

Then there is another man—a typical old book dealer—who comes in a hurry and runs his finger up and down the shelves and spots the titles with a keen and lightning glance, and when he comes upon a rare book offers sixpence for what he will take back to his shop and sell for half a guinea or a guinea.

Such are some of the types of queer people you will meet with here. Where so many curious books come from—books that one cannot find enumerated in Lowndes or any other bibliographer's manual—and, above all, how these rare volumes ever got into the hands of the penniless and illiterate people who bring them here for sale, passes one's comprehension.

One must go abroad for news of home, so the old proverb goes—and it is well illustrated in old books, for one can find more of them relating to Canada and the United States on the shelves of these old country book dealers than one could ever imagine existed, judging by what you can find in the home book stores. But it is only in the by-streets and second-hand furniture shops that you may ever look for bargains, for they have been so hunted up by American tourists that anything, however worthless, relating to America, is marked up to absurd figures by dealers in the "regular trade," especially dealers who issue catalogues. But even now one will find in England more old books on America than one can ever hope to get in the book stores of this country, and on the whole, at more reasonable prices. E. B. B.

Check List of Canadian Plants, by Jas. M. Macoun : Ottawa ; Cunningham & Lindsay, 1889 : pp. 68 ; 50 cts.

This is a complete list of the Phainogamous and Vascular Cryptogamous Plants of Canada. While based upon the catalogue issued by the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, it includes a large number of recently discovered species. Where names have been changed, the old name is given as well as the new. The list should be in the hands of every student of Botany.

NEW MUSIC.

The following new music has been received from the publishers, Suckling & Sons, Toronto. It will doubtless acquire adequate appreciation from lovers of melody :

"The Song That Reached My Heart," words and music by Julian Gordon. 50 cents. The words are tame. Although some of the phrases seem familiar, the music is melodious and easily within the range of a baritone voice. The refrain of "Home, Sweet Home" is skilfully introduced.

"The Parisian Lancers," by Henry Bourlier. Toronto : 75 cents. This will prove a favorite. The music is simple, the rhythm is well marked and delightfully suggestive of the figures. On the cover is a representation of the Allan liner, *The Parisian*, brilliantly done.

"The Kettledrum," a military parade, by Paul Sohmer. As its name implies, this piece is sprightly in its movement, but it need have no terrors for musicians of a tender growth.

"Toujours a Toi," a waltz for the piano, by E. Fraser Blackstock. A very pleasing production.

"My Heart's Delight," a piano polka, by M. Martin.

"God Bless our Broad Dominion," by R. S. Knight. Toronto : 10 cents. A very effective addition to our somewhat brief list of national and patriotic songs. It is written for a baritone voice, with chorus for first and second tenors and a bass. We confess that we are unable to understand the last verse. It reads :

"In peace or war our Guardian,
Be Thou our Father still,
And what Thy wisdom sees is best
Shall be our Father's will."

Possibly, for the words, "our Father's" in the last line we should read "Thy children's."

ART SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Management of the Toronto Public Library, a deputation from the Toronto and Parkdale art schools, consisting of Dr. White, Major Carlaw, Warring Kennedy and John Ingles, was present. Their business was to impress on the board the necessity of establishing technical schools of science and art, which they propose to be placed under the board's control. A report on the question had been drawn up at the request of the library management by Mr. John Galt, which stated that elementary schools were the kind wanted. It also gave an estimate of the money necessary in such a scheme, taking into account the grants which the city and Government would be likely to give, and the fees charged the pupils. There are at present three art schools in Toronto, in each of which some of the subjects of elementary science are taught, and the proposal is that two others be founded, and the scien-