

The Printer's Miscellany.

AN EXPONENT OF PRINTING AND ALL THE KINDRED ARTS.

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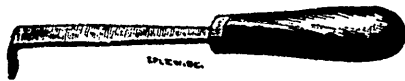
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PRACTICAL MATTERS.

Locking-up

Is an operation requiring more skill and care than almost any other in a printing office, for if a form is not locked-up properly there is no use in trying to make it look well. It is only a wanton waste of time and material to work it at all. More jobs are spoiled by careless locking-up than by anything else. It is disheartening to watch some men locking-up a form: to see them jam the quoins into every place they can get them, without regard to fit or utility. Others, again, seem to think that very few quoins will hold a form in the chase, and place them in any part in the most irregular manner. All this with the ordinary wooden quoin; but give them any of the patent quoins (of which there are a number in the market), and, if the quoins will stand it, if you don't have lots of chases cracked in the corners, or twisted out of all shape, then you're lucky. To our mind, the fitting and fitness of a quoin should be attended to with as great care as is the spacing of a line, and every one should be placed where it will do just what is intended—keep the form of type upright, tight, square and true. Sometimes, no doubt, it is a difficult matter to get all the corners of a job, around which is used mitted rule, up into their places, especially with the mallet and shooting-stick alone. In such cases, and, in fact, in all cases, no matter what kind of a form—from a small card to a newspaper or poster form—we have found a great help from what has been dubbed a "wrench," and which is represented by the following cut:



This is a very simple little tool, yet, very effective. It is made from an old rasp or file, the handle end of the file being cut off square, the temper drawn and about five-eighths or three-quarters of an inch turned down, as seen in the cut above; a file or rasp handle bored out and fitted on snugly, and this useful auxiliary is com-