

**OUT TO-DAY.**—The Canadian Franchise Act, 1885, with notes of decisions, etc., by Thos. Hodgins, Q.C., author of Hodgins' Election Cases, &c. Rowsell & Hutchinson, Toronto.

**THE BEAUTIFUL SNOW.** Duet for Soprano and Alto, Words and Music by William McDonnell, Toronto, Strange & Co. The sheet music published by this firm is well and clearly printed and they have been fortunate in their selections. "Beautiful Snow" is a pleasing piece with a taking air.

**HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND CO. ANNOUNCE "FRANK'S RANCHE."**—An English gentleman who has a son in the far West, visited him last year, and in a book entitled "Frank's Rancho" he tells the story of this visit and his observations. The sub-title, "My Holiday in the Rockies, being a Contribution to the Inquiry what we are to do with our Boys," will suggest what was in the writer's mind while on this interesting tour. Fully illustrated,

**MRS. BURNETT'S NEW STORY.**—Mrs. Frances H. Burnett, the novelist, has written a serial story for *St. Nicholas*, called "Little Lord Fauntleroy," the hero of which is a boy character, who is as new as he is delightful. Born in America, the child of a younger son of an English earl, his father dies when he is a little fellow, and by the death of his uncles, he becomes heir to the earldom. His grandfather, a cross old nobleman, who has never forgiven his youngest son for marrying against his wishes, sends for the boy and his mother. In the *March St. Nicholas* is recounted the first interview between little Lord Fauntleroy, and his grandfather,—the earl, expecting a conventional bread and butter youth, finds himself confronted with "a graceful childish figure, in a black velvet suit, with a lace collar, and love-locks waving about the handsome, manly, little face, whose eyes met his with a look of good-fellowship." And then they talk. The boy tells his grand-father all about his past life, about the corner-groceryman with whom he used to discuss politics, about Dick, the boot-black, who gave him a beautiful red silk handkerchief when he sailed away from New York, with purple horse-shoes and heads on it,—“you can wear it around your neck or keep it in your pocket”;—about “Dearest,” as he calls his mother, because he used to hear his papa call her so. “You don’t wear your coronet all the time?” remarked Lord Fauntleroy, respectfully. “No,” replied the earl, with his grim smile, “it is not becoming to me.” “In the course of the conversation, he reached the Fourth of July, and the Revolution, and was just becoming enthusiastic, when he suddenly recollected something, and stopped very abruptly. “What is the matter?” demanded his grandfather. “Why don’t you go on?” “Lord Fauntleroy moved rather uneasily in his chair. It was evident to the earl that Lord Fauntleroy was embarrassed by the thought which had just occurred to him. “I was just thinking that perhaps you mightn’t like it,” he replied. “Perhaps some one belonging to you might have been there. I forgot you were an Englishman.” The story was begun in the present volume of *St. Nicholas*, and will run through the year. Mrs. Burnett is at work on a new novel for *The Century*.

C. Blackett Robinson, Toronto, has lately published the “History of the Presbyterian Church in Canada,” by W. Gregg, D.D., and the second volume of J. O. Dent’s noted work, “The Upper Canadian Rebellion.”

**ALDEN’S CYCLOPÆDIA OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE**, vol. 1, Abbot-Arnold. John B. Alden, New York; Alden Book Co., Toronto. A good commencement at a reasonable price of such a work as should be in the possession of every bookseller, giving, as it does, all the noted writers with extracts from their works.

The work on “Disestablishment,” by Mr. Henry Richard and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, has already reached a second edition. On the other hand we note that “The Englishman’s Brief on behalf of the National Church,” issued by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge is now issued at sixpence, and the two volumes together form a convenient summary of the *pros* and *cons* of what may shortly be a burning question.

THE “Queer Stories” are to be collected from the columns of *Truth* and published in shilling volumes by Messrs. W. Swan Sonnenschen and Co., the first volume will contain thirteen stories from the facile pen of Mr. E. C. Grenville Murray, and will appear early next month. Many will be glad to renew their acquaintance with the well written tales which in *Truth* have been of a higher class than those in some monthly magazines exclusively devoted to fiction.

## PAPER.

**PRICE OF PAPER.**—During the last fifteen years, this is a subject of so much importance to printers—the chief consumers of paper—that we extract the following instructive figures from a contemporary, who publishes some interesting comments on the statistical abstract of the United Kingdom, in each of the last fifteen years, from 1870 to 1884. We learn that the price of paper (for writing or printing) imported has ranged from 51·33s. per cwt. in 1870, to 30·49s. in 1884—a fall of a really astonishing character. The suddenness, too, can scarcely be understood; for we find that 51·22s. in 1871, has become 56·33s. in 1872, 60·80s. in 1873, 53·09s. in 1874, 47·11s. in 1875, then increasing in price to 1878, and falling in 1879 to 37·40s., and so on to the 30·49s. in 1884, already referred to. If we look to the quantities imported for an explanation, we find the range from 174,000 cwts. (in round numbers) in 1870 to 200,000 in 1884—an insufficient increase by a long way to account for the decrease in price. The increase in imports is gradual up to 1875, when there is a bound, a decrease, and then a slight rise to 1884, when it was just over 200,000 cwts., as already noted. The sudden variations in price have, therefore, to be accounted for in other directions. In the exports of paper (British and Irish produce) other than hangings, we note that the average prices over the same period have ranged from £2·99 per cwt. in 1870, to £2·05 in 1884, the decline being only gradual, except in the years 1873 and 1874, when the prices reached £3·04 and £3·10. Referring to the quantities exported we find the weights wonderfully varying. They run thus, from 1870 to 1884 (in round numbers and in thousands of cwts.):—177, 228, 303, 319, 281, 318, 287,