

# Books and Notions.

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*Organ of the Booksellers' & Stationers' Association of Ontario, and its Branches.*

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All Communications intended for publication must be sent in not later than the 22nd of the preceding month.

**J. J. DYAS, Publisher.**

FIFTY years of a noble woman's reign! Was ever land so blessed as ours?—yes, ours in all that makes of one the farthest ends of the earth where Britain's flag waves, and ours may it be while the sun shines in refulgent brightness.

How the millions gladly rejoice to-day as they sing with heart and voice:

“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.”

OWING to the illness of the Minister of Education and consequent absence from duty we are unable to give list of newly authorized books in this issue. Ample notice will be given in this journal to guide dealers in buying for the Fall opening of the schools.

VERY strong objection has been taken to the expression in last number, “They (the Canadian publishers) now publish United States books with impunity.” We admit that this statement should have been made with a qualification. Until comparatively lately they did print such books “with impunity,” but the authors, desiring to get some pay for the Canadian market, had their books first issued in England, thus securing their rights in this country. They are still publishing some books for which they do not say, “Thank you.” It is this latter-day phase that has caused such a ferment, and that has incited the publishers to demand large duty.

Lately at least two publishers have paid liberally for the right to publish United States and English books. Although they have been in a measure forced to do so, it is certainly a more honourable proceeding than filching the productions of authors of other countries. Canadian authors are more likely to get well paid for labour when only a limited supply of books can be got for nothing.

## A RIGHT CAUSE ABLY ADVOCATED.

FROM the time the first agitation for alteration in the tariff commenced, our trade has been in a state of unsettled ferment regarding some of the sweeping changes proposed.

Previous to 1885 the trade was in such a chaotic state that united action would not have been thought of; but that year marked the formation of the Booksellers' and Stationers' Association of Ontario. Since then this body has been carefully watching over the various matters relating to the welfare of the trade, and at no time has its usefulness been more marked than at the crisis just passed.

We need not give the history of the meetings in Toronto and Montreal; they are too fresh in the memory of our readers to need repetition.

The members of the deputation that waited on the Minister of Finance were hopeful that at least in some respects their views would be favourably entertained. The result has been that the Minister has granted the request fully relating to duties on paper-covered books, not giving the publishers any protection other than what they have had, and this in the face of powerful influence brought to bear by paper makers and others.

On paper and its products the resolution of both the Toronto and Montreal meetings, and more particularly the arguments of the deputation, were against any change, but if any change was made it would be but justice that blank books and envelopes should receive more protection. The Minister, considering it to be wise to advance the duties on paper, acquiesced in their views, and added extra duty. The point on which great stress was laid by the deputation was that the proposal of five cents a pound on envelopes would be wrong in principle, met with a favourable response, and the increase is an *ad valorem* duty.

On all points, therefore, where business principles are concerned, we have triumphed. It is a great triumph when we consider the array of vested interests and the influence against us, and we are not going too far to say that to organized opposition, and to that only, is due the victory.

## A STEP FORWARD.

THE resolution of the Clerical Association of Toronto, adopted unanimously and published in last number, regarding bazaars, with the now famous mandate of the Bishop of Huron on the same matter, is an important step by one Church, that of the Church of England, in discountenancing these interferences with trade, and unjust competitors with the sewing girl.