

A man of France, named Jenson taught the Venetians this fair art,
Which Britain, by her industry, did to herself impart.

This must have reference to Caxton, who has no rival in England to dispute the honor with him. Thus Oxford itself furnishes a testimony that overthrows the date of its own book.

Many improvements have been effected in this noble art, especially during the last half century. J. Van der May was the inventor of stereotype, which, though a retrograde movement in the art, is of some value for printing standard works. It is now much less in use than it was a few years ago, and is wholly discontinued at the Oxford University press, where it was much practised for printing religious works, which are now set in new type and kept standing. Presses were originally like the common-cheese press, but have now adapted to them various machinery to accelerate their movement and increase their power. The invention of elastic adhesive rollers by Foster, was preparatory to cylinder printing, which was long attempted before steam power was applied by Konig, a Saxon printer in England. On the 23th November, 1819, the Times newspaper announced "that the sheet the reader held in his hand, was one of many thousands thrown off by steam." By this machine 2880 impressions of a newspaper have been printed in an hour, but 1000 copies from a single form is a medium rate. Printing in gold and silver, and with types of various metals and inks of various colors have lately been practised. The art of Lithographic printing, or taking impressions from stone by a chemical process, was lately invented by Senefelder. Great improvements have been made in letter-founding, to which machinery has been adapted. There is every reason to believe that the art of printing is yet susceptible of many great and important improvements.

The Carter alluded to in the poem, published "The innocence of the Queen of Scots" and "a Treatise on Scism," in Elizabeth's reign, for which he was indicted, arraigned, and condemned of high treason, and sentenced to be "hanged, howelled, and quartered." The first martyr of the Liberty of the Press.

FINIS.