

Activity in Trade.

The activity of the book-trade partakes of the nature of a revival. Those who ought to know say that retail business is good, even better than last year, which was also a decided improvement on its predecessor. There is, for instance, a good sale for cloth-bound books retailing all the way from 75c. to \$3 and \$4, and the holiday sales of these are evidently expected to be satisfactory, judging from the orders already placed with publishers and importers. The monthly returns of imported books, pamphlets, etc., which pay duty, also show a steady increase, contrasting favorably with the monthly returns last year. We give the figures for the first nine months of the present year, as well as for the corresponding period of 1898, as follows:

	1899.	1898.
January	\$53,210	\$66,653
February	57,679	63,482
March	71,344	75,011
April	73,298	88,500
May	78,665	91,543
June	56,639	70,472
July	81,378	69,624
August	97,184	101,385
September	119,642	118,695
	\$688,939	\$745,365

This shows an increase, on the whole, of over \$55,000 in the value of the duty-paying literature imported during the three quarters of the present year.

The Christmas Papers.

The orders for the English Christmas numbers this season greatly exceed those of last year, which was a good year itself. Evidently, dealers expect to do a flourishing trade in them. These papers continue to be favorites for Christmas remembrances between friends. For some reason or other, advance copies of the colored plates that go with the Christmas issues were not sent out this year. But these plates are unusually good, as we know from examining those exhibited in The Toronto News Company's warehouse. The military pictures are even more prominent than usual. With Holly Leaves goes Caton Woodville's "Up Guards and at Them," 34 x 24 in. Accompanying The Graphic are Millais' "A Flood" (a child in its cradle floating on the water), and "The Loss of the Birkenhead." The Sketch presents two plates, "Belles of the Ball" and "The Ballet," while The Gentlewoman, which contains a fine colored picture on satin of the Princess of Wales, is

in great demand. This year, Black and White's two pictures are not behind those of other years, that entitled "Cornered" (a game of chess, with the player who is not cornered watching the other) being exceedingly good. The trade will note that the following are the dates for simultaneous distribution in Canada and England:

Black and White	November 20.
Holly Leaves	November 25.
News and Graphic	November 27.
Sketch	December 4.

Two Canadian Christmas numbers are announced, those of The Toronto Saturday Night and The Toronto Globe. Both are very fine numbers, judging from the advance plates and announcements.

BEST SELLING BOOKS.

FROM LISTS COMPILED BY BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER.

THE following were the best selling books during the month of October in the leading Canadian and other centres:

- TORONTO.
- "No. 5 John Street" (Briggs, \$1 and 50c.)
 - "Kit Kennedy" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "The Scarlet Woman" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Stalky & Co." (Morang, \$1.50 and 75c.)
 - "The White Man's Africa" (Harper, \$2.50)
 - "Boers and Little Englanders" (Allen, \$1.25)
- HALIFAX.
- "No. 5 John Street" (Briggs, \$1 and 50c.)
 - "The King's Mirror" (Morang, \$1.50 and 75c.)
 - "The Teller" (Poole, 25c.)
 - "The Strong Arm" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "The Barrys" (Gage, \$1 and 50c.)
 - "Strange Story of Hester Wynne" (Toronto News Co., 50c.)

- ST. JOHN.
- "Richard Carvel" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "No. 5 John Street" (Briggs, \$1 and 50c.)
 - "When Knighthood Was in Flower" (McLeod, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "David Harum" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "The King's Mirror" (Morang, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Stalky & Co." (Morang, \$1.50 and 75c.)

- WINNIPEG.
- "Richard Carvel" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "No. 5 John Street" (Briggs, \$1 and 50c.)
 - "Kit Kennedy" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "When Knighthood was in Flower" (McLeod, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "The Minister of State" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "David Harum" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)

- VICTORIA.
- "The Scarlet Woman" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Stalky & Co." (Morang, \$1.50 and 75c.)
 - "With Kitchener to Khartoum" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25.)
 - "Isabel Carnaby" (Toronto News Co., 50c.)
 - "When Knighthood was in Flower" (McLeod, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Richard Carvel" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "The Gadfly."

- MONTREAL.
- "The Scarlet Woman" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Stalky & Co." (Morang, \$1.50 and 75c.)
 - "Suspense" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Kit Kennedy" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Richard Carvel" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "David Harum" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)

- VANCOUVER.
- "When Knighthood Was in Flower" (McLeod, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "The Scarlet Woman" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Richard Carvel" (Copp, Clark, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Cruise of the Cachalot" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "David Harum" (Briggs, \$1.25 and 75c.)
 - "Stalky & Co." (Morang, \$1.50 and 75c.)

- THE UNITED STATES.
- "Richard Carvel" (Macmillan, \$1.50.)
 - "David Harum" (Appleton, \$1.50.)
 - "When Knighthood Was in Flower" (Bowen-Merrill, \$1.50.)
 - "No. 5 John Street" (Century, \$1.50.)
 - "The Market Place" (Stokes, \$1.50.)
 - "That Fortune" (Harper, \$1.50.)

- ENGLAND.
- "A Double Thread" (Hutchison, 6s.)
 - "No. 5 John Street" (Richards, 6s.)
 - "The Market Place" (Heinemann, 6s.)
 - "The Fowler" (Blackwood, 6s.)
 - "Tone March" (Hodder, 6s.)
 - "Mammon & Co." (Heinemann, 6s.)
 - "The Orange Girl" (Chatto, 6s.)
 - "The King's Mirror" (Methuen, 6s.)
 - "Kit Kennedy" (Clarke, 6s.)
 - "Trooper 3809" (Heinemann, 6s.)

- SCOTLAND.
- "The King's Mirror" (Methuen, 6s.)
 - "The Human Boy" (Methuen, 6s.)
 - "Dr. Nikola's Experiment" (Hodder, 5s.)
 - "Mammon & Co." (Heinemann, 6s.)
 - "In Full Cry" (White, 6s.)
 - "Trooper 3809" (Heinemann, 6s.)
 - "Martyrdom of an Empress" (Harper, 7s.6d.)
 - "The Orange Girl" (Chatto, 6s.)
 - "A Double Thread" (Hutchison, 6s.)
 - "Romance of Ludwig II. of Bavaria" (Hutchison, 16s.)

THE CLEMENT & CLEMENT CO., LIMITED.

Alexander and Joseph Clement, Mayor Raymond Prefontaine, L. A. Cusson, of Montreal, and Joseph R. Chaboult, Quebec, have been incorporated under the style of Clement & Clement Co., Limited, with a capital stock of \$160,000, and with power to purchase from the firm of Clement & Clement, of Montreal, all their rights in a machine called Addressograph, and accessories, which rights are secured by Canadian and foreign patents; also the rights owned and controlled by the firm of Clement & Clement in a machine called the Rotary Neostyle, and their business generally; to carry on the manufacture and sale in Canada of the Addressograph and Rotary Neostyle, and such other office labor-saving machines and appliances, and supplies, thereof, as they may require from time to time; to deal in typewriters and acquire patent rights of office labor-saving machines and devices, and to do a business of addressing envelopes, circulars, etc.