

### THE FORMOTYPE

A RECENT number of the *Inland Printer* announced that a patent upon a new type-setting machine had been issued to Louis Ransom and Alexander W. Maynus, and the machine, the "Formotype," will be put upon the market shortly by a syndicate of Cleveland and Akron capitalists, who have been behind the enterprise for the past three years. The "Formotype" is an entirely new departure in the line of typesetting machines, the letters are stamped directly upon the edge of a strip of soft metal that has been prepared of proper dimensions. A keyboard, not unlike that of the usual typewriter, projects from the front of the machine, and by pressing upon one of the keys mechanism is actuated that brings the die immediately beneath an impression orifice, and by the operation of a reciprocating plunger the die is impressed upon the metal forming the proper letter. The machine is so constructed that this operation can play upon the keys, and it will not be impossible to attain the speed of the usual typewriter upon the "Formotype." Of course there are spacing keys, enough metal being removed from the line between words by a chisel to make the spaces. The most ingenious part of the machine is the justifying mechanism, which works like a charm. It is based upon the principal that by compressing a line of incompressible material the line is elongated. A pair of jaws grip the line automatically, at the spaces after the words are formed upon it and while another line is being made, and a certain amount of compression being given between each word, the line is squeezed out to its proper length, which is column width. These jaws always work through the same space, but by a wonderfully simple arrangement they are brought closer together or moved apart, making the amount of compression directly proportionate to the number of spaces in a line and the amount the line is short of its proper length. By this device there, is no assembling of matrices, the making of which require hours of dexterous mechanical labour aided by the most expensive machinery; no time lost in waiting for justification; no casting, and no fumes from casting pots to endanger the health of the operator, and no intricate and delicate distributing mechanism. Proof reading with the "Formotype" is easier than in hand composition. It is not necessary to form an entirely new line when an error is made, as is the case in other machines, this being hazardous work, as the operator is liable to make the same or some other error when the line is formed anew. The International Formotype Company, which controls the foreign patents, has protected this machine in the most desirable countries.

The best way to kill a falsehood is to let it lie.

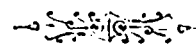
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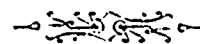
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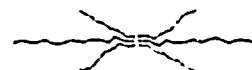


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