

The Printer's Miscellany.

AN EXPONENT OF PRINTING AND ALL THE KINDRED ARTS.

VOL. III.

ST. JOHN, N. B., CANADA, JANUARY, 1879.

No. 7.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
PRACTICAL MATTERS—Rollers and Composition—Newspaper Diagrams.	199-202
EDITORIAL—The Price of Type—Another Printer "Called"—Printing by Water-power—Notes—Jul. L. Wright—etc.	202-207
CONTRIBUTIONS—Devil-isms—Spoiled Papers for Exchanges.	207
NEWS OF THE CRAFT—Dominion—United States.	208, 209
CORRESPONDENCE—Oxford County Jottings—Norwich Notes—P. E. Island Items—Port Perry Pickings—Stratford Scraps—A Printers' Home—Lines from Listowel—The Trials and Tribulations of an Editor—The Newspapers of Woodstock, Ont.	209-215
SELECTIONS—Only a Tramp Printer—Big Figures for Killing a Cat—An Indignant Subscriber.	215-217
Acknowledgments.	217
PHONOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT—The Phonographic Tempest in St. John—Proper Names—Shorthand Squibs.	218-221
Selections.	221, 222
Marriages, Deaths and Advertisements.	222
"Sorts".	228

INDEX TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

	Page.
E. W. Blackhall, Bargains.	222
Vicks' Floral Guide.	222
Prof. Morin, Teacher Modern Languages.	224
John J. Tiernay, Havana Cigars, etc.	224
G. McBreairty, Wines, Liqueurs, etc.	224
H. N. Smith, Papers Makers and others.	224
Wylis, Wilkes Manufacturing Co. — Inks and Composition.	225
James Duffy, Wines, etc., and Cigars.	224
J. M. Weiler, "Liberty" Printing Press.	225
G. C. Loewenthal & Co., Engravers, etc.	224
C. H. Flewelling, Wood Engraver.	225
Bennet & Co., Paper Bags, etc.	226
John Crilly & Co., Printing Papers, etc.	226
Geo. H. Morrill, Printing Inks.	226
W. P. Kidder—"Kidder" Press.	226
C. C. Child, Lever Cutter and Presses.	225, 229
J. T. Besserer & Sons, Paper Bags, etc.	225
Walf & Co., Glues, Glycerine, etc.	225
J. Riordon, Merritton Paper Mills.	225
Ford & Co., Wrapping Papers, etc.	226
Harbour's Improved Irish Flax Book Thread.	229
Japanee Mills Paper Manufacturing Co.	229
Beston Type Foundry.	229
John L. Connelly & Co., Designers, etc.	230

PRACTICAL MATTERS.

Rollers and Composition.

There is not a more necessary adjunct to the art of printing than a good roller, and there is not an article used in the printing office which causes more trouble, annoyance and perplexity, owing to its being so susceptible to atmospheric changes. It is a true saying, that "good rollers are half the work;" and without them the most elaborate and painstaking pressman, the finest ink and paper, and the best press cannot produce satisfactory results.

In the earlier days of printing, it was a part of the pressman's duty to manufacture the various devices used for inking the forms, and it was ever regarded as a disagreeable operation, from the many failures experienced, no matter how carefully or skilfully he performed his labor. The climate, temperature, atmosphere, etc., had to be consulted, a judicious selection of materials made, and then the necessary manipulations and proportionings led to experimentings and "doctorings," exasperating, because perplexing and unremunerative. Good rollers were the result of accident rather than rule. Some pressmen would seldom succeed in producing a fair article, while a few others, by analysing cause and effect, and remembering the tact, quantities and materials which produced the best results, were comparatively successful in getting a good article.

We should here, perhaps, give the old *modus operandi* of making the glue and molasses composition, but now-a-days it is getting to be almost the universal custom, with country as well as city printers, to buy the ready-made article, only requiring to be melted and poured—thus saving a great deal of trouble and many a "batch" of spoiled composition.

It is true, the glue and molasses roller as originally made is still used to a great extent, particularly in all new countries, and when properly made is, for a short time and under favorable circumstances, the best for almost any description of printing. It is in the main, however, superseded by the ready-made article, because