

a further address to the library interest, definitely naming the date, and setting forth the points which may usefully be brought up. Such a conference was held in 1853, but since then our libraries have grown tenfold, and there is twenty times the need for co-operation. We are sure that the conference will prove an effective meeting.

We have already undertaken to make a home point on this subject by the suggestion, in our number for April 1st, of a plan for co-operative American cataloguing, which was originally suggested to us by Mr. Justin Winsor. The plan is to have the work done by or at the motion of the publishers; but the libraries can do very much by taking hold of the plan and urging its adoption. This is, that there should be printed for each book a slip in proper size and style for a slip catalogue, which should give the full bibliographical particulars of the book, and to which there might be appended, for advertising purposes, a terse characterization or summary of the book, or the announcements of other books forthcoming from the same house, which latter could be torn off in its use for library purposes. If such a slip were put into each book, it would serve many purposes for libraries, the trade, and individual readers. The plan has already received some endorsement from the trade, but we are presenting it now chiefly in its relation to the libraries. If such a slip were printed, the libraries could get as many copies as they desired without difficulty from their local bookseller or from the publisher; and it is even suggested that such a slip can take the place in small libraries of the book, until the library itself be in a condition to purchase it directly. It would also be very useful to the library and to the publisher alike by encouraging members of circulating libraries to order books. In fact, as we have before said, it seems to us it would be both profitable to the publisher and useful to the libraries, and we should be glad if the suggestion should call forth the opinions of the practised librarians.

THE general desire to visit Philadelphia directly in connection with the Convention has led to a proposed change of base as to the locality for the Convention. It has proved that Philadelphia is not nearly so crowded as was at first feared would be the case during the Exhibition, and all tides, this year, set that way. The Committee on Assemblies has recently been discussing the desirability of holding the Convention at or near Philadelphia instead of Niagara Falls, and it is quite probable that fresh endeavors will be made to secure accom-

modations in the neighborhood of "the Centennial City." The Committee would be glad to hear from the trade expressions of their opinions on the desirability of a change.

WE again call the attention of the trade to the usefulness of our column for "Books Wanted." A well-known dealer certifies in another place to the profit of making use of this means for obtaining "pick-up copies," and we would suggest to libraries also the desirability of using this facility through their local bookseller.

THE size of this week's issue, and a variety of "ancillary" delays, makes our Library Number really late. We trust our readers will accept our apology, and welcome us as "better late than never."

THE PRIZE QUESTION IN FICTION.

We present this week the result of the answers to the most important Prize Question we have yet put forth. In order to draw out the general opinion of the trade, as to "which are the most salable novels?" (Prize Question No. 7), we offered extra prizes of \$20, \$10, and \$5, for the lists ranking first, second, and third. It should be noted that from these lists, works by Bulwer, Dickens, George Eliot, Scott, and Thackeray were excluded, since they, of course, stand at the head of standard novelists, and the works of these alone would easily outrun the specified number of fifty titles. We present below a list of over 200 titles which were mentioned in two or more answers each, and these, with the works of the authors above named, furnish a list of popular fiction which will be invaluable to the trade, and will have no little interest, we presume, to librarians and general readers. The results of these prize questions, as answered by the trade, may not, however, altogether coincide with the decision of librarians as to which are the most popular books. There is a considerable line of books which the reader looks always to his circulating library for, and which the librarian would therefore enter high on the list of popularity, whereas the salesman would put them comparatively low on his list of sales.

The number of answers to this question was 39, the largest yet received in reply to any. Their distribution among the trade can be seen by the following list of names:

LIST OF COMPETITORS.

Arnold, W. H., with Flagler & Merritt, Poughkeepsie.
 Ashmead, Wm. H., with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.
 Beard, Wm. E., with George E. Stevens & Co., Cincinnati.
 Bebian, Joseph, with C. T. Dillingham, New-York.
 Brentano, August, Jr., with August Brentano, New-York.
 Broadfoot, J. C., with D. Appleton & Co., New-York.
 Brown, V. H., with D. Appleton & Co., New-York.
 Butler, Charles E., with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.
 Cunningham, Charles E., with C. T. Dillingham, New-York.
 Dabney, C. K., with E. J. Hale & Son, New-York.

Dick, H. B., with C. T. Dillingham, New-York.
 Dietsch, Lewis C., with Turnbull Bros., Baltimore.
 Fredericks, John B., with D. Appleton & Co., New-York.
 Hagemann, H. W., with D. Appleton & Co., New-York.
 Humphrey, G. W., with Roberta Bros., Boston.
 Jenkins, A. J., with Cushings & Bailey, Baltimore.
 Mason, D. W., with A. Williams & Co., Boston.
 Mayer, William C., with John H. Thomas, Dayton, O.
 Morrell, A. L., with the St. Louis Book and News Co., St. Louis.
 Mosher, Geo. A., with R. G. Wynkoop & Co., Syracuse.
 Nichols, J. A., with Geo. E. Stevens & Co., Cincinnati.
 Oswald, Isaac, with D. Appleton & Co., New-York.
 Parker, W. S., with the St. Louis Book and News Co., St. Louis.
 Rhoades, J. W., with N. Y. News Co., New-York.
 Ridings, Horace S., with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.
 Shaw, Joseph A., with Tibbitts & Randall, Providence, R. I.
 Smith, Henry L., with Scribner, Welford & Armstrong, New-York.
 Smith, John F., with Judd & White, New-Haven.
 Smith, Ralph S., with A. Roman & Co., San Francisco.
 Somers, Jas. O., with Randall & Co., Columbus, O.
 Thomas, George, with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.
 Thomas, Lawr. B., Baltimore.
 Thurston, Edwin L., with Tibbitts & Randall, Providence.
 Williamson, Wm., with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.
 Winks, John W., Jr., with Turnbull Bros., Baltimore.
 Wirth, William, with Dodd, Mead & Co., New-York.
 Wright, Robert, with Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati.
 Wynkoop, Jas. S., with R. G. Wynkoop & Co., Syracuse.
 Yahn, J. S., with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.

These answers included 1950 votes, out of which the highest possible count—namely, on the 50 selected by popular vote—is 1052. Mr. J. B. Fredericks, of D. Appleton & Co., New-York, wins the first prize, with the large proportion of 956. Mr. C. E. Cunningham, with C. T. Dillingham, New-York, wins the second, on a count of 859; and Mr. C. E. Butler, with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, the third on a count of 887. Those coming next in order are Messrs. W. S. Parker, with the St. Louis Book and News Co., 862; J. S. Yahn, with J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, 847; Wm. H. Ashmead, with the same house, 845; J. A. Nichols, with Geo. E. Stevens & Co., Cincinnati, 842. The lowest count of the 39 was 550.

The following gives the list by popular vote, excluding only those titles mentioned by one competitor alone, of which there were 143. This statement will enable each competitor to count up his own standing:

LIST BY POPULAR VOTE.

(15.) Stowe, Mrs. H. B., <i>We and our Neighbors</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Ford</i> , 25	<i>X</i>	1850	
(16.) Warner, Misses, <i>Wide, Wide World</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Lippincott</i> , 25	<i>X</i>	1868/69	
(17.) Alcott, Louisa M., <i>Little Women</i> , 2 v., 16°, \$3.....	<i>Roberts</i> , 23	<i>X</i>	1875	
(18.) Holland, J. G., <i>Sevenoakes</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Scribner, A. & Co.</i> , 23	<i>X</i>	1875	
(19.) Roe, E. P., <i>From Jest to Earnest</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Dodd, M. & Co.</i> , 23	<i>X</i>	1862	
20. Hugo, V., <i>Les Miserables</i> , 8°, \$2.50—19. <i>Carleton</i> (8°, \$2.50, <i>Peterson</i> —2; <i>Hurst & B.</i> —1).....	22	<i>X</i>	1860	
21. Collins, Wilkie, <i>Woman in White</i> , 12°, \$1.50—9; 8°, pap., \$1—12.....	<i>Harper</i> , 21	<i>X</i>	1841	
(22.) Lever, Charles, <i>Charles O'Malley</i> , 8°, pap., 75 c. —14; 8°, clo., \$2—6 ... <i>Peterson</i> (<i>Tauchnits</i> ed.—1).....	21	<i>X</i>	1866/68	
23. Marlitt, E., <i>Old Mam'selle's Secret</i> , 16°, \$1.50.....	<i>Lippincott</i> , 20	<i>X</i>	1871	
24. Eggleston, E., <i>Hoosier Schoolmaster</i> , 12°, \$1.25.....	<i>Orange Judd Co.</i> , 19	<i>X</i>	1860	
(25.) Harris, M. C., <i>Rutledge</i> , 12°, \$1.50—... <i>Carleton</i>	19	<i>X</i>	1853	
(26.) Holmes, Mrs. M. J., <i>Tempest and Sunshine</i> , 12°, \$1.50.....	<i>Carleton</i> , 19	<i>X</i>	1860	
(27.) Marlitt, E., <i>The Second Wife</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Lippincott</i> , 19	<i>X</i>	1874	
(28.) Yonge, C. M., <i>Heir of Redclyffe</i> , 12°, \$1.75—14. <i>Appleton</i> (Cr. 8°, \$1.75—... <i>Macmillan</i> —5).....	19	<i>X</i>	1866	
29. Whitney, Mrs., <i>Hitherto</i> , 12°, \$2.....	<i>Loring</i> , 18	<i>X</i>	1860	
30. Hawthorne, N., <i>The Marble Faun</i> , 12°, \$2—8; 18°, \$2.50—9.....	<i>Osgood</i> , 17	<i>X</i>	1856	
(31.) Holmes, Mrs. M. J., <i>Lena Rivers</i> , 12°, \$1.50.....	<i>Carleton</i> , 17	<i>X</i>	1874	
(32.) Porter, Jane, <i>The Scottish Chiefs</i> , 12°, \$1.50—11. <i>Lippincott</i> (<i>Porter & C.</i> —6).....	17	<i>X</i>	1866	
(33.) Reade, C., <i>Griffith Gaunt</i> , 8°, pap., 25 c.—10. <i>Harper</i> (12°, \$1. Osgood—7).....	17	<i>X</i>	1861	
(34.) Wood, Mrs. H., <i>East Lynne</i> , 8°, pap., 75 c.—14; clo., \$1.25—2.....	<i>Dick & F.</i> (<i>Peterson</i> —1).....	17	<i>X</i>	1874
35. Holmes, Mrs. M. J., <i>West Lawn</i> , 12°, \$1.50.....	<i>Carleton</i> , 16	<i>X</i>	1850	
(36.) Tautpheus, Baroness, <i>The Initials</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Peterson</i> , 16	<i>X</i>	1867	
37. Auerback, Berthold, <i>On the Heights</i> , 12°, \$2.....	<i>Holt</i> , 15	<i>X</i>	1861	
(38.) Evans, A. J., <i>Vashti</i> , 12°, \$2.....	<i>Carleton</i> , 15	<i>X</i>	1867	
(39.) Holland, J. G., <i>Arthur Bonnicastle</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Scribner</i> , 15	<i>X</i>	1869	
(40.) Howells, W. D., <i>A Chance Acquaintance</i> , 12°, \$1.50 —11; 12°, \$2—4.....	<i>Osgood</i> , 15	<i>X</i>	1873	
(41.) Macdonald, George, <i>Robert Falconer</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Loring</i> , 15	<i>X</i>	1868	
(42.) Warren, S., <i>Ten Thousand a Year</i> , 8°, pap., \$1.50 —8; clo., \$2—7.....	<i>Peterson</i> , 15	<i>X</i>	1841	
43. Cooper, J. F., <i>The Last of the Mohicans</i> , 8°, pap., 75 c.—5; 18°, \$1.50—7.....	<i>Appleton</i> (8°, \$3, <i>Hurd & H.</i> —2).....	15	<i>X</i>	1826
(44.) Reade, C., <i>Very Hard Cash</i> , (12°, \$1—4, <i>Osgood</i> 8°, pap., 50 c.—10).....	<i>Harper</i> , 14	<i>X</i>	1863	
45. "Ouida," <i>Under Two Flags</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Lippincott</i> . 46. Sue, Eugene, <i>The Wandering Jew</i> , 8°, \$2—6; pap., \$1.50—5.....	<i>Peterson</i> (12°, \$1. <i>Routledge</i> —2).....	13	<i>X</i>	1867
(47.) Whitney, Mrs., <i>Faith Gartney's Girlhood</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Loring</i> , 13	<i>X</i>	1863	
48. Hay, M. C., <i>Old Myddleton's Money</i> , 8°, pap., 50 c.— <i>Harper</i> , 12	<i>Harcourt</i> , 12	<i>X</i>	1875	

LIST BY POPULAR VOTE.

Sand
Dunes
Sue
Hugo
Verone
Stiel

Who is Roche
Aguilar

Cervantes

incorrect name
should be "Jane Porter"

Collins, Wilkie, <i>Man and Wife</i> , 8°, pap., \$1—6; 12°, \$1.50—4.....	Harper.	10	Holmes, Mrs. M. J., <i>Ethelyn's Mistake</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Carleton.</i> 5
Eggerton, E., <i>The Circuit Rider</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	Ford.	10	Mariett, E., <i>Countess Gisela</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Lippincott.</i> 5
Fleming, May A., <i>Guy Earlcourt's Wife</i> , 12°, \$1.75. <i>Carleton.</i> 10			Mulock, Miss, <i>My Mother and I</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Harper.</i> 5 — X
Howells, W. D., <i>Their Wedding Journey</i> , 12°, \$1.50—6; 12°, \$2—4.....	Osgood.	10	"Ouida," <i>Granville de Vigne</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Lippincott.</i> 5 — X
"Ouida," <i>Strathmore</i> , 12°, \$1.50.....	<i>Lippincott.</i> 10		Reade, C., <i>A Terrible Temptation</i> , 8°, 50 c.—4. <i>Harper</i> (12°—1, <i>Osgood</i>). 5 — X
Potter, Rose, <i>Thaddeus of Warsaw</i> , 12°, \$1—5. <i>Lippincott</i> (Porter & C.—2). 10			Whitney, Mrs., <i>Real Folks</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Osgood.</i> 5
Reade, C., <i>Foul Play</i> , 8°, pap., 25 c.—6; 16°—1. <i>Osgood</i> (Harper—3). 10			Wichert, E., <i>Green Gates</i> , 12°, \$1.75..... <i>Lippincott.</i> 5 — X
Braddon, Miss M. E., <i>Aurora Floyd</i> , 8°, pap., 75 c. <i>Harper.</i> 9			Alcott, Louisa M., <i>Work</i> , 12°, \$1.75..... <i>Roberts.</i> 4
Collins, Wilkie, <i>No Name</i> , 12°, \$1.50—4; 8°, pap., 50 c.—3.....	<i>Harper.</i> 9		Black, W., <i>Daughter of Heth</i> , 8°, pap., 50 c.... <i>Harper.</i> 4
Cooper, J. F., <i>The Spy</i> , 8°, pap., 75 c.—4; 12°, \$1.50—4. <i>Appleton</i> (33, <i>Hurd & H.</i> —1). 9			Charles, Mrs., <i>Schönberg-Cotta Family</i> (12°, 84—1, <i>Nelson & Sons</i>); 16°, \$1—3.... <i>Dodd, M. & Co.</i> 4
Holmes, M. J., <i>English Orphans</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Carleton.</i> 9			Collins, Wilkie, <i>A New Magdalene</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Harper.</i> 4
Macdonald, George, <i>Annals of a Quiet Neighborhood</i> , 12°, \$1.75—7.... <i>Routledge</i> (12°, \$1.25, <i>Harper</i> —2). 9			Disraeli, B., <i>Lothair</i> , 8°, pap., \$1..... <i>Appleton.</i> 4
Whitney, Mrs., <i>Other Girls</i> , 12°, \$2..... <i>Osgood.</i> 9			Harland, M., <i>From My Youth Up</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Carleton.</i> 4
Aguilar, G., <i>Home Influence</i> , 12°, \$1..... <i>Appleton.</i> 8			— <i>Jessamine</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Carleton.</i> 4
— <i>Mother's Recompense</i> , 12°, \$1..... <i>Appleton.</i> 8			Hawthorne, N., <i>Twice-Told Tales</i> , 2 v., 16°, \$4—2; \$2.50—2 <i>Osgood.</i> 4
Alexander, Mrs., <i>Which Shall It Be?</i> 16°, \$1.25.... <i>Holt.</i> 8			Holmes, Mrs. M. J., <i>Cameron Pride</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Carleton.</i> 4
Cooper, J. F., <i>The Deerslayer</i> , 8°, 75 c.—3; 12°, \$1.50—4. <i>Appleton</i> (33, <i>Hurd & H.</i> —1). 8			— <i>Marion Gray</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Carleton.</i> 4
Harland, M., <i>Alone</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Carleton.</i> 8			Hughes, T., <i>School-Days at Rugby</i> , 12°, \$1.25. <i>Osgood.</i> 4
— <i>True as Steel</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Carleton.</i> 8			Kavanagh, J., <i>Nathalie</i> , 12°, \$1.25..... <i>Appleton.</i> 4
Marryat, Capt., <i>Midshipman Easy</i> , 12°, \$1.25—6; pap., 50 c.—2....	<i>Appleton.</i> 8		Lawrence, G. A., <i>Guy Livingstone</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Harper.</i> 4
Macdonald, George, <i>St. George and St. Michael</i> , 12°, \$1.75.....	<i>Ford.</i> 8		Le Sage, Gil Blas, 8°, \$3.50—1. <i>Appleton</i> (Lippincott—2; <i>Porter & C.</i> —1). 4 — FV
"Ouida," <i>Signa</i> , 12°, \$2.....	<i>Lippincott.</i> 8		Trollope, A., <i>Orley Farm</i> , 8°, pap., \$1.50.... <i>Harper.</i> 4
Roe, E. P., <i>What Can She Do?</i> 12°, \$1.75. <i>Dodd, M. & Co.</i> 8			— <i>Way We Live Now</i> 8°, \$2..... <i>Harper.</i> 4
Sand, George, <i>Consuelo</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Peterson.</i> 8			Yonge, C. M., <i>Daisy Chain</i> , 12°, \$1.75—2. <i>Appleton</i> (cr. 8°, \$1.75, <i>Macmillan</i> —2). 4
Stael, Mme. de, <i>Corinne</i> , 12°, \$1.75..... <i>Mason.</i> 8			Berger, E., <i>Charles Auchester</i> , 8°, pap., 75 c.... <i>Harper.</i> 3
— Alcott, Louisa M., <i>Old-Fashioned Girl</i> , 16°, \$1.50. <i>Roberts.</i> 7			Black, W., <i>Three Feathers</i> , 8°, pap., \$1..... <i>Harper.</i> 3
Collins, Wilkie, <i>The Moonstone</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Harper.</i> 7			Braddon, Miss, <i>Lady Audley's Secret</i> , 8°, pap., 50 c. <i>Dick & F.</i> 3
Cooper, J. F., <i>The Pathfinder</i> , 12°, \$1.50—5; 8°, 75 c.—1. <i>Appleton</i> (Hurd & H.—1). 7			Cervantes, Don Quixote, 12°, \$1—2. <i>Lippincott</i> (Porter & C.—1). 3 — SP
— Hardy, T., <i>Far from the Madding Crowd</i> , 16°, \$1.25. <i>Holt.</i> 7			Cockton, H., <i>Valentine Vox</i> , 8°, \$2—1; 8°, 75 c.—2. <i>Peterson.</i> 3
— A Pair of Blue Eyes, 16°, \$1.25..... <i>Holt.</i> 7			Collins, Wilkie, <i>Armadale</i> , 12°, \$1.50—2; 8°, \$2—1. <i>Harper.</i> 3
Hawthorne, N., <i>The House of the Seven Gables</i> , 16°, \$1.25—6; 16°, \$2—1..... <i>Osgood.</i> 7			— Cooper, J. F., <i>The Pilot</i> , 8°, 75 c.—1; 8°, \$1.25—1. <i>Appleton</i> (33, <i>Hurd & H.</i> —1). 3
Holmes, Mrs. M. J., <i>Edna Browning</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Carleton.</i> 7			Coulson, G. J. A., <i>The Odd Trump</i> , 8°, \$1.25.... <i>Hale.</i> 3
— Millbank, 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Carleton.</i> 7			Cummins, Maria S., <i>The Lamplighter</i> , 12°, \$1.75. <i>Osgood.</i> 3
Kingsley, Charles, <i>Hypatia</i> , cr. 8°, \$1.75. <i>Macmillan.</i> 7			De Foe, D., <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> , 12°, \$1.50—1. <i>Carleton</i> (Lippincott—1; <i>Porter & C.</i> —1). 3
Lover, S., <i>Handy Andy</i> , 12°, \$1.25—6. <i>Dick & F.</i> (Routledge—1). 7			Harland, M., <i>At Last</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Carleton.</i> 3
— Mariett, E., <i>Little Moorland Princess</i> , 12°, \$1.75. <i>Lippincott.</i> 7			Holmes, Mrs. M. J., <i>Darkness and Daylight</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Carleton.</i> 3
Reid, C., <i>A Question of Honor</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Appleton.</i> 7			Howells, W. D., <i>Foregone Conclusion</i> , 12°, \$2. <i>Osgood.</i> 3
Sue, E., <i>Mysteries of Paris</i> , 8°, \$2—3; pap.—2. <i>Peterson</i> (Routledge—2). 7			Hughes, T., <i>Tom Brown at Oxford</i> , 12°, \$3—1. <i>Osgood</i> (Harper—1). 3
Goldsmith, O., <i>Vicar of Wakefield</i> , 12°, \$1—3. <i>Appleton</i> (Lippincott—2; <i>Putnam</i> —1). 6			Hugo, V., <i>Ninety-Three</i> , 8°, pap., 25 c.... <i>Harper.</i> 3 — FV
My Little Lady, 16°, \$1.25..... <i>Holt.</i> 6			Kingsley, C., <i>Westward Ho</i> , 8°, \$1.75.... <i>Macmillan.</i> 3
Whitney, Mrs., <i>We Girls</i> , 12°, \$1.50..... <i>Osgood.</i> 6			Marryat, Capt., <i>Peter Simple</i> , 16°, \$1.25—1; 12°, pap., 50 c.—2..... <i>Appleton.</i> 3
— Alcott, Louisa M., <i>Eight Cousins</i> , 16°, \$1.50.... <i>Roberts.</i> 5			Mulock, Miss, <i>Life for a Life</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Harper.</i> 3
— Little Men, 16°, \$1.50..... <i>Roberts.</i> 5			Parr, Louisa, <i>Hero Carthew</i> , 16°, \$1.25.... <i>Holt.</i> 3
Alexander, Mrs., <i>Ralph Wilton's Weird</i> , 16°, \$1.25. <i>Holt.</i> 5			Phelps, E. S., <i>Gates Ajar</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Osgood.</i> 3
— Blackmore, R. D., <i>Lorna Doone</i> , 8°, pap., 75 c. <i>Harper.</i> 5			Tilton, T., <i>Tempest-Tossed</i> , 12°, \$1.75.... <i>Sheldon.</i> 3
Broughton, Rhoda, <i>Good-Bye, Sweetheart</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Appleton.</i> 5			Verne, J., <i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea</i> , 12°, \$1.25.... <i>Osgood.</i> 3 — FV
— Cooper, J. F., <i>The Pioneers</i> , 12°, \$1.50—3; 8°, clo., \$1.25—1; 8°, pap., 75 c.—1. <i>Appleton.</i> 5			Aguilar, Grace, <i>Days of Bruce</i> , 2 v., 16°, \$2.... <i>Appleton.</i> 2
— The Prairie, 12°, \$1.50—4; 8°, pap., 75 c.—1. <i>Appleton.</i> 5			Andersen, H. C., <i>The Improvisatore</i> , cr. 8°, \$1.75. <i>Hurd & H.</i> 2
De Mille, J., <i>Dodge Club</i> , 8°, \$1.25—2; 8°, pap.—3. <i>Harper.</i> 5			Beecher, H. W., <i>Norwood</i> , 12°, \$2..... <i>Ford.</i> 2
— Fleming, M. A., <i>Norine's Revenge</i> , 12°, \$1.75. <i>Carleton.</i> 5			Brontë, C., <i>Villette</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Harper.</i> 2
— A Terrible Secret, 12°, \$1.75..... <i>Carleton.</i> 5			Broughton, Rhoda, <i>Nancy</i> , 12°, \$1.50.... <i>Appleton.</i> 2
— A Wonderful Woman, 12°, \$1.75.... <i>Carleton.</i> 5			Clemens, S. L., and Warner, C. D., <i>The Gilded Age</i> , 8°, \$3.50.... <i>Am. Pub. Co.</i> 2
Harte, Bret, <i>Luck of Roaring Camp</i> , 16°, \$1.50. <i>Osgood.</i> 5			Collins, Wilkie, <i>The Law and the Lady</i> , 12°, \$1.50. <i>Harper.</i> 2
			— Cooper, J. F., <i>The Water-Witch</i> , 8°, \$3.... <i>Hurd & H.</i> 2
			Coulson, G. J. A., <i>The Lacy Diamonds</i> , 8°, \$1.25. <i>Hale.</i> 2
			De Mille, J., <i>Cord and Creese</i> , 8°, \$1.25.... <i>Harper.</i> 2
			— The Cryptogram, 8°, \$1.50.... <i>Harper.</i> 2

Douglass, A., In Trust, 12°, \$1.50.....	Lee & S.
Dumas, A., Edmond Dantes, 8°, pap., 75.....	Peterson.
— Three Guardsmen, 8°, \$1.75.....	Peterson.
Edwards, Mrs. A., Archie Lovell, 8°, \$1.75.....	Sheldon.
— Ought We to Visit Her, 8°, pap., \$1.....	Sheldon.
Egleston, E., The End of the World, 12°, \$1.50.	Orange Judd Co.
Evans, A. J., Inez, 12°, \$1.75.....	Carleton.
— Macaria, 12°, \$1.75.....	Carleton.
Fleming, M. A., A Mad Marriage, 12°, \$1.75.	Carleton.
Harland, Marian, From My Youth Up, 12°, \$1.50.	Carleton.
Hillern, Von, W., Only a Girl, 12°, \$2.....	Lippincott.
Holmes, O. W., Elsie Venner, 12°, \$2.....	Osgood.
Ingraham, Rev. J. H., The Prince of the House of David, 12°, \$2.....	Roberts.
Jay, W. M. L., Shiloh, 12°, \$2.....	Dutton.
Lever, Charles, Tom Burke of Ours, 8°—1.	Peterson, (3 v., 16°, Tauchnits.)
— Lewald, E., Hulda, 12°, \$1.75.....	Lippincott.
Longfellow, H. W., Hyperion, 16°, \$1.50.....	Osgood.
Macdonald, G., Alec Forbes, 8°, pap., 75 c.....	Harper.
— Mulock, Miss, A Brave Lady, 12°, \$1.50.....	Harper.
— Hannah, 12°, \$1.50.....	Harper.
My Opinions and Betsey Bobbitt, 8°, \$2.50.	Am. Pub. Co.
Parr, Louisa, Dorothy Fox, 8°, \$1.25.....	Lippincott.
Porter, Rose, Summer Driftwood, 12°, \$1.....	Randolph.
X—Reade, C., Cloister and the Hearth, 8°, 50 c.....	Harper.
— Love Me Little, Love Me Long, 8°, 50 c.	Harper (16°, Osgood.)
— Never Too Late to Mend, 8°, 50 c.....	Harper.
— White Lies, 8°, 50 c.....	Harper.
Smith, J. P., Courting and Farming, 12°, \$1.75.	Carleton.
— Widow Goldsmith's Daughter, 12°, \$1.75.....	Carleton.
X—Southworth, Mrs. E. D. E. N., How He Won Her, 12°, \$1.75.....	Peterson.
Tautphoeus, Baroness, At Odds, 12°, \$1.75.	Lippincott.
Thomas, Miss A., He Cometh Not, She Said, 8°, pap., 50 c.....	Harper.
X—Trollope, A., Can You Forgive Her? 8°, pap., \$1.50.	Harper.
— Dr. Thorne, 12°, \$1.50—1; 8°—1.....	Harper.
Whitney, Mrs., Leslie Goldthwaite, 12°, \$1.50.	Osgood.
X—Yonge, Miss C. M., Dove in Eagle's Nest, cr. 8°, \$1.75.	(Macmillan—1; Appleton—1).

It is proposed later to work up the results of this prize question into a little enclosure catalogue of select fiction, which booksellers may distribute to their customers, or libraries keep for the benefit of their readers. It is proposed to print it neatly at a minimum price per hundred, and it is hoped that it will be a trade tool of no little value.

PRIZE QUESTION, No. 9.

Which are the most salable Works of Reference?

Give twelve titles, in the following order, as usual: Author, title proper, number of volumes, if more than one, size, price, publisher.

This list, excluding purely technical and professional works, also catalogues of books, should embrace only popular works of reference that ought to be found at any public library or reading room, with easy access to the general reader, such as cyclopaedias, concordances, dictionaries, gazetteers, and general handbooks of literature, arts, and sciences. One or more works on English literature, courses of reading, etc., may be properly included.

Answers must be received by June 10th.

RULES FOR COMPETITORS.

- The object of the questions is to elicit answers as to which books and editions have, independent of local or ephemeral interest, become standard or popular works in the American market, hence safe stock for investment.
- A prize of \$5 will be awarded for that answer which includes the greatest number of works on which competitors generally agree, or which, in the judgment of the editor, may otherwise be most fairly representative.
- Every subscriber and every employee of a subscriber individually are entitled to compete.
- The answers shall consist of a list of works on a given topic. The short title is sufficient, but number of volumes, size, price, and name of publisher must be invariably given.
- The titles should be arranged and numbered according to the popularity each work holds in the opinion of the competitor.
- The titles must be written legibly with ink, on one side of the paper only, foolscap preferred, each title in separate paragraph, with space between titles for cutting through with scissors.
- The list must not contain a greater number of titles than is demanded in the question. Where there are various editions of a work, only the preferred edition should be given.
- Each list must be headed by the number of the Prize Question, and signed with full address of competitor.
- If several competitors should present lists of equal claim to the prize, it shall be awarded by lot.
- The name of the successful competitor shall be published with his list, and the amount of the prize remitted immediately after publication.
- The result of the answers will be published four weeks from publication of the question.
- All communications should be addressed, Editor PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY, P. O. Box 4295, New-York.

These rules are subject to amendment whenever the Editor finds it expedient.

INDEX TO ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PRIZE QUESTIONS.

No. 1. Biography.....	Feb. 12, 1876
No. 2. Agriculture.....	March 4, "
No. 3. Political Economy.....	March 18, "
No. 4. Horticulture.....	April 1, "
No. 5. Revolutionary Literature.....	April 15, "
No. 6. Publishers' Trade Lists.....	April 29, "
No. 7. Novels.....	May 20, "

BOOKSELLERS will please notice that the *Literary News* for June, will contain a reprint of the Prize Question on Novels, which at this season will make it specially valuable by aiding the general reader in making his selections for summer reading.

THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.

It is difficult in beginning any detailed description of the book department of the Centennial Exhibition, to decide what first to speak of. We gave hastily last week a brief but general review of the features to be noted in the World's Fair by those interested chiefly in books. But to do even this line of exhibits justice, seems a vain task. We shall be obliged to give what we can in this issue, and to continue more detailed descriptions from number to number, as space and occasion serve.

It is worth while to point out, first, the very great value which the opportunities of comparison offer to the American publisher and to all