

Mr. HENRY WATTERSON'S views concerning copyright in news are certainly reasonable and just. Every manager of a large newspaper knows how constant and habitual are the thefts—if one may use that word—committed by the managers of weaker concerns who subsist by “conveying” news derived from their neighbors. In and around every considerable city will be found little journals which flourish on spoils of this kind. They avail themselves of the labor, expenditure, and enterprise of others. This is neither honest nor just to newspaper managers whose work is pirated with boldness and celerity. Mr. WATTERSON'S bill proposes that news shall be copyrighted for 24 hours. Mr. WATTERSON says that the constitutional question involved has been duly considered, and there is no objection of a constitutional nature urged against the bill. But it may be added that there is a wide-spread notion that city newspapers are bloated monopolies which should be attacked by all possible means. If the country members of Congress are instructed by their constituents that the news copyright bill is a defense for metropolitan journals, (as is very likely to be the case,) the country members will defeat the bill beyond peradventure.