

ent who, two months ago wrote on the objectionable nature of some of our latter day Canadian publications, and the man who wrote to a publisher suggesting that he should go into the dime novel business, with all its objectionable features, cannot be too severely censured.

But these are but innocent child's books in contrast with the class of reading of which we have been writing. Ye who have mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, or the merest acquaintances among the gentler sex, beware how you cater to a depraved taste.

Avoid the filthy slums if you would keep your own households clean.

In the communication on London booksellers in this number it will be seen to what danger we are approaching.

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### A GREAT UNDERTAKING.

For a man of 76, the undertaking to publish a "Gazetteer of Canada," to cost about \$150,000, is an undertaking, we suppose, no other of that age would possibly think of doing. Yet John Lovell, the long time printer and publisher of Montreal, proposes to issue just such a work in nine volumes to be sold singly at varied prices, or the entire set for \$75.

The work is to be entitled "Lovell's Gazetteer and History of the Dominion of Canada," and the plan sketched out is very complete and comprehensive—the Editor-in-chief being the well-known writer, G. Mercer Adam.

A large amount has been guaranteed without, it may be said, any canvass. It is an immense undertaking under the circumstances and we can express a hope that the venerable projector will live to its completion, and certainly, judging by his vigour and steady work, it may be done.

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### LIGHTEN THE BURDEN.

THE dull routine of business brings us many a cross and many and many a care. The exactions of the creditor, the carelessness of the employee, the worry of the customer, and many other vexatious troubles, all tend to make our business days those of toil and annoyance. But why brood over little hindrances, why make sad your home at night, by being worried during the day, and bringing that worry to your fire-side, disheartening not only yourself, but your family. Have you no friend upon whom you can drop in for a few moments chat sometime during the day, some one, perhaps as doleful as yourself, but who, by rubbing elbows, may find in you and you in him some spark of geniality that will warm the cockles in your heart, and make pleasant for a time the passing hour, or still better find some jolly fellow, who in

five minutes will laugh you right out of your mopishness, and change the current of your thoughts.

A great deal depends on the first start in the morning. Given a bright, cheery companion in your walk to business, preferring if possible one of the opposite sex (our mind now reverts to one of those gifted with a bright intellectual vein, whose woman's wit is piquant, but not frivolous), and take our word for it, you will get to your office in a more cheerful mood, and will less likely be out of sorts than if you had made the journey selfishly alone. Man is a companionable animal, and still more so woman, if you can only make up your mind to get rid of your own gruffness.

And so, as we from day to day find our path oft times strewn with thorns, each to each endeavour to remove the obstacles from the other's way, and thus add to our own happiness, and gladden and cheer our neighbour's lot, sprinkling here and there a happy thought, so that he may be able to say, in speaking of himself as one of the many—

"Ilka blade o'grass has its ain drap o'dew."

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INCONTESTABLE. — That the retail members of the Association heartily approve of the full membership of wholesalers, plainly shown, among other ways, in the election of one of them as first Vice-President.

That the moral tone of the meeting was evinced very strongly in denouncing the sale of Sunday and improper papers.

That the Big Committee that meets in Toronto twice a year, will look after the financial interests of the trade—the whole trade—not simply themselves, nor Ontario alone, but the whole Dominion. But they call on those without our borders to aid when called upon.

That District Associations should be formed and fostered from Ottawa to Windsor. At the meeting over one-half of those present were members of the two organized District Associations.

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NEW FACES—Donald Bain, Joseph Fletcher, Henry Hutchison, F. Metcalf, B. H. Rothwell (a valuable addition in legislation and debate), and N. T. Wilson.

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THE report of the meeting of the Association is taken mainly from the *Mail*, some matters being added that would naturally be overlooked in reporting for a daily paper. The *World* and the *News* also gave lengthy reports of the meeting. The thanks of the Association, passed with hearty good-will, and the thanks of ourselves, are particularly due to those leaders of public opinion