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BOOKS and NOTIONS

ORGAN OF

THE BOOK, STATIONERY & FANCY GOODS TRADES OF CANADA

VOLUME I }
No. 10 }

TORONTO, MAY, 1885.

{ ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
FIFTY CENTS.

ON LIMITED EDITIONS.

Like many other excellent varieties of enterprise, the limited edition has been carried to excess, and is in danger of annihilation from corrupt practices. The primary motive of publishing short editions of thoroughly well made books is that by this means such high prices may be obtained from a few persons fortunate enough to have surplus means to gratify their refined tastes, as to make it pecuniarily possible to put the best paper, ink, printing, illustrations, and binding into a volume. The limited edition is the opposite extreme of the cheap reprint literature with which the country is flooded, and which has driven out of market many of the fairly well made books which abounded formerly. In this regard it may be viewed as the natural operation of the law of supply and demand. Publishers who were forced by competition to print very cheap books, found that there existed still a decided demand for the same works in better form, and that even greater prices than had ever been paid before for certain books could be obtained, were they excellent enough as book manufactures to warrant higher charges. From this condition of trade, together with the pride that some few publishers take in what they accomplish as book-makers arose the limited edition.

It will be seen, therefore, that the idea of the limited edition is above reproach, and that if honestly developed its effect is to stimulate the book-making art, and to supply worthy books to those who appreciate them, and who have some sentiment connected with printing aside from its strictly utilitarian function as a vehicle of information. Unfortunately, this has not been the case invariably, but the limited idea, like many other good devices of honest manufacturers, has suffered from the unscrupulous and dishonest practices of irresponsible publishers, until, in the minds of many, the very idea itself is converted to a synonym for trickery. With regard to a few firms who have, by many years of endeavor, established a reputation for fulfilling their promises and not cheating their customers, this is an exception; but as to the majority of those who announce limited editions there is a strong disinclination to advancing subscriptions to any work before it is seen complete, and is proven to be worth the price asked.

In a surprisingly short time the buyer has awak-

ened to the danger. Experience has shown that there are scores of mushroom publishers and booksellers who do not hesitate to publish an alluring prospectus, take subscriptions and supply an inferior book. If any objections are raised, the publisher coolly insists that the book is good enough, and that there is no redress. Reluctantly the subscriber is forced to admit that he has been duped, and mentally resolves to avoid limited editions in the future. Having been cheated once he protects his purse, even though occasionally it may work injustice to reputable firms which can be trusted.

To such an extent has this form of dishonest practice been carried, that some houses boast of it unblushingly. One publisher of Philadelphia says openly that he cares but little what the book-buying public thinks as long as he makes money, and that until all the credulous fools have been worked for all they are worth he proposes to continue in the business. Annually, therefore, there come from his office address pretentious circulars, followed shortly by a persuasive canvasser with, perhaps, one section of an exquisitely made book. On this showing subscriptions are obtained. With the third or fourth section the work begins to decline in quality and, finally, becomes almost worthless. This is extremely profitable for the publisher, but disastrous to the subscriber, reputable firms, and the procedure of the limited edition.—*The Art Age.*

ANCIENT PLAYING CARDS.—In no part of "Old London" is there greater interest than in Goodall's stall, where "Playing Cards" from the earliest possible period to the present are exhibited. There is an interest here far beyond the ordinary exhibits in "Old London." When one sees the manipulation of new cards, cutting and packing under the modern system, one knows not what is behind. The speed of new manufacture is not so well represented as at Messrs. Goodall's works at Camden Town, but it is sufficient for the purpose of showing the advance of ages, and how playing-cards have been a feature in the past as well as in the present generation. It is difficult to define the exact era when "Playing-Cards" first came into existence, but certainly Goodall & Co. show the Arabic cards of 1470, which were produced from copper engravings, and are unique in

character. A book may be well written upon this collection, and some early specimens of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba might make a text-book for modern commentators. Early German playing-cards have a most decided novelty to modern critics. Then we see what are called Court cards where kings, queens and knaves are intriguing, if we interpret the history properly, and very curious are the ideas which fluctuate in one's mind when reviewing them. Teaching geography with court cards, in the time when Charles II. was king, is interesting and amusing. The four suites are four parts of England, and the thirteen northern counties are clubs; the western are spades; the eastern are hearts, and the southern are diamonds. In each card we have a map of the county and chief towns, with a compass for the bearings and a scale for the mensuration. There is also given the length, breadth and circumference of each county; the latitude of each city or town, its distance from London, and other features, such as hill and dale, wood and valley, and frequently architectural views. A complete pack of the Parol cards, printed in Bologna, in 1672, with cups and medallions, are only artistic but interesting to modern critics. The German playing-cards, printed at Prague in 1664, have emblematic and colourings of an extraordinary nature, more in the character of the modern Japanese than any we have seen. We are next shown a pack of English playing-cards with suites of hearts, clubs, spades and diamonds—the court cards with portraits—the English nation being represented by Charles II., and other countries having their representative kings and queens in their then attire. This was printed in England in the year 1680. There are grotesque German cards following this, which we have not space to mention. In a humorous sense, however, we may say that at the close of the seventeenth century there were French caricature cards, where kings and queens are fat and podgy, and retainers carry on their breasts the amount of service they are desirous of rendering, or, as modern politics would point, "You give your service, and you take your pay." The signs of the constellation printed from copperplate is a neat specimen of early playing-cards. The Biographical playing-cards in which classical medallions take form, and astronomical ideas assume position, are alike worthy of regard. We have, however, passed over what may be regarded as a great feature in playing-cards when an old author endeavoured to teach the Bible history by "playing-cards." Adam was then the king, and Eve his queen. These were published in 1591. We were also shown a very curious fortune-telling book by cards. Again we see Heraldic playing-cards of the "Peers of Scotland," by Walter Scott, Esq. (not Sir Walter), and these are painted by hand, and bear date 1691. One other feature in Messrs. Goodall's stall. We were shown a pack of playing-cards engraved by Virgil solis. Every king, queen and knave have monkey faces with regal robes. One would think that a re-issue of these, at a period like the present, when the many denounce the higher assemblies, would sell. Playing-card makers, are, however, like ourselves, distinct from politics. They produce in these days works of art, and make these works of art as closely as possible in conformity with the purses of the masses.—*British and Colonial Printer and Stationer.*

MODERN BOOKBINDING.—An amateur bookbinder wrote as follows to the *Literary World* in January last:—"A few weeks ago some letters appeared in your columns respecting the edges of books—cut and uncut. May I call attention to what I think a more important matter, and that is a detail in connection with the binding. Much taste and skill are undoubtedly displayed in the get up of the outward appearance of modern bookbinding, and if books were intended only for the adornment of bookshelves and drawing-room tables we might be perfectly satisfied; but when we remember that they are meant for use, I think that more care should be taken with the sewing than is given to it at present. How often one sees a valuable work after a little use shabby to the last degree owing to the bad sewing and gluing of the back. A few months of constant wear, in the case of works of reference, is sufficient to cause the books to fall to pieces. I have books of this kind that I am really afraid to handle, except in the most gentle fashion, for this reason. My complaint applies chiefly, though not exclusively, to cloth-bound books, and it may be objected that the prices at which they are sold do not admit of better work, and also that this binding is not intended to be permanent. But, seeing that the larger proportion of books published are issued in this style, why not increase the price sufficiently to secure better work; for, as a matter of fact, no other binding is given to thousands of volumes.

"How very different are some of the older bindings! Books could be named which have been in existence for a hundred years and upwards, with not a leaf out of place, and books, too, which have seen hard service.

"I picked up in a Bristol bookshop, a few weeks since, for 2d., a copy of S. Roger's 'Pleasures of Memory,' that has been knocked about since 1796, and every section of the binding is as firm as at the first. I have also three volumes of 'Sibb's Works,' in boards, that were published in 1812, these also are equally strong in the sewing. There are others on my shelves of earlier dates quite as good, in striking contrast to the many loosely-bound books of to-day.

"I earnestly wish that publishers and binders would introduce a reform in this particular, and in connection with beauty give strength to the work of bookbinding."

This letter was replied to last week by Mr. Walter B. Slater in the following terms, speaking as an experienced man:—"In your issue of January 23rd appears a note in reference to modern bookbinding. May I say a few words about my experience? First, however, it may be mentioned that the French are very strong supporters of good binding, and that is the reason why the greater part of their books are published in paper covers; they bind a book as soon as they get it; some of the English casing (it cannot be called binding) is not much better. It is best to bind a book at once; it is a mistake to let it get dirty and possibly damaged, before it is bound; and then it is much better and cheaper in the end to pay a good price and get the work well done, for if it is sent to a binder who knows his trade it will be properly sewn, and therefore it is better for the book and for the reader's temper if a book be modestly bound in half-roan by a good workman than in whole morocco by a bad one. For hard wear, or where gas is used,

morocco is best, but roan is very serviceable. Buckram makes a very strong binding, but it is not so much liked. As to publishers charging more for better sewing, it would, I think, be a mistake, because of the large number of people who are not content with cloth covers. It would be far more satisfactory if many of the books were issued in paper as well; a few of the publishers do so, and make a difference in price for the cloth cover."

TO CAOUTCHOUC LEAVES IN BINDING.—A method of fixing together the leaves of books by means of caoutchouc, or indiarubber, is preferred to sewing for many classes of superior bindings. The sheets are cut into leaves, and the back edges being laid evenly, receive a solution of this tenacious material. As each leaf is held merely by the caoutchouc, which adheres to it, the book can be made to lie very flat, similar to type founders' specimen books.

MARBLING.—The reason why the water used in marbling should always be distilled, is not generally understood. The *Art Age*, in referring to this, and the further question, whether there is any positive way of telling when the size is in a fit condition—whether it can be preserved by any antiseptic, says: "The water is distilled to get rid of the lime. To distil water you can buy a retort. They can be procured easily and the cost but little. Water is distilled by boiling it in a closed vessel and allowing the steam to pass off through a spout into another closed vessel that is kept cold so as to condense to water. There is no positive way that size can be tested. The proper condition of the size is regulated by the character of the marbling. If it is to be spot it should be thick. If it is to be combed and raked considerably it must be thin. Practice teaches in this regard. There is nothing we know of to prevent the size souring. Keep it cool."

PAPER MADE FROM THE REFUSE OF SAWMILLS.—For several months past a machine has been under construction, for the manufacture of paper pulp from sawdust and other refuse from sawmills. An experimental machine was completed some time ago, its workings being detailed in the *Times* at that time. Sawdust, bits of lath, shavings and refuse known as "driftwood," were converted into pulp in a very short time, the product being equal to any pulp manufactured. The working of the experimental machine was so satisfactory that the inventor found no difficulty in interesting others in the invention. The inventor, having completed his machine, made pulp with it to his satisfaction the first time it was tried. The machine is cylindrical in shape and stands on one end. It is fourteen feet and four inches in height, and six feet and two inches in diameter in the clear. The gearing is on top of the cylinder. The sawdust is placed inside the cylinder, 1600 pounds being the charge, and it is reduced to pulp by rollers traveling around the inner surface of the cylinder, the principle being the same as a waggon rolling over a plank road, or the chewing of a bit of wood. These rollers are two hundred in number, and, attached to the shaft, hang on to what is known as the step at the top of the machine, the rollers, shafts, etc., making a total of 20,600 pounds hanging from this step. This

apparatus presents a novelty in mechanism, the like of which was never seen before. The entire machine weighs 63,200 pounds; fifteen horse power will operate the machine perfectly, and the steam pressure required is from sixty to eighty pounds. About three hours' time will convert a charge of 1,600 pounds of saw dust into pulp, the product being 1,200 pounds. The *Times* representative was present when the machine was in operation and examined the pulp after being taken from the machine. It showed a fine, long fibre, and a person could hardly believe, without witnessing the operation, that it had been made from sawdust. The patentee has an apparatus for bleaching the pulp. The product is cleansed automatically as it leaves the machine and is carried direct to the bleacher, where it is rendered as white as snow at an expense not exceeding 50 cents per ton.

The invention will work a revolution in paper manufacture. His experiments show that a fine quality of letter paper, as well as book, news and wrapping stock can be made from the product of his machine direct, thus doing away with the expense of beating engines and other ponderous machinery common to paper mills. It has already produced writing paper in a variety of shades, as well as all other grades capable of being manufactured from rags, jute, straw, or any other material, and his productions are in every way equal. As the raw material can be had for carting, the manufacture of paper from sawdust pulp effects a wonderful saving.—*Glen Falls (N. Y.) Times*.

MACHINE FOR CUTTING CARDBOARD.—A new machine has been devised for separating into single columns of prints (preparatory to punching) a sheet of pasteboard or cardboard imprinted with a congeries of designs or pictures—such, for example, as go to make up a "pack" or "deck" of playing cards. In machines of this class commonly employed the sheet is fed directly in between the feed-rollers, and accuracy of cutting is made to depend on two causes, both variable and imperfect—to wit, first, an extremely skilful manipulation, and secondly, strict rectangularity and uniform thickness of the advancing sheet-edge to the lines of demarcation between the rows of columns of prints to be separated from one another. The difficulty of securing prerequisites causes many sheets to be spoiled in the act of cutting by the running of the cuts over printed matter, or so near to it as to destroy merchantable symmetry of the finished cards. The difficulty is overcome by providing means by which the act of the operator which slips the drive-belt on to the loose pulley is made effective to simultaneously elevated to pressure-roller, thus enabling the attendant to arrange the sheet in strict alignment with his gauge while its forward portion is well advanced under the roller, so that on starting the machine the roller closes automatically down upon the sheet at right angles to the demarcations, with the result of feeding the sheets in strict parallelism thereto, no matter how much out of truth the front edge may be.—*Exchange*.

THE ART UNION.—The council of the Art Union have acquired the copyright of a very faithful portrait bust of General Gordon; and reproduction of it in terra cotta will be included as prizes in the next distribution.

Book Notices.

WILLIAM BRIGGS, Toronto, is publishing a Canadian edition of "Hopkin's Outline Study of Man," to sell at \$1.25, in cloth. It will be ready in a few weeks. He has published this week "Among the Laurentians," a camping story, by Sidney C. Kendall, bound in extra English cloth, 50 cents.

THE FOUR GREAT PREACHERS. - Rose Publishing Co., Toronto, \$1. The editor in his preface says: "A Spurgeon can be heard on two continents, and Beecher's eloquence, like Britain's drum-beat, may encircle the earth. The interest felt in the pulpit work of these typical preachers of Britain and America, and in that of Palmage and Moody is such as to call for the collection of sermons within this volume." The sermons are certainly selected with care and are examples of the style and force of expression of the different men. A short biography of each is given.

THE ROSE PUBLISHING Co., have published "The Story of Louis Riel, the Rebel Chief." The book is illustrated, and sold at 30 and 50 cts. The same house announce as now in press "History of the Troubles in the Province of Manitoba and the North-West Territories," by G. Mercer Adam. Cloth extra, \$1.50.

THE WILLARD TRACT SOCIETY hand us three handsome little books: "The Beauty of the King," "Daisies from the Psalms," and "The Pilgrim's Rest," published by J. E. Hawkins, London, publishers of the Mildmay cards. They are attractive in appearance and are of that style of neat and good presentative books that sell so well. They are all made up of well selected scripture texts, with handsome borders.

THE 'Varsity Board of Directors proposes to issue an edition of 500 copies of a little book containing the best things—both prose and verse—that have appeared in that journal since its inception five years ago.

THE announcement that Charles Egbert Craddock was a *nom-de-plume*, and that the real name of the writer of the famous East Tennessee stories was Miss Mary N. Murfee was a genuine surprise. This month's Literary Bulletin of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. introduces to us the portrait of the lady whose penetrating eye in more senses than one has looked in on the domestic life and tragedies of the rough mountaineer, and has told us in terse, melodious sentences of one other section of the great family of man as different from the ordinary every day life of ours as it is possible to imagine. Her latest work, "The Prophet of the Great Smokey Mountain," now appearing in *The Atlantic*, grows in intense interest as it progresses, and we have in the half-fanatic Prophet a new and weird creation in fiction. When published in book form the sale should be large.

MR. HENRY FROWDE will shortly issue from the Oxford University Press "Civilization of the Eastern Iranians in ancient Times, Based on the Authority of the Avesta, with an introduction on the Avesta

Religion, by Prof. Wilhelm Goiger, translated from the German, with notes, by Darab Dastur Peshotan Sanjana." The translator is a Parsee scholar of Bombay, and the work is stated to contain a complete examination of the Zoroastrian doctrines, as well as of the social life of the ancient inhabitants of Persia known as the Iranians.

THE famous Mazarin, or Gutenberg, Bible is to be reproduced in England by means of photo-lithography. W. E. A. Axon will contribute to the work a statement of the history and bibliography of this Bible and of the circumstances in which it was printed. The copy in the possession of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres has been obtained as a guide. The reproduction will be dedicated to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

DODD, MEAD & Co. announce a limited cheap edition of E. P. Roe's "Without a Home," which will no doubt follow in the wake of the cheap editions of "Barriers Burned Away," and "Opening of a Chestnut burr," which are reported to have reached a sale of over 150,000 copies.

JAMES R. OSGOOD & Co., have now ready "Literary Landmarks of London," by Laurence Hutton, an excellent little hand-book, giving the haunts and homes of every English writer of note that has frequented the city, with precise indications of their present condition, all arranged in alphabetical order. It will prove an acceptable guide to tourists and others visiting the city. They have also issued "England and Russia in Central Asia," by G. M. Towle, a compact statement of the Afghan problem, with the [military] positions of the English and Russians, the great political and commercial questions involved, and the strategic value of various points in Afghanistan. The volume contains several maps, and is the first issue in the *Timely Topics Series*.

MR. SANBORN'S memoir of John Brown, which will be published by Roberts Brothers on May 9, will contain letters from Garrit Smith, Frederick Douglass, and Wendell Phillips, and a special feature of it will be a brief autobiography of John Brown's father.

LETTERS to Her Majesty, written by the late Princess Alice, have been so well received by the public, that Mr. Murray has obtained permission to publish it in a cheap form for the public. There will be an appendix, written by Her Royal Highness Princess Christian.

THERE are laws in thirteen States prohibiting the sale of sensational papers, and in order to cover those States from which his *Gazette* is excluded, Richard K. Fox has now in preparation a new illustrated weekly, the name of which is said to be the *Illustrated Sporting World*.

GENERAL LEW WALLACE is writing another novel. His love for the foreign and picturesque would lead us to expect a work dealing with scenes of his late residence in Turkey.

MR. HENRY M. STANLEY'S new book, "The Congo and the Founding of its Free State," is thus the London Bookseller, summarized by "The events connected with the Congo and its basin are narrated in detail, from the explorations of the river, in 1877, down to recognition of the Free State by the Powers, together with a description of the physical features of the region, boundaries, natural productions and populations. The preliminary meetings at Berlin, the departure for Africa, the difficulties encountered by Mr. Stanley, and how they were surmounted, are all told by the leader of the expedition, up to the time when the end was reached, and Stanley Falls Station established. The story of African work and exploration concludes with the arrival of Mr. Stanley at Ostende, and the presentation of his report to King Leopold. Then follows the European work, negotiations for recognition by the Powers, the Berlin Conference, and its phases and final agreement. Two chapters are devoted to the climate of the Congo, one for popular reading and the second with comments on the meteorological observations taken by the party. The most important, although, perhaps, not the most entertaining chapter is one relating to the natural wealth of the regions, navigating distances on the main and tributary streams, populations of the various sections, and other matters partly given in tabular form. Among the maps, which are numerous, is a large scale map of Equatorial Africa, the stations all being fixed astronomically, and not, as hitherto, located at random, or only by observations for latitude. Over 400 sets of observations are embodied in this map. A separate large scale map of the Lower Congo is marked with the soundings. The illustrations are principally drawn from photographs, and include over 38 full-page cuts and about 90 smaller ones."

MR. QUARITCH has prepared a catalogue of books in his possession relating to American antiquities, including the chief rarities from the collections of the Mexican antiquary, Don J. F. Ramirez, of Durango; the French anthropologist, Alphonse Pinart; and the French bibliophile, Dr. Court. In addition to the rarest printed books relating to the discovery and settlement of America, the catalogue will comprise Mexican picture-writings of the sixteenth century, early MSS. in native tongues and in Castilian, by Sahagan and others, and originals and transcripts of the more ancient reports and official papers. "This catalogue," says the *Athenaeum*, "will, doubtless, long continue to be regarded as one of the most valuable contributions to the bibliography of American history."

The *Little One's Own Coloured Picture Paper*, edited by Mrs. Elizabeth Day and finely illustrated by chromo lithography, is the latest English periodical. The following extract from the prospectus best introduces it to Canadian Booksellers:—"The Little-One's Own Coloured Picture Paper" has an almost unlimited field before it. It occupies the ground left vacant by the two admirable publications of the Religious Tract Society—"The Boy's Own Paper" and "The Girl's Own Paper," which attain their object of guiding the young to truth and purity of life, by adopting a tone and treatment that appeals particularly to the elder of youthful readers."

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Subscribers will oblige by informing us at once of any irregularities in delivery.

J. J. DYAS, Publisher.

LAST month, in referring to those of our trade who have "gone to the wars," we spoke of only four, whereas almost every wholesale house in Toronto and many retail houses are short-handed on account of the warlike proclivities of their employees. Noble work those citizen soldiers have done. The Anglo-Saxon transplanted to Canada loses naught of its military ardour and prowess.

FAILURES.—Within the last few months quite a number of failures of publishing houses in the United States have taken place. R. Worthington, Frank Tousey, and E. Claxton & Co., have been notable examples, and now we see that one of Boston's leading houses, J. R. Osgood & Co., have had to succumb with \$150,000 liabilities. Mr. Osgood was noted for the high class of books he published, and his desire to elevate the tone of the trade. His failure, which involves also that of the Heliotype Co., is much regretted by the trade.

WE have on hand a few complete sets of BOOKS AND NOTIONS. Those in want of them, and the careful bookseller always files away his trade papers for future reference, will please apply at once.

AT HOME.—We notice that our English exchanges are just now devoting considerable attention to "The Colonies," and although the expressed object is increase of trade—told in a bluff, honest English way—there is so much heartiness in their words that it makes us desire more than ever to join hands heartily in our relations with our mother land. The *British and Colonial Printer and Stationer*, in the course of a lengthy article, says:—

"Here we regard the prosperity of Canada, Australia, South Africa, and the rest, with pleasurable eyes. Their growth is our growth. In them we can find that extension, which our four sea-walls forbid us in Europe. In them we can distance our great continental rivals in square miles, and they are our counterpois to the armed legions of autocratic forces. Not one shade of jealousy crosses the Englishman's mind when he hears of great doings at the antipodes, or in the western dominion, or at the Cape. We feel that it is our own, and just as Stonehenge, Westminster Abbey, Runnymede, Shakespere, Milton, and the memory of our host of glorious dead are part and parcel of the family estate of which we are custodians, and in which they have a possession. So do we look upon their expansion, their broadening empires, and boundless resources as things in which we may take an interest and pride. These recent offers of Colonial assistance are not to be measured in simple numbers, they have told us something more eloquent; for they speak of union of heart. and it is a lesson which Englishmen are beginning to learn."

And thus the *Stationer, Printer and Fancy Goods Registrar* :

"More as to our Colonies: the statement that the trade follows the flag, is not far wrong, as some have supposed; and therefore we should do all we can to draw nearer the Colonies to the Mother Country. They evidently need but little coaxing, and are only too ready to acknowledge their parentage. The old love still remains—and may it endure as long as the British Constitution!"

Here across the Atlantic hearken to the echo. Glorious, freedom-giving British Constitution!

THE ENGLISH REFERENCE CATALOGUE.—The trade will be glad to know that Mr. Whittaker has now ready this important work of reference for the trade; it is five years since the last one was published. "The Reference Catalogue of Current Literature" was published originally in 1874, and again in 1875, 1877, 1880, and now after a lapse of five years, in 1885. The new volume is an enormous one, octavo size, nine inches thick, and weighs ten pounds. It contains the lists of over one hundred publishers and index of over 300 pages, with 53,000 entries. In some form or other every book in the Catalogue is indexed, no regular plan is adopted, the entry being made in the way in which the reader would most probably seek the book desired.

WHAT WE WILL SELL SEVEN MONTHS FROM NOW.—Now is the time that our dear friends the "Commercials" are on hand with their "finest, most artistic and newest styles of Christmas cards, nothing like them in the market, sir, for beauty of finish and artistic design. Sure sale, sir, no dead stock to carry over after your last customer has left you at holiday time. Cheap sir, big margin; try a line of those panels," and so on.

Well there are some fine cards in the market this year. New makers with new designs, and on the whole cheaper than formerly.

Fringed cards do not sell. Those who have already placed their goods in their travellers hands find that plain is the prevailing fancy—plain and good. Corded are having a good sale, and some of the make-ups of swandown, &c., take moderately well.

The trade has certainly quite enough variety to choose from, and some of the latest on the market are among the best.

From an article by the Editor of *The Educational Weekly*, we clip:—

"OUR MOTHER TONGUE.—We plead for the study—the greater, more particular, more persistent study—of our mother tongue, in public schools, in colleges. We are aware of the increased attention given to the study of 'English' for some years past, in all our educational institutions. But we are not satisfied; nor, do we think, is any one, who watches the progress of educational work in our province, and has its success at heart.

"The study of our mother tongue varies with the grade of class taught; but it should grow broader and deeper with each step in the ascending progress of the pupil. Much is to be said of high school work and college work in this respect, and we hope to treat of these in future; but we wish, just now, to speak of public school work."

Sound Sense, from the Pen of a good practical Teacher.

OUR FUTURE KING.—*The British and Colonial Printer and Stationer*—how long these names of our English contemporaries are—has been furnishing its readers for some time with an interesting series of articles, written by an old reporter, entitled, "How the London newspapers are fed."

From a late number we give elsewhere a sketch of the Prince of Wales, as he appeared to the writer at the Smoke Exhibition, in 1882.

There are so many misconceptions, even among Canadians, as to the true characteristics of the Prince, that we gladly give the extract.

Trade Reviews.

TORONTO.—Business quiet; collections slow; prospects doubtful.

Thus may be summed up the present state of trade. Of course May and June are the off months—after the early spring season and too soon to make ready for fall, still the want of life is more observable in the trade than usual at this time of the year.

In the retail trade in Toronto there is a moderate amount doing. The news branch is improving and pulling up somewhat for slackness in other lines.

Illustrated papers sell well, and "our own" *War News* is having large sales.

Outside of Toronto in Ontario, reports are of dull times.

UNITED STATES.—Among the members of our immediate trade there seems to be a universal feeling that business is on the mend. True, the facts, which inspire this feeling are somewhat slender, yet they are of sufficient strength to warrant our dealers in feeling encouraged. The trade in Easter novelties was up to that of last year, and in many cases far in advance, and when it is remembered that the most elaborate and expensive designs sold as readily as the cheaper ones, this becomes a significant feature in the business problem. When people spend their money for luxuries such as Easter novelties it is a good indication that money is beginning to be plenty with them, and they cease to feel the stringency of the times.—*Geyer's Stationer*.

ENGLAND.—The home trade is reviving. There is more life in business than there has been, and the manufacturers are most of them working full time. There is plenty of room, however, for improvement.—*Exchange*.

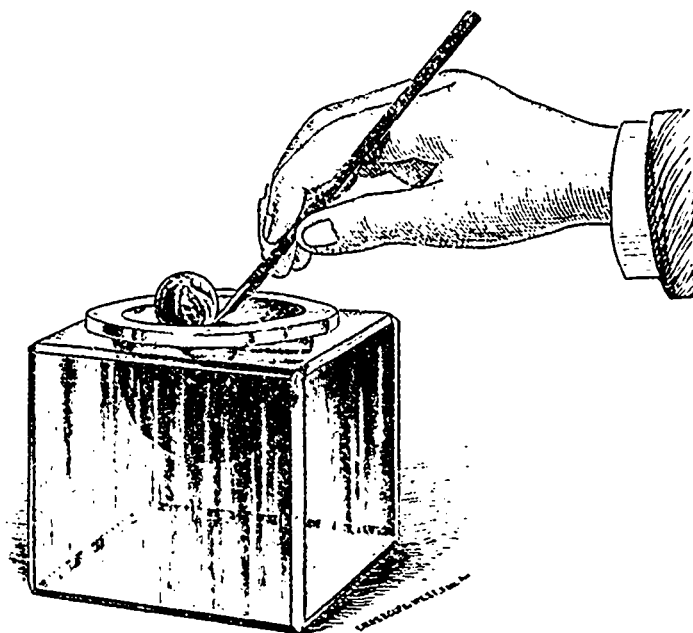
THE REMUNERATION OF AUTHORS.—A good deal has lately been said and written about large sums which British authors have made by the sale of their works. Scott obtained £110,000 for eleven novels and nine volumes of tales; Lord Beaconsfield was offered £10,000 for "Endymion;" George Eliot received £7,000 for "Romola," and it is reported that her "Life" has already put £8,000 into the pockets of the publishers. The profits of several Continental authors have, however, been equally substantial. Lamartine received £20,000 for his History, and £1,800 for "La Chute d'un Ange;" for the manuscript of "Notre Dame" Victor Hugo was paid £2,400; Chateaubriand made £22,000 by his books; Thiers disposed of his "History of the Consulate and Empire" for £20,000; and even Lamennais obtained on an average £600 for each of his volumes. Judged from the pecuniary point of view, M. Emile Zola is probably the most successful of living authors. A Paris paper, to which he is an occasional contributor, states that his income from literary work has during the past five years averaged £12,000.

WANTED.—1 copy Leslie's Popular Monthly, Sept. 1883. Will pay double price for it.—R. B. Andrew, Bowmanville.

Grade Notices.

THE PERFECTION INKSTAND.—This new Inkstand which we illustrate by accompanying cuts, will be found to have many very good points that will at once meet with the approval of those who wish to have good clean ink for their daily use. This inkstand is a solid square block of glass, three by three, by two by two and one-half inches in size, and is provided with a lid, which has a small opening covered with a marble just sufficiently large to admit the pen, by which arrangement only a small portion of the ink is exposed. The marble does not interfere with the pen in the least, but is a positive advantage as it prevents dirt or dust from entering the ink, and by excluding the air prevents *evaporation* and *thickening*; it

also does away with the annoyance of opening and closing the lid, as the ink-well is *always closed*, except when the pen is being dipped into the ink. As the pen is withdrawn, and the marble rolls into place, as



shown in the cut, it presses against the pen just sufficiently to remove superfluous ink, and thus prevents dropping and blots. The additional lid, as shown in the small cut, is superfluous, and is only provided to meet the objection of those that do not care to use the marble. The Inkstand is entirely of glass; there is no metal to corrode. It is easily filled and cleaned. It can be sold at a moderate price and ought to be sold in considerable quantities by the trade in Canada.—Hart & Company, Toronto, are the Trade Agents.

A LONG FELT WANT SUPPLIED.—Lacrosse players have always experienced great difficulty in procuring a really first-class lacrosse stick. All dealers in the article are aware of the small proportion of anything like good sticks contained in a shipment, and the loss they are subjected to through having a quantity of poor sticks left on their hands. Of late years the crack players, especially in Montreal and Toronto, never think of playing with a stick as they find it when purchased from the dealer. All the netting has to be taken off, and the cat-gut subjected to a process, which renders it soft and pliable, so as to better hold the ball. The stick itself often has to be shaved and shaped to balance, and it can readily be seen that all this cannot be done without being able to do the work properly themselves, having considerable trouble and expense (most players have to pay as much for this as the stick originally cost). Messrs. H. A. Nelson & Sons, of Toronto, have succeeded, after a great deal of experimenting, in getting up the most perfect and durable lacrosse stick ever offered to the trade. They are made by Eastern Indians, employed by the day, all materials and tools being furnished them. Second growth hickory only is used, and each stick is branded "Champion XXX Selected" (registered trade mark). Dealers would

do well to order samples, so that players throughout the country can have an opportunity of judging as to the merits of the goods. The retail price is fixed at \$2.00 each, and for this season only a limited quantity can be supplied.

THE MILDMAX CARDS.—We had the pleasure last fall of noticing this new line of Christmas cards. They all contain Scripture passages, and while they are not pretentious in fringed borders and gaudy colours the finish of the cards and the designs are excelled by none.

It is enough to say that this year the new designs are equally as good as those of last season. While there have been some larger cards added, that will no doubt be quite as popular. Last year "sold out" had to be the answer to repeat orders. S. Edgar Briggs (Willard Tract Society), is now on the road with a full line of samples.

It is correctly reported in trade circles that the largest lot of files ever sold in one order was handled by the Robert Patterson Stationery Company, in St. Louis. The goods were made by the Globe Files Company.

We propose next month to give an extended notice of Hildesheimer & Faulkner's gold medal Christmas and New Year's cards. These cards are real gems, and deserve a more critical examination and detailed description than we can devote to them in this issue. The Toronto News Co. are sole agents for Canada.

As intimated last month, Selby & Co., wholesale stationers, have moved to their new premises, 28 Wellington St. East, Toronto. In addition to handling a full line of stationery they will continue to manufacture Kindergarten materials.

LEONARD MORRIS, bookseller and stationer, Summerside, P. E. I., has commenced business in Charlottetown, still retaining his old stand as a branch.

C. W. SMALL, formerly traveller for James Campbell & Sons, now represents the Methodist Publishing House, which is presided over by Wm. Briggs. This is the first time this establishment has had a regular traveller on the road.

ATTENTION is called to the advertisement elsewhere of a competent bookseller's assistant. He shows us references which are unexceptionable.

The cashier of a Toronto house showed us the other day \$20 worth of postage stamps sent in payment of an account. Sharp customer. He thus got an extra 3% cash discount. He should get rich in a small way.

We are in receipt of "a catalogue of rare, valuable and useful books, ancient and modern, on sale by B. & J. F. Meehan, Bath, England."

They say: "This catalogue contains our more recent purchases in first editions of standard and popular authors (including a valuable and unique collection of original editions of Dickens), Thackeray, Lamb, Byron, &c., and valuable works illustrated by George Cruikshank, Leech, Bewick, Rowlandson, Blake, 'Phiz,' &c. Choice fine art works, collections of portraits and engravings, &c."

THE new list of W. Johnson & Son, 14 Gough Square, London, manufacturers of bevelled edge cards, is to hand. Accompanying is a sheet shewing a few of the most popular sizes and shapes. It is very convenient for a stationer so as to be able to show intending purchasers the different styles.

EDINBURGH.—Book-loving visitors to this book-loving city will regret to miss one of the well-known attractions of Princess Street, the shop of William Paterson, directly under the shadow of the Scott Monument. Mr. Paterson is relinquishing the retail trade in order to devote himself to the publishing business.

Novelties.

The game which at present is the special diversion in society circles is that known as "Progressive Euchre," this being especially true of Western fashionable circles, where for some time past the game has been all the rage. So far as the best information goes, improved or "Progressive Euchre" originated among the families of the army officers at Leavenworth, Kan.

"Progressive Euchre" has its competitors in "Zoologic Whist" and "Zoonomia," two new games by Hyland C. Kirk, in which science and card-playing are combined.

Still another card game is attracting attention, and that is the base ball game, which takes a scientific mind to worry through. Altogether the new game attractions are coming into competition with roller-skating, and rinking is scarcely what it was.

THE BARBER & ELLIS COMP'Y,

Nos. 15 Jordan & 10, 12, & 14 Melinda Sts.,

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Invites special inspection of the following departments:

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Account books in great variety in stock and made to order, by first-class workmen. Printed works bound in a superior manner and at reasonable prices.

ENVELOPES.

Our facilities are unsurpassed for manufacturing large lines of goods. We now have a capacity of one hundred millions annually.

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Our Mucilage is pure Gum Arabic, and is of excellent quality.

PRINTING & BOOK PAPER.

We carry a very large stock of News, Book and Writing. Special sizes made to order. Our stock of Cornwall Book Paper is very large, and sold at mill prices. Caps, Posts, &c., in great variety.

Bookbinders' Materials.

All grades of Leather, Binder's Cloth, Mill-board, Straw-board, Head-Bands, Thread, etc.

Agents for S. S. Stafford's Writing Fluid. Agents for Johann Faber's Lead Pencils.

General Stationery in great variety and at close prices. Letter orders carefully attended to. Correspondence solicited.

D. L. MOODY'S WORKS.

THE WAY TO GOD.	Cloth Extra,	- -	50c.
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TO THE WORK.	Cloth Extra,	- -	50c.
" " " "	Paper Covers,	- -	25c.
HEAVEN.	Cloth Extra,	- -	50c.
" " " "	Paper Covers,	- -	25c.
ANECDOTES.	Paper Covers,	- -	25c.
SELECT WORKS.	Cloth Extra,	- -	\$1.00.

A Choice Volume of Sermons:

FOUR GREAT PREACHERS.

Being a Collection of Sermons by

TALMAGE, SPURGEON, MOODY and BEECHER.

Cloth Extra, \$1.00.

ROSE PUBLISHING CO., TORONTO.

In photograph frames there is no end to the variety. All kinds of leather frames are relieved with application of nickel, silver and gilt bronze, either all round the frame or at one corner only; the designs being flowers, arabesques or reproductions of old clasps and locksmith's work. A novelty is a beaten or *martelé* oxidized silver frame, with, in the centre in high relief, the front of a vast Dolly Varden bonnet, which projects from the frame, leaving simply a hole large enough to admit the photograph of the face.

An English firm has invented a substitute for rough calf or other skins used in bookbinding. "Velum cloth or other suitable fabric is coated with an adhesive substance, such as is used in making flock-paper, and, while this substance is wet, flock is dusted upon it very much after the same manner of bronzing. By the use of dyes, any particular effect may be obtained, and a very good imitation is produced."—*TRADE LOUNGER in American Stationer.*

A Chicago dealer has placed upon the market a new article for erasing ink stains from writing, or any calendered paper. This liquid is a combination, and is contained in two separate bottles, and is called the "Twin-Bottle Ink Eraser." It is claimed for it that it will remove ink stains without discolouring the paper, or otherwise injuring it, and that the paper, after its use, is in as good condition as before. It is indorsed by the War Department, and numerous Chicago houses.—*American Bookseller.*

PARIS FASHIONS IN FANCY STATIONERY.—The stationers' shops in Paris are rich in fancy papers, envelopes, and menus. Crocodile skin, morocco, parchment, papyrus, linen, silk, are all imitated in the tissue of the paper. The address is printed at the head of letter-paper in all types, all styles, all colours. Some paper is surrounded with a polychrome border imitating Tunbride Wells wood mosaic; there are paper and envelopes with borders imitating the flower-pattern of blue and white china; while purses, pocket-books, photograph frames, and whole sets of writing-materials are made in an enamel imitating blue and white china.

In menu cards, the greatest novelties are etchings. There are whole series of etched menus, a series of Parisiennes, a series of clowns, a series of cooks, a series of monkeys, &c. In the top left-hand corner, figures a charming little mezzotint or dry-point. In another series, the menu is framed on three sides by vignettes rising one above another.

There are also innumerable humorous series of etched menus and invitation-cards. For instance, an etching, about two inches square, of a lady and gentleman sitting side by side, and then in the text, "Monsieur X. est prié de ne pas s'asseoir à côté de sa chaise." The text may be varied as to the drawing, and each guest sometimes is provided with a different card and a different menu.

In hunting invitations the etchers once more come to the fore, and design all sorts of venatical and rustic scenes. These fancy menus and invitation-cards are employed sparingly by the higher classes, who prefer simplicity. Certainly it is easier to remain within the limits of good taste in simplicity, than in fancy novelty. An engraving of their chateau in one corner of the invitation-card, is the utmost that some of the aristocracy admit.

Hildesheimer & Faulkner's

(LONDON)

CELEBRATED

CHRISTMAS CARDS

FOR 1885.

THE ABOVE CARDS RECEIVED THE

"GOLD MEDAL"

(HIGHEST AWARD)

AT THE

CRYSTAL PALACE

INTERNATIONAL & UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION,

LONDON, ENGLAND.

And are admitted to be the finest Line of Cards ever produced in England.

Our Travellers will call on every Dealer in Canada with Samples, in due course, and we respectfully ask that they defer ordering until they see this Line.

Respectfully,

THE TORONTO NEWS CO.,

Sole Agents for Canada

42 Yonge Street, TORONTO.

A charming invitation-card is that of the Comte and Comtesse de Pourtalès. It is a double sheet of hand-made note-paper. At the head of the first sheet is an etching representing a dinner-table laid in an elegant Louis XV. dining-room, with the candles and lustres all lighted. Beneath is the invitation: "Monsieur le Comte et Madame la Comtesse Roger de Pourtalès prient M. — de leur faire l'honneur de venir diner le — à 7½ hres," &c.

A horrible menu card is one decorated with a sepia sketch of a feudal castle standing upon a waxwork rock, in which is placed an oval fragment of looking-glass, while on the rock are gummed bits of real moss and bits of flint and white sand, to imitate snow and frost, — a horrible application of the art of the valentine maker to the accessories of the dinner-table. This specimen of bad taste is as abominable as the imitation of photographs of actresses, horses, and jockeys, which are occasionally seen printed in the corner of pocket-handkerchiefs, — *Printing Times*.

CANADIAN NEWSDEALERS ORGANIZING.—A RINGING ADDRESS.—The Executive Committee of the Ontario Booksellers' Association have issued an address to the trade in the Dominion, which is so appropriate and opportune, and explains so clearly and fully the many advantages that may be secured by intelligent organization and co-operation, that we print it in full for the benefit of our readers. The address is just as applicable to the trade in the United States as it is in Canada, and, if possible, the necessity is more urgent.

The trade in the Dominion have had an imposition foisted on them in the form of a series of School Readers, authorized by the Minister of Education, and issued by a ring of publishers, who take advantage of the monopoly and limit the retail profit to 20 per cent. this small margin has been proved by experience to be insufficient, and in order to protect themselves, and prevent future impositions, the retail trade of Canada have joined hands in the good cause.

The officers and members of the Executive Committee are all leading business men in their respective cities, and give the Association a weight and influence which assure it success. We ask you, reader, to peruse this address carefully, and to then take steps towards joining the Association in your city, and if their is none, to immediately organize one.

Do not wait for some one else to take the initiative; take it yourself, and we guarantee that within a week you will notice the good effects of the influence of the Association.

We do not give prominence to this particular address because it contains anything new that has not been advanced before, but because it shows that others besides ourselves are up and doing, and that there are other broad backs and strong shoulders to the wheel who are our friends and sympathizers, and who are with us in the fight against monopoly. It requires a vast amount of preaching to save a soul, and unless the sinner himself lends a hand and helps a little, it is very problematical if the job can be made a success. Now, while we are willing to do all the preaching that may be necessary, we also look for a little assistance from the innocent sinners who, through lack of organization, allow themselves to be preyed upon by the sharks of the trade. We ask you to benefit yourselves; will you do it?—*The New York Newsdealer and Stationer*.

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- WRITING PAPERS. Letter, Note, etc.,
- PRINTING PAPERS. Best and cheapest makes.
- STATIONERY. Mercantile, Fancy, etc.
- STATIONER'S SUNDRIES. Most complete stock.
- ENVELOPES, Cards, Cardboard, &c.
- BINDERS' MATERIAL. Leather, Cloth, &c
- LEATHER GOODS. Purses, Bags, Cases, &c.

Manufacturers and Purchasers' facilities unexcelled. First-class goods at lowest prices.

BROWN BRO'S,
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3,000 ALREADY SOLD.

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LOUIS RIEL,

(ILLUSTRATED.)

Cloth extra 50cts.
Paper covers - - 30cts.

This volume contains a full account of all the Troubles in the North-West, and sells on sight.

ROSE PUBLISHING CO.,
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HOW A PRINCE STUDIES TO PLEASE.—The Prince of Wales' visit to Ireland gives plenty of food for the newspapers. There is not a man in England more popular than His Royal Highness. There is not an individual who has less pride, nor one who is more courteous than the Heir Apparent to the Throne. In 1882, I was one of the privileged reporters who had notice given to them to attend when the Prince of Wales visited the Smoke Exhibition at South Kensington. Punctual to the moment, 12 o'clock (noon), a private carriage drove up to the door of the side entrance, having within the Prince and a secretary. The secretary of the Exhibition was there and a few of the committee of management were also present to meet his Royal Highness. No guard of honour, no protective body. Out of his carriage the Prince leaped, and passing rapidly into the balcony, gave a hearty shake of the hand to the Exhibition Chairman and Managing Secretary, whom he at once recognised; then passing from one to another he gave each of the reporters, of whom there were six present, a hearty grip, perhaps believing they were in some way connected with the committee. In any way that friendly grip somewhat endeared the Prince to the reporter's heart. How different this to what I have seen on the Continent, particularly Germany and Russia, where the sacred person of any member of the Royal Family has to be guarded at every step. On to business went the Prince in a moment, on the occasion I allude to, and viewed coal, coke, and gas stoves, coal, coke, and gas ovens and furnaces, and seeming deeply interested. His good humoured countenance placed all exhibitors on a level with himself. The reporters were asked to do more than they dared, for when book and pencil betrayed their profession, the exhibitor would follow and ask that the words "very good," "very ingenious," as emanating from his Royal Highness's lips, should be given in the report. Of course this could not be done. There were two or three instances of the *bon homme* manner of His Royal Highness that may be recorded here. A man had one little solitary stove, an invention very futile and making little display. The Prince passed his exhibit, when the exhibitor followed His Royal Highness, plucked him by the coat, and said "You have not seen mine, the best invention in the whole exhibition." The Prince turned back, heard the man's wanderings about the value of his patent—shook him by the hand, and wished him success. Another instance was that of a huge machine for economising coal in furnaces. The surrounding space was terrifically hot and his conductors would have spared the Prince the trouble of inspecting it, but the exhibitor threw himself before His Royal Highness and pressed his case so much, that, with merciful consideration for the exhibitor, he watched the process of a limited supply of coals giving great motive power, though the perspiration poured down His Royal Highness's cheeks, he expressed himself grateful for the information afforded. Very little of this appeared in the newspapers. It was sufficient to say that the Prince of Wales, through his secretary, expressed gratification on seeing the improved models of abating smoke nuisances in manufacturing districts, and in densely populated cities and towns.



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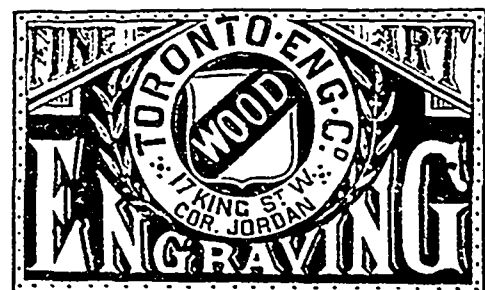
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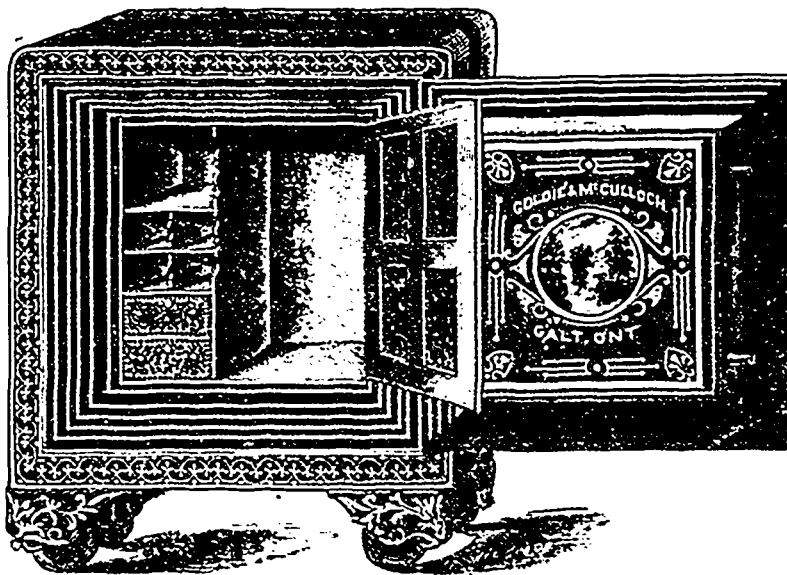
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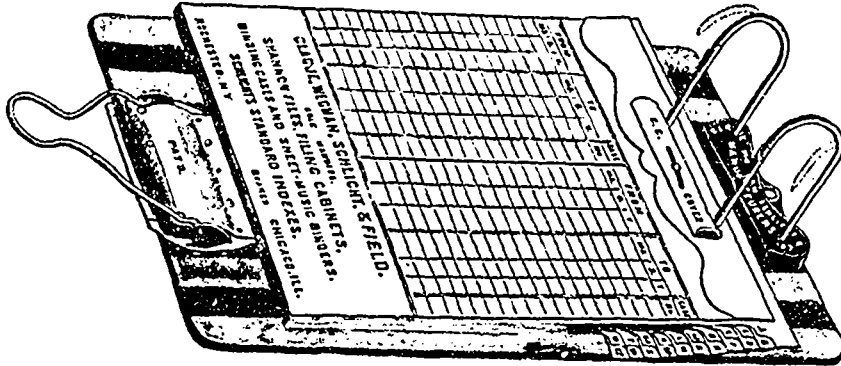
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