

to secure a great many lines for his firm's stock.

With their branch house in Dresden, this firm is well able to watch the German, French and English markets, which enables them to have all the latest novelties right direct from the manufacturers, and offer them to the trade here at the lowest prices.

NEW EXTRA COPYING INK.

The latest thing in copying ink is a new preparation by Underwood, the "Cobalt Extra" copying ink. It is guaranteed to give six legible copies. A representative of BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER saw a test made in D. Macfarlane & Co.'s warehouse in Montreal and the 12th copy on the paper used by railroads was quite readable. This ink is used like any ordinary copying fluid. The firm puts up a railroad ink which will give as many as 50 good clear copies.

THE ENSIGN TABLET.

The "Ensign" tablet is one of the new lines shown by Buntin, Gillies & Co., Hamilton. The top is of striking design (as shown by cut of same printed in this issue), and is printed in gold and color, making a very bright appearance. Each pad contains 96 leaves of a fair quality of paper. They come in two sizes, ruled and plain, and will retail at 10 and 20c. each, showing a good margin to the dealer.

SPECIAL LOTS OF TOILET PAPER.

The E. B. Eddy Co., of Hull, are making a specialty of toilet paper put up in family crates, and are having great success with its sale. Both perforated rolls and flat packages are neatly put up in these which retail at \$1 for "Diamond" perforated rolls, and \$1.20 for "Imperial" flat packages. These prices leave a good margin for storekeepers.

KNOWN TO THE TRADE.

Stephen Lees, of Hamilton, was married to Edith, third daughter of W. L. Wilkinson, of Grange avenue, Toronto. The groom was supported by his brother, George Lees, and the bridesmaid was Miss Gertie Wilkinson, sister of the bride. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. F. Wilson. The newly-married couple were last month the recipients of many beautiful presents, including a complete dining-room suite from Robert Duncan & Co., Mr. Lees being a representative of that firm. They will reside in Hamilton.

THE MONTREAL BRANCH.

A. & S. Nordheimer, who have carried on the piano and musical instrument business in Montreal for thirty years, have sold out to C. W. Lindsay, the well-known piano dealer.

GERMAN STATIONERY NOVELTIES.

BERLIN, JUNE, 1897.

IN the stationery trade, if a man has a new inkstand patented, scores of inventors immediately set to work to do the same thing until the market becomes simply flooded, and thus, for a time at least, a stop is also put to the fashion of inkstand inventing. A new channel, of course, always soon opens itself for the ingenuity of those people, as presently somebody sets the ball once more rolling by his example, and that is why at the present moment we have to witness the era of hand blotters.

A few of these useful articles I have already described in my last letter, but since then it has simply poured new ones, and I could easily fill a few pages with their characteristics, but I should not like to torment my readers, and will, therefore, select only a few of the best. In one case the top part of the pad of the well-known cradle or rocking-horse system consists of a piece of bevelled plate glass, through which an almanac is visible, or one of the latter is stuck on a wooden top and made durable by being varnished over. The idea is decidedly a good one, and has been patented in several countries. The Perpetuum is a rival invention, and although it does not quite keep what its imposing name promises, nobody is likely after its examination to shrug his shoulders and to think that there is after all nothing in a name. The Perpetuum looks like a short piece cut off an oval pipe of some elastic metal. Round it is wound a strip of blotting paper about five or eight yards long, and which is kept in position by a strong clip of ingenious design. Every time fresh paper is required, this clip only is pushed back a little, however, without being opened, and it will keep tight until the last round is reached. The advantages of this pad are obvious. A similar thing has been once in the market, but it was arranged in such a manner that the paper had to be pulled every time a portion of it was no longer of any use for blotting purposes, and as blotting paper cannot stand much pulling the apparatus was soon discarded. A knob or handle is, of course, not necessary in the case of the Perpetuum, as its shape is a very convenient one. Another blotter is, with the exception of the knob, likewise made of metal, but does not deviate much from the usual form. The top leaf with the handle in its centre has its edges at both narrow ends rectangularly turned down to the extent of about half an inch. The lower portion consists of a straight piece of thin but strong steel, one side of which is covered with pieces of blotting paper in the usual way.

In order to make it fit into the turned

down edges of the top part, it has to be bent into a half-circle, and then easily keeps in position on account of its having to remain bent, and thus acting like a strong spring. This blotter has been patented as a German invention, although a patent had been taken out for the almost identical thing by an American, the only difference between the two being the knob or handle with which the German article is supplied. I should not be surprised if the Yankee patentee would raise objections, and there is little doubt that he would gain the day, as the German Patent Office, though pedantic, is exceedingly just.

Although inkstand inventing is decidedly out of fashion just now, a few people are old-fashioned enough to persist in constructing new ones. One which has recently appeared in the market is remarkable for its ingenious closing arrangement. It has two caps, one fitting over the other, and both with corresponding openings for the pen to be dipped through. The cap below is fixed to the vessel, while the top one can be turned either to close up the opening in the bottom one, or to show it.

Novelties in ink or pencil erasers in india-rubber have not appeared for a long time, but an enterprising firm is now producing such in the shape of all sorts of animals, like fish and pigs. They are prettily modelled in the usual grey rubber, and those stationers who were the first to take up this old article in its new form are said to have done a roaring trade in them. There is also a new erasing knife of very novel appearance. When closed it looks like the half of a four-shilling piece joined to one cut from one five shillings in value. There is, however, greater thickness, and the smaller half having a common axle with the larger one, can be turned into the hollow larger one, whereupon the blade of the knife appears. The blade looks like a circle of steel which has been ground down in such a way that three obtuse corners are produced. The blade can be fixed in any desirable position, as the axle mentioned is fitted with screw and nut. The advantages which this knife offers as an eraser are obvious, and therefore need not enumerating. A watch chain consisting of three principal links, which are the cases of a correspondingly number of utensils, also forms a novel stationer's article. The utensils consist of a pencil, a penknife and a toothpick. In penholders only one novelty is worth mentioning. It is made of celluloid or similar substance in the shape of a pipe with very thin walls at the further end. Thus the greater weight is placed where the holder is held between the fingers.—Stationery Trades Journal.

"Some Observations of a Foster Parent" is the title of a book on educational questions which Archibald Constable & Co. are about to publish.