

Journal, has adopted the expedient, profitable to himself, but annoying to the other fellows, of enclosing a notice with his rejected manuscript, naming some particular publication by which he thinks the orphan might be adopted. His record of these wandering manuscripts for 1890 shows that he received 2,280 poems, 1,746 stories, and 11,179 miscellaneous articles. Of these, only one per cent was accepted.

Nor has the position and pay of a reporter gone through a less evolution. In most newspapers and especially the country press, there are stereotyped forms for announcing the startling array of births, deaths, marriages, visits, receptions, trials and accidents which usually fill the columns, and it is an easy matter for one to adopt them and so graduate into a reporter via the roller washing course. In this way the "devil" often becomes the master. Here the collection of news is of vastly more importance than its arrangement, and the salary diminishes in consequence. One hot July morning a young man, a college graduate of one brief summer's week, mounted the stairs of an editorial office to lay himself a sacrifice upon the altar of public curiosity. The editor viewed with contempt the samples of genius which the young man presented in the college paper and asked for the first question how much salary he wanted. The collegian remembered his four long years of plodding after the fleeing Minerva and estimated his trained (?) services at \$20 per week. The reply impressed itself so firmly that it can be reproduced; "Well, young fellow, you may have brains, but brains don't go in newspaper work; we want legs. If you can get up and hustle from 2 o'clock in the afternoon till 4 next morning and move so fast the flies wont light on you, I'll give you \$2.50 a week." *Ilium ruit.*

In England, so it is said, contrary to the American custom, one of the prime requisities of a reporter is that he shall have had a collegiate education, and secondry, that he shall be a good stenographer, both conditions implying special training. The brains are not relegated to the

editor-in-chief and the legs to the news-gatherer, but each must possess qualifications which will roughly fit him for any line from minor editorial to common criminal, and he is permitted to work up any field for which he displays an aptitude. His bearing must fit him for entering a reception in high life, and his conversational abilities adequate for turning an interview, either around or concealed, to the topics most pertinent. Then in accord with his requirements, he is paid a salary sufficient to support him well, with increased compensation and privileges as he develops.

However there are signs that the demand for intellectual work on a newspaper is increasing. Current Literature, through whose columns one can easily feel the pulse of the world's literary circulation, frequently contains notices of college bred men, and those who have gained some literary repute being engaged upon newspapers. Specialists are paid per article; compensation for constant work is in proportion to ability, and hours assigned which yet permit of some enjoyment in life. Every indication points to enlarged permission to specialists and a growing regard for educated labor. It is true that the field of journalism needs lifting from its present level of scandals, murders, divorces and prize fights, but so long as the people demand these so long will they appear. The best chances for improvement lie in the elevation of the popular taste, for which better writers, are needed and in the discrimination of certain papers which shall cater to higher taste and satisfy it with higher writing.

George W. Curtis, himself the ideal of an educated man, with ideal facilities in editing Harper's *Weekly*, is reported as having recently said that journalism, with its accompanying diplomacy, politics, lecturing and literary demands, offers one of the best openings to young men who have any tendency toward composition or speaking. One needs but to note the number of prominent men who were or are connected with the press, to verify this statement. In fact the press seems indispensable to political advancement. Every col-