

place, as it were—are the best and only guides so far as my experience goes.

I have already trespassed too long on your time and patience, without giving much practical information. With your permission I will conclude with an anecdote of which you will readily perceive the application. Archibald Forbes, the celebrated war correspondent, in one of his lectures enumerated the qualities necessary to a good war correspondent as follows:—"He must be able to go anywhere at a minute's notice, ride anything from a camel to a rat, speak all languages and dialects, do without sleep six nights in succession, and be bright and alert all the time, and see a battle and write a despatch, giving full details and incidents while riding at full speed to the nearest telegraph office." Here he would pause for a few moments, and then continue: "I have enumerated the qualities essential to make a good war correspondent. Ladies and gentlemen, there never was such a man!"

AN ENJOYABLE AFFAIR

THE annual dinner of the Employing Printers' Association, of Toronto, was held on the evening of the 7th April, in the Rossin House, when about seventy gentlemen, representing printing and its allied industries, were in attendance. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. F. Rutter, and the vice-chair by Mr. Bruce Brough. After justice had been done the good things so lavishly provided, but served in rapid transit order, the chairman proceeded with the toast list. Mr. Rutter was a model chairman, as he did not follow in the wake of the ordinary chairman, who believes it incumbent on him to talk, talk, talk. The good example set by chairman Rutter was followed by the other speakers, and consequently there was an absence of dreariness in the entire affair. Mr. G. M. Rose, of Hunter, Rose & Co., replied for the Mayor and Corporation, he having one time filled the position of alderman. "Why I should be called on to reply on behalf of the Dominion Government is more than I can understand," said Mr. Joseph Tait, a member of the Ontario Legislature, "but this much I do know, that the work of the printer lives ages after him, while that of some of the rest of us perishes the day it is ushered into existence." This caused a laugh, as Mr. Tait is owner of a bakery. "Our Association" was responded to by Mr. W. A. Shepard, who gave a brief history of the organization and growth of the Employing Printers' Association, and showed clearly that such unions or organizations were not only Scriptural, but as ancient as the world, the first union recorded in sacred history having been formed by Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. Mr. Shepard gave some excellent advice in his address, and was emphatic in declaring that the object of the Association was not the reduction

of compositors' wages, but the betterment of their own condition, the elevation of their noble art, the adjustment of disputes between employer and employee, and the maintenance of a fair scale of prices, all of which were in the interests of the men as well as the masters. "Allied Trades" brought forth responses from Mr. Fred Campbell, of the paper trade; Mr. Richard Brown, bookbinding; Mr. Diver, stereotyping, and Mr. R. L. Patterson, types and presses. "I belong to an old line of book binders," said Mr. Brown, "my father and grandfather having been in that business, and it pleases me to mark the advances it has made." Mr. Brown related several amusing incidents associated with the making of books, told what he had seen in the British Museum, and claimed that bookbinding was more ancient than printing, as Moses was told to write certain things in the book, but no mention was made of a printer or printing in that connection. "As master printers it is your duty to urge the minister of customs to remove the duty off type and presses," said Mr. Patterson, a sentiment that was warmly applauded, and in keeping with the oft repeated contention of PRINTER AND PUBLISHER. "Stop cutting each other's throats," he said in his masterly dramatic style, "and instead of figuring for cheap work keep up the prices and do good work." Mr. Patterson assailed the bed-room or amateur job printers, who turn out 1000 cards for a dollar, and thus lay the foundation for cheap and nasty work. "Our guests" was responded to by Mr. Coulter, the retiring president of Toronto Typographical Union, who regretted that our best compositors were forced to cross the border, where ability was recognized much better than here. He thought the employers should follow the example of their men, and organize more thoroughly, which would lead to them procuring better prices for their work, and then they could retain the services of the most competent workmen. Mr. J. E. Thompson, Spanish consul, also replied to this toast, and said he now understood why he had to pay such high prices for his work, but hereafter he would never complain provided he was again among their guests. Mr. E. E. Sheppard responded to "The Press," in which he moralized a little, humorized considerably, and offered some excellent advice. "The Ladies" had an advocate in Mr. J. B. McLean, who promised to convey to them the best wishes of the Association. Mr. E. E. Sheppard proposed the health of Mr. Rutter, the chairman, who neatly acknowledged the honor done him then and on the previous day when he had been elected President of the Employing Printers' Association.

Songs were given at intervals by Messrs. Baker and Soule, and Mr. R. L. Patterson, in response to repeated calls, recited "My Sunday Breeches." Mr. Carkeek presided at the piano. Letters of apology