

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION'S VISIT.

ONE AMERICAN VISITOR TO CANADA MR. PRESTON'S SPEECH OF WELCOME.



BRIGHT and happy was the Michigan Press Association's march to the sea on July 17th to July 27th. The rendezvous was Detroit, where, on the evening of July 16th, a session was held and some subjects discussed. Leaving Detroit at 7.30 a.m. next morning, they visited the great St. Clair Tunnel, and traveling at a good speed, reached Toronto at four o'clock. After being entertained until 11 p.m. they left on their train for Kingston. Taking boat next morning, they arrived at Montreal in time for an evening session at the Belmoral. Next day, after seeing the city, they went on to Quebec, where the same programme was followed. From there they travelled on to Mount Washington, Portland, Old Orchard Beach and Boston, and thence back to Detroit. There were about eighty persons in the party, of whom a large number were ladies.

The officers of the Association for 1894 are: President, Theo. E. Quimby, Detroit Free Press; Vice President, Frank Green, Olivet Optic; Secretary, James Schenckhorst, Hudson Gazette; Treasurer, S. C. Rowson, Hillsdale Standard; Historian, W. P. Nisbett, Big Rapids Herald. Executive Committee: Perry F. Powers, Cadillac News and Express; J. E. Beal, Ann Arbor Courier; J. A. Keith, Mt. Clemens Press; D. M. Carey, Detroit Free Press; H. Kirk White, Owosso Press.

Other publishers present were: Will K. Kellogg, Good Health, Battle Creek; John B. Penfield, Commercial, Vicksburg; I. T. Munchin, Review, Exalt, F. R. Gilson, Palladium, Benton Harbor; C. S. Osborn, News, Sault Ste. Marie; J. R. Warren, People's Tribune, Saginaw; G. H. Slocum, Democrat, Caro; C. G. Swensburg, Herald, Grand Rapids; Fred Slocum, Advertiser, Caro; W. H. Hull, Home Life, Detroit; E. B. Lapham, Banner, Belding; K. I. Butterfield, Grange Visitor, Lansing; John H. Doak, Signal, Springport; Willis Miller, Argus, Chesaning; F. Moore, Republican, St. Clair; Charles Hampton, Democrat, Petoskey; L. G. Stevenson, Marshall Statesman, Ionia; E. S. Andrews, Enterprise, Williamston; E. L. Bates, News, Pentwater; A. L. Bemis, Gazette, Carson City; M. T. Dodge, American School Commissioner, Saginaw; Matt Blosser, Enterprise, Manchester; W. L. Wilson, Sun, Midland; L. S. Rogers, Journal of Commerce, Detroit; C. S. Ramsay, Tribune, Cheboygan; J. W. Randall, News, Tekonsha; Fred Shetman, Times, Port Huron.

At Toronto depot they were met by a delegation of the Canadian Press Association, including T. H. Preston, of the Brantford Expositor, President of the Association; A. F. Pirie, of the Dundas Banner, an ex-President, and C. Blackett Robinson, W. A. Shepard, A. F. Rutter, W. H. Apted, J. B. McLean, and J. A. Cooper, while there was also a civic delegation and a string of cabs. A drive to the Ontario Legislative buildings was undertaken, and in its beautiful chamber a friendly meeting was held. Mr. Preston and Mr. Pirie welcomed the visitors on behalf of the Press Association and Hon. A. S. Hardy on behalf of the Government, Mr. Quimby and Mr. Powers replying. A

further drive, a dinner, and a reception by the Mayor and aldermen filled in the evening.

At Montreal they were welcomed by the Mayor, aldermen and local journalists, and taken for a drive. After luncheon another meeting was held and toasts proposed and replied to.

At Quebec a trip around the harbor and a promenade concert tended to brighten their visit.

The visit of the Michigan Press Association is full of suggestiveness and leaves a trail of pleasant memories. They came to see a friendly country, and that country gave them freely of its best wishes and hospitality. They went away with a warm corner in their hearts for Canada and Canadian newspaperdom. They must also have been broadened in their ideas of the importance of this young country, and also broadened as to the scope of the doctrine, "the brotherhood of man." They have tasted the Canadian spirit and air, and if it is productive of fellowship



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unending, the result is sufficient.

Mr. Preston's address to the Association was so good that no excuse is offered for its appearance in full:

MR. PRESTON'S ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Michigan Press Association. We rejoice that it is our privilege to arrest for a few hours the flight of the Michiganders across this fair Province of Ontario.

We can only conjecture what has caused you to forsake, for a time, your familiar haunts in the Peninsular State. Whether it has been the appearance of another Coxey army, the retreat upon Michigan of the Debsomaniacs who so recently held high carnival in Chicago, or only that feeling of unrest that is peculiar to the profession to which you belong. Whatever the reason, we are satisfied the quill-drivers bring to us the white wings of peace.

Time was when we exchanged courtesies with Michigan of a different character: sometimes you visited us, sometimes we visited you. Once we stayed with you for quite a little while, and I am not sure that we were very welcome guests. Looking back to the possibility that then existed, that you might become permanently connected with the then Province of Upper Canada, and contrasting the social unrest and business paralysis now existing on your side of the line with the Arcadian state of affairs to be found on this, are you not disposed to say with your own poet, Whittier:

*Of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these: "it might have been."*

We in Ontario have more in common with Michigan than with any other State of the Union. Nature has made us almost one; in fact, at two or three points, but

** * * A narrow stream divides
This heavenly land from yours.*

A common climate produces for each a healthy, progressive people. We alike depend upon the vast natural industries—