

The Old Type and the New.

EUGENE H. MUNDAY.

Old friends and new our notice claim :

Those in a sorry plight,

Begrimed and worn, of grace shorn,

These stately, fresh and bright.

Those plead long faithful service done :

These with their beauty sue :

They range before us for our choice,

The old types and the new.

What choice ? Those faces all are scarred,

While these are sharp and clear :

Those bodies bent, their vigor spent,

These straight and strong appear.

Not ruthlessly, though eagerly,

Close we the brief review,

Bid farewell to the old types here,

And welcome to the new.

* * *

Thus man, the paragon of life,

Type of eternal power,

Yields to decay, passing away, —

The wonder of an hour :

But, battered, stained, worn, broken, wrecked,

Worthless to mortal view :

The Master Founder's love shall fuse

The old forms with the new.

Don't Spare the Sorts.

It is a penny-wise and pound-foolish policy which is pursued in too many of our larger printing offices, viz.: to keep workmen continually skimming for leads, slugs, metal furniture, in fact, sorts of any kind which are in general demand, instead of providing a supply sufficient for all ordinary emergencies. Were a strict account kept of the time thus needlessly consumed, and consequently lost, in one year it would be found to represent a sum sufficient to supply all legitimate demands. Let us take an every-day example for illustration: Suppose ten men waste — for that is the proper name to give it — an hour each day, a by no means extravagant estimate, picking from dead and frequently from live matter. In one month, twenty-seven days, at current wages, this would represent \$81; in one year, exclusive of holidays, \$960. Now let us see how far even \$900 would go to furnish the necessary supplies at market prices: \$200 of this amount would give 1,250 pounds of six to pica leads; \$200, 1,250 pounds of slugs, and \$500, 2,500 pounds of metal furniture — in the aggregate nearly three tons of the most useful and often required material to be found in an office. And yet, how many employers in our cities would hold up their hands in holy horror were such a proposition made to them; while in twelve months

they pay out for lost time more than is represented by this amount, with absolutely nothing to show for the expenditure. The advantages of having a well stocked office in such material are generally appreciated when an important job, where it is required, is wanted in a hurry, or where competition narrows the margin of profit. When the supply is deficient, three or four compositors are generally sent to hunt sorts to keep half a dozen other compositors busy; thus entailing an extra cost, while in an office where the supply is equal to the demand, the service of the extras can either be profitably employed on other work, or else an overcharge allowed for extra time. And where business is conducted on business principles, this disadvantage is certain to militate against the competing establishment which is blind to its best interests.

Another and very important objection against the chronic picking system is that it handicaps the compositor, because it frequently happens that no allowance is made for labor spent in this manner, and, as a consequence, the extra time is charged to his slowness or inefficiency rather than to the true cause—the lack of material, so that from every standpoint we believe this penny-wise and pound-foolish policy is to be deprecated.—Exchange.

The Webber-Johnston Printing Co.

DURING this month the Webber Printing Co. and Maxwell Johnston & Co. having amalgamated, their new concern will be known by the above firm name. Webber's establishment has been removed to Johnston & Co.'s premises at 78 Wellington street west, where the business will in future be carried on. The new firm has enlarged its premises to accommodate the very large accession of presses, type and materials secured through the union of the two establishments, and now has probably the best equipped and most complete commercial printing office in Toronto. Both offices having been equipped upon the point system the type of each works with that of the other, and the amalgamation has placed at the new firm's disposal a magnificent variety of the very latest and best faces of type required for modern printing. This move is on the line suggested some time ago by THE IMPRINT and will no doubt prove beneficial not only to the proprietors themselves, but also to the trade in general.

WM. WESLEY is the new proprietor of The Ridgetown Standard. He is a brother of S. Wesley, Barrie Advance.