

"Bull-dosing" Defined.

The newly coined word "bull-dose" has been pretty thoroughly bandied about by the daily and weekly press of Canada, to say nothing of the United States, but we venture to assert that a very few have more than an abstract idea of whence and how it came into such general use, or what it signifies. The *Charleston, S. C., News and Courier* gives the following history of the nondescript:—

BULL-DOSE.

This word, which in its different forms, has become common in the newspapers, is of Louisiana origin and negro parentage. Last spring in the parishes of East and West Feliciana and East Baton Rouge, large numbers of negroes began to join the Democratic party. The Republican leaders determined to put a stop to it, and formed secret societies for the purpose of whipping in the blacksliding negroes. Among these was the famous "Union Rights Stop" at Mount Pleasant, on the river, which caused so much trouble, and was finally broken up by the sheriff, when their oaths, by-laws and list of members were captured. Their plan of action was to spot a colored man who was suspected of Democratic proclivities, then to serve a notice on him to come to a certain point and take the oath of the brethren of the Union Rights Stop. If he did not come they served a second notice, then a third with a threat, and if he still refused, a detachment of the brethren was sent after him at night, and he was brought in tied and handcuffed. He was then told to sign the Stop and take the oath. Usually terror made him comply, but if he refused he was put down and whipped with a bull-whip until he consented to join the league or leave the state. In very obstinate cases the brethren were in the habit of administering a *bull's dose* of several hundred lashes on the bare back. When dealing with those who were hard to convert, active members would call out "give me the whip and let me give him a bull-dose." From this it became easy to say "that fellow ought to be 'bull-dosed'" and bull-dose, bull-dosing, and bull-dosed, and bull-dosers came to be the slang words. After the exposure of the Union Rights Stop the Republicans of this state sought to turn the force of the exposure by applying the term to all sorts of intimidation. Hence, when they say that they mean to exclude the "bull-dosed parishes" it simply means parishes where intimidation is alleged to have occurred.

THE Russian clergy are getting up a subscription to erect a monument to John Fedorow, the first man who ever cast Russian types. He established the first printing press at Moscow in 1553, and the first book issued from it, in 1564, was an edition of the Gospels and Epistles in Slavonic characters, printed by Fedorow and Matislawecz, under the supervision of a Danish printer.

IT is said that two-thirds of the number of newspapers printed along the Atlantic seaboard, are now under the management and control of men who were only common types.

The Proof-Reader.

As an offset to the undeserved abuse, so often heaped upon this very necessary and important functionary of every well-regulated and fully equipped printing office, we reproduce the following remarks of Charles Dickens, made at a meeting of proof-readers held in London in 1867. We may add that there are very few authors who have passed through the ordeal of publishing their works but could bear conclusive and undeniable evidence to the entire truthfulness of the following deserved compliment:—

I gratefully acknowledge that I have never gone through the sheets of any book that I have written, without having had presented to me by the corrector of the press, something that I have overlooked, some slight inconsistency into which I have fallen, some little lapse I have made: in short, without having set down, in black and white, some unquestionable indication that I have been closely followed through my work by a patient and trained mind, and not merely by a skillful eye.

CHARLES DICKENS.

IN the New York *Sun* of December 9th occurs one of those startling and dumb-founding (to the "maker-up" at least) mistakes which are the result of the hurry and bustle incident to "making up" and putting a daily paper to press. It gives half a column about "Well-known New York Families—the Lorillards"—and when the article reaches a description of Mr. Lorillard's interest in yachts and horses, it suddenly breaks off (at a divided word) into a biographical sketch of the late Dr. Norman McLeod, of which article it gives over three-quarters of a column. The beginning of one and finish of the other article are not to be found in the paper. This is an error hard to guard against, and requires the greatest vigilance on the part of the foreman or "maker-up." In the hurry of "making up" a daily paper—perhaps a little behind time for the mails, etc.—the person lifting in the matter finding one galley ending with a divided word, is very apt to take the "run over" from another galley commencing with a divided word, if the first word or two "reads." Mistakes of this kind can only be avoided by the "maker-up" resolving that he will not be hurried so far as not to be able to spare time for reading at least two or three lines each side of the break.

If publishers and proprietors of printing offices will notify the editor of the *Miscellany* of any additions, changes or improvements, in their establishments, the information will be very acceptable and duly chronicled.