

rules, or curiously curved brass dash lines, once so prevalent, it is an improvement; but it is absurd to reject so valuable a type arbitrarily and without a reason. There are not many titles where dashes are needed—there are those where their omission is fatal to a good effect. When a title is brief, and yet contains many distinct parts, such as the following: The complete works, of Mrs. Hemans. | Reprinted entire from the last English edition. | Edited by her sister. | With notes and an introduction by C. Griswold. | Vol. 1. | Second edition. | D. Appleton. | The rapid change of the subject needs some further division than a broad blank, and dashes should be used to divide the clauses so as to make their relation more apparent to the reader. The differences in the sizes of proximate lines of type are trivial, and blanks are not enough to show their entire separation.

But in no case should any other than a plain straight line be used. Fancy dashes, waved and dotted lines, are entirely out of place.

The type selected for the main line should always be in proportion to the size of the volume. A title is intended to have a light and open appearance, and although the words of the main line may be few, the size of the type should not be increased, for all the other lines must be regulated by this main line. There must be harmony shown by the graduation of size. If all the other display lines are set in correspondingly large letters, the title loses all its ease and symmetry. It is no more pleasing than a book advertisement.

Correspondents and canvassers are wanted (practical printers preferred) in every city and town throughout Canada and the United States, to forward news items of interest to printers, canvass for subscriptions, etc. To those who are willing to undertake to thoroughly canvass any city or town for the *Miscellany* we are prepared to offer special inducements.

EVERY apprentice, as well as journeyman at the printing business, should subscribe for and preserve the *Miscellany*, and in order to place it within the reach of all, we will mail it for one year to any apprentice for fifty cents.

No doubt many of our readers and friends have the materials out of which could be written interesting sketches of celebrities of the press. We would like to receive and publish some such sketches.

ALMOST any printer could spare time to thoroughly canvass his city or town for subscribers to the *Miscellany*, and, what is more, could make it pay handsomely at the commissions given.

CORRESPONDENTS will oblige by mailing their favors so that they will reach this office, at least, not later than the 25th of each month, and as much earlier as possible.

[From the Hand and Heart.]

## THE REPUBLIC OF "LETTERS."

BY AN OLD TYPE.

We are a body of twenty and six,  
Ranked in our orders of fonts and *nickels*;  
Twenty stout consonants, gentlemen rare,  
And six soft vowels, all ladies fair;  
Linked with our sisters we move along,  
In graceful prose, or liquid song;  
But wanting them, we're a tuneless race,  
Like crusty old bachelors—out of place.

We are an order of twenty and six,  
Laid in cases or ranged in sticks;  
Prostrate and dumb we are doomed to lie,  
Like dead men's bones, in a heap of pi.  
Till our sovereign, Mind, who alone can give  
The mandate to make our dry bones live,  
Gives a magic *shake* and the word of command,  
When ruck and file on our feet we stand!

Shake us! and over the earth is heard  
The trumpet song of the patriot bird;  
Shake us again! and the living page  
Unveils each great historic age;  
Another shake! and in gorgeous pall  
Sweeps the drama past, with its splendours all;  
Again! and the shadows of mental night  
Are scared by philosophy's touch of light.

Shake us again! and a tempest flies  
On hurricane wing through the darkened skies;  
I'p get people, and down go thrones,  
Crowns and sceptres, despots and drones;  
But like the hurricane's sweeping blast  
That clears the air when the tempest's past,  
The Unseen Worker's beneficent will  
Brings future good from apparent ill.

Another shake all the earth alarms,  
And the frantic nations rush to arms;  
Torrents of blood like rivers flow,  
And the sun looks down on a world of woe;  
Another shake! and the Angel of Peace  
Bids the sword be sheathed, and the discord cease;  
And harvests wave o'er the bone-strewn plain,  
While trade and commerce revive again.

'Twas the grandest shaking that shook the earth  
When we to the Book of Books gave birth;  
When saints and martyrs defied the rage  
Of priestly pride in a darkened age;  
Then Conscience, unfettered, proclaimed abroad  
Her chartered rights through the Word of God,  
And the Printer baffled all monkish tricks  
With his magical characters, twenty and six!

DEALERS in and manufacturers of printing machinery, paper, ink, type, and any article used in printing, or by printers and editors, will find the *Miscellany* an excellent medium through which to advertise their stock. It will prove itself the cheapest and best medium they can adopt if they wish to put their materials into the hands of the printers of Canada. The *Miscellany* is sent to every printing office in the Dominion, and it has also a large circulation in the United States. As will be seen by reference to the advertising rates the figures have been made very low in consideration of the fact that the terms are cash.