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These Pens have a national reputation for uniform excellence comprising the essential qualities of ELASTICITY, DURABILITY and EVENNESS OF POINT. They are unsurpassed for correspondence and business purposes. A sample card of the Special numbers, 4 PENS, will be sent for trial on application to

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THE LARGEST MAP EVER MADE.

The great map of the world in Hemispheres, constructed and presented to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition by Messrs. W. & A. K. Johnston, of Edinburgh & London, is probably the largest map ever produced. The diameter of each hemisphere is over twenty-one feet; the two united measure in length nearly forty-two feet; the superficial area being over seven hundred square feet. The canvas on which it is painted was made expressly for it by a Kirkcaldy firm; it was made in one piece, but was found too large for convenient handling, and so was cut into four pieces, joining at the Equator. By this means several assistants were enabled to proceed with the work at the same time, eight weeks being occupied in its construction.

JAPANESE COPYING PAPERS.

These papers, which have now been before the trade for some time, have taken a very strong hold on the public fancy, as they do the work required of them remarkably well. They are very strong, and take very sharp impressions, the ink not running as in ordinary tissue paper. They are hand-made from pure fibre, and air dried, and are uniform in quality. As they are quite free from chemicals, they are also particularly suitable for the wrapping of fine steel goods or other articles liable to rust or tarnish. Made in several sizes and qualities.—*The Stationery Trade's Journal.*

The "flexible cover" of modern times is not a new contrivance. The MS. book that was the immediate successor of the Roman "Tablets" doubtless had some sort of a flexible cover so that it might be conveniently rolled up and carried about, or thrust under a pillow or into a pocket. The velvet and silken covers of the middle ages lent themselves admirably to such MS. books as religious teachers and scholars would naturally like to use as *rade-mecums*, but when leather came into fashion the Germans invented a flexible binding that was, no doubt, very similar to our modern style. They called it *cuir bouilli*, which term would lead one to infer that it was a species of thin and finely-dressed leather, in which the book was incased, no boards being made use of.—*American Bookmaker.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

MONTREAL, August 5, 1886.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—No changes of any importance have taken place since my last letter. We have been favoured with somewhat more than usual summer travel; but the trade complain generally that

the visit of the wealthy tourist, or more correctly speaking, the money spending tourist, is a thing of the past, although we have numerous sight-seers, yet they come, go, and leave no trace behind as far as the bookseller's bank balance is concerned.

Much to be regretted as this fact is, it is not caused by any lack of push or courtesy on the part of the trade, but simply means that travel has drifted into other channels, the wealthier classes electing to undergo the agonies of a sea voyage in preference to enjoying the natural beauties of their own continent.

Our "Paternoster Row," St. James street, is at present undergoing repairs of drainage, and the pile of mud and clay on one side, and the perfect tunnel of mammoth waterpipes on the other, neither add to the beauty of the street nor to the good humour of our leading booksellers and fancy goods men.

The prospects of the school book season are reassuring, as no deterring influence has yet appeared to prevent the schools from opening promptly, and with full rolls, as they failed to do last year.

The presence amongst us a few days ago of the representative of Messrs. Goodall & Sons, London, leads one to note the importance Canadian trade is assuming in the eyes of the Mother Country. Although the faces of some of the English travellers are very familiar to the trade, yet it is only within the past few years that the publishers and stationers of England have placed themselves in direct personal contact with the Canadian market, as a result our retailers must reap many advantages, both in variety of goods and prices.

We note the announcement of a new wholesale fancy goods firm, Messrs. Gilman Bros., St. Peter street, who have brought both capital and experience into their new enterprise. The trade wish them success.

The country having been thoroughly drummed by the host of energetic travellers of the different jobbing houses, the retailers will soon begin to realize that in their generosity they have bought heavily, and will pull themselves together for a mighty struggle with the fall and Xmas trade, and from present indications this part of the Dominion will have no reason to complain.

UNIT.

SAINT JOHN, N.B., July 27, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—We are truly sorry and beg to apologize for delay in replying to your query concerning state of trade, etc.

Owing to the general depression in the chief industries of the Maritime Provinces, dealers throughout the country districts are buying cautiously. As a rule they have been carrying heavier stocks than they could profitably handle. Thus we are disposed to think that with really careful dealers decreased demand has been the rule and remains so.

Very truly yours, BOOKS.