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# THE CANADIAN PRINTER & PUBLISHER

Vol. II. No. 7]

TORONTO, JULY, 1893

[\$2.00 per year

## The Babcock Printing Press Mfg. Co.

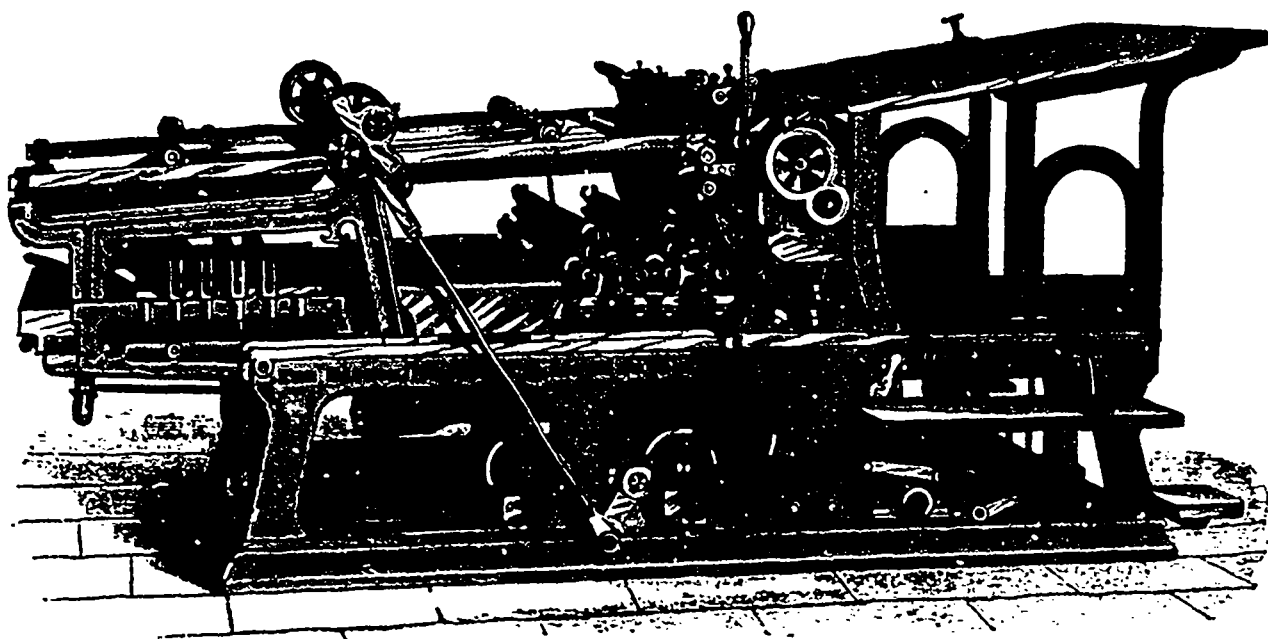
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# Printer and Publisher.

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TORONTO, JULY, 1893

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

THE publisher who fixes his rates to suit the requirements or whims of every advertiser, admits that his circulation is not a fixed quantity in his own mind, or he would have fixed rates for advertising. No second price should be his motto, and he will find it a profitable one.

Look carefully after greasy rags, as they are liable to spontaneous combustion. The boy, after cleaning the press, often throws the rags carelessly in some corner, out of view, little realizing that there is in them sufficient destructive elements to set the entire building in a blaze.

It is an open secret that the management of the *Mail*, Toronto, are not a unit on the merits of the rival type-setting machines, the Mergenthaler and the Typograph. Six moderately expert operators and eleven students recently set in that establishment over a million and a quarter ems in a week, each operator working somewhat under 48 hours each.

ABOUT a dozen years ago a daily newspaper, without a name, was projected at Cincinnati. As its sponsors were never able to read its title clear their scheme didn't get ahead. It would be a blessing if many other projectors of newspapers had struck a similar snag. They would be money in pocket, and so would the paper makers, type founders and press builders.

TROUBLE is often experienced with belts becoming loose, or stretching, and where but one or two belts are used the expense of a tightener is not warranted. A scientific exchange says that for best efficiency the hair side of a belt should run on the pulley. Appearance and custom has made the flesh side on the pulley the almost universal practice. The surface of the hair side gives a belt a closer and more perfect contact with the pulley, which increases its pull or decreases the tension necessary for the same pull with the flesh side next the pulley.

THE mayor of Bridgeport, Conn., successfully applied the gag to a reporter who was detailed to report a meeting which the mayor considered was of a private character. He had the reporter arrested, and legal proceedings are now threatened.

IN newspaper and job printing offices canvassers for books, etc., are often treated with scant courtesy. Is this right? Publishers and printers, as a rule, employ canvassers, and consequently they should have a fellow feeling for the other fellow, as well as treat other drummers with that civility which they wish their own to receive.

THE Linotype is evidently meeting with some success in Great Britain, albeit it is an American invention, as an advertisement in the *British and Colonial Printer* states that it is in use in forty-four establishments. It is not yet introduced in a newspaper in London, although working in newspaper offices in Aberdeen, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Leeds, Manchester, and other cities of less note.

THE printer or publisher who keeps a limited stock of leads, slugs, furniture, rules, etc., on hand, believes he is preaching economy. There is no economy in forcing men, paid 15 or 20 cents an hour, to rush hither and thither looking for sorts, etc., and in the end are forced to cut up something already in use in another job. Economy means saving the time of the man as well as the cents of the employer.

THE following, from the *Toronto Mail*, is a questionable compliment to type-setting machines:—"Since daily journalism has formed the acquaintance of the type-setting machine additional interest has been given to the columns of newspapers by reason of the new variety of mistakes that have been introduced into them. It is now an easy matter for the sense of an article to be obscured by a misplaced line, and news, which has developed a tendency to get under wrong headings, greets the public in most unexpected places. The other day the machine put itself to the unnece-

sary trouble of setting an editorial note twice, and it appeared in two places in *The Mail*. Of course a good thing will bear repeating, but in these busy days the best ideas ought not to be duplicated in the same column.

\* \*\*

A PUBLISHER down by the sea pays us this compliment:—"PRINTER AND PUBLISHER is getting more interesting every issue, and had you an agent to call upon every interested party, I think you could greatly increase your circulation. It ought to be well patronized among the craft from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and then you could soon enlarge it."

\* \*\*

"We recently saw," says the *American Bookmaker*, "a sample of very good colored super-calendered book paper from England, which was marked at 1½d. a pound, equal to about 3½ cents of American money. Such a paper would cost a printer at least six cents a pound in this country." This item will be appreciated by the advocates of Free Trade.

\* \*\*

PUBLISHERS who think that an organization of their guild is not a necessity, and has no benefits connected with it, are referred to this extract from an address by Mr. Sanders, president of the Livingston County, N.Y., Press Association:—"We have been benefitted in an interchange of ideas and methods, and in our mutual acquaintance. By fraternizing in this way, we have broadened our views, become more wide-awake to our mutual interests, more enterprising and more charitable, and if our association has accomplished nothing more, it has been in vain."

\* \*\*

CANADIAN publishers doing the World's Fair should look up C. W. Young of the *Cornwall Frecholder*. He has the various interesting points of the Fair at his finger's ends, and he will be able to afford invaluable information to those who have only a limited time to stay there. There is a good display in Machinery Hall of the various appliances used in a printing office. A member of the staff of PRINTER AND PUBLISHER has just returned from a two week's visit to the Fair, and will be happy to give subscribers who think of going—and they should not miss it—any information they may desire. We are in correspondence now regarding a special trip by boat for Canadian Press Association. As was previously noted, the railways find it impossible to reduce rates at present. It will cost \$19 for a return ticket from Toronto. There is a very nice trip by boat for \$40. This takes twelve days, six on the water and six at the Fair. The boat is docked about three miles from the grounds, and passengers live on board. They can easily get to the Fair grounds by electric railway.

THE Typograph Co. ought to take a leaf from the Monoline book, and introduce a larger metal pot. At present much trouble is experienced in the offices here with cold metal. Is not the pot defective?

\* \*\*

H. C. STOVEL writes from Winnipeg that the statement in the June PRINTER AND PUBLISHER that "Will Cassidy, who for some time operated a Typograph in Winnipeg, returned recently owing to the machine being out of order," is not correct. He went East on account of his wife's ill-health. The item was clipped from an exchange.

\* \*\*

THE printer or publisher who purchases a type-setting machine at present may regret it ere long. Competition is commencing in dead earnest, and as the companies controlling the various machines have expended large sums they will soon want returns. The price asked for the Typograph is too high when compared with the labor necessary to produce a Linotype, and the latter is too expensive for the average publisher.

#### THE WORK OF THE TYPOGRAPH

THE amount of composition performed by the machine used in the establishment of The J. B. McLean Co. for the five weeks ending June 30, was 514,500 ems. A half day was lost adjusting trimmers, four-and-a-half hours were also not utilized for want of motor-power during the first two weeks. During the third week a delay of nine hours took place owing to the same cause. The repairing of the trimmers also caused a delay of an hour-and-a-half.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| No. of ems set, week ending June 3..... | 101,000 |
| No. of ems set week ending June 10..... | 114,000 |
| No. of ems set week ending June 17..... | 114,500 |
| No. of ems set week ending June 24..... | 101,000 |
| No. of ems set week ending July 1.....  | 94,000  |

Total..... 514,500

July 1st being a holiday, caused the drop to 94,000.

A new top will shortly be placed on the machine, with new matrices which it is expected will increase the output, and a better appearance will be given to the print.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Amount paid operator, at \$15 per week..                  | \$ 75 00 |
| Rent of machine for five weeks, at \$7 per week.....      | 35 00    |
| Fuel, power, etc., at \$2.40 per week for five weeks..... | 12 00    |
|   | \$122 00 |

Apart from the above, the heads, leading, clearing, etc., should be charged against the machine, which should, at the least, be called 1½ per cent.

If set by hand the cost would be \$142.66. As before pointed out, the class of composition and appearance of the work must be considered.

### ABUSES OF ESTIMATING

TO the proprietor of a printing business managed with sagacity and upon business principles, much annoyance and pecuniary loss is experienced from the slack methods of price-giving maintained by competitors. In these days, many men who have had a fair training in the mechanical branches of the business consider themselves competent to run an office, and knowing nothing about financial management, stockbuying or estimating, and little trained in that important function, *selling*, turn themselves and their uneducated hirelings loose upon the public, slashing prices and making inroads upon the profits and livelihood of their fellow craftsmen. Such people seem never to learn by experience. After doing one job at a disastrous loss, they are just as ready to do it again when the opportunity is presented.

The patrons of printing offices are, as a rule, persons who know little or nothing about the value of the different items that go to make up the cost of a job, and they should be kept in ignorance, in order to maintain the rights of the office. Many are eager to "get on" to the methods of figuring, and printers frequently glibly tell them all the details of their estimates, making them possessors of information which will be used to force down their prices.

Many large business houses make it a practice, when they have a little work to be done, of sending a boy to "scalp" the printing offices for the lowest price. In nine cases out of ten, prices given the boy will be verbal, placing the printers at the mercy of the boy and unscrupulous competitors who may "pump" him. Quotations should invariably be written and sealed.

Frequently printers are asked for bids on catalogues and various jobs without seeing the copy. It is a practice which should be discouraged, and the printer who makes a bid without seeing the copy lays himself open to loss. I have known persons to willfully misrepresent the amount of matter in such jobs and then try and hold the printer to his proposition. Not long ago I was invited to make a "bid" on a machinery catalogue, and on asking to see the copy, was informed that it was not ready. I told the customer that I would be pleased to make an estimate when the copy was prepared, whereupon I was told that half a dozen printers had made their bids upon the specifications given them on this embryo catalogue.

It is a splendid plan to have a memorandum book arranged so that one writing will make a carbon copy which will remain in the book, and one copy for the customer. When a quotation is made write a memorandum of just what it proposed to do and for how much. Such a method will be found invaluable, for

very often claims are made weeks after the estimate is given, owing to the protracted nature of the work or the lack of promptness in checking the bill, and although the memory may be perfect on the part of the printer, it may be difficult to convince the other party, if the claim is against him. A reference to a carbon duplicate memorandum will settle many disputes which conflicting memories would never adjust.  
—*Inland Printer*.

### ADVENT OF THE NEWSPAPER

M. R. EDWARD CONNER, Paris correspondent of the *Inland Printer*, writes as follows regarding the origin of the news sheet, or as we now term them, newspapers:—"The newspaper, in the modern meaning of the term, did not make its bow till between 1617 and 1622. The honor rests with the *Gazettes* of Amsterdam, for the first English news sheet were only translations of the Dutch *Gazettes*, and appeared in 1622. France did not come into line till 1631, when Renaudot produced his *Gazette*. If the latter was not the first letter in the first line, it was on the whole the sheet which united most of the component features of the modern journal, because Renaudot, though a physician, was a keen man of affairs. He was born at Loudun in 1586, and graduated in medicine at Montpellier. Later he came to Paris, and having Cardinal Richelieu for patron, soon made his road to success. He successively founded an information and servant's registry bureau, a parcels delivery company, a law office, an advertisement sheet and a free dispensary for the poor. Many lucrative offices were bestowed upon him through the cardinal's influence. But it was as defender of the policy of Richelieu, against the pamphlets that stung his eminence, which largely contributed to bring out and sustain Renaudot's *Gazette*. A royal patent conceded to Renaudot the privilege to print and sell his *Gazette*—for ever and ever; to collect news of events happening within or outside France; to report conferences and give the market prices of merchandise. The *Gazette* appeared in 1631, in octavo of four pages; often the latter were increased to twelve, and the publication separated into an official and non-official part. The daily issue gave birth to supplements and a monthly edition. The price of a copy of the paper was, in present money value, three sous. Hardly was the *Gazette* well started, when Renaudot was obliged to commence law suits against rivals, who not only infringed upon his rights, secured by royal decree, but actually pirated in the most wholesale manner the news he published.

THE boy who has the wood to saw is ever ready to encourage any strivings after muscular development on the part of his fellows.

# Printer and Publisher

A JOURNAL FOR PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS

Published Monthly by

THE J. B. McLEAN CO., LTD.

TYPE-JOURNAL PUBLISHERS AND  
FINE MAGAZINE PRINTERS

No. 10 FRONT ST. EAST, TORONTO

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Single copies 20 cents

J. B. McLEAN,  
President

HUGH C. McLEAN,  
Manager

TORONTO, JULY, 1893

## DON'T DESPISE THE BOYS

**F**OR some unaccountable reason the advent of a boy in a printing office, be it a newspaper or job room, is not hailed with delight by any one except the junior boy, and he rejoices from selfish reasons, as his promotion a step or two follows instantly. Why should a bright lad, who has the world before him, and who expresses a preference for the printing trade, be snubbed, sometimes cuffed, and treated generally as if he were of an inferior order of animal? This big world owes that little fellow a living if he is willing to earn it, and the men who attempt to dampen his youthful ardor by placing obstacles in his way are guilty of gross injustice. If they are prompted to fill the neophyte's path with thorns in the hope that they will reduce the supply of compositors they are making themselves ridiculous, and acting the part of churls. The boys are bent on following some occupation, and when one has decided to take up printing it will require more than petty persecutions to make him change his mind.

Boys are a necessity in printing offices. This being granted on all sides, why do not journeymen take kindly to the little fellows, and teach them as much as possible. If they have not time to show him how to do a certain thing, the least they can do is to answer his questions respectfully, and that much encouragement will be an incentive to make another and perhaps better effort. Every compositor ought to have sufficient pride for his own calling to see that those who are qualifying for it will in course of time be good, and if possible, first-class workmen. By this means he can raise the standard of workmanship, and when that is raised to a satisfactory degree the

superior workmen are duly acknowledged. If printing is to deteriorate, and the craftsmen's wages fall to the level of the drain diggers, by all means continue the unfair treatment of apprentices. Show them in every way that printing is not an art, but a common place business, in which neither taste nor skill receive acknowledgment, and then grumble not if in a few years you descend to the level you unwittingly aimed at. The boys, no matter how they are viewed, are the coming men, and if they are coached along carefully, and develop into first-class workmen, they will be the better enabled to stand out later on for fair wages, and their firm stand will make the position of the older men, their former tutors, more secure.

## MACHINE OPERATORS

**T**YPE-SETTING machines are now admitted to be a fixture, even the most conservative old compositors being forced to yield the point. As the machines are here to stay, and are introduced for the purpose of saving money, it is possible that printers and publishers may be too anxious to reduce their composing room expenses, and that anxiety may lead them into making expensive blunders. The vendors of the machines loudly assert that any one who can run a type-writer can operate a type setting machine. Doubtless it can be done, but what publisher wants to see the matter in his paper improperly punctuated, capitals thrown in regardless of style or propriety, and words divided just where the line ends, irrespective of syllable or of sound? Operating a key-board is mere manual labor, or if you like, manual skill, but to turn out work fit for publication requires some brains and a little education. It is a rare occurrence to receive a type-written document which does not bear marks of correction by the dictator of the letter, and such mistakes are not in spelling, punctuation or capitalization, but words that have been used because they bore a resemblance in sound to the right word. The intelligence of the type-writer is not always of the order that suggests to him or her the possibility of a blunder, and onward goes the operator, banging the keys, and grinding out stuff that would not be tolerated from a boy six months at the case.

If the machines are to be a success they must be operated intelligently, and no one can do that work better or more profitably than a bright young printer. We emphasize the word young, as unfortunately the old men are not fitted for such work. Their fingers have not their suppleness, and it is next to impossible for them to work the key-board with more than one finger, and then they jab and poke at it in an awkward manner. The men who are placing the machines on the market make a serious mistake when they speak slightly of a compositor as an operator, because his intelligence added to the work of the

inventor is required to make the affair the success aimed at. The days of the straight hand composition are numbered, but he will not yet be replaced by any one wholly unacquainted with the printer's case.

#### THE MONOLINE

MANY Canadian publishers have recently received printed circulars from the Monoline Composing Co., of Washington, D.C., setting forth the merits of a new type-setting machine. The circular stated that an average operator can set 6,000 ems an hour; although a fast operator could do much more. The most attractive bait in the circular is the price of the Monoline, \$1,000, half of what is asked for the Typograph, and one-third the price of the Linotype. Simplicity, durability, interchangeable parts, light running power, everything under the vision of the operator, cheapness, and a metal pot sufficiently large for an eight hours run, are some of the striking features advanced in favor of this latest arrival. The simplicity of the Monoline, we are told, is of such a character that the services of a skilled machinist are not required. If this be so it is far ahead of the Linotype, and more acceptable than the Typograph. A representative of *PRINTER AND PUBLISHER* saw a Monoline in operation at the World's Fair recently, and while there was much in it worthy of admiration still he deemed it a very complicated affair. The key-board is not attached to the casting machine, so that an operator could fill a roll of paper in one room and send it to another to have the casts made. The key-board and its attachments are a complicated piece of machinery. Each time a key is struck two holes about  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch in diameter are perforated in a roll of paper more than half the width of this page. At the end of each line a lever must be brought forward to bring the machine into action for the next line. When an article is completed the perforated roll, which is not unlike the sheets of music used in the family hand-organs sold in some music stores, is put on a still more complicated machine, and the operation of casting begins. A blast of air strikes the paper roll, and escaping through a perforation, sets in motion a complicated piece of machinery which eventually strikes the particular matrix to which the hole corresponds, and that particular letter is cast. The letters are worked off the machine to a special galley. The Monoline on exhibition in Chicago was not of the latest pattern. The latter, when completed, will do four times the work of the one at the Fair. The amount of work a machine can do depends upon how fast a compositor may operate a key-board. The machine itself may be improved to keep three or four operators going. It is possible to put a key-board at the desk of each editor or reporter. He can set his own article and make corrections in the proof. As

each letter is cast separately, it is an easy matter to correct.

It must be admitted that this is the most likely machine we have yet seen if the complicated parts can be kept in perfect running order. With the low price and the great promise this machine gives, printers should hesitate before committing themselves to the more expensive Typograph, Linotype or Thorne, which are the machines now being pushed on this market.

#### LIFE OF A DRESS OF TYPE

A correspondent propounds this query:—"Take a paper of 2,500 circulation, how long will a new dress last?" With ordinary care a font of type large enough to set up two complete issues of the paper, a new dress should last at least seven years. There are, however, many things to be taken into consideration under the heading of ordinary care, among them the style of the press used, whether printed from the type or stereos., quality of ink and treatment received in the composing room. The old style platen press does less injury to type than the more modern cylinder, but the latter has the speed, hence the necessity. Stereotyping is very hard on type, the continual pounding with close brushes rounding the face of the type. Cheap ink, in which is often found a gritty sediment, also injures the face of the type, as the small particles of grit get gradually worked into the white spaces of the face of the type, and the pressure of the cylinder on the foreign substance either weakens the hair lines or absolutely destroys them. The face of type is often marred by some plug of printer playing a tattoo on the form with a mallet and planer, who works with as much vigor and energy as if he were running a trip hammer or a pile driver. The pressman often errs in this respect also. Many compositors while distributing bang a handful of type, bottom downwards of course, on the imposing stone, and they aim to let the lines strike at an angle, so as to permit of more ready distribution. This is a common occurrence in printing offices, and yet it has a most injurious effect. A blanket on the proof press, spotted here and there with ink, and that ink full of dust or dirt, must injure the type. Sliding galleys full of type over the face of a form when making up, throwing quoins, mallet and shooter on the forms while locking up, and washing forms with worn out brushes, are type destroying processes that should never be tolerated. It is really astonishing how long a dress of type will last if given even ordinary care. What little body type is now used on the *Mail*, of this city, has been in constant wear for six years, and some of it for eleven years, as a font formerly discarded was brought into use while the proprietors were debating the machine question. Both dresses were supplied by Miller & Richard,



who claim their type to be of a superior quality as far as hardness of metal is concerned. All things considered, the life of a dress of type depends largely on many conditions, the chief of which we have enumerated.

#### THE PAIGE TYPE-SETTING MACHINE

**F**OR several years publishers have heard occasionally of this machine, and been led to believe that it was simply a marvel, but beyond rumors of this character very little could be learned concerning it. Mr. W. C. Roberts, in a letter to the *Inland Printer*, gives some interesting details, regarding the capacity of the Paige, from which the following is extracted:

The Paige type-setting machine, which is controlled by the Connecticut Company, with headquarters in New York city, though incorporated in Hartford, Connecticut (capital stock \$15,000,000), is manufactured by the Webster Manufacturing Company, of Chicago. A private exhibition of the working of the machine was recently given, which proved the invention a marvelous success. This machine will be on exhibition in all probability at the World's Fair, in the summer, at which time the trade will begin to be supplied. Extraordinary speed is claimed for the machine. In fact it can produce as fast as anyone can operate it. The speed of the apparatus itself is practically without limit. The key-board—in appearance as simple as that of an ordinary typewriter—is half of the invention, and the inventor, after ten years of study of the difficulties to be overcome, has succeeded in so arranging the keys that, although each one commands a certain letter, the operator is able to strike every letter in a word at the same instant, or, at least, do so without more than one perceptible movement of the hands. The keys are close together, and when both hands are brought into play, they command every lower-case letter. When it is known that the operator produces whole words with a single pressure of one hand, or both at the same time, and that the machinery takes charge of the grouping and spacing, the marvellous speed achieved in setting movable types on this machine can be understood. It distributes, spaces and "leads" automatically. It automatically rejects and disposes of broken or battered type. An indicator on the key-board shows the operator when a line is full, which is also announced by the tap of a tiny bell. The justification is absolutely perfect, and the spacing so even as to be faultless. The operator at work on the machine, at the private exhibition mentioned, stated that after five months' practice he was able to produce 12,900 ems per hour of solid nonpareil. The type in use on the machine is very lean.

The following is as close a description as can now be given without drawings:

The Paige machine is about nine feet long, weighs three tons, and is substantially made of the finest steel, finished with the smoothness of the machinery of a watch. A machine must be made for each kind of type to be used—a nonpareil machine will only set nonpareil; minion only minion, etc. It uses the same kind of type usually set by hand, only there must be a special nick on each letter, as is the style with the Thorne machine. The type of any foundry can be used or the type in use in any office, only it must be specially nicked.

The keyboard contains 109 characters, arranged in five rows running from left to right. The keys are about three-quarters of an inch square. The lower-case letters are at the left. The type case is above the keyboard, each letter being in a channel directly in line with the key which governs it. The case is about three feet long by two and a half wide, and is slightly inclined back from a perpendicular position. It contains 109 channels about half an inch apart, which run up and down, each the size of the letter for which it is made, when placed with the nick up. At the extreme left on top of the machine is the space case, eleven different sizes being used. When a letter is called for by touching the keys, it drops out of the case from the bottom and is pushed along to a finger which draws it into a space where it remains until all the letters in the word being set are there, when the operator touches what is called the word key, and another finger moves it along. The machine records the length of the word and then moves it out of the way of the second word, already on its way to join the first. Each word is automatically measured without any assistance from the operator. An indicator tells when the line can receive no more words, or parts of words, and a line key is then touched and the machine automatically justifies the line, after which it is dropped into a galley. The machine is spacing the first line while the third is being set. When the galley is filled, it automatically locks the keys, thus calling the operator's attention. The duty of the operator is simply to touch the proper keys; the machine automatically does the remainder of the work, and it looks to the observer as though the machine regulates the operator instead of vice versa.

What is called the brains of the machine is a wonderful device, and is the result of eighteen years of hard study. It controls the working of every part. For instance, if a key is touched and there is some part of the machine which is not ready to perform its duty, this piece of mechanism locks every other part, until it is time for them to continue working; and although the letter called for cannot leave the case without the permission of this device, it is not

retarded but for a fraction of a second, and then, without a further touching of the key, takes its proper place.

To the left of the operator is the distributor. Three columns of matter placed side by side and about a foot long are placed on a sort of shelf standing nearly perpendicular. The machine takes the first line, which is, in fact, three, and automatically distributes it. The shelf then moves up and the next line is distributed, and so on. It removes any type which may have been damaged by stereotyping or turned end for end by the hand compositor in correcting or otherwise, and drops it in a box provided for the purpose. It takes the spaces out of the line and distributes them in the proper case. The types are then built up one on another from the bottom. On top of the type in each channel is placed a piece of metal resembling a common slug, the thickness varying with the width of the channel. When any one of the channels of type reach up to a certain point in the case, the metal comes in contact with a bar which stops the distribution, thus preventing an overflow of the case. All this of course is done automatically. If the operator should be called away from the machine, it would not matter, as it takes care of itself.

The machine sets and distributes at the same time, and a type can be put in and one taken out during the same revolution of the machine, and although the last letter distributed is the first letter out there is no chance for conflict.

Here is the explanation of their method of justification: "While this has always been considered impossible of accomplishment its practicability will be clear to anyone, if considered from the mathematical side. Of course, to make any number of things the same length one must start with some length as a standard unit. This unit can be made whatever length the work to be done requires, as the width of any book page or newspaper column. With this length known, the problem is simply this: Take the length of any number of words which are to compose a line and subtract their sum from the unit or standard and the remainder will be the length, which is to be filled out by spaces to separate the words of the line." And this mathematical problem is automatically worked.

The machine runs very lightly, an ordinary sewing machine belt being used on the pulleys. The only machine now in running order is the result of twenty-two years' work. While there will be no change in the principle, the new machines will be different in some respects, some parts made lighter and others heavier, but the whole will weigh considerably less. It oils itself. It adjusts itself to any wear, and it is claimed that the machine can be run constantly for years.

Tables can be set with this machine much quicker than they can be corrected by hand.

It also automatically measures the number of lines set. It counts up to 9,999 lines, or about 270,000 ems, four or five days work. When a foreman doubts that an operator is doing the proper amount of composition he can easily satisfy himself by glancing occasionally at the register. As this is regulated automatically the operator is at the mercy of the machine, and any "soldiering" would be exposed as soon as attempted.

It is safe to assert that any fairly good operator with this machine will be able to produce 12,000 ems per hour. The company's prospectus states that any one can run the machine, and no observer of the working of the apparatus could doubt the statement. The operator need only know how to read and punctuate correctly.

#### A NEAT AND TIDY OFFICE

PRESIDENT PEASE, of the Minnesota Editors' and Publishers' Association spoke as follows at the recent convention:—

"If there is any hobby that I ride, it is cleanliness in a printing-office. Although a little expensive, it pays. There is no excuse for printing-offices being so dirty and uninviting. I have seen offices that were not fit for men to work in. Lawyers, doctors and the other professional people, business men, and firms keep their offices and stores clean and inviting; and why not newspaper offices? If you should happen to visit a nice, well-lighted, and well-kept office, and hear the comments made upon it by visitors and others calling there on business or a social visit, you would realize fully that not many offices reach a standard of neatness and cleanliness, and you would also learn that about everyone expects to find our offices dirty and disagreeable. Think of the many hours we have to spend in the offices. They ought to be next to our homes, the nicest and best places we possess.

"Whenever I find a neat and nicely-kept printing-office, then I invariable expect a well-printed newspaper to be issued therefrom. If every publisher boasted of such an office, a marked improvement in the typographical appearance of many of our papers would result. A fine power press is not necessary for a neatly-printed paper. There are some really handsome sheets issued from a Washington hand-press, but great care and watchfulness are required to keep them up."

MANY men have credit for wisdom when the quality they possess is nothing more than "cuteness," which has no regard for right and utterly ignores the thought of doing unto others as they would have them do to them.

### DOINGS OF THE PUBLISHERS

THE *Commonwealth* Printing Company, New Westminster, B.C., has reopened for business under the management of W. H. Lewis.

THE *Evening Telegram*, Toronto, recently made an abject apology to its contemporary, the *World*, the latter announcing the fact with a display heading.

MR. JEFFERS, of the *Ottawa Citizen*, passed through Toronto a few days ago. He likes the *Typograph*, and thinks the *Journal*, of his city will soon introduce them.

MR. W. F. MACLEAN, M.P., publisher of the *Toronto World*, withdrew his plea of justification in the suit for libel preferred against him by Mayor Fleming, and the proceedings were consequently dropped by the plaintiff.

SEVERAL weeks ago the legislature of the Isle of Man prohibited the Sunday sale of newspapers under the penalty of a fine of forty shillings. The island's prosperity largely depends on tourists, who as a rule largely read Sunday papers wherever they may journey or temporarily abide.

IN Jerusalem there are eight printing offices, of which five belong to religious orders, and three are devoted to the publication of newspapers—*Haor* (light), *Hacharazeth* (flower), and *Feruscholajim*, all three in the Hebrew language; at the convents the most of the printing is done in Latin and Arabic.

REQUESTS for preferred position have inspired the Savannah, Ga., *News* to rise and remark: "There is one demand of advertising agents which the newspapers will be forced to combine against. That is the demand for top of column, next to reading matter, first advertisement following full reading matter."

SOUTH DAKOTA, according to the *Dell Rapids Times*, seems to be a newspaper-reading State. Two hundred and sixty-one papers, of which 21 are daily, two semi-weekly, 16 monthly, one semi-monthly, and the remainder weekly, are published there. This shows a proportion of one publication to each 1,150 population.

THE *Evening Star*, Toronto, suspended publication on June 17th, after an existence of about six months, during which time it had secured a circulation of over 10,000 daily. Lack of capital and internal friction led to the suspension. It is stated by those who ought to know that the local union advanced the *Star* about \$1,000 to aid it in its fight with the *Evening News*.

A KANSAS publisher of extended experience considers the employment of women, in all departments of a newspaper, advisable and profitable. His book-keeper has been with him for ten years, and in the counting room or advertising department is so accurate and dependable that he declares she is of more use to him than any man on the force. In the com-

posing room, too, he believes women indispensable, because they are more regular and steady in their habits than men, and may be relied upon for faithful service.

MR. JAMES BROWNELL, editor and proprietor of the *Tyler*, a Masonic journal published in Detroit, was in Toronto recently, hunting up old friends. Jim worked in several offices here twenty years ago. He gets his straight composition set up in the *Free Press* office, on a Mergenthaler. In Mr. Brownell's opinion the *Typograph*, as in operation here, is ahead of the machine turned out by the Cleveland establishment.

THE *Felicity*, Ohio, *Times* takes no patent medicine advertisements except to oblige local druggists, does no business with outside agents or agencies, nor does it take advertising from the near city of Cincinnati that conflicts with the interests of local merchants. A new press, a recent enlargement of form and liberal advertising patronage show the prosperity of the newspaper which caters solely to local interests.

IN a Massachusetts county there are three publishers who collectively print fourteen local papers. After the "home" paper is off the press, changes are made in the headings and slightly in the makeup, and successive editions are prepared for small outlying hamlets that are unable to sustain papers of their own. Thus a considerable gross circulation is attained, where three or four hundred copies go to each of the neighboring villages.

WE will positively enter no name on our subscription book without the cash. We trust that no one will become offended at this rule of ours. The fact is, we had a little trouble in east Texas with three Chinamen about back subscriptions. We killed two of them and hurt the other so badly the doctors had to kill him, and in order to get out of this scrape we had to promise "Squire White" that we would never take another subscription without the cash.—*Nevado (Texas) Champion*.

THE following is a novel advertisement from the Bridgeport, Conn., *Union*: "All merchants employ salesmen, and we believe in the advantages of so doing. There is a good salesman that some of the merchants of Bridgeport have not yet employed. This salesman talks to more people in one day than any salesmen talk to in a year. This salesman is working in thousands of homes at the same time. He never drinks, never eats, never sleeps. This salesman if properly backed up will make you rich. This salesman is advertising in the *Daily Union*. His recommendations are the houses who have made money by employing him. His services can be secured. Do you want him?"

IN announcing its removal into its new office, built especially for its occupancy, the Duncannon, Penn., *Record* informs its readers that its past year

has been the most prosperous in its career. It further says: "The *Record* has not aspired to a high pillar in the journalistic world. It has simply tried to merit its place as a country weekly, going into hundreds of homes in this immediate section, and in forty-three States and Territories in the Union, and into the hands of old and young. Its aim has been to give all the local news in a plain manner. Perhaps we have not been quite so newsy as some others, by excluding as much as possible that which was horrible, repulsive and obscene, but we have the satisfying consciousness that the minds of the young people have become no less pure and innocent by the perusal of our columns."

THE director of the journal *L'Illustration*, the first of the pictorial newspapers in France, now prints its engravings from stereotypes made of celluloid, so the difficulties and dangers from heat and humidity by molding on the wooden engravings are at last conquered. The stereotypes are as sharp, as bright, and delicate, as those of the best galvanos; they can be molded for the cylinders of rotary machines, and the proof of their success is, that since six months the illustrated journal in question has employed only celluloid stereotypes.

WILLIS B. HAWKINS, in *Brains*, thus describes the idyllic life of the country editor: "For seven years I had no use for money. My paper was published in a small town in Illinois. Everybody in town owed the paper, the paper owed everybody, and no one ever thought of setting an account on either side. If I went anywhere on the railroad I had a pass. If I wanted a suit of clothes or a ham I went into a store and got it. I don't know whether it was charged or not, and it didn't make much difference. Probably the dealer's advertising and subscription bill was enough to cover the cost; if not, no matter. The barber shaved on account, and on account the grocer sold potatoes. Into that Eden of delight came the serpent when our feeble imitator across the way got the telegraph plate-service away from us. His circulation doubled right away; ours, alas! didn't."

#### THE SCRIBES

SYD. WOODS is now Hamilton correspondent of the *Toronto Mail*.

CAPT. CURRIE, of the *Mail* reportorial staff, was married recently.

MR. BURROWS, formerly on the *Empire*, has joined the *Hansard* staff. The *Empire* loses a hustler.

MR. MCKELLAR, formerly of *Saturday Night*, Toronto, latterly employed on several New York publications as artist and writer, is at his home, near Penetang, enjoying a holiday.

PETE McARTHUR, formerly on the Toronto press, was sent to the World's Fair by *Puck*, to contribute to its World's Fair edition.

GEORGE HORTON, of the *Chicago Herald*, has been appointed United States Consul at Athens; Frank H. Brooks, of the *Chicago Tribune*, United States Consul at Trieste, and Clinton Furbish, formerly an editorial writer on the *Chicago Times*, chief of the Bureau of American Republics. The compensation of the Athens consulship is \$2,500, that of Trieste, \$2,000, and that of chief of the Bureau of American Republics, \$4,000. President Cleveland has a fondness for newspaper men—of ability.

#### CRAFT NOTES

BUSINESS in most of the job offices is on the dull side.

A TYPOGRAPH was put into *Truth* office, Toronto, a few days ago.

ISAAC WILSON has purchased the *Glengarian*, of Alexandria, from A. E. Powter.

THE quickest operator on the Typograph holds down a machine in British Columbia.

AS a rule, operators on the Typograph put up from 50 to 55 thousand ems in their third week.

MR. DARLINGTON, an expert operator on the Typograph, has been offered a situation in Winnipeg.

W. D. GILLEAU, of the Canada Paper Co., Montreal, has gone on a two months' trip to Great Britain.

G. B. BURLAND, of the Burland Litho. Co., Montreal, has crossed the Ocean on a business and pleasure trip.

MR. ROY V. SOMERVILLE, dealer in American advertising for preferred Canadian papers, was in this city the first of last month.

THE federated printers of France number 6,000, their aim being self-help by union, protection against an unfair reduction of salaries, and uniformity of working hours.

ON the 21st of June, the longest day in the year, eleven of the comps. in *The Mail* composing room, were forced to abandon their cases, owing to the introduction of machines.

BLANK PRINTERS. If without our Patent Steel Furniture, order font, use two months, and if not a time-saver and money-maker, ship back, at our expense.—Morgans & Wilcox, Middleton, N.Y.

THE Canada Paper Co. report a strong demand for the better grades of papers. There seems to be a decided tendency on the part of printers to use only good paper in the various grades. They have a new line of note paper which is taking well, the name of which is *Charta Spartica*. It is shown in both rough and smooth finish.

AMONG the former Toronto boys who visited their old home after attending the meeting of the International were Messrs. Cullin, of Victoria, B.C., Henderson, of Denver, and McIntyre, of Tacoma.

"DOSSY" PEARCE, one of the *Mail's* Typograph operators, recently set 127,000 ems in 48 hours, while another operator, W. J. Sparrowhawk, put up 107,000 in the same time. The latter setting off the hook.

COMPOSING-STICKS of celluloid and vulcanized rubber are being used in Germany, and in France aluminium for the same purpose. The new sticks are very much lighter than those made of iron or brass.

A NUMBER of comps. have withdrawn their cards from T.T.I. No. 91, owing to the suspension of the *Evening Star* and the use of the Typograph in the *Mail*. Several of them have already crossed the border.

SAMUEL BYRNE has retired from the Maisonneuve Publishing & General Advertising Company, Montreal, and the business will be carried on in future by Daniel Gallagher and Joseph A. McCann, the last named being admitted as a partner in Byrne's place.

THE comps. who passed through here on their return from the International, express varied opinions regarding type setting machines. As a rule they admit that machines are coming, but are backward in expressing opinions as to their respective merits.

CALAIS, Lille, Lorient, Nantes and Limoges, cities and towns in France, have of late been typographically in a state of unrest. The employment of female hands and apprentices, to succeed the dismissal of journeymen, are the chief causes of the fermentation.

THE London Society of Compositors has lately purchased a building for its new home for \$55,000, and has transferred its offices to 7 and 9 St. Bride Street. It has also recently admitted a compositrice among its members for the first time—Mrs. Jane Pyne.

A NEW partnership in the old established wholesale stationery firm of Buntin, Reid & Co. has been signed. The partners in the concern will be John Y. Reid, Alexander Buntin, E. N. Williams and William Creighton. Mr. Reid will have a half share, Mr. Buntin one-quarter and each of the others one-eighth.

MR. J. C. WILSON, ex-M.P., Ald. James and Mr. William Bird, all of Montreal, had a startling experience on the 23rd of June. They were all seated in the smoking car of the C.P.R. train on their way out to Lachute to visit Mr. Wilson's new paper mill. When the train stopped at Mile End a well-dressed man stepped up and deliberately fired a revolver shot through the car window. Fortunately no one was hurt, but Mr. Wilson had a very narrow escape. The man who fired the shot disappeared and has not been seen since.

A FUSSY thing happened in an up country town recently. They had been casting some new rollers in the printing office, and the old composition, resembling huge bolognas, had been thrown out in the street. A party of Digger Indians pounced on the stuff and one of them discovered that it was sweet and pleasant to the taste, so their jaws were set to work, and each ate about a foot of old rollers smacking lips with considerable gusto. No one followed them up, so it is not known what effect this heavy diet had on their bowels of compassion. Certainly none but an Indian's "organs of indigestion" could stand such a load.

IN the newly improved newsroom of the Boston *Herald* has been placed a model machine for carrying copy. It is the Lamson cable copy carrier, and it is the only one of the kind in the world. It is a continuous structure of rods and bars running along the centre of each desk, passing under wheels at the last desk and running through the ceiling into the composing room above. The cars are detachable steel boxes, 5 x 4 inches in size. A lever sends them spinning to their destination, and on their return an ingenious contrivance switches each one in front of the man who sent it. Mr. Whiting, of the *Herald*, planned the invention, and it was made by the Lamson Consolidated Store Service Company, of Boston. It is commended by Mr. Whiting as "a working success, and a great saving of time in the handling of copy."

#### PRINTERS AS LABOR PEERS

THE New Zealand Government recently increased its supporters in the Upper House by electing a number of prominent labor leaders, amongst them two working printers. One of the new councillors, the Hon. John Rigg, is a compositor in the government printing office. He is thirty-four years of age, was born in Victoria, but came to New Zealand at an early age, and is a Roman Catholic. He owes his new position to the fact of his being president of the Wellington Trades and Labor Council. Another labor member, Mr. W. Jennings, is the foreman printer of the Auckland *Evening Star*. It was generally understood that the proprietor of that journal, which enjoys a large circulation in the north, would have been himself one of the nominees, and great was the surprise when it was discovered that he had been passed over in favor of the chief of his composing staff. It may be interesting to add that the appointment in each case is for seven years, and that there is an honorarium of £150 a year for the expenses incurred in attending Parliament.

SOME men never seem to get ahead in the world, and then again some men get too much "head."

### THE COUNTRY PRINTER

By W. D. HOWELLS, IN SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE FOR MAY

(Continued from last month.)

#### III.

IT may have been only a theory of his; it may have been a joke. He had a great many theories and a great many jokes, and together these always kept life interesting and sunshiny to him. With his serene temperament and his happy doubt of disaster in any form, he was singularly well fitted to encounter the hardships of a country editor's lot. But for the moment, and for what now seems a long time after the removal of our paper to the county-seat, these seemed to have vanished. The printing-office was the centre of civic and social interest; it was frequented by visitors at all times, and on publication day it was a scene of gayety that looks a little incredible in the retrospect. The place was as bare and rude as a printing-office seems always to be; the walls were splashed with ink and the floor littered with refuse newspapers; but, lured by the novelty of the affair, and attracted by a natural curiosity to see what manner of strange men the printers were, the school-girls and young ladies of the village flocked in, and made it like a scene of comic opera, with their pretty dresses and faces, their eager chatter, and lively energy in folding the papers and addressing them to the subscribers, while our fellow-citizens of the place, like the basses and baritones and tenors of the chorus, stood about and looked on with faintly sarcastic faces. It would not do to think now of what sorrow life and death have since wrought for all those happy young creatures, but I may recall without too much pathos the sensation when some citizen volunteer relaxed from his gravity far enough to relieve the regular mercenary at the crank of our huge power-press wheel, amid the applause of the whole company.

We were very vain of that press, which replaced the hand-press hitherto employed in printing the paper. This was of the style and make of the hand-press which superseded the Ramage press of Franklin's time; but it had been decided to signalize our new departure by the purchase of a power-press of modern contrivance, and of a speed fitted to meet the demands of a subscription list which might be indefinitely extended. A deputation of the leading politicians accompanied the editor to New York, where he went to choose the machine, and where he bought a second-hand Adams press of the earliest pattern and patent. I do not know, or at this date I would not undertake to say, just what principle governed his selection of this superannuated veteran; it seems not to have been very cheap; but possibly he had a prescience of the disabilities which were to task his ingenuity to the

very last days of that press. Certainly no man of less gift and skill could have coped with its infirmities, and I am sure that he thoroughly enjoyed nursing it into such activity as carried it hysterically through those far-off publication days. It had obscure functional disorders of various kinds, so that it would from time to time cease to act, and would have to be doctored by the hour before it would go on. There was probably some organic trouble, too, for though it did not really fall to pieces on our hands, it showed itself incapable of profiting by several improvements which he invented, and could, no doubt, have successfully applied to the press if its constitution had not been undermined. It went with a crank set in a prodigious fly-wheel, which revolved at a great rate, till it came to the moment of making the impression, when the whole mechanism was seized with such a reluctance as nothing but an heroic effort at the crank could overcome.

It finally made so great a draft upon our forces that it was decided to substitute steam for muscle in its operation, and we got a small engine, which could fully sympathize with the press in having seen better days. I do not know that there was anything the matter with the engine itself, but the boiler had some peculiarities which might well mystify the casual spectator. He could easily have satisfied himself that there was no danger of its blowing up, when he saw my brother feeding bran or corn-meal into its safety-valve, in order to fill up certain seams or fissures in it, which caused it to give out at the moments of the greatest reluctance in the press. But still, he must have had his misgivings of latent danger of some other kind, though nothing ever actually happened of a hurtful character. To this day, I do not know just where these seams or fissures were, but I think they were in the boiler head, and that it was therefore suffering from a kind of chronic fracture of the skull. What is certain is that, somehow, the engine and the press did always get us through publication day, and not only with safety but often with credit; so that not long ago, when I was at home, and my brother and I were looking over an old file of his paper, we found it much better printed than either of us expected; as well printed, in fact, as if it had been done on an old hand-press, instead of the steam-power press which it vaunted the use of. The wonder was that, under all the disadvantages the paper was ever printed on our steam-power press at all; it was little short of miraculous that it was legibly printed, and altogether unaccountable that such impressions as we found in that file could come from it. Of course, they were not average impressions; they were the very best out of the whole edition, and were as creditable as the editorial make-up of the sheet.

## IV.

On the first page was a poem, which I suppose I must have selected, and then a story, filling all the rest of the page, which my brother more probably chose; for he had a decided fancy in fiction, and had a scrap-book of inexhaustible riches, which he could draw upon indefinitely for old personal or family favorites. The next page was filled with selections of various kinds, and with original matter interesting to farmers. Then came a page of advertisements, and then the editorial page, where my father had given his opinions of the political questions which interested him, and which he thought it the duty of the country press to discuss, with sometimes essays in the field of religion and morals. There was a letter of two columns from Washington, contributed every week by the congressman who represented our district; and there was a letter from New York, written by a young lady of the county who was studying art under a master of portraiture then flourishing in the metropolis; it that is not stating it too largely for the renown of Thomas Hicks, as we see it in a vanishing perspective. The rest of this page, as well as the greater part of the next, was filled with general news, clipped from the daily papers, and partly condensed from them. There was also such local intelligence as offered itself, and communications on the affairs of the village and county; but the editor did not welcome tidings of new barns and abnormal vegetation, or flatter hens to lay eggs of unusual size, or with unusual frequency by undue public notice. All that order of minute neighborhood gossip which now makes the country paper a sort of open letter, was then unknown. He published marriages and deaths, and such obituary notices as the sorrowing fondness of friends prompted them to send him; and he introduced the custom of publishing births, after the English fashion, which the people took to kindly.

We had an ambition, even so remotely as that day, in the direction of the illustration which has since so flourished in the newspapers. Till then we had never gone farther in the art than to print a jubilant raccoon over the news of some Whig victory, or what was to the same purpose, an inverted cockerel in mockery of the beaten Democrats; but now we rose to the notion of illustrated journalism. We published a story with a wood-cut in it, and we watched to see how that cut came out all through the edition with a pride that was perhaps too exhaustive; at any rate, we never tried another.

Of course, much of the political writing in the paper was controversial, and was carried on with editors of other opinions elsewhere in the county, for we had no rival in our own village. In this, which has always been the vice of American journalism, the country press was then fully as provincial as the

great metropolitan journals are now. These may be more pitilessly personal in the conduct of their political discussions, and a little more skill'd in obloquy and insult; but the bickering went on in the country papers quite as idly and foolishly. I fancy nobody really cared for our quarrels, and that those who followed them were disgusted when they were more than merely wearied.

The space given to them might better have been given even to original poetry. This was sometimes accepted, but was not invited; though our sixth page commonly began with a copy of verse of some kind. Then came more prose selections, but never at any time accounts of murder or violent crimes, which the editor abominated in themselves and believed thoroughly corrupting. Advertisements of various kinds filled



"How and then a printer of this sort of type appeared among us for a little time."

out the sheet, which was simple and quiet in typography, wholly without the hand-bill display which now renders nearly all newspapers repulsive to the eye. I am rather proud, in my quality of printer, that this was a style which I established; and we maintained it against all advertisers, who then as now wished to out-shriek one another in large types and ugly wood-cuts.

It was by no means easy to hold a firm hand with the "live business men" of our village and county, who came out twice a year with the spring and fall announcements of their fresh stocks of goods, which they had personally visited New York to lay in; but one of the moral advantages of an enterprise so modest as ours was that the counting-room and the editorial room were united under the same head, and this head was the editor's. After all, I think we lost nothing by the bold stand we made in behalf of good taste, and at any rate we risked it when we had not the courage to cut off our delinquent subscribers.

We had business advertising from all the villages in the county, for the paper had a large circle of readers in each, and a certain authority, in virtue of representing the county seat. But a great deal of our advertising was of patent medicines, as the advertising still is in the country papers. It was very profitable, and so was the legal advertising, when we could get the money for it. The money had to come by order of court, and about half the time the order of court failed to include the costs of advertising. Then we did not get it, and we never got it, though we were always glad to get the legal advertising on the chance of getting the pay. It was not official, but was made up of the lawyers' notices to defendants of the suits brought against them. If it had all been paid for, I am not sure that we should now be in a position to complain of the ingratitude of the working-classes, or prepared to discuss from a vantage of personal experience, the duty of vast wealth to the community; but still we should have been better off for that money, as well as the money we lost by a large and loyal list of delinquent subscribers. From time to time there were stirring appeals to these adherents in the editorial columns, which did not stir them, and again the most flattering offers to take any kind of produce in payment of subscription. Sometimes my brother boldly tracked the delinquents to their lairs. In most cases I fancy they escaped whatever arts he used to take them; many died peacefully in their beds afterward, and their debts follow them to this day. Still he must have now and then got money from them and I am sure he did get different kinds of "trade." Once, I remember, he brought back in the tail of his wagon a young pig, a pig so very young that my father pronounced it "merely an organization." Whether it had been wrought to frenzy or not by the strange experiences of its journey, I cannot say, but as soon as it was set down on the ground it began to run madly, and kept on running till it fell and perished miserably. It had been taken for a year's subscription, and it was quite as if we had lost a delinquent subscriber.

## v.

Upon the whole, our paper was an attempt at conscientious and self-respectful journalism; it addressed itself seriously to the minds of its readers; it sought to form their tastes and opinions. I do not know how much it influenced them, if it influenced them at all, and as to any effect beyond the circle of its subscribers, that cannot be imagined, even in a fond retrospect. But since no good effort is altogether lost, I am sure that this endeavor must have had some tacit effect; and I am very sure that no one got harm from a sincerity of conviction that devoted itself to the highest interest of the reader, that appealed to nothing base, and flattered nothing foolish

in him. It went from our home to the homes of the people in a very literal sense, for my father usually brought his exchanges from the office at the end of his day there, and made his selections or wrote his editorials while the household work went on around him, and his children gathered about the same lamp, with their books or their jokes; there were apt to be a good many of both.

Our county was the most characteristic of that remarkable group of counties in northern Ohio, called the Western Reserve, and forty years ago the population was almost purely New England in origin, either by direct settlement from Connecticut, or indirectly after the sojourn of a generation in New York State. We were ourselves from southern Ohio, where the life was then strongly tinged by the adjoining life of Kentucky and Virginia, and we found these transplanted Yankees cold and blunt in their manners; but we did not undervalue their virtues. They formed in that day a leaven of right thinking and feeling which was to leaven the whole lump of the otherwise pro-slavery or indifferent State; and I suppose that outside of the anti-slavery circles of Boston, there was nowhere in the country a population so resolute and so intelligent in its political opinions. They were very radical in every way, and hospitable to novelty of all kinds. I imagine that they tested more new religions and new patents than have been even heard of in less inquiring communities. When we came among them they had lately been swept by the fires of spiritualism, which had left behind a great deal of smoke and ashes where the inherited New England orthodoxy had been. A belief in the saving efficacy of spirit phenomena still exists among them, but not, I fancy, at all in the former measure, when nearly every household had its medium, and the tables that tipped outnumbered the tables that did not tip. The old New York *Tribune*, which was circulated in the county almost as widely as our own paper, had deeply schooled the people in the economics of Horace Greeley, and they were ready for any sort of millenium, religious or industrial, that should arrive, while they looked after the main chance in the meantime. They were temperate, hard-working, hard-thinking folks, who dwelt on their scattered farms, and came up to the County Fair once a year, when they were apt to visit the printing-office and pay for their papers. In spite of the English superstition to the contrary, the average American is not very curious, if one may judge from his reticence in the presence of things strange enough to excite question; and if our craft surprised these witnesses they rarely confessed it.

They thought it droll, as people of the simpler occupations are apt to think all the more complex arts, and one of them went so far in expression of his humorous conception as to say, after a long stare at



one of the compositors dodging and pecking at the type in his case, "Like an old hen picking up millet." This sort of silence and this sort of comment, both exasperated the printers, who took their revenge as they could. They fed it full, once, when a country subscriber's horse, tied before the office, crossed his hind legs and sat down in his harness like a tired man, and they proposed to go out and offer him a chair, to take him a glass of water, and ask him to come inside. But fate did not often give them such innings; they mostly had to create their chances of reprisal, but they did not mind that.

There was always a good deal of talk going on, but although we were very ardent politicians, the talk was not political. When it was not mere banter, it was mostly literary; we disputed about authors among ourselves, and with the village wits who dropped in. There were several of these who were readers, and they liked to stand with their backs to our stove and challenge opinion concerning Holmes and Poe, Irving, Macaulay, Pope and Byron, Dickens and Shakespeare.

It was Shakespeare who was oftenest on our tongues; indeed, the printing office of former days had so much affinity with the theatre, that compositors and comedians were easily convertible; and I have seen our printers engaged in hand-to-hand combats with column rules, two up and two down, quite like the real bouts on the stage. Religion entered a good deal into our discussions, which my father, the most tolerant of men, would not suffer to become irreverent, even on the lips of law-students bathing themselves in the fiery spirit of Tom Paine. He was willing to meet anyone in debate of moral, religious or political questions, and the wildest-haired Comeouter, the most ruthless sceptic, the most credulous spiritualist, found him ready to take them seriously, even when it was hard not to take them in joke.

It was part of his duty, as publisher of the paper, to bear patiently with another kind of frequenter; the type of farmer who thought he wished to discontinue his paper, and really wished to be talked into continuing it. I think he rather enjoyed letting the subscriber talk himself out, and carrying him from point to point in his argument, always consenting that he knew best what he wanted to do, but skilfully persuading him at last that a home paper was more suited to his needs than any city substitute. Once I could have given the heads of his reasoning, but they are gone from me now. The editor was especially interested in the farming of the region, and I think it was partly owing to the attention he called to the question that its character was so largely changed. It is still a dairy country, but now it exports grain, and formerly the farmers had to buy their flour.

He did not neglect any real local interest in his purpose of keeping his readers alive to matters of

more general importance, but he was fortunate in addressing himself to people who cared for the larger, if remoter, themes he loved. In fact, as long as slavery remained a question in our politics, they had a seriousness and dignity which the present generation can hardly imagine; and men of all callings felt themselves uplifted by the appeal this question made to their reason and conscience. My father constantly taught in his paper that if slavery could be kept out of the territories it would perish, and, as I have said, this was the belief of the vast majority of his readers. They were more or less fervid in it, according to their personal temperaments; some of them were fierce in their convictions, and some humorous, but they were all in earnest. The editor sympathized more with those who took the true faith gaily. All were agreed that the Fugitive Slave Law was to be violated at any risk; it would not have been possible to take an escaping slave out of that country without bloodshed, but the people would have enjoyed outwitting his captors more than destroying them. Even in the great John Brown times, when it was known that there was a deposit of his impracticable pikes somewhere in our woods, and he and his followers came and went among us on some mysterious business of insurrectionary aim, the affair had its droll aspects, which none appreciated more keenly than the Quaker-born editor. With his cheerful scepticism, he could never have believed that any harm or danger would come of it all; and I think he would have been hardly surprised to wake up any morning and find that slavery had died suddenly during the night, of its own iniquity.

He was like all country editors then, and I dare say now, in being a printer as well as an editor, and he took a full share in the mechanical labors. These were formerly much more burdensome, for twice or three times the composition was then done in the country offices. At the present day the country printer buys of a city agency his paper already printed on one side, and he gets it for the cost of the blank paper, the agency finding its account in the advertisements it puts in. Besides this patent inside, as it is called, the printer buys stereotyped selections of other agencies, which offer him almost as wide a range of matter as the exchange newspapers he used to choose from. The few columns left for local gossip and general news, and for whatever editorial comment he cares to make on passing events, can be easily filled up by two compositors. But in my time we had three journeymen at work and two or three girl compositors, and commonly a boy-apprentice besides. The paper was richer in a personal quality, and the printing office was unquestionably more of a school. After we began to take girl-apprentices it became co-educative, as far as they cared to profit by it; but I think it did not serve to widen their thoughts or quicken their wits

as it did those of the men. They looked to their craft as a living, not as a life, and they had no pride in it. They did not learn the whole trade, as the journeymen had done, and served only such a brief apprenticeship as fitted them to set type. They were then paid by the thousand ems, and their earnings were usually as great at the end of a month as at the end of a year. But the boy who came up from his father's farm, with the wish to be a printer because Franklin had been one, and with the intent of making the office his university began by sweeping it out, by hewing wood and carrying water for it. He became a roller-boy, and served long behind the press before he was promoted to the case, where he learned slowly and painfully to set type. His wage was forty dollars a year and two suits of clothes, for three years, when his wander-years, (too often literally) began. He was glad of being inky and stained with the marks of his trade; he wore a four-cornered paper cap, in the earlier stages of his service, and even an apron. When he became a journeyman, he clothed himself in black doeskin and broadcloth, and put on a silk hat, and the thinnest-soled fine boots that could be found, and comported himself as much like a man of the world as he knew how to do. His work brought him acquainted with a vast variety of interests, and kept his mind as well as his hands employed; he could not help thinking about them, and he did not fail to talk about them. His comments had generally a slightly acid flavor, and his constant survey of the world, in the "map of busy life" always under his eye, bred in him the contempt of familiarity. He was none the less agreeable for that, and the jokes that flew about from case to case in our office were something the editor would be the last man to interfere with. He read or wrote on through them all, and now and then turned from his papers to join in them.

*(To be concluded next month.)*

### PLAIN PRINTING

IT is of interest to note the various styles of display composition in covers, title-pages, circulars and advertisements. Under the influence of very critical direction of work essentially of an artistic character, a permanent influence for good has been exerted to a certain extent, so that certain classes of commercial work possess great merit. On the other hand, there have never been greater fallacies as to what is really artistic printing. With the numerous appliances for bending rules and routing out erratic figures, some of the most outlandish monstrosities have been inflicted upon the patient public. As a familiar example of such work one can readily recall some catalogue cover in which the compositor has felt called upon to include nearly all the fancy type which the office affords, and to spend hours in

arranging labyrinths of rule work. Such work may have met with reluctant approval from the customer. The one argument in its support, however, is the evasive remark that it meets with the "popular taste."

Such an idea of composition calls for a very vigorous protest. Supposing a customer does accept some title-page all bedecked with stars and flourishes around the firm name, there is an after effect in which comparison with some sensible composition shows up the erratic work in its true standard.

There are many absolute facts connected with the style of composition which are of more importance than simply catering to the "popular taste." Nearly every class of printing must have some lasting value, and in the case of much work it is certainly to be hoped that it will always be a permanent factor.

When one has occasion to review some work of a few years past, there is often occasion for wonder as to why things should have been done in such a way. On the other hand, there is no greater pleasure than in the examination of past work in which one can take satisfaction.

When one realizes that every piece of composition is not simply for immediate service, but forms a part in establishing the character and permanent reputation of the office, there should certainly be serious thought in regard to this work. To be simply on the level, meeting the "popular taste," is to retrograde, for in the meantime others are producing artistic and advanced styles of work. Aside from the mere means of livelihood, the art of printing possesses elements which call for the noblest expressions of character. The art possesses beauties of proportionment and coloring of the same importance as in sculpture and painting.

Perhaps many of the objectionable features in current printing are due to the misapprehension of the term "artistic." Is it not often the case that the printer confuses the term with "decorative" or "fancy" work? Yet the safest and truest view of the matter must be in the line of plain printing. Good types, well proportioned, and with occasional decorative features, are the elements which tend most to the advancement of the art. *Engraver and Printer.*

THERE are some curious advertisements in the *Western Undertaker*. "Funeral Trains" are advertised by five railroads running out of Chicago. These trains are run at special hours to different suburban cemeteries. Two new style coffins are advertised with this display heading: "A Pair of Them. Winners they have been! Winners they now are!" A "Patent Burial Shoe" and an "Undertaker's Soap" appear side by side among the gruesome exhibits. In the advertising columns is also included one announcement of a patent medicine.

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### HINTS TO YOUNG WRITERS

**R**EPORTERS should be popular, polite and universally liked. To be this, sociability and a pleasant address are essential. Make friends. Get on the right side of all the prominent men you are required to write about. "Stand in" with them. Do not be over-polite. Do not make your familiarity offensive. Never betray a confidence. It is always better to get the consent of the interviewed before you publish an important statement coming from him. Do not misrepresent him in an effort trying to make the article sensational and spicy. It will not pay you to do it, considering the question on the grounds of policy, not mentioning the moral side. You may enjoy a transitory brilliancy in a misrepresented, flashy exclusive article and may be able to give your readers some very startling statements, but rest assured such honors falsely won will not long continue. Publish a garbled statement or extravagant account concerning some prominent man whom you have been fortunate enough to have unburden himself, and you may expect nothing but contempt and snubs from that individual the next time you approach him for an interview. False and extravagant statements discount the reliability of a paper. Truth forces itself sooner or later to the front, and readers will accuse a paper addicted to publishing garbled statements and fakes with being unreliable and the accuracy of its news items not to be depended on. Such a paper will soon lose its reputation, which costs years to build up, but which a single untrue item may sometimes destroy.

Do not attempt to be poetic in writing a news item of an everyday occurrence. This is an error which not a few reporters commit. They are so anxious to throw an "individuality" into the write-up of an item. And this "individuality" is often of the merest nonsense and veritable rot. In these days of progressive newspaperdom there is little space to spare to beautiful and often meaningless phrases and grand rhetorical flights. Avoid going into raptures over the loveliness of a bride who is the acme of homeliness. Write the wedding up in the choicest language you know how, but over-complimenting is distasteful to the subject of the article and offensive to the reader. If an unusually sad death occurs (all deaths are sad, remember), and concerns some prominent or good man, then a dash of pathos here and there run in among the news of the article will lend an additional attraction and interest.

Avoid the use of too many adjectives. Call things by their proper names. Avoid fulsome praise and flattery in your art or theatrical criticisms. Do not rest satisfied with one person's account of, for instance, an accident. Interview as many conversant with it as your time will permit. Four men may be

in a railway wreck and yet each will give an entirely different account of the casualty. Sift down your data. Pick out what is best, and use only the choicest bits. Write it up in graphic and attractive style and you need not fear that the reporter on your rival paper will have the better account.—Leslie C. Beard.

### FEMALE JOURNALISTS

**W**OMEN are gradually creeping into journalism and making for themselves a reputation and a decent salary. In Toronto there are several women attached to the newspaper staffs, who do good work of a special character, but as yet none have commenced on reportorial work, the dredging of that department being too severe or unpleasant for them. The *Chicago Post* recently referred as follows to Miss Mary Pollock Nimmo, well-known to many of the correspondents who attended the Dominion Parliament a few years ago:—

"Miss Nimmo was assigned to the mining department of the *New York Mail and Express*. It was wholly unexpected and at first she was appalled. However, she was not born in Ayrshire, Scotland, without inheriting Scotch pluck, which in this instance stood her in good stead. She procured a list of the New Yorkers interested in mines, and then proceeded to go through the mining exchanges, and the same afternoon there appeared in the paper a few quotations of outputs and prices, together with half a column of mining intelligence. At the time the *Commercial Advertiser* was the only New York paper besides the *Mail and Express* that maintained a similar department, and it was with fear and trembling that Miss Nimmo the next day scanned its mining column, expecting to see all that she had said contradicted, when to her relief she found most of her half column reprinted. Miss Nimmo has done a great variety of newspaper work, and in whatever she has undertaken she has been successful. At one time she was associate editor of the *Tribune*, of Hamilton, Ontario, and devoted herself to writing editorials on foreign politics. She was the first woman to be given a seat in the reporters' gallery of the House of Parliament. Miss Nimmo now resides in a pretty home on McPherson Square, Washington, left her by her mother, and is engaged in special service for the *Washington Post* and Cincinnati *Enquirer*. She is a beautiful and most agreeable woman, and during the years of her journalistic career has, by invariably adhering to her rule never to speak ill of any one, and at the same time adroitly and energetically covering news fields, become one of the most popular women in her profession."

The *Public Ledger*, Philadelphia, recently sent to its subscribers a *fac-simile* copy of its first issue, published "Friday Morning, March 25th, 1836."

### RECENT AMERICAN INVENTIONS

AMONG the inventions recently registered or patented in the United States are the following:—

WALTER J. SMITH, of Leamington, Canada, a patent on a color-printing device. Boxes of the form of the characters to be printed are filled with the proper colored ink and a porous material. The ink passes by capillary attraction to the top of the box, where the paper receives the impression.

CHARLES S. TRAVIS, of Minneapolis, a patent for a matrix making machine. The apparatus is electrically actuated and successively indents and spaces the letters or characters in a sheet of pasteboard or like material for stereotyping. The apparatus is said to be so constructed as to render possible greater speed, more accurate feeding of the sheet and greater perfection of work.

A SECOND matrix making machine was patented by Casper S. Redfield, of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The device is similar in nature to those previously patented by the same party. It forms stereotype matrices by the successive impression of independent type dies.

JOHN HOOKER, of Beccles, England, received a patent for an indicator mechanism for typesetting machines, to show whether a line of type set up is too long or too short. The continuous line of type, as it comes from the composing machine, travels along below two catenas carried by slides which are drawn forward by the type; when enough type are advanced to form a line, if the line needs justification, an electric current rings a warning bell.

Two residents of Bridgeport, Conn., who are co-patentees, have invented a printer's galley which combines a side stick made in sections with a head having a slot through it from side to side, and extending from side piece to side piece of the galley. One of the sections of the side stick abuts against the head, the other being provided with a hook engaging the bottom, and also with suitable means for locking the side stick at each end.

THE Dexter Folder Co. have four machines in operation at the World's Fair. Publishers who use a press without a Folder should see these machines. One will save its cost in a short time in any of the larger offices. A special feature of all the machines shown is a delicate electrical attachment by means of which, no matter how carelessly the feeding is done, the machine will fold each sheet accurately.

THE editor of a little Western daily, that recently expired, wrote the following epitaph for it: "Here lies a daily newspaper, killed in a square fight with a weekly newspaper town." Such "unequal contests" are not of rare occurrence.

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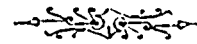


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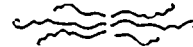
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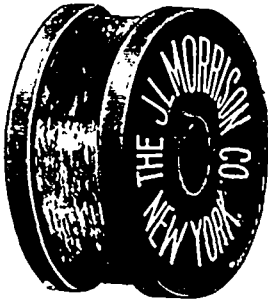
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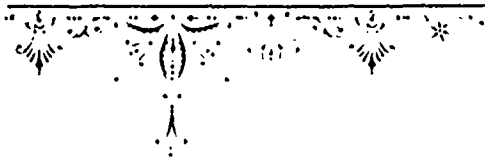
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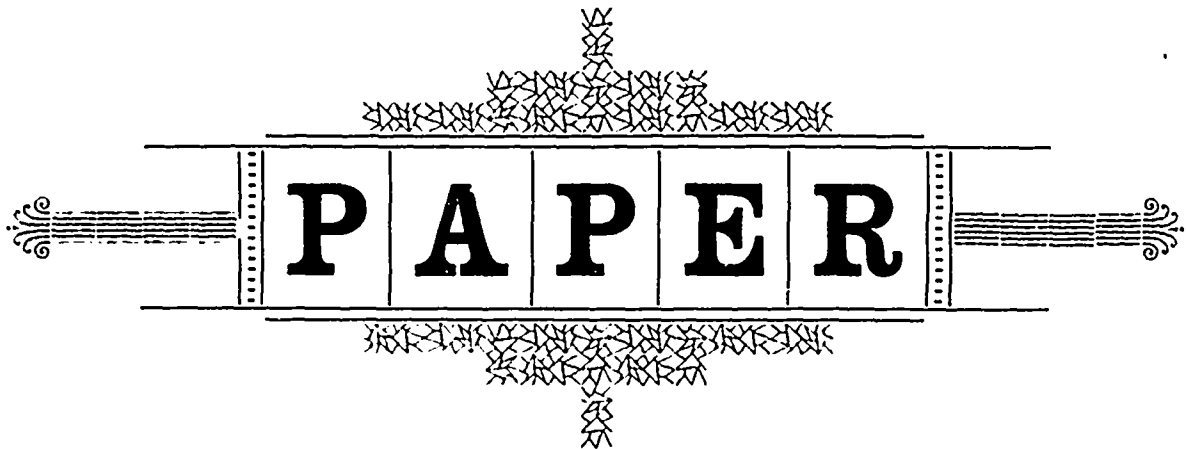
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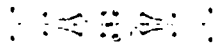
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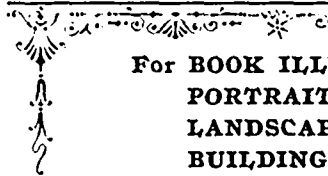
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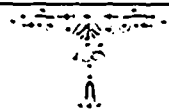
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## - NOTICE -

**FIRST PRIZE** has been awarded Sanborn Machinery at every prominent and international exhibition held during the past forty years

As the Largest Manufacturers in the World of Paper Cutting and Book Binding Machinery, we intended to have made a most elaborate display of our products at the coming Columbian Exposition. Our desire was to exhibit, for the FIRST TIME, several entirely new machines of great interest to the trade, in connection with a large number of our well-known standard machines.

We were, however, unable to secure adequate space, and the insufficient amount that was finally assigned us came so late, that we were ultimately forced to withdraw from the Exposition entirely. Fortunately, our inability to make an exhibit will not prevent those interested, who visit the World's Fair City, from carefully examining a Complete Line of our very latest and most improved machines, if they desire so to do.

Our Warerooms in Chicago are the Largest in the World in our line of business, covering a floor space of nearly eight thousand square feet. In these warerooms we constantly have on exhibition a stock of Paper Cutting, Book Binding and Paper Box Making Machinery that for size and variety has never been equalled. In dark weather our own electric light plant affords perfect illumination.

The noise and general confusion of a vast exposition building, filled with moving machinery, make it impossible for the careful buyer to study properly any specific tool.

Through the medium of this advertisement we extend a Cordial Invitation to all interested to call at our warerooms, where a most critical examination can be made under the very best auspices.

Our goods are known and used Throughout the World, and are recognized as the Standard of Quality. Our experience of over Forty Years as Manufacturers of High Class Goods Only is sufficient guarantee that all claims we make can be substantiated, and we take pride in maintaining to the fullest extent the reputation we have made.

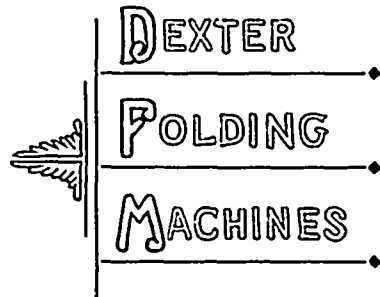
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WORLD'S FAIR ANNOUNCEMENT \* \* \*

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In advocating the sale of any kind of machinery, no fairer proposition can be made than that of inviting an actual comparison with competing machines.

The World's Columbian Exposition offers just this opportunity and should be made the most of by those contemplating the purchase of Folding Machinery. We have seven machines in actual operation, among them one of our

**Rapid Drop Roll Book Folding Machines.**

In this machine we

**Register the Sheets by an Automatic Electrical Attachment,**

which gives absolute register at high speed.

A most careful investigation of these machines is requested. We are giving special attention to the development of modern labor-saving Paper Folding Machinery. Write for printed matter.

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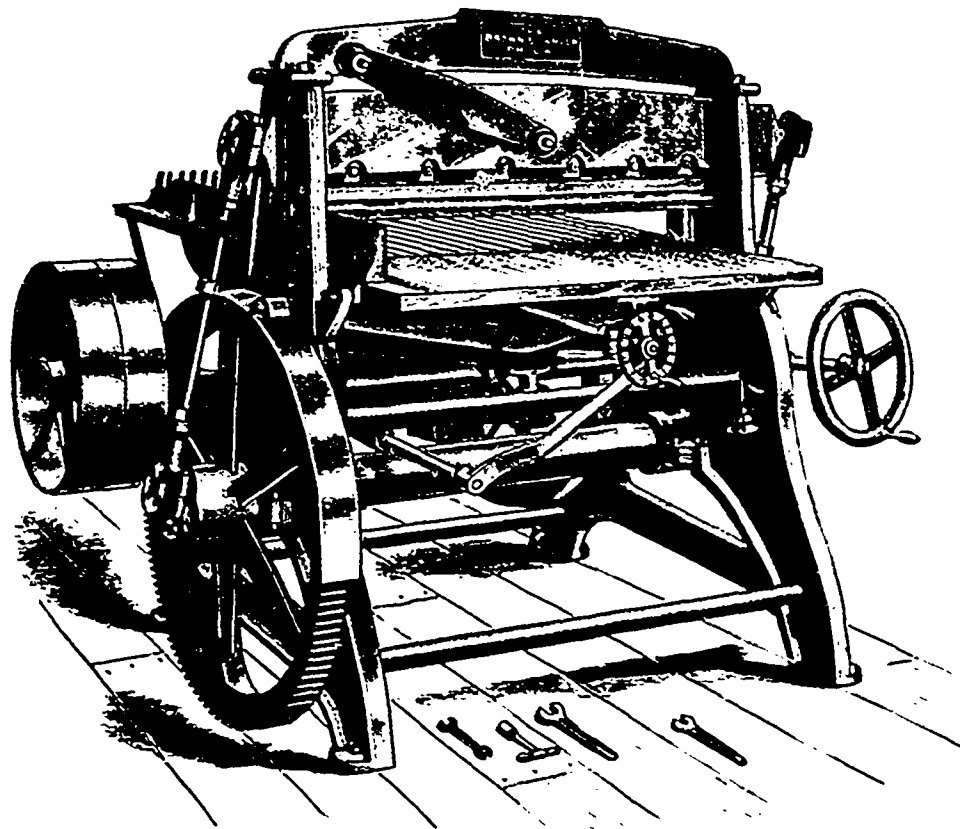
- New York: 49 Wall Street.
- Boston: 149 Congress Street, Room 10.
- London, Eng.: 21 Cheapside, E.C.
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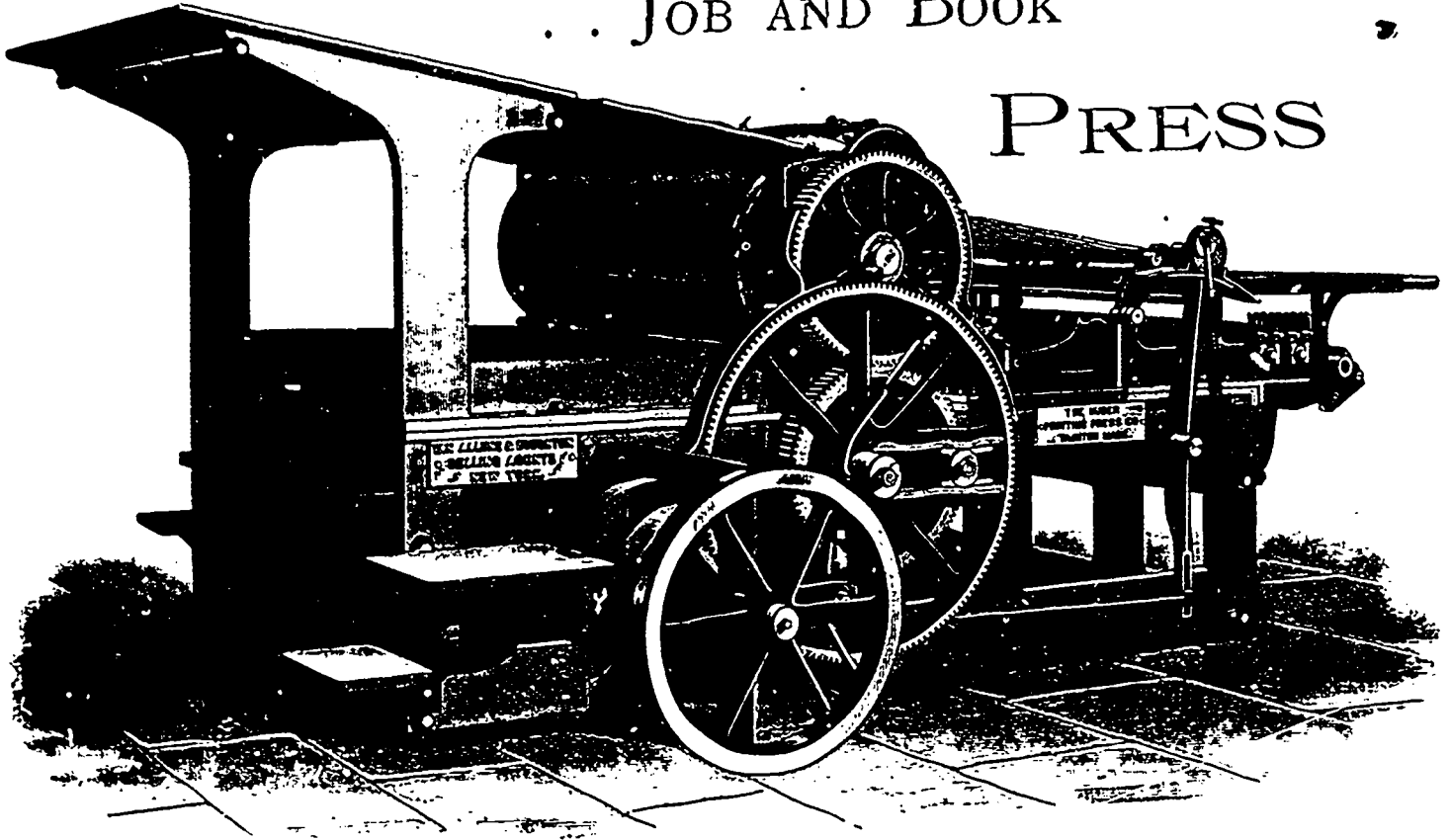
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| 3     | 4                             | 37 x 57 in.         | 34 x 54 in.     | 3                            | 4-roller         | 13 ft. 6 in.    | 8 ft. 7 in.      | 5 ft. 5 in.   | " 7 1/2 "         | 1,300 to 1,800 |
| 4     | 3                             | 41 x 57 in.         | 38 x 54 in.     | 4                            | 3-roller         | 14 ft. 2 in.    | 8 ft. 7 in.      | 5 ft. 5 in.   | " 8 "             | 1,200 to 1,700 |
| 5     | 4                             | 37 1/2 x 52 in.     | 34 x 48 in.     | 5                            | 4-roller         | 13 ft. 6 in.    | 8 ft. 7 in.      | 5 ft. 5 in.   | " 7 "             | 1,300 to 1,900 |
| 6     | 3                             | 41 1/2 x 52 in.     | 38 x 48 in.     | 6                            | 3-roller         | 14 ft. 2 in.    | 8 ft. 7 in.      | 5 ft. 5 in.   | " 7 1/2 "         | 1,200 to 1,800 |

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