

ronte. They expect to be in it in September at the latest.

Great grumbling among the newsdealers of Toronto this year on account of the demoralized state of the trade in base ball goods, formerly a profitable part of the early summer business. What with presents from clothing-houses (poor clothing that requires such a bait), and rumours and facts of cutting that which formerly brought a sure income is robbed of it in great part.

The *Mail Printing Co.* have suffered lately from the third fire within two years. A calamity which onlists the sympathy of all who admire the enterprise and push of the management that has made the *Mail* of world-wide fame. Fortunately the damage, though large, did not prevent the regular issue of the paper.

Two firms occupying portions of the building, Southam & Carey, *Mail Job Department*, and Alexander & Cable, suffered heavily. The loss of the former over insurance was, we regret to learn, considerable, Alexander & Cable were insured for about the amount of loss, but will not get it all owing to the fact that the proportion on some lines was not sufficient. For instance in lithography stones in process of working, their loss was \$4,000, insurance only \$1,500.

C. W. Papst, Seaforth, writes us: Trade in May very good in wall paper, other lines quiet, collections slow.

H. Fred Sharpe says: Wall paper trade excellent. Better this year than ever. Other lines as usual.

In reply to enquiry we learn the following:

INGERSOLL, June 2nd, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—Yours of 31st to hand. I have disposed of my Bothwell business, having taken unto myself a wife, thinking that one store and one woman would be all that I could manage properly.

There is no business news in town that I know of of any interest to the trade. Things in our line are still stationa(e)ry. Yours, W. C. HOLLAND.

Oliver C. Watson, formerly with D. McMaster, has commenced business in Sarnia in our line.

W. H. Parsons, Port Hope, has sold out to A. Robinson, of Belleville, who also carries on business in Ingersoll. A. Robinson jr. will manage the Port Hope business.

The late proprietor continues to deal in pianos and organs in the old store.

"Eastern Man" writes us that he found out when he bought his business from his predecessors that they had been in the habit of, as a bait, cutting on the prices of weekly Canadian papers. Thus, two one dollar papers for \$1.65. Others have got into the habit, so it is hard to increase the price. The argument used by the dealer was that more business would be done. But then, says our correspondent, so many papers (sold

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