

FAMILIAR OUTLINES.



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HAMILTON.

CONCERNING THE PRESS.

THE "press" generally means the newspaper press. although, of course, it applies to literature in nearly all its forms. Other examples of the press exist, naturally; but, as a rule, they are of a more private nature. When a young man goes to press with his arm round a neat little waist, the circumstance is usually not intended for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith—or otherwise, as the case may be. The press is the greatest power at work to-day. It can shake the thrones of kings and emperors; and it can convey the sickliest details of a divorce case into the humblest home. In olden days great reforms made slow progress, and when any new truth had been successfully unearthed, a lot of people had to get up and kill each other before it could have a reliable kind of backbone to start with. But now-a-days the press personally conducts the truth around on inclusive terms, glorying with honest pride in its noble mission and doubling its advertisement rates in consequence of the increased circulation.

One of the greatest features of modern newspaper enterprise is the art of interviewing. When a very ordinary man rises to greatness by a new and improved process, a member of the press at once proceeds to get him up in a corner and ask if he can remember anything about himself. As a rule most men can with slight pressure remember a little under the circumstances.

The great business of the press is to spread the truth. Anybody who has got a special brand of the commodity to supply will always be dealt with on liberal terms. The press is a well of truth. In the ordinary kind of well you've got to reach a long way, as a rule, before you get to the business part of it, and it's about the same thing with the well of truth. If you want a truthful account of something that has happened don't listen to idle gossip on the spot, but see what the press has got to say about it. There can

be no doubt that the newspaper of to-day is an absolute necessity in our lives, whether you consider it in the light of wholesome literature or as a convenient medium for concealing a newly purchased bloater from public curiosity.

The press knows everything. When a great actor gets the chance of a fresh engagement, you will generally find that the press has managed to get hold of the news. And if anybody is going to start a new paper or a new magazine, the papers are sure to find it out in their clever way. It is very difficult to keep anything from the ear of the press. And no one is more inexpressibly pained than that projecting journalist when he reads the paragraph and hears people going so far as to suggest that he wrote it himself—because even the truth is painful at times.

THE PARTIES AND THE PATRON.

"If you'll listen to me for a minute,"
Says Ryerson M.P.,
"I'll prove that the Grits are not in it,
But 'tis Tories with Patrons agree.
Our speeches, amendments and motions
Are all of the true Patron sort,
We're precisely alike in our notions—
Yes, Codlin's your friend, and not Short!"

"No, Short, is your friend—that's *our* party,
Called for "Short" the Grit Party, you know,"
Cries Sir Richard, in manner most hearty,
"So forward together we'll go.
Our platform sets forth your opinion,
The platforms are like as two peas,
So give us, throughout the Dominion,
Your vote and your influence, please!"

"Now this is most queer and amusing."
Says the Patron, "You Tories and Grits,
Though each other you're always abusing,
Are really doubles and quits.
If you're each just like me, it must follow
You're just like each other, of course;
I'm afraid your both artful and hollow,
And it's hard to say which is the worse."

THE AMEER of Afghanistan is a very great potentate in his own country, but the world is a big place, and news of his death is Ameer two line paragraph in the papers.

WON BY A HEAD.

