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T. H. Preston, President Canadian Press Association.

T. H. Preston, proprietor of the Brantford Expositor, was on Thursday, 8th, unanimously elected President of the Canadian Press Association, a well deserved promotion from the position of second vice-president. Mr. Preston promised the members of the Association when the honor was conferred upon him that if assiduous attention to their interests could count for anything they would have no reason to regret the choice they had made of chief officer. That this pledge will be redeemed there is no question, as he is accustomed to throwing his whole soul into anything he undertakes.

Born in the state of Indiana (whither his father had gone in search of health) in October, 1855, the subject of this sketch is still on the sunny side of forty. His father is a superannuated clergyman of the Methodist church of Canada, and lives near Brantford. An uncle through marriage is Mr. W. Buckingham, of Stratford, who in the boyhood of Mr. Preston was publisher of the Stratford Beacon, then, as now, one of our most influential provincial newspapers. This latter fact, coupled with a restless disposition, led to the office of the Woodstock Sentinel, then owned by R. McWhinney, sr., being reinforced about the year 1860 by a young apprentice: he shortly afterward joined his uncle in Stratford and sought to perfect himself in the printer's art. Mr. Preston was a journeyman printer in Toronto at the time of the great strike in 1872, and afterward left for the United States where he spent the intervening time on various American newspapers, but principally on the Springfield

(Mass.) Republican, until September, 1874, when, through the good offices of Mr. Buckingham, he started on the literary side of his profession in the office of the Ottawa Free Press. Eight years were spent at the capital, and during this time an excellent training in politics was received by Mr. Preston in the press gallery of the House of Commons where he represented not only the Free Press, but several other Canadian and American newspapers. Early in 1881 he purchased the Walkerton Telescope,

but not finding rural journalism congenial he soon sold out and joined the Toronto Globe, first as night editor and afterward as Ottawa correspondent. He was acting in the latter capacity when in August, 1882, he was asked to connect himself with a company which was purchasing the Winnipeg Sun, of which paper he became managing-director and remained connected with it until January, 1890, when himself and his associates disposed of their interests and Mr. Preston was bound, in view of a large financial equivalent, to disconnect himself with Prairie Province journalism for the period of five years. During the Northwest rebellion the Sun under his



MR. T. H. PRESTON.

management made a splendid record for enterprise, and indeed throughout its entire career it was a marvel of journalistic skill and push. Returning east Mr. Preston purchased the Brantford Expositor from Messrs. Watt & Shenston and has succeeded in making the paper one of the most valuable properties of its class in Canada. Recently the way was open for him to return to Manitoba in the position of managing-director of the Winnipeg Free Press, but having declined that important position the indications are that he will remain connected with Ontario journalism for some