

The National Publishing Co. have issued the following new books: "Marooned," by W. Clark Russell; "The Duchess of Rosemary," by B. S. Farjeon, and "Daughters of Belgravia," by Mrs. Alex. Fraser.

The National Publishing Co.'s order list of the Red Letter Series of Select Fiction is something new. It represents one of their attractive book covers, and inside is printed a full list of their books, with blanks for name, address and number of copies wanted.

Pansy's Books are characterized by their high moral tone, their fidelity to nature and by their graphic presentation of home life. There are three new ones just added to the already large list, entitled "Esther Reid," "Esther Reid Yet Speaking," "Ruth Erskine's Crosses." Retail 15c. each. Toronto Willard Tract Repository.

Mr. Geo. Doran, of the Toronto Willard Tract Repository, has just returned from a well deserved holiday in Muskoka.

The Upper Canada Tract Society have repainted and otherwise improved their premises.

"Gold from Ophir," a new book of Bible readings, by J. E. Wolfe, is finding ready sale, over half of the first edition being gone. It is being offered to the trade by the Willard Tract Repository.

"Havergerl Poems," complete copyright edition, beautifully bound in 8vo, cloth, gilt top, which retails at \$2.00, is handled by the Willard Tract Repository.

A cheap Canadian edition of the celebrated books of R. M. Ballantyne, neatly bound and printed, are being offered by Toronto Willard Tract Repository. The former price of these books was \$1.75; but this Canadian edition, elegantly bound in cloth, sells at \$1, which brings it within the reach of all. These books are meeting with good sale so far.

J. B. McCrae, the Sarnia bookseller, has been selected by the Third Party as a candidate for West Lambton, to fill the seat held by the late Hon. T. B. Pardee.

Some indiscreet paragrapher has been betraying the ages of our literary women. According to him—her Gail Hamilton is about 60, Miss Braddon, 52; Blanche Willis Howard, 44; Jennie June Croly, 57; Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, 39; Marion Harland, 59; Lucy Larcom, 63; Harriet Prescott Spofford, 54; Julia Ward Howe, 70; Celia Thaxter, 53; Constance Fenimore Woolson, 41; Susan Coolidge, 44; and Mary Mapes Dodge, 51, with a number of others ranging down to Amelie Rives at 26.

The Canadian Office and School Furniture Co. (Limited), is the corporate name of the new firm which succeed to the business formerly carried on under the names of Wm. Stahlshmidt & Co., Preston and Geo. F. Hostwick, Toronto. They will carry on business at 24 Front Street West, Toronto.



Brass easels with flower tops are meeting with very ready sale. The prices are so much lower than formerly that they are being bought by less pretentious people.

It is a mistaken idea to suppose that the days are over for a decorative article because the rich have tired of it. It is not until the price is sufficiently low for the middle classes and poorer people to buy it that it really sells in large quantities.

This is the cause of the annual surprise that plush goods sales have increased instead of falling off: A two piece case that used to be retailed for \$4.50 five years ago is now sold with a good profit for \$1.00. Of course the quality is not as good, but there is more to show for the money.

The past has been a great summer for fans. All the wholesale stocks are low and more expensive goods than usual have been asked for. We heard of an order lately by a retailer for six fans at \$18.00 each.

Oxydized silver goods have had a great run this year in every line of ornamental article from an inkstand, portrait frame and match box to an umbrella handle. But greatest of any has been the call for oxydized silver toilet cases and fittings. Notwithstanding the high prices asked for them, the numbers sold to be delivered this fall, we are told, are in excess of the same priced plush and leather cases.

Leather travelling cases are every year meeting with a larger demand both in the London sole leather style and in the more fancy flap cases. One of the most taking additions we have seen is a space for paper envelopes and other writing materials, so protected that the toilet articles cannot soil them.

Robt. McKenna, who has been doing a fancy goods business in Toronto, has also sold out, but we have not the particulars at hand.

It seems to be the fashion to sell your business just now. H. J. Woodside, of Portage la Prairie, who has had a large stock of fancy goods, has just completed the sale of his stock, and intends to devote himself to literary pursuits—editing a Portage daily, we understand.

The estate of William Gossip, of Halifax, consisting of a stock of stationery and books, was sold on the 24th Aug.

Tenders are also being asked on a similar stock belonging to the estate of W. J. Caldwell, Sr., of Windsor, N. S.

Liverpool, N. S., has also been the scene of a change, W. A. Letson, having succeeded to the publishing and stationery business of W. H. Sperry.

R. P. Skinner, the Niagara Falls druggist, has also fallen into line and sold out. We believe he is going to the States. So also has I. W. Warwick, of Brantford, who has had a very nice little drug store.

There was held on 9th Aug. a meeting of the creditors of S. Ball, druggist, of Little Current, Ont. We suppose the current of business was too little to keep the ball rolling. How would Swift Current suit our friend?

J. G. Sherman, of Kingston, who styled himself "Manager of the People's Instalment Co.," is lost to sight though to memory dear. Representing himself as somewhat of a capitalist with a large store in the heart of Kingston, he managed to obtain credit from several Toronto firms. Investigation has shewn that he had neither money, store nor reputation, and that even the keeper of the fourth class hotel at which he was boarding with his wife, refused to accommodate him notwithstanding that he offered payment in advance. It is a mystery how he disposed of his goods. The Great Republic is his present address.

Smith & Peebles, booksellers, of Smith's Falls, assigned on Aug. 9th.

N. T. Wilson, long and favourably known in London as one of the leading stationers, has decided to pull up the stakes and start in Toronto. We welcome our western brother, and hope he will meet with uninterrupted prosperity.

J. F. Holland, of Holland, Ont., had his stock of drugs and stationery damaged by fire two or three weeks ago.

R. O. Smith, of Mitchell, has sold his book and stationery business to H. V. Robins, of Montreal, and, we are told, is starting up in Woodstock. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been very popular in Mitchell, and deservedly so, and we bespeak for them a kind welcome wherever they may settle down again.

A French manufacturer has succeeded in making a pen out of glass, the merits of which are described as such as to ensure its adoption in lieu of the steel pen which has so long held the field. With the new pen one can write as freely as with a pencil, and on the smoothest paper, while its durability is so great that unless the pen itself is broken, it is indestructible.

One of the most insidious evils of the day, and consequently one of the worst and most difficult to deal with, is the rapid increase of impure literature. Our bookstores, news stands and, to our shame be it said, even our private libraries and parlor tables are piled high with this sort of stuff, from the flashy story papers and filthy chronicles of crime to the works of popular novelists, who gild their poisonous pellets with the graces of rhetoric and the flowers of fancy. . . . What will you do to help to stem the tide?