

Books and Notions,

A MONTHLY JOURNAL,

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE

Book, Stationery and Fancy Goods Trades

OF CANADA.

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J. J. DYAS, Publisher.

OURSELVES.—We give in this number some extracts from the many letters received from subscribers. We do it to show that the purpose for which BOOKS AND NOTIONS was commenced, is at least in some measure being accomplished. While the trade journals of other countries circulate to a large extent in Canada, naturally they pay but little attention to the purely local matters transpiring in the Dominion. A journal, the aim of which would be to give the most prominence to Canadian affairs and interests, always was and is our aim.

There is a very large proportion of dealers in out-of-the-way places, who do not take a foreign trade journal, but who are only too glad to have something to give them new ideas, and tell them the last news.

It is for those that this journal is mainly edited. The dealers in centres not only subscribe for many organs of the trade, but coming in contact one with the other, get and give valuable information, not so, those comparatively isolated. For them we cater, mainly look for support, and publishing as we do, the cheapest trade paper in the world, the support of every one, without a single exception, is naturally looked for.

ARE THEY WISE?—Combination as long as it is kept within legitimate bounds is wise and right, but when it goes beyond that then it becomes a question for the people at large to decide whether or not it will be tolerated. This thought occurred to us as we read in the daily paper the following:—

The Knights of Labour in Belleville have sent the following circular to the local news dealers:—"Dear Sir,—I am instructed by the Knights of Labour of Belleville to notify you that we have boycotted the *Mail*, and we ask you to discontinue to offer for sale in your store said paper, or on your refusal to do the same we will withdraw our patronage from you. G. D. Lamont, Rec. Sec., K. of L." The news-dealers decline to be bulldozed by the Knights, whose quarrel with the *Mail* is that it declines to permit professional workmen to regulate its business affairs.

What folly on the part of the Knights to imagine that such a proceeding as that in Belleville would be in the least measure successful! (Under the head of Correspondence in this issue will be found a short letter from a well-known local bookseller on the subject.)

Within a very few years this plan of boycotting a newspaper has been tried at least twice in Canada. One, the *Toronto Telegram* as a consequence had its circulation very much enlarged, during the year's active campaign, against Ross Robertson, a hard man to drive; while the other the *Montreal Herald*, which had before the opposition but a very meagre subscription list, bounded up to unparalleled figures, giving it a standing, through its extended circulation, that was formerly unknown.

The attempt to boycott the *Mail* was begun something over a year ago, and although pushed with all possible vigour, has so far not only failed to succeed, but has drawn to it a large body of supporters who hate tyranny, in whatever form it shows itself. The *Mail* has to-day a larger patronage, both in advertising and subscription, than it had the day the boycott was started.

It will ever be thus.

ANOTHER COMPANY.—Again this month it is our pleasure to record the application for another charter under the Dominion act, for a Joint Stock Company, to be known as the Schlicht & Field Co., Limited, with headquarters in Toronto. It is the intention of the company to carry on the business of manufacturing the Shannon file and cabinet with other office accessories, which they may from time to time deem wise to introduce.

The applicants for the charter are Paul Schlicht and L. Field, of Rochester; Z. A. Lash, Q.C., J. F. Lash, present manager here for Schlicht & Field,