

# Books and Notions,

## A MONTHLY JOURNAL,

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE

### Book, Stationery and Fancy Goods Trades

OF CANADA.

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**J. J. DYAS, Publisher.**

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*If you want a situation in any of the above lines, remember that BOOKS AND NOTIONS is the only paper that will be likely to aid you. A specially low rate, write for it.*

#### WHY DON'T YOU WRITE?

From time to time we have called the attention of subscribers to the propriety of writing occasionally on matters relating to their locality, or on some broader subject of trade interest. But few have responded. We again tell them that our columns are open, and we will insert anything of real interest. Having strong views on various matters of trade questions it is strange we hear of little or no dissent from opinions expressed. We like a good, honest combatant, one who will hit hard in one's own paper, and not talk behind one's back about what, perhaps, he is grievously mistaken. Let communications be brief and to the point. No place is of too little interest to write of. No dealer of so little importance that cannot give at least one thought that is worth publishing.

We hope we will not have to ask again.

#### ONE MORE.

A new history primer has just been issued with the imprint of the Copp, Clark Co. as publishers.

The book is a cheap one, considering its style and size. We say nothing of the contents; it is only of the book as an article of merchandise in which the trade is really interested. After the completion of the book the Minister insisted on a reduction of price to that now fixed—35 cents—and so of course reduced the profits. Notwithstanding this the firm determined on making the discount 25 per cent. We note this particularly, inasmuch as this same firm is one of the iron-clad-combination—no penetration of the self-constituted bond of small discount—and now places on record the fact that 20 per cent. is not sufficient discount on school books. Such being the fact it makes the smaller allowance all the more indefensible, though this house by their action show an inclination to meet the just demands of the retail dealer.

The discount of 25 per cent. is sufficient for authorized school books that must be used, and we are satisfied that it is on the whole better than a larger one, for the inclination of some of the trade is so much to give away the advantages they get, that some slaughterer would be sure to try and make a "leader" of this line to the disarrangement of the whole trade.

#### A KINDRED ORGANIZATION.

There are so many druggists who are much interested in the book business (witness the presence of Niblett, (Dundas), Bosworth, (Stratford), and Michener, (Listowel,) at the meetings of the association), that anything pertaining to the apothecaries' welfare should find record in this journal.

Following the example of Hamilton, London, Kingston, and Brantford, the druggists of Toronto, wholesale and retail, met last month under the chairmanship of R.W. Elliot (Elliot & Co.), to form an association whose objects would be to shorten the hours of business—nine o'clock would be "early closing" for a Toronto druggist—maintain a uniform scale of prices and regulate other matters of internal economy. Those with whom we have conversed speak hopefully of success, although there are a couple of leading dealers who at the present time are objecting. We wish the new body every success.

No better selection could have been made than Alex. Mathieson and Henry Hutchinson as Presidents respectively of the Huron and Toronto District associations. Men whom all respect, the associations respected themselves in making them their first Presidents.

#### TAKE CARE!

More than one of our trade have had to pay pretty dearly lately for selling music—mainly from the