

of dealers. There are some, particularly those doing a large, old-fashioned book business, who look with abhorrence on a paper-covered book, and wish it out of the way. Well, let them go back to the old days of no profit literaries with the falling off of sales of high-priced books. There is no question but the twenty-five cent books—we call them thus for want of a distinguishing title—were contemporaneous with a revival of the demand for higher priced books. Why it is we do not pretend to say; but that it is a fact there is no denying.

The dealers in small towns, the out-of-the-way stores in Montreal, Toronto, and other cities, would be the greatest sufferers in case of a scarcity of cheap, fairly profitable books.

Publishers here admit that for a time the trade will be inconvenienced, but claim that in six months they will be able to fully supply the demand. We hope so, and if they can keep their promise, we will be better pleased to buy from them than from publishers abroad; but we are afraid we will be disappointed. They now publish United States books with impunity; all they aim to do, we believe, is to shut out reprints of English works.

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It is very probable that several new books for use in the Ontario schools will be authorized prior to the Fall opening. We expect to be able to state definitely next month what the contemplated changes will be.

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FINE ART BOOKS.

The possible falling off in the sale of Christmas cards induced the famous fine art printer of Nuremberg, Gormany, Ernest Nister, to devise something to take their place. So for the trade of 1886, with the aid of his corps of eminent artists, he produced a series of books and booklets that have been the wonder of the world for cheapness with excellence. For this year his line is not only a peer with the famous "All Round the Clock," "Under the Mistletoe," and "Christmas Roses," but in some points excels them.

The leading work this season is the "Queen of the Meadow," on which Miss Harriet M. Bennett has displayed her talents as an artist with quite as much effect as in the first of the series mentioned. The two pictures "Making a Hat for Dolly," and "My Best Friend" are child-life to perfection. The pictures will have sixteen printings.

None of our readers need be told of the attraction of Songs and Sketches of the Season—Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter—to the customer at Christmas-time last year. The keen demand—the reply "out of stock" was never heard so often repeated as when asked for these books. Of these there were sold last year 160,000 copies. Nister produces this year four similar books by the same artists, entitled, "Morning," "Noon," "Evening," and "Night," finished in monotint of five printings.

There are also four miniature books in monotint, similar in class but at a very reasonable price. Their

names are "Holly and Mistletoe," "Lillies and Heartsease," "Roses and May," and "Falling Leaves."

"Daisy Days" is a book that, on account of its decidedly English scenery should be popular here. It contains some of the best efforts of Miss Clausen, who furnished some of the best illustrations in last year's books. Her "Interior of Cottage" has all the glow and oddities of an English cotter's home. The sketches of girls in various attitudes and occupations are very life-like.

A notable feature in the series is a finely illustrated edition of Tennyson's famous poem, "Enoch Arden." Some of the pictures are from sketches taken on the spot by artists sent to the Isle of Wight for the purpose. The Lighthouse and the Windmill are good specimens of these.

The ideal portrait of the hero of the poem is a good conception. This book will be much the highest price one of the season, \$6.

E. P. Dutton & Co. have, as they had last year, the control of these books for the United States and Canada, and though comparisons are invidious we must acknowledge that no other line of similar works can compare to them. They are unique and altogether lovely.

BOOK NOTES.

Wm. Briggs has just issued a book on "Perspective and Geometrical Drawing," adapted to the use of candidates for second and third class teachers' certificates, by Thos. H. McGuire, B.A., Commercial Master of Collingwood Collegiate Institute. It contains over 100 illustrations in perspective and geometrical drawing, has over 100 illustrated examples, and over 300 problems. Many orders were received for this work before it was ready. Price 75c.

He announces as just published "A Hand-Book of the Epistle of St Paul to the Romans," for the use of students and bible classes, by N. Burwash, S.T.D., Professor of Biblical and Systematic Theology in Victoria University. A 12mo. volume of 256 pages, \$1.25.

Also a volume of poems, entitled "The Legend of Delaware Valley," and other poems, by Thos. J. MacMurray, LL.B., of Milwaukee, Wis. Illustrated, \$1.

And "Younger's Counting-House Guide," a book of practical illustration and reference for all classes. A handsome octavo book. Price 90c.

Also "Experiences of a Backwoods Preacher," by Rev. J. H. Hiltz. \$1.25.

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In press.

A book of Readings and Recitations by J. C. Seymour, entitled "Wit, Humour, and Pathos."

"Loving Counsels," Sermons by Chas. Garrett, of English Wesleyan Conference.

A book of poems, "A Gate of Flowers," by Thos. O'Hagan, M.A.

"The Guiding Hand," Sermons by Rev. E. A. Stafford, LL.B., of Metropolitan Church.

"The Bible the Mightiest Factor in Human Progress," by J. Graham.

"A Hymn Book for the British Methodist Episcopal Church."

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C. Blackett Robinson has published "From Ontario to the Pacific by the C. P. R.," by Mrs. Arthur Spragge.