

some extent the worthless stuff which is sold now so widely.

The departmental stores will continue to undersell the bookstores, no matter what they do. For it may not be a gain in one department, but is made up in another. Again, the quality of paper is very often inferior. This is not generally known. But the departmentals very often get an edition specially bound to suit themselves, and printed on cheap paper, which enables them to sell at a price impossible to the ordinary merchant.

THE TRADE IN MONTREAL.

From THE BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER'S Special Correspondent

MONTREAL, April 3.

EVERYONE has been sitting up nights reading "To Have and To Hold." It is far and away the most popular book of the hour, and will likely continue its hold on readers for some time. Now that the 75c. edition is out, the demand is ten fold increased. Another paper edition has been very much in request, i.e., "The Transvaal from Within." This book gives as good an account as any of the situation which has led up to present conditions in South Africa. In fact, Mr. Chamberlain has recommended it in answer to certain questions in the House of Commons. This has been an excellent advertisement of the book. The other book of the month is G. W. Steevens', just published. Though there is but a comparatively small amount for the 75c., still the author's name carries weight enough to warrant it, and the book has had a plentiful sale. As for the rest, they are practically synonymous with those of last month. One or two that are more or less prominent are: "History of the Boer Trek," by Henry Cloete; "Babes in the Bush," by Baldrewood, the cheap edition of "By Right of Sword," "Adrienne de Portails," by Arch. Clavering Gunter, and "A Son of Erin," by Annie Swan.

The Montreal News Company have a 50c. edition of "The Heart of Princess Osra," by Anthony Hope. They also announce that on April 9 they will have a picture of the Battle of Paardeberg, in which the Canadian regiment took part. This will be in colors, 30 x 22. On the same date they will be ready with the first of a series of booklets, called "Commanders of the Empire," No. 1, which is now here, is devoted to the 12 British generals now in South Africa, or who have lately fallen there. Condensed biographies of all are given in the front, and excellent photo-engravings constitute the rest. The booklet is an exceedingly pretty one, and will

retail at 30c. The photos are of Roberts, Kitchener, Buller, Warren, Baden-Powell, White, French, Macdonald, Wauchope, Gatacre, Symons and Methuen.

There has just appeared a very good thing in the form of a serio comic map of Europe, by Fred Rose, author of "Angling in Troubled Waters." The map shows in caricature the present political attitude of the different countries. For instance, Britain and Ireland are thus represented: England is John Bull, standing with loads of ammunition, etc., and being attacked by two wild cats, while Ireland is in the form of a woman making at John Bull, but held around the waist by a man (the loyalty of the people). France is busy with a doll's house (the Exposition), but has one hand ready to scratch John Bull, and with the other beckons Germany to back her up. Portugal is a key—the Delagoa Bay business. Russia is an octopus, with antennas surrounding many European States, and so on, through the whole continent.

Since the middle of February the trade has been a little more slack than before. This is not to be wondered at, considering that so few new books are forthcoming. The ladies are busily engaged in picking up the new fashion books, of which there are plenty.

Easter cards are attracting some attention, but there is no undignified rush for them, and few of the stores are making extensive displays. The trade is very quiet, and has little to say for itself. This is, perhaps, the case more in the city than throughout the country. Here the latest news of the war is so eagerly sought in the newspapers, that there is not so much time for steady reading. But where newspaper reports are slower, etc., the trade is reported better.

NOTES.

In cooperation with William Heinemann, of London, and with Hachette et Cie., of Paris, Frederick A. Stokes will shortly offer a fully illustrated "Guide to the Paris Exposition." It is said that the book will be the most complete of its sort ever issued, and will contain 13,000 illustrations, 30 maps and plans, and 500 original articles. It will give all practical information and will cost 50c.

"Richard Carvel" is in its 340th thousand. The 26th edition has been announced. "David Harum" is near the 500,000 mark.

J. S. M.

THE CANADIAN COPY BOOK.

THE Canadian copy book which is being distributed gratis by the High Commissioner among schools in the United Kingdom is a very neat production, and calculated to impress upon the youth of the country some essential, but we fear only too little known facts regarding Britain's greatest colony. The style of writing encouraged is somewhat stiff, round and slightly back-handed. The texts consist for the most part of useful facts about the Dominion, but there are some exceptions. Thus one says, "The American continent belongs mostly to the British Empire," which is not a fact in the sense in which the schoolchild is likely to accept the phrase; and the second, "British possessions can feed the whole world," which we doubt. From this point, however, are given such valuable information and advice as—"Domestic servants



ALEXANDER MCLACHLAN
(From a photo taken by Arthur Cox, A.R.C.A.)

are in demand in Canada," "Join those who are colonizing in Western Canada," "Pre-eminent Canada stands as a wheat producer," until for no apparent reason we are told that "X is a capital letter extremely seldom used." A good finish up is made with such sentences as—"Montreal, the head of ocean-navigation in Canada," "Ottawa, the seat of Canadian Government," and, "St. John, a Canadian harbor open the year around." But besides being a help to penmanship, the copy book should serve as a reader for the children, and perhaps, finally, a small hand-book to Canada for the parents, for attached to the publication are a number of pages of interesting and practical information on the resources and products of Canada.—London Canadian Gazette.

A new use for blotting paper has been found, namely, to stop bleeding of the nose. Cut some blotting paper about an inch square, roll it about the size of a lead pencil, and put it up the nostril that is bleeding.