

taken from each plate. With works of large circulation, it becomes a great saving in expense.

And, now that I have shortly gone over the history of printing, of all inventions or discoveries, it forms the one of most momentous interest. No event during the rolling of successive ages can for a moment be compared with it! Science, knowledge, civilization, humanity, man's best and highest interests, have commanded its influence, and been powerfully affected by it. As time progresses, so does this noble art command more and more the support and the sympathies of man. How much genius has been encouraged by it! How many great inventions have indirectly sprung from this one invention! Foreign lands and distant tribes have done homage to its power, and many, many are the languages in which it has been used! Powerful for good, it is powerful for evil; and no man can advance the great interests of morality and science better than by the employment of this stupendous engine. The speech of the greatest orator commands the admiration but of a few hundred or a few thousand people; but the Press, by its repeated and large editions, may overspread the land. Politics, of old, were studied and understood by comparatively few. Now, the daily and other newspapers find their way to the hearths and homes of millions, and thereby vastly add to the stock of information, and to the happiness of man. But the Printing Press, like all the blessings bestowed on man, involves a great responsibility on man himself. If it has been the mighty engine to raise man in dignity, in moral greatness, in intellectual vigor, it has proved a vast engine for evil—for pandering to all that is degrading in his nature, and thus lowering him as a moral being. This remark applies equally to the writer and the reader.

If God has been pleased to bestow upon some men great genius and commanding talent, does not the gift itself imply that it shall be rightly used? that it shall be employed to the praise of that glorious Being, and to the good of his fellow men?