

### Novelties and New Inventions.

**AN ALMANAC.**—The *Printers' Register*, of London, recently described a unique almanac for 1877, published in Austria. The date of the day occupies the centre of each leaf, and is surmounted on the left by the name of the saint to whom the day is dedicated, and on the right by a maxim. The lower part of each leaf is divided into two columns. From January to June the left hand column contains a course of lessons in six modern languages, and the other column contains Schiller's poems. For the other half of the year one column is devoted to a romance by Jules Verne, and the other to a German vocabulary. At the back of the leaves are notes on mythology, cooking, law, household receipts, and arithmetic. The leaves are so prepared that during the summer months they can be steeped in water as fly killers, and October to April can be made into cigarettes.

**A CARD FEEDER.**—A new feeding apparatus for card printing presses has recently been invented, which is described as follows:—As the card passes down beneath a shelf, its ends pass beneath the flanges of guide bars, projecting downward along the platen to guide the card to the place where it is to be printed. As the card reaches the place where it is to be printed, it is stopped by inwardly projecting curved points, which receive its lower edge. As the platen is drawn back, these curved points raise the card slightly as its lower edge slips from them, so as to release it, should it stick to the platen, and allow it to drop from the press. The arms which carry the points slide upon grippers so that they may be adjusted as the width of the card may require.

**A COPYING PENCIL.**—A pencil has recently been introduced into the market, the writing of which is capable of being copied in the press, in a manner very similar to copying when properly prepared ink is used. It is said to be made of a mixture of graphite, kaoline and aniline violet. The graphite is used in the form of a thick paste, the kaoline in a finely pulverized state, and the violet in the form of a very concentrated aqueous solution. The whole when well mixed is moulded under the press with cylinders about four inches long and of the required diameter.

**A MARVELOUS MACHINE.**—The following description of a wonderful machine is going the rounds: "A machine has been invented and

patented by the Victory Printing Machine Company which can turn out, ready for the reader, four thousand copies of a work, containing twenty-four pages, bound together, without any manipulative aid. The machine has cost about \$20,000, and requires no feeding, as it regulates its own supply, taking in a sheet at one end, and, in less than a second, ejecting it at the other, printed and with the pages stitched together and ready for the booksellers."

**A PULP SEPARATOR.**—An improved pulp separator has been introduced to the notice of paper makers. The object is to utilize the very coarse and heavy stock that is collected at the bottom of the settling vats in the manufacture of paper, so as to draw the same off to regrind, and conduct it back to the vat for use. To this end, a settling vat is provided with revolving bottom arms, that convey the heavy particles of pulp to an outlet, and, by a connecting pipe, to a grinding engine, that forces the ground particles through a goose-neck pipe back into the vat.

**A CABINET.**—Three-quarter and two-third size cabinets are now made without the galley top, and, instead, have brackets on which a pair of cases (upper and lower) will fit, and in the centre of the cases are two drawers which are very convenient receptacles for copy, etc. In some cases, no doubt, it would be an advantage to have room for two pair of cases on one cabinet in preference to a galley top, but in the majority of instances it will be found that galley room is the most important item.

**A PRINTING PRESS.**—An improved printing press has been brought out. The new and principal feature consists of a swinging platen, in combination with a vertically movable bed, and an oscillating ink-distributing mechanism. The simplicity of this apparatus renders the press less expensive, and facilitates the rapid and effective working of the same.

**A PROOF PRESS.**—A novel hand proof press is the latest production for the convenience of the craft. It is simple and cheap, and will not injure the type as some proof presses do. The matter is inked by a roller in the usual way, the paper dampened and laid upon the type, and the hand proof press rolled over the form.

**NUMBERED STAMPS FOR BOOKS.**—Perforated library numbers and letters are the latest novelty. They are printed in different sizes and are perforated and gummed like postage stamps, and must prove very handy and convenient for libraries, etc.