

The fights and miniature wars do not take place, but the imagined stories make thrilling reading, and that is what Americans like. Of course the railroad magnates over there encourage that sort of literature, for it gives the strikers a bad reputation and helps the cause of those who are engaged in the task of seeing how much slavery can be got out of men for the lowest possible wage.

"After reading that paragraph one cannot help feeling thankful that, even if the not stories are lies (which, goodness knows, they are not), the hars who wrote them are gifted hars. It would be heartrending if they were such stupid and uninteresting hars as the Toronto man in question."

The other day I saw something in the British Columbia Commercial Journal which touched my heart. It was an editorial headed "Stop my Paper." I quote it in full:

"The men who insist that the paper they read shall never

say anything contrary to their view are the ones who are responsible for the craven cowardliness and the weather-cock propensities of modern journalism. In a community composed entirely of these "stop my paper!" gentlemen, true, independent journalism would be an impossibility. When you are convinced that a paper is dishonest and deceitful, stop it. When convinced that it is unclean, stop it. When it lacks enterprise and fails to give you the news, stop it. When some other paper gives you more of value, stop it. But don't stop that paper you believe to be honest, courageous, enterprising, and clean, simply because its editor has written his own sincere views instead of yours or somebody's else, for if you do, you are putting a premium on insincere journalism and serving notice on an editor that the way to succeed is to write what he thinks will best please his readers instead of what he honestly believes to be the truth."

This little article contains a deal of sense.



THE COPYRIGHT TANGLE.



Of the British publishers, the British Parliament and the Canadian Government imagine for one moment that by delay they can kill the agitation in this country for the enforcement of the Canadian Copyright Act of 1880, they are mistaken. The injustice of the present state of the law is becoming more and more apparent and more and more galling. Time reveals weak spots, the snarls and the tangles. The people are waiting, but they will not always wait.

The Toronto Globe has a recent editorial on the subject. It is worthy of consideration:

"Recent illustrations furnished by the Canadian Bookseller give evidence that the sense of injustice in this country regarding the working of the British copyright law is not abating. This feeling has been intensified by the statements made at an authors' dinner in London that Canadian publishers were guilty of systematic piracy. The fact seems to be that the boot is on the other leg, and that Canadian publishers must look on without interference while, through the action of the English copyright law, the book trade of Canada is drifting into the hands of American publishers.

"A recent example is that of the writings of Rolph Boldrewood, an Australian author, who has lately placed before the

public the novel entitled "A Modern Buccaneer." Messrs. Macmillan hold the copyright for both Britain and the United States. No Canadian firm can reprint the book, and Messrs. Macmillan do not propose to print it in Canada. The American edition is published in Boston, and this is supplied to the Canadian trade. The net result of the law in this case is that the hands of Canadians are tied by the decision of the publishers not to issue a Canadian edition, and that the people of the Dominion if they wish to read the book will be forced to buy the American edition. If Canadian copyright were in force the book would be published in Canada before the author could have the exclusive right of sale in the Dominion.

"Another recent instance of the unfair treatment meted out to Canada under existing conditions is to be found in the difficulty in which William Briggs found himself with "The Raiders," S. R. Crockett's latest work. Mr. Briggs purchased the right to issue the work in Canada. Within three months the British publishers sent out to this country a cheap paper edition in competition with the Briggs' issue. The law seems to confer the right to do so, but it was rather sharp practice. To meet the situation Mr. Briggs had to issue a cheap paper edition. In this instance a Canadian paid for his copyright under the British law, and found himself robbed of all advantage. The position of affairs is such as must inevitably lead to constant friction. The only adequate solution of the difficulty is that Canada shall insist upon the recognition of her right to make independent laws of copyright."



THE ST. THOMAS JOURNAL AND A PULP LOG DUTY.

PRINTER AND PUBLISHERS articles on the paper and pulp industries have created much talk, but few writers have ventured to criticize them. The St. Thomas Journal, however, made an attempt. Its editorial reads thus:

"Large quantities of pulp made from spruce and poplar are now being shipped from the United States to England, there to be made into paper, and our Toronto contemporary, which sees through free trade spectacles when it wants to buy anything, is urging the Dominion Government to place an export duty on the logs of which this pulp is made in order that the Americans

may not use our wood, and that Canadians themselves may make and ship the pulp to England.

"It would be far more rational to urge that all impediment to the cheap manufacturing of pulp and paper be removed, so that our Canadian manufacturers may control the foreign market by virtue of the cheapness and quality of their product. The chemicals which are used in the manufacturing of paper are now subject to a heavy duty. Were this removed there is no good reason why such a firm as the E. B. Eddy Co., of Hull, for illustration, should not be able to supply the English market with greater profit to itself than could any firm in the United States.