

determined by convenience in joining. When either form is equally, or nearly equally, convenient, the right *fr*, &c., should be used, because they agree with the *pr* series.

Double Letters.—You may now learn the double letters, which you will find at the foot of page 3 of the "Teacher." The best way to impress them on your memory is to write a line of each.

Circles Added to Initial Hooks.—In addition to the simple method of using circle *s* or *z*, it may be prefixed to the hooks *r* and *l* to form the triple consonants *spr*, *spl*. For example, *pr*, *spr* (as in *spray*);

ter, *ster* (as in *strip*); *pl*.

spl (note that *s* is *sp*, hence circle *s*

is turned inside the hook for *spl*). Sometimes the triple consonants occur medially—that is, with another consonant preceding them, as in *display*. When one *o*, the *l* or *r* hooked

letters follows the circle *s*, and a perfect hook cannot be formed, an imperfect one will suffice, as: *explain*.

All the examples in the "Teacher" should be carefully copied several times. The following rhyme will assist the student if committed to memory at this stage:

To keep in mind the way to trace
The hooks and also circle *s*.—
ON STROKES THAT CURVE, by this abide,
All hooks and circles turn inside.
ON all STRAIGHT LINES, the simple *s*
Is written backward: as *ake* → *guess*.
Initial hooks remember well,
Forward for *r*,—backward for *l*.
Work for this month to end of Exercise No. 34.

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.

(To be continued)

CORRESPONDENCE

Press Gallery

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OTTAWA, May 3d, 1903.

MR. C. A. PITMAN,

care Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd.,
31 Union Square, N. Y.

Gentlemen.—I notice in the report of a meeting of the Public School Board of Toronto, at which the relative merits of the Pitman and Light-Line systems of Shorthand were under discussion, Mr. H. A. E. Kent is reported to have stated that he had received an unfavorable report of the

Pitman system from this Gallery, and I have been thinking the matter over and have arrived at the conclusion that you should know that as a matter of fact the Isaac Pitman system is the only one now used in this Gallery, moreover, of the Hansard Staff, which reports the proceedings of the House, five of the six English reporters write the Isaac Pitman system, and the sixth is a disciple of your Uncle Benn.

As a writer of your father's system since 1875, I dislike to see misrepresentation so glaring.

Yours very truly,

CHAS. A. MATTHEWS, C.S.R.

Vice-President