of Montreal, have had an office in Toronto. Mr. McFarlane, now president of the company, was the first manager. Two years later a bright young lad commenced his duties in the office. That was Fred J. Campbell, who has been manager for the past eight years. At first their stock included all sorts of stationery supplies: now it is confined to paper goods only. The present large warehouse at 15 Front street west, was built by the company in 1886.

Hart & Riddell, who do an extensive bookbinding, blank boook and manufacturing stationery business in a large warehouse on Wellington street, date back to 1892. Before that, Mr. Riddell was in business in Great Britain, and Mr. Hart had a general book and stationery business on King street. The retail business has been run since 1892 by Wm. Tyrell & Co.

The Toronto News Company at one time dealt largely in stationery, but now carry only a few lines, dealing principally in books, periodicals, etc, while Mr. Irving now publishes many Canadian editions of new novels. This company was formed by A. S. Irving in 1876. Before that, he was running two stores on King street. His son, Andrew M. Irving, was associated with him for many years as secretary of the company, but his death in 1896 removed an efficient young business man and a popular miltia officer.

Davis & Henderson, of Bay street, have been 22 years in business as manufacturing stationers. In 1877, Mr. Dredge, who is mentioned as having been in the trade in 1874, started a new business. About two months later Mr. Davis joined, and two months later again Davis and Henderson controlled the business. Mr. Dredge going to New York, where he now lives. This firm has done well. They sell to banks, large commercial houses, and to the trade throughout the Dominion.

The W. J. Gage Company succeeded to the business which was run by Adam Miller in 1874. W. J. Gage has accumulated a great deal of money from the book and stationery trade in the past 25 years. He is a shrewd buyer, an excellent organizer, and a persistent worker. At present, the general manager under Mr. Gage is W. P. Gundy, a man of almost equal ability. The firm became a joint stock company about six years ago. Their envelope factory is one of the largest in Canada.

The firm of Rolph, Smith & Co. is more noted for engraving, but still they have always handled stationery, and been classed among the stationers. Their large factory on Wellington street employs several hundred people. The business was founded in 1842. Twenty-five years ago the partners

were J. T. Rolph, David Smith and Frank Rolph. To-day they are the same, with the addition of Frank A. Rolph. There has been practically no change in the firm for twenty-seven years.

A LONDON OPINION OF OHEAP BOOKS.

Some of the American publishers who have been in London for the recent Congress, says Morriss' English Trade Journal, have given their English comrades comfort on the subject of the effect of the sale of cheap publications on the output of more expensive books. They declare that America has passed through the same experience that England is now having, and that, though cheap editions monopolized the market for a time, the public has gone back to its taste for well-got-up books. They say also that English publishers have reason to be thankful at the failure of the attempt to extend the Sunday newspaper. It is the huge Sunday newspapers in America which are the great enemies of the publishers, because they so largely occupy the attention of the public on the one day free for reading. The penny dreadful exists, and will always find its readers, but that does not affect in the smallest degree the book publishing trade.

DEATH OF MRS. TRAILL.

THE celebrated Canadian authoress, Mrs. Catherine Parr Traill, died at Lakefield, Ont., August 29, at the advanced age of 97 years and 8 months. The deceased lady retained her physical vigor and intellectual activity very slightly impaired until within a few hours of her death, which followed an illness of a few hours. She was taken ill at her Summer cottage, "Minnewawa," Stoney Lake, where she had spent the heated term with as much zest as those 50 years her junior. It was at this cottage that Mrs. Traill wrote her last story two years ago, a story for children.

Mrs. Trail was the daughter of the late Thomas Strickland, of Reydon Hall, Suffolk, England, and was the last of the five Strickland sisters, all of whom attained distinction in literary work. She was born in London, England, on June 9, 1802. She was the first of the sisters to engage in literature, and it was the favorable reception that greeted her youthful stories that led her elder sisters to enter the same field of work. In 1832 she married Lieut. Thomas Traill, who emigrated with his bride to Canada. They were soon followed by her sister, Susanna, who had married Major Moodie, a brother officer of Lieut. Traill, in the 21st The Traills took up lands near Rice Lake, Ontario, and the family has continued to reside there ever since, and it was there that Mrs. Traill continued her

writings, which included correspondence with English magazines, as well as other vork. "Backwoods of Canada" was published in 1835, and "The Canadian Crusoes, a Tale of the Rice Lake Plains," "The Female Emigrant's Guide," "Lady. Mary and Her Nurse," and "Rambles in the Canadian Forest "appeared in subsequent years. Among the most notable of the works of the authoress' later days are " Pearls and Pebbles, or the Notes of an Old Naturalist," "Cot and Cradle Stories" and "Studies of Plant Life in Canada, or Gleanings from Forest, Lake and Plain." Her latest work was illustrated by drawings made by her niece, Mrs. B. Chamberlain. During Lord Palmerston's administration a grant of £100 was made to Mrs. Traill in recognition of her work as a naturalist, and more recently the Dominion Government acknowledged her services by presenting her with a little island in the Otonabee river.

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