

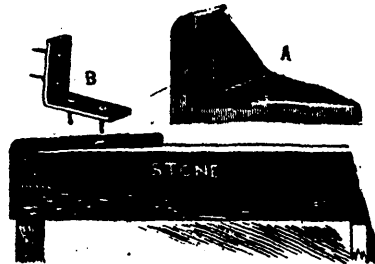
at this time of writing. Besides, there is no trouble in keeping them clean. After a form is lifted, all that is necessary is to wipe them off with a clean, damp or wet sponge, and when they are dry they present the appearance of mirrors, that is, so far as a glossy, bright surface is concerned.

To our mind, the right kind of material has not yet been found for imposing stones. Here, we would suggest one made of glass, say three inches thick. We do not know whether such can be made or not, or at what cost, but submit the idea to some one more conversant with the nature and manufacture of glass than we profess to be. With glass type and glass imposing stones, we can almost see the dawn of the glass age.

The next thing in importance to an imposing stone of the proper material, is to have it properly fitted for the work intended to be done on it. For book and job offices, and, in fact, for all offices, we believe calcined plaster the proper material to bed with. Let the table or stand be made strong, stiff and true, with a two-inch bottom (or top, as some would call it) well braced to prevent any sag in the centre or other part not supported by a leg. Let the outside boards come up on the stone three-quarters of an inch at least. Nearly fill the receptacle intended for the stone with the plaster, properly mixed, and lower the stone quickly but gently into it. The weight of the stone will force the surplus plaster out and it will make a true bed for itself. In newspaper offices the same process may be followed, but we would recommend a table slightly different in construction from that suited for a book and job office.

All printers who have ever been on the make-up of a newspaper, where imposing stones are used, must have experienced the difficulty of justifying the columns when there is no support at the head of the chase. At every push on the foot of the column, the chase is pushed away from the form, the matter goes after it, but the column rules remain stationary. Then there is some loud thinking while the column rules are pushed up after the retreating chase and matter, necessitating the pulling up of the leads at the heads of the columns, the pushing up of the rules and inserting of the leads again so that the rules will not "ride" on them. "We've been there," and know all about it. To obviate all this, and prevent an encroachment on our Christian prin-

ciples, we have adopted the plan illustrated below. It is simple and easy of appliance and there is no patent on it. To our knowledge it is not in general use. We had never seen or heard of it before adopting it. If there is anything original about it, give us the credit of it, that's all we ask. As for its utility and usefulness, as well as for its christianizing influence, we will vouch for it with our last breath, and so will our wife and pastor. The following diagrams are almost self-explanatory:—



As will be seen, figure A represents a part of the frame prepared for the stone, excepting that the plaster has not yet been put in. An iron knee shown at B is inserted in and flush with the top and inside of the table and secured there by screws. These iron knees are proportioned so that they will be about five-eighths or half an inch higher than the stone when bedded. The piece of board running along the head of the stone, where the maker-up stands, is allowed to be a little higher than the knees—say one-quarter of an inch—and rounded off to prevent any extra wear on the apparel of the person working at the stone. With this appliance properly put on, it is impossible for the chase to get away from the form—when due care is taken to push the chase up against the iron knees before taking out the quoins. Unlock the form, put one or two quoins in with the fingers at the side and foot—just sufficient to keep the form in its place within the chase—shove all up hard to the iron knees, and then you can take out the quoins altogether without any fear of your chase shifting, or without any incentive to break the third commandment, in making-ready and locking-up the same pages.

#### Practical Printing Points.

Pressmen on country papers sometimes are at a loss to know why they do not have "good luck," when, apparently, everything is in fair working condition. One frequent reason is, that