

**PRACTICAL TEXT BOOK OF
LITHOGRAPHY: A MODERN
TREATISE ON THE ART OF
PRINTING FROM STONE**

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Practical text book of lithography: a modern treatise on the art of printing from stone by
Warren C. Browne

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WARREN C. BROWNE

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BY

WARREN C. BROWNE

AUTHOR OF "METAL PLATE PRINTING."

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PREFACE

THE object of the following treatise is to furnish both the amateur and professional with a comprehensive text book which can be understood by the workers in lithography whether they have enjoyed a college education or not. There are several lithographic text books on the market, but most of them are so technical that the layman cannot understand them, and even the technical worker has, at times, to consult a dictionary in order to be able to grasp the meaning of the author. The writer has undertaken in the following pages to use only plain, understandable English. Wherever possible, where technical phrases have been called for, there have been substituted equivalent phrases of the plainest English. In this way has the *Practical Text Book of Lithography* been made as lucid as it is possible to make a work of this kind.

In offering this book to the lithographic workers the writer believes that he is benefiting the art. He makes no pretense of originality, because the process was discovered and perfected before he was born, but there has always been a demand for a concise, clear and practical text book to which the worker could turn when a question arose as to the best mode of procedure. We believe that this book will meet that demand.

WARREN C. BROWNE

New York City, 1912.

TO ALL
WHO SEE IN LITHOGRAPHY

Art

AND DESIRE ITS DEVELOPMENT
THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED

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CHAPTER I.

DEFINITION AND PRINCIPLES OF LITHOGRAPHY.

THE word "Lithography" is formed by a combination of two Greek words, the first, "Litho," meaning stone, and the second, "Graphy," meaning to write, and the free translation is "to write on or from stone." Lithography, then, is the act of writing or drawing on stone and the process of reproducing such writings or drawings on paper or other materials.

There are two separate and distinct methods of preparing the writings or drawings for reproductions by the lithographic process. The first, which is used in practically all commercial—or black and white—work, consists of the work of the artist, which is generally done on paper in the regular or "positive" way, and then reproduced on an engraving stone by the engraver, who engraves or scratches the image or lettering into the smooth surface of the stone in reverse or "negative" for the stone press or the direct printing rotary. For the rubber blanket offset press the engravings are made direct or "positive."

When the engraving is finished another mechanic, known as the transferrer, takes it and pulls a transfer im-