

“This Chequered Business...” ^{1, 2}

Quadrants
Quartos
Quires
Quoins ³

**The first book printed in London was Lyttleton’s
Tenures** ^{4, 5}
**The first book printed by steam was Waterton’s
Wondercap** ⁶

Slice
Slur
Squabble
Bite

CURIOUS TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR. — The celebrated printer Henri Ettine [...] was once engaged in the printing of a splendid quarto Missal. After the sheets had been corrected with the utmost care, the work was printed off, splendidly bound, and delivered to the subscribers [...] one copy after another was returned to him, till all were sent back. He enquired the reason of this extraordinary circumstance and was informed that in one place the compositor had put *Ica le petre clear sa cullotte*, (here the priest will take off his breeches), instead of *calotte*, (small black cap), and the error escaped the correctors of the press. This unfortunate affair is said to have been the first and chief cause of the derangement which afterwards caused Henri Ettine to be confined in the Lunatic Hospital at Lyons, where he died in 1698. ^{7, 8}

Driving out
Gutter sticks
Lower case sorts
Errata

“Fewer mistakes would be made, were authors to endeavour to render their copy more legible, before they place it in the hands of the printer. It can hardly be expected that the corrector, under whose inspection such a variety of subjects are continually passing, should be able to enter thoroughly into every one of them, and to guess so nicely at the author's meaning, when the copy is obscure, and unable to afford him any assistance.” ⁹

Cold-pressing
Hot-pressing
Press-men
Press-room
Press-stone

BIRTH, PARENTAGE, AND EDUCATION OF A BOOK.—

The following twenty-four occupations are engaged in the production of a single book :

— Author, rag-merchant, paper-maker,
stationer, quill-dresser, ink-maker,
type-man, compositor, reader,
folder, gatherer, stitcher,
twine-maker, thread-merchant, leather-seller,
binder, copper-smith, designer,
engraver, copperplate printer,
and bookseller. ¹⁰

Song of the Stanhope

Lay me out the way you want me
set me up to say your words
ink me
press down hard upon me
take from me
the linen yards

“The generations of paper-making, as they succeed each other, are as follows : —

- 1st. The [linen] rags are washed, if requisite, and then sorted.
- 3rd. They are ground, with water, in the washing-engine, till they are reduced to a coarse or imperfect pulp, called half-stuff, in which state the bleaching is sometimes performed ; at other times it is bleached in the engine.
- 5th. [...]the sheets of paper are made by taking up a quantity of the pulp upon a mould of fine wire cloth, through which the water drains away and the pulp coagulates into a sheet of paper ; to take this off the wire is called *couching*.
- 13th. The paper is now finished, and it is counted into quires, folded, and picked up in reams for market." ¹¹

Body of a letter
Carriage and ribs
Colon
Cheeks of the press
Feet of the press
Foot sticks
Shank of a letter
Hair space
Scratched figures

“The rags when first brought to the mill, if they are very dirty, as the coarse sorts generally are, are washed in hot water by a fulling mill [...]The rags being well dried are [...]delivered to women to sort and scrape them. These women are disposed of in a large room full of old linen, seated two by two on benches with a large chest or box divided into five cases before them, for containing the five different sorts of rags as before mentioned. Each has a piece of pasteboard hung from her girdle and extended on her

knees, upon which, with a long sharp knife, she unrips seams and stitches, and scrapes off all filth. Whatever can be used after being well shaken is distributed into the cases according to the degree of fineness, and the women throw the rest at their feet.

Those manufacturers who choose to be more exact in their sorting, have six cases for six different sorts of rags ; the superfine, the fine, the seams, and stitches of the fine ; the middling, the seams and stitches of the middling ; and the coarse, without including the very coarse parts, which are reserved for making brown paper.

Some manufacturers are persuaded that the labour of the sorters is never sufficiently exact[...]" ¹²

Clean proof
Close matter

(The women when first brought to the mill, if they are very dirty, as the coarse sorts generally are, are washed in hot water. The women being well dried are delivered to men to sort and scrape them. These women are disposed of into cases, for containing the five different sorts of women...) ¹³

AS FOR THE RAW MATERIAL, we are told that the Japanese are acquainted with the method of manufacturing paper from rags, but never adopt it, preferring to make their paper from the bark of trees. ¹⁴

Coffin, Plank and Cramps
Gallows and sockets
Dagger
Double dagger

Dialogue overheard in Norfolk Heritage Centre (The Forum, Norwich) 24th Jan 2013

A senior couple appeared at the Heritage Centre desk, her saying, 'I left you a rambling phone message about putting books on our Kindles...' The young, male librarian seated them at a table. I took a 'Hansard' record of the conversation, from half-way through. I couldn't see them, or their devices, during it.

Her – (To librarian) I'm not good on typing. (To husband) Now why did you put it on there! (To librarian) Sorry, we argue about this all the time.

Librarian – (To her) Confirm your choice here... no... there, yes, that one.
(To him) Yes, after you've made the request, see?

Her – Six titles, that's good, but it's saying I've got two titles checked out and I haven't.

Librarian – Did you try to add titles at home... on your old drive? Probably that. Now you'll download to your Kindle.

Him – We'll save quite a lot of money on this, over buying books.

Librarian – (To her) You can have four of those types of books at a time.

Her – I thought it was six?

Him – It doesn't show books you've actually selected?

Librarian – I'll show you the basket.

Him – How do we get to that point?

Librarian – Press the star.

Him – Press... the... star, OK!

Librarian – This, here, should give you the chapter listing and all that.

Her – How did you get those? Did they just appear anyway?

Librarian – To get rid of those just press the plus... turn, delete.

Her – Oh I see, turn, delete.

Him – Are you sure it's that one, "library"?

Her – (To husband) Yours is in a different place, 'cause mine was over there. I don't know why yours is there. (To Librarian) And how do you get to that again?

Librarian – Stack.

Her – Oh! Stack, stack, stack!

Librarian – Project Gutenberg has lots and lots of classics, lots of history books. You can get them from the web. Might be worth adding as a favourite. These are all formats you can download it into.

Her – Oh I see! (To husband) You might enjoy that as well.

Him – So... to delete it from favourites you just hold it in?

Her – Oh, oh, so you can get rid of some of these others?

Librarian – You've already got that one.

Her – Have I? How the hell did I do that? I use the YouTube quite a lot. I like dogs.

Librarian – It is designed much more for the Americans, but someone's added an extra step, that's all that you were missing.

Her – Thank you very much for your help. It's made it much easier. I was getting so angry!

Him – Thank you very much for your help.

Librarian – You're more than welcome.

Booking the gatherings
Cutting up furniture
Hanging up paper
Emptying the stick

Making ready
Making even

Locking-up
Casting up work
Making up furniture
Laying down a gathering

From Scottish Pilot, Jan 10th, 1838. Letter from Joseph Hume

SIR, — To your question, “What will the House of Commons do with the King’s printers’ patent of the Bible monopoly in Scotland, which will expire next year?” I can only answer that if it acts in accordance with the evidence on its table, the House will report against the renewal of the patent and thus leave the people of Scotland to be supplied by English and Scotch competition, as Ireland is now supplied.

The people of Scotland [...] should exert themselves against the renewal of the monopoly, which has, for so many years, greatly limited the diffusion of the Bible in Scotland. ¹⁵

Bottle-arsed *Bourgeois type*
Underhand *Samaritan types*
Full forme *Engrossing type*
Smouting *Cryptic type*
Naked forme *Greek types*
Fool-proof *Wooden types*
Stereotype *Impressions*

NET BOOK AGREEMENT (ABOLITION)

HC Deb 21 February 1989 vol 147 cc849-51 [849](#)

[§](#) 4 pm

[§](#) [Mr. David Shaw \(Dover\)](#)

I beg to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to increase competition in the sale of books.

The market for books in this country has been described as a bilateral oligopoly, with about 20 major publishers and only about 20 major retailers who control most of it. They are cemented in an anti-competitive relationship by the net book agreement, which my Bill seeks to abolish. The net book agreement, or NBA as it is commonly referred to, prevents booksellers from discounting the price of about 90 per cent. of the books sold in Britain.

[...]I am sure that the whole House will be concerned that not just the housewife, the pensioner and the nation's children have to pay more than they need for many books. The public sector cannot negotiate its own discounts.

[...]The net book agreement of 1957 was approved in a most curious and strange judgment by the restrictive practices court in 1962. The court's judgment stood economics on its head. It was carried away in a romantic world where "books are different". The judgment supported the publishers' case and argued that if the net book agreement was abolished and competition resulted, prices would rise [850](#) and that the small stockholding bookseller would go out of business. That is exactly what has happened under the net book agreement.[Interruption.]

[§ Mr. Speaker](#)

Order.

[§ Mr. Shaw](#)

[...] As another lady, for whom I have immense respect, once said, "You can't buck the market." The judges attempted to buck the market in 1962. I, and many others, believe that their judgment did not consider the economic facts of life.

[...]

[§ Question put and agreed to.](#)

*Kern of a letter
Crosses of a chase
Nut of a Stanhope press
Knib of a setting-rule
Notes at the foot of pages*

¹ L. Hansard, *The Auto-biography of Luke Hansard, Written in 1817*, ed. R. Myers (1991), P.9

² Deutsche Zierschrift font, designed by Deiter Steffman, <http://www.steffmann.de/wordpress/>

³ Found poetry from the indices of: T.C. Hansard, *Typographia: An Historical Sketch of the Origin and Progress of the Art of Printing*, Baldwin, Cradock and Joy, (1825). (Thomas Curson Hansard was Luke Hansard's eldest son. Luke Hansard's firm was printer to the house and published the daily record of decisions of the Commons, and select committee reports. It was Thomas's firm which published the written record of parliamentary debates, which became known as the 'Hansard' after Thomas' death in 1833.)

⁴ Claim from an unrecorded website. Further research indicates that Lyttleton became Littleton. Wikipedia; "The first edition of *The Tenures* appeared in 1481 or 1482, being one of the earliest books printed in London and the earliest treatise on English law printed anywhere." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_de_Lyttleton

⁵ 18th Century font, designer Douglas Vitkauskas, http://www.fontsy.com/author_details_568.html

⁶ From an unidentified newspaper cutting, *Death of a Remarkable Man*, 10th February, 1871. (The piece, "*This Chequered Business*", was inspired by the copy of *Typographia* held at the Heritage Centre, within the Forum, Norwich. In addition to mining its text and indices, I found nineteenth century newspaper cuttings stuck inside the opening pages, presumably by a former owner.)

⁷ Unidentified newspaper cutting (see brackets, note 6).

⁸ Old Newspaper font, designed by Manfred Klein, <http://www.fontspace.com/manfred-klein>

⁹ T.C. Hansard, *Typographia*, p.503 (see note 3).

¹⁰ Unidentified newspaper cutting (see brackets, note 6).

¹¹ T.C. Hansard, *Typographia*, p.209 (see note 3).

¹² T.C. Hansard, *Typographia*, p.211 (see note 3).

¹³ Feminist rewrite of a prior paragraph (see note 12): the previous extract offers the sentiment so strongly. The reader can continue the substitution of 'women' for 'rags' for the remainder.

¹⁴ Newspaper cutting, *Papermaking in Japan*, *The Standard*, 12th September, 1871.

¹⁵ Newspaper cutting, *Copy of A Letter From Joseph Hume, Esq. M.P., to the Rev Adam Thomson, A.M. Coldstream*, *Scottish Pilot*, 10th January, 1838.