

PRINTER.

Original meaning—One skilled in composition and presswork.

Popular sense—One owning or renting a printing office; a compositor; a pressman.

Webster—"One who prints."

True meaning—A PRESS.

TYPOGRAPHY.

Webster—"The art of printing, or the operation of impressing types on paper."

True meaning—1. The practical details of composition and press-work; 2. Printed matter.

TYPOGRAPHER.

Webster—"A printer."

True meaning—1. One skilled in typography; 2. A compositor; 3. A pressman.

COMPOSITOR.

Webster—"One who sets types, and makes up the pages and forms."

True meaning—One who sets and distributes types.

PRESSMAN.

Webster—"One who manages, or attends to, the press."

True meaning—One who supervises the press and perfects the presswork.

PRESSWORK.

Webster—(No definition.)

True meaning—Impressing letters and figures on paper, etc.

PUBLISHER.

Webster—"One who puts forth, or prints and offers a book, pamphlet, or the like, for sale."

Popular sense—An editor; a bookseller.

Original and true meaning—One owning a printing office.

J. L. W.

Alterations.

To the Editor of the Miscellany:

SIR,—I desire to elicit an expression of opinion from the employing printers of this city as to the justice of charging for alterations. Let me state a case. B comes in and gives an order after the following *approved* style: "I want a nice card—something new—how much will you charge for five hundred?" Samples shown, B deliberates, hesitates; finally sees nothing *exactly* like what he wants, and is told he can have a card of a certain description for so much; but insists on seeing proof. Proof shown. B doesn't like the size, nor a certain line, or lines. Has them changed; likes it still worse. Has

them changed back again, cards printed, and sent home. Bill rendered; including small charge for alterations. B never heard of such a charge before; gets indignant; protest from printer; who to save trouble frequently cancels the charge.

C wants something in the way of a circular. "Doesn't know just what would suit him; couldn't printer show him some samples, or suggest something." Printer shows samples, and "suggests." Prices are agreed upon, ("must be *cheap*, you know, these hard times") and customer sees proof. "Not what he expected it would be at all. Wanted something like enclosed (stock for 'enclosed' probably costing as much as C's whole job);" and specifies for changes occupying half an hour or an hour—not counting delay at press—and is terribly indignant at a reasonable charge for alterations; resulting as in first instance.

Believing that the principle of charging for alterations in these and similar cases is just and equitable, I take the liberty of asking for an expression of opinion on the matter. If the *principle is right it should prevail.*

St. John, N. B., Jan. 30. ESTIMATE.

Plaster vs. Putty, etc.

Various materials have been suggested, in previous numbers of the *Miscellany*, as the best for holding curved type-lines in position in a form; but none, in my judgment, are to be compared to plaster-of-paris. In fact, I have found it so much superior to anything I have heard of in practical use that comparison with others is altogether superfluous. The only reasonable objection to it is the trouble in cleaning the type in distribution; but if this be done systematically, and proper precautions taken in the outset, the trouble is reduced to a minimum.

Much of the annoyance attributed to the use of plaster by some, is due to improper application. Neither plaster-of-paris, putty, or anything else will keep a form in position that has been carelessly justified; nor is it possible to keep small lines in proper shape with either of these without guards of leads or tin. To make a curved line work properly, it is imperative that the letters should be on their feet and line perfectly; and this can only be secured by a stiff support on both sides. For ordinary curved lines six-to-pica leads will be found to answer every purpose; but for complex curves in small dimensions ten-to-pica leads, or sheet tin cut in