

Valedictory.

With this issue of The Witness the present proprietor says farewell to journalism in Bradford. It was Feb. 20th, 1879, that the initial number of The Witness appeared, and during the intervening years—over a quarter of a century—The Witness has endeavored—in weakness we must confess—to maintain the dignity of the profession and promote the very best interests of our fair town. It has aimed at even so high an ideal as that set down by Col. Watterson in his brilliant speech before the Press Association in Toronto last week, "The newspaper should be the guide, philosopher and the best friend of the best men and women, a referee; loved and extolled, pouring into the community the sunshine of heaven, not kindling and stirring up the fires of hell. It should not be a public prosecutor but warm and chasten, enlighten and brighten, never browbeat, overawe or embitter." Just how far we have succeeded in accomplishing these ends we must leave to our readers and the citizens of Bradford to judge. In all the ups and downs of Bradford during the past thirty years we have endeavored to adjust ourselves to the conditions and circumstances as we found them and on the whole we are able to say that our business and social relations with the public have been of a most pleasant character. In saying farewell, we must not forget the kindly assistance rendered from week to week by a corps of correspondents, the generous and hearty support accorded by the merchants and business men of our town and the general interest manifested by a reading public. We are exceedingly grateful to one and all who thus rendered substantial support and practical sympathy and we bespeak the same assistance and hearty co-operation on behalf of our successor, Mr. Thos. A. Pratt, who assumes control on Monday next, May 30th.

To sever the ties of old friendships and to tear away from the old town in which we have resided for over fifty years is no easy task. The Western fever, however, has taken such a firm grip upon us that the dye has been cast and we have resolved to try our fortunes in the young and growing town of Watrous, Sask., on the line of the G. T. P.

All accounts due for advertising, job work and subscription up to May 28th, 1910, will be paid to E. Garrett, and for all subscriptions paid in advance arrangements have been made that The Witness will be continued to the date paid up to.

We now say

FAREWELL.
