

WM. B. PRESCOTT

PRESIDENT of the International Typographical Union," is the title of William B. Prescott. He has been honored by election for a second term, and Canada has also been honored in the person of one of her sons. Unselfishness, moderation, and energetic executive ability, are the qualities which enabled this young man to rise to the highest position in the Union, and to have twice bestowed on him the highest honor in the gift of his fellow-workmen in the craft.

William B. Prescott was born in Thornhill, Ont., in December, 1864. In 1873 his parents removed to Toronto, and three years afterwards—his father having died in the meantime—he began life in earnest as an apprentice in the office of the *Presbyterian*. In February, 1883, he was initiated in the Toronto Union, and after one year's membership he began to take an active part in the councils of No. 91, and ever since has been noted as a self-sacrificing worker for the advancement of the Union's interests, and of labor in general.

He possesses rare executive ability, which was first observed when he was elected Chairman of the Toronto *World* Chapel. He was elected to the Board of Relief in 1884, Chairman of the same in 1885, and remained so for the following three years, when he was elected Recording Secretary. In 1889 he was elected President of No. 91, unanimously, and the manner in which he has fulfilled his duties may be judged, when it is known that when he was elected President of the I. T. U., he was in his third term as presiding officer of his local Union, the last time having been again elected unanimously. In September of this year he was sent as delegate to the Dominion Trades and Labor Con-

gress, held in Montreal, and as usual, honored both himself and the body he represented.

In the year 1890 he enjoyed the distinction of being the third member in the history of the Toronto Union to be awarded unanimously the honor and responsibility of being a delegate to the International Typographical Union, and was appointed by President Plank as a member of the Committee on Laws of that body. His services as such were evidently valued highly by President Plank, for the latter re-appointed him again in the session of 1891.

At the Atlanta session of the International Typographical Union he was appointed to the Committee on re-organization, which presented so excellent a report to that body recently.

In March, 1891, he was re-elected by a splendid vote, to represent No. 91 at the Boston session, where he was elected President of the International Typographical Union, being then only 26 years of age. Whatever doubts may have been in the minds of the members as to the wisdom of electing one so young, have been removed by the able manner in which he has piloted the Union through one of its most trying years; by the energetic way he has met and mastered those diffi-

culties which will arise in a body of over thirty thousand workmen. His learning, diligence, scholar-like mind; his simple devotion to the cause of Unionism; have won for him the respect of the members at large. It will not then be thought more than the just recognition of faithful services, when it is stated he was re-elected President by the largest vote ever polled for that office, at the session of the I. T. U., held in Philadelphia in June last. Toronto Union is justly proud of "the boy President."



WILLIAM B. PRESCOTT
PRESIDENT INTERNATIONAL TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION