or arm carrying a feeder which dips into a fountain of ink, is operated at the requisite intervals, so as to move up to the pen and deposit upon it a proper amount of ink, and then retire again to the fountain to recharge. This arm carrying the feeder is actuated by the clock-work which is used to move the fillet of paper. It was thought that this invention would save the necessity of using a receiving magnet, and that the telegraphing might be performed directly by the use of one magnet merely to move the paper to the pen. If, however, it fails to supersede the receiving magnet, it can have no advantage to recommend its use.

Painting Telegraph Wires.—A patent has been granted for a machine for painting telegraph wires, to preserve them from rust. The invention is notable not so much for intrinsic merit or novelty, but as marking the progress and rapid extension of the telegraph, by the introduction of labor-saving machinery, in the manufacturing departments of the art. Attempts have also been made to patent modes of insulating the wires, and of forming them into ropes of suitable size and strength; and although the telegraph might have, and in some cases, has been benefited by their use, yet they were not in the category of novel inventions, and could not be patented.

Mode of sustaining Telegraph Wires across Rivers.—Many attempts have been made to improve this part of the telegraph system, and generally but little difficulty has been experienced, except where the wires and piers might bceome an obstruction to navigation. If the piers are very far apart, there is danger of the wires breaking under their own weight, and more especially when loaded with ice. The plan in question proposes to suspend the wire to a cord of India rubber, stretched to its greatest tension or nearly so, or what is better, to inclose the wire in a tube, which is to be stretched over the wire; this would save much swagging of the wire, and as the India rubber is a very strong material in proportion to its weight, the invention appears feasible, and is at least very ingenious. I have not heard of its use thus far.

I have been somewhat lengthy and discursive on the subject of telegraphs, from the magnitude and importance of the invention, and its growing interest with the public, who will be gratified to follow closely every step of its development. The past year has been unfruitful in discovery and in striking inventions. Political economists might attribute it to the distracted affairs of Europe, whence science has been wont to emanate, and to the visitation of pestilence and gloomy forebodings at home. But it is remarkable, that the close of the past year, and the few past days of the present, have shown symptoms of reviving energies in science, and its application to art, which will ring upon the year to come a cheering note of convalescence, and astound the public mind. Your examiners, and all engaged in the office, are interdicted from all communications, public or private, respecting unexamined and pending applications for letters patent. But I divulge nothing, and do no more than whet the keen edge of curiosity, by the prediction, that the coming year will be more fruitful than the past, both in discovery and invention. The world has never witnessed an invention so extraordinary in its conception and achievements, as the electric telegraph, carried to such a pitch of improvement and successful operation in so short a time: but the end is not yet, and we shall soon see new powers and modifications brought into play, and this mysterious yet simple, infantile yet seemingly matured invention, is to receive new accessions, and grow into capabilities far exceeding our present expectations.—*London Merchants Magazine.*

Camera-box should be kept free from the vapor of iodine, bromine, or any kind of quick.

Buffs should be rubbed together and dried every morning before using.