

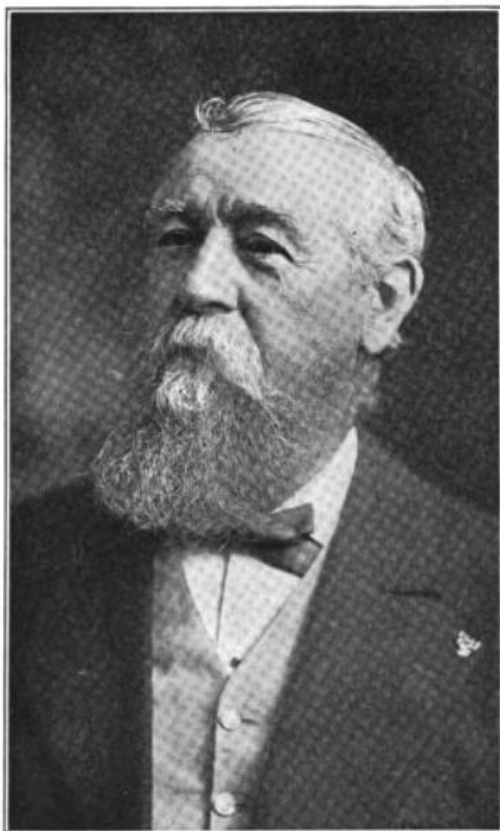
# ATTACHMENT G

JAMES L. LEE OBITUARY & HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

### JAMES L. LEE PASSES ON

MR. JAMES L. LEE, of Los Angeles, Cal., president of the Challenge Machinery Company, Grand Haven, Mich., died at the latter city of pneumonia, after an illness of but five days.

Mr. Lee was born at Halifax (Yorkshire), England, on July 19, 1839. At the age of twelve he was apprenticed to the printing trade, and for two years worked at it in his native town. In 1853 his parents brought him to America. They traveled as far west as LaSalle, Ill., by rail, that being the end of the railroad at that time. From LaSalle they took the stage, and finally settled at LeClaire, Iowa. James Lee went to Davenport, Iowa, to finish his apprenticeship, and in 1857 became a journeyman printer. He went to Colorado



The late James L. Lee.

in 1860, the year of "Pike's Peak or bust," and after trying his luck in the mines concluded to try another way of making a living, by returning to Denver and securing a job on *The Mountaineer* newspaper; he later became foreman of *The Rocky Mountain News*, which job he held until he returned to the East in 1863. He went to Chicago and worked on *The Little Corporal*, a patriotic magazine for children. He next had charge of a paper published during the sanitary fair in Chicago in 1864. Early in 1865 he went to J. S. Thompson & Co., then the leading railroad and color printers of Chicago. Mr. Lee was right in his element now, and soon became foreman, retaining that position until November, 1870; he then resigned to go into business with Paul Shnidewend for the purpose of handling type, presses, and printing materials, as well as running an electrotype foundry. He con-

tinued in the electrotype business and that of making machinery until 1893. In that year he organized the Challenge Machinery Company, making a specialty of the manufacture of printing presses, paper cutters, and other labor-saving machinery and materials for printers. In 1903 the company moved from Chicago to its large new factory at Grand Haven, Mich.

Mr. Lee was known to most of the older members of the craft throughout the Middle Northwest, having traveled for the Campbell presses from 1875 to 1890. He was an honorary member of several press associations and took an active interest in the business and social events at the meetings. Mr. Lee was a member of the Chicago Oldtime Printers' Association, a Mason, and a member of the Elks. Interment was in the family lot in Mountain View Cemetery, Pasadena, Cal.

### SAVES TIME AND TROUBLE IN TABULATING

THE MATRIX RULED FORM AND TABULAR DEVICES, it is claimed, save 50 per cent of the time usually required in the composition of tabular and blank forms. The slugs are cast ready for imposition without costly hand work; no bending of rule holding lugs; no rules pulling off forms while on the press; no hand-punching of holes through slugs for the insertion of printing rules; no big investment tied up in printing material—these are some of the claims made for this new and efficient system. Also, there is a saving in the pressroom because a form produced with this system prints from beginning to end of the run—just like an electro. Owners of linotypes or intertypes who have considerable tabular work will find it well worth while to investigate this system. The manufacturers are the Matrix Ruled Form and Tabular Company, of Fort Worth, Texas.

### THE SPIRIT OF '76

AS A SUPPLEMENT to the June issue of the *Linotype Bulletin* was included a handsome reproduction of the celebrated painting entitled "The Spirit of '76." This reproduction has an interesting history, of which the *Bulletin* says: "When we decided to print 'The Spirit of '76' as a supplement to the *Linotype Bulletin*, the first problem was where to secure a picture suitable for reproduction. Diligent search through the numerous art studios and picture shops in New York resulted in failure to secure a good copy, and final appeal was made to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

"Here the information was obtained that the original painting was hung in the library of Abbott Hall, Marblehead, Mass. A special representative was immediately sent to Marblehead to photograph the painting, only to be informed that some years before the board of selectmen had passed a resolution forbidding anyone to make a copy of the painting.

"The Town Clerk told our representative, however, that an artist named Horace Turner had taken some very good photographs of the painting some years prior to the restrictive ruling of the selectmen.

"Our man then went to Boston and succeeded in finding Mr. Turner. When the purpose for which the picture was to be used was explained to him, Mr. Turner volunteered the original photographic negative, which was still in his possession. From a print of this the four colors were manipulated by the engraver."



## Three Generations of Lee at Challenge Machinery

📅 August 31, 2011 by Paul Moxon, Moderator



J. Edgar, J. Wesley and James L. Lee, circa. 1911.

From its founding and through several decades, the Lee family ran the Challenge Machinery Company. Challenge, which began as the successor to Shniedewend & Lee, became one of the largest printing equipment manufacturers with a wide range of products. Among their many innovations were the first paper drilling machine, the first hydraulic paper cutter and their ubiquitous high speed quins. While a distant second to Vandercook in the manufacture of flatbed cylinder proof presses, Challenge also made the Lee production cylinder press. Challenge E, G and K series proof presses featured reciprocating beds and stationary carriages. The M series introduced in 1964, with a fixed bed press

and rolling carriage, is considered by many to be a knock-off of the Vandercook SP series.

**James L. Lee** (1839-1917), the family patriarch, was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, England, and apprenticed in printing at age twelve. In 1853, his parents brought the family to America where they settled in LeClaire, Illinois, just past where the railway had ended. Soon after, Lee had to move to Davenport to finish his trade and graduated as a journeyman printer. After briefly working in the mines at Pike's Peak, then for the *Denver Mountaineer*, he moved to Chicago in 1863 and worked for several companies until 1870, when he went into business with Paul Shniedewend handling type, presses and printing materials, and running an electrotype foundry. Their business was destroyed in the Great Fire, but soon after they were in temporary quarters and their electrotype foundry was running eighteen hours a day. The partnership continued until 1893, when Lee organized Challenge. The company remained in Chicago until 1903, when it was moved to Grand Haven, Michigan. He retained the title of company president even after retiring to California. He died suddenly, at age 77, while visiting his son in Grand Haven.

**J. Edgar Lee** (1866-1958), began at Shniedewend & Lee as an errand boy. He advanced through the business departments, then in the factory mastered the principles of machine construction and design. At Challenge, he was made assistant manager and eventually president after his father's death. He held this