

FANCY GOODS AND STATIONERY.

BOOK RULER. For ruling books, a German inventor has had patented a square ruler in the shape of the letter T. The crosspiece, which forms the head of the T, is shaped so that it may be hooked on to the edge of the book and give to the ruling part a perfectly horizontal or vertical position.

A COMBINATION CLIP, FILE AND FASTENER. The "Octo" is the name of a clip, file and fastener combined into one article.

For holding together papers, cloth, samples, etc., it is very handy and will be found useful in banks and business offices. For filing purposes it serves as well as any other.

NEW ENVELOPE. A Honolulu man, named Kauakabialii, has discovered a way to keep envelopes used for transmitting printed matter from opening in transit. The flap of such envelopes frequently slips from the interior and allows the contents to fall out. Mr. Kauakabialii's device is a small strip of very finely rolled metal, lead generally, which is pressed down after the flap is inserted and holds it in its place.

TELESCOPE PENCIL. The telescope pencil is a new form of the old sliding pencil. The principal difference is that there are more sections. At first the pencil is kept out to its full length, but, as the lead wears off, one section after another is moved back until the pencil is too short to handle, when it can be refilled.

NOVEL BOOKMARK. The American Stationer announces the appearance of a new bookmark, consisting of an oval metal or celluloid frame two or three inches long and an inch wide, which is filled with stiff paper. On the paper three columns of figures are printed. A disk of the same material as the frame is fastened inside the frame so that it can be slipped around the oval and also turned itself. On one edge of this is a pointer which can be turned towards the number of the page, so that whether the mark is at the

right page or not the place may easily be found.

NEW MUSICAL INSTRUMENT. A new thing in musical instruments has made its appearance in New York, and, being handled by one of the big departmental stores, is having a great run. It is called "The Aeol," or American harp zither, and is noted for its softness and sweetness of tone being very captivating to the ear. A few of them have been brought into Canada, but only a small shipment so far. The retail price in New York is about \$8, which, laid down in Canada, would be about \$10, and on this there is said to be a good profit. There is said to be no difficulty in playing the instrument, even by those who cannot play by ear, as the music is numbered and slipped under the strings in such a way that little practice in playing is required. The music to go with it costs 5c. per sheet.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

The approaching visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York to Canada will doubtless create a greatly increased demand for the illustrated papers with pictures of the tour of their Highnesses through the country. The English illustrated weeklies are likely to contain pictorial accounts of the event, and as souvenirs these will be valuable and much sought after. Dealers should provide for a good supply of such papers. There will be little difficulty in getting rid of a large number.

TO FILL PENS.

A new fountain pen filler consists of a rubber ball attached to one end of a slender pin, the latter being provided with a valve arrangement at the opposite end, while means is also provided for attaching the ball to the head of the penholder. The pin and valve device is used to permit free passing of the cleaning fluid or ink in cleansing the reservoir or refilling. To clean the pen and reservoir the valve is unseated by pressing the end of the pin, which projects through the rubber ball, when

pressure on the sides of the ball will eject the air and draw in the alcohol or other cleaning fluid, which may be done several times, until the ejected fluid is clear.

THUMB MARK ALBUM. The thumb mark album is the latest addition to the album family. The lines in no two persons' thumbs are alike, and in this book the pages are prepared to receive the impression of the right thumb. The thumb is first pressed on an ink pad, which is attached to the album, and then on the paper, the name being written also.

SEALING NOVELTY.

A candle made of sealing wax is the revival of an old idea, but may become popular now. This candle is made the same as an ordinary wax affair, with a wick running through it. After being lit the wax may be spread out with the burning end. For those who have a good deal of sealing to do this will be found an improvement on the old method.

THE DECORATING SEASON.

The Duke and Duchess of York and Cornwall's visit to Canada will be the occasion for a great use of flags, decorations, etc., a trade for which stationers should prepare. Flags of all sorts are shown in Copp. Clark Co.'s. One of the heaviest and steadiest trades in this line is on the French tri color for Quebec Province. Satin cushion tops in flags, satin ribbon flags and others are always salable. Probably their best assorted stock in goods of the decorative kind is that of the Chinese lanterns. The patterns are large, and the colors bright and new. They run from 5c. to 25c. retail. A special in them is an assortment of 25 lanterns which they sell to the trade for \$2. Garlands of tissue paper, which fold up and can be packed away for use again, are in demand for many events. They retail for 5c. to 25c., and run from 7 feet to 23 feet in length. Toy pistols, cannon, etc., are shown in great variety for May 24 and other holidays. Galvanized wire catapults should be a selling article now and through the Summer. These are provided with strong elastics and well made. They run from \$1 to \$9.60 per gross. A special is a solid rubber ball which they are selling at \$4.80 per gross. This is a regular 10c. line and can be handled profitably. Girls' bats at 80c. and 40c. per