

phase of the trade, of which he is a veteran member. He considered such meetings as the present of the highest value as they conduced to mutual understanding. He was an old member now, for he recollected having begun in the book business in 1848. Conditions were then very different to those of to-day. There were very few travellers and he instanced one or two amusing cases of travellers who proved themselves quite equal to the modern article. One vendor of bibles had opened his canvass of a town by presenting one to the minister who took his text from it the Sunday following. The consequence was that the traveller sold bibles to the whole town the following week. Mr. Brown also referred to the early magazine trade and to the success of Harper's and of the Anglo-American magazines when these periodicals first came out. He thought that there was no exaggeration in considering Canada the paper country of the world (hear, hear), and paper was coming into such universal demand that perhaps the day would dawn when we would live in paper houses and wear paper coats. (Laughter.)

REV. DR. BRIGGS' ADDRESS.

Rev. Dr. Briggs, said he could not go back as far in his reminiscences as Mr. Brown, since it was the privilege of age to speak of the past, while he and other young men naturally looked toward the future. (Laughter). Speaking of books, he recalled the case of the man in one of Dicken's books who wanted to squeeze Mr. Pecksniff behind a door because he would "squeeze soft." The speaker thought that this could be said of a good many books that came from the modern press. They would squeeze soft since they were so flabby as far as their literary qualities were concerned, however useful they might be as a profitable feature of trade. (Voice, "David Harum" and laughter.) He thought that they should all labor to raise the character of the books which they put forth. And a factor in all united action was just such conferences as the present which could not fail to have a beneficial effect in trade matters. No combination of any kind was necessary and no house need be hampered in the conduct of its own business, but by associating together they could get closer together in various questions which affected their own interest.

IMPORTANCE OF THE TRADE.

Mr. S. R. Hart said that the allied trades connected with printing, lithographing, bookbirding and manufacturing stationers employed more hands than any other single industry in Toronto. They numbered certainly not less than 2,500 and probably more outside of the newspapers there were nearly 2,000 employed, and the

newspaper establishments alone employed about 750. This estimation did not probably cover many smaller concerns, which being added would send up the total. He thought it was well for the manufacturing stationers to realize how important the industry was.

DUTY ON PULP WOOD.

Mr. F. J. Campbell spoke as a paper manufacturer, with reference to the growth of the pulp business, and favored the placing of an export duty on pulp wood as a means of promoting the Canadian industry. (Hear, hear.)

MR. ELLIS ON EXPORT TRADE.

Mr. John F. Ellis being called upon to speak as a manufacturer of stationery, said that it give him great pleasure on more than one occasion to represent the views of the trade with which he was connected. He referred to the meeting of manufacturers at Boston which he attended, and where the leading members spoke of the export trade and of their own ability to capture foreign markets. It was evident, Mr. Ellis said, that the United States manufacturers were making every effort to compete with British and other purchasers in the markets of the world, and he thought that there was no reason why Canada should not look forward to the day when she could send her travellers to England to sell the products of the paper industry. (Applause). Our industry was in its infancy, but when prices came down, as they certainly must in time, to an export basis, there was no reason, when our paper manufacturers were already providing for an output which could not be disposed of in Canada alone, that those who used paper here as a raw material of manufacture, that is our book makers and our envelope and stationery makers, should not also aim at an export trade. We should at least look forward to that because every shrewd manufacturer knew how convenient a foreign trade was because when trade was dull at home some other place was prosperous, and thus mills and manufacturing institutions were kept going all the year around. (Applause.)

Mr. George Warwick, said he considered gatherings of the trade of this kind very beneficial, and he trusted it would not be necessary to have a dinner in order to induce the members to turn out. (Laughter.) For his part he was bound to confess that when he got the invitation to be present he had to look up to see who was chairman for the year. (Laughter.)

On motion of Mr. Ellis a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the chairman for providing so pleasant a way for the members to meet. This was carried unanimously, when the chairman replied that he had his thanks in the good attendance which had taken place.

The election of officers resulted in the unanimous re election of Mr. W. J. Gage as chairman, and Mr. Richard Brown as vice-chairman.

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A booklet has been published by Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh and London, called "The United Free Church of Scotland," written by the Rev. A. M. Fairbairn, principal of Mansfield College, Oxford. It describes the uniting of the two bodies, the Free Church of Scotland and the United Presbyterian Church, the rise of each, and the men who made each. It is illustrated with photographs of some of the leading men and historical buildings of the two churches.

The first issue of The Thrush, an English monthly for the publication of original poetry, has just reached us. It is intended to present usually the work of those poets whose reputation is established, though poems by all capable writers will be given the prominence they may deserve. The signs of an awakening in the people to a better appreciation of a high class of literature have caused the appearance of The Thrush, which will cater only to this finer taste. If it receives the welcome from the reading public it deserves, The Thrush will shortly take its place among the most popular of English periodicals.