

we suppose will be about 1881. Besides, it must be borne in mind that there has been three other provinces added to the confederation since the above enumeration, namely, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, and British Columbia, with a possibility of the further addition of Newfoundland. The above is, in our opinion, a very satisfactory showing for the young country, and one which no one interested need be in the least ashamed of. It certainly proves that printing is one of the industries of the Dominion that deserves and should have the earnest attention of our law makers and legislators. It is an industry that has grown to large proportions under the most difficult and retarding circumstances, as for instance our present anomalous copyright law and the seventeen and a half per cent. import duty on white paper, while but five per cent. is charged against printed matter coming into the Dominion. The wonder is, that any printing can be done at all in the face of such odds. But we will return to this matter again at some future time, and try and point out to those in power the injustice of the laws now in force, and how hardly they bear upon the education of the masses of working people who, it cannot be denied, are a mine of wealth to the country.

IN France and Belgium the proprietors of many newspapers raise carrier pigeons in their offices, and when a correspondent or reporter is dispatched for news to some place not readily accessible or off the line of the telegraph, he takes with him from three to six of these faithful carriers, and despatches them with news at intervals. Mr. August Brunin, editor of the *Journal L'Eclair*, of Brussels, has been most successful in raising carrier pigeons. His birds are of the Antwerp breed. The Antwerp birds are large and strong, and are capable of carrying all the manuscript a correspondent could write in half an hour, and, when well-trained, have been known to make a mile a minute, although their average rate of speed is about thirty miles an hour. The carrier pigeon is larger than the ordinary pigeon, being usually about fifteen inches in length, and weighing from one pound to a pound and a half. Their plumage is generally either dun color or black.

CORRESPONDENTS will oblige by mailing their favors so that they will reach this office, at least, not later than the 25th of each month, and as much earlier as possible.

AMONG the bills recently introduced into the United States Congress is one which, as it is non-political in character, is apt to escape general attention just now, except from publishers and others who are directly interested, and who will, doubtless, combine to make a stout resistance to its passage. We refer to the bill to abolish the import duty on books, etc., which provides, in brief, that on and after April 1st, 1877, no import duty shall be levied or collected on books, periodicals, pamphlets, engravings, maps, or charts, brought from other countries into the United States. Upwards of three million dollars worth of books and engravings are annually imported into the United States, chiefly from England, and should the duty be abolished, it is fair to presume that this importation would increase at least threefold, if not more. There is considerable diversity of opinion in Congress as to whether this bill ought to pass or not, and it is safe to predict that it will be made the subject of some animated discussion when it shall come up for its passage. At the same time, we do not believe it will ever become law, knowing what we do of the feelings and temper of the people of the United States on the subject of free trade and protection.

KIND WORDS FROM FRANCE.—“The first number of a little typographical publication, *The Printer's Miscellany*, has reached us, for which we thank Mr. Hugh Finlay. From his journal we shall be able henceforth to lay before our readers an account of the Canadian press. Our readers know that the French language is still spoken intelligently in our ancient possessions, where souvenirs of France are much more highly prized than even those of the numerous families of French origin who first settled there. Our confrere tells us that there are forty-four daily papers in Canada. This number, when compared with the population, which is about four millions, gives an idea of the degree of education and the intelligence of Canadians. The typographical organ recently started there will contribute still more to increase it, since it has for its object to explain the great benefits of the press.”—Translated from *La Typologie*, Tucker, of Paris, Sept., 1876.

EVERY apprentice, as well as journeyman at the printing business, should subscribe for and preserve the *Miscellany*, and in order to place it within the reach of all, we will mail it for one year to any apprentice for fifty cents.