at such price, the shares of stock proposed to be sold shall be proportionately divided among such stockholders as desire to purchase the same and give notice to the secretary to that effect prior to the expiration of fifteen days above provided for. If none of the stockholders elect to purchase the said stock within the time above provided, the stockholder proposing to sell shall have the privileges and is authorized to sell the stock about which he has given notice, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the notice given by him, and not otherwise.

The officers of this corporation are hereby prohibited from issuing certificates for stock sold contrary to or in conflict with the provisions of this charter.

ARTICLE VII.

The business and affairs and corporate powers of this corporation shall be transacted by a board of five directors, to be composed of stockholders thereof, and they, and each of them, shall be elected by a majority of all the votes cast at a meeting to be held for that purpose.

A majority of said board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction and management of all business of said corporation.

The first board of directors shall consist of J. W. Barkdull, George A. Hero, C. Morgan Abrams, E. H. Bright and Bertrand Beer, and they shall hold office until the second Tuesday of February, 1912, or until their successors have been elected and inducted into office, and said board shall be elected annually thereafter on the second Tuesday of February.

Any vacancy occurring on said board of directors, from any cause, shall be filled by the remaining directors.

The board of directors may make such by-laws, rules and regulations as they may think proper for the transaction of the business and affairs of said corporation, and change, alter and amend the same at pleasure, and shall exercise all the powers of this corporation, appoint and fix salaries of all officers, clerks and employes, not herein mentioned, the same to change or dismiss at pleasure; fix the salaries of the officers provided herein; take judicial proceedings in the name and on behalf of this corporation.

The officers of said corporation shall be a president, vice president, secretary, who may also be a treasurer, and who may or may not be a stockholder or director, who shall hold office at the pleasure of the board of directors.

The following named stockholders shall be the first officers of this corporation, namely: J. W. Barkdull, president; George A. Hero, vice president; C. Morgan Abrams, secretary-treasurer, and they shall hold office for one year, or until their successors have been elected, and shall after each election take office as soon as possible. Meetings of the stockholders may be called after five days' notice and after such notice to each stockholder has been mailed to his business or residence address. A failure to elect directors on the date fixed by the charter shall not operate a dissolution of the corporation. The board of directors shall have power to fill vacancies in their number prior to the election by the stockholders at the annual meeting.

Any director may at any time give his proxy or power of attorney in writing to any other stockholder or any other member of the board of directors, to represent him at any or all meetings of the board of directors, and in such cases the proxy, whether held by another stockholder or another director, shall in every respect count for the purposes as if said directors were personally present.

ARTICLE VIII.

This charter may be amended, modified or altered, or said corporation may be dissolved with the assent of three-fourths of the stockholders present or represented at a general meeting called for that purpose after five days' previous notice as hereinabove prescribed. But any and all meetings of stockholders, whether for the purposes of liquidation or for any other purpose, may be held at any time without notice, by unanimous consent of all stockholders in writing, filed with the secretary.

ARTICLE IX.

No stockholder shall ever be liable or responsible for the contracts or faults of this corporation in any further sum than the unpaid balance due to the corporation on the shares owned by him or subscribed for by him, nor shall any mere informality in organization have the effect of rendering this charter null and void or of exposing the stockholders to any liability.

ARTICLE X.

Whenever this corporation is dissolved, either by limitation or from any other cause, its affairs shall be liquidated under the superintendency of two stockholders to be chosen for that purpose by a majority in amount of the stockholders present or represented at the meeting of stockholders at which the election is held. Said commissioners shall remain in office until the affairs of said corporation shall have been fully liquiated. In case of the death of one of the commissioners or refusal or inability to act, the surviving or remaining commissioner shall continue to act, and shall select another stockholder in the place and stead of the commissioner who shall have ceased to act.

ARTICLE XI.

The president may, in his discretion, and shall upon the written request of two stockholders, call a special meeting of the stockholders of this corporation.

This charter shall serve as the original subscription list, the subscribers hereto having set opposite their names, respectively the number of shares of stock for which they have subscribed.

Thus done and passed in my office in the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, on the day, month and years first written, in the presence of Messrs. A. Bugdahl, Jr., and J. Zach Spearing, competent witnesses, who sign hereto with me, notary, and said appearers, after reading the whole.

J. W. BARKDULL,
and Others.

A. BUGDAHL, JR.
J. ZACH SPEARING.

(Signed) W. Mc. L. FAYSSOUX,
Notary Public.

I, the undersigned Deputy Recorder of Mortgages, in and for the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing act of incorporation of the "GREENWELL SPRINGS WATER COMPANY," was this day recorded in the Mortgage Office, Parish of Orleans, in Book 1018, Folio ..

New Orleans, La., Feb. 10, 1911.

(Signed) EMILE LEONARD,
Deputy Recorder of Mortgages.

I, the undersigned, notary public, in and for the parish of Orleans, do hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a true and correct copy of the original act of incorporation of the "GREENWELL SPRINGS WATER COMPANY," and of the certificate of the Recorder of Mortgages for this parish, thereunto appended and of record in my office.

In faith whereof I have hereunto set my hand and official seal on this 10th day of February, 1911.

(Seal) W. Mc. L. FAYSSOUX,
Notary Public.

feb16-23mch2-9-16-23 '11