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Editor, Canadian Bookseller,
P.O. Box 203, Hamilton, Ont.

Editorial Notes.

The London Public Library Board are considering plans for extension at an estimated cost of \$4,000.

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The Dundas Public Library Board are considering the idea of introducing acetylene for lighting purposes.

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If publishers will forward us a copy of all new publications, the editor will give them due notice in these columns.

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The Library at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, contains an unbroken file of the London "Times" from January 1, 1805, to date. This is probably the most complete set of the "Times" in any library in America.

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Miss Jean N. McIlwraith, the Canadian writer, who wrote "A Book about Shakespeare," published last year by Thomas Nelson & Sons, of London, has nearly completed the manuscript of "A Book about Longfellow," which the same firm will publish in a few months.

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Canadian Poets will have to look to their laurels. Their confreres at the antipodes

are wide awake. There are already many volumes of Australian poetry. T. Fisher Unwin, of London, has added to the list, having published a new volume, "A Twilight Teaching and other Poems," by Mrs. Lala Fisher, of Queenstown.

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Dr. R. Maurice Bucke, Medical Superintendent of the Asylum for the Insane, London, Ontario, is an earnest student and an enthusiastic admirer of Walt Whitman, the poet. Dr. Bucke has recently edited Whitman's Hospital Letters, and has published the volume under the title of "The Wound Dresser," through Messrs. Small, Maynard & Co., Boston.

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The Montreal *Star* adorns an article referring to the withdrawal of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of the somewhat famous divine Rev. C. A. Briggs, whose theology was supposed to be not quite in accord with the church standards, with an excellent portrait of the popular Book Steward of the Methodist Church in Canada. Possibly it was assumed that if the one surname sufficed, the same portrait should answer for both; else there must be an extraordinary likeness to one another in the Briggs clan.

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THE CANADIAN BOOKSELLER extends hearty congratulations to J. Bayne MacLean, of the "Bookseller and Stationer," on his promotion to the Lieut.-Colonelcy of the 6th Fusiliers of Montreal. Col. MacLean is popular with all who know him, affable by nature, genial in disposition, indefatigable in business, an enthusiast in matters military, and a gentleman in every sense of the word. Lieut.-Col. MacLean—Here's congratulations to you. May prosperity ever attend you. May you live long, and continue to be as enthusiastic a Canadian in the future as you are now, and have been in the past.

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"The Trial of Emile Zola," issued in pamphlet form by B. R. Tucker, New York, is unique from a typographical point of view. In setting the type for the book the "justification" of lines is entirely dispensed with. Mr. Tucker says this has the advantage of allowing absolutely perfect spacing between the words of each line. But we think the disadvantage of having the lines ending here, there and everywhere,

more than offsets the advantage of the equal spacing between the words. The people are used to the old style of the lines being spaced out even. It will be a long time before Mr. Tucker's new idea come into general use.

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It is pleasing to be able to record instances of the appreciation abroad of the work of Canadian writers. Gilbert Parker is recognized as in the front rank of the world's novelists. He already has the honor of having his books published in a uniform edition by leading publishers in America and Europe. A. D. DeCelles, Government Librarian, Ottawa, was last year awarded 500 francs by the French Academy of Paris, in recognition of the ability shown in his book "Les Etats Unis." J. W. Tyrell's "Across the Sub-Arctics of Canada," which has had such a large sale here, has been republished in London by T. Fisher Unwin. R. T. Lancefield's clever satirical sketch "Tim and Mrs. Tim" is being translated into German and will be published in Germany within a few weeks.

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Why is it that the handwriting of so many well-known men is so illegible? It is a fact that few could tell the signatures of Hon. G. W. Ross or the Hon. J. M. Gibson unless they had seen them before. Fortunately these estimable gentlemen have private secretaries who write the body of the letters. It is said that E. E. Sheppard, the talented "Don" of Toronto "Saturday Night," writes so little that he is quite at a loss if his faithful stenographer is not at hand to catch the words when he is in the mood for dictating. It is more than certain that only an expert compositor could set up matter written by that bustling journalist, J. Ross Robertson, of the Toronto "Telegram." But it seems that the late Dean Stanley was probably the very prince of wretched calligraphists. Elliot Stock, of London, writing to "Literature," says that a letter was once delivered to him which the postman thought was addressed to "Elliot Stock, 62 Paternoster Row," but which, on being opened, was found to contain a receipt by the Dean for an article in the "Contemporary," and intended for "Mr. Strahan, Ludgate Hill." The address was as much like one as the other!