

move the greater part of it; where this fails, wet the face of the stone, and let the foreman of the inking department rub each letter separately on the stone until thoroughly clean, rinse off well, and they are ready for the cases again.

The leads need not be thrown away. Clean them carefully, and lay aside in an odd case, and they will soon come in use again; and with a little practice this method will give the careful and painstaking compositor more satisfaction than a hundred dollars worth of brass line formers and curved quads. The slovenly and impatient type slinger had better leave curved lines alone.

ADDITIONAL HINTS.

Where a proof is wanted, the lines can be tightened sufficiently for that purpose before putting in the plaster.

Do not space so tightly that the quads have to be forced down. This will cause springing, and throw the type off their feet.

Once set with plaster, it is almost impossible to alter a form: *therefore* be SURE it is right before going ahead. Some compositors will send forms innumerable to press without the necessity of returning them to the stone; others do not seem to be able to lock up a date line without having either a turned letter, wrong font, or bad justification, necessitating delay on the press, and confusion at the stone, which might easily be avoided by a *very* little extra care in the first instance.

C. L.

Imposing Stones.

To the Editor of the *Miscellany*:

SIR,—In your December issue, I was glad to read, under the head of "Practical Matters," some lengthy remarks respecting imposing stones. The best article that I know of for the purpose is slate slab, which is very much used in England. I have been in a vast number of printing offices in England, Canada and the United States, and know of nothing so suitable, besides being cheap, for the purpose than I have mentioned above.

WILL. WALKER.

Toronto, February 8.

Mark Twain told a newspaper reporter that he was going abroad to find a quiet place to write, where he would not be disturbed once a day. It is singular that it never occurred to him to remain at home and secure a desk in a store that doesn't advertise.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

THE PRINTER'S MISCELLANY is issued monthly at \$1.00 per annum, *in advance*, or ten cents per number. Price to apprentices—50 cents per annum, *in advance*.

The name and address of subscribers should be written plainly, that mistakes may not occur. All letters should be addressed to

HUGH FINLAY,
St. John, N. B., Canada.

CASH ADVERTISING RATES.

	1 ins.	3 mos.	6 mos.	9 mos.	1 yr.
One page...	\$10.00	27.00	50.00	70.00	90.00
Half page...	6.00	16.00	30.00	43.00	54.00
Qr. page...	3.50	9.00	17.00	25.00	31.00
Two inches...	2.00	5.50	10.50	15.50	19.00
One inch....	1.00	2.80	5.50	7.60	10.00
One line....	.10	1.00

Notices in reading matter, per line, each ins.. 25

Name and address in the "Printing Trades' Directory," 25 cents per month, or \$3 per year. Each additional line, giving description, etc., of material manufactured or sold, 15 cents per line per month additional.

Inserts of unobjectionable matter, furnished by the advertiser and printed uniformly in size with the *Miscellany*, will be taken at the following rates:—Single leaf, \$15; two leaves, (four pages) \$25; four leaves, \$40; over four leaves to be subject to special agreement.

All orders for advertising must be accompanied by a remittance to cover the same.

The Printer's Miscellany.

ST. JOHN, N. B., CANADA, FEB., 1879.

A Venerable Newspaper.

The Chinese newspapers now extant, which may be counted on the ten fingers, include one which is not only the oldest news journal in existence, but which can lay claim to be the most ancient medium of current intelligence on record. This is the native publication known to foreigners, and called the *Pekin Gazette* in its English translation, which is occasionally quoted by the British press as an authority on official news from China. The data on which this statement is founded are given by Mr. W. F. Mayers, Chinese Secretary to the British Legation at Peking, in a contribution on the subject to the *China Review*, and reprinted in the translation for 1874. "The ordinary Chinese designation for the paper," he says, "is *Metropolitan Announcements*, but the publication is also styled *Copies from the Capital*, and *Court Announcements*."