

ABSTRACT

Between the end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century, the world of printing with moveable type underwent decisive change. The industrial revolution drove a need to increase book production and as a consequence the output of printing presses needed to speed up. Across Europe but especially in Great Britain new types of printing machines capable of meeting these requirements were devised. In Italy the winds of change arrived a few years later: after a period when new machines were at first imported, by the end of the 1830s the local production of modern metal printing presses had started. The first manufacturers were Amos and Ferdinando Dell'Orto working in Monza and Milan and their activities continued, at a certain point under their respective heirs, up until the beginning of the twentieth century.