

Isaac Pitman published his first work, entitled: "Sound-hand," and remedied the defects of former systems by adopting the simplest possible signs for the representation of the various sounds capable of being uttered. He further displayed his inventive genius by his philosophical arrangement of these characters, together with the expression of the vowels without writing them, thereby gaining the desideratum of shorthand—namely, the ability of writing with the rapidity of speech, and at the same time having the writing as legible as print.

There was published in this country previous to the publication of Isaac Pitman's work, a system by Rev. Phineas Baily, entitled "A Pronouncing Stenography." The first edition of this work was published in 1818, and the second edition was published in 1833. Mr. Baily also had characters to represent all the consonant and vowel sounds. The characters for the vowels were formed from strokes so that they could be connected with the consonant strokes, while Pitman's vowels were represented by dots and could not therefore, be connected, but had to be inserted after the consonant outline was formed.

Time will prevent comparisons and explanations of this system, as well as the other systems which were published in this country previous to 1837, the earliest one of which was a publication in 1789. A second edition of this work was printed at Philadelphia in 1799. This was the Gurney system, first published in England in 1742, and published at intervals from that time until 1884, when the eighteenth edition made its appearance, being equivalent to a new edition every seven or eight years. In 1793, Thomas Lloyd published the Taylor system, and among the subscribers for this book appear the illustrious names of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe. Following Lloyd, there were modifications of the Taylor system published by C. Mangan at Boston in 1810, M. T. C. Gould at Albany in 1823, H. L. Barnum at Baltimore in 1824, and Thomas Towndrow published a modification of the Lewis system in 1831, and a system of his own in 1834.

Having thus briefly shown how the systems of shorthand grew and multiplied, we will now refer, for a moment, to instances relating to its practical application for legal and parliamentary reporting. We have already noted how shorthand was used for reporting lectures, sermons, etc. in the 14th, 15th, and 16th cen-