

etary *pro tempore*."—"It was a *sine qua non*, an indispensable condition, that an agreement should be entered into."—"William said in Latin, *Vade mecum*, Go with me." But such phrases, if they are used before nouns, or have been incorporated into the English language, should follow the common analogy; as, "John was elected *pro-tempore* Secretary."—"This was a *sine-qua-non* business."—"That little book is an excellent *vade-mecum*."

(To be concluded.)

Reversing Drawings on Wood.

To reverse and put a picture on wood for engraving, make the drawing with litho-writing ink on litho-transfer paper. Litho-artists, when making such a drawing for transferring to stone, know that the merest stain of ink will roll up black; but, in making the drawing for transferring to wood, treat it more as you would an Indian-ink drawing, only in line instead of washes. If you put uneven quantities of ink on one quality of line, the result is that in such parts the ink runs into blots when transferred. This is to be avoided. The drawing being made, if small, damp at back and burnish down on clean wood; if large, treat in same manner as litho-transferring at press. On peeling off the transfer let the wood dry, then with a large size soft camel-hair brush, moderately filled with a thin mixture of flake-white and water, carefully wash over the block, and it will be found that the greasy soapy tendency of the litho-writing ink will cause the wash to rub off the lines, and only cover the parts of the wood. The drawing should not be rubbed or washed over too much when wet, or you lose the fine lines. After this, details in pencil and washes in Indian-ink to give effect (letting each wash dry before another is put on) can be added, to make the picture completely ready for the engraver. By using tracing transfer-paper it will be seen that this affords an admirable method for *fac simile* engraving; and it is much cheaper than photography on wood. The best results are obtained by using an ink containing a large proportion of Paris black, and a minimum quantity of soap, by which means the drawing is less liable to rub. We use it for outline and *fac simile* drawing on tracing transfer paper only, for on opaque transfer-paper there is very little advantage. For washed drawings on paper, to be afterwards transferred, Binfield's lignotint process may be used.—*P. T. and Lithographer.*

A NOVEL IDEA.—The *Free Advertiser* is the latest novelty in journalism. We all have heard, says the *London Press News*, of advertising sheets with gratuitous circulations, but this new weekly paper will insert a large portion of their advertisements free, while the charge for the paper will be one penny. It is considered that the class of advertisements which will be inserted gratuitously will draw a large number of readers as purchasers of the paper. Certain business advertisements will be inserted at a very low rate. In their prospectus the publishers say:—"A paper of this novel character is sure to become widely known at once, therefore, being a first-class medium for other advertisements not comprised in the above classes." To say the least of it, the idea has originality and novelty to recommend it, and a short time will suffice to prove the success or failure of the speculation.

ELECTROTYPE PLATES.—An exchange gives the following plan of "doctoring" electrotype plates to prevent the warping, shrinking, and swelling to which they are subject:—

"When you first get the plates, mounted on wood, place them in a shallow pan or dish, cover with kerosene oil and let them soak as long as possible, say three or four days. Then wipe dry and place in the form. After the first two or three washings they may swell a little; if so, have them carefully dressed down, and after that you will have little or no trouble with them, and can leave them in the forms just as you would were they solid."

Two new instruments have been invented and patented in Austria. The first, a "dasymeter," is used for ascertaining the strength of paper, which is stretched between two points by means of a screw; when the tension is sufficient to burst the sheet, a small pendulum indicates the amount of force which has been used. The second, a "pachymeter," is used to determine the thickness of paper, and does its work to the tooth part of an inch.

Those war papers in the *Philadelphia Times* are about as interesting as would have been Jeemes Yellowplush's projected "Lives of Eminent British and Foring Washywomen."

Jones, through the lather—"Strange, I never can grow a good beard, and yet my grandfather had one three feet long." Hairdresser—"Can't account for it, sir, unless you take after your grandmother."