

wealth and reading taste of the people. While reaping the substantial benefits of the improved and rapidly extending market of the country, the importing houses may fairly take credit to themselves for much of this result, for there has been an unusual enterprise, an untiring industry and an intelligent discernment displayed in the operations of the various houses throughout the year. Coupled with this, there has also been an increasing effort to forestall the demand in bringing to the native market all that the year has produced of importance in the wide and varied field of literature.

The retail trade, too, have contributed valuable aid in a hearty sympathy and increased interest in their department, as well as in the enterprise they have exhibited in the development of their various establishments.

Native publishing has also largely developed, and with gratifying results; while a very large number of works have been introduced to the public in the shape of special Canadian Editions manufactured for the home market by the English publisher or American reprinter.

The successful establishment of "The Canadian Monthly," and the high position it has achieved is, in connection with this subject, a noteworthy matter; and we trust to see every intelligent reader, every Canadian citizen, extend his support to the prosperity and usefulness of this national magazine.

The development of subscription publishing in the country, and its record for the past year, is another gratifying feature in the business of bookselling.

We are aware many of the trade regard this business as a grave interference with their own operations, but we do not so regard it. It rather assists the regular bookseller by inciting a taste for reading, and increases the number of bookbuyers. In the same aspect we regard Book Auctions, provided the sales be of a wholesome literature—and the establishment and augmentation of libraries. These all create and extend the reading taste of the people, and thus directly and indirectly increase the trade of the local bookseller. We trust, each returning year to have to chronicle similar successes and a like advancement in the year's trade. One thing incumbent on the trade, and which will much contribute to this result, is the study of bibliography. Read up, learn what the publishing houses are doing, see what the authors are undertaking, and keep posted with the thought and literary interest of the day. No better textbooks for this purpose can be found than "The London Bookseller," "The English Publishers' Circular," and the "American Publishers' Weekly Trade Circular." They are indispensable aids. If more critical requisites are wanted, add "The Athenæum" and the "Spectator" to the list.

## THE ANNUAL VOLUMES.

The influx of the completed volumes of the Serial publications from England emphatically marks the season of the year; and an increasing trade in this attractive stock is each year being done.

A present to the little folks of any of these excellent publications is the maximum of delight; and, now

that this juvenile literature has, in its pictorial features, being elevated into the upper walks of art, there is much in their beautiful pages that appeals to older patronage and maturer taste.

The issues of the Religious Tract Society, the Sunday School Union, Messrs. S. W. Partridge, and the Graphotyping Company, are the more popular of these books, among which will be found, Chatterbox, Kind Words, The Band of Hope Review, The Children's Friend, The Infant's Magazine, The Child's Companion, The Infant's Delight, The Children's Treasure, &c., &c.

A large variety of illustrated Almanacs, Christmas Annuals and Extra Nos., also, find extensive sale in the country, and are specially attractive in their coloured illustrations and profuse wood-cuts.

The various series of Christmas Carols and New Year Cards of Marcus Ward & Co., and Messrs. Goodall & Son deserve mention for their tasteful devices and artistic illustrations. The mediæval Card designs of the former of these houses are excellent examples of art.

## NATIVE ITEMS.

### *A New Educational Periodical.*

We may have a native science of popular education, but, confessedly, we have not much in the way of a native literature of education. That there is an urgent want of some more important serial, than we possess, representative of the educational profession, and of a character with the intellectualism of the times, is beyond question. A prospectus of the "Ontario Teacher," projected in Strathroy, comes to us in the conviction that the educational desideratum is now about to be supplied. We will heartily hail any additions to native journalism in connection with such a subject as education; but we should have more confidence in the promise of this undertaking if its prospectus came to hand freighted with less of literary tinsel and intellectual fireworks than its opening sentences contain.

### *Messrs. Adam, Stevenson & Co.'s*

recent importations embrace a special Canadian edition of a translation, by Mr. W. F. Rae, of M. About's "Hand-book of Social Economy." It is an exceedingly readable work, on such subjects as Man's Wants, Useful Things, Production, Exchange, Liberty, Money, Wages, Savings and Capital, Strikes, Co-operation, &c. A perusal of the volume will excite surprise that so abstruse a subject as Economic Science can be made so entertaining and attractive. A further importation of this house is a third Canadian edition, in handsome binding, of Biekersteth's magnificent poem, "Yesterday, To-day, and Forever." This book has been characterized as "a noble contribution to English sacred literature," and the extensive and continuous sale of the volume endorses the high estimation in which it is held. In Art we find a large and varied selection, suitable to the trade of the approaching holiday season, among which will be found a sumptuous work on Rome, illustrated by 250 beautiful drawings by Francis Wey; several volumes, illustrated by photography, containing "Gems" from Modern French, German, and Belgian art; the "Albert Memorial" Album, comprising a series of photographic views of this noble national monument; and the various volumes of "Vanity Fair," with the clever caricatures of the leading English statesmen and public characters, &c., &c. Of the announcements of this firm, our readers will be glad to know that a native edition is in press of Mr. Goldwin Smith's "Lectures on the Study of History."