

of letter made, was printed at an expense of \$10,000 for an edition of one thousand copies, or \$10 for each copy, and we may safely say it is the finest and most elaborate specimen of color printing ever issued. The facilities of the concern for doing this kind of work are unsurpassed by any printing office in the world, having presses and modern printing machinery equal to the best.

Many beautiful specimens of engraving are on file, and much attention has been given to engraving on metal, in order to obviate the difficulty from the swelling and shrinking of wood during wet and dry weather. A surface of type-metal is dovetailed upon a block of mahogany of requisite size and shape, and once the engraving made, it is there "to stay," no weather this side of Jordan having sufficient strength to affect its "standing" in society.

The box-wood used in the engraving department comes from Turkey, costs \$140 per ton in the Boston and New York markets, and after being sawed up in sections of the desired thickness, requires three to four years for seasoning—the saw-dust being utilized by the jewelers in drying their wares. Owing to the anticipated scarcity of this material and consequent rise in value contingent upon the eastern war, a method of economizing and utilizing the wood has been devised and patented, whereby a facing of box-wood is placed upon a block of mahogany, so that a single section will supply four times the engraving surface of a solid block as used formerly. In this department two men are kept busily at work designing and engraving, and many fine and elegant specimens shown attest their skill and taste, amongst which we noticed the Caxton Memorial title, and a large number of fancy colored title pages, bill heads, labels, etc.

Amongst other novelties in process of manufacture we were shown some Japanese characters designed to accompany the music in a singing master's mammoth note book, the different notes and characters having been already furnished by this company to the number of about one thousand, to the order of L. W. Mason, of Boston, Mass, through whom they are furnished the Japs. Perhaps a more curious array of intelligence was never witnessed,—the words or characters presenting somewhat the supposed appearance of a shipwrecked picket fence,—and in all human probability Watts would have died discouraged, or of a broken heart, had he sup-

posed that his hymns must be put before the world in Japanese. But this is easily accomplished now, thanks to the very ingenious mechanism employed in this concern: the characters as furnished by the Japs are plainly marked out with a brush on the thinnest of tissue paper, and in less time than is required to describe the operation, the reversed paper design passes under the delicate tracing machine, the opposite end (which is supplied with a pencil,) marking a fac simile character on a pine block, the margin of which is then taken off by the wood type cutters, leaving the character in relief for a pattern to cut the desired printing blocks by. All unusual characters or languages may thus be supplied from a design on thin tissue paper, and the printing blocks cut, packed and forwarded in a few hours from the receipt of the order.

Japanese, Chinese and German, as well as Spanish, French and English speaking countries have been furnished by this establishment with the material and appliances for doing the finest kinds of wood and tint printing, and there appears to be no limit to the productive capacity of the establishment with its improved and accurate machinery and really wonderful labor-saving mechanism, under the immediate guidance and supervision of one so well versed in the requirements of a well ordered mechanical workshop as is Mr. Page.

Besides printing material this concern manufactures an almost endless variety of useful and ornamental articles for the ladies, such as brackets, fancy work-boxes, bird cages, elongated zinc lined flower pots, and many other beautiful articles which we have neither time nor space to enumerate, suffice to say that we saw an extension to a pulpit in course of construction, evidently designed to counterbalance the prolix understanding of some eminent and towering divine, and bring his notes and his eyes into closer proximity.

Probably there is no industry in the world that will more interest a majority of your readers than that herein alluded to; and should any of them ever visit Norwich they must certainly call at the type shop, where they will assuredly receive a cordial welcome, a hearty, sincere shake of the hand, and the attention and courtesy which has gained for the gentlemanly proprietors a deserved and world-wide celebrity.

RENEW your subscriptions to the *Miscellany*.