

foremost among the young nations of the earth in point of stability. Responsible government, a scientific banking system, excellent municipal organization, an absence of the extravagant speculative spirit, good roads, excellent inland rail and water communication, an unsurpassed educational system, scientific farming—these are a few of the features which constitute Canada's elements of greatness.

#### AMONG THE WHOLESALERS.

THE question of "What books shall I buy for next season's trade?" will for some weeks exercise the mind of the bookseller. "Get away from the cut lines offered by dry goods houses" is good advice, and to assist their customers in doing so, a great many novelties in bindings, beautifully designed, covering a wide series of popular authors, have been prepared by the W. J. Gage Co. (Ltd.).

Alex Gillies, of Boyd, Gillies & Co., wholesale stationers, Montreal, has been in Toronto for a few weeks looking up orders. He has left on a trip west. Mr Gillies is well known in Western Ontario, and no doubt his many friends will be glad to welcome "Sandy" in his new capacity as partner of a reliable stationery house.

The Oxford University Press have appointed the W. J. Gage Co. (Ltd.) and one other wholesale house their sole Canadian agents. The superior merits of the Oxford Bibles are so generally recognized that they require no introduction to the Canadian bookseller. The Gage Co. state that their position as agents enables them this year to not only show a much more varied and attractive range of samples, but to quote at publishers' prices.

It is a confirmed report that Mr. Reid, on account of continued ill-health, will retire from the firm of Buntin, Reid & Co., wholesale stationers, on March 1st. An adjustment is now under way, and the change will soon be announced. Under the new management some decided changes are expected.

Walter Scott, the celebrated English publisher, has issued a circular to the book trade of Canada intimating that he has appointed the W. J. Gage Co. (Ltd.) his sole Canadian agents. Their popular series of Canterbury poets, great writers, camelots, American authors, etc., in a wide range of new, attractive, and dainty bindings will therefore be seen in the samples of the W. J. Gage Co. only. A special feature this season is the photogravure illustrations in the Canterbury series of poets, which add very much to the beauty of the books, at a very slight advance in cost.

The "Imperial Music Book," a collection of popular and standard pieces for the piano and organ is well known to music dealers. A new edition has been issued by the To-

ronto News Co., revised and improved, with cloth back. This old favorite is thus made more saleable and more valuable.

The first sample of 1895 calendars to hand are shown by the Willard Tract Depository. They are by the celebrated firm, Marcus Ward & Co. The children's calendars are neat; the regular boxed floral calendars are surpassingly lovely in point of coloring; black calendars are shown in greater range than ever, betokening increasing popularity; poet calendars are improved in point of execution; a ship calendar is a novelty. Marcus Ward's goods for 1895 promise well.

Baskets are moving lively with Nerlich & Co., in all sizes, shapes and prices. Photo holders of enormous size and basket design are a novelty. Match ornaments for hanging under chandeliers, etc., are shown in a choice range, with variegated bowls, many of which are ornamented with raised cupids. Water sets are much the same as last year in price and appearance, but nevertheless are good property. Flower holders are shown in long range, bright colorings and new shapes.

The Brown Bros. have been stock-taking, and report satisfactory results. Their stock is in too good a shape to supply remnants and broken lots. Among their new shipments are: Mahogany twine boxes, Empire pin tickets, typewriter supplies, and gothic art papers—extremely new. Their special tablets, Silver Star, Canadian and Century, are selling well. A low line of commercial envelopes is being offered, and seems to have been right.

Selby & Co., 23 Richmond street west, have struck the right thing in blackboards, and are doing a good trade in them. They have every variety, and will send circulars on receipt of a post card.

The Brown Bros. have two specialties at present. The first is a first-class fountain pen repairer, which enables them to return pens sent in for repair by return mail. They are the only wirt pen repairers in Canada. The other specialty is visiting cards, including "at home" cards. The line is extremely large, and includes thin and thick cards, in boxes or packages, for either ladies or gentlemen. Their "at home" cards are all got up according to new and correct forms, and are exceedingly dainty in appearance.

#### BOOK NOTES.

"WHAT Necessity Knows," by Miss L. Dougall, is creating a stir in Great Britain. It is said to be one of the finest novels written since George Eliot's "Romola," and is much stronger than "Beggars' All."

A new "Pansy" book, entitled "Wanted," is announced by the Methodist Book & Publishing House as being added to their well-known Canada's copyright edition of the Pansy books. These books sell well,

the writer seemingly maintaining her popularity with the public; indeed, judging by the sales of her later books, she is widening her circle of friends.

Palmer Cox, author of *The Brownie Stories*, is a Canadian, having been brought up in Lucknow, Ont.

The Methodist Book Room have in press "Britain and Her People," by J. Van Sommer, jr.; paper, 25c.

W. Foster Brown & Co., Montreal, are doing well with the Rev. Dean Carmichael's book, "Sermons of the Christian Year."

Funk & Wagnalls' Dictionary will have its second and final part issued about May 1st. The one-volume edition will then be issued also. The book is receiving wonderful trade, but it deserves every bit of it. It is a magnificent compilation.

"A Gentleman of France," by Francis Weyman, is perhaps the most fascinating historical narrative which has appeared for years. It has had a big run in England, where the author's "House of the Wolf" had prepared the public for something further from his pen.

Annie Swan's latest book, "Courtship and Marriage," is being taken up rapidly by the public. There is in it not much perhaps that is new on these topics, but the charming literary style, the sympathy and great good sense that abound in its pages do not fail to charm the reader.

In the war of 1812, a U. S. officer named Colonel Scott was among the prisoners taken at Queenston. In 1813 and 1814 he again took an active part in the war, and was severely wounded at Lundy's Lane. His life has just been issued from the press of D. Appleton & Co.

Artistically bound books, whether singly or in two or three volume sets, are largely taking the place of booklets for the Christmas trade. The reason for this is that while booklets are necessarily slow if not dead stock after Christmas day, these unique lines form not only dainty Christmas souvenirs, but are saleable all the year round. Having this in mind, the W. J. Gage Co. have expended much time and money in preparing a great variety of attractive samples to meet the trade requirements.

The Fleming H. Revell Co., at their Toronto branch, known as the Willard Tract Depository, have received the following new and important books: "Outline Studies in the Old Testament," by Prof. W. G. Moorehead, cloth, \$1.50. "The Conversion of India," from Pantenus to the Present Time. A. D., 193-1893, by George Smith, L.L.D., cloth, \$1.25. "None Like It; A Plea for the Old Sword," by Rev. Jos. Parker, cloth, \$1.25. "Every-Day Religion; or, Common Sense Bible Lessons," by Hannah Whitall Smith, author of "The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life," cloth, \$1. "Jesus Himself," by Rev. Andrew Murray, author of "Abide