JACOB MANZ, PRESIDENT OF THE MANZ ENGRAVING COMPANY.

In the engraving and printing industry of America, no name commands greater respect than that of Jacob Manz, president of the company which has borne his name for almost a half-century, and whose portrait is presented herewith.

Mr. Manz reached Chicago from his birthplace, in Switzerland, in 1855, and has steadily kept pace with the marvelous development of the engravers' art from that day to the present. About the close of the Civil War, Mr. Manz established himself as a wood-engraver at Madison and Dearborn streets, where he continued until the great fire of 1871 swept away every vestige of the business district. Undaunted, Mr. Manz reestablished his business on the West Side, moving back to the business center as soon as suitable quarters were available.

At La Salle and Washington streets, soon after the fire, he formed a partnership with Alfred Bersbach, present treasurer and general manager of the company, which has continued harmoniously and uninterruptedly to the present day. In the very earliest developments of the processes of zinc and copper etching, Messrs. Manz and Bersbach were quick to discern its tremendous possibilities, and, taking in with them Frederick D. Montgomery, an expert engraver, and present secretary of the company, the name Manz soon came to occupy the proud position in the trade which it still enjoys. About ten years ago a consolidation was effected with the printing firm of Hollister Brothers, and three years ago the company erected for its exclusive occupancy a steel, brick and glass structure, at Irving Park boulevard and Ravenswood Park, less than a half-hour's ride from Chicago's business center. The equipment is said by competent judges to embrace every known requisite for the production of the highest grade of illustrated advertising literature. The building occupies one-half of a city block, and some idea of its commodiousness can be gained from the statement that several automobiles can be photographed at one time under the gigantic skylight in the photograph gallery. Electric elevators raise the heaviest machines or vehicles to the floor of the gallery, where artists can study every detail while retouching the photographs or making the wash drawings from which half-tones are made. A complete power-plant in duplicate was installed — engines, boilers, dynamos, etc. — and, in the three years since moving into the new building, not a single hour has been lost through power troubles. Manufacturers who have had their catalogues delayed in less favorably equipped plants will readily appreciate the advantage which the Manz company has in this respect.

Besides the Manz company's leadership as black-and-white engravers and printers, their colorgravures are now recognized the world over as perfect examples of the highest development in this particular branch of the art. Especially does this apply to carpet and rug catalogues, as well as to more difficult scientific and art subjects, reproductions of paintings, etc.

Through his sons, Paul H. and Adolph W., at the head of the correspondence and half-tone divisions, respectively, President Manz keeps in close touch with the vast establishment of which he is the head, although a large share of the details are in charge of the vice-president, William C. Hollister, who has acted in that capacity for the past several years.

The company's general offices are at the Irving Park boulevard plant, but the selling force makes its headquarters at the down-town sales and art display rooms, which occupy the top floor of the Majestic Theater building, 75 Monroe street. Here also a number of artists are employed in addition to the larger force at the plant, and sketches and suggestions are always available here as at the general offices.

MECHANICAL METHODS AS VITAL AS COSTS.

The Wood & Nathan Company, 1 Madison avenue, New York, having taken up the selling agency of the Unitype machine, began collecting information on the performances of the various composing machines. They informed the trade by advertising in the trade journals, by circulars and by letters, that they had important disclosures to make regarding "The Matter with the Printing Business." The date was set for these disclosures, and then the time was postponed for fifteen days. It came finally in a pamphlet of sixteen pages and cover, analyzing the subject of
machine composition. The argument is directed to show that with the low cost of foundry type, the Unity machine has a flexibility that no other machine possesses. The Unity machine does not compel the printer to take up methods which are foreign to his training, but with cheap type and type of foundry excellence it adds its power of speedy composition without disorganizing the methods of the composing-room. The arguments are presented in the pamphlet. They should be taken up and discussed on their merits by every employing printers’ organization. They tend to clarify the murky atmosphere of mechanical method, placing facts before assertion and giving the printer an assurance of selective freedom.

TICKET-PRINTING MADE POSSIBLE FOR ALL PRINTERS.

The Wetter Numbering Machine Company, of Brooklyn, New York, are the sole owners and original designers of a process whereby ticket-printing is made possible for all printers.

Their one-inch typographic numbering machine (one inch in width), which can be locked up with the type-matter, and any number of minute machines used together in a form, was devised for the express purpose of printing tickets, such as street-car transfers, railroad tickets, lunch and restaurant tickets, etc., and by reason of the rapid and tremendous output made possible by the use of the Wetter Typographic Numbering Machine printers can compete with keenest competition, and at the same time build up a profitable business even as a side line.

The Wetter Numbering Machine Company will be glad to supply any printer interested in equipping his press with their numbering machine, and full particulars, estimates, etc., will be gladly forwarded upon request.

OSWEGO CUTTING MACHINES IN THE ORIENT.

China is about to start to make paper money for herself, and it is interesting to know that Oswego Machine Works has just shipped some Oswego cutting machinery to the Chinese Imperial Bureau of Engraving and Printing at Peking, China, which has been established for this purpose. The order for this machine was given directly to Oswego Machine Works by the Chinese government, which sent Dr. Chin Tao out last year to make an investigation of the world’s best machinery and appliances. R. Hoe & Co.’s presses and Oswego cutting machinery were selected after an expert comparison had been made. Dr. Chin Tao also visited the United States Government Bureau of Engraving and Printing, at Washington, D. C., where practically all of the paper money of the United States produced at Washington is made on R. Hoe & Co.’s and Oswego Machine Works’ machines. This confirms what is already known, that Japan’s method of selecting and utilizing the best appliances the world offers in every line of effort is being adopted by China. Peking is a city of over a million inhabitants, with waterworks, telephones, electric lights, etc., and among other growing cities of the new China, Shanghai not only has an elaborate trolley system and all the other modern conveniences, but also has automobile fire-engines. The “Heathen Chinese” is a fiction. Modern educated Chinamen are gentlemen of the highest learning and ability, and when they use the instruments of commercial nations more generally the world will gain an increased production of all civilized necessities.

THE INLAND TYPE FOUNDRY ON HISTORIC GROUND.

The Chicago branch of the Inland Type Foundry opened its new offices, at 175 Monroe street, on January 3, with a reception from 10 to 5 o’clock. The affair was a success. It was well managed and well attended. The new home is the handsomest, best arranged and best equipped printers’ supply house in the North. The furnishings are solid mahogany, and the walls and fixtures are finished to match. The floor is mosaic, relieved here and there by Turkish rugs. Art brass electroliers contrast pleasantly with the mahogany wood. The offices have every convenience of modern business practice, including dustproof cabinets for stock. Mr. Kellogg, who has been with the company since 1892, is manager of the Chicago branch, and the three Schraubstaller brothers — William A., Oswald and Carl — who organized the Inland Type Foundry, are still its officers. These premises at 175 Monroe street, now so modern in their equipment, have much historic interest for printers, as the place that Sterling P. Rounds built in 1872 as a manufactory for printing-presses. Rounds was one of the pioneer printers and typefounders of Chicago. He started in business as early as 1851, with James J. Langdon, who had established a few years before the first printers’ supply house in Chicago. There was no other concern in the field, and their stock could be laid out on a 6 by 10 table. Rounds was in the printing business here for thirty years, in several capacities. He began to publish, in 1857, Rounds’ Printers’ Cabinet, which, in its day and before the Inland Printer was started, was the most progressive and admired printing-trade journal in existence. Ten years later he began the first printing-press factory in Chicago, in which was made the once well-known Taylor cylinder press. When the big Chicago fire destroyed his warehouse, on State street, he found it necessary to erect a building of his own. This he did at 175 Monroe street, the Inland Type Foundry’s present quarters, and continued the business until 1884. Rounds himself left the active work of the manufactory when he was appointed public printer by President Garfield, in 1882. His son undertook the management of the concern after his father’s appointment, but two years later the firm went out of business. Rounds did not return to Chicago after the expiration of his appointment, but went to Omaha as a proprietor of the Republican and as president of the Northwestern Type Foundry of Omaha. He died in 1887.

It is indeed interesting to view these historic quarters of a progressive pioneer printer in luxurious modern furnishings and equipment.

MORE PRINTERS MAKING THEIR OWN TYPE.

Printers who have followed the advertisements of the Thompson Type Machine Company, which have been appearing in The Inland Printer and other trade journals, have been impressed with the air of confidence with which the manufacturers of the Thompson Typecaster are directing the attention of printers to their machine. The record it has made should inspire confidence, as well as the fact that it is backed by men prominent in the printing world, whose very names are an assurance of honesty and integrity.

It is a remarkable fact that the purchasers of the first lot of Thompson Typecasters are to-day the first purchasers of additional machines, the second lot to come through the factory being now ready for shipment. Not a single Thompson Typecaster has ever been displaced by