

**PRINTING; ITS PARENTAGE, PROGRESS,
AND PRACTICE, WITH SOME ACCOUNT
OF THE "AUTHORISED VERSION OF THE
BIBLE" AND OF THE CLARENDON PRESS,
OXFORD**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649348169

Printing: its parentage, progress, and practice, with some account of the "Authorised version of the bible" and of the clarendon press, Oxford by Edw. Pickard Hall

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

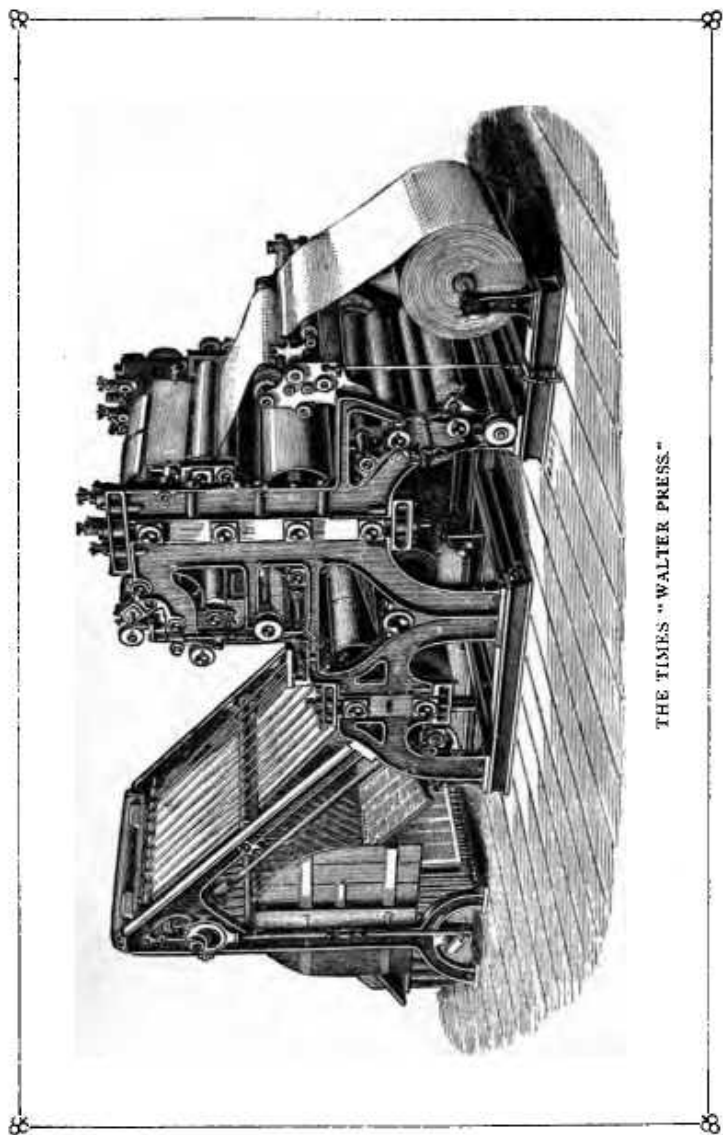
Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

EDW. PICKARD HALL

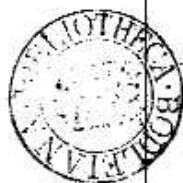
**PRINTING; ITS PARENTAGE, PROGRESS,
AND PRACTICE, WITH SOME ACCOUNT
OF THE "AUTHORISED VERSION OF THE
BIBLE" AND OF THE CLARENDON PRESS,
OXFORD**



THE TIMES "WALTER PRESS"

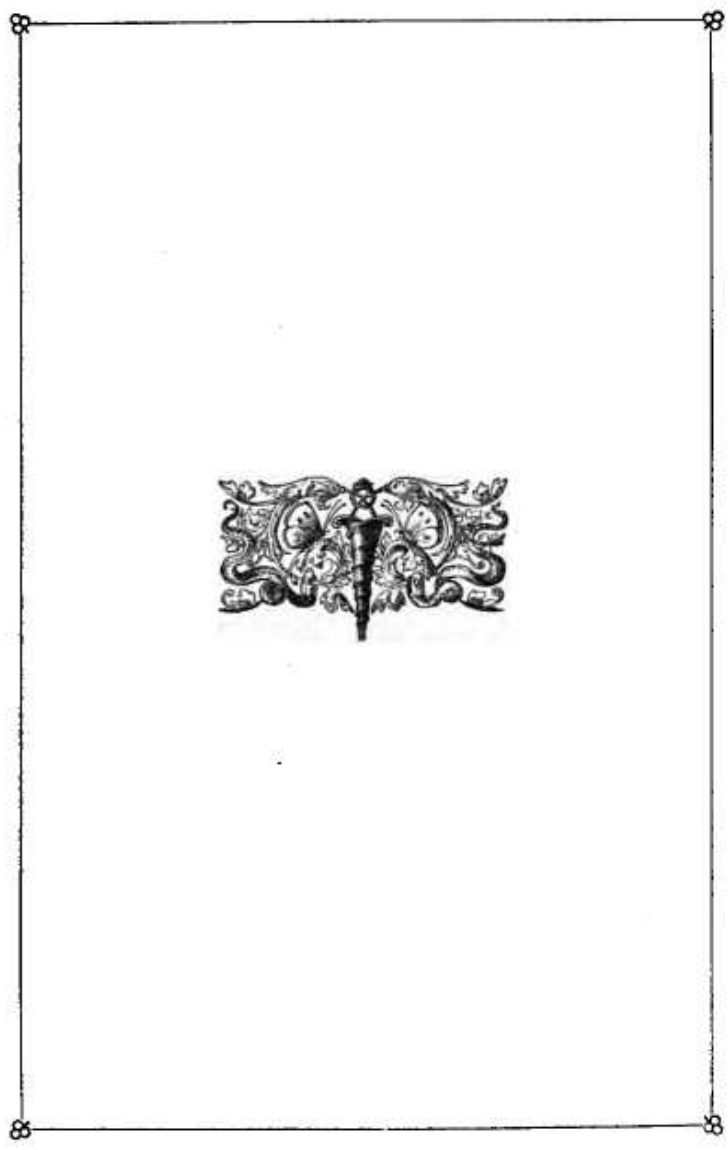
PRINTING;
ITS
PARENTAGE, PROGRESS, AND PRACTICE,
WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THE
"AUTHORISED VERSION OF THE BIBLE"
AND OF THE
CLARENDON PRESS, OXFORD.

BY
EDW. PICKARD HALL,
Senior Managing Partner of the Clarendon Press.



Oxford:
1876.

258. b. 196.



ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following attempt to give a succinct description of the Parentage, Progress, and Practice of Letter Press Printing, and of the *modus operandi* of the various processes incidental to the art, has been suggested by the frequent enquiries on the subject, and the great interest manifested in it, by the numerous visitors to the Clarendon Press. It aims at no more than being an un-technical popular hand-book.

Oxford, 1876.

E. P. H.



GUTTENBERG.

(From the Statue at Mentz).

P R I N T I N G ;

ITS

Parentage, Progress, and Practice.



THAT the invention of printing has conferred upon the mass of mankind one of the greatest of temporal blessings will not be disputed.

Learning was previously restricted to comparatively a favoured few ; books consisted entirely of manuscripts—writings on leaves, skins, and other substances—executed with enormous labour and at so great an expense that few besides the very rich could afford the luxury of even a very limited library.

Crowds of ecclesiastics spent their whole lives in laboriously transcribing books of which copies were required—

. . . . along the cloister's painted side
The monks—each bending low upon his book,
With head on hand reclined—their studies plied.
Forbid to gossip, or, in fact, to look,
Lengthways their regulated seats they took.

The strutting Prior gazed with pompous mien
And wakeful tongue, prepared with prompt rebuke
If monk asleep in sheltering hood were seen ;
He, waxy, often peeped beneath that russet screen.
Hard by, against the window's adverse light,
Where desks were wont in length of row to stand,
The gowned "scribblers" inclined to write.

Monks, in fact, were the real predecessors of modern printers ; multiplying books, however, with prodigious toil and labour—in fact, living a life of literary slavery. These MSS. were necessarily almost out of the reach of the people at large—nay, famous chiefs, great lords, and powerful sovereigns were worse off than young children in our parish schools, for they sometimes could not even write their own names.

Whoever reflects upon this state of things will not be surprised that the progress of mankind in every thing intellectual and useful was extremely slow and difficult. Not that there was no learning, but that it was confined to a favoured few, and in many cases was restricted to the individual possessor—was uncommunicated and uncommunicateable. No wonder, therefore, that the world at large was in the darkest ignorance—error gained strength—important and valuable truths died at their very birth, or struggled feebly for existence, till the art of printing nourished them into maturity, and enabled them, like well-watered and cultured plants, to strike their roots deeply and spread their branches widely—to produce their natural and genuine fruit of practical good to the human race.