



*Register*, and its circulation had increased from 2,000 to between 3,000 and 4,000 daily, and in consequence of this increase it is to-day somewhat amusing to read the proprietor-editor's apologies for the lateness of publication, which, as he says, is inevitable when so large a quantity is to be printed off. Before the *Times* was two years old, a paragraph appeared, in the autumn of 1780, censuring the Duke of York, and for this Walter had to pay a fine of £50, to stand in the pillory for one hour, to be imprisoned for a year, and to give, after that, security for his good behavior during seven years. He was let off the pillory, but while in Newgate gaol, and running the *Times* as best he could, two other libels appeared, one aiming at the Prince of Wales, and again the Duke of York, and the other charging the Duke of Clarence with having absented himself from his ship

without leave of the authorities, for these indiscretions Walter had to pay another fine of £200, and was sentenced to another year's imprisonment, but

he was released after a confinement of sixteen months.

The second John Walter succeeded his father in 1803, when not yet nineteen years of age. He dispensed with many of his father's whims, but threw all his enthusiasm into the development of the *Times*. His energy and independence were singularly distasteful at times to governing bodies, and friction was frequently the result. It was in the matter of foreign intelligence that they most frequently came to loggerheads, but in this as in other matters, Walter at length beat red tapeism all along the line. An infinitely greater advance in the domestic, or

rather typographical policy of the *Times* was effected a few years after the second Walter's regime had begun. As early as 1804, Thomas Martyn, a compositor in Walter's employ, invented a self-acting press, and the idea so commended itself that young Walter provided funds for still further experiments. It was eight years later, however, before any very definite results were achieved, and then these were brought about by the master-mind of Frederick Koenig, whose steam printing-press, first patented in 1810, was further developed in 1811, and again, two years later. The *Times* of July 29, 1817, contains a graphic account of how its first number was printed by steam, in spite of the threats and opposition of the pressmen. "The night on which this curious machine was first brought into use was one of great anxiety and even alarm. The suspicious pressmen had threatened destruction to anyone whose invention might suspend their employment—'destruction to him and his traps.' They were directed to wait for expected news from the Continent. It was about six o'clock in the morning when Mr. Walter went into the press-room and astonished its occupants by telling them that the *Times* was already printed by steam; that if they attempted violence there was a force ready to suppress it; but that if they were peaceable, their wages would be continued to every one of them till similar employment could be procured—a promise which was no doubt faithfully performed; and, having said so, he distributed several copies among them." The *Times* of that morning, November 29, 1814, contained the announcement: "Our journal of this day presents to the public the practical result of the greatest improvement connected with printing since the discovery of the art itself. The reader of this paragraph now holds in his hand one of the many thousand impressions of the *Times* newspaper, which were taken off