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THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL.

THE Canadian printing trade still feel sore over the fact that this large contract for a Canadian church should have been awarded outside of the country. Both the employing printers and the type-setters object to the proceedings of the Hymnal Committee, the latter having publicly voiced their views.

This has drawn from a member of the committee, Rev. J. A. Macdonald, an explanation for the defence. In our last issue we summarized fairly this side of the case. In brief, the committee state that the Oxford tender was made on the same specifications as those on which the Canadian firms tendered; that the Canadian tenders had been all examined and rejected before the Oxford tender (which arrived late) was opened, and that the difference in the prices at which the various editions would retail was considerable. For instance, Mr. Macdonald states that the edition which will retail at 90c. could not have been sold at less than \$1.50.

Now for the other side. Our printers point out that the Oxford Press got the contract on terms that were never submitted to the Canadian firms at all. The call for tenders simply related to the printing of the book, and said nothing about publishing it, while if the Canadians had known that a monopoly of publication as well as printing was involved, they would doubtless have put in different tenders. Printers, therefore, ask why the committee, on finding that the Oxford Press put in an alternative proposition to publish as well as to print, did not give the Canadian trade a chance to tender on that basis? It is also pointed out that the Oxford dummy was on India paper, which the British Bible houses can use, while local tenderers used Canadian paper, and no other was asked for in the specifications. It is also denied that all the Canadian tenders involved the retail sale of the 90c. edition at \$1.50.

Further, it is complained that The Oxford Press have now got a monopoly of the Hymnal to bind up with their Bibles, and that this discriminates against all other Bibles imported into Canada, as far as their sale to Presbyterians is concerned.

We can simply reiterate what was said in *PRINTER AND PUBLISHER* last month, that the Canadian tenderers had no chance at all. In order to get the monopoly of publishing the Hymnal, the Oxford Press tendered away down, and would on this account have probably secured the contract in any event. At the same

time, the Canadian firms had not this proposition before them, and a large job has gone out of the country under circumstances that indicate no desire on the part of the Hymnal Committee to keep it at home.

GIVE BOTH SIDES.

A good many superior people in Canada take The New York Evening Post, an able paper and with brilliantly-written editorials. The Post during the recent Presidential contest declined to admit silver articles into its politics, and assigned the following as the reason:

"To sum up, the reason why we are not willing freely to admit Bryanites to our columns, is that we believe their platform to be, from top to bottom, irrational, immoral and anarchistic. We believe the triumph of the party would soon put an end both to free speech and free thought, would put all property in danger, would make the United States, instead of a glory and a boast, one of the most conspicuous of human failures, would roll back the tide of civilization on this continent, would exalt ignorance and folly above experience and knowledge, and would put a premium on mendacity and imposture. This being so, it will be easily seen why we do not disseminate the views of the party. In fact, to call them 'views' at all is a misnomer. They are the yawns of ignorance and folly, and there is not, and ought not to be, a place for them in any newspaper printed for intelligent men and women."

We dissent from the doctrine laid down here. The modern newspaper must give both sides fairly in its news columns. That is becoming the rule with all the best newspapers. It is of especial importance to the weekly press. In small localities, where everyone knows everyone else, a license is apt to creep into the treatment of opponents. Try the opposite plan. Do not slobber over your opponents, nor crowd out friends to oblige them, but see that the other side gets fair play.

THE GOLDING STANDARD.

The Gold standard and the Golding standard, the one in the world of finance and the other in the printing world, have synonymous significations. The Golding composing-sticks and galleys, rule, lead and card-cutters, and the Golding rule mitring, shaping and curving machines are the best value in the world. They are not the cheapest, but the best. Don't forget this when ordering; call for Golding's make, and take none other. Cheaply made "Chinese imitations" will not tempt you if you are wise.—Adv't.