

**JOURNALISTIC LONDON:  
BEING A SERIES OF  
SKETCHES OF FAMOUS PENS  
AND PAPERS OF THE DAY**

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Journalistic London: Being a Series of Sketches of Famous Pens and Papers of the Day by  
Joseph Hatton

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**JOSEPH HATTON**

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11 JOURNALISTIC LONDON //

BEING

A SERIES OF SKETCHES

OF

FAMOUS PENS AND PAPERS OF  
THE DAY.

By JOSEPH HATTON.

PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED WITH ENGRAVINGS FROM DRAWINGS  
BY M. W. RIDLEY;

TOGETHER WITH MANY ORIGINAL PORTRAITS OF DISTINGUISHED EDITORS,  
AND WRITERS FOR THE PRESS.

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*Handwritten note*

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## PREFACE.

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THE world is becoming so accustomed to having its history "written up to date" in the daily newspaper that it is apt to overlook the exigencies of serial and other publications. Magazines are printed, some of them, months ahead of their issue to the public. The production of books is undertaken still more leisurely, both by author and publisher. I venture to ask the critical reader of the following pages to bear these facts in mind.

While this work has been passing through the press there have been "births, marriages, and deaths." Ancient landmarks, historical and otherwise, have given place to new ones. The Cock Tavern has disappeared and the new home of *The Daily Telegraph* has arisen. Several men, whose honoured names still stand in my chronicles as among the living, have laid down their pens for ever. New claims have been made upon the courage and enterprise of war correspondents and artists. In short, the world has not stood still. If I have exhibited in these pages even the shadow of its progress, I have accomplished all I could hope to achieve. The history of the Newspaper Press changes almost as rapidly as the effects which a landscape artist vainly tries to fix upon his canvas in permanent form and colour. If these pen-and-ink reminiscences of a great subject are judged in the spirit of this similitude, I shall not be expected to be as ubiquitous as the daily journalist, whose ink is never dry and whose chronicles are never ending.

I am prompted to set down these few words by way of preface because, two London journals dying while one of my papers which mentioned their existence was being printed in *Harper's Magazine*, three thousand miles away, I was "taken to task" by several correspondents, and by a scrupulously righteous critic, for being "behind the age," inasmuch as the unfortunate publications in question were not mentioned in the past instead of the present tense.

The postponement of this republication of the *Harper* articles until the present time is also sufficient reason for a few prefatory words. This being so, it would be an act of ingratitude were I to let the opportunity go by without expressing my best thanks for the kindly and courteous assistance which I have received at the hands of the leading Journalists of London. My intercourse with them, for the purposes of this volume, was inspired by a commission from the editor of a famous magazine to write a series of articles "about the London Newspapers, with personal notes on the foremost men connected with the Metropolitan Press." A difficult task, I have fulfilled it to the best of my ability, and *Journalistic London* is the result. It only claims to be a contribution towards a great subject; a sketch, and not a finished picture; the studies for which have, however, been made under circumstances which I recall with pleasure and satisfaction.

The reception accorded to the work, during its progress in the magazine, on both sides of the Atlantic, encourages me to hope that in its present extended and more complete shape, it will enjoy a no less fortunate career of popular favour.

THE AUTHOR.

LONDON, *September*, 1882.



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