

ment in 1769, some occasional sketches of the proceedings of the House of Commons were printed in the *London Evening Post*, other newspapers in a short time followed the example. On the 12th of February, 1771, Colonel George Onslow, at the instigation of the cabinet, complained that six printers of newspapers had printed parliamentary debates and proceedings. All these persons were ordered to attend the House. Some obeyed the summons, but Miller, the printer of the *London Evening Post*, did not comply with the order. Colonel Onslow having previously declared that he intended to bring before the House every printer who had printed any of the debates or proceedings of Parliament, in order that they might receive the punishment of their contumacy, it was concerted between Wilkes and Mr. Almon, the proprietor of the *London Evening Post*, that if Miller, the printer of that journal, should be sought for, a serious, a bold and a strong resistance should be made. The plan was this : The printer should pay no regard to the order to attend the House of Commons, but if the House sent a messenger to apprehend him Miller was to have a city constable in readiness to take the messenger into custody, that then they were to proceed to the Mansion House, where Mr. Alderman Wilkes, the Lord Mayor (Brass Crosby), and Mr. Alderman Oliver would attend as magistrates. Circumstances happened exactly as had been foreseen. The printer having neglected to attend to the order of the House of Commons, on the 15th of March a messenger of the House came to take him into custody. The printer thereupon gave the messenger in charge to the city constable for an assault, and they all proceeded to the Mansion House. The messenger attempted to justify the arrest of the printer by virtue of the speaker's warrant, but on it being shown that the messenger was not a peace officer, and moreover that the warrant was not backed by a city magistrate, the court, after hearing the case, discharged the printer from the custody of the messenger. The printer in his turn now charged the messenger with a breach of the peace, and was thereupon bound over to prosecute the messenger, who was desired to find bail for his offence. This the messenger refused to do ; he was therefore committed to prison (Wood street counter). By this time the deputy serjeant-at-arms arrived from the House and gave the required bail for the prisoner. The ministry and their party in the House of Commons were enraged at this violent resistance to their power. The Lord Mayor and Mr. Alderman Oliver were ordered to attend the House. The clerk to the Lord Mayor was