

agriculture, mining, the fisheries, and lumbering—for the means of material advancement. In population we are almost equal, the advantage being slightly with us; but when it comes to territorial extent the odds are greatly in our favor. We have in this province a larger territory than that of the German Empire, almost as large as that of France, and into which nearly four Michigans could be put. We think also, the odds are with us as to the form of government, though there are those in our midst that would fain borrow from your biennial sessions of the Legislature and elective officials.

It is my especial function to-day to bid you welcome to this province on behalf of the Canadian Press Association—strictly speaking, the Ontario Press Association. In the language of a familiar hymn:

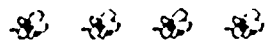
Our hopes, our aims, our fears are one,
Our comforts and our cares.

And among the cares we share together are the voracious advertising agent, the preferred-position fiend, and the irate subscriber. Journalism on this side of the line pulsates responsively to American journalism. We print our newspapers from display type of American make, upon presses from the same country, while our news is largely gathered for us by American press associations. I mention these facts, not with pride, but merely to show the community of interest that exists between us—an interest that is enhanced by a trade literature that is largely in common. Furthermore Canadian journalists are not unacquainted with the historic past of journalism in the United States—a past extending over 300 years. Many a Canadian printer's imp has had his soul stirred within him by reading the romantic adventures of Benjamin Franklin. Many an embryo Canadian editor, with fear and trembling has, like Franklin, shoved his juvenile productions beneath the sanctum door. At a later stage in life not a few of these men have found, as they sought to publish double-royal newspapers in double-demy towns, that they were "paying too dear for their whistle." We have been enchanted by the story of "Raymond and New York Journalism," and by the eccentricities of that truly great man, Horace Greeley. The lives of Webb, Weed, Bryant, Jones, and other great men of the past, are not unknown to us. Nor would we overlook James Gordon Bennett, sr., who heralded in the

New York Herald, in a half-column editorial, his intention to get married and the virtues of his intended bride, and wound up the stereotyped marriage note with the un-stereotyped addendum, "It remains to be seen what effect this union will have upon the newspaper struggle now in progress in New York." Our patriotism has been fired by the struggles and sufferings of William Lloyd Garrison, and the martyr Lovejoy; and by the eloquence of H. W. Grady. We have laughed with you over the funny conceits of Mark Twain, Artemus Ward, Josh Billings and Bill Nye. We have been mellowed by the philanthropy of George W. Childs, the chief founder of the Childs-Drexel home for invalid printers, and a man whose memory should be cherished by members of the craft everywhere. We have watched the changing conditions of journalism of the present day, and have marvelled at the successes of Pulitzer, Scott, Madill, Lawson, Halstead, Bennett, jr., et hoc genus omne. Wonderful is the story of the past; still more wonderful will be the story of the future.

In our Province, with a history only a third that of yours in point of time, we can point to many resemblances. We, too, have had journalists who were martyrs to the cause of freedom, and who took a prominent part in the great battles for popular rights and complete autonomy of government. To-day, as with you, there is perhaps less of great individuality than there was in the past, but the press as a whole has kept progress with the times. Journalists in this Province are, for the most part, self-respecting and respected, and playing well their part. A noticeable feature, particularly with respect to our best newspapers, is that with greater financial independence has come an apparent disposition, amid the strife of party, to be newspapers, and not mere political machines.

We trust your visit to this Province will be an endless panorama of delight, that you will appreciate more fully than ever the good qualities of your neighbors, and that you will return to your Wolverine homes with all rapacious designs upon our territory eliminated from your minds, content to let the Canadian beaver work out his destiny alongside you in peace, quietness and good-will. Like the animal which we have adopted as our prototype (the beaver) we are not saying much, but we are "sawing wood."



EDITORIAL COMMENT.

FRANCE has enacted a law, the immediate object of which is to crush Anarchism and the Anarchists by depriving them of the notoriety on which their bravado and their stoicism are founded. To a man, ignorant, uncultured, uneducated, filled with the wrongs of many generations—to such a man the knowledge that the nation will know that he is a martyr to the cause of "liberty, equality, fraternity," is sufficient to nerve his weak brain for desperate things. Under the newly enacted laws a French publisher who prints any account of an Anarchist outrage or trial will be liable to imprisonment. Of course, as may be expected, the press resents any interference with its undoubted right and privilege to print any news and all the news. But desperate cases need desperate remedies, and this remedy is only temporary, even if absolutely necessary.

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The southern branches of the English Typographical Association have commenced to hold annual meetings. The first

was held recently in Brighton. Although not strong numerically, they hope to gain the needed strength. The main object of the Association is to establish a uniform working week of fifty-four hours. This is the length of week now prevailing in union offices in Canada. Great Britain and the United States are apparently much behind this country in social reformation.

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The air of the American continent breathes freedom of speech, freedom of action, and freedom of thought. This freedom is limited only by the power of Wealth, Monopoly and Gold. But these powers limit it but slightly—so slightly that the limitation has not yet become galling. In Prussia the other day the editor of the Vorwaerts, organ of the Social Democratic Central Committee, was fined fifty marks for refusing to say how he obtained a confidential official circular directing that the names of all Social Democrats in certain districts be reported to the authorities. The circular was published in the Vorwaerts,