

**TYPOGRAPHIC TECHNICAL SERIES FOR  
APPRENTICES, PART VIII, NO. 53; A BRIEF  
HISTORY OF  
PRINTING IN ENGLAND: A SHORT  
HISTORY OF PRINTING IN ENGLAND  
FROM CAXTON TO THE PRESENT TIME**

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**FREDERICK W. HAMILTON**

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A BRIEF HISTORY  
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TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY  
FREDERICK W. HAMILTON, LL. D.

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR  
UNITED TYPOTHETAE OF AMERICA



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## PREFACE

THE treatment of the material used in this volume will be found somewhat different from that adopted in the two preceding. The narrower field of inquiry makes possible a closer following of the ordinary chronological method of arrangement rather than the topical method of the other volumes. An attempt is made to trace the history of printing in England through the centuries from Caxton to Morris and to include some insight into legal regulations, trade conditions, and industrial development generally. As before, it is to be remembered that this is a primer, a book of introductions. No attempt, therefore, is made to go far into details or to discuss disputed points or to include any considerable amount of technical detail. It is hoped that the reader will get a comprehensive view of the subject, will feel its human interest, and will catch some glimpse of its larger relation to the general history of the time.

The writer has consulted a considerable range of authorities, a few of the more accessible of which are cited in the short list of books for supplementary reading. Mention should be made of the very excellent study of John Baskerville, privately printed by Col. Josiah H. Benton, of Boston. This book may perhaps be found in the larger public libraries. Here, as always, it is to be regretted that although much has been written on the subject of printing and of the history of printing a good general history of the subject is still greatly to be desired.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. This includes both traditional manual methods and modern digital technologies, highlighting the benefits of automation and data integration.

3. The third part focuses on the challenges faced in data management, such as data quality, security, and privacy. It provides strategies to address these challenges and ensure that the data remains reliable and secure.

4. The fourth part discusses the role of data in decision-making and strategic planning. It explains how data-driven insights can help organizations identify trends, opportunities, and risks, leading to more informed and effective decisions.

5. The fifth part covers the importance of data governance and compliance. It outlines the necessary policies and procedures to ensure that data is handled in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.

6. The sixth part addresses the future of data management, including emerging trends like artificial intelligence, big data, and cloud computing. It discusses how these technologies will shape the way organizations manage and utilize their data.

7. The seventh part provides a summary of the key points discussed throughout the document and offers recommendations for further action and improvement in data management practices.



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1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent data collection procedures and the use of advanced analytical techniques to derive meaningful insights from the data.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in data management and analysis. It discusses how modern software solutions can streamline data collection, storage, and processing, thereby improving efficiency and accuracy.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data management, such as data quality, security, and privacy. It provides strategies to mitigate these risks and ensure that the data remains reliable and secure.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of data governance and the role of various stakeholders in ensuring that data is used ethically and in compliance with relevant regulations.

6. The sixth part of the document explores the future of data management and analysis, highlighting emerging trends and technologies that will shape the landscape in the coming years.

7. The seventh part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and recommendations from the study. It emphasizes the need for a holistic approach to data management that integrates technology, processes, and people.

8. The eighth part of the document includes a list of references and a list of figures and tables used in the document.

9. The ninth part of the document is a conclusion that reiterates the main points of the document and offers final thoughts on the importance of data in driving organizational success.

10. The tenth part of the document is an appendix containing additional information and data related to the study.

# PRINTING IN ENGLAND

## CHAPTER I

### THE ENGLISH PIONEERS

ENGLAND was slow to take up printing and slow and backward in the development of it. It was 25 years after the invention of printing before any printing was done in England. It was many years after that before the work of the English printers could compare with that done on the continent. The reason for this is to be found in the conditions of the country itself. Although the two great universities had long been in existence, Oxford dating back to 1167 and Cambridge to 1209, England as a whole was a backward country. In culture and the refinements of civilization, as well as in many more practical things, England was not so far advanced as the rest of Europe nor was it to be so for many years to come.

England at this time was an agricultural and grazing country. A colony of Flemings had been brought over to start the cloth industry. There was still, nevertheless, a large export of wool to Flanders, which was there woven and sent back as cloth. The English nobles lived largely on their estates, looking after their tenants, hunting for diversion, and doing a little fighting occasionally when life became otherwise unbearably uninteresting. They were not an educated class and the peasantry were profoundly ignorant. The cities which, as always, depended upon manufacture and commerce were just beginning to grow, with the exception