

Printer AND Publisher.

VOL. II.—No. 9

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1893

\$2.00 PER YEAR.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Ludicrous in the extreme was the New York Press on Aug. 16th. On its editorial page it had an article headed "A Great American Victory," which being interpreted meant the decision of the Behring Sea Tribunal. In the third column from this it had an editorial note, saying:—"James C. Carter, the head of the New York bar, will be the most disappointed American citizen at the Behring Sea decision. He had drawn upon his highest intellectual resources from the time he was appointed one of counsel to the day when he delivered his argument. He devoted himself almost exclusively to the study of the question in all its bearings; he became absorbed and fascinated by it; he would rather have won that case than have been named for Chief Justice of the United States or nominated for the Presidency."—Consistency, thy home is not in The New York Press office!

* * *

The fifth annual convention of the International Printing Pressmen's Union was opened at Cincinnati, Ohio, on June 19th. The Russell-Morgan and Ault-Wiborg companies got up an elegant souvenir, which was presented to each of the delegates. The Union declared in favor of a nine-hour day. It was decided to hold the next convention in Toronto, Canada. They will no doubt receive a suitable reception in June, 1894, at the hands of the craft of Toronto, whose fame for hospitality has gone abroad through the nations.

* * *

Beginning with August 3rd, The Weekly Journalist is issued in new and improved form. The Journalist is certainly a credit to itself and is a credit even to Boston—the home of learning. It covers the entire field of publishing and writing with its sixteen huge pages and its weekly issues. Its editor, Mr. Benyon, although only in his 26th year, possesses great literary and executive ability.

* * *

The typesetting machines are not increasing in favor in Toronto. It is currently reported that two or three offices would discard them if their contract would allow them to do so. The matrices seem to cause a deal of trouble as their life is only limited, and in their old age they do very bad work.

* * *

That man Holmes, the journalist, who is walking to Vancouver from Montreal, has failed to earn our respect. He is serving no good purpose and his reports are not reliable. A Paris

reporter has been beating his way to Chicago from New York. In the course of his journey he struck Canada. Such men as he and Holmes, and the dead-broke cyclists, ought to be dumped in the land beyond the outskirts of civilization. They would then reach their level.

* * *

Many country weeklies have been taking holidays this month. Some have omitted an issue, others have issued half-size sheets. The latter plan is preferable beyond a doubt. A paper should never miss an issue, for the benefit of its advertisers if nothing else. Newspaper men try to say that an advertisement should appear regularly, and yet they cause irregularity themselves. If you are an editor and want holidays, take them, and let the paper go to the devil, if you haven't a more competent man in your office. Surely you have a friend among the well educated men around town or among the pedagogues, who can with the aid of your staff, yet out one issue without you.

* * *

Last month we ventured to criticize, very mildly, those press builders and paper jobbers who sold their goods in such a way that the buyer was under a continual obligation to them, a situation very conducive to reckless cutting of prices. Canada, young and freshly organized as is her printing trade, has already begun to feel the deadening effect of a system which is much worse in the United States and bad enough in Great Britain. The American Bookmaker says:—"The employing printers of England are waking up to the importance of trade association, and are forming branches of the Printing and Allied Trades Association in the country towns. At one of their meetings in Birmingham recently, it was resolved not to support press builders and type founders who supplied printing presses and type on the hire system, or paper houses which sold paper direct to the customer, or printing ink makers who gave bonuses to pressmen. There is great reason why the United Typothetae of America should take similar action."

* * *

Electric motors are becoming more popular with printers. City job printers use them nearly exclusively. The St. Thomas Journal press is now moved by electric motive power. The care of the steam boiler has now been done away with, and a ten horse power motor has taken its place. In the use of a motor there is no fire, no heat, no filth, better insurance rates, less machinery, and less space occupied. There is no doubt