

Books and Notions,

A MONTHLY JOURNAL,

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE

Book, Stationery and Fancy Goods Trades.

OF CANADA.

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J. J. DYAS, Publisher.

FOLLOWING A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Advices from Winnipeg are that the trade is considering the question of forming a Booksellers' and Stationers' Association—we presume for Manitoba. It is a hopeful sign, and one fraught with augury of good to the most honourable occupation of bookselling in the Prairie Province.

There are reasons why success should crown the effort. There is, we write from reliable information, though little personal knowledge, an intelligence among the dealers in the North-West, particularly in Winnipeg, that will compare very favourably with any.

The enterprise and courage that first incited the pioneers, and the manful struggle through the hard, hard times, shows that the material for success, individually, and therefore collectively, exists, and we will with pleasure learn of the formation of the new association, daughter of Ontario's, both in the nativity

of its members, and in following the footsteps of the parent.

Our best wishes are with you.

ANOTHER SCHOOL BOOK PUBLISHER.

In accepting the tender of the Methodist Book & Publishing House, of Toronto, for the publication of "A Manual of Hygiene," it has been stated by some that a departure has been made from the rules of trade in giving it to an establishment owned by a religious body. This, were the publication of secular works by such concerns a new thing, might be fairly opened for debate, but to question now what has been the practice for many years in different countries, and by the house now referred to,* there is no room for debate or discussion.

It is an historical fact that the great founder of Methodism, John Wesley, published several books besides those, strictly speaking, religious. The practice has been continued in England to the present day, now under the name of Theo. Woolman, who publishes a large variety of miscellaneous works. In the United States the second largest publishing house is the Methodist book concern, conducted by two stewards, in the firm style of Phillips & Hunt. To name simply two of the books published by them, we may mention "Collins' Latin Course in English," and "A short History of Rome." In Australia the Methodist Book House publishes various educational works and miscellaneous volumes.

With these examples before us and the fact that the Toronto house has from time to time given to the Canadian public a variety of secular works, we think that the book on Hygiene has found a peculiarly fitting publisher, particularly as the aim of the book steward is to give, as far as his power goes, the lessons not only of religious life, but also all that will tend to educate the people, whether in arts, mechanics, or the proper ventilation of the dwelling.

With the question of the cost of the production of this work, so much written about, we, under the circumstances, have nothing to do, as the trade is treated by the publisher with the same fairness as that characterized by the Rose Publishing Co., in giving proper discount to the trade.

*This house published a book descriptive of the Hudson's Bay Territory a quarter of a century ago, and since that a book on Logic, some sixteen years ago, which was used in educational institutions other than Methodist. Since then they have issued from time to time valuable books of education, history, poetry, &c., &c.

One of the uniting churches, the M. E. Church, through its publishing house, issued twenty years ago a book on Physiology and Anatomy.