



of the fraternity, and we feel that this special feature of our journal will speedily become a very popular one.

#### COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

IT was suggested to us, and we at once fell in with the suggestion, that it would serve

a good and useful purpose if a page or two of this journal were devoted each month to the interests of the commercial travellers, who form such a valuable and important adjunct to the trade and commerce of the country. In such a large, intelligent and influential body of men questions must, and do, arise which should be ventilated through some medium having a wide circulation among the business men of the country, wherein opinions could be freely and fearlessly expressed and items of personal or general interest published. All communications on such questions and personal items will therefore be thankfully received. We will add anything that comes within our personal observation, but we want it distinctly understood that these pages are freely placed at the disposal of the fraternity, all that we reserve to ourselves being the right to exclude anything of a libellous nature. In making this reservation we do not mean to reflect upon the good sense of the fraternity, but we all know that in the heat of a controversy expressions are sometimes used which we ourselves in calmer moments would be the first to condemn as too harsh and sometimes cruel. It may be asked why do we take such an interest in the commercial travellers? Simply because we consider it is the duty of a trade paper to do everything possible for men who, as we have already said, form such a valuable adjunct to trade and commerce, because they are men whom to know is to admire; because we believe by serving their interests we shall also serve our own interests, and because well, as some ladies would answer, just because! We confidently leave the matter in the hands

As we have no material at hand of a general nature we cannot do better than devote our first contribution to a brief review of the past history of the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada and a description of their new building, 51 Yonge street, Toronto, which is destined to be the scene of many memorable events in the future history of the Association. We also give illustrations of the building and of the officers of the Association.

#### A GLANCE AT THE PAST.

It was in 1871 when the first meeting towards organization was held in Toronto at



JOHN BURNS,  
President.

which a Provincial Association was formed. At the first annual general meeting held in that city in 1872, Mr. Warring Kennedy was elected President and a constitution adopted. The objects of the Association were to be the moral, intellectual, and financial improvement, advancement and welfare of its members; moral, by a uniform and scrupulous observance of those rules of conduct and action which give dignity and solidity to human character in every sphere of life; intellectual, by regular and systematic com-

munion and contact, by which an interchange of sentiments and ideas shall be facilitated, and principles of knowledge by organization and association shall be more actively diffused, and tending in every way to elevate the members of the society in the scale as worthy and intelligent beings; financial, by inculcating a provident spirit that fosters resource and which contributes to the accumulation of the means by which private and social relations shall be improved, harsh conditions ameliorated and the power of each member to do good to his fellowman augmented.

In 1874 Parliament passed an Act of Incorporation which gave the association, among other things, authority for the main-



C. C. VANNORMAN,  
1st. Vice-President.

tenance of a library and reading room and the publication of an official journal. The members named in the charter, many of whom are now to be found among our leading merchants, were:—Warring Kennedy, President; W. J. Bryan, R. J. Wylie, Andrew Robertson, James Cantlie, Adam Brown, W. E. Sandford, and John Birrell, Vice-Presidents; James Patterson, Treasurer; W. L. MacGillivray, Secretary; Charles Riley, Robert Cuthbert, W. Norris, J. Fairbairn, John F. Ellis, R. B. Linton, J. B. Mather, D. McCall, S. Caldecott, James Cooper, Andrew Jack, John McDougall, James O'Brien, Jacob Wilson, Walter Wonham, S. O. Shorey, James Turner, John Brown, Thomas Christie, William McGiverin, Alexander Harvey, John McKenzie, A. T. Wood, J. H. Park, Edward Long, and Geo. Laird.