

treasurer of the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada. In both speeches and address eulogiums of a high order were heaped upon Mr. Blain and knowing him as we have done in other spheres of action no praise would be amiss. Whatever he undertakes to do, is done, and done well.

MARRIED.—*Butler-Lawson.*—On Wednesday, Nov. 5th, by Rev. T. W. Jeffery, assisted by Rev. S. J. Hunter, Frederick Thomas Butler to Mary Maud, youngest daughter of Edward Lawson, merchant, all of Toronto.

A new blending of books and tea! That distinguished-looking traveller of W. Warwick & Son united to the daughter of Toronto's noted tea merchant. Lucky man! How awkwardly happy he looked when we wished him good luck!

ANOTHER happy man is Andrew Mackinlay, of the firm of A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax, who has formed another partnership, this time for life's journey. At St. Mary's church, Ayelsford, he was married to Miss M. E. Harris, sister of T. D. Harris, M. P. P., early in October.

Grade Reviews.

ENGLISH PROGRESS OF TRADE.

The winter of 1884-85 is likely to be a prosperous season for stationers. The novelties introduced are sure to have a good run; and the manufacturers have not, as in former years, anticipated the Christmas period by several months. The travellers in this second week of October are on their rounds with such novelties, or rather works of art, which have never before been introduced. In this special trade the old things become new, and the greater their age the more they are appreciated. There was a time when the English antiquarian would give any price for old china, for very ancient books, for ornaments of a past period, not quite dating to the period of Hengist and Horsa, but literally to the time of William the Conqueror, who certainly was possessed of stoneware and buckles which to this day are imitated.

Take fashion as it is, we say to provincial stationers. Fashion pays, and fashion must be observed if success is to follow. It is no use to say that the most novel design is the most beautiful and most practical; if fashion says you must reproduce the vessels used in Pompeii it must be done. One's own judgment is nothing. For the moment there is a love for the ancient, even in ordinary stationery. The hand-made note-paper, with its rough edges, is preferred to the gilded borderings made in accordance with the most refined taste. The modern envelope, though the gum is fancied the effectual security, has upon it a seal, either modern or antiquated, and the appearance of sealing wax suggesting safe bind, safe find. The Christmas cards which are now being submitted to local stationers, with few exceptions, are not of that advanced character in art which were formerly displayed, but take us back to old legends, old scenes, and old England as it was, rather than as it is.

This may or may not be good taste, but it is the fashionable feature of the day. The provincial sta-

tioner wants to sell—and if he sells he must have articles in accordance with fashion, otherwise he will be left out in the cold.

We cannot, however, include all articles of stationery in the ancient fashionable category. It is certain that modern albums appertain to that conclusion, and that the old, old theme of Christianity, from the birth of the Saviour to the crucifixion, must ever hold and important feature in Christmas presents; but there are novelties this year, which the English manufacturers have imported from Japan and elsewhere, which must please the public taste from their very beauty and simplicity—little tricks, funny fancies, comical characters, all of which are attractive from their very novelty.—*The British and Colonial Printer and Stationer.*

The same paper of a date two weeks later (the last one to hand), says:—Orders do not come in from local stationers to London houses commensurate with former years. It must be confessed that the home trade is not good. It may be, and we hope it will be that the orders which are protracted this year will come in voluminously hereafter. The publishers of Christmas and New Year's cards believe this will be the fact, and notwithstanding a reduction of orders they are producing the same or even an extended number to meet what they believe to the necessary supply. The fact becomes more apparent every year that the producer becomes the warehouseman, and in reality the provincial stationer orders his samples first, and transmits his additional orders afterwards.

UNITED STATES.

THE PAPER MARKET.—There has been very little change in the situation since our last review. The volume of business reported by most of our city dealers shows a fair amount doing, as compared with the previous two or three weeks, the requirements of consumers being steadily supplied at firm prices generally. The movement among the manufacturers, looking toward a reduction of the output by running the mills on part time, has had a very sustaining influence upon the market, dealers meeting with less difficulty now in securing the advance declared by the manufacturers during the early part of this month. This advance has given a little impetus to the demand, many consumers having sent in orders to the mills for goods to be made up; but the hand-to-mouth method of buying, which has been so closely adhered to for some time past by a great many buyers is still kept up, and deprives the ordinary daily operations of business, of what under ordinary circumstances might be an active and healthy trade. In some localities, a stringency of money and a difficulty of making collections is reported.

THE STATIONERY MARKET.—Trade is very quiet in most of its branches owing to election, which has kept buyers from town and also interfered with the business done by commercial travelers in consequence of the tendency to hold back orders until matters become more settled. There is a very fair local trade and reports from the traveling representatives of the various houses indicate that a good demand is expected later on in the month. As usual, the political campaign has had much to do with depressing business, but now that it is over trade of all kinds may reasonably be expected to improve. There is a fair