



The wholesale fancy goods trade in this city has been somewhat injured this past few months by the selling of a certain fancy goods stock at cut prices to clear. But now that this stock is nearly all picked up, trade is becoming more normal. By the elimination of these fancy goods the remaining houses are experiencing a slight increase in trade. This will not be very great, but the lessening of competition will lessen losses and prevent cutting. This will have a beneficial effect on both wholesale and retail trade, as the latter will not be so likely to become over loaded.

Orders are numerous but not bulky, as dealers seem to be buying quite cautiously. This is a good sign, with regard to stability of trade.

Messrs Brown Bros have just received a nice line of fancy Japanese basket ware, which are useful in the office and can be utilized by the ladies for ornamentation. The shipment includes waste-paper baskets in different weaves and shapes, document baskets, writing desks, and pen and pencil boxes. Bedecked with ribbons, these articles form nice Christmas presents for business men. Besides being always a staple line.

Messrs. Nelson & Sons are showing a beautiful range of Jardineres or fancy flower pots, including enameled ware, majolica, and phoenix art china. A variety of sizes and designs are shown. They have also a beautiful range of the celebrated Royal Bona ware, comprising a full range, from small jugs to large mantle centrepieces. Another attractive line of fancy goods shown at present is a line of ornamental mirrors, comprising single, double and triplicate mirrors in heavy gilt and silver frames. The line includes photo frames of similar design. The designs are new and with a quiet but very pretty effect.

A fast selling line of stand work-baskets is being shown by W. H. Bleasdel & Co. These are extremely pretty as well as eminently useful, and should take well with the buying public. The variety is extensive and the goods are of well finished wickerwork. They are also showing a very extensive line of dolls, some of which are very pretty. The dressed dolls include several lines which show extreme care and excellent taste on the part of the manufacturer.

Hemming Bros. are continuing to uphold their reputation for manufacturing fast-selling novelties in fancy goods. Their oak toilet cases and handkerchief boxes have been a strong feature of the fancy goods market this season, the sale having been great. Some very pretty things in chambré manure sets and dressing cases are shown; these have been prepared especially for the better class of trade. Their celluloid photo holders with the patent roll have had an enormous sale this season, and seem to be holding their own very well. Another of their leading lines this season is that of photo boxes. Several very pretty varieties are shown in plush covering, with metal ornamentation. They are also manufacturing several patent lines of photo holders which are not easy

of description, but which are nevertheless simple in their use and well adapted for holding and showing photos without the slightest injury to the picture. Dealers should examine these lines.

One of the latest novelties made by Boyd, Bower & Brunell is a fancy ballon match holder. The upper or ballon part is made of an incandescent light globe, covered with silk netting. The lower part is a small Japanese basket, fitted with a glass tumbler, and trimmed with fancy ribbons and pompons. This is attached to the ballon by strands of silk. The novelty may be attached to a gas jet as a receptacle for burnt matches or used for other purposes. Another novelty is an egg cosy specially designed by this firm for the home trade. The cover is made of elderdown flannel, fastened with bows of ribbon, and in the interior is a wire frame, surrounded by elderdown cloth and holding four or seven eggs. This forms an extremely pretty as well as useful novelty. The great American craze is now for tinted or French painted pattern goods in linen, Bedford cord, sorrento cloth and art flannels. The firm are showing a full range of these beautiful goods, in slideboard covers, table covers, cushions, splashers, etc. These goods are guaranteed to wash and the colors will be preserved as fresh as before.

One of the newest lines in fancy goods is a very pretty enamelled ware. It is made from wood or cane, but enamelled so as to imitate the various colors of celluloid. The inventor or manufacturer of these goods has made a happy hit; and when these goods are decorated in various ways they make the noblest knickknacks that have been shown for some time. Towel holders are made of rings of this material and satin or silk ribbons; previously brass rings were used, but were much more expensive. Sponge racks are very nobby; but when these racks are lined with some delicately colored gauzy material and ornamented with little bows of ribbons, they make neat catch-alls to hang on the wall of a room for receptacles for spoons, button hooks or any little articles that are likely to be lost if not kept in a certain place. Very pretty rattles are made from rings of this material decorated with ribbons and cobwebbed in the centre with silk cord; little brass bells are fastened at various distances on the cords.

Darner sets are a taking novelty. A glove darner set consists of a wooden darner for inserting into the finger of the glove, a shape of wax, an emery bag for cleaning the needle, and a button bag. These are all fastened together in a neat way by ribbons. A similar set is used for darning stockings. These are sold by the Boyd, Bower & Brunell Co. They show also a very pretty brush and comb holder, which is made of a square of tinted cloth worked in silk, fastened on covered pasteboard, this being caught up at two diagonally opposite corners, thus forming an oval receptacle. It is then finished with a rill of silk and lace and tied with a bow-knot of ribbons. They are also expecting novelties in hand-painted toilet stuff, and these goods will be in stock in a few days.

Most of the wholesale dry goods houses are now preparing lines of fancy

goods suitable for the holiday season, and these will be soon offered to the trade. These lines will be very new and taking, and will form a line which dealers cannot fail to make a lucrative part of their holiday stock.

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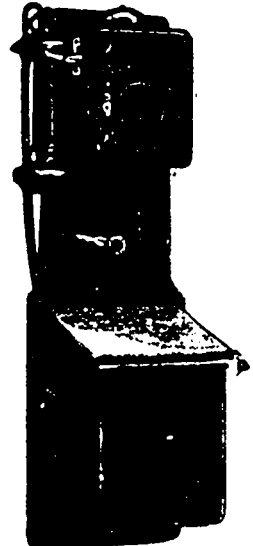
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