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SHORTHAND IN TEN EASY LESSONS.

LESSON IX.—Vocalization of Pl and Pr ; Prefixes and Suffixes.

Concerning the vocalization of the *pl* and *pr* series of consonants, it is remarked on page 36 of the "Teacher" that a dot/vowel may be expressed between the two letters of one of the initial hook characters (*pr*, *pl*, *fl*, &c.) by writing a small circle—smaller than circle *s*—BEFORE the consonant for a long vowel, and AFTER the consonant for a short one; thus, second-place long vowel, *pl* chairman, second-place short vowel,

pl German.

In other words, either of the three long vowels, *ah*, *eh*, *er*, may be expressed between the two letters (the consonant and the hook), before or above for a long vowel and after or below for a short vowel; thus, Long *pl* careless, Short,

pl calcium. But, although this arrangement—namely, that of writing the circle before or above the consonant for a long vowel, and after or below for a short vowel—should be adhered to whenever possible, it sometimes happens that the position of the consonant renders it inconvenient to observe this rule, and in such cases the circle may be written on either side for either a long or a short vowel. The dash or stroke vowels, *aw*, *oh*, *oo*, may be written through the consonant as: *pl* court, *pl* cut. A diphthong between the two consonants is expressed thus:

pl soldiers.

In compounds where an initial hook or circle would interfere with the expression of a first-place vowel or diphthong between the two consonants, the sign for either may be used at the beginning of the hooked consonant, as: *pl* dormouse, *pl* child. So, too, when a FINAL hook or circle would interfere with a vowel or diphthong, the sign may be placed at the end of the word, thus: *pl* figures. It is seldom neces-

sary to mark an unaccented vowel in a double consonant of the *pl* and *pr* series: the syllables *per*, *pel*, *kel*, &c., speaking for themselves. The *pl* and *pr* series of double consonants should be kept generally for such words as contain no vowel between the two consonants, or only an

absent one, thus: *pl* pray, *pl* appear, but

per, *pl* pole, &c., should be written thus.

Outlines that require this special method of vocalization seldom occur, the ordinary practice being departed from only occasionally for the purpose of obtaining more convenient forms; nevertheless, the principle must be well understood for the learner should not only know that a word is written in this or that way, but he should also thoroughly understand the principles upon which accurate outlines are formed.

The following words illustrate the use of the prefix *con* or *com* and the suffixes *ing* or *ings* (see

"Teacher," page 37): *pl* compared, *pl* con-

cert, *pl* comfort-ing, *pl* computing, *pl* build-ings.

Work for this month to the end of Exercise 62.

Those of our readers who are desirous of taking up this valuable course of shorthand lessons, can do so by purchasing the "Phonographic Teacher", "Key to Phonographic Teacher", and two of Isaac Pitman & Sons' Students' Note-Books No. 1. These works will be sent postpaid by the Copp, Clark Co. Ltd., 64 Front Street, West, Toronto, on receipt of 50 cents.