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BOOK MATTERS IN ENGLAND.

MR. HENRY L. THOMPSON, presi-
dent of The Copp, Clark Co.,
Limited, has returned from a visit to Eng-
land on business connected with the pub-
lishing department of the firm. He made
a number of arrangements in London re-
garding books for Canada, announcements
concerning which will be made in due
course. For one thing, the Canadian mar-
ket for Cassell's Colonial Library was
secured, and the latest issue of that series,
"Kronstadt," by Max Pemberton, is now
out. He also arranged for his firm to
handle in Canada the sale of Cassell's
French, English and German dictionaries,
among the best large dictionaries issued,
and which will be sold retail at \$1.

Questioned regarding present features of
the English book trade, Mr. Thompson said
an impression prevailed in some quarters
that the issue of works of fiction had been
rather overdone the past season, and that in
future there might not be so many novels
published. There was a perceptible falling
off in tourist travel from the United States,
due, it was presumed, to the war, and this
doubtless affected the English retail book
trade. THE BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER
asked Mr. Thompson if he had heard any-
thing said in England regarding Canadian
copyright. On this point he was reticent.

"I am in favor," he said, "of a Cana-
dian Copyright Act, and one cannot fail to
notice the opposition to it in England. One
gets the impression that the English pub-
lishers will endeavor to prevent the enact-
ment of a Canadian law on this subject.
They believe they can successfully block it.
Even Mr. Hall Caine's modified agreement?
Yes, even that. Of course, the English
publishers are willing to arrange with Cana-
dian publishers for the issue of their books
in this market. They are willing, where a
special arrangement is made, to keep their
colonial editions out of Canada. But, in
the present state of our law, while United
States reprints can be excluded, the English
editions cannot. The London publisher
who honestly adheres to his agreement with
a Canadian firm may not be able to prevent
his editions getting into Canada indirectly.
This is not fair to the trade, and is one of
the many disadvantages under which we
labor."

The Canadian Magazine has a timely
article on "The Canadian Banking Statis-
tics," by Mr. Hedley; another of Sir J. G.
Bourinot's papers on Canadian history;
several good stories, and a paper on the
Spanish war by Mr. Ewan, who is with the
United States army in Cuba for The To-
ronto Globe.

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