

son for the adoption of the second report of the Debates Committee, Mr. Blake took the opportunity of saying that the reporters were good and efficient men, but there were too few of them. It was impossible for the men to extend their reports accurately if they had to work as hard as the members of the staff were obliged to do. He thought it would be well to have a reviser appointed to go over the speeches and report any errors caused through hasty transposition. Mr. Stephenson claimed that the reports this year were a marvel, and if members took care to correct their speeches there was no trouble. Sir John Macdonald agreed that it would be well to have a man well up in political affairs and of considerable literary ability to correct the speeches, but members should not be allowed to correct reports of their speeches. After further discussion the motion was carried and the report adopted.

ENGLISH.

On April 4th, the general principles of "Legible Shorthand" were explained to the Shorthand Society in London, Eng., in a paper read, in the author's unavoidable absence, by Mr. A. E. C. White, his first pupil. On April 24th, Mr. Pocknell, the author, gave the details of the system to the Shorthand Writers' Association, and at the conclusion Mr. White wrote the following sentence, selected from an article in *Knowledge* by one of the audience; and it was read accurately by Mr. Turner, another student of the system, who was not allowed to hear the sentence read or see it, except in the shorthand characters on the blackboard:—"Let us in the first place, consider the conditions under which an ordinary lap-streaked inrigged or half outrigged boat should be rowed to get the best racing speed for a boat of that sort." Not a single vowel was inserted in the specimen. But it is said the members of the Shorthand Society were satisfied with the result of this severe test of the Legible method.

THE GREATEST NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD.

The greatest newspaper in the world, and one which, perhaps, has more influence than any other, is the London (England) *Times*. We may talk of the enterprise of the New York *Herald* and some other papers, but they cannot be compared to the *Times*, with its magnificently organized staff, from the editorial department down to the "devil." At home there are its editors, leader-writers, critics, reviewers, reporters, messengers, a multitude of persons, men of the highest culture and learning, down to the nimblest of chroniclers, telegraph clerks, and messengers; while abroad are engaged the correspondents, telegraphers, the railway trains, the steamers, and other fast methods of locomotion. All the machinery, electric lights, type, and, in fact, all its material except paper, are made on the spot. The famous Walter printing presses

were made on the spot—machines invented by its former editor and proprietor—as were those of the *Daily News*, *Liverpool Post*, and *The Scotsman*.

In an article on the English press, Mr. Joseph Hatton states that the *Times* was started in 1785, as the *Daily Universal Register*, and adopted its present title three years later. It was originated by John Walter, grandfather of the present chief proprietor, John Walter, M. P., who earned for his paper the sobriquet of "the Thunderer" by his bold and fearless attacks upon national abuses, his defence of the right, and his defiance of all obstructions that the wrong might plant in his way.

On November 29, 1814, the *Times* was printed by steam—the first instance of steam being applied to printing. The *Times* is still a high-priced journal (3d), is printed on superb paper, and its staff includes some of the ablest men in Europe. It pays princely salaries to its departmental chiefs and foreign correspondents, and stands by its writers with a loyal tenacity.

The Walter presses are models of perfection, each being capable of printing about 24,000 copies an hour.

The *Times* buildings were designed by Mr. Walter and Mr. Macdonald, without the aid of an architect.

In the building the top floor is devoted to the bound files of the paper. Descending to the next, you come to dining-rooms and kitchens,—one department for the clerks, another for the compositors and workmen generally. The service is conducted on canteen principles, and as a rule all the employes are glad to have the opportunity of taking their meals here. The kitchens are fitted up with modern appliances, the meats being roasted and not baked, as in some English restaurants. Even the cooks are under a foreman, who has entire charge of his department. On this floor, also, are the store-rooms, etc. Descending, you come to the magnificent composing rooms, lighted with electric lamps. Cloak-rooms are provided for the men, each article of clothing being checked by an attendant. Here and there are quiet offices, with telephonic and other machines in use and on trial. One room is devoted to the special Paris wire. By the side of the telegraph, which reels off its message on the now quite familiar roll of paper, is a type-setter, so that the Paris letter is put into type, hot as it comes in, from the slips themselves. In another apartment are telephones connected with the reporters' rooms at the houses of Parliament. During last session all the night reports were sent to the office through this medium. The stenographer writes out his notes as heretofore, then the manuscript is read off through the telephone by another employe. The recipients of the messages at the *Times* office dictate them to the type-setters, and so they are put into type. The manuscript comes up from the houses as heretofore, and goes into the reading room, so that the proofs are read by the original copy, thus checking the telephonic dictation. The type-setting machine