**American Press Founded at Boston** 

April, 1704, Spans Two Hundred Years.

About this time James Franklin in-

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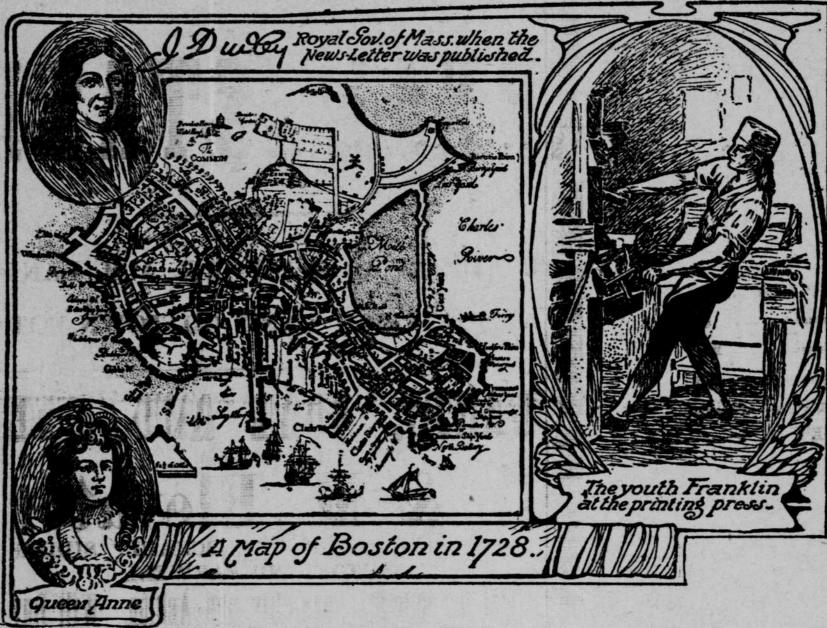
Two hundred years ago, with the 7x11 inches, printed on three pages, crease Mather, in which the Courant appearance of the Boston News-Let- with the fourth blank, entitled "Pub- was denounced as "a wicked libel," ter in the week of April 17-24, the lick Occurrences, both Foreign and and the wrath of God was called down upon the head of its editor. American press was founded. Domestick."

Before that time but one paper had In the week of April 17-24, 1704, appeared in the colonies, and that there appeared Boston's first perma- timated in his paper that the Massabut once. The News-Letter "came to nent paper, The Boston News Letter. It chusetts government was dilatory in stay," and for fifteen years was the was printed by Bartholomew Green | sending an armed vessel in search of only newspaper on this side of the and edited by John Campbell, post- pirates who were then infesting the Atlantic. Philadelphia was the sec- master, being modeled on the news coast, and for this he was put in jail. ond American city to establish a letters that the postmaster of Boston where he remained about four weeks. paper, in 1719, and New York was | had been in the habit of preparing and | third, in 1725.

The American newspaper press for New England colonies. ter developed only slowly.

On the imprisonment of James sending to the governors of the other | Franklin the editorial management of the Courant fell to Benjamin Frankthe first three-quarters of a century In 1719 Editor Campbell lost the lin, who, since the paper's first issue, after the appearance of the News-Let- Boston postoffice, and his successor, had been "devil" in the office, and had

following the custom of the time, distributed the edition to subscribers In 1783 there were but forty-three founded a newspaper organ of his on publication days. He had been newspapers in the United States; in own; the first Boston Gazette, the fired with a desire to write, and his 1801 there were 200 weekly and seven- new postmaster and new editor, Will- communications to the editor, written



NO YARN OF IMAGINARY SEA SERPENT IS THIS.

Authorities of the British Museum Can Testify to Existence of Vampire of the Deep-Can Drag Vessels from Moorings.

an injunction honored by age, but With the possible exception of the which every true New Englander is was on Lincoln soil in the afternoon basking shark, the "Sea Devil" or prompted to obey on each anniversary when on the retreat. Here companies 'Ocean Vampire" is the largest of all of the memorable battle of the open- from more distant towns met the enthe monsters of the deep. An unborn | ing of the revolution. ocean vampire, taken from the moth- A glimpse at the battle map gives

er, preserved at the British Museum, the reader some intimation of the teris five feet broad, and before mount- ritory stirred to action and from ing weighed twenty pounds. The which came the embattled farmers, mother measured some fifteen feet in and suggests the spirit of gratitude length and quite as much in breadth. shown in bronze and granite set up It is at all times a dangerous under- by those who now consider that sigtaking to attempt to capture one of nificant uprising in connection with these monsters, says the Sunday its consequences to the entire world. Magazine, but particularly so in the Although years have passed, evidence case of a mother accompanied by her of the yeomen's determination conoffspring. She is quite capable of re- tinue to accumulate. Of all the towns versing the role of hunter and hunted, that responded to the Lexington attacking and capsizing the boat con- alarm, none has a grander record than taining her would-be captors, and of the town of Acton, and from the old seeing that none of them escapes Robbins garret in that territory has come this very spring a yellow manualive.

"Imagine," writes the Hon. William | script which reads as follows: Elliot, in describing the exciting sport "We, the subscribers, do solemnly he had in hunting ocean vampires, "a agree and promise that we will obmonster from sixteen to twenty feet | serve and conform to the association across the back, full three feet deep, of the continental congress, and do possessed of powerful, yet flexible hereby make it our own particular act flaps or wings with which he drives and convenant until we obtain an himself furiously in the water or ample redress of our grievances, as is ish fell and several of the Americans

vaults high in the air, through which specified in the said association, as he skims like some enormous bird; witness our hand this fifth day of his feelers (commonly called horns) | December, 1774."

projecting several feet beyond his mouth, and paddling all the small fry this paper, one autograph most im- the enemy were given Christian burial the British, with whom they were fathat constitutes his food into that ca- pressive is that of Isaac Davis, who by the people of Lincoln. Three found miliar. James Miller was killed and pacious receptacle-and you will have fell at Old North bridge on the 9th of graves by the side of the king's high- a son of Capt. William Barber, 11 an idea, though an imperfect one, of April. this extraordinary fish."

The so-called "horns," to which allusion is made are a singular feature in ders of the county and beyond, while yard of the town and given a common starting on their excursion, and there this animal. The pectoral or breast Ebenezer Dow, who left Boston about grave. Lincoln has erected a memo- by the house of correction is the tabfins, much elongated, pointed, arched the same hour; disguised as a country- rial stone over the resting place of the let that tells of the fact. in front, concave behind, stop short man on a marketing trip, gave the unknown foes.

Ayer

Harvard

Bolton

Littleton

Stow

Mudson

Marlboro

Actor

Sudbur,

Framingha

pendages projected on each side of the head. These appendages take the form and character of limbs, being flexible and capable of grasping prey and carrying it to the mouth. The "feelers," as they are called, are sometimes three feet or more in bugth, and are curiously articulated It the ends so as to resemble the fingers of the human hand when clench-

In this way fishing boats and yes

**Old Bay State Towns Whose Citizens** 

"Tell your children of it, and let | wounded while pursuing the enemy, |

their children another generation," is mortally wounded.

Won First Battle of the Revolution.

with supplies on its way to join The British at Lexington.

your children tell their children, and and at Fisk's hill James Hayward was This was the first concerted action on the part of the Cambridge men and The heaviest fighting of the day by those who were too old to do full duty. They were headed by Rev. Mr. Pason, of Chelsea, it is thought, and David Lamson, of Cambridge, took a leading part. The fight was about 5 in the afternoon. The Cambridge men. with others from a distance who had arrived, entered a walled inclosure and piled up bundles of shingles for a breastwork, but it proved to be their pen of slaughter. The retreating enemy came down the main road and the watchers were surprised by a flanking party of irritated British.

who wreaked their vengeance on the provincials. Not less than 22 Americans fell on that April afternoon in Menotomy (Cambridge), and fully twice as many of the enemy perished. Many of the dead were carried back to the towns whence they came in the early morning. So urgent were their country's needs that the villagers had no time for funeral rites and the carpenters were too busy to make the coffins, so that these martyrs were committed to a common grave with their clothes for

shrouds. Charlestown, although only across The king's forces were so hotly pur- the river Charles, saw none of the sued that their dead lay unburied un- fighting until the return of the enemy, Of the twenty-seven signatures to til the next day, when the bodies of yet her men were out in pursuit of way, and two in a field near where years old, lost his life. It was at The alarm sounded by Paul Revere they died. Five were taken up and Phipps' farm, Cambridge, that the enwas carried on by courier to the bor- carried in an ox cart to the burial emy landed in the morning when

There were four companies from the at the head, to reappear as frontal ap- alarm to the towns in other directions. Chelmsford, a mother town, was in- towns of Groton and Pepperell. The

> Dunstable Pepperell Tewksbury Groton Chelmstora Shirley Westford

> > Billerica

carlisle

Concord

Lincol

Natick

Weston

Dover

Newton



were engaged near Fish's hill.

## 5- Marshan Mars REAL OCEAN MONSTER Dimmon management

teen daily journals. In 1830, 852 news- 1 iam Brooker, making his editorial bow | secretly and put under the office door | dragged from their moorings, and in papers were published (50 dailies); Dec. 21, 1719.

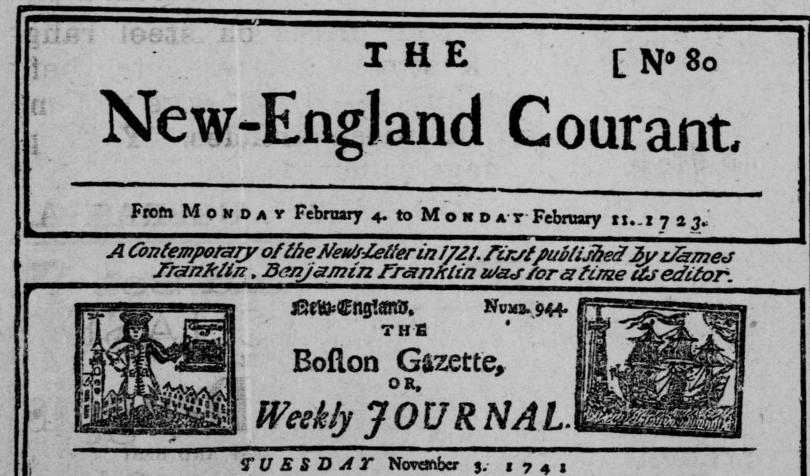
During the twenty-two years that printed by his brother. in 1840, 1,631; in 1850, 2,526; in 1860, 4,051; in 1870, 5,871; in 1900, 980 this original Boston Gazette existed the number of newspapers published | editor. in the United and Canada was 21,451.

In the early days of the press in lew editors for the first fifty years 1752. of American newspapers who were not able to set type and work a press.

The development of newspapers and newspaper save two on record. the means of printing them has been April, 1764.

plete file of American newspapers, hicle."

to the ridicule and denunciations of all.



Another Contemporary of the News-Letter. From a copy owned by Bostonian Society

gives a list, in its catalogue, of 156 | Then Benjamin Franklin's big | his professional contemporaries, to Boston publications, monthlies, week- brother began to pitch into the gov- strong words from the leading pulpits lies, semi-weeklies and dailies, living ernment and criticise the clergy. His of New England, and to satire and and dead, which at one time and an- differences with the clergy had to do venom alike from speakers upon the other since the appearance of the with vaccination, a practice which public forums. But Garrison's "I will News-Letter, April 24, 1794, have Franklin opposed by argument and by be heard" prevailed, and the Liberabeen set adrift upon the uncertain ridicule. The Mathers, father and tor's editor had the satisfaction of seeson, were lampooned with a virulence ing the principles for which he so seas of popular approval. The first English newspaper printed seldom witnessed in the press of the stoutly contended through long years in America was issued from a Boston present day, and the result was an of persecution and suffering become press in 1690. It was a little sheet, "Address to the Publick" by Dr. In- incorporated in the law of the land. 

sels of a much larger size have been at night, had been unsuspectingly some cases capsized by the ocean

vampire's having laid hold of the an-When the editorial toga fell on the chor. An instance of this kind occurdaily, 9,718 weekly and 1,075 other Boston had five postmosters, and each shoulders of Benjamin Franklin, his red in the harbor of Charleston. A newspapers and periodicals; in 1903 one in succession was the Gazette's ambition for the moment was real- schooner lying at anchor, suddenly ized. He ably edited the paper while and seemingly of its own volition, to In 1741 the Gazette went into a his brother was in jail, and, owing to the amazement and alarm of those on "merger"-The Boston Gazette and the irresponsible character of James, board, started at a furious rate across Boston the printer and the editor New England Weekly Journal. This the name of Benjamin Franklin in the harbor. Upon nearing the oppowere often the same. There were disappeared from mortal vision in February, 1723, was given as the Cou- site shore its course changed so abrant's publisher. . ruptly as to almost capsize the vessel,

The News-Letter survived for 72 One Boston weekly above all others and it recrossed the harbor to its years, the longest life of any Boston | deserves to be especially mentioned, former moorings.

the oftentimes unfortunate and al- These mysterious flights across the In 1721 James Franklin, the broth- ways misunderstood Liberator of Wil- harbor were repeated a number of one of the most interesting and re- er of the philosopher, who had been liam Lloyd Garrison, which, from its times in the presence of hundreds of markable phases of the advancement printing the Gazette at his office on very inception down almost to its astonished spectators, who were utterof civilization in America in the 200 Court street, losing the job, began the death, manfully stemmed the current ly at a loss to account for the pheyears that has passed since the publication of Boston's third newspa- of a strong and prejudiced public opin nomenon. The migrations ceased as American newspaper press was estab- per, or fourth, as we may regard it, ion. Sometimes its office was demol- suddenly as they began. Not till then isned in Boston, in the month of the New England Courant. The Cour- ished. Once its editor was dragged did the back and undulating flukes of ant made its first appearance Aug. 7. through the streets of Boston with the an immense ocean vampire, appearing The Worcester antiquarian society, and began its career by attacking the rope ready for execution about his above the water of the harbor, diswhich possesses the most nearly com- News-Letter, calling it "a dull ve- neck. He was subjected at all times close the motive power that caused it

## Chinese Smuggle Opium.

THE TOWNS SHADED WERE THE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE FORCES OF 19th OF APRIL, 1775. "Chinese seamen are the only people ever heard of who repeatedly defy Hence it is that more than thirty | corporated in 1655, and at the time the | women were on duty at home, under United States customs officers and towns are found represented on the provinces shook off the yoke of op- command of Mrs. David Wright. They make good," said an officer of the roll of honor of April 19, 1775. Sikh, a British steamship that has ar. Lexington was on the line of march Lowell, then East Chelmsford. There Hollis, a friend of the enemy, who was rived in port with a cargo from the of the king's army, hence here oc- were brave, determined men here from bearing treasonable dispatches from Orient. "We tell the officers that curred the first clash of arms. Here, the days of King Philip's war, and Canada to Boston. we believe they have opium, they too, were peacefully sleeping in the there was bold action here in 1775. search the ship, but find nothing. I parsonage John Hancock and Samuel They agreed upon a great stone wear determined. Old "Will, the Miller," may call one of them to do something Adams, whose capture was greatly de- the center of the town as the rallying who was bowed and crippled from and find him so 'dopey' that he is use- sired by the enemy, and whose doom point, and when the news from Con- age, declared he would go when the less. I know he has used it within was fixed. Other guests at Parson cord reached them they made haste to five minutes, but when I make a Clark's that night were Mme. Lydia the place of duty. Hancock, aunt of the patriot, and search the result is nothing.

"Where they hide it is the mystery Dorothy Quincy, his betrothed. The alarm brought to Concord by to all of us; we, who know every bolt, plate and link in the ship, have never Dr. Samuel Prescott, who had been yet uncovered their supply, and this at Lexington paying court to his loved crew has been with us nearly a year. one, was quickly passed along to Ac-The entire crew, except the officers ton. A horseman galloped to the and engineers, are Chinamen, and I home of Capt. Joseph Robbins and never saw a better crew. Opium is without dismounting at the house, cried out: "Capt. Robbins! Capt. the only trouble .- New York Globe. Robbins; the regulars are coming."

The Acton companies were not long

Reforming Colorado Boys. Hundreds of boys from the Denver in assembling and were soon on the road to Old North Bridge, leaving the Juvenile Court will be sent into the women to prepare food which the sugar beet fields near Longmont, boys were to bring on when ready. Colo., to work. The boys will be sent out in parties of twenty-five each, in The minute men took up the line of charge of a probation officer, and will march to the stirring notes of the accounts with the regulars as they "White Cockade." Luther Blanchard retreated. The militia company interbe equipped with tents and camping outfits. They car earn from \$1.20 to was fifer, and Francis Barker drummer. \$2 a day each.

Both companies from Acton were

at the bridge and had a prominent place in the engagement. Capt. Davis had said in the hasty discussion that took place before the engagement: "I

work in and around the mines of the Cripple Creek district, in Colorado, on a recent pay day. These men refront in the opening fight. eive an average of \$3.44 a day, a very aigh average compared with the

pression included the present city of captured Capt. Leonard Whiting, of The men of Shirley were equally

Valder.

The Westford men were among the first at the bridge. The company reached Concord just as the firing began, and joined in the pursuit. Capt. Bates was mortally wounded.

The old town of Billerica had a score to settle against the king's troops, for during the winter of 1774-5 one of the men of the town had been seized in Boston and treated to a coat of tar and feathers. Hence they had sharpened their bayonets and loaded their muskets to be ready at a moment's notice. They received word by way of Woburn and the Minute men were at Lexington ready to balance

cepted the enemy at Merriam's corner. under Col. William Thompson. Nathaniel Wyman was killed. Although Lexington. John Nicklen and Timo-

wounded. haven't a man that's afraid to go," In Arlington, once Cambridge, and the Acton minute men were in the stands a stone on which is the following:

At this spot, April 19, 1775, The old men of Menotomy Capt. Davis and Abner Hosmer were killed and Ezekiel Davis ' was Captured a convoy of eighteen soldiers



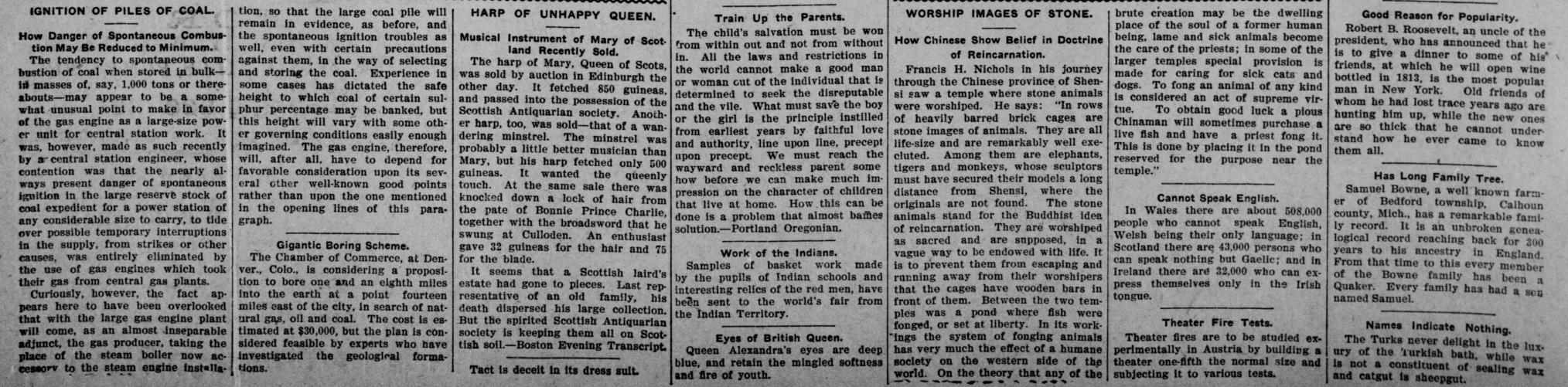
company started off for Concord, sayclaimed by Billerica he is recorded in ing: "True, I cannot handle a musket. but I will fight the redcoats with my thy Blanchard of Billerica were two canes," which he brandished in the air.

## Appendicitis Is Contagious.

Dr. C. C. Sheldon, one of the leading physicians of Wisconsin, maintains that appendicitis is contagious

Good Reason for Popularity.





Mineworkers' Wages.

Five hundred and fifty thousand dol-

lars were distributed to the men who

wages paid in the East.