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# Rt. Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, G.C.B. 

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 design, and ought to supersede the hideous blackedged border now so prevalent in mourning stationery. fihe new paper bas an artistic black triangle edge at the left-hand corner of the note paper and envelopes, quite sufficient to denote inourning without disfiguring the entire sheet."-Court Journal.


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Vol. VI. TORONTO and MONTREAL, DEC., 1890. No. 72


## Á <br> MERRY <br> CHRIBTMAB.

HIS number brings us to another milestone, under which we bury our sixth volume. We have fared one stage farther along the highway of journalistic existence. The feeling that the imprint of maturity is now become so clearly de. fined as to efface the featuremarks of our youth, makes us retrospective. And not only does the occasion naturally lure us into looking backward, but also the position we have arrived at lends itself temptingly to the same mood. For, we are now on higher ground than when we set out. The end of each year has found us not only one volume on. ward, but also another upland higher. We can scan our path from its beginning. Our view is not broken by the interruption of any elevation so bigh as that on which our feet are now placed. The ups in our experience have run all the one way, the downs have run uniformly the other. It is against the direction of the latter we have steadily made progress, and we have acquired strength in the exercise.

The survey of the familiar ground we have trodden cannot bit be attracted by triumphant interest more to the difficulties of the way than to its firm levels and gentler grades. Where the road was heavy, where the ascent was steep, where obstacles had to be surmounied, there are stakes set up in memory's plan of the route which locate each hard spot all the mure vividly because each is the
scene of a difficulty overcome. But the brighter experiences of our journey are not cast into the shade by the glonmier ones. They should not be, because theirs is the heavier side of the scale. If the road was often stiff, it was skirted by ducllers whose welcome was cordial and whose support was steadfast. Books and Norions had to make head against a condition of things that is peculiar to the experience of a venturer along a road that is far from thickly populated, among constituents that are slow to recognize in community of interest and action a means of benefiting themselves individually.

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* *
$$

But if belief in community of interest and action were not a common trade creed when we began our quest for readers, it has by degrees been growing into a generally accepted one since. And we believe we have been a leading influence in the diffusion of the doctrine that in union is strength. We preached it when there were few embraced it, and its propagation has been coincident with the extension of this journal's circulation. The fusion of the trade into a homogeneous body of influence whose principle of cohesion shall be identity of interest, in whose concerted action for the welfare or defence of trade all individual or local means shall be assimilated. This may possibly never be perfectly effected, but it is a less utopian idea now than it was six years ago. Booksellers and fancy goods dealers are arrayed in a less open order now than they ever were before, and it is not too optumistic to hope that they will close up into a phalanx yet. The fluid atmosphere of opinion s yet a loose medium to hold together so large an aggregation, but things are happening all the time whose effect tends to coagulate opinion and fix into a solid mass, that trade in which the consttuent members yet act rather freely and with some waste of friction upon each other.

These things whose tendency is thus consolidating are the wrongs of the trade. Their solidifying action will be hastened by any agency that collects and marshals them with a view to this end. In other words, the more clearly the formidable nature of these grievances is exhibited, the more will the trade which is threatened or injured by them look to its own defence. We have been and shall continue to be an agency whose reports and warnings give the true position and strength of the menacing elements that are either within or outside the trade. By this means do we hope to promote and strengthen organization, and hence to further the dislodgment from their present stoong position of many encroaching practices of these times.

We have had liberal encouragement in our efforts to unite the trade against evils of whose significance and moment we have sought to spread a general appreciation. That encouragement stands at our back in the form of a long subscription list, and we have the satisfaction of feeling that if the trade is not yet completely united in a defensive league, it is at all events united in the support of a paper which maintains a mulitant attutude against all forms of infringement upon rights, that are the legitimate traders. That fact is gratifying to ourselves and should be hopeful for the trate. It shows that the trade is alive to the importance of keeping itself informed upon the questions relating to its very existence. This itself is somewhat assuring, in view of the fact that some time ago it seemed as if certain rights would be allowed to go by default. But the present position of the trade on some of these matters, though it might be more earnest and concerted, confirms the significance of its unanimous support of BOOKS AND Notions which significance we have already interpreted as the endorsation of defensive sentiment. The trade has not been inactive upon the question of encroachment on the part of department and tea stores, or upon that of school books. But we are sure there is a reserve of enthusiasm and force yet to be exerted.

## ***

We have been the mutual friend to whom many wholesalers and many retailers are indebted for their present acquaintance with each
other. The respectability of our subscription list brought us advertisers of the best chass. and by introducing theere to our subueribers, we promoted thtiminies that hase been use ful and profitable to both parties. For, we are as happy in our advertusers as we are in our mubsclibers, and we have as liberal support from them. Ie set :oothinvolved work, patience and perneserance, and we are satisfied that we were able to make the neecssaty outlay of these gualities.

We wish all our patrons a Merry Chrint mas and a verv Happy Neu Vear. The holitay tratie, we hope, will be a hariest more than usually rech on the quantuly and quality of the dematud.

## REAPING WHERE THEY DO NOT SOW.

Those who control the distribution of peri-odicals- that is, the publiwhers or the concerns to which they turn over their issuemust not be trusted more than average human beings, to respect rights that they find exposed. (aution is better than fatth in anybody's honor or reliance upon conventional usinge. A matter in which some traders are unnecessarily frank with the houses which furmoh magrames, ett., at first hand, is the disclosure of the names of subseribets. It seems conventent to send these names, that the periodicals may be labelled at the source of supply with the pronted address of each subseriber upon them. It saves trouble to the lexal newsteater to have this thing done at the publishers house, and it is neat and orderly. But it is not disieet. The publisher, or those to whom their issue is eransferred require mos furtier information for the supplying of an onder, than the num. ber of copies of each periodual that is wanted, and the name and address of the dealer who wants them. To name the sub. scribers is unnecensary Many trader, hnow why it is also mediscreet to do so, having learaed by experience. They hnow that some publishers make use of the names so collected, to link subscabers directi) to the house itself. Having these names, and thus being able to refer to readers of their publication, they can sase the trade discount in every instance :hey attarh one of these natmes to their own central subseription list. In so athachme a name they detach at from the fonal deater, has. The retaler mas beat the wood for the game, but once it is roused the publishers' house will look after it. The plea put forto for the defence of this abuse of contidene 1 , that the retailer neplects oo culta,ite suburrpturns, allowing them to lapse tou casily, and that the sub) eription is not so apt to be transtent when it is hooked at the head office, whence the perodical can be semt to any address to which the subseriber may shitt. the remosal from one place to another by a subucriber often cancelling his subsernpion altogether when it is held by a retailer. Whatever there is of truth of of mere spen iousness in this is mat cer of hate concern to the retailer, who oughe to know when he has a bird in the hand, whill is also one in the hand for the head house, and worth more to the retaler than the two which that concern sees in the bush. The setaler may be slack or he may be dhegent to keep sulsienptions running: but so long as the list is known only to him-
self he is making something out of it. So soon as he sends a copy of it to the publish. ers' bouse of supply; be runs the risk of transferring a great part of his interest in it to that establashaiaent. "Ambers, not names," is the safe policy.

## MUSIC NOTES.

1. Suckling \& Sons now pieces for this month are:
(1) The llaymakers. Dance. For the pianoforte. By Carl Weber. Price qoc.
(2) Valie Elegante. For piano. By (i. 1. Fairclougll. P'rice soc.

Both are tavored by a strong demand. from quarters where selectuess is valued.
The Anglo.Canadian Music Publishers' Assoctation, (l, imited), has added the following to its puhlications :
(1) Danse des Pierrots. For piano. By Emma Fraser Blackstock. Price 50 . This is the mose recent of the well-known Toronto lady's compositions, and is in wide request.
(2) Twelfth Night. Old English dance, for the pianoforte. By Seymour Smith. Price soc. There is a very food call for this for Christmas stocks.
Whaley, Royce \& Co. have published the following new pieces, for which they report all unusual run:
(1) The Dude's (ialop. Jersey, for piano. 13y R. (ierdler. Price toc
(2) In the Autumn. Gavote. For the piano. Price 50 . This is a very pretty piese.
(3) But I Loved Her. Comic Song. By W. J. Reid. Price foc. Very popular.

## BROWN BROS.

Messr. Brown Bros. have now got out their catalogue, and in it is to be found the counterpart of every bezuliful line of leather goods manofactured by that tirm. The purses, walles, bill books, bankers' rases, portfolons, etce., etc., are illustrated and arranged in the order of class, size and material, each entry beng accompanied by the pricequotation. An examination of the pamphlet unfolds a rich assortment of choice wares. But a more tangible evidence of the resources of the firm's stock just now is to ive seen in its sample rooms, which we visited on Saturday, and found to be crowded with the most clegant articles. The tables bear a luxurious display of purses, "allets, diaries, portfolios,

letter cases, card rases, music rolls, bays. ell. This is l3man Bros. 37 th year in diary publecation. Everything is in strict keeping with the latest laws of fashion in ladies sond, notable among whe hare some chate lannes hung: in beaunful oxydized silice frames. The photograph albums are new and very secherche, in calf covers, some ingramed with attractice strawberry stamps are particularly captivating. The screen
photo panels are in many forms, all h.ond. some. The leather writing desks are a 1 rrs chooce line of goods.

In inkstands Brown Bros. are stocked wh many styles in extra Bohemian glass. Thete are several unique designs in these. Thrie are also some very taking pocket case, of Vienna make for holding ink. A leading article just now is the Wirt fountain prn, for whels the demand is exceedingly soned. Besides the plain form of it there are sesoral styles of it in stock now of fancy structure for gifts, and put up in plush lined case. These have pearl, gold plated, silver or ebons holders and are well fitted for the season of gift making, for ladies or sentlemen. (wid pens and penholders are also in stock.

A line which is recciving a large ammont of attention from the trade is the novely called crepe and crinkled tissue paper, which is suitable to so many decorative applia. tions in feminine hands. This paper wan exact innitation of crape, andis in twenty distunct colors and seven striped combinations. It is used for lamp shades, fire stove ornaments, fans, handscreens, fower pot covers, fancy ballcostumes, lining work baskets, ete., ctc.

Commissioner Johnson confirms the despatch that Father Labelle had to pay dutr on several hundred books that he brought with him from Europe. He says that in holding the books till the duty was paid the customs authorties were simply carrymg out the regulations The books may be for educational purposes, but that does not relieve them from the payment of duty. Even if they were for religious purposes, the case would be the same.

It is renerally known that the lieutenants. of Mr. H. M. Stanley were prohibited by their agrecments from publishong any ar crunt of their travels until six monthsafter the issue of their leader's book. The term has now almost expired, and it is therefore expected that several books by these companions will appear-some of a highly inte. resting nature, detalling various aspects of the expedition. Next to the ascount of Mr. Jephson, under the title of "Emin Pacha, and the Rebellion at the Equator," aiready announced, the most interest will attach to the Diary and Letters of the late Major Barttelot, which is being prepared for publica. tion by R. Bentley \& Son, London, and in which will be described one of the darkest episodes in connection with the expedition.

We have on several occasions mentioned in our columns The Winter Evening Games, published by The Copp Clark Co., Ltd. We would not like to say that the tremendous sales these lines have had is due entirely to the advertisements which have appeared in books and Notions, although the firm have expressed themselves well pleased with the results therefrom. It is a pleasure to advertise good lines, because of the perfect and unbounded satisfaction such commodities give to the buying public. These are good lines. Halma has had a phenomenal sale. Parchecsi, the old favorite of board games. seems if possible to have taken a firmer hold than ever on amusement loving people. (;o bang, that marvel of smplicity, but varying chance, seems to grow more and more in favor, but still this enterprising firm are not satisfied, and have increased their line by adding improved inen for Halma, Parcheesi for players, and Go-liang with bone counters. They intend entering largely into the manu facture of games anil have sereral in course of preparation, Reversi and Periwinkle\% Other games will follow, and as fast as issued will be noticed in our advertising columns. Keep your eyes open for their new lines.

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are fast selling out for the year．
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## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

 every month, it in jumpanilile for un whoticuthom
 deairlige todraw the nit colthou of the trade to ans:
 oflimenot inter ihinit the wilt of wach month to ennure illarertion in thacurront inonthio lasuc.

A Ming of Monti, (Red lemer Serien, by (i, Mancille Fenn. Toronto: The Nathomal Pubhshong Compans. A book of strong meterev, and one in which the course of the stors and almost the upshot of it, baflle the reader's anticupation. The writer reaches his end by a more devous way, and by rising superior to conventionalisin in one important furn of the narrative. It is a book of 375 pages. The moving prouciple of the actuon of the story in indicated in the tille. In the reading tantes of the times there is a large ready made demand for this book.

Hike II.11.., The Story of his Life, Trial and lmpricomment, as told by himself. Toronto. The Natomal Publishing Cempany. Rendes the murdercr's autobing raphy, this book romains an account of the murder, a record of the trial, and a description of the executoon. It is illustrated, and gives pietures of the leading dramatis personae. It retails at 50c.

We have received from John l.ovell \& Son, Montreal, the following of their recent novels: "Fanous or Infamous." by Bertha Themas, 300 .; "lleart of Gold," by L.. T. Meade, zec.; "Ruffino," by Ouidi, .joc.; "The Black Box Murder," by Marten Mantens, all in the fimis Canadian Copyrugh Seriss,

Famous Frontieksmen, Pioneiks and Scouns, by E. (i. Cattermole, A.b. Chirago: Donohue, Hennelerry \& 1 o. This is ath illustrated work, handsomely and strongly bound in stiff linen, the device on the scarlet cover being a frontier palisade. with the arms of pronect defence slung upon one of its pales, the sheaf of weapons being partually covered by the stamp in gold of the bead of a screaming eagle. The book is alsobulky, contamung 5 to pages $10 \times 16$ inches each. The tule indicates a subject of intense dramati: interest, as it rouses the expectatron of stories of men of action, and action of the mont exciung kind. Perhaps there is nowhere on the face of the ealth a tract so fertile of true meidents of modern adventure as is the wide belt now loosely denomirated the frontuer of American settlement. That
frontier is wide, because it comprehends all the ground of the struggle that was involved in pushing the line of settlement from its first in tts final position. All the space from the carlicst to the latest line of demarcation between civiluation and barbarism was sitiply a scale along which the frontier was from time to time shifted. Thus, therefure, the scene of action was an extensive one, the title to 11 was disputed with determmed and ferocious aborigines, and the element that was fast lisappearing from civilized warfare the distinctness and picturesqueness of the personal hero was conspicuous in it. The material, therefore, for such a book is abundint, and the author has used it well llis book is not written for those solely who have an abnormal veracity for lurid delineation. It is writuen also for readers of historical inguistuveness. The heroes are such men as Dan:el Bonne, Davy Crockett, Gencral Custer, and other frontiersmen whose inpress has been made upon the history of the United States.

Miss Nonow of Nowhere. (Camadan (opyright edition), by A. C. Ciunter. Toronto: The Natuonal Publishong Company. Price 50c. A family quarrel furnishes the inutial impulse to the movement of circumstances which constitute this story. The author has not followed the usual routine methods of arousing interest, but he arouses interest much more than if he did take to the threadbare artifices. The book immerses the reader in a social atmosphere that is peculiar to the South Western States. It is a very clever work.

The "Sonc of tur: Exil,f," by Wilfrid S. Skeats, (Turonto: Hart \& Company), is a Cauadian epic in five cantos, and is descriptive of the wanderings of an Englishman, in Camada, from Quebec to the Pacific coast. After recuting the reason of his banishment, the exile apostrophizes his native land. On reaching Quebec, its foundation by Champlain and capture by Wolfe form the subject of his thought. Passing on, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara, the Prairie, the Rocky Mountains, Victoria, and other places are visited. Historical incidents connected with each place are recalled, the scenery is descanted upon, and the political questions of the day are discussed. The book is nicely printed, bound in vellum cloth, gilt top, with fine side and back dies. Crown 8vo, 160 pages.

Pine, Rose and Fieur de: Lis, by Mrs. Harrison (Seranus). Toronto: Hart \& Com-
pany: This volume of poetry whose appearance we have already heralded, is now realy for distribution to the trade. The sympathy of letters was the source of constant and increasing interest in the book from the tume of the first announcement of its contemplated publication, and that interest was signitied in a subscribers' list of writers that had greatly grown since our last issue. In the book itself is realized the promise for whith the reputation of its author was the pledgeHer literary sculpture is delicate and exart, and is in all cases informed with fine, poetic feeling. The old French rural ballad, the villanelle, of which the ease of effect is in inverse proportion to the ease of cause, is a form Mrs. Harrison handles with singular felicity, although it is one very hard to natur alize, and one whose difficulties few writers have overcome. Forty-four of these charming poems are in the "Fleur de Lis" section of the book, along with oller poems in which the picturesqueness of early French Canadian society and scenery is gracefully por trayed. The other parts of the book are of equal merit with this one, and we are sorry that limited space at the last moment prevents extended notice of them. The book is tastefully bound in silk finished cloth, bearing a landsome gold stamp on a back of novel design, with silt top $1 t$ is choicely printed. l'rice $\$ 1.25$. Orders for the Christmas trade will receive prompt attention.

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In our last issue there was a printer's error escaped correction. It was in Mr. Micklethwaite's advertisement, whercin the phrase " $5_{2.4}$ for 100 " should have been " 24 for $\$$." It is corrected in this issue.
C. M. Taylor \& Co. report a large trade in Hagelberg's and Dutton's Christmas cards, booklets and books. The firm's travellers are also pushing wall papers, for which thes find the demand now very receptue.

Mr. Curry, bookseller, Cubourg, was in the city Tuesday last. He reports a good business and looks forward to a rushing Christmas trade. He combines the manufacturing of rubber stamps with his other business.

The Dewitt Publishing House, New York, whes a very full and circumstantialcatalogue of its books. Those entries treating of books of the various arts of parlor diversion, fantastic, theatrical, elocutionary; etc., are also accompanied by illustrated cuts.
H. A. Nelson \& Sons are specially stocked for a strong run in parlor evening games, having, as their catalogue shows, full lines of chese. Amony the games, all of which are of absorbing interest and none dependent upon chance, may be named Halma, Parchesi and Faba 13aga.
At a recent meeting of the legislative Council, teld at Charlottetown, Prince Ed"ard Island, the series of Canadian readers, and other books, pubhshed by Messrs. Gage © Co., of this city, were adopied for exclu. sive use in the schools of that province in lieu of the Royal readers, heretofore used.

Mr. Wim. Mann, of Barric, has enlarged his store this month, to twice its former size. It is now the largest place of business of its kind in Barric, and Mir. Mann has one of the finest stocks of Xinas goods to open up that he hats ever shown. Mr. Mann is a small man (in height). but he is a pusher all the same.

Mr. J. I'. Cinffin, Halifax, N. S., has given his stock a thorough overhauling, and by changing show cases from old to new posilions he has given his whole store a holiday appearance dlat does credit to himself as well as his lady clerks, and with an attracure store and a fuil stock we predict a heavy Christmas trade for Mr. Griffin.

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The Depository also publishes, "Our Al. liance Wall Roll," 12 shects $10 \times 13$, pnated in two colors in large type texts, and dates in very bold fgures, contains also dally bible
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Mr. Benj R. Tucker, of Boston, will publish on Saturday, November 29, the first English translation of Claude Tillicr's hunorous novel, "My Uncle Benjamin," whirh has won its author, by its realistic satre, the tutle of "the modern Rabelais." Of this romance it was sand by Charles Monselet that "it has no equivalent in the literature

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