

Joseph T. Starie.

WE promised last month to give a few details of the life of the late Mr. Starie, who was one of the best-known men in the London Societies, respected by all who knew him for his kindly and courteous nature, as well as his active influence in all that pertained to the welfare of the trade.

He was born in London on February 18th, 1839. His father was at the time a master printer in Holborn, and chose for his son a kindred occupation to his own. He was apprenticed to Mr. Wright, of Noel-street—afterwards Hammond's—where he became a good practical finisher. He joined the Day Workers' Society in 1861, and was elected steward in 1864; on giving in the report he was complimented by the late Mr. John Jaffray in flattering terms as "a young man who was sure to make his way to the front." How true that prediction was is shewn by the fact that at the time of his death, on October 14th last, not only had he received repeated marks of the confidence in which he was held by members of his own Society, who had several times made him their president, but he held office on the Joint Trade Committee, and the Eight Hours' Committee, was a member of the Committee of the Pension and Asylum Society, and likewise a member of the Pension Supplement Committee; on the Nine Hours' Committee (1871-2) he had rendered useful service, as also on the Special Committee which had the question of the Amalgamation of the Day Workers' and London Consolidated Societies in hand. Though at first opposed to this amalgamation, Mr. Starie avowed himself converted to the principle, and thought it a great mistake that the two Societies had not been brought closer together.

Few differed with Mr. Starie but had to respect him; and amongst all who may have differed with him, it may be safely said he had no enemies. His death was undoubtedly accelerated by the little thought he had for himself and his constant devotion to Society work. He died regretted by all who knew him, not a few of whom followed him to his last resting place in Brompton Cemetery, where he was interred on October 21st. He leaves a wife and four daughters, who revere his memory.

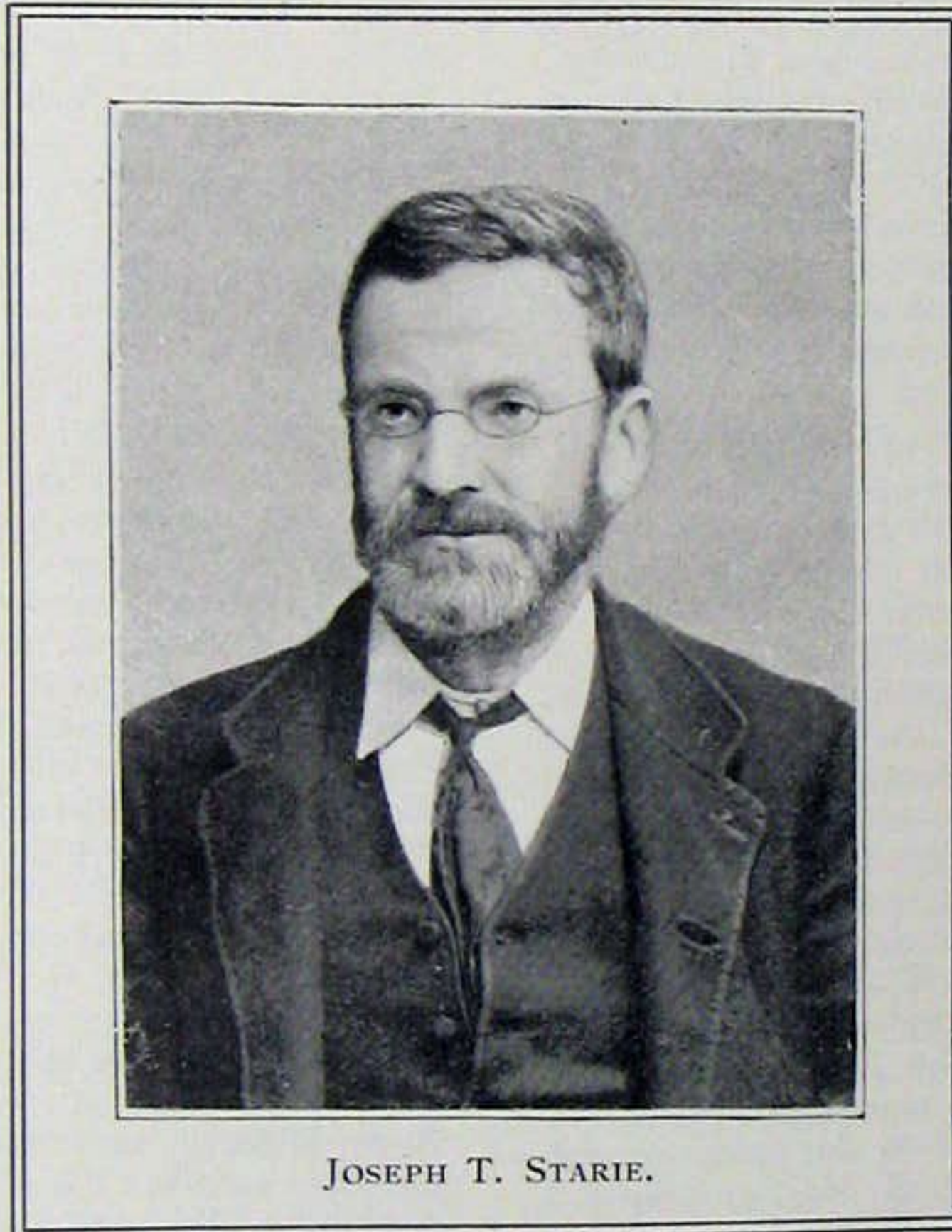
MRS. STARIE, who has had a large experience in the trade as forewoman at two large establishments,—by either of whom she can be recommended—will be glad to hear of any similar position, or that of collater and placer.—Address: Mrs. Starie, 14 Northampton-row, Clerkenwell, E.C.

THE strike in Austrian Poland to which we referred last month, took place in Cracow and Lemberg, the only two towns of any importance in Galicia. It began on October 26th, but the men had been uneasy for some time previously, and had formed a trade society, Mr. Cornwall, of the D.W.S., having sent them a copy of that society's rules. A memorial was

submitted by the Bookbinders' Society to the employers, with a view to reducing the hours of work and establishing a trade minimum wage. The men demanded 10 hours as a working day, 60 hours per week, 30 per cent. increase in wages, 14/- as the minimum, and 3 per cent. above this for overtime. Other regulations desired were that only those who had served for four years at the trade should work as journeymen; the proportion of apprentices to men to be 6 to 10 men, 4 to 6 men, and 1 to any less number. A rather bold stroke was the demand for women to have the same pay as the men. It was suggested that an agreement should be signed by representatives of the employers and men, and strictly enforced. The strike failed at the smaller town of Lemberg, but at Cracow a compromise was arrived

at by which the men gained 11 hours as the working day, and 16/- per week as the minimum wage. Their previous hours of work were 14 per day for 12/- per week, so that their success has been a substantial one.

CHAINED BOOKS.—Recently lovers of bibliographical curiosities had an opportunity of making an exceedingly interesting addition to their cabinets. A couple of old books, with the chain for fastening them to the library still attached, were sold by auction. Both are examples of German typography, one being a Frankfort edition (1580) of Plutarch with Jost Amman's woodcuts, and the other is a Strasburg edition of "Titus Livius and Lucius Florus" (1575). It is extremely rare that printed books with the old chains attached are offered in the open market, and the examples mentioned realized good prices.—*Bookworm.*



JOSEPH T. STARIE.