

WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS (Con.)

satisfied with the state of trade. They are busy shipping goods, and expect to despatch all present orders in a few weeks.

Colin McArthur & Co. report a very busy season. They are especially busy at present, as all the spring orders must be shipped by the first of March. Every day new orders are coming in, which, added to the orders already booked, keep their factory running at its full capacity.

Watson, Foster & Co. are now in their new offices and factory. Everything is not finally settled yet, though the factory has been running steadily for some time now. There is still much planning and arranging of details to do. When all is finished this will be one of the most complete wall paper factories on the continent.

There is some trouble over the will of the late Wm. Campbell, of New York. It will be remembered that Wm. Campbell & Co., one of the largest wall paper firms in New York, stayed out of the wall paper trust and fought against it. Prior to his death, Mr. Campbell gave \$100,000 worth of stock each to Mr. Dyll and Mr. Temple. The will is being disputed by the family to recover this. The suit of the daughter, if successful, will give to her the control of the business, which was left to Mrs. Ash, Mr. Campbell's housekeeper.

CERTAIN TRADE GRIEVANCES.

Editor Bookseller and Stationer.

SIR,—I have had in my mind a desire for some time to write to you. I choose this time for fulfilment of the said desire. In *The Toronto Globe* ("the paper") I read the following in connection with the public accounts on the 19th of January, 1897: "The P. O. receipts were \$2,964,000, and the expenditures \$3,665,000, a deficit of \$701,000. The expenditure during 1896 was the largest in the history of the Department."

Comment 1st.—At the present time many P. O. clerks are working, not for the public, but for the enrichment of the publishers' pocket. The clerks canvas for daily and weekly papers, and have the papers come to the P. O. free, and it takes a lot of work to handle those papers daily, and if this work could be stopped the P. O. could do with far less clerks, and thus make the P. O. pay for itself.

2nd.—Should the P. O. clerk be allowed to canvas for dailies and weeklies, and thus take the profit from the bookseller? I think this is doing an injustice to the newsdealer and should be put a stop to. If the P. O. clerk is allowed to do this kind of work he can do a great injury to the trade.

3rd.—School teachers. During last year at the opening of the public school of a certain town, the teachers told their pupils

at one of the schools to buy their school books and supplies only at —'s of that town, and thus the other dealers had to suffer the loss. Do you know how to put a stop to this work on the part of the teachers? The above is only one of the faults of the P.S. teachers.

4th.—P. O. vendors: Now that a new Government is in power would it not be wise for them to allow those who sell stamps a commission of 5 per cent. instead of as now 1 per cent., or else give us the same commission as we were allowed before, 3 per cent.? It is well worth twice the amount, and it will make up partly what we lose through selling them. What do you think of it, Mr. Bookseller?

Jan. 29, 1897.

A BOOKSELLER.

[For comments see elsewhere. Ed. B. & S.]

FEBRUARY MAGAZINES.

THE Canadian Magazine has a good politico-biographical article, with portrait, by Dr. Geo. Stewart, of Quebec, on "The Premiers of Quebec since 1867." Perhaps the feature of the issue is in the mining articles. There are three of them, by Lieut.-Governor Mackintosh, C. Phillips-Wolley, and Hamilton Merritt and many illustrations accompany them. Mr. Frank Yeigh gives a character sketch of Sir Wm. Van Horne. The poetry and fiction are, as usual, excellent. Mr. David Christie Murray's fine papers on "My Contemporaries in Fiction," are continued. The department for literary reviews contains one or two contributions from well-known critics, and the editor, with judgment we think, has set the matter single-column the full width of the page. The Canadian is a worthy periodical; it combines with much skill the class of article we look for in the reviews, and the lighter programme of the fiction monthlies. It is distinctly Canadian without being provincial; it does not compete directly with any other magazine, and in these things, we believe, rests its strength.

Outing is a capital number. The opening tale "Under the Snow" is by the well-known Canadian writer, William Bleasdel Cameron; Ed. W. Sandys, another Canadian (a brother of "Lady Gay" of *Toronto Saturday Night*), writes on settlers; "Way Beyond the Saskatchewan" is a story by Therese Guerin Randall; the sporting records are there as usual.

The Review of Reviews (New York edition) deals editorially with Anglo-American arbitration, with the Monroe doctrine as regards the Nicaragua Canal and other subjects as interesting to Canadians as United States readers. Francis A. Walker, the eminent metallurgist, whose recent death has brought his career into notice, is the

subject of a character sketch. Chas. D. Lanier has a lengthy sketch of Rudyard Kipling. The review and magazine articles dealt with contain many topics interesting to Canadians.

The *Hesperian* is a western quarterly (A. N. Menil, 7th and Pine streets, St. Louis, Mo.; 15c.; 50c. per year), noteworthy for its modest, effective effort to embody current thought. The issue February-April contains a frank estimate of Mrs. Humphrey Ward; "Should the Poor Marry?" is the moral and economic aspect of a modern problem; the poetry of William Morris is the piece de resistance. The *Hesperian* is for the student, the critic, the average reader, and any one of these getting a single issue would want the rest.

Lippincott's complete novel is "Under the Pacific," by Clarence Herbert New, one of the very best "modern-marvel" stories we have read in a long time. There is a poem by Julian Hawthorn. The second paper on "Marrying in the Fifteenth Century," by E. B. Stone, is a delightful view of this feature in the famous Paston letters. F. A. Doughty's article, "The Southern Side of the Industrial Question," is very valuable.

The January Strand contains Conan Doyle's "Life on a Greenland Whaler." Grant Allen has another episode in the career of an African millionaire; Henry W. Lucy has another inviting sketch of Parliamentary life. "A Child's Memory of Gad's Hill," by Mary A. Dickens, is deeply interesting.

For Canadian readers perhaps the most attractive article in *The Century* is "Places in New York," a fine study of present-day New York, a city so many of us love to visit. Capt. Mahan writes on "The Battle of Copenhagen," and considering how bitterly the United States felt over this episode, the account is most fair. Another feature which will attract Canadian taste is "Recollections of Samuel Lover," by his daughter. "Why the Confederacy Failed" is a symposium of opinion upon Mr. Rose's article in a recent issue. This, too, will greatly interest Canadians. The magazine, in other respects, is, as always, up to its high standard.

Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly (25c.) maintains its place as a fine family periodical. There is a colored frontispiece: "Life in Russia," by Sophie Friedland; "Pennsylvania University;" "Father John," a continued novel, by Edith Sessions Tupper; "Stories of Cats," illustrated; "General Robert Lee," one of a biographical series, a young people's department, and many other attractions.