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A CANADIAN CALENDAR FOR 1898.

LAST year the Cabot Calendar was not merely a thing of beauty but a very successful enterprise as well.

The talented ladies who designed the Cabot Calendar have produced another for 1898. It is called "Historic Days of Canada," compiled by Sara Mickle, assisted by Mary Agnes Fitzgibbon. The drawings are by Messrs. J. D. and Percy Kelly, and are done in gold and colors, the designing and execution being in the best style of the Toronto Lithographing Co. The retail price is 75c., and William Briggs is the publisher.

These are the simple business facts connected with the new calendar. To speak of its artistic beauties and completeness of detail requires a very eloquent pen. Briefly, each month of the year is devoted to some historical picture connected with early and modern Canada. Thus, we have scenes from the old French regime, from the Indian life and character, and from the political episodes of this country under British rule. The general design for each month is the same; the beaver, the national coat-of-arms and the maple leaf being skilfully and beautifully combined. The drawings of historic forts and other buildings and the portraits of famous men are all done in colors.

The tout ensemble is one of the brightest and cleverest pieces of artistic and literary work ever turned out in Canada, and we congratulate artists, compilers and publisher upon the success of their labors. It should be added that the days of the month are filled in with a list of Canadian dates, which is extremely valuable and an education in itself.

The calendar will make a very unique and attractive Christmas gift, both for presents at home and for sending abroad. It is well worth the money, and is put up in a tastefully lettered box.

LEAD PENCILS IN JAPAN.

The Japan Weekly Times says that there is a constantly increasing demand for lead pencils in Japan, the supply being mostly drawn from Europe or America. Those manufactured in Japan are inferior in quality. Lead pencil making in that country is generally carried on by small establishments, and the companies devoted to the manufacture of the article are few in number. The inferiority of the Japanese pencil is due to the fact that the black lead, obtained chiefly from the Hokuriku district, falls in quality far below the foreign product. As to the wood, Hokkaido and other places produce an excellent supply. Some of the companies in Osaka are said to have succeeded in manufacturing good pencils with black lead imported from America, and a considerable number of the pencils have already been exported to Hong Kong, Bombay, and other ports of the East.

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Historic Days of Canada.

CALENDAR FOR 1898

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