

The Printer's Miscellany.

AN EXPONENT OF PRINTING AND ALL THE KINDRED ARTS.

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
PRACTICAL MATTERS—Embossed Printing.	1
EDITORIAL—Fourth Volume—A First Class Job Press—A New Ruling Machine—Notes on Publications—Editorial Notes.	2-4
NEWS OF THE CRAFT—Dominion—United States.	4, 5
CORRESPONDENCE—The Forest City—Detroit Pick-Ups—A Visit to Paris—Hamilton Jottings—Stratford Scraps—Chatham Chips.	6, 7
PHONOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT — Editorial Paragraphs — Lesson V — Phunnygrafik Phakts—Miscellaneous.	8-10
Advertisements.	10-16
"Sorts"	15

INDEX TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

	Page.
A Bargain	10
Power Press Wanted	10
Samuel McAfee, Groceries, etc.	10
Printing Trades' Directory.	11
Chimo, Photographs, etc.	11
Situation Wanted	11
Geo. Watkins, Situation Wanted.	11
For sale—Nonpareil Music Type.	11
James Duffy, Encore Whisky, etc.	12
David McCleave, "Park Hotel"	12
"Scientific American"	12
Jos. Gallant, "Acadian House"	12
W. John Stonhill, to Printers and others.	13
J. Riordon, Merritton Paper Mills.	13
Geo. H. Morrill, Printing Inks.	13
F. M. Weiler, "Liberty" Printing Press.	13
Baylis, Wilkes Manufacturing Co.—Inks.	13
E. Banfill & Co., Practical Machinists.	13
Napanee Mills Paper Manufacturing Co.	14
Geo. P. Rowell & Co., to Advertisers.	14
P. O. Vickery, to Agents.	14
W. P. Kidder—"Kidder" Press.	14
Darbour's Improved Irish Flax Book Thread.	14
E. H. Macalpine, Card	14
W. Jones, Peerless Press.	16
John L. Connelly & Co., Designers, etc.	16
C. H. Flewelling, Wood Engraver.	16
Gas Foley & Co., Printers' Lye Brushes.	16

Printers and others will find the "Trades' Directory" handy for reference in ordering material or making inquiries in connection therewith.

Subscribers to the *Miscellany* will bear in mind that all subscriptions must be paid IN ADVANCE.

PRACTICAL MATTERS.

Embossed Printing.

This is a branch of jobbing printing that is little practised, compared with what is possible, chiefly owing to the method being utterly unknown to the majority of persons. It is possible, in the following simple and inexpensive manner, to obtain most admirable and attractive effects, and we advise printers who have not tried the art to experiment upon it, now that the process is revealed to them.

The first thing to be done is to get a die in metal of the line or the design to be worked—any brass-cutter or die-sinker can provide this. The lettering may be done either by engraving or cutting in the usual way, or by punching.

Next make the counter die. Cut a piece of thick smooth leather to the size of the die; moisten the side which is to receive the impression, and, laying it upon the surface of the die, give sufficient impression to make the leather go into all the cavities of the plate.

Remove the counter from the die and trim its edges, so that both will be of the same size; after which again adjust the leather to its place on the face of the die, and cover the back with strong gum. Make another impression so as to transfer to the tympan of the press.

A thin sheet of gutta-percha should now be warmed on one side and laid upon the face of the plate, with the side that has been heated uppermost. An impression must again be made, by which the leather and the gutta-percha will become attached. The result will be an elastic counter, which will retain sufficient firmness to throw up any part of the under surface of the card without breaking the parts at the edges of the letters.

When the job is of a large size, such as a show card, the counter die may be made by pasting ten or twelve sheets of smooth paper together with gum, and, while they are in a damp state, press the die into the pulpy mass and leave it to dry before they are separated.

The printer should be careful in his choice of ink. Whatever color is used should be strong in body, and the roller must be passed over the form in all directions, so as to secure a perfectly uniform coating of ink.—*British and Colonial Printer and Stationer.*