

THE STANDARD SERIES

8 POINT No. 59

• 1-4

THE INVENTION OF PRINTING has always been recognized by educated men as a subject of importance: there is no mechanical art, nor are there any of the fine arts, about whose early history so many books have been written. The subject is as mysterious as it is inviting. There is an unusual degree of obscurity about the origin of the first printed books and the lives and works of the early printers. There are records and traditions which cannot be reconciled of at least *three distinct inventions of printing*. Its early history is entangled with a controversy about rival inventors which has lasted for more than three centuries, and is not yet fully determined. In the management of this controversy, a subject intrinsically attractive has been made repulsive. The history of the invention of printing has been written to please national pride. German authors assert the claims of Gutenberg and discredit traditions about Coster. Dutch

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9 POINT No. 59

• 1-5

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12 POINT No. 59

• 1-3

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11 POINT No. 59

• 1-7

THE INVENTION OF PRINTING has always been recognized by educated men as a subject of importance: *there is no mechanical art*, nor are there any of the fine arts, about whose early history so many books have been written. The subject is as mysterious as it is inviting. There is an unusual degree of obscurity about the origin of the first printed books and the lives and works of the early printers. There are records and traditions which cannot be reconciled of at least three distinct inventions of printing. Its early history is entangled with a controversy about rival inventors which has lasted for more

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