

amount doing in holiday goods, which are selling better than many dealers anticipated. Manufacturers of these goods are quite busy and expect that business will increase as soon as the small trade, which is still cautious about buying, becomes less conservative and acquires more confidence in the market. The ink manufacturers are doing little just now except to fill orders made earlier in the season, and the envelope trade presents no different features from those last reported.—*The American Stationer*, Nov. 6th.

**NOTIONS.**—"How is the notion trade, you ask?" "Well, it is quiet. Quiet as a bell without a clapper. October has gone behind the customary returns and November starts in slowly." These were the answers of a jobber in answer to a reporter's questions. Another said: "People have not settled down to business. \* \* \* In the country stores, in the operation of talking about the campaign and chewing apples, they forget all about what their wives sent them to procure.—*The Notions and Fancy Goods Record*.

**TORONTO.**—The wholesale trade in books and stationery is at pretty much of a stand still in selling. Too late for regular fall sales, too early for sorting up. Still there is quite enough to keep the hands from being idle. Collections on the whole are not very good. Most of the houses report them as only fair, the principal exception being one who had customers' paper, amounting to \$4,000, maturing on the 4th and 5th, all of which was paid except about 12½ per cent., and this included two small notes of insolvent firms.

The fancy goods trade is not very brisk one house again being the exception in both sales and collections. There is not at all the amount of business doing that was anticipated a month or six weeks ago.

In the retail trade there is nothing particularly to note. With two or three exceptions trade is reported dull. Collections locally are not to say bad, about as good as former years.

## Correspondence.

### THE COPYRIGHT LAWS.

To the Editor:

SIR,—With regard to the existing copyright laws, and how they affect Canada, I am at one with Mr. G. M. Adam, and hope his remarks in your last issue on this subject will be widely read and carefully considered by authors and the members of the book trade.

After many years' experience in the publishing business, I have come to the conclusion that it is almost useless to attempt building up a large and profitable publishing trade in our country, unless our government takes the matter of copyright in hand, and insists that Great Britain treat us as part of the Empire.

As the British Copyright Act is at present understood and worked it is all one sided, that is, it gives the United States author and publisher entire possession of our markets. Such "dog-in-the-manger" authors as "Mark Twain" can copyright their works in Britain, and refuse us the privilege of republication, even when a fair price is offered for the right.

1884.

## FALL ANNOUNCEMENT.

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