

### MONTREAL BOOK NOTES.

THE best selling books for the month in Montreal are "David Harum," Westcott (Briggs), paper 75c., cloth \$1.25; "When Knighthood was in Flower," Caskoden (McLeod, paper 75c., cloth \$1.35; "The Fowler," Harraden (Copp, Clark Co., paper 75c., cloth \$1.25; "Bonhomme," Henry Cecil Walsh, paper 60c., cloth \$1.25; "The Market Place," Frederic, paper 75c., cloth \$1.25; "Dross," Merriman (Briggs), cloth \$1.25, paper 75c.; "Aylwin," Watts Dutton (Morang), paper 75c., cloth \$1.25; "Richard Carvel," Churchill (Copp, Clark Co.), paper 75c., cloth \$1.25; "A Double Thread," Fowler (Copp, Clark Co.), paper 75c., cloth \$1.25; "Mr. Dooley," Dunne, paper 75c., cloth \$1.25.

Sales of paper bound fiction for Summer reading have been large.

The Montreal schools are to have new geographies and new drawing books.

Tourist travel has been large this year, and general trade has much improved.

"A Double Thread," by Fowler, is proving very popular, the demand continuing to be very brisk therefor.

Montreal booksellers report very satisfactory sales of Mrs. Alloway's recent book, "Famous Presides of French Canada."

The trade are busy getting ready for the school openings in September. There are not many changes in school books this year.

"David Harum" is the best seller we have had for many a day," said a prominent dealer, "and continues to rank among the best selling books on the market."

We commend to every bookseller and bookseller's assistant, Hubbard's "Message to Garcia," which appeared in The Philistine, and has been reprinted in The Metropolitan, Montreal, for July 29.

Chapman, the St. Catherine street bookseller, says that among the newest books, "The Strong Arm," by Robert Barr, has had the best sale, closely followed by "The Market Place," by Harold Frederic.

Sir Edwin Arnold will publish immediately through Harper & Brothers, America, and Mr. Barleigh, London, a translation from the Persian in prose and verse of the "First Four Bab's or Gateways of the world famous book of Sa'di, called Ghalistan."

The William Dwydale Company have just published for the author a new work entitled, "Christianity Without the Conscience." This work should command a large sale. The author's former book, "Mind and Matter," went through three

editions, and Mr. Tait has lost none of his power. The work treats of evolution proper in a unique and masterly way.

There is a general feeling among the trade in Canada that our paper-covered novels are too high priced; and, judging from the large and increasing demand for cheap literature, it would, it is thought by many, pay our Canadian publishers to consider how they could retain the trade and make it impossible for the cheap American reprints to not only come in, but carry off a large part of the sale. Our market at best is limited, and what "we have, we should hold." This can be done by a good 25c. line.

London Academy prize competition for a list of reading for holidays, dividing the day into six periods. (a) in bed before getting up, (b) in the middle of the morning while resting, (c) after lunch in a hammock, (d) after tea, (e) after dinner, and (f) in bed before sleep, and requiring a different book for each time. Some excellent suggestions have been received in reply. The one deemed best was from H. Head, Buckingham, Old Shoreham, Sussex, and was as follows: (a) "Jungle Book," (b) "Complément Angler," (c) "Virginitus Puenisque," (d) "Pride and Prejudice," (e) "Boswell," (f) "Martaigue."

W. Foster Brown has just received a couple of books from Harper & Brothers that are most interesting, and should meet with a good sale to those who are interested in the doings in foreign countries. They are "Enchanted India," by Prince Bojdar Karageorgevitch, being a description of a tour throughout the various provinces and cities of India, and describing the customs and habits of the people and the progress being made. The other is "Japan in Transition," by Stafford Ransome, showing the improvements and growth of Japan's trade, education, and general customs since its war with China. The books are nicely bound in cloth, and retail at \$1.75 for "Enchanted India" and \$3 for "Japan in Transition."

#### A SAMPLE-ROOM AT THE FAIR.

Buntin, Gillies & Co., Hamilton, are going to try and make things pleasant for the paper and stationery trade who may visit the Toronto Industrial Exhibition. They are to have a sample-room there which will be furnished with desks, chairs, etc., for the convenience of the trade. Visitors will be also be able to leave their addresses to the care of the sample-room, while not the least of the important considerations is that all the firm's travelers will be in attendance to extend the "glad hand."

#### HALL CAINE'S "PARALLELISM."

The letter which appeared in Literature some weeks ago, in which Mr. Hall Caine's appreciation of certain passages of Swift was plainly indicated, has aroused considerable interest in London, but not much in Canada. Here he has never been referred to as having any special "style," and no beginner in letters could possibly draw inspiration from his writings, which are morbid in the extreme, and, as has been well said, calculated to increase the prosperity of sanitariums. We are, as Emerson has written, as much informed of a writer's genius by what he selects as by what he originates: "The profoundest thought or passion sleeps as in a mine, until an equal mind and heart finds and publishes it."

Literature, which was the first to call attention to the "parallelism" between Mr. Caine and Swift has thought it just to publish the only rejoinder that has been made. Mr. Caine's friend, Mr. Kenyon, has this to say in the matter:

Mr. Hall Caine rarely breaks silence either to correct the numerous mistakes of his critics or to defend the views he has expressed in his novels. This being so, you may, perhaps, excuse my writing to inform you that a few days prior to the publication of "The Christian" in book form Mr. Caine acknowledged to his readers, through the medium of interviews, etc. that he had used freely extracts from books, newspapers, diaries, letters, and many other quite legitimate sources of information, for the purpose of making his book as true and lifelike as possible. He made no secret whatever of this, and the instance you quote is one out of several which I have myself discovered or which have been pointed out to me.

To this Literature adds: "This is very lucid and temperate under the circumstances. It is to be regretted that the 'interviews' as well as the 'etc.' did not appear in an appendix to Mr. Caine's book. It is almost too much to expect that the five hundred thousand readers that the author has in the United States should be subscribers to the journal in which Mr. Caine's interesting confessions were made.

"But, after all, if Swift does not complain, who should?"

#### DEVELOPMENT OF A STATIONERY BUSINESS.

There is no branch of retail trade that offers greater reward for industry and enterprise than does the stationery and fancy goods business. The variety of goods that can be carried by, and are natural stock-in-trade of, the fancy goods dealer is such that progress is the inevitable result of an industrious attempt to build up this business. An excellent illustration of this fact is given in the manner in which J. W. Hamly, Picton, Ont., has built up his business. Mr. Hamly started a stationery business in Picton six years ago. And the store in which he started was the smallest in the town. Six years' work has, however, resulted in such growth that he has been compelled to move into the largest store in the town. It is 150 x 26 feet. Mr. Hamly carries wall paper, art shades, curtain poles, toys, games, fancy goods and music; is news agent; makes a specialty of picture framing and carries on a book and job printing business.