

on, these stains wil multiply, as they hav in English, til they get pure orthografy into a filthy mudl.

As to consonants, L, Q, v and x ar not needed. It is notabl that Japanese laks L, as Chinese laks R. We ar told: "Consonants ar pronounst aproximatly as in English." F is a tru labial, not a labio-dental, as in English. G is always hard. N final is midway between tru N and nasalized N. Y is always a consonant. Before u, z has the sound dz almost. H before i is nearly like ch in German *ich*.

Japanese has about level stres, like French and Oriental languages generally, for we ar told: "Generally speaking, Japanese pronunciation, both of vowels and consonants, is les broad and hevty than that curent in most European languages, and especially English. . . . Students must beware of importing into Japanese strong and constantly recurring stres by whic . we in English singl out one syllabl in evry word [of more than one syllabl] and chief words in a sentence."

— The s in Bismark's name is pronounst s, not z.

GOOD FOR PENN!—Last sesion, the legislature of Pennsylvania past a resolution, introdust by J. W. Walk, M.D., Philadelphia, requiring apointment by State Govenor of a State Comision to examin and report on a question of speling and its amendment as related to public education. The Comision wil set to work shortly. Ontario shud do likewise.

WHAT IS VOLAPÜK?—It is a scientific international language, not to supersede any living language but to be lerned next to mother-tung by evry educated person. Formd on general model of Aryan family of languages, selecting from each the tru and beutiful, discarding irregularitis, oditis and difficultis. Material taken largely from English. Far easier to lern than any existing language. Perfectly regular and transparent. Invented by Rev. Father J. M. Schleyer, Constance, Baden, Germany, who publishes its organ, *Volapükablad*, 65c's a y'r. In English ther is no dictionary yet, and only text-book at all satisfactory is *Abridged Gramar of Volapük* by Prof. Kerckhoffs, adapted to use of English-speaking peopl by Karl Dornbush, publisht by H. Le Sou-dier, 174 Boulevard St. Germain, Paris, France. Price, 1 franc 25. It may be had for 35 cents from C. E. Sprague, 54 W. 32d St., N. Y., who is preparing a Handbook for those who understand English only and which wil be redy this fall, price about \$1. An articl by R. Walker in *American Magazine* for June, entitled "The Universal Language," givs farther explanation of Voia-pük.

— A correspondent of the N. Y. *Mail* says that the cuntry-seat of Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Hawarden, is pronounst Hårdn (or Ho'dn if R be dropt.) Why don't they leav out the silent, useles and misleading leters then? and hav it simpl, short and sensibl.

— A uniform orthografy with notation of accent wud lighnt by haf the labor of lerning English.—*Prof. Hadley*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### ETYMOLOGY--W, Y--NEW SHAPES.

STR.—We shud hear the last of the Etymologic objection if all wud read and consider the litl cialog yu gave 3 months ago [in which Jim, radical litl scamp, and cunning litl rebl, "argues the case" with his teacher.]

A. B. Pikard is right about w and y. In Welsh, which has the most nearly fonetic orthografy of any language in Europ, w is used before either a vowel or a consonant, and i is used where in Eng. we find y. Even in English i is ofn used for y. In last syllabls of *pin-ion*, *pon-iard*, *William*, the i is identical with y in *yon*, *yard* and *yam*. So much for theory. In practice, however, no scheme has proposed to spel yet as *iet*. [Pikard's scheme does. York he puts Ierk. Put and would he spels pwt and wwd.] Evry scheme finds it necessary to make some concessions to appearance.

To A. J. Pierce I wud say: E. Jones does not "fight" new shapes. As an abstract question, and one of principl, I hav always advocated new leters as the ultimatt aim of Amended Speling. Some strenuous advlcats of new shapes as a "pius opinion" wil not move a litl finger [or furnish 10 cents] to giv practical efect to their views. At present, in riting to papers supposed to be in sympathy, it is ofn advantageous to sho how far we can go with present leters, where it wud be imposibl to introduce new shapes. Liverpool, Eng. E. JONES.

### BENGOF & DOUGLAS.

STR.—As Messrs. Bengough and Douglass advocate Amendment of Speling, with omission of useles leters especially, why do they not set us exampl by leaving useles leters from their own names. Tru, the rule is to leav proper names untucht. Yet, if they "mean busines," they wil "begin at home," like charity. Otherwise, it is a case of "Don't do as I do, do as I tel yu"!!—advic not likely to be taken since precept is not haf as good as exampl. If they wud do so, we cud then adopt the shordnd forms. Yur two admirabl. rules for Revised Sp. applied to their names giv Bengof and Douglas. Toronto.

CUT IT SHORT.