

Blowitz's School of Journalism.

M. DE BLOWITZ, the Paris correspondent of the London Times, lays before the readers of the Contemporary Review a fanciful proposal for the establishment of a School of Journalism. Here are some of his suggestions:

The young aspirant to journalism should have finished his eighteenth year, and should possess the first regular degree according to the collegiate education of his country. He should be seriously grounded in the elements of two languages other than his own. He should serve five years, so that his career should not begin before he was twenty-three, or even later. A younger man can not be expected to possess the maturity necessary to judge the causes and effects of events with security. He would then be placed in the hands of professors who for two years would teach him the history and literature of each of the great historic and literary divisions of Europe, running over remote periods very rapidly, and becoming more careful and detailed as one drew nearer to the present moment. He would be initiated into the origin and tendencies of spirit of his most remarkable contemporaries in every country. He would be given a general idea of the political constitutions, the ethnologic and climatic conditions, the products, the geographical situation, the means of communication, the armed forces, the budgets and the public debts of each nation. He would be taught to draw both landscapes and the human face. He would learn to box, to ride on horseback, and to use a revolver; but the science of arms, so-called, would be rigorously interdicted, because a man obliged to support his arguments by weapons, or who indulges in personalities which place, so to speak, arms in the hands of his foes, is neither a journalist nor worthy to be one. Finally, such a pupil would undergo a graduating examination, and if he failed in any way to satisfy his instructors, he would remain another year; after which, for three years more, he would spend in succession some months at school or college in other lands, so that the remaining three years should be used up by his presence at foreign schools of journalism, and travel in countries where these schools are established, as well as in countries where they might not yet exist. All these schools of journalism should form a federation. Every exclusive political opinion should be banished from them. The instruction should be

elective, without any possibility of pressure from without; and the free judgment of the pupil, formed by experience and conviction, should be respected. The pupils of one school, by this scheme, would be received in any one of the other schools without any extra expence, the cost of the entire course having been fixed in advance. Both resident and traveling scholarships would, of course, be established, as well as retreats for old age, or those temporarily ill from diseases contracted in the fulfilment of their duty. Each school, moreover, would obtain from the serious leading journals in its neighborhood the promise to employ, according to the special needs of the journal, a certain number of pupils, who are thus provided with their final diplomas.

THE Linotype and Typograph machines have been introduced into several of the Toronto newspaper offices. Their introduction was secured by the claim of their makers that they would save about one-half of the expence of composition by hand. Authentic figures of the cost of composition in two competing newspaper offices, one by piece-work with type and the other by the "economical" machine-made article, show the average wages paid for hand composition, for a period of seven weeks, to be a trifle under \$240 per week. With the machines the wages and rental of machines during the same period averaged \$276.55 per week. The quantity of matter set by the piece office was greater than by the machines, and there is absolutely no comparison between the two papers in point of appearance. If to the above figures had been added the expence of power, gas, metal and repairs, (and repairs make a most important item as the machines are fully one-third of their time out of order) the economy of the old and reliable hand-setting would appear even more strikingly. But the greatest disadvantage of the machine is and must continue to be the illegible character of the work, owing to its extreme irregularity both as to line and height. It is not good business to say that these machines "do good enough work for newspapers." A live newspaper prides itself upon its appearance, and in any case the reading public will not long continue to ruin its eye-sight worrying the news out of a poorly printed paper when a clean, well-printed one can be had for the same money.