



TYPE-SETTING MACHINES.

Editor PRINTER AND PUBLISHER.

SIR,—You are doing the craft throughout Canada a great deal of good, and it must redound to their credit as well as your own in giving information from month to month about the type-setting machines, one of the most wonderful inventions of this or any other age. The Typograph has found its way down here by the sea, as well as to far away Vancouver, and to say that it is giving satisfaction here is to put it mildly. No better print is seen to-day in Nova Scotia than the Truro News and Amherst Press, both of which papers use the Typograph and whose editors are delighted with it. As you said in your last issue, the introduction of the Typograph here has fairly set the newspaper men wild, for many of them regard it as the "life-preserver of the modern newspaper." Mr. Best, who has been representing the company here, is a gentleman who knows his business, and, if I am not mistaken, will soon be down here again putting in more Typographs.

Publishers are only beginning to find out the benefit of the type-setting machines; it will not be long before all who can afford it will have one.

Referring to machines, M. J. Keating, who is an old newspaper man, having worked his way up from the case, has the following to say:

"Last week I inspected at Amherst the Typograph machine, which is to revolutionize the printing business of the future. Having seen most of those in use in the United States, I have no hesitation in saying that this machine more nearly approaches what is needed than any other. It simply means this; the reporter who gathers the news will come into the office and operate this machine (which sets up matrices and casts the type), instead of writing out his notes on a typewriter. Of course it will send out of printing offices large numbers of men, as it will be only necessary to retain a sufficient number for the composition of advertisements, etc. Hence it means a survival of the fittest. My advice to the more intelligent among the printers would be, "learn to operate the typewriter," if a machine be not handy; other things being equal, the capable type will still be the more economical man to employ."

Pictou, Oct. 17, '93.

ALBERT DENNIS.

[This letter gives one side of the Typograph story. The Dominion Co. must send different machines to the Maritime provinces to those used in Ontario. Several Toronto offices have had one or more in operation for over a year and the results of their trial are not satisfactory. It is true that more type has been set by machine in the same time and at somewhat less cost than by hand, but the work thus turned out is in most instances not good. Owing to the softness of the metal in the matrices the faces of the letters blur and hair lines appear between them giving the printed matter a very dirty appearance. It does seem likely that this difficulty will be overcome and that some mixture can be got that will make matrices that will wear. It may be that in the machines sent to Nova Scotia the metal of which they are made is of the proper texture to wear. None of the Toronto machines have worked satisfactorily in

this respect. It is more than probable that several Toronto offices will discontinue their use shortly. This outcome to the trials is regretted, as it was hoped the machines would do nearly all claimed for them. With matrices that would give a good, clear, readable face, that would compare favorably with that produced by type, and a reduced rental, it would perhaps be profitable for newspapers to use them, but until they have such a machine it will not pay to invest.—Editor PRINTER AND PUBLISHER.]

NEWS FROM MONTREAL.

MR. W. WALLACH, a member of The Star staff and one of the brightest newspaper men in the city, has joined the ranks of the benedicts. His specialty is financial and street gossip, and at a complimentary dinner which was tendered him at the city club his friends on the street presented him with a purse of \$300 to help him along the first steps of married life.

Desbarats & Co. are busy rushing forward some important contracts in illustrated photo-gravure work.

The first edition for this term of the McGill Fortnightly has just been issued and contains much matter that must be interesting to the academic mind.

Mr. G. H. Flint was down in Quebec this week on business connected with the Linotype, which some of the newspapers down there have been enquiring about.

The Sabiston Lithographic and Publishing Co. are rushing the work on the Toronto Board of Trade number. We have seen some of the photo-gravures and they are genuine works of art.

Mr. David English, the job printer who was burned out in the King's block fire on St. George street, has settled with the insurance men and re-commenced business at premises which he has secured on Craig street west.

The Gazette Printing Co. are hard at work on their People's Almanac, which is got out every year as a supplement to the Daily Gazette. It is fully up to its usual standard, and reflects credit on Mr. Kydd, its editor and compiler.

It is being kept secret, but we know for a fact that work is being carried on a Star Christmas number which is to eclipse anything of the kind ever published here. The work on the Star almanac is also being pushed forward rapidly and it will be ready by the end of the year.

Mr. James Crossley has left the Herald staff to accept the position of assistant editor of the Journal of Commerce. "Jimmy" is very popular with his confreres, and as the change brings with it a substantial increase in the "root of all evil" his many friends compliment him on his luck.

There is no change in the paper business at present, but it is worthy of note that supplies of many kinds of printing stock are being secured at a considerable reduction on the values ruling a year ago. A leading job printer closed a contract with an American house for a large line of tinted card stock last week at 25 per cent. lower basis than the goods cost him last fall.

The Canada Bank Note Company's premises on Craig street were visited by a fire on the morning of the 19th instant, which practically destroyed all their plant, machinery and work, etc., as owing to the inflammable character of much of the material the firemen could not check the flames, which practically burned out. The loss naturally on account of the valuable kind of material and the many expensive engraving plates is heavy,