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ADDRESS

ON

EARLY PRINTING IN AMERICA

DELIVERED BEFORE THE VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
AT MONTPELIER, OCTOBER 25, 1894, BY

HENRY O. ^{Oscar} HOUGHTON,

WITH THE ADDRESS OF

JUSTIN S. ^{S. Morrill} MORRILL,

ON PRESENTATION OF THE SENATOR'S PORTRAIT TO THE SOCIETY
BY THOMAS W. WOOD,

WITH THE

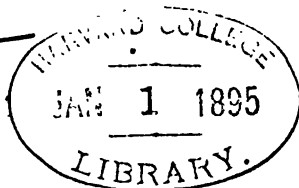
Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society,

OCTOBER 16 AND 25, 1894.

MONTPELIER:
PRESS OF THE WATCHMAN PUBLISHING CO.
1894.

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Joint Resolution.

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives :
That the Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to procure the printing of twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Proceedings of the Annual Meetings of the Vermont Historical Society, October 16, 1894, and of the adjourned Annual Meeting of said Society, October 25, 1894, and of the address of Hon. JUSTIN S. MORRILL and Hon. H. O. HOUGHTON, delivered before said Society, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, on the evening of said day, to be disposed of as follows : To each member of the Senate and House of Representatives, one copy ; to each Town and City Clerk, one copy ; to each College, Normal School, Academy and Public Library, one copy ; to the Governor, each of the heads of Departments, and each Judge of the Supreme Court, one copy ; to the VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, four hundred copies, and the remainder to the State Library, subject to the control of the Trustees thereof.

WILLIAM W. STICKNEY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives

ZOPHAR M. MANSUR,

President of the Senate.

Approved November 6, 1894.

URBAN A. WOODBURY,

Governor.

PROCEEDINGS.

THE VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, pursuant to notice, held its Annual Meeting in the State House, in Montpelier, on Tuesday the 16th day of October, A. D. 1894.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Hon. HIRAM CARLETON, and opened with prayer by the Rev. A. D. BARBER.

The following members were present: G. G. BENEDICT, of Burlington; A. D. BARBER, of Williston; R. M. COLBURN, of Springfield; GEO. C. CHANDLER, of Berlin; HIRAM CARLETON, of Montpelier; G. A. DAVIS, of Windsor; CHARLES DEWEY, of Montpelier; JOS. A. DE BOER, of Montpelier; C. S. FORBES, of St. Albans; W. S. HAZEN, of Northfield; T. S. PECK, of Burlington; GEO. W. SCOTT, of Montpelier.

The records of the last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. DAVIS, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Treasurer be and is hereby directed to give notice to each member of the fact that his dues, if any, are unpaid, and the amount thereof, and that he inclose in such notice a copy of the 3d By-Law; that any member who will pay two dollars, of which one dollar shall represent the dues of current year, before January 1, 1895, shall remain in regular standing.

Mr. DEWEY moved that a committee of three be appointed by the President to nominate a Board of Officers of the Society for the year ensuing, which was agreed to.

The President named as such Committee: CHARLES DEWEY, R. M. COLBURN and G. A. DAVIS.

Pending the report of said Committee, the President presented to the Society, on behalf of W. W. Goss, of The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, Conn., a twelve pound cannon ball, which had been dug up on the site of the manufactory conducted by ETHAN ALLEN at Salisbury, Conn., before his emigration to Vermont. Letters attesting the originality of the relic accompanied the donation and were ordered to be placed on file.

Hon. CHARLES DEWEY, from the Committee on Nominations, reported the following list of Officers for the year ensuing :

President—Hon. HIRAM CARLETON, of Montpelier.

Vice-Presidents—Hon. GEO. G. BENEDICT, of Burlington; Rev. W. S. HAZEN, D. D., of Northfield, and R. M. COLBURN, Esq., of Springfield

Recording Secretary—JOS. A. DE BOER, of Montpelier.

Corresponding Secretaries—Gen. T. S. PECK, of Burlington; Col. CHAS. S. FORBES, of St. Albans.

Treasurer—GEO. W. SCOTT, of Montpelier.

Librarian—GEO. C. CHANDLER, of Berlin.

Curators—Hon. GILBERT A. DAVIS, for Windsor County; EDWARD CONANT, for Orange County; F. W. BALDWIN, for Orleans County; Hon. GEO. N. DALE, for Essex

County; JOS. K. EGERTON, for Washington County; Hon. FRANKLIN FAIRBANKS, for Caledonia County; Rev. A. D. BARBER, for Chittenden County; Hon. J. L. MARTIN, for Windham County.

On motion of Mr. BARBER, the report was accepted, and, on motion of Mr. DEWEY, it was agreed that the Secretary should cast the ballot of the Society for the gentlemen named. Said ballot having been cast, they were duly declared elected.

The President appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Library—JOS. A. DE BOER, Gen. T. S. PECK and R. M. COLBURN.

On Printing—Hon. G. G. BENEDICT, Hon. HIRAM A. HUSE and GEORGE W. SCOTT.

On Finance—Col. CHARLES S. FORBES, JOS. K. EGERTON and GEO. C. CHANDLER.

On motion of Mr. BARBER, the Secretary was directed to express the thanks of the Society to Mr. W. W. Goss, of Lakeville, Conn., for the "Ethan Allen Cannon Ball;" and also to all other persons who had made donations to the Society at this time.

The following gentlemen were duly elected Active Members of the Society:

Hon. LEVI K. FULLER, Brattleboro, Vt.; Dr. W. SEWARD WEBB, of Shelburne, Vt.; Mr. JAMES C. HOUGHTON, Montpelier, Vt.; WM. B. C. STICKNEY, Esq., Bethel, Vt.; Col. M. R. PAINE, Windsor, Vt.; Rev. A. N. LEWIS,

Montpelier, Vt.; Rev. HENRY FAIRBANKS, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

The following gentlemen were duly elected Corresponding Members of the Society :

Rev. WM. COPLEY WINSLOW, Boston, Mass.; BENJ. F. STEVENS, Esq., London, England ; Rev. E. H. BYINGTON, Newton, Mass.; E. S. WALKER, Esq., Springfield, Ill.

The reports of the Treasurer and Librarian, accepted, adopted and ordered recorded, were as follows :

Treasurer's Report—Cash in Savings Banks, October 18, 1893, \$128.52 ; Interest to July 1, 1894, \$5.09 ; Total \$133.61. Disbursed : May 31, 1894, for moving books \$4.00 ; Balance, October 16, 1894, in the Montpelier Savings Bank & Trust Co., \$129.61, with interest from July 1, 1894.

GEO. W. SCOTT, Treas.

Librarian's Report—Received during the year ending October 16, 1894, 152 books, 63 pamphlets, one daguerreotype and one copy of old money.

GEO. C. CHANDLER, Librarian.

On motion of Mr. DE BOER, the following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the Society cause an entry to be made upon its Records, attesting the value to Vermont and to his town home, of the distinguished public and private services of W. H. H. BINGHAM, recently deceased. Prominent for many years in State affairs, long identified as Counselor, Trustee and Officer, with several of its most important financial, insurance and civic institutions, Mr. BINGHAM was always found by all, wise, able, attentive, courteous and true. His

influence was of the highest good, his acquaintance, therefore, a valuable possession, and his friendship an evidence of character in the man who enjoyed it. This record, accordingly, sincerely attests the respect of this Society for Mr. BINGHAM, the character of whose long and useful life has rarely been equalled and seldom been surpassed in this State.

Resolved, That the Society learns with sincere regret of the recent death of Col. ELISHA P. JEWETT, the oldest at the time of his decease, and one of the most respected citizens of Montpelier. His early connections with local commercial interests, and, afterwards, with the construction of the Vermont Central R. R. and other lines of transportation, his generous contributions to the building of Churches and State Houses, and his public services, both for his Town and State, deserve a record as being one of unusual individual accomplishment, and as meriting the regard of good citizens everywhere. Not only because Mr. JEWETT was a member of this Society, but also because of his useful life, is it thought appropriate to spread this testimony to his life and character upon the Records of this Society.

On motion of Mr. DAVIS, the President was directed to arrange, if possible, for the use of Representatives' Hall at some time in the near future, for the reading of a paper by the Rev. A. D. BARBER on "The Place of Vermont in the Educational Progress of the United States."

On motion of Mr. DE BOER, the Society adjourned until October 25th, at 2 o'clock P. M.

The Society met pursuant to order of adjournment on the 25th of October, A. D. 1894, at 2 o'clock P. M.

Hon. HENRY OSCAR HOUGHTON, of Cambridge, Mass., and Prof. JOHN W. BURGESS, of New York City, were elected Honorary Members of the Society.

The following gentlemen were duly elected Active Members of the Society :

Hon. WM. P. DILLINGHAM, Waterbury, Vt.; Supt. MASON S. STONE, Montpelier, Vt.; MARTIN L. HAMBLET, Esq., Lowell, Mass.; Mr. S. J. BLANPIED, Montpelier, Vt.

On motion of Mr. DE BOER, a Committee consisting of GEO. G. BENEDICT, HIRAM A. HUSE and HIRAM CARLETON, was elected and instructed to bring the subject of the *Marcus D. Gilman Bibliography of Vermont* to the attention of the Legislature, and to urge the value and importance of its publication in such manner as may suggest itself as best to the Committee.

Adjourned until 7:30 o'clock P. M.

Pursuant to public notice and order of adjournment, the Society met in Representatives' Hall at 7:30 o'clock P. M., Thursday, October 25, A. D. 1894. There was present a large assembly, including State Officers, Members of the Legislature, and other citizens.

The meeting was called to order by President HIRAM CARLETON, and opened with prayer by the Rev. E. M. HAYNES, Chaplain of the Senate.

After briefly announcing the object of the Meeting, the President read the following letter from Artist THOMAS W. WOOD:

ATHENWOOD, MONTPELIER, VT., Oct. 25, 1894.
TO JUDGE HIRAM CARLETON, *President.*

My Dear Sir:

I beg leave to present to the VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY the portrait of Senator JUSTIN S. MORRILL, which I hope will be accepted

as a mark of the high appreciation of his great services to our whole country, and of the respect and affection in which he is held by the people of the State of Vermont.

Respectfully yours,

THOMAS W. WOOD.

After the reading of the letter, the portrait of Senator MORRILL was unveiled by Mr. T. C. PHINNEY, Sergeant-at-Arms of the State, and was greeted with long continued and earnest applause.

On motion of Hon. CHARLES DEWEY, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

WHEREAS, THE VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY has been often honored by Mr. THOMAS W. WOOD with marks of his practical interest in its labors and he now renews that obligation by presenting to the Society his painting of JUSTIN S. MORRILL, the present senior Senator from Vermont in the Senate of the United States, be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Society do hereby gratefully accept the Wood painting of Senator MORRILL with sincere recognition of its donor's interest in the history and men of his native State.

That in this valuable addition to its historical memoirs, the Society believes itself to possess a work that will perpetuate the memory of two distinguished Vermonters, its Painter and its Legislator.

That, in appreciation of this appropriate historical gift, the Society, by its President, convey to Mr. WOOD its sincere thanks and the further expression of its regards, and of the hope that he may long live to extend the influence of his art, which has so often and so strongly shown itself in works, like this, of loyal, disinterested citizenship.

Mr. WOOD having been called for by different members of the Society, arose and spoke as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT: The resolution is rather overpowering to me, not to the Senator. As I am not a public speaker, but a painter, I beg leave to call upon the distinguished and beloved original to answer for the Portrait.

The Senator, thus introduced by Mr. WOOD, made a most interesting and appropriate response.

[See full text of the Address, beginning page 3.]

At the close of Senator MORRILL's address, the President introduced to the Society the Hon. HENRY O. HOUGHTON, of Cambridge, Mass., who delivered an Address upon the subject of "Early Printing in America."

[See full text of the Address, beginning page 11.]

On motion of Hon. HIRAM A. HUSE, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That THE VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY do hereby express to HENRY O. HOUGHTON, of Cambridge, Mass., Honorary Member of this Society, its sincere thanks for his authoritative and able Address upon "Early Printing in America," as delivered by him before it in Representatives' Hall, at Montpelier, October 25, 1894, and that Mr. HOUGHTON be requested to supply the Society with a copy of said Address for publication with its Annual Transactions.

On motion of Hon. GEO. G. BENEDICT, the Society adjourned, subject to the call of the President.

THE WOOD PORTRAIT.

AN ADDRESS

BEFORE THE

VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY

Senator JUSTIN S. MORRILL.

DELIVERED IN THE REPRESENTATIVES' HALL, MONTPELIER,

OCTOBER 25, 1894.

ADDRESS.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen :

Some years ago when a man first heard of the nomination of one of his neighbors for president, he remarked: "Why, he will do well enough for our county, but won't he be rather thin for the whole United States?" When it was intimated to me that some response would be called for from me upon the presentation and acceptance of Mr. Wood's painting, I prepared some remarks, expecting to address them to the president and such other members as might assemble in the room of the Vermont Historical Society; but now I find myself in front of the picked men, the assembled wisdom, of the State, and much fear that you will find my remarks rather thin.

Englishmen and other foreign visitors say that America has no antiquities. Of course they never saw me, and I shall assume that our Historical Society is not now attempting to refute this charge as a calumny, when all we ever claim in behalf of the New World is its youth, and that only in its *teens*.

I fear you have placed me in a very embarrassing position. Everybody understands that whoever employs himself as his own lawyer is accounted to have a fool for his client,

and the case before you is the presentment of myself. You will be glad to learn that I shall treat this garrulous old fellow, though very much his friend, with the utmost brevity.

To be invited to sit for a portrait by a Vermont artist, of such well-earned renown as that of Mr. Wood, the President of the National Academy of Design, is a rare honor, and to have the portrait presented to and preserved by the Vermont Historical Society, the names of whose members, past and present, embellish the history of our State, adds a grace to the compliment of which I could wish I were more worthy.

The artist and the Society, however, have assumed the whole responsibility of the affair. Doubtless the artist might have made a better picture, if he had been more fastidious as to the original, and had chosen a better subject, yet, being an honest likeness, you will not certainly hold me responsible for my looks, but only for my actions.

I may be indebted for this mark of attention to some supposed public services, as judged by a partial friend, or to the audacity of the Vermont Legislature of 1890 in longer retaining an octogenarian in the public service. However it may be, I do not feel called upon to explain the puzzle.

Unincumbered, forty years ago, by any prior record of office-holding, except that of tything-man, with which my excellent townsmen were prone to honor their fellow citizens when married a little late in life, it was necessary at the start of my official life to "screw my courage to the sticking place" even to meditate going at a bound into the Halls of Congress. But one of my predecessors, Judge Hebard, encouraged me by saying that, "not all of those

who didn't invent gunpowder were to be found outside of Congress." Having been elected, I determined, so far as within my power, to be useful, and, at least, that no charge of indolence should ever stick to my name. Attempting no rivalry in the field of a recent colleague, the Solon of the Senate in legal learning, faithful labor was the limit of my ambition.

It should be added, that little is ever done in Congress without earnest wrestling, and nothing without inflexible work. Good measures are often embarrassed by the amendments of friends, as well as by briars thrown in their track by opponents.

If I refer to one or two incidents of the past, it will not be imputed to vanity, when one point appears to have been a mistake of mine, and the other a question, perhaps not yet determined, whether my constituents made a mistake or not.

After some years of service, weary and worn with unending day and night labor on the Committee of Ways and Means, I withdrew my name as a candidate for re-election. With this purpose, and no other, I went to the District Convention, where a committee, headed by Charles K. Field, with Hugh Henry and Tom Powers, corralled me, and the chairman addressed me after this fashion: "By all the Gods of the hills and valleys, when we took you, it was of some importance to *you*; now it is of some importance to *us*!" They demanded, not that I should accept of a nomination, but, if elected, that I should not decline to serve. The Convention curtly concluded that declinations in time of war were not in order. To my regret at the

time, as well as that of two or three other gentlemen, quite willing to relieve me from any task, my service was further protracted.

To have left the service then would have taken from me the great privilege and advantage of long personal acquaintance with many of the statesmen, and military and naval men, by whom the greatest heroic contest in human history was successfully ended. For me, would it not have been a mistake not to have been there? And a greater mistake, if in Congress, to have been only an idle looker-on? Even my opponents never accused me of idleness.

In the early days of the late war, my picture was put forth by a rebel Virginia newspaper, with an advertisement offering a like reward for me, dead or alive, twenty-five dollars, that was usually offered for the recovery of run-away slaves, and they described me as a person who would be sooner suspected to have been the author of Yankee Doodle than of the infernal tariff of 1861. The picture was of course pleasing to the Old Masters of the South, being after the Satanic manner of Hogarth's Jack Wilkes, but I have not learned that it has been made immortal by preservation in any of their Historical Societies. It will be for posterity to say, if posterity should ever trouble itself to say anything about it, whether or not the Vermonters made a mistake in not surrendering me for the twenty-five dollar Virginia reward.

To few, if to any, has so much of opportunity been granted for public service, to none more of unclouded confidence at home. Wide fields were opened, and diligent laborers were welcomed. Let me cheerfully concede that if any success has ever followed labor of mine, it should be

attributed for twelve years to the high and stable character of my constituents, and to "the star that never sets" ever since. Backed by the support, trust and confidence of such a people, I could only give in return my whole heart, my life, and whatever ability belonged to me. So much has been honestly intended and attempted.

Some dear friend may complain that you are making too much noise about an inferior subject, but to me, as old Sam. Johnson once said about music, "it seems the least disagreeable of all noises." Surely there should be no complaint when it is Mr. Wood's picture, not myself, that suddenly becomes historic.

As the years go by I am made sad by the departure of friend after friend of my early manhood to that bourne to which we are all hastening, and such departures from our Capital here have been conspicuous. Among them, the Reeds, Upham, Dewey, Fifield, Willard, Walton and Jewett, were cherished friends, and excluding politics, let me add, Atkins, all of whom were men of mark, worthy of any man's personal esteem. Yet I am not wholly without some comfort in finding that the friendly sentiments of the Fathers have not been lacking in the later generation. I must not deny that Vermont has made my political life an exceptionally happy one, and I shall only trust that the honorable position so long occupied by me, when surrendered, as it soon must be, will be found, by my beloved State, with its dignity, prestige and honor unimpaired and undiminished.

Let me close by tendering my profound gratitude to my friend, Mr. Wood, and to the Vermont Historical Society for their distinguished favor.

EARLY PRINTING IN AMERICA.

AN ADDRESS

BEFORE THE

VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY

HENRY O. HOUGHTON.

DELIVERED IN THE REPRESENTATIVES' HALL, MONTPELIER,

OCTOBER 25, 1894.

ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the Vermont Historical Society :

On October 26, 1836, hours before dawn, I started in the mail-coach from Bradford, on the Connecticut River, for Burlington, on Lake Champlain, to be initiated into a knowledge of printing, an occupation which I have followed chiefly since that time until the present, and am still in my humble way engaged in it. On the way over the hills from Bradford to Montpelier, a heavy snow-storm was falling, and the apple trees were loaded with frozen apples. At high noon of that day we halted for dinner in this village, then as now, the Capital of the State. I remember with what wonder my boyish eyes looked upon the State House then standing on this site with its tall columns, and with what admiration they rested on the Member from my native town, dressed in the traditional blue coat with brass buttons, the usual apparel of statesmen of that day, so very different from the farmer's frock in which I had been accustomed to see him in his native village. Many hours after dark we arrived in Burlington, having made a journey of eighty miles during the day. Recalling this episode, I esteem it a very high honor to be called upon to read before this Society a paper on the subject of that art to which I have devoted most of my life. Therefore I beg to announce

as the subject, upon which, with your kind permission, I propose to discourse this evening, "Early Printing in America."

EARLY PRINTING IN AMERICA.

Printing is cœval with the beginning of time. Since the earth ceased to be without form and void, and first the morning stars sang together, printing has existed. By means of it the Heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork. It records the history of the world in the pyramids and the buried mausoleums of Egypt; in the art and literature of ancient Greece; in the broken aqueducts and crumbling temples of ancient Rome, as well as in MSS. left by the monks and scribes of past centuries. What we call the invention of printing was simply a device for the use of movable types. This was so insignificant a circumstance that there is still a dispute as to the identity of the first discoverer, not to say inventor, of the process, as well as the place where the invention took place. Fierce contests have arisen in behalf of Coster of Haerlem, John Gutenberg and others of Mentz, Gutenberg and Mentilius of Strasburgh, and Nicolas Jansen of Venice, to say nothing of Faust and Shaeffer. The time of the discovery is also in doubt. The general consensus of opinion seems to be, however, that the discovery was made about 1440, and the knowledge of the invention spread rapidly during the latter part of the fifteenth century, its discovery antedating the discovery of America only about half a century. A knowledge of the art was about twenty years later carried to England by William Caxton. The fact has often been commented on, that the printing of the first printers

excelled in beauty of execution that of any subsequent issues of the printing press. The reason for this, I think, will be apparent when we consider that the first types were imitations of the chirography of the monks, and from long experience and practice this chirography had come to be very beautiful ; but, as was inevitable when speed became an important element, and the types became mechanical appliances, this love of beauty gave way, as has been the case always, to utility and speed. The old German text, also, through the process of years has gradually given way to the more common Latin text, and as we see, in the modern newspaper, the process of deterioration still goes on in obedience to the demands of haste. There is a return now among the cultivated to the more careful printing of earlier times. An evidence that this early printing was, as near as could be, transcripts of the careful penmanship of the old monks, can be seen in the great folios in that remarkable library at Cairo, where it is difficult for even an expert, without close inspection, to say whether these books were printed or written.

About a century later, namely, about 1540, we find books were printed in the Spanish-American Colonies of Mexico and Peru. Here again there is a great dispute as to the exact time or the definite persons who first introduced the art upon this continent. Between 1540 and 1600, a period of sixty years only, about ninety books were printed in Mexico.

It took another century before printing was introduced into the English-speaking Colonies of North America. It was not until 1639, three years after the establishment of what is now Harvard University, that the first printing

press was set up in the house of Henry Dunster, the first President of Harvard College. In the latter part of 1638, the Rev. Joseph Glover set sail from England with his family, two or three assistants, among whom was Stephen Daye, with press and types, with the purpose of converting the Indians in the then comparatively unknown new world. Mr. Glover died on the voyage, and the enterprising President of the College married his widow, and with her became the possessor of the Press. He employed Stephen Daye as his manager. Daye does not seem to have been much of a printer, and the tradition is, that he was a locksmith. At all events he did not long retain the charge of the Press, about ten years in all, and then adopted that ready resource of so many people who are unsuccessful in their chosen vocations, and became a speculator in real estate. It is recorded that one of his transactions in this line was the sale of 25 acres of land, the consideration being "a cow, a calfe, and a two years old heiffer." He appealed to the General Court to recompense him for his losses and trials in establishing printing in the Colonies, and the General Court, with the characteristic generosity and carelessness of legislative bodies, voted him a grant of land, and omitted to locate it! However, the real printer was Henry Dunster, President of the College. The Press was set up in his own house. Becoming the possessor of the widow of Mr. Glover, he became possessor of the Press also. Years afterwards, when called to an account by Mr. Glover's children, he made an account current, debiting himself with the types, materials, etc., and crediting himself with the expenses, among other things with his wife's board, and that of her children. This account current is so curious that I

copy a few items. Among other things Mr. Dunster debits himself with

A tipit Jugg and a Watch, £6. 6s. 6d.

A legacy given to Jno. Glover by his Uncle Harris, £40.

To rent of fourteen Cows, 6 yeares at 15s. pr. Cow, £63.

To rent of seaven Oxen, 6 yeares at 20s. pr ox, £42.

To two Swine, £2.

To one lead pan sould for, £1. 2s. 6d.

To Presse and the p'fitt of it, £40.

To Prise of Mr. Daye's house, £30.

To two oxen and one cow killed for the family, £20.

On the other side, Mr. Dunster credits himself with the Diet, apparell and education of Roger and John Glover two yeares, two months, after their mother's marriage to said Dunster, till her death, at £20., £86. 6s. 8d.

Disbursements for maintenance of Mrs. Glover for diet and apparell two yeares and two months after her marriage with Mr. Dunster till her death, with a mayd to attend her, at £30. per annum, £65.

By a bill for physicke payd to Mr. Ayres, £15.

By funerall charges expended for Mrs. Glover, £10.

By charges disbursed concerning nine arbitrations and pd. for writings to scriveners, etc., £2. in all, £7.

By expenses of rates and suites concerning lands at Cambridge, £45. 19s. 4d.

By disbursements for reparations of the house at Cambridge in Mrs. Glover's life, £16. 4s.

By repaires on said house after her death, £16. 1s. 4d.

By this account, of which I have given only an extract, it will be seen that the President was a thrifty man, and had an eye to his own interest. The debits amounted to

nearly £1400., about \$7,000. Two hundred and ten years later the inventory of the material from which the Riverside Press has grown was not far in amount from that furnished by President Dunster. The debits were a little more than the credits in this account current of President Dunster, leaving him only about £100. in debt, which there is no evidence that he ever made up.

He was evidently a man of influence in the Colony and with the General Court. There was a law enacted, doubtless through his influence, that no printing should be executed in the Colonies, except at Cambridge. There were licensers of the Press appointed, of whom the President of the College was one. But even this precaution did not seem sufficient to meet the views of the Great and General Court, for they called the licensers to account for permitting the printing of so good a book as the "Imitation of Christ," by Thomas a' Kempis, it having been reported to the Court as heretical, and further progress on the work was forbidden.

After the dismissal of Daye from the management of the Press, Samuel Green was appointed manager, who continued in charge for fifty years. He was one of the boys of the town who came over in 1630 with Winthrop, and he and his companions, for want of better accommodations, were obliged to make use of empty casks for lodgings. He "was a commission officer of the military company in Cambridge for above 60 years together," and when he could no longer lead his trainbands, he was carried to the field, and witnessed and directed their maneuvers from his chair. He was the father of nineteen children, many of whom became printers in different parts of the country.

It is stated that until the commencement of the Revolution, in 1775, Boston was not without one or more printers by the name of Green, descendants of Samuel Green, of Cambridge. One went to Boston, some of his descendants for nearly a hundred years were printers in Connecticut, one went to Annapolis, in Maryland, and one of his descendants had an interest in the first press established in Vermont, namely, Timothy Green, 3d, who formed a co-partnership with a man by the name of Spooner. From this circumstance it has been inferred that the press which is now held in the State House, at Montpelier, was the press used by the original Samuel Green, of Cambridge. Spooner himself claims to have been the first printer in Vermont. In this connection I have been kindly favored with an extract from Spooner's *Vermont Journal*, of May 16th, 1825, which contains, in an obituary, the statement that Thomas Green was one of the proprietors of the *Connecticut Journal*, and that he was a descendant of one of the first printers who established themselves in New England, and that it was in the family of Green that the illustrious Franklin received his first instruction in the art of printing, and further says, it appears that in 1649 this press was the property of Samuel Green, son of Percival Green, one of the first settlers of Cambridge. I have the authority of Dr. Samuel Green, the distinguished Secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society, for saying that Percival Green was not of the same family as Samuel Green, the printer. It is also well known that Benjamin Franklin never was employed by Green. He served his apprenticeship, as stated in his autobiography, with his brother, James Franklin, and he exercised his art in this country exclusively in Philadelphia.

There were two presses in Cambridge, the one brought by Joseph Glover, and the other sent over from England by a corporation formed in England for propagating the Gospel in New England. Both these presses came into the possession of Henry Dunster, and probably Samuel Green as his successor. It seems to me therefore that the press now here cannot be any press that Franklin ever worked upon, and therefore has no claim to be called in any sense a Franklin press. That it may be the press originally used by Green in Cambridge, and therefore one of the original presses sent over from England, seems possible, and perhaps probable. The press, so far as I can judge, answers pretty accurately the description of the original presses used by Dunster or Daye. That it came afterwards into the possession of Green is beyond question. It is stated that when Green ceased to do business the presses reverted to the College. It is possible that they were then of very little value, and one of them might easily have passed from the possession of the college to Timothy Green, 3d, a descendant of Samuel Green, who established himself in Norwich, Conn. That Green afterwards formed a partnership with Judah P. and Alden Spooner of Vermont is also a matter of record. It does not appear that he went to Vermont himself, but the inference is—and a natural one—that he furnished the machinery. They first established the press in Dresden, a part of Hanover, which was then incorporated within the boundary of Vermont, and afterwards removed it to Westminster. From that period to the present the different persons who have interested themselves in the matter have traced the press through various vicissitudes until it has reached its haven of rest in the care of

the Historical Society of the State of Vermont. From all the evidence, it seems to me that we can assume that there is a very reasonable probability that it is one of the two identical presses on which printing was first executed in this country. Mr. Henry S. Dana, of Woodstock, has two very interesting articles in the *Vermont State Journal* on this subject, in which I notice that he carefully avoids any allusion to Franklin, and they seem to me to be a very careful statement of the whole case.

From the manuscript records of the Commissioners of the United Colonies, who were the agents for the Society in England, it seems, as indicated above, that in 1656 there were two presses in Cambridge, both in the care of Green. One belonged to the College, which was doubtless the press which Mr. Glover purchased in England, and Daye brought over, and the other was the property of the corporation in England. There were types appropriated to each, so the condition of this press at that time was practically as follows: Green was the manager of the press for the College and for the Corporation for propagating the Gospel among the Indians, and there seems also to have been another element in the management of the machinery of printing.

We find at this time that Hezekiah Usher, merchant, seems to have been an agent for the Corporation in England to procure the printing of the Psalms, the Catechism, and the New Testament in the Indian language, his position being what is now known as that of publisher. He was empowered to furnish materials for the work, and also to pay Mr. Green for the printing, and below is Mr. Green's itemized bill for printing the Eliot Bible, the whole amounting to £234. 11. 8.

- To mending of the windowes of the printing house, £1.
 o. 5.
 To pack thrid and uellum, 5s. 6d.
 To 2 barrells of Inke and leather for balls, £20.
 To hide for the presse being broken, £1.
 To 160 Reams of Paper att 6s. per ream, £48.
 To printing the Title sheet to the New Testament, £1.
 To printing 1500 Cattechismes, £15.
 To printing 21 sheets of the Old Testament, att £3. 10s.
 per sheet, Mr. Johnson being absent, £73. 10s.
 To printing 25 sheets with his healp att 50 shill. per
 sheet, £62. 10s.
 To binding 200 Testaments att 6d. a peece, £5.
 To. Mr. Johnson's board, £7. 5s. 9d.

John Usher, the son of Hezekiah Usher, seems to have procured the first copyright law in this country. In order to protect himself from others obtaining the laws and selling them, although there was only one printing press in the country, the General Court passed the first copyright law in May, 1673, decreeing as follows:

"John Vsher, Having been at the sole chardge of the impression of the booke of Lawes, and presented the Governour, Magistrates, Secretary, as also every Deputy and the Clark of the deputation with one, the Court Judgeth it meete to order that for at least Seven Yeares, Vnlesse he shall have sold them all before that tyme, there shall be no other or further Impression made by any other person in this Jurisdiction, under the penalty this Court shall see cause to lay on any that shall adventure in that Kind, besides making full sattisfaction to said Jno. Vsher, or his Assigns, for the chardge and damage thereon. Voted by the Court all met together."

The books purporting to be printed by Stephen Daye were thirteen, so far as the titles are known. The first book

printed was the Freeman's Oath, the second an Almanac calculated for New England, by Mr. Pierce, mariner, and the third in 1640 was the Psalms in Metre. This is commonly called the Bay Psalme Book, and a fac-simile of it has been reprinted in recent years. With regard to the books purporting to have been printed by Stephen Daye, it is stated that there is no copy to be found with his imprint, confirming the idea that he was not considered the printer, but only the manager of the press. Among Green's books were Norton's "Heart of New England Rent by the Blasphemy of the Present Generation," the Old and New Testaments, and various others. The total number of books printed in the Colonies from 1639 to the beginning of the Revolution was 7,584.

In 1660 Marmaduke Johnson was sent out by the Corporation in England to assist in printing the Bible. He seems to have been the first expert printer who came to this country, but he gave his employers and friends here a great deal of trouble. He got in debt, made love to Mr. Green's daughter when he had a wife in England, and did various other things which interfered with his usefulness. In fact, he seems to have been a typical vagabond journeyman printer. His misdemeanors seem to have been forgiven, however, and he was taken back to the press, as Mr. Elliot interested himself in his behalf, because of his great skill as a printer.

After the press ceased to exist in Cambridge, printing presses began at once to spring up in Boston and in other parts of New England. One of the first printers in Boston was John Foster, a graduate of Harvard College, whose

printing I am told is very good. It does not appear that he was bred to printing, but he was a scholarly man, and apparently took a good deal of interest in his business, although he does not seem to have made a very great advance over his predecessors, Green and Johnson. The earliest book from his press is said to have been published in 1676.

One of the earliest printers in Boston was Samuel Sewell, afterwards Chief Justice of Massachusetts. Neither was he bred a printer, but was licensed by the General Court to carry on the business of printing in Boston, but he does not seem to have made a particular success of it.

Samuel Green, a son of Samuel Green of Cambridge, also printed in Boston, and as has been said before, there were Greens who established themselves in different parts of the colonies as printers.

One of the early printers in Boston was James Printer, who was a native Indian, and who took the surname Printer from his occupation. His father was deacon of the church of Indian Christians established in Boston.

An eccentric character by the name of Thomas Fleet had a printing office in Pudding Lane, now Devonshire Street, Boston, in 1712. He printed pamphlets for booksellers and small books for children, and afterwards in 1731, established the "Weekly Rehearsal." He was an eccentric and prosperous man. The following is an advertisement of his for the sale of a Negro woman :

"To be sold by the Printer of this paper, the very best Negro Woman in this Town, who has had the smallpox and the measles ; is as hearty as a Horse, as brisk as a Bird, and will work like a Beaver."

Another noted character among the early printers of Boston was James Franklin, an elder brother of Benjamin Franklin. He was the son of a tallow-chandler whose grave is in Boston. He established a newspaper, the *New England Courant*, which became so obnoxious that he was obliged to put it in the name of Benjamin, who it is well known, quarrelled with his brother, and practically ran away to Philadelphia, where his world-famous career began. James Franklin himself was afterwards obliged to leave Boston, and established the first printing press in Rhode Island, at Newport.

William Bradford, of Leicester, England, established the first printing press in Philadelphia in 1682. He was apparently a member of the sect of Quakers, but quarrelled with them on doctrinal points. He was persecuted and condemned by them because of his peculiarities, and on account of persecution, both judicial and by his sect, he was induced to leave Philadelphia, and established the first printing press in New York, in 1693. His son, Andrew Bradford, still remained as a printer in Philadelphia, and there is evidence in Franklin's account of the matter that the father was in the habit of going back and forward on horseback between the two cities.

The history of early printing in America would scarcely be complete without a notice of Benjamin Franklin, who went to Philadelphia first in 1723. The history of printing in this country is so interwoven with the life and history of this man that it could not be properly sketched without reference to him. As a printer, philosopher, postmaster, diplomat and statesman, the history of his life is, to a large extent, the history of this nation, and everyone connected

with the typographical art may well be proud of the fact that he was such an expert in this occupation, and that his life history is the glory of those devoted to the art of printing.

Printing was established in New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland in the early part of the 18th century, mostly offshoots from the presses established by Franklin and Andrew Bradford.

William Goddard, the first printer in Providence, seems to have encountered a good deal of difficulty in establishing himself in the printing and publishing business. He removed from Rhode Island to Philadelphia, where he published the *Pennsylvania Chronicle*. From there, in 1773, he removed to Baltimore. He is said to have been a good printer and an able editor, but had ambitious political aspirations, and among other things desired to succeed Franklin as Postmaster-General, and failing in that, tried to obtain other offices. At this time there was in Baltimore an association called the Whig Club, which took offence at the management of his paper, then published in the name of his sister, and called him before them. He declined to appear, and refused to give the name of the writer of the objectionable articles, and he was then served with the following notice :

“ IN WHIG CLUB, March 4, 1777.

Resolved, That William Goddard do leave this town by twelve o'clock to-morrow morning, and the county in three days. Should he refuse due obedience to this notice he will be subject to the resentment of a
LEGION.”

From this it appears that the occupation of a journalist was not without its thorns in those early days.

Early in the 18th century printing presses were established in North Carolina, and South Carolina offered liberal encouragement to any printer who would settle in Charleston; but in Virginia, the mother of Presidents, there seems to have been the greatest difficulty in establishing printing.

Sir William Berkeley, who was Governor of the Colony thirty-eight years, in his answer to the inquiries of the lords of the committee for the Colonies in 1671, sixty-four years after the settlement of Virginia, says: "I thank God that we have not free schools nor printing; and I hope we shall not have these hundred years. For learning has brought disobedience and heresy, and sects into the world; and printing has divulged them and libels against the government. God keep us from both."

In 1810, William W. Hening, a lawyer of Richmond, found the following among the records of the Colony :

"Feb. 21st, 1682—John Buckner called before the Ld. Culpeper and his council for printing the laws of 1680, without his excellency's license, and he and the printer ordered to enter into bond in 100*l* not to print anything hereafter, until his majesty's pleasure shall be known."

I am tempted to make the following comment on this early aversion to learning and printing on the part of our Southern friends, by saying that within a few years I have been through the South, and was astonished to find how few books were consumed of late years in that region. Before the war a great many of the people had large and valuable libraries, but now the demand there for literature seems to have dwindled to very small proportions. Of the books of which I have the most knowledge, I find that the

whole of the Southern States, so called, consume about 75 per cent. of what one distributing house in Boston takes from us, and the market for these is so restricted that there is a large percentage of loss from failures each year in the distribution of that small number of books. Thus it will be seen that the wish of Gov. Berkeley seems to have had a fearful realization.

It will be noticed by the careful student of the history of printing that, as before the discovery of the art, the chief labor of the monks who transcribed industriously the elaborate books which were in existence before that time, was devoted to religious subjects, so, too, the early printers, including those of Mexico, devoted their chief publications in book form to the cause of religion. The Bible, Psalter, and theological books seem to have been the prevailing books as long as printing was confined to the publication of books. My own impression from reading the resumes of the publications in different countries, is, that with the exception perhaps of fiction, the larger number of books now published relate to religious and theological subjects.

When the newspaper sprang into existence, although a certain class of newspapers still devote themselves to theological discussions, the most of them have applied their efforts to the discussion of political and local questions. The influence of the newspaper press in this country can scarcely be estimated. It embodies the idea of the ancient market-place of the Greeks, the forum of the Romans, and discusses the political, historical, religious and social questions of modern times, and its influence penetrates into every quarter of the globe. Since the

invention of printing, books have increased until we can form little idea of the magnitude of that portion of the production of the press. When we come to consider the difference in the present newspaper press from the ancient Ramage, on which then the slow and painful printing of 250 copies an hour would have been a good product, whereas you now have a production of thousands an hour from the new form of the cylinder press, so that there is scarcely a hamlet, no matter how distant from the great centres of communication, but can have its daily or weekly supply of one or more newspapers, we can only form a faint idea of the magnitude to which the business of printing has grown, and its influence upon the thought and action of the people cannot be estimated.

In this State you well know how to estimate the value of the newspaper press. There are famous names that have existed for many years, and probably, considering the number of the population, it has been more permanent than almost any local press in the country. The *Bennington Gazette*, the *Burlington Free Press*, the *Montpelier Watchman*, the *North Star*, the *Vermont Chronicle*, the *Vermont Journal*, and many others, testify to the character and power of the press which has helped to make Vermont what it is—the best and purest of republics.

One of your own (late) citizens, Marcus D. Gilman, Esq., compiled the most complete bibliography of any state that I have ever seen. It comprises about 6,000 titles in all departments of literature, and is an invaluable help to the student to enable him to find whatever relates to the history or transactions of the State.

Four hundred and fifty years ago the device of movable types was discovered. Then as now the scholar trimmed his lamp in his closet, but then his audience was enclosed by the four walls of a small room. Now the round globe pulses with the knowledge he disseminates. Since then, the philosopher with his key and silken string attempted to corral the lightning; now the elemental forces of earth, air and water are controlled and made to do man's bidding. Anciently, the fierce democracy of Greece was both a model and a terror to all other principalities and powers. Now the whole political fabric of the world rocks and sways like a giant in chains. Nevertheless, the Divine Order which keeps the stars in their courses, and lays deep and strong the foundations of the universe, will control this also.

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