

turn them out (which was very often the case), is to go over the building from one room to another, begging them. I have seen men lose half an hour in this manner, and get half a handful for their trouble. As for me, I preferred to stand with the work than resort to that practice, as it generally laid a man open to a plentiful amount of snubbing.

Now, doubtless, some English printers, on reading this list of grievances—perhaps never having worked in a large book office—may feel inclined to stigmatize it as altogether too highly colored and over-drawn; but I assure them it is not the case. I was only one American amongst a number of native workmen, and their growling at the existing state of affairs was perpetual. Besides I, a Canadian, naturally enough, was prepared to look upon everything with a favorable eye, until, by hard experience, a “change came o’er the spirit of my dream.” About as good a proof as I can bring forward to vouch for the general truth of my statements, is the fact that 60 hours is reckoned a first-class week’s work—equal to 30,000 ems—and one that not one in forty average. Now, any book compositor in New York knows that 40,000 ems a week is a very moderate bill for a good comp. with a sufficiency of work. The general average in the book ships of Spottiswoode’s, I should say, was not more than 45 hours per week (22,500 ems), and extremely hard work at that.

To be continued.

DEALERS in and manufacturers of printing machinery, paper, ink, type, and any article used in printing, or by printers and editors, will find the *Miscellany* an excellent medium through which to advertise their stock. It will prove itself the cheapest and best medium they can adopt if they wish to put their materials into the hands of the printers of Canada and the United States. The *Miscellany* is sent to every printing office in the Dominion, and it has also a large circulation in the United States. As will be seen by reference to the advertising rates the figures have been made very low in consideration of the fact that the terms are cash.

John T. Grange, M. P. P., and Mr. William Walker, who travels for the Napanee Mills Paper Manufacturing Company, are authorized to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the *Miscellany*. Don’t forget them.

“Figs Do Not Grow on Thistle Bushes.”

The following article, taken from the *New Zealand Press News*, is worthy of perusal. If it should fall under the eye of one erring brother, who is on the wrong track, and he should thereby be induced to retrace his steps, then it will not have been penned and printed in vain. We quote:—

“When a man transgresses the laws which society has imposed upon its individual members, as a rule he has some powerful motive for his action. A thief steals in order that he may be benefited in some way or other by the proceeds of his plunder; the murderer is frequently actuated by some all-absorbing passion, such as jealousy or revenge, to sacrifice his victim. In either case, there is a certain and sometimes well-defined object to be gained, which, although not by any means justifying the felony, suffices to account for its commission. In the case of the “rat,” however—the man who deserts his comrades and joins the ranks of the enemy under the impression that he will be rewarded for his cowardice and treachery—there is no possible justification.

“Looking at the matter from the most unworthy aspect—that of self-interest—we fail to see the shadow of an excuse for his conduct. What position does a man take up by “ratting?” In the first place, he at once cuts himself off from the society of his fellow-workmen, who avoid him and advertise him as a traitor; secondly, he deprives himself of a chance of future employment in a respectable office, and, unless he is fortunate enough to be re-admitted to communion with the trade after humiliation and the payment of a heavy fine, he is compelled to take refuge in some inferior establishment, where the staff is made up from the “riff-raff” of the business, and where the wage is necessarily small from the fact that the men it harbors are unable to obtain work in another office. Surely the sagacity of men who would sell their reputation and exchange an honorable position for the one we have described is of a considerably lower order than that of the provident little animal whose name they bear! The epithet “rat” is of an earlier date than this generation, and we can only account for its introduction into our business by supposing that our ancestors were but imperfectly acquainted with the habits of the much-abused quadruped in question, or they would not have