

WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS—Continued

pilasters on each side, and beyond this on both sides some twenty or more samples of the paper produced when our grandmothers were young. The central decoration demands notice first, because it was awarded Society of Arts medal in 1849. The large central portion is plain watered paper, or 'tab,' as it is technically called. This is enclosed with a neat little gilt border with appropriate corners. Then there is a margin of plain distempered work, and beyond, on each side, handsome Arabesque pilasters. These form a wonderful piece of work, no less than 120 blocks having been used in printing them, and as many as 40 colors having been employed. Although the result is certainly satisfactory, one cannot refrain from thinking how much better results could be obtained from the same number of colors to-day. And this leads us to compare the samples of paper with those on the adjacent wall. We can say this for the old-time samples—they were evidently well printed with the highest class materials. The colors and the gilt show up as clear and as pure, almost, as the day the papers were printed. But the designs! In looking at one, and comparing it with the other, the crude efforts of a clever child, as compared with the finished work of an experienced artist, comes to one's mind. Not that the sixty-year-old samples are really crude. A close examination makes it abundantly clear that they are the work of men thoroughly earnest in the task they had set themselves. Still, there is ample evidence of a want of system, of a groping in the dark, that renders the design altogether unsatisfactory. Nor can it be said that the section devoted to 1849 showed much progress. The designs are a little more daring, but that is all."

CANADIAN WALL PAPER ABROAD.

It is interesting to follow the exports of Canadian wall paper. They began some years ago, but it is only since 1895 that the official statisticians made any effort to get the correct totals. The probability is that they are larger than appears now in the Ottawa returns, as export figures are never as carefully corrected as those relating to goods which come inward and pay duty to the Customs. The figures for the last three years are:

	Quantity.	Value.		
1895	9,760 rolls	\$2,235		
1896	35,567 "	3,593		
1897	36,524 "	3,726		
Quantities exported to				
	G.B.	U.S.	Africa	Australia.
1895.....	6,391	3,340
1896	285	25,173	3,523	290
1897.....	5,304	18,539,	7,899	5,061

OBITUARY.

THEODORE W. GREGORY.

THE death of Theodore W. Gregory, publisher and importer of books, took place in the Toronto General Hospital on Saturday, February 26, after an operation for appendicitis. Mr. Gregory was a young man of only 25 years, but already he had given promise of marked talents. He was an Ontario boy, born on the farm, and, coming to Toronto shortly after leaving school, entered the book business with Vannevar, on Yonge street. Later on, he entered the employ of D. Appleton & Co., New York, and, after a successful term with them, returned to Canada as agent for some of their books. Adding other books to his line, he sold largely to the principal retail bookmen in Canada, being noted for good taste in choice of books and shrewd judgment in knowing what books would sell in Canada. Last year Mr. Gregory was associated with Mr. George Morang in the latter's new publishing business, and a few months ago decided to resume his own business and do a little publishing on his own account. He went to New York to make arrangements, and issued an edition, in handsome cloth, of "Gladstone's Life," by McCarthy, and a cloth edition of Stead's book on Tammany. He was sanguine of the success of these, but he took ill in New York and was removed to Toronto for treatment. After several weeks' rest it was decided to perform an operation for appendicitis. Death resulted, however, to the great regret of many who admired the young man's abilities and industry, and who lament a promising career so suddenly terminated. The remains were taken for interment in the Friends' burying place, near Norwich, Ont., February 28. Mr. Gregory leaves a young widow and one son. One brother is Mr. W. D. Gregory, the well-known Toronto barrister. The editor of THE BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER came frequently in contact with Mr. Gregory, and found him always bright and energetic, full of ideas, and possessing a thorough knowledge of the books of the day. He was, in many respects, a typical young Canadian of the best class, and would have won great success if he had been spared to enjoy the fruits of his industry.

GEORGE M. ROSE.

George McLean Rose, publisher, head of the firm of Hunter, Rose & Co., died at his home in Toronto, Feb. 10, after a protracted illness. Mr. Rose was greatly respected, and had held for many years a prominent position in the publishing and printing industry. He was born in Caithness-shire, Scotland, in 1829, and began work in a

newspaper office at John o' Groat. R.-moving to Canada with his parents in 1851, he settled at Montreal, and, with his brother Henry, went into the book and job printing business. Later on he was interested in newspaper ventures at Merrickville and London, Ont. Becoming associated with Samuel Thompson, the Toronto printer, Mr. Rose went to Quebec in 1859 to look after the Government printing, which had been awarded to the office, and the following year formed the firm of Hunter, Rose & Co. The present firm, therefore, is 38 years old, and the two senior members being dead, the surviving partners are Messrs. D. A. Rose, W. M. Rose, and G. M. Rose, sons of the recently deceased gentleman. The firm did the Government printing in Ottawa and Toronto for several years, until Mr. Rose concentrated his establishment in the latter city, and added the publication of copyright books to the business. Mr. Rose was an alderman in Toronto for several years, took a great interest in temperance work, and was widely known as a man of kindly nature and good abilities.

NEW SAFETY ENVELOPES.

RIVETED letters are a decided novelty, and are the outcome of the desire to invent an absolutely safe envelope. Whether the problem has been solved now, I leave to the judgment of more competent people, but I think that the riveted letter might strike the fancy of fashionable and other people who like something novel. The envelopes, which can be secured by rivets, are perforated in one or more places, and before closing the letter, the stem of the rivet, which possesses a flat head, is pushed through the small holes from the inside of the envelope and the flap then stuck down. Over that small stem a small nut with a conical hole is placed. This hole is wider at the top part where the stem protrudes. All the parts are made of lead or some other equally soft metal. In order to secure the rivet a head has to be hammered out of the protruding stem. For this purpose a steel mould or seal is placed over it, and driven home either with the aid of a hammer or with a flat hand. The stem then fills up the conical hole in the nut with which it forms one solid piece, showing the clear impression of the seal. It is quite obvious that to clandestinely open and again close a thus secured letter would be difficult, if not impossible. I think stationers will agree with me that the riveted letter is a pretty and perhaps even valuable idea, and the necessary tools in suitable boxes would without doubt form an attractive stationery novelty.—Berlin Cor. Stat. Trades Journal.