

this issue of BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER was in the press.

But another question entirely is raised by a correspondent who writes complaining that a copyright on a book like "Sesame and Lilies" is granted at all. He points out the difficulties it entails upon the bookseller. If a provincial department of education authorizes some other edition for school use, it cannot be brought in by the trade. That is one difficulty. Another is that a set of Ruskin cannot be brought in unless the volume in the set containing the copyrighted work is left out. The same would, of course, apply to any other standard author, one of whose books happened to be copyrighted here. We agree with our correspondent that this constitutes a trade grievance. But it is in accordance with the present Copyright Act. Until that Act is altered, complaints may be expected.

There was a set-to at the meeting of the Quebec Teachers' Association over Clement's new history of Canada. Inspector Hewton, in an elaborate paper, complained that the author had not marshalled the facts of our history satisfactorily, and that the literary style of the book would not have a good influence upon those who used it. These are his objections, roughly stated. In the main, Mr. Hewton's argument is hypercritical, for though the book has faults—as every school history has—its merits outweigh them. No matter what book you use, much will depend upon the teacher. Have our teachers as a body grasped the outstanding features of Canadian history? Some of them have, and in their hands Clement's book can easily inspire the pupil with the requisite enthusiasm.

In referring last month to the absurd nature of the copyright arrangement between Great Britain and the United States, we inadvertently alluded to it as part of the Berne Copyright Convention. Of course, as our readers know, the arrangement is a special one between the two countries and is not part of the Berne Convention. By this arrangement a book printed and bound in the States is shipped over to London, and, registering there in the morning of a certain day, is considered to be issued first in England. The afternoon of the same day it is published in New York, or elsewhere in the States, and is considered to be issued first in the States. This interesting game goes on now and shows how acute we must be to keep pace with the copyright experts.

"If the bookseller possibly can," writes a subscriber who is himself a successful bookman, "he should endeavor in the magazine trade to get people to drop into

the store for their numbers rather than deliver them. Sending orders direct ought to be avoided. Remind the subscriber that copies may go astray in the mail, and none of the big magazines will replace a copy which goes astray in transit. In fact, no notice whatever is taken of complaints sent to publishers by individual subscribers. If the customer finds that there is some slight difference in price, tell him that the risk run in going through the mails is worth paying to avoid, while the folding up of copies is obnoxious to most readers. In large cities booksellers deliver by a boy, and where the store is not a central point this, perhaps cannot be avoided. But I have made so many sales by people dropping in that I write to commend that system, where possible, in the strongest way."

ENGLISH LITERARY NEWS.

AN IMPORTANT BIOGRAPHY INTERESTING TO CANADA—LORD CHARLES BERESFORD'S NELSON—COLLECTIONS OF POETRY—SOME NEW NOVELS—A BOOK FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

London, Oct. 30, 1897.

"LITERATURE," the new literary weekly published by The Times and edited by Mr. H. D. Traill, is out. It resembles The Athenæum in size, contains 32 pages, and is devoted to book reviews and news.

A biography of Lord Durham is being written by Mr. Stuart Reid. The author promises "new light" on the Canadian experiences of His Lordship, having secured a journal kept by Lady Durham during the stay in Canada of her and her husband in 1838. The journal also contains a full statement of the views of Mr. Charles Buller, whom some people have credited with inspiring, if not writing, Lord Durham's famous report. The book will be very interesting to Canadian readers.

BERESFORD ON NELSON.

Lyre & Spottiswoode have now in press a volume dealing with "Nelson and His Times," written by Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford and Mr. H. W. Wilson, author of "Ironclads in Action." Several hitherto unexamined and unpublished letters from Lord Nelson have been dealt with by the authors, and in some instances will be reproduced in fac simile. The volume will be uniform with "Sixty Years a Queen," and will be printed on art paper and profusely illustrated throughout. The work will be published in the first instance in ten parts, by Harmsworth Bros., Limited.

POETRY.

Mr. Austin Dobson has prepared for immediate publication a volume of his col-

lected poems. This book will represent 30 years' work, and includes all the poems which he considers worthy of preservation. Included in this collection are 20 pieces which have not appeared before in a volume of collected poems. Among these are the verses on Dr. Johnson, and the verses "To One Who Bids Me Sing." The volume contains a new portrait of the poet, and amounts to over 500 pages.

"Poems of the Love and Pride of England," the volume of patriotic verse which Mr. Frederick Wedmore and his daughter have been preparing for nearly two years, is now practically ready for publication, and will be issued by Messrs. Ward & Lock in very tasteful form, with a title page of special beauty. It is believed that not a single living poet of any real importance who has written patriotic verse will be found absent from the volume, while the poets of earlier generations are to be represented by some of their least known as well as by their most familiar efforts.

NEW FICTION.

Among the new novels is one by J. Henry Harris, entitled "Saint Porth: the Wooing of Dolly Pentreath," the scene being laid in Cornwall. Miss L. Quiller-Couch, the clever authoress of "Man," etc., has written her first long novel, entitled "A Spanish Maid," which will be issued immediately by Messrs. Service and Paton. Mrs. L. T. Meade has written and, Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier are publishing, a new novel called "A Handful of Silver. Mrs. Hodgson-Burnett's "His Grace of Osmand" is expected early in November. "The American Cousins" is the title of Sarah Tytler's new book being issued by Digby, Long & Co.

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS.

Messrs. Isbister announce as in the press a life of the late Mr. B. I. Barnato, by Mr. Harry Raymond.

A very interesting little work on "Child Life Under Queen Victoria," by Mrs. Furley Smith, will shortly be published by the Scientific Press.

Mr. William Heinemann has in the press "Judge Jeffreys: a Study," from the pen of Mr. H. B. Irving. It may not appear till after Christmas.

"New Lights on Siberia" is the title of a book, by Mr. J. Y. Simpson, which William Blackwood & Sons have in the press. It contains an account of a journey on the great Siberian iron road.

"The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe." Part I. By W. A. S. Westoby. London: L. Upcott Gill; 1s. A short account, illustrated, of the articles mentioned above. To those interested in philately this little book will be interesting and instructive.