

ABOUT QUILLS.

A FEW days ago I saw a sight which struck me as unique and suggestive. I am sure not many of my readers have seen the like; myself, never before. A cartload of quill pens, no less! Nothing sensational, you will say; yet it is often the odd but unsensational thing that means most. Clearly, there must be a vast number of quills still in use for one stationer to receive such a stock, and I shall venture to say that few people would imagine there is any considerable business in this ancient writing instrument. You would suppose the industry to be as dead as the making of those arrows so finely sung by Sir Conan Doyle in "The White Company":—

What of the shaft?

The shaft was cut in England;

A long shaft, a strong shaft,

Barbed and trim and true;

So we'll drink all together

To the grey goose feather

And the land where the grey goose flew.

But, you see, it is not so, and despite the commonness of fountain-pens and typewriters, there must be many who still prefer the goose-quill to all new-fangled inventions. At the British museum, and in some of the public libraries,

quills are still offered to those using the reading rooms, but you seldom see people making use of them. Why anyone should prefer to scrape along with a quill, when he may have a smooth-running fountain pen, is more than I can understand. I am no admirer of the Yankee, but I thank him sincerely for inventing the fountain-pen. Mr. George Meredith, as befits one of the old school, has remained faithful to the quill, and when on one occasion I had the pleasure of seeing through his quaint little study at Boxhill, I found such an abundance of quills in his inkstand that—I confess it boldly—I made no scruple of possessing myself of one, which I treasure as a "rich legacy," to be mentioned in my will! "J.A.H." in the Bystander.

A JAPANESE AGENT.

Mr. Reginald O. Simmons, of London, Eng., and latterly of Montreal, has decided to locate in Yokohama, Japan. He wishes to secure some reliable agencies for manufacturers who are anxious to promote trade in the Far East. Mr. Simmons has excellent social and financial standing and would urge parties interested to apply promptly as it is his intention to sail for Yokohama early in October.

BEST SELLING BOOKS OF THE PAST MONTH.

As Reported by Leading Canadian Retail Dealers.

BELLEVEILLE.

1. "The Great Mogul," by Louis Tracy. McLeod & Allen.
2. "Maid Margaret," by S. R. Crockett. Copp, Clark.
3. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens. Briggs.
4. "God's Good Man," by Marie Corelli. Briggs.
5. "The Marriage of William Ashe," by Mrs. Ward. Briggs.
6. "Wings of the Morning," by Louis Tracy. McLeod & Allen.

CALGARY.

1. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle. Copp, Clark.
2. "The Great Mogul," by Louis Tracy. McLeod & Allen.
3. "The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne."
4. "Singapore," by E. W. Hornung. Copp, Clark.
5. "The Ravens," by H. Dickson. Langton & Hall.
6. "The Game," by Jack London. Morang.

CHARLOTTETOWN.

1. "The Masquerader," by K. C. Thurston. Harpers.
2. "The Way of the Sea," by Norman Duncan. Revell.
3. "The Man on the Box," by Harold McGrath. McLeod & Allen.
4. "Return of Sherlock Holmes," by A. C. Doyle. Morang.
5. "Beatrice of Venice," by Max Pemberton. Copp, Clark.
6. "Jess & Co.," by J. J. Bell. Copp, Clark.

COLLINGWOOD.

1. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle. Copp, Clark.
2. "The Winged Helmet," by H. S. MacKaye. Copp, Clark.
3. "The Sign of Triumph," by S. Stevens. Copp, Clark.
4. "The Purple Parasol," by G. B. McCutcheon. Musson.
5. "The Masquerader," by K. C. Thurston. Harpers.
6. "The Hound from the North," by R. Cullum. Copp, Clark.

QUELPHI.

1. "Rose of the World," by Agnes and Egerton Castle. Copp, Clark.
2. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens. Briggs.
3. "The Queen's Quair," by M. Hewlett. Morang.
4. "The Vagabond."
5. "Wings of the Morning," by Louis Tracy. McLeod & Allen.
6. "Mid the Thick Arrows," by Max Pemberton. Copp, Clark.

HAMILTON.

1. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens. Briggs.
2. "The Great Mogul," by Louis Tracy. McLeod & Allen.
3. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle. Copp, Clark.
4. "Sandy," by A. H. Rice. Briggs.
5. "Singapore," by E. W. Hornung. Copp, Clark.
6. "In the Bishop's Carriage," by M. Michelson. McLeod & Allen.

KINGSTON.

1. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens. Briggs.
2. "The Ravens," by H. Dickson. Langton & Hall.
3. "The Voyageur," by W. H. Drummond. Briggs.
4. "The Man on the Box," by Harold MacGrath. McLeod & Allen.
5. "The Quakeress."
6. "Dr. Luke of the Labrador," by Norman Duncan. Revell.

MONCTON.

1. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens. Briggs.
2. "Dr. Luke of the Labrador," by Norman Duncan. Revell.
3. "A Courier of Fortune," by A. W. Marchmont. McLeod & Allen.

4. "The Voyageur," by W. H. Drummond. Briggs.
5. "The Marriage of William Ashe," by Mrs. Ward. Briggs.
6. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle. Copp, Clark.

OTTAWA.

1. "Pam," by B. Von Hutten. Musson.
2. "Beverly of Graustark," by G. B. McCutcheon. McLeod & Allen.
3. "The Voyageur," by W. H. Drummond. Briggs.
4. "God's Good Man," by Marie Corelli. Briggs.
5. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens. Briggs.
6. "The Plum Tree," by D. G. Phillips. McLeod & Allen.

PETERBORO'.

1. "Marcelle," by Hampden Burnham. Briggs.
2. "Justin Wingate," by J. H. Whitson. Langton & Hall.
3. "The Prize to the Hardy," by Alice Winter. McLeod & Allen.
4. "The Ravens," by H. Dickson. Langton & Hall.
5. "A Courier of Fortune," by A. W. Marchmont. McLeod & Allen.
6. "The Purple Parasol," by G. B. McCutcheon. Musson.

ST. CATHARINES.

1. "The Masquerader," by K. C. Thurston. Poole.
2. "The Great Mogul," by Louis Tracy. McLeod & Allen.
3. "The Motor Pirate," by S. Paternoster. Langton.
4. "A Japanese Romance," by C. Holland. Copp, Clark.
5. "My Lady Clancarty," by I. Taylor. Musson.
6. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle. Copp, Clark.

SARNIA.

1. "Duncan Polite," by Marian Keith. Westminster.
2. "The Voyageur," by W. H. Drummond. Briggs.
3. "Maid Margaret," by S. R. Crockett. Copp, Clark.
4. "In the Brooding Wild," by R. Cullum. Copp, Clark.
5. "The Master Mummer," by E. P. Oppenheimer. Copp, Clark.
6. "Return," by Alice MacGowan. Copp, Clark.

TORONTO.

1. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens. Briggs.
2. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle. Copp, Clark.
3. "Nancy Stair," by Elinor M. Lane. Poole.
4. "Divine Fire," by May Sinclair.
5. "The Challoners," by E. F. Benson.
6. "Will Warburton."

WINNIPEG.

1. "Pam," by B. Von Hutten. Musson.
2. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle. Copp, Clark.
3. "Vigorous Daunt."
4. "The Great Mogul," by Louis Tracy. McLeod & Allen.
5. "A Courier of Fortune," by A. W. Marchmont. McLeod & Allen.
6. "The Pit," by Frank Norris. Morang.

CANADIAN SUMMARY.

	Points.
1. "Rose of the World," by A. and E. Castle	61
2. "The Garden of Allah," by Robert Hichens	60
3. "The Great Mogul," by Tracy	40
4. "The Voyageur," by W. H. Drummond	28
5. "The Masquerader," by Thurston	25
6. "Pam," by Von Hutten	20