to keep his staff employed in supplying him with the necessary works. In this work of compilation he is so successful that during the whole of the last year he has been able to issue two heavy books on Gutenberg, besides several other works which we need not mention here, but of which each by itself, if done properly, would have filled a volume of its own. The result is no doubt gratifying to Dr. Van der Linde himself; whether it is equally gratifying to the public remains to be seen.

The above story would have no importance in the ordinary course of life; but, placed side by side with the account of Dr. Van der Linde's presence in Germany, and some other circumstances which will be stated below, they fully explain the depressing influences which have produced an unhealthy climate, and immediately after its appearance the book was described as Dr. Van der Linde's magnum opus. Again I became mixed up with the work, as I was invited and undertook to give an account of it in the Friday News and Telegraph. At first sight the learning displayed in the book appeared to me even more stupendous than that which I had found, or thought to have found, in the Haerlem Legend. But I very soon saw that the book contained nothing but a tissue of old stories, statements, opinions, and transcribed, at second, third, and fourth hand, from all sorts of authors, and by preference as it were from the most insignificant, without the slightest attempt at verifying even the most important statements. The researches that I undertook to make and to supplement Dr. Van der Linde's shortcomings were published in a separate book, under the title "Gutenberg—The Inventor of Printing?" I may be pardoned if I quote a few passages from what I then wrote about his work.

"It is clear that Dr. Van der Linde has attempted, in the first instance, to write a book from taking all his documents at second, third, or fourth hand, and rarely telling his readers on what authority he himself prints any single document, and from not investigating a single document which he conveys as authentic, it could hardly fail to present a more complete chaos on the subject than any of its predecessors."

I further stated that:

"I had avoided all direct reference to the tradition of the Haarlem inventors of printing, because, having no opportunities at present to make researches in this direction, I feel bound to abide by the results which Dr. Van der Linde made known in his "Haarlem Legend". And I believe we have any thorough examination of the Haarlem question; but such inquiries as I have made have led me to believe that the Haarlem invention of printing is a complete fiction. At the appearance of Dr. Van der Linde's "Haarlem Legend" in 1870, I was struck by its excellence that I translated the work into English. Now that I have made a thorough examination of all the evidence on this subject, and have found this book so singularly unreliable, I should wish to go over the ground by which he reached his results with the respect to the Haarlem invention of printing. Dr. Van der Linde himself is not easily led away by what he reads, if only it coincides with his views. He believes, for instance . . . ."

I cannot lay stress enough upon the last quotation, for Dr. Van der Linde's book on Gutenberg is not poor, so entirely bold and original research anything that looked like competency in dealing with an intricate historical subject, that it could not but severely shake the confidence placed in his "Haarlem Legend." And it appears to me that the confidence was wholly misplaced.

That Dr. Van der Linde himself did not believe in the value of his book is sufficiently proved by the fact that, almost at the very time I wrote the above, his book in English was entitled "Gutenberg—The Inventor of Printing?" The fact is that he was the "writing the subject, and on a grand scale, for which he required State support, and hoped to receive this from the [German] Emperor." This new book, paid for by the German Emperor, makes no exception, and the author's previous publications in its abuse of all persons who happen to disagree with him. One or two examples will suffice to show the scurrilous and inexpressibly childish nature of that abuse. C. A. Schinzer, in his "Gutenberg" (published in 1830) a work of three octavo volumes on the invention of printing, is called by a pun upon his name, "Schaufkopf" (Sheephead); and yet Schaub's book is far worse than Dr. C. A. Schinzer's. The Librarian of the Royal Library in the Hague, is compared to a "vagabond."

The author's love for inserting statements without verifying them seems to have visibly increased in the second part of his book, and in "Gutenberg—The Inventor of Printing," he has said:

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