

DISSOLUTION.

The well-known firm of Smith & Fudger, wholesale dealers in fancy goods, has been dissolved by mutual consent; Mr. Harris H. Fudger continuing in the old stand. The record of these premises as head centre of fancy goods business for about 40 years has been one of remarkable success. Here, away back in the fifties, the late Robert Wilkes succeeded the Rossin Bros., and made the name and fame and fortune which numbered him among the merchant princes of the Dominion. For the past ten years Mr. Fudger, with his partner, has kept up the record of progress and success. His connection with the house began in 1871, and although not yet 40 years old he has had 20 years of most valuable experience. With an entirely new stock, such as he is now opening up, there is no room for doubt that he will maintain and increase the large patronage given to the house by the trade of the Dominion.

MAGAZINES.

The story of the rise and progress of "The Active Militia of Canada" in *Outing* for Feb., completes the history of the most notable of the Quebec regiments. National guardsmen will be anxious to read this and the promised series, which will embrace the record of their brothers-in-arms in the Canadian North-west.

Everyone fond of hunting, fishing and canoeing, and those interested in natural history, fish culture, rifle and trap shooting, and owners of dogs, who like to read interesting, instructive and practical articles on these subjects, should read the *Amateur Sportsman*, a magazine published monthly at one dollar per year. Each number of the *Amateur Sportsman* contains numerous practical articles—many of them illustrated—that should be read by every lover of the gun, rod and dog. Send to The *Amateur Sportsman Co.*, 6 College Place, New York, for a free specimen copy.

The *Dominion Illustrated*, for the year 1891, offers a literary bill of fare that should make it as popular a journal as it is excellent. There are new and striking literary features. It is essentially a high-class journal and is rapidly growing in public favor. The publishers have decided to distribute during the next six months over \$3,000 in prizes for answers to questions, the material for which will be found in current numbers of the journal. The first prize is \$750 in gold, and there are 99 others. On receipt of 12 cents in stamps the publishers (The Sabiston Litho. & Pub. Co., Montreal) will send to any address a sample copy of the journal and all particulars.

The *Contemporary Review* for January abounds as usual in matter of strictly contemporary moment, contributed by some of the most able writers and eminent specialists in England. Frank H. Hill writes on Home

Rue and Home Rulers; Prof. James Bryce, M.P., on *The Age of Discontent*; Edwin A. Abbott, D.D., on *The Early Life of Cardinal Newman*; Louis J. Jennings, M.P., on *Behind the Scenes in Parliament*; R. Bosworth Smith on *Englishmen in Africa*; J. R. Anderson, LL.D., on *Morality by Act of Parliament*; Julia Wedgwood on *Euripides at Cambridge*; Rev. H. W. Clarke on *Public Landed Endowments of the Church*; Sir Morell Mackenzie on *Koch's Treatment of Tuberculosis*; Prof. J. Agar Beet on *The Certainties of Christianity*; Canon Maccoll on *Dean Church*. The *Toronto News Company* is prepared to supply the trade.

STATIONERY.

A very handsome ornament for a library table is a magazine-holder, now to be seen in the best stocks. It is made of brass and represents three stirrups, of which the footrests interlace.

Hart & Company have some choice lines of letter paper and envelopes very tastefully put up. Among these may be named *Grenadina*, *Paragon*, *Marine Cloth*, *Torchon*, *Ancient Handmade*, *Bluebeard*, *Rice Straw*.

There was a strong demand this year and in the holiday season for elegant stationery put up in fancy packages. The packages were imitations of deal, lizard skin, olive wood, etc., and in form represented various concerts.

Hart & Company have the market for a handy inkstand which is adjustable so that the ink it contains may be kept level with its mouth or deposited in the depths of the vessel at will. This is a useful means of avoiding ink stains on the fingers, which the plunging of a pen into the unknown fullness of an ordinary bottle is apt to cause.

Hart & Company have put on the market a handsome line of inkstands, made of heavy glass and mounted with nickel silver, the effect of the combination, make, and material being the production of a massive desk ornament. With a crest or monogram engraved in the boss which forms the top, nothing could make a more acceptable gift. The ink cistern is removable, thus protecting the glass from the blackening effect of the contents.

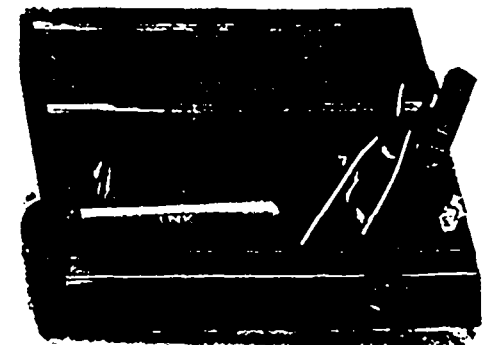
"The Scribe's" series of reporters' notebooks, to use an old stereotyped expression, fills a long-felt want. We have lots of phonographic teachers, readers, and text-books, but this is the first time that books with suitable paper and ruling, for practice and reporters' use, have been issued. The *Recorder* and the *Reporters' Notebooks* of this series are both well known to most of the trade. Nos. 2 and 3 are, however, entirely new lines, with special ruling, paper, and size. The pattern is supplied by the principal of one of the leading schools of phonography. No. 4 is a cloth-covered book with renewable insert and of a very convenient size for the pocket. No. 5 is the same as above, only leather inserts can be had separate. The *Copp, Clark Co. (Ltd.)* are the publishers of the above, and expect to issue in a few days, but too late to appear in our advertising columns this month, but will do so next. In the meantime write for samples.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE TASTE FOR GOOD BOOKS.

One of the encouraging signs of the times is the growing taste among the book-buying public for better-made books, and, above all, for better books. This public seems to have broken away from old traditions, or at least traditions of ten years' standing, and is calling, not for what has been lauded in threadbare phrase as "the books no self-respecting person can very well be without," but for the best in literature, and that in the best shape obtainable. The day of "cheap and nasty" books has passed, and now the day of the poor grade of books, even in substantial form, seems to be waning. The sale of standard books—of works in the departments of philosophy, poetry and good literature generally—during the past three months at least, has been encouragingly good, and promises to continue.

The publishers who have been in touch with the public seem to have taken their cue and are making every effort to supply this demand for better books. The season just drawing to a close has brought out better books in more appropriate forms than ever before. There have been fewer books of elephantine or microscopic form, and the edition de luxe seems more and more to become a realization of the true meaning of the term. It was once thought that an unwieldy book with a profusion of ill-adjusted margin, a smattering of blurred daubs designated as etchings, a hideous binding, and a limited number of copies, made up an edition de luxe. The public for awhile accepted this form because it was the "fad." But that has passed away, and what is now called for are books, printed in legible type on paper of the best quality and put up in exquisite and appropriate shape, regardless of the number printed. For this class of books enough buyers can be found willing to pay any price within reasonable bounds; and on this line the publisher can and will make money. It has taken the trade years to learn this lesson. We trust its experience will be used to lasting profit.—The Publishers' Weekly.

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