

The novel experience of burning sugar for fuel was forced upon the steamship "Dundin," which arrived at New York a few days ago from Cienfuegos. She drifted 120 miles out of her course, and managed to get into port only after burning fifty tons, or about \$2,500 worth of sugar, because the supply of coal became exhausted.

The shipment of turnips from St. Andrew's, N.B., to Boston has begun, but prices are very low. Thirty-eight cents per barrel is all farmers are receiving.

A Duluth man has invented a showcase alarm, which consists of spring clips, in which the goods to be displayed are placed. When the goods are removed an electric contact is made which rings a bell.

Samples of their product are now being put upon the market by the Farnham Beet Sugar Company, of Farnham, Que. A Montreal letter says it has been offered to the wholesale trade at as low as four cents per pound for "Farnham Crystallized," but has not so far met with much favor. The letter adds that the color of the sugar is of a grayish cast, and a decidedly vegetable flavor is noticeable in the taste.

The French sardine fishing has closed for the season, and the pack has been a failure as to quantity, so that none will be left for 1892. The trade will have to take Portuguese packed fish, though there will be no trouble about the French labels.

Dealers in groceries are advised by the St. Louis *Grocer* to be on the lookout for a brand of salmon packed under the name of the "Westport Canning Company," of Westport, Oreg. There is no such cannery, the *Grocer* says; retailers would do well to keep their "weather eye" open for the stuff, for stuff it is. "Now that the Alaska salmon pack is under control of a pool, and prices firmly held, there is more inducement for the packers of bogus salmon to push their stuff on the market at prices much below the cost of real salmon."

The more cuffs you give a laundryman the better he likes it.—*Pittsburg Dispatch*.

It is astonishing how debts will expand after being contracted.—*Binghamton Republican*.

#### BOOK AND STATIONERY NOTES.

Crinkled tissue-paper is selling freely in all the newest shades. Ladies, misses and children are all making airy nothings out of this material now-a-days.

Coin purses and stamp-holders are articles of convenience, some of them novel. One might be termed from its shape the Zig-zag Coin Wallet, for it opens and shuts more like a streak of forked lightning than any geometrical figure.

The *Magazine of Poetry*, published monthly in Buffalo, N.Y., has in its last number a biographical sketch and portrait of George Martin, the Montreal writer.

A final paper on the Manufacture of Steel, in the November number of the *Popular Science Monthly*, is one of the series of illustrated articles on the development of American industries now running in that magazine. In this paper Mr. W. F. Durfree completes the account of the Bessemer process, and claims that its chief feature was first developed by an American.

There has been sent us from London, Eng., the first number of a new *pétite* monthly styled *Advertising*, issued by Smith's Agency in that city. It is a neatly printed paper with line illustrations, much resembling the American

weekly, *Printer's Ink*, and is furnished for 2s. 6d. per annum.

We now acknowledge—we should have done so long ago—receipt of the Report of the Commissioners appointed by the Ontario Government to enquire into the Prison and Reformatory System of the Province. Warwick & Sons are the printers.

Brown Bros. are taking orders for counting-house books made according to a new method known as Kinnard's, an American invention, we believe. Its main advantage is that the book opens out flat, and the bookkeeper is thus saved the difficulty and annoyance of writing down-hill or up-hill sidewise for a couple of inches of the page next the back of the book. They are termed flat-opening account books, and the new method is claimed to strengthen the binding. Besides, the binding of the book will not sag down when stood on end.

Of writing portfolios there are numerous lines at from \$6 per dozen upwards; a sort of papeterie, arranged as a *pétite* writing desk.

Plush photograph albums appear to be more in vogue than leather ones. Still there are many of the latter in very handsome styles, mainly for cabinet-sized portraits. Some of these are "double albums," a sort of tandem, long from North to South, to contain two pictures on a page, one above another.

"Papeteries of our own make: paper and envelopes in tinted boxes and fancy cases, are among our offerings for Christmas trade;" so say Messrs. Brown Bros. And they add: "We are also getting up a variety of samples of the Wirt Fountain Pen." The firm is making a line of new cuff and collar boxes in calf, Russia, and other leathers, suitable for Christmas presents.

Ink-bottles we have seen (of German make, it is said, and we believe it) fearfully and wonderfully designed. They are of imitation bronze, and are like nothing on the earth or under the earth except a Franco-German imagination. There are others with bases of wood and leather, of intelligible shape, as anything made by Brown Brothers themselves is likely to be. "Canada First," after all.

Last Saturday's *Dominion Illustrated* is a very interesting number. Mr. Lighthall's paper on Lower Canadian Manor Houses is of especial interest. W. G. Macfarlane's review of New Brunswick authorship contains matter of novelty to many. Mrs. Curzon's Toronto letter suffers from faulty proof-reading. The portraits of Lord Salisbury and of Right Hon. A. J. Balfour are timely, as indeed is that of J. Israel Tarte, M.P., who is a much better looking fellow than most people suppose who have read the daily papers for the past few months.

Booksellers and newsdealers may well think kindly of the late distinguished member of Her Majesty's Government at Westminster, Hon. W. H. Smith, for he was one of themselves. His father was a newsdealer, and the son instilled a new life into his father's business, and for many years devoted his energies exclusively to its advancement. He worked behind the counter for a long time, and used to rise early enough to superintend the despatch of papers by the early morning trains. In 1849 his firm purchased all the bookstalls on the line of the London and North-Western Railway, which added vastly to their operations; in 1860 they opened a circulating library, and since then have spread their business in every direction throughout the United Kingdom. It appears to have been a motto of the deceased statesman that "whatever is worth doing is worth doing well," and his career has

shown what may be achieved by energy, honesty, and clear-headed method.

The TRINITY UNIVERSITY REVIEW is welcome. It gives, very properly, much space to matters of Athletics. There is a continuation of Professor Lloyd's paper on the "Antigone" of Sophocles. Three pages are interestingly filled with Trinity Medical College proceedings, notably the admirable inaugural address of Dr. John L. Davidson. The tone of it is high, and he has wasted no time on flattering nonsense. Said the Doctor: "I tell you, gentlemen, that the requirement of the coveted diploma, at the present day, and in this country, will necessitate, on your part, a total and sincere consecration of your best abilities for four years, a strain of your mental capacities and even physical strength which none can appreciate until he has successfully run the race you have set before you. The days of Bob Sawyer are forever gone."

#### MONTREAL CLEARING-HOUSE.

Clearings and Balances for week ending 29th Oct., 1891, were as under:

	Clearings.	Balances.
Oct. 23.....	\$1,794,924	\$261,091
" 24.....	1,598,206	147,551
" 26.....	1,323,640	227,511
" 27.....	1,880,749	225,360
" 28.....	1,937,585	265,883
" 29.....	1,879,092	353,633
Total .....	\$10,414,196	\$1,481,029

Cor. week 1890 .....	\$9,298,378	\$1,244,842
Cor. week 1889 .....	9,841,270	1,390,277

#### TORONTO CLEARING-HOUSE.

Clearings and Balances of this clearing-house (of which the Bank of Toronto is not a member) for the week ended 29th Oct., 1891, are as under:—

	Clearings.	Balances.
Oct. 23.....	\$979,643	\$147,543
" 24.....	842,448	101,766
" 26.....	933,807	159,007
" 27.....	1,049,571	118,187
" 28.....	1,017,058	98,129
" 29.....	1,200,670	162,872
Total .....	\$6,023,197	\$787,504

#### HALIFAX CLEARING HOUSE.

Bank clearings for week ending October 24, 1891, as follows:

Monday, Oct. 19.....	\$243,341 51
Tuesday, " 20.....	267,423 41
Wednesday, " 21.....	231,690 40
Thursday, " 22.....	233,437 83
Friday, " 23.....	231,761 21
Saturday, " 24.....	164,632 44

Total for week..... \$1,372,286 80

—At the last meeting of the Rat Portage Board of Trade action was taken towards getting a room in which to hold regular meetings of the board. A committee was appointed to inquire as to the fishing industry on the Lake of the Woods. The object is to get detailed information with a view to a representation to the Minister of Marine. Casual reference was made to the improvements of Rainy River, and a start was made towards securing a chart of the Lake of the Woods. Officers were elected as under: President, Richard Hall; vice-president, C. W. Chadwick; treasurer, M. Kyle; secretary, J. A. McCrossan.

—The dividend of the Ontario Bank for the current half-year is at the usual annual rate of seven per cent.