

but taking an active share in the work itself.

Libel on the Press.

THE celebrated Andrew Marvell, a disinterested patriot of the time of Charles II., gave the following pertinent description of the powers of the press:—"The Press, invented much about the same time as the Reformation, hath done more mischief to the discipline of our Church than all the doctrine can make amends for. 'Twas an happy time when all learning was in manuscript, and some little officer did keep the keys of the library! Now, since printing came into the world, such is the mischief, that a man cannot write a book but presently he is answered! There have been ways found out to fine, not only the people, but even the grounds and fields where they assembled; but no heart could prevent these seditious meetings of letters! Two or three brawny fellows in a corner, with mere ink and elbow grease, do more harm than one hundred systematic divines. Their ugly printing letters, that look like so many rotten teeth, how oft have they been pulled out by the public tooth drawer? And yet these rascally operators of the press have got a trick to fasten them again in a few minutes, that they grow as firm a set, and as cutting and talkative as ever!

"O PRINTING! how thou hast 'disturbed the peace!' Lead, when moulded into bullets, is not so mortal as when founded into letters! There was a mistake, sure, in the story of Cadmus; and the serpent's teeth which he sowed were nothing but the letters which he invented."

JOHN REYNES was bookbinder to Henry VIII., and was located at "The George," in St. Paul's Churchyard. His work can always be recognised by his stamp. In one form or another he used the Royal Arms, sometimes quartered with the bearings of Catherine of Arragon or Anne Boleyn. Reynes sometimes used a panel with medallions, and a scroll with fabulous animals and flowers.—J. P. B.