

WHAT WE WILL SELL SEVEN MONTHS FROM NOW.—Now is the time that our dear friends the "Commercials" are on hand with their "finest, most artistic and newest styles of Christmas cards, nothing like them in the market, sir, for beauty of finish and artistic design. Sure sale, sir, no dead stock to carry over after your last customer has left you at holiday time. Cheap sir, big margin; try a line of those panels," and so on.

Well there are some fine cards in the market this year. New makers with new designs, and on the whole cheaper than formerly.

Fringed cards do not sell. Those who have already placed their goods in their travellers hands find that plain is the prevailing fancy—plain and good. Corded are having a good sale, and some of the make-ups of swandown, &c., take moderately well.

The trade has certainly quite enough variety to choose from, and some of the latest on the market are among the best.

From an article by the Editor of *The Educational Weekly*, we clip:—

"OUR MOTHER TONGUE.—We plead for the study—the greater, more particular, more persistent study—of our mother tongue, in public schools, in colleges. We are aware of the increased attention given to the study of 'English' for some years past, in all our educational institutions. But we are not satisfied; nor, do we think, is any one, who watches the progress of educational work in our province, and has its success at heart.

"The study of our mother tongue varies with the grade of class taught; but it should grow broader and deeper with each step in the ascending progress of the pupil. Much is to be said of high school work and college work in this respect, and we hope to treat of these in future; but we wish, just now, to speak of public school work."

Sound Sense, from the Pen of a good practical Teacher.

OUR FUTURE KING.—*The British and Colonial Printer and Stationer*—how long these names of our English contemporaries are—has been furnishing its readers for some time with an interesting series of articles, written by an old reporter, entitled, "How the London newspapers are fed."

From a late number we give elsewhere a sketch of the Prince of Wales, as he appeared to the writer at the Smoke Exhibition, in 1882.

There are so many misconceptions, even among Canadians, as to the true characteristics of the Prince, that we gladly give the extract.

## Trade Reviews.

TORONTO.—Business quiet; collections slow; prospects doubtful.

Thus may be summed up the present state of trade. Of course May and June are the off months—after the early spring season and too soon to make ready for fall, still the want of life is more observable in the trade than usual at this time of the year.

In the retail trade in Toronto there is a moderate amount doing. The news branch is improving and pulling up somewhat for slackness in other lines.

Illustrated papers sell well, and "our own" *War News* is having large sales.

Outside of Toronto in Ontario, reports are of dull times.

UNITED STATES.—Among the members of our immediate trade there seems to be a universal feeling that business is on the mend. True, the facts, which inspire this feeling are somewhat slender, yet they are of sufficient strength to warrant our dealers in feeling encouraged. The trade in Easter novelties was up to that of last year, and in many cases far in advance, and when it is remembered that the most elaborate and expensive designs sold as readily as the cheaper ones, this becomes a significant feature in the business problem. When people spend their money for luxuries such as Easter novelties it is a good indication that money is beginning to be plenty with them, and they cease to feel the stringency of the times.—*Geyer's Stationer*.

ENGLAND.—The home trade is reviving. There is more life in business than there has been, and the manufacturers are most of them working full time. There is plenty of room, however, for improvement.—*Exchange*.

THE REMUNERATION OF AUTHORS.—A good deal has lately been said and written about large sums which British authors have made by the sale of their works. Scott obtained £110,000 for eleven novels and nine volumes of tales; Lord Beaconsfield was offered £10,000 for "Endymion;" George Eliot received £7,000 for "Romola," and it is reported that her "Life" has already put £8,000 into the pockets of the publishers. The profits of several Continental authors have, however, been equally substantial. Lamartine received £20,000 for his History, and £1,800 for "La Chute d'un Ange;" for the manuscript of "Notre Dame" Victor Hugo was paid £2,400; Chateaubriand made £22,000 by his books; Thiers disposed of his "History of the Consulate and Empire" for £20,000; and even Lamennais obtained on an average £600 for each of his volumes. Judged from the pecuniary point of view, M. Emile Zola is probably the most successful of living authors. A Paris paper, to which he is an occasional contributor, states that his income from literary work has during the past five years averaged £12,000.

WANTED.—1 copy Leslie's Popular Monthly, Sept. 1883. Will pay double price for it.—R. B. Andrew, Bowmanville.