

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

CITY DIRECTORY.

We respectfully call the attention of our fellow-citizens to the following :

Since 1873, when we commenced the publication of this work, we have been residents of the city, our interests centre here, and all our assistants are citizens. The work is completed here, and as it is essentially a local enterprise and business necessity, and as every citizen has an interest in it, the book should not be the property of an outsider. In November last Messrs. R. L. Polk & Co., of Detroit, Michigan, came here without announcement, and after two weeks' canvass demanded the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars to buy them off. For reasons which every man of honor can understand, we rejected the proposal, and the result is they are publishing an opposition directory, for the avowed purpose of supplanting us. Our Directory is most carefully compiled, and includes everything essential to a first-class work. The alphabetical list contains about 12,500 names, male adults and widows and females engaged in business, which, taking the city and environs at 50,000, gives 25 per cent of the whole population. Our rivals depend on public favor by offering a big book, which includes the names of youths of both sexes from 16 years of age, by giving the addresses of workmen at their places of employment, and names of casual visitors and non-residents ; in short, everything to make a large and attractive-looking work. All this is not only superfluous, but annoying and misleading, as every employer well knows. Supposing any Canadian undertook to publish a Directory of the city of Detroit, the headquarters and residence of Messrs. R. L. Polk & Co., what would be the chance of success ? Would he not soon hear there was sufficient intelligence, patriotism and encouragement for home industry without the interference of CANADIANS and FOREIGNERS ?

☞ We respectfully solicit the continued support of our fellow-citizens, assured that the city of Hamilton will never submit to the reproach of being in this essentially local matter a mere outpost of Detroit, Mich., or a small link in the chain of a foreign and selfish monopoly. R. L. Polk & Co. publish the directories of Toronto and the province of Ontario. How long would a Canadian be permitted to publish the directories of Washington and the District of Columbia ? "Headquarters for publishing Canadian directories, Detroit, Mich. ; branch office, Toronto ; sub-office, Hamilton," don't look well. It is too anti-British-Canadian. ☞ Communications on this subject solicited.

To avoid mistakes, please notice that all orders presented for signature for the City of Hamilton Directory bear our name.

W. H. IRWIN & CO.

Address, 14 Merrick Street, Hamilton, Ont.