

Fancy goods had an exceptional good run, and, in many instances, more than made up for a deficiency in card sales.

The Christmas number of the Montreal Star, as anticipated, sold very rapidly, although the trade, as a body, condemn the unbusiness-like methods of distribution which the publishers seem to have adopted permanently.

Before another issue we will be deeply engaged in our winter Carnival of sports which bids fair to out-rival previous records, and at no time of the year would we more gladly welcome visits from our confreres of the trade, East and West, than during that week.

R. O. SMITH, *Mitchell*.—Re Christmas trade. On the whole it was very satisfactory; of Xmas cards we did not sell as many as last year; the plain cards, with the exception of choice novelties are dead, but the demand is increasing for illustrated books and poems; in this line we did well, and am glad to say, have very few of any kind to carry over. Annuals and books, with us, sold better this year than last season. Our trade, on the whole, is ahead of last year, although prices on some lines of fancy goods were cut closer than formerly.

R. UGLOW, *Ottawa*.—Ottawa trade generally very good for the past holiday season—equal, or a little better than last year.

JOHN HART, *Perth*.—Trade was nearly up to the average of former years but at the same time we have to confess to a shade of disappointment, as we had made preparations for an advance on all former years by displaying a much larger stock of high class goods and we think our expectations would have been fully realized, but for the unfortunate circumstances of the absence of sleighing and the Ontario Elections. Another factor which must to some extent have influenced trade with our farmers was the low prices ruling for every kind of produce, several articles now bring over the one-half of former years.

These on all disturbing elements for which due allowance must be made and taking these into consideration we must report the Christmas trade as being fairly good.

Books, *St. John, N. B.*—It rests largely with booksellers as to whether they shall be *booksellers* or *fancy goods dealers*. A tendency to present books is on the increase, but requires fostering. A bookseller who relies upon fancy goods to draw trade is apt to have a sufficient remainder of such goods as to seriously affect his profits. In books if he has a surplus (presuming his purchases have been judiciously made) he can utilize them. In fancy goods he had better wrap them up and put away for next season—to be marked down.

Acting upon the above opinion, bookselling trade during the holidays was quite up to expectation, and equal to former years.

A. McLACHLIN, *St. Thomas*.—It affords me pleasure to inform you that it has been all that we could wish for. The fore part of December was quiet, say the first week, and from that time on it increased with each day, the last week being the largest week's business done for many years. Xmas cards sold out; fancy goods cheap and medium; albums, American sets of Dickens, Scott, etc., and American and Eng-

## A GOOD BUSINESS OPENING.

The Stock, Lease and Good-will of one of the oldest established and most widely known Book and Stationery houses in Canada is offered for sale. The stock is in excellent condition and such as is required for a HIGH CLASS TRADE. The store is centrally located in the prosperous and progressive city of Toronto, and the business is steadily growing in volume. Rarely such an opportunity is offered for securing a really good business: sure to go on increasing as Toronto grows in size and population. Other business engagements sole cause for sale. Principals only dealt with. Liberal terms will be made.

Address,

W.,  
care of BOOKS & NOTIONS.

## BUSINESS CHANCE.

The old established Book and Stationery business of W. B. Cooke, 170½ Yonge St., Toronto, to be disposed of with or without the stock.

Full particulars on application, or at the office of BOOKS & NOTIONS.

## DOMINION PAPER HANGINGS.

M. STAUNTON & CO.,

WALL PAPER MANUFACTURERS

Warerooms 4 & 6 King Street, Toronto.

WM. BARBER & BROS.

PAPER MAKERS,

Georgetown, - - - Ontario.

BOOK, NEWS, AND COLORED PAPERS.

JOHN R. BARBER.

## OUT-OF-USE BOOKS.

Many booksellers have large numbers of books on their shelves for which there is no sale in their localities, but which might be worth at least something elsewhere.

With the view of opening up a channel of communication among members of the Trade, we will insert for 10 Cents a Line, a list of such books as they wish to dispose of. It will be useless to advertise them unless prepared to take very much below the price.

Books wanted at cut rates will be advertised in the same way.

J. K. CRANSTON, Galt:—6 Walter Smith's Intermediate.  
6 Walter Smith's Primary Drawing.  
Davis' Large Grammar.

HART & COMPANY, Toronto:—

24 Brooks' English Literature Primer.....	Retail 35c.
3 Hamilton's History of England.....	\$1 75
18 Hall's 1st French Course.....	50c.
50 or 100 Copies Clarke's Constables' Manual.....	1 50