

The Printer's Miscellany.

AN EXPONENT OF PRINTING AND ALL THE KINDRED ARTS.

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A dollar bill (either U. S. or Canadian currency) enclosed in an envelope with a registration stamp on it (costing two cents in Canada and ten cents in the U. S.), and addressed to this office will secure the *Miscellany* for one year.

PRACTICAL MATTERS.

Punctuation--How to Use the Hyphen.

(Conclusion.)

PREFIXES IN DERIVATIVE WORDS.

The rules laid down in this case are:—If a prefix ends with a vowel, and the word with which it is combined begins with a consonant; or if the former ends with a consonant, and the latter begins with a vowel or a consonant,—the compound thus formed should appear as one unbroken word, viz.:—*Predetermine, resell, antedate, counteraction, multangular, supernatural, contemporaneous.*

If, however, the prefix ends, and the word to which it is united begins, with a vowel,—both vowels being separately pronounced,—they should be connected with a hyphen, viz.:—*Preoccupy, re-echo, ante-act, contra-indication, retro-enter, supra-orbital, co-eternal.*

So much for the rules; now, by way of explanation or elucidation, we find it laid down that when the prefix ends with a vowel, and is followed by a word beginning also with a vowel, many writers and printers place a diæresis over the latter, instead of a hyphen between them; as, *coeval*.

The adverbs *afore* and *fore*, having now become almost obsolete as separate words, are regarded as mere prefixes; which should, therefore, without regard to accent, be subject to the present rule; as, *aforegoing, foredetermined, fore-ordained.*

As an exception to the first section of the rule, it is worthy of remark, that a derivative which might be mistaken for a word with the same letters, but a different meaning, should be distinguished from it by the insertion of a hyphen between the parts. Thus, *re-creation*, denoting a new creation, is obviously a more appropriate form of this word than *recreation*, which, besides being differently pronounced, signifies refreshment, or relaxation after toil. Thus, also, a difference exists in meaning and pronunciation between *re-collect* and *recollect*; *re-form*, *re-formation*, and *reform, reformation*; which it is