

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

THE PRINTER'S MISCELLANY is issued monthly at \$1.00 per annum, *in advance*, or ten cents per number. Price to apprentices—50 cents per annum, *in advance*. The names and addresses of subscribers should be written plainly, that mistakes may not occur. All letters should be addressed to

HUGH FINLAY,

Editor and Proprietor,
St. John, N. B., Canada.

P. O. Box No. 1127.

ADVERTISING RATES.

One page, one insertion,	\$10.00
Half page, "	6.00
Quarter page, "	3.50
One inch, "	1.00
One line, "10
Notices in reading matter, per line,25

Inserts of unobjectionable matter, furnished by the advertiser and printed uniformly in size with the *Miscellany*, will be taken at the following rates:—Single leaf, \$15; two leaves (four pages) \$25; four leaves, \$40; over four leaves to be subject to special agreement.

All orders for advertising must be accompanied by a remittance to cover the same.

The Printer's Miscellany.

ST. JOHN, N. B., CANADA, MAY, 1877.

An Invitation—Open to All.

Having shown pretty conclusively in our previous issues that no great benefit could possibly be derived by the practical workman from an editorial criticism of specimens of job printing, it has been suggested that specimens be published as supplements to the *Miscellany*. To that end a sample was given last month, from the office of Mr. Chas. Lawson, Fredericton, N. B. We think all of our readers will readily admit that it was much more gratifying to examine and criticize the work for themselves, than if we had exhausted ourselves and filled ten or fifteen pages of the *Miscellany* with an elaborate description and criticism. There are some permanent benefits to be derived from this mode of handling the subject: there is matter submitted for the careful study and critical eye of the skilled craftsman, and food for the thoughts of the apprentice—our future workman.

In view of the above considerations, we offer to place any approved specimen (English, American, or Canadian) in the *Miscellany* as a supplement, free of expense to the contributor. All we ask in return is a compliance with the spirit and letter of the following conditions:—The job must be submitted for our approval, be a *bona fide* specimen, and the subject-matter must not partake of the nature of an advertise-

ment. A sufficient number of copies must be furnished to go through our entire edition, and they must be delivered in this city free of charge to the *Miscellany*.

There are very few offices but could furnish at least one specimen a year, and there are always, during every year, slack seasons when a specimen could be produced at a trifling cost to the office beyond material. This is one of those things where the outlay is small, but the benefits to be derived are incalculable. If any of our readers can offer any suggestions for the improvement of the above plan, we are open to receive and give them due consideration. What we aim to do is to bring out and show plainly all the latent talent and skill of the practical printer. This is the principal object we have in view, and we ask the hearty co-operation of our fellow-workmen to that end. Who will be the next to submit his handiwork for the impartial criticism of the craft?

As predicted last month, a slight change for the better has taken place in the printing trade in this city. The improvement is only slight, however, and, so far as the idle printers are concerned, is almost counterbalanced by the fact that the great rush of advertisements in the newspapers have necessarily cut down the "matter," consequently they are not able to carry quite so many "subs" as formerly. The new ventures in the newspaper line, mooted some months ago, have not as yet taken any tangible shape; but it is to be hoped they have not fallen through altogether. We must acknowledge to considerable anxiety in the matter, as we very much desire that all the surplus printers in the city should have a chance once more to go to work, and give up this business of "carrying the banner"—it's not profitable. It is difficult to say with any degree of certainty how trade will continue; but from the fact that business generally is better and money slightly easier to collect, we incline to the opinion that orders must increase, and would not be much surprised if the printers of this city did, before long, find themselves with all the work they can possibly put through. We trust it will be so, and that all the offices will be found prepared when it does come, and to that end would counsel that the material be kept well "sorted up" and the office thoroughly cleared, that there may be no unnecessary delay in turning out the work with due promptitude and the greatest economy in labor.