

# ONTARIO MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

## THE ANNUAL CONVENTION.

### FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

TORONTO, Oct. 25th.

The annual convention of the Ontario Manufacturers' Association was held this day in the Agricultural Hall. Among those present were: W. H. Howland, President; Robert Barber, (of Barber Bros., Streetsville), Vice-President; George Booth, (of Geo. Booth & Son, Toronto), Treasurer; and W. H. Frazer, Secretary.

The following delegates were present:—

FROM HAMILTON.—D. McInnes, Cornwall Cotton Mills; James Watson, President Strathroy Knitting Co.; Hamilton Young, of Dundas Cotton Mills Co.; E. Gurney, of E. & C. Gurney; W. G. Beach, of the Burlington Glass Works; H. Burkholder, of J. H. Davis & Co.; James Reid, G. H. McKenzie, Mr. Cockburn, of L. D. Sawyer & Co.; D. Galbraith, Hamilton Felt Hat Works.

GUELPH.—W. Bell, of W. Bell & Co.; W. Wilkie, of Wilkie & Osborne.

OSHAWA.—John Cowan, Malleable Iron Works; Mr. Hamlin, of A. S. Whiting Manufacturing Co.; W. F. Gibbs, Oshawa Cabinet Manufacturing Co.

BOWMANVILLE.—F. F. McArthur, of the Upper Canada Furniture Co.; Geo. Piggott, of the Dominion Organ Co.

MITCHELL.—Albert Goebel, of the Mitchell Knitting Factory.

GEORGETOWN.—J. R. Barber, of Barber Bros.

GANANOQUE.—D. F. Jones, M.P., of D. F. Jones & Co.; W. Byers, of Byers & Matthews

STRATFORD.—S. S. Fuller, of the Stratford Flax Mills.

ST. CATHARINES.—John Riordon, of the Merrittton Paper Mills.

MARKHAM.—T. Speight, of Speight & Sons.

LIMEHOUSE.—James Newton, of the Limehouse Paint Works.

BELLEVILLE.—Hon. Senator Reed.

DUNDAS.—R. McKechnie, of McKechnie & Bertram.

TORONTO.—R. Hay, George Craig, Charles Rogers, of R. Hay & Co.; E. Gurney, jr., of E. & C. Gurney; L. H. Lee, of the Toronto Reaper and Mower Co.; John Gillespie, of Gillespie & Co.; John Ritchie, jr., of John Ritchie & Son; James Morrison, Wm. Lukes,

Joseph Simpson, Mr. McKenzie, of McKenzie, Musson & Co.

MONTREAL.—E. K. Greene, of Greene & Son; H. Shorey, of H. Shorey & Co., &c., &c., &c.

The President, W. H. Howland, called the meeting to order, and the Secretary, Mr. Frazer, called the roll.

The President then delivered his opening address. He said he had to congratulate the members of the Association that they had assembled in such strength, and that they represented such large and influential interests. There were about fifty members present—about half the number that constituted the Ontario Legislature—who were practically the largest employers of labour in Canada, and consequently he thought that the decision such a meeting might arrive at as to what policy would best protect the industries of the country might be accepted as correct. The meeting was an important one, because before parting they would come to the conclusion that the time was past for making vain appeals for alterations in the tariff, and that the time had come when they must divide the people of Canada at the polls on the question of free trade and protection. (Hear.) It was also an important meeting for the reason that up to the present time there had been no real discussion of these questions. Whether it was that the minds of the politicians were so fully occupied with steel rails, the Neebing Hotel, etc., that they could think of nothing else, he could not say, but at any rate those questions had so taken up their time in discussing that he failed to find a single speech that afforded much evidence of any real consideration of so vital a matter. He noticed that the Hon. David Mills, in a speech recently delivered, made a great show of what might be called argument, but which for mis-statement of facts in that fanatical way peculiar to free traders was certainly sublime. He would give one or two instances. The hon. gentleman said that the country had gained half a million of dollars in 1874 by the importation and exportation of corn. They would scarcely think it possible for an intelligent, educated man not to know that the great bulk of this margin was in freight and insurance, the larger proportion of which went into the