



THE LEADING TRADE JOURNAL OF THE WORLD IN THE PRINTING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.

VOL. XXXIV. No. 2.

CHICAGO, NOVEMBER, 1904.

TERMS: \$3.00 per year, in advance.  
Foreign, \$3.85 per year.

**THE UNION PRINTERS' HOME AT COLORADO SPRINGS.**

BY A VISITOR.



GENEROSITY has ever been the pronounced characteristic of printers. The tale of distress, of hardship or of indigence is never told in vain — and many times is hardly begun before the open hand of liberality hastens to relieve the hand of want. On behalf of fellow craftsmen this spirit has always been particularly evident, and no more splendid epitome of this largeness of soul can be conceived than the magnificent institution, the home for aged, indigent and distressed printers, which rests in the shadow of Pike's Peak.

Here the worn-out, the sick, the indigent or otherwise incapacitated printer can come home — not merely to an institution provided by charity, but to a home which he has helped to sustain, and to which he enters of a right.

As far back as 1857 the idea of a home for the protection of printers in age and illness was promulgated, and at one time some \$20,000 in the treasury almost assured the Typographical Union that the time had come for building the institution. It was not, however, until 1886 that a general awakening to their responsibilities occurred among printers, the stimulus being the unconditional gift of \$10,000 from Mr. George W. Childs and Mr. A. J. Drexel. The question was then, "What shall we do with it?" and "Add to it" was the answer, not only as an act of wisdom, but as a token of appreciation to the donors. Trustees were accordingly elected for the care of the funds, and it was also decreed that on the anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Childs for the five years ensuing each

member of the union east of the Mississippi river should contribute the price of one thousand ems of type or one hour's work, and on the anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Drexel a like contribution should be made by members west of the Mississippi. And so the fund began to grow.

There were naturally many suggestions made regarding the ultimate disposition of the funds, but the idea which found most favor was the oft-mooted one of a permanent home for printers. The purchasing power of such an institution and the advertising value of its establishment in any community were very evident to town officials and boards of trade, and several advantageous offers were made to the Union of grants of land, building sites, freedom from taxation, etc. That which found most favor was the offer of the board of trade of Colorado Springs to donate eighty acres of land one mile east of the city, if the Union would erect a home thereon to cost not less than \$20,000, beginning the work within two years and completing it within a year from its commencement. This offer was formally accepted in 1889, and in 1890 additional taxation was voted to be applied to the home fund. The trustees were incorporated under the laws of Colorado and given power to regulate and determine the purposes of the home.

The building was completed in 1892, and on the anniversary of the birthday of Mr. George W. Childs, May 12, 1892, was duly dedicated.

The immense sums devoted to educational and benevolent purposes by the millionaires of the present day leave out of all comparison the gift which the printers enlarged in six years to over \$70,000, but the



proof of their deserving, in their determination to help themselves, lying in the record of the institution they founded and in its general management, has no parallel.

Mr. Childs, the owner of a great newspaper, donating with his friend and partner, Mr. Drexel, a large sum of money to a convention of printers from every important town and city in the United States and Canada, centered the attention of the printing world and to a great extent that of the general public. The

tarries lent weight and interest to the occasion. The newspapers had editorials, the poets had poetry, the National Editorial Association plumed its wings for flight and all came together. There was nothing wanting to add to the impressiveness of the dedication. The addresses were worthy of the subject, which is the highest praise that can be offered. Colorado Springs and Denver made it a holiday occasion. Bands played and cannon thundered, and every one rejoiced in the consummation of the printers' dream.



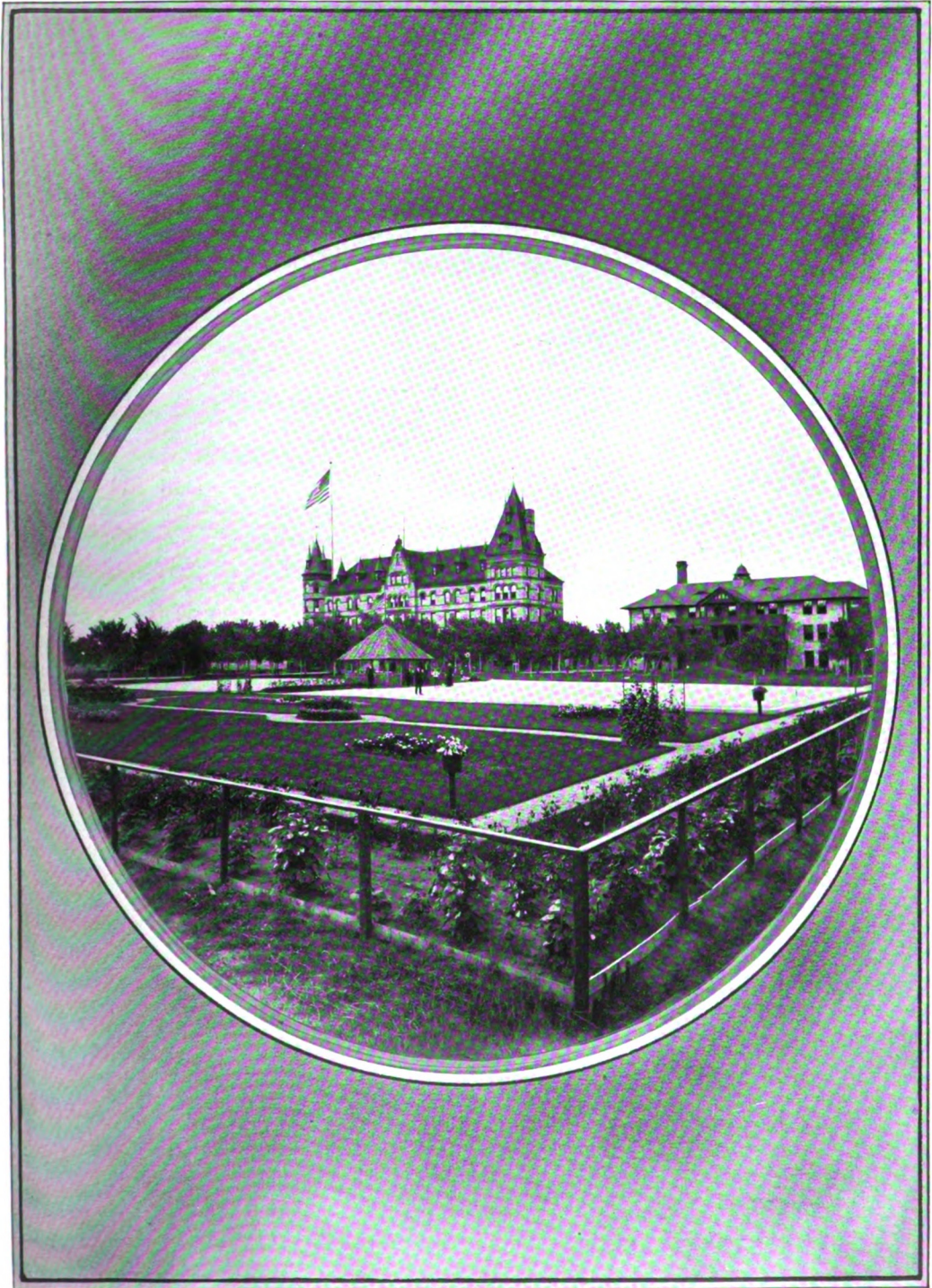
GROUP OF RESIDENTS OF THE UNION PRINTERS' HOME.

appreciation of the members of the Typographical Union did not allow the recollection of the generosity of Messrs. Childs and Drexel to grow cold in the intervening years, but spared no means of giving the widest publicity to the gift and the purposes to which the accumulating funds were to be devoted. Others "took up the glorious tale" and any facts that might have been wanting were made on the spot to suit the temperament of the narrator — all of which made some amusing contretemps in after years. The greatest interest had been aroused up to the time of the dedication.

Mr. Childs and a large party, including Bishop McLaren, of the diocese of Chicago; Senator Gallinger and many other national, State and local digni-

The main building of the Printers' Home is a handsome structure of white lava stone with red sandstone trimmings, 144 feet long and 44 feet wide, with a wing at the rear of the north end 20 by 40 feet. The building contains seventy-five rooms, but this number changes as the alterations are made in the home to meet new requirements. Many of the rooms were handsomely furnished as memorial rooms by some of the larger unions, by the chapels of some of the large newspapers, by Messrs. Childs and Drexel, Mrs. J. A. Hayes in memory of Jefferson Davis, her father, and by Mrs. Goddard in memory of her father, Henry Ledyard. Everything was in good taste and the dormitories and other bedrooms were well and comfortably appointed. The memorial rooms were in





UNION PRINTERS' HOME AND ANNEX, TENNIS AND CROQUET COURT.

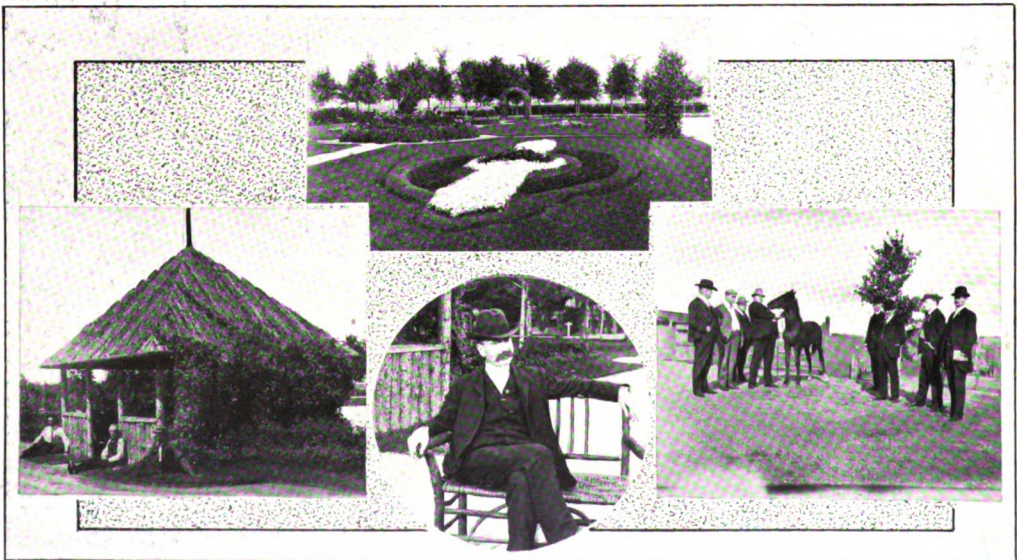




THE OFFICIAL BOARD, OFFICERS, MEDICAL STAFF AND EMPLOYEES OF THE UNION PRINTERS' HOME.

many instances elegantly appointed. But in all this the generosity of the printers and their friends overreached itself. The finely furnished rooms were of course a contrast to the plain but comfortable regulation furnishing, and the result was more or less jeal-

ousy and trouble for the superintendent. More time and trouble are necessary in keeping them presentable. In order to sustain them as memorial rooms the donors are kept at an expense which could go to extending the comfort of the home to others, in various ways.



UNION PRINTERS' HOME SURROUNDINGS.





CHARLES DEACON,  
Superintendent, Union Printers' Home.

While the purport of this article is to give an account of the home as it is to-day, it is timely to suggest that the memorial-room idea can be applied and more worthily applied if the unions, chapels or individuals who desire to furnish memorial rooms would contribute the amount to sustain the memorial rooms with the regulation furnishings, no more, no less. Opportunity may be given to their generosity, not by the richness of the furnishings of one room, but by the number of rooms that they sustain. Considerations of discipline, cleanliness, economy and common sense argue in favor of this suggestion. Apart from this, there may be a desire on the part of some chapels or unions to be identified more intimately in name with the beneficences of the home, but they are unable to vie with the display made in some of the memorial rooms. They could support one or two rooms with the regulation furnishings and have the name of the organization identified with these at a nominal annual expense.

Experience has taught many things. The memorial parlors have been changed into smaller rooms, the dormitories have been divided into separate bedrooms, and many changes made for the better. The large number of consumptives required a separate building for their proper care and treatment, and in 1898 a hospital annex was completed and furnished, at a total

cost of \$13,596.22. A fine laundry and heating plant was also completed in 1900, at a cost of \$12,500. The laundry is equipped with the best modern devices, one of the most interesting being the large vacuum boiler in which all clothing, etc., is placed under superheated steam pressure and then in vacuum, so that a thorough sterilization is accomplished. The clothing is all carefully examined and repaired and laundered. Garments which are overworn are replaced with new union-made garments of good quality. This procedure was rendered necessary on account of the abuse of the requisition privilege at one time allowed to the residents. The bump of acquisitiveness, as all printers know who have carried sorts in their vest pockets, is hard to suppress, and one shining example of the spirit that takes all it can get for nothing showed up with twelve suits of underwear at the time of his departure from the home. It will be seen from many indications that the task of managing such an institution acceptably, with kindly regard to the feelings of semi-invalid residents and with strict justice to the trustees, is one requiring much tact and judgment.

An attractive and homelike cottage has been built for the use of the superintendent and his family. It was completed in 1900, and cost, with its furnishings, \$3,400. It is heated by steam and lighted by electricity, and has telephone connection with the main building and annex.

Additional buildings have been authorized from time to time, in the nature of barns, stables, cattle sheds, chicken-houses, etc. These are well designed and compare favorably with the best modern farm buildings.

A sufficiency of water has not always been available at the home, and the development of the farm resources



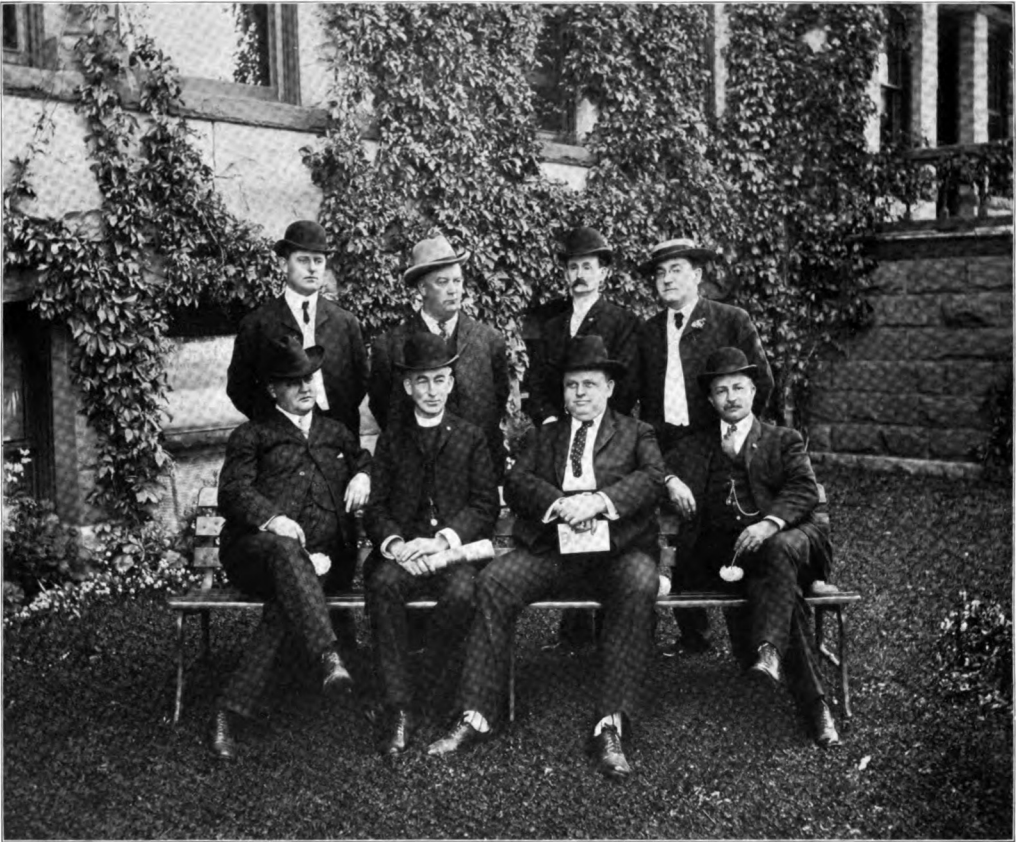
MRS. DEACON,  
Matron, Union Printers' Home.



has not been as complete as might be on this account. Arrangements have recently been made, however, by which an adequate water supply will be obtainable at a minimum of cost for all purposes.

The management of the home is in the hands of the superintendent, Mr. Charles Deacon, who acts under the direction of the board of trustees, one of whom is a resident of Colorado Springs. The wife

to which also a certificate of the physical and mental condition of the applicant, signed by a licensed physician, is attached. The board of admissions passes upon the application, and if everything is regular, the applicant is ordered admitted or placed on the waiting list, if there is no vacancy. The physical condition of the applicant is compared with the report of the physician of the local union, and a report in accordance



OFFICERS OF THE UNION PRINTERS' HOME.

L. C. Shepard, Thomas McCaffery, President James M. Lynch, Secretary J. W. Bramwood.  
Superintendent Charles Deacon, H. H. Rogers, W. J. White, Thomas F. Crowley.

of the superintendent acts as matron, and, with the superintendent, is appointed by the trustees. The nurses and other employes are selected by the superintendent. The medical staff is appointed by the trustees. The annual meetings of the trustees are held at the home.

When a printer is disabled through age, accident or sickness, and has been for five years a member of the union and has sustained his dues and assessments, he is eligible to make application for admission to the home. A specific form is provided for the purpose and certified by the local union to which he belongs,

with the facts is made to the board of admissions. It is too frequently the case that a marked discrepancy is shown between the condition of the applicant actually and that reported by the physician of the union from which he is sent. While the home is for the benefit of afflicted printers, it is evident that a very few residents afflicted with certain diseases would make the place untenable or demand so extensive a corps of nurses and assistants as to make the expense of sustaining the institution prohibitive. Nevertheless, advanced cases of locomotor ataxia, consumption, and other diseases rendering the patients unable to care for





1— Library and Reading Room. 2— Billiard Room and Barber Shop. 3— Business Office, furnished by St. Louis Typographical Union. 4— Parlors, furnished by Denver Typographical Union. 5— Bedroom, furnished by Chicago Typographical Union.





D. I. CHRISTOPHER, M.D.,  
Physician to the Union Printers' Home.

themselves, are by ignorance and misleading reports foisted upon the home. This is cruel kindness to the unfortunates who are the victims of the misdirected zeal of their friends, and a great injustice to the membership of the union, to the trustees and other officials.

In the treatment of tubercular disease, advanced methods are used, and the open-air and rest treatment has been found very beneficial. Tents of a special, improved pattern, with hardwood floor, stationary clothes-closet, washstand and drawers, and a method

of ventilating through a wire netting around the edge of the flooring and ventilator at the apex of the roof, have been thoroughly tested and found very satisfactory. These are much in demand by the residents, and six more have been ordered, making ten tents in all. A small steam coil will be placed in each and steam conveyed underground from the steam plant exhaust, thus furnishing an equipment which is more complete than many of the best institutions for the treatment of tubercular disease.



JOHN R. ROBINSON, M.D.,  
Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, Union Printers' Home.

An increase in the accommodations of the home is imperatively demanded, and, recognizing this, a movement to erect a suitable memorial to the late Congressman Amos J. Cummings resolved itself into a proposition to erect a permanent addition to the home. Mrs. Cummings intimated her desire some time ago to donate the library of the late Congressman to the home if suitable provision were made for the volumes. The recommendation of a Cummings Memorial addition has been accepted, and plans have been made to erect such a structure, which will provide a handsome library hall as a memorial to "The Printers' Friend" and give the much-needed space for the uses of the institution. This addition will cost about \$20,000 to \$30,000. A special committee of eleven members on the Cummings Memorial Building is now actively engaged in obtaining the funds for the addition, which will consist of an extension of the northeast wing of the main building about 65 feet, the plans for which have been approved. Mr. Michael Colbert, of Chicago, Illinois, is chairman of this committee.



HEAD NURSE AND ASSISTANTS.



It was the privilege of the writer of these notes to attend the last annual meeting of the board of trustees. The businesslike system and the dispatch used in completing the inspection of all departments were most satisfactory. On this occasion, as is usual, each

enough has been said to commend this great work to every citizen of the United States and Canada, and to give to the union printers some appreciation of what has resulted from their efforts and of the unlimited character of their beneficences, for not only are the



IN THE GARDEN OF THE GODS.

resident was introduced separately to the board and given an opportunity to make complaint and to offer suggestions.

The staff of the home at present consists of Mr. Charles Deacon, the superintendent; Mrs. Deacon, matron; Dr. D. I. Christopher, physician; Dr. J. R. Robinson, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist; Miss Laura W. Edinger, bookkeeper; a chef and second cook, engineer, gardener, dairyman, general workman and teamster, fireman, porter, barber, night watchman, two laundresses, two trained nurses, seamstress, annex cook and eight domestics.

The products of the farm and dairy are used for the home exclusively, and for the annex patients a special dietary is prepared on order.

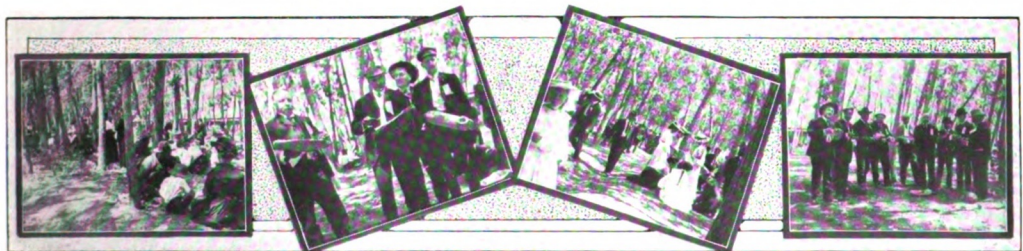
The limitations of space have necessarily confined these notes to statement of the baldest of facts, but



THIS IS NOT KUROPATKIN.

residents provided with union-made clothing, boots and shoes, hats and caps, underwear, etc., but they are pensioned, and an additional sum given to those who care to do a little work about the home. Furthermore, spectacles, false teeth, and, in short, every want is supplied, a touch of humor not detracting anything from the kindly spirit that meets the requisitions.

A heart-warming incident occurred recently when Nashville union, desirous of having a suitable memorial to the late ex-president Aimison, was invited to contribute an oil painting of our good old friend. Trustee Shepard urged that the painting should be hung in the Jefferson Davis room, as it would be, he felt, the wish of Mr. Aimison, who was a devoted son of the South, and took the deepest interest in that memorial room. It was so ordered.



FREE MELONS AT ROCKY FORD FAIR.



The trustees have purchased an extensive additional tract in the city cemetery, and arrangements are now under way to beautify this, the final resting-place of the world-weary printer.



A HOME TENT.

All about the home careful management and good taste are evident. The fine avenue and beautiful grounds are bordered and embellished with flowers, growing with the luxuriance and brilliancy of coloring peculiar to Colorado, so that the institution has become not only one of the most interesting in Colorado Springs, but one of the most beautiful as well.

There are many interesting personalities among the residents, and the home is rich in the unique reminiscences in which the jests of the printing-office are mingled with incidents of the nation's history.

Over half a million dollars have been contributed to the home by the International Typographical Union. It is the printers' pride that they have, almost unaided, built, equipped and are supporting an institution with a liberality that has no parallel. It is now their purpose to extend that usefulness in the name of one of their most faithful friends, and it is eminently fitting that the memory of Amos J. Cummings should be perpetuated by the printers in this way. His time, his talents and his means were ever at their command, and their appreciation is indeed well shown by the memorial they have selected in the addition to the home —

"Its bounty unpurchasable,  
Its charity without price."

### THE ELZEVIR JUBILEE.

An Elzevir jubilee will be celebrated this year in Germany. It is now three hundred years since Ludwig Elzevir was born — the third of the renowned printing dynasty which, like the founders of the Amsterdam houses, brought the vocation of the family to its apex. Ludwig Elzevir was the son of the Utrecht bookseller, Joost. At thirteen years of age he came to his Leyden kinsfolk for his apprenticeship. In the year 1637, on his return from an Italian business journey, he established a printing-office and bookseller's shop in Amsterdam. He was the right man in the right place, and he soon secured the encouragement of the learned. In 1655 his cousin, Daniel, became a partner in his business, which so flourished that the firm produced 415 works, comprehending literary and philosophical volumes and works dealing with languages and jurisprudence, etc., lines in which Leyden publishers still appear to excel. Ludwig died in 1670, and Daniel ten years later. The plant and business (in 1780) brought at auction 204,000



THE ANNEX.

marks, without the warehouse stock of twenty thousand volumes.—*The Caxton Magazine*.

### FROM THE CASE TO THE PLOW.

According to a contemporary Italian trade journal, *L'Arte della Stampa*, there exists in Tuscany a printing-office which is, like many others, subject to periodical slack seasons. To counteract this drawback, the humane proprietor permits an arrangement by which, as soon as want of work becomes serious, the assistants concerned change their craft from typography to farming. They work according to necessity: to-day with the composing-stick, on, possibly, a treatise upon Dante's "Divine Comedy" or an "Epistle of the Holy Father"; the next morning with the scythe or dung-fork, laudably anxious for the needs of the oxen and cows of their dear economist employer.

