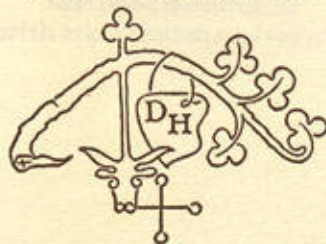


# PRIMITIVE PAPERMAKING

AN ACCOUNT OF A MEXICAN  
SOJOURN AND OF A VOYAGE  
TO THE PACIFIC ISLANDS IN  
SEARCH OF INFORMATION,  
IMPLEMENTS, AND SPECIMENS  
RELATING TO THE MAKING &  
DECORATING OF BARK-PAPER.

BY  
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CHILlicothe, OHIO  
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A NOTE REGARDING THE TYPE EMPLOYED IN PRINTING  
THIS BOOK AND THE SPECIMENS OF PRIMITIVE PAPERS  
USED AS EXAMPLES \* \* \* \* \*

In my two former books relating to papermaking I mentioned no particulars concerning the type in which they were printed, but since a number of bibliophiles have asked for information concerning it, I have set down here some details.

The first punch for the fount was cut in 1912 at Chillicothe, and about ten of the letter punches were completed there, the remaining number being cut at Marlborough-on-Hudson, where also the matrices were struck and justified, and the type cast. The first book in which this hand-cut and hand-cast type was used appeared in 1915, a sixteen-page quarto printed on hand-made paper from my own mill.

So that those experienced in modern type making, with the myriad mechanical inventions and appliances employed, may know something of the difficulties of producing a fount of type entirely by hand, I will state that the mechanical aids used by me were so meagre that the money value of my entire foundry,—tools, materials, and equipment—amounted to less than the cost of one of my books; but, as will be seen, the labour involved was considerable and over three years' time was required before the fount was ready for the press. The text-book which I used throughout the work and which furnished me most information was "Mechanick Exercises: or, the Doctrine of Handy-Works, Applied to the Art of Letter-Cutting", of 1683, by Joseph Moxon, Hydrographer to King Charles II. All my punches were cut directly in the steel without the aid of preliminary drawings or enlarged photographs. The matrices were struck by the use of an anvil and hammer, a most primitive method. The type casting was accomplished in a hand-mould of my own construction, but patterned from one of the eighteenth century which was presented to me in 1910 by the firm of H. W. Caslon and Company while I was attending the old Finsbury Technical College in London. The lower-case "m" was the most difficult to cast,—the average result being about one well-formed type to fifty castings. In all, 35,000 usable pieces of type were cast and finished for printing. The type is cast neither on the point system nor on the American height-to-paper, and has never been used except in the five books that have been issued from my private press. The punches, matrices, moulds, and tools which were employed in the making of this type are now in the Smithsonian Institution and after the cessation of my publishing the type itself will be destroyed. The design and character of the type have received both favourable and unfavourable criticism, but inasmuch as bibliographers have, to my knowledge, written about it in seven languages and in sixteen countries of the world, I feel that the accomplishment has at least created interest.

It remains to add a word of explanation concerning the illustrative material