

continued eight years, and in which were engaged the most famous men of English history, such as Burke, who, Macaulay says, was, "in amplitude of comprehension and richness of imagination, superior to every orator, ancient or modern." There was also Fox, the great champion of the American colonists against those laws which precipitated the revolution; as well as Pitt, Sheridan, Windham, etc., all intellectual giants and men of rare ability, and it is doubtful if ever there were engaged in any single trial so many famous men. Thomas Gurney was the official reporter for the government, and William Blanchard (author of a system of shorthand) for the defendant. Had they not had shorthand reporters to expedite its proceedings, this trial might have lasted for a quarter of a century instead of eight years.

Thomas Gurney was also officially appointed by Parliament just previous to the revolution of the thirteen states, to report its proceedings, and its proceedings have been reported by the Gurney family until the present time.

Previous to Gurney, Sir Henry Cavendish, a member of parliament, took copious notes of its proceedings, from 1768 to 1774. In the preface of these, he says: "My original design was to take down the headings only of the several speeches, but in subsequent sessions, the debates will be found more at large and with very few omissions, except in the case of a few members whose rapid delivery outran my ability to keep up with them." He also says, by way of excuse, that "Those favorite words 'hear, hear,' frequently echoed through the house and forbade all hearing."

In America, shorthand was professionally used during colonial, revolutionary and constitutional times.

In 1735, in New York city, a trial between the publishers of the *Journal and Gazette*, in which a number of questions regarding the liberty of the American press were in dispute, was reported by Edward Morris, a relative of the great statesman, Gouverneur Morris. The trial of the accused soldiers, just after the Boston massacre, a trial in which the names of Adams and Quincy appear, was taken in shorthand and published.

The minutes of the debates and proceedings of the convention of 1787, which adopted the Constitution of the United States, were taken in shorthand. The proceedings of many of the conventions of the Thirteen States, convened to ratify the Federal