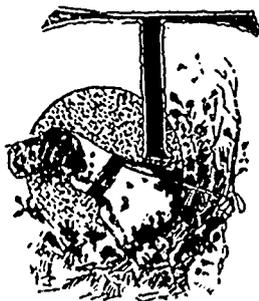


## THE DAILY PRESS.



THE announcement that Mr. Walter C. Nichol, editor of The London News, is retiring from active newspaper work to go into gold mining in British Columbia was a surprise. As one of the brightest of younger journalists who had proved a success in two different onerous positions, it was supposed that he was a fixture on the daily press. But a good chance presented itself and he leaves for the West about the 24th inst. with Messrs. Marshall and Young, of Hamilton, to visit the gold fields with the alluring prospect of sharing in the harvest of fortunes that are in process of making out there. Mr. Nichol will be followed by the good wishes of a host of friends on the press.

As indicated elsewhere, The Ottawa Citizen Co. has bought the Ontario Printing and Book-Binding Co. of that city and will amalgamate it with their own business. This includes The Lounger, a monthly publication which will now pass out of existence. The Citizen has not done anything in these departments before, but with this purchase will branch out and put in an extensive job printing and book-binding plant. Mr. I. W. Shannon is a capable manager for an establishment like this.

Now that war has actually broken out in the East the daily may see its way to present each day a connected story of the stirring events now being recorded. For weeks past the telegraph operator has edited the war news. The paragraphs come over the wires dated London, Paris, Constantinople, Athens, and Lord-Knows-Where, and are shovelled into the paper with small caps, sub-heads, and a great flamer at the top. To re-write the whole day's despatches is doubtless hard work. But the results would be more satisfactory. Unless the man at the New York end supplies a summarized despatch, covering the main features of the day, it is seldom done in our own offices. With the morning papers it would not be impossible to re-cast the whole matter, give a better story, and probably save space in the operation.

The idea seems to exist that the Parliamentary debates are entitled to an exhaustive summary each day. The reports are, on the whole, lengthy. Only at a late hour in the night do the trained experts in the press gallery summon up courage enough to say, "Messrs. Blank, Muchofit, Longtongue and Scrapbook continued the debate." Their predecessors, having spoken early, get the cream of the space. As a rule, the Commons debates get more space than they deserve. The debaters should be taught to condense and the daily press alone can administer the required lesson.

An outsider comes to the conclusion that the Nova Scotian papers have taken the political situation far too seriously. The controversies have been many and bitter, and, at this distance from the prize ring, it looks as if the politicians got the papers to say the bitter, nasty, ill-tempered things which they don't like to say for themselves. Who gains by this? Certainly not the press, which sacrifices friendship, good humor and decency of con-

duct for a set of self-seekers who care not one whit for the good name and fame of journalism. Besides, these furious disputes do away with the finer wit and satire which constitute the chief charm of political writing.

The Montreal Star has been printing some well-drawn sketches of parliamentary orators, represented in the act of speaking from their places in the House of Commons. The likenesses are admirable, and considering the exigencies of the fast press nowadays, the work is highly creditable both to the paper and the artist.

The Toronto World has laid in a fine new mechanical outfit and its office is now one of the best equipped in Canada. Another linotype machine is on the way, making seven in all. The new Goss straight line three-decker press with Hoe attachment, will be ready to run in a few days. A special motor is being made for it, and the stereotyping plant is all new. When The World appears in its new dress, it will present a bright appearance that will justify the capital expenditure which Mr. W. F. Maclean has wisely determined to go in for.

Mr. John J. Foote, proprietor of The Morning Chronicle, died at Quebec, April 19, after a short illness. Mr. Foote was born in Tavistock, Devon, England, in 1832. He entered the wholesale tea trade in Dublin when a young man, and was afterwards in the same business in London, Ontario. He went to Quebec 35 years ago to join his brother Samuel in publishing The Chronicle, of which he became sole owner in 1878. The paper will be continued as usual under the management of Mr. Allison Jackson, business manager, until Mr. Trevor Foote, deceased's younger son, comes of age, in three years.

As this issue goes to press Mr. R. H. Kennedy, proprietor of The Hamilton Times, is seriously ill. It is understood that he is threatened with an attack of apoplexy, and his condition is such that it was deemed advisable to send for his wife and daughter, who have been visiting friends in New York. The physician in attendance reports that his patient is a little better to-day. The patient's ultimate recovery is believed to be very doubtful.

## DR. JAKEWAY'S POEMS.

Canadian journalists will be glad to learn that Dr. Charles E. Jakeway, of Stayner, Ont., author of the famous ballad "Laura Secord," "Death of Tecumseh," "Capture of Fort Detroit," "Death of Brock," and many other fine productions, is publishing a volume of his verse. He writes in a lofty strain and most of his poems are patriotic and highly spirit-stirring. They have been published, quoted, recited and sung widely for many years, and have been highly spoken of by the press and by scholars and critics in this country and in England. The book takes its title from the principal work "The Lion and the Lilies; a tale of the Conquest," in six cantos, which will be the most ambitious Canadian poem yet presented to the public. The year of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee is an appropriate time for the appearance of this interesting volume. William Briggs, 29-33 Richmond street west, Toronto, the publisher, announces it will be ready this month.