which has been whitewashed, it is necessary to sponge the wall with saleratus water or vinegar.

The announcement is made by Mr. Robert D. Richardson, stationer, &c., Winnipeg, that the increase of business in his printing and manufacturing departments, as well as general stationery business, has been so great that he will withdraw from the bookselling and fancy goods business.

It is something worth knowing that by means of a year's subscription of two dollars to *The American Bookmaker*, an attractive and sensible monthly, typographically beautiful, any one may become entitled to receive without extra cost, the "American Dictionary of Printing and Bookmaking," which is being issued in parts. Howard Lockwood & Co., publishers, New York.

Ink dries quickly, it is said, on any paper which has been wetted in water mixed with glycerine. "Broadsides," composed in large type, dry in a quarter of an hour if printed on paper thus damped, while several hours are necessary for drying if the paper be simply wetted with clear water.

Respecting the list of books and magazines for farmers which the Ontario Government has lately printed and circulated, we understand it to be simply a catalogue, intended to suggest to the agriculturist the book or paper he wants, and to give him the bookseller's price, or if a journal, the publisher's price. We do not understand that the Government of the province is going into the business of furnishing books free to farmers—they have not reached that pitch of free-handed folly, although the city of Toronto has agreed to do it in school books. Nor yet is it proposed by Government to go into the book-selling business. If it did so, we should say it was going beyond its functions.

The firm of Boorum & Pease, manufacturers of blank books and albums, New York, is now in liquidation, having sold its business, plant, patents, copyrights, &c., to the Boorum & Pease Company, organized under the laws of New Jersey. The new company has a capital of $750,000, and among its officers are George L. Pease, president; William B. Boorum, first vice-president; G. C. Boorum, secretary and treasurer.

George Mather's Sons, makers of printing ink in New York, N. Y., have been succeeded by a new firm under the same style.

Perforated metal seems destined to play a large part in this year's fancies, says the *American Stationer*. It got a good start last season, and is going farther.

JOTTINGS FOR GROCERS.

The wide awake grocer does not leave his window-dressing until holiday time. He will keep his goods attractively arranged all the year round. It is one of the best schemes for enticing a shopper inside.

Storekeepers who require to use lamps in their stores will not be troubled with the oil running over on the outside of the lamps, if they keep the wicks turned down below the tube when not lighted. This is what the Boston *Journal of Commerce* says, anyway.

Lemons are used for soap in many countries where they grow. When the men and women of the East Indies want to wash their hands, they squeeze the juice of a lemon over them briskly in water until they are clean.

The St. Louis *Grocer* thinks that it is much more satisfactory to be able to say that money has been made than to tell of a big business with no profit.

Some one who professes to know says that thirty-four pounds of raw sugar make twenty-one pounds of refined.

Tommy—"What is a running account? Pa says its an account merchants have to keep of customers that are in the habit of running away from paying their bills."

Uncle—"That's one definition of it."

Tommy—"Is there another?"

Uncle—"Yes. A running account is, in some instances, an account that gets tired out running, after awhile, and then it becomes a standing obligation."—*Boston Courier*.

Many grocers are provokingly slow in rendering accounts. The reason that certain customers are known to be "good pay" is a poor one for delaying the rendering of a statement. Cash—or as good as cash—customers like to know how they stand at least every month. They give him no concern and deserve prompt attention. So do poor pay buyers—but attention of a different sort.

The Fraser River Freezing Company has received a telegram to ship another car of frozen salmon to Hamburg, Germany. Fifteen tons will be forwarded at once.

Count Jumilhac and M. Von Brabant, of the chicory manufactory at Whitewood, in the Northwest, have been impressing upon farmers the advantage of growing chicory, and amongst other places where the industry was last year adopted were Oak Lake, and near it Grand Clariere. At Whitewood in 1891, 5,000 or 6,000 bushels was harvested, and the average price was 35 to 40c. On Count Jumilhac's farm, "Richelieu," improved machinery has been put in, and the directors expect to turn out some 100,000 lbs. The home grown chicory when mixed with the best "mocha," is, says the Winnipeg *Free Press*, an excellent drink, and the brand "Richelieu," purchasable at from 35 to 40c., is a delicious breakfast beverage. The prospect for next year's average in chicory is very promising, and 75 to 100 acres of that crop will be sown next spring in the vicinity of Richelieu.

INSURANCE NOTES.

A very handsome showing is that made by the Canada Life Assurance Company for 1891. This strong company closed its books with a showing of over $5,500,000 of new business for last year.

They have a fire patrol in Montreal, and the citizens feel that it has done good work. This season there are twenty-two men and some ten sleighs and horses detailed for the service. The routes to be covered have been made more extensive.

The full bench of the Supreme Court at Boston has just decided against Insurance Commissioner Merrill in the appeal brought against him by the Employers' Liability Insurance Company. In May last a notice was sent to the company informing it that there was no warrant in the statute of the Commonwealth for the issuance of policies of insurance to indemnify the proprietors of elevators for possible losses arising from injuries to passengers, or the owners of horses and dogs for injuries to others than employes, or for the issuance of policies of general or public liability. The court decides that all of these are legitimate varieties of accident insurance and may be lawfully issued by the petitioner.

One of the phenomenal successes of the year in clubdom, says the N. Y. *Times*, is the new Insurance Club on Pine Street. Although still in its first youth, it already numbers 700 members. The club occupies four floors, the first two being devoted to the restaurant, with a commodious and comfortable smoking and reading room on the third floor, and a well equipped gymnasium on the top. Although the dues are only $2 a month, the service is exceptionally good, the glass, china and table linen being dainty and attractive, and the cuisine remarkably good at very reasonable prices. The initiation fee was recently increased to $25, but this seems to have had no effect in diminishing the number of applications.

Some of us remember pictures in the *Illustrated London News* of the Canadian Exhibit at the great exhibition of 1851. Along with sleds and carrioles, furs and timber—no canned fruits, or cheese, or British Columbia salmon in those days—was to be seen the hand fire-engine made by Perry of Montreal, which his dare-devil brother Fred represented, the same Fred who, a dozen years later, made so notable a display of his fire-fighting courage before Napoleon III. at a conflagration in Paris. The senior Perry, maker of this and other fire-fighting machines, died in Montreal this week, aged over 80 years. He had been a resident of Montreal since 1843.

The *Austrian Revue* relates a curious case of recognition on the part of a testator. A lately deceased gentleman, who held a life policy for £1,500, willed a complimentary sum of £50 to the agent who had induced him to assure. He stated that only for his representations and perseverance he would never have assured, because he had no direct heirs.

Excited Neighbor—"What do you let that boy of yours build a bonfire in my back-yard for?"

Placid Neighbor—"Isn't your house insured?"

E. N.—"No, it isn't."

P. N.—"That's all right. I'm an insurance agent. Here's my card."—*Detroit Free Press*.

Is murder an accident? asks the London *Insurance News*, and answers: Certainly it is, where the victim is the object of an unprovoked onslaught. An individual assaulted and murdered in the streets or elsewhere is as much the subject of an accident as if he had been cut to pieces by a train. This, at any rate, is the view of the Railway Passengers' Assurance Company. A Cumberland farmer, William Foster, was recently brutally murdered by a poacher. The company promptly paid the amount of the murdered man's insurance.

There is a writer on the New York *Times* who will soon be a fit subject for the Keeley gold cure. He seems to be hopelessly addicted to Beers.

Up to the hour of going to press forty-two thousand (42,000) copies of our articles on "Counterfeit Life Insurance," which appeared in the issues of Dec. 11 and 18th last, have been ordered for agents by the leading life underwriting companies in Canada and the United States. Orders are being received every day. Those who have not written for a supply had better do so now before the type is distributed.

MONTREAL CLEARING-HOUSE.

We are without our usual daily figures of this Clearing House. The manager wired us as under: Clearings, $12,112,324. Balances $1,773,705.