

Bowood Lodge, No. 44, met on Thursday Nov. 15th, President R. J. Wicksteed in the chair. Two candidates were initiated. An animated discussion took place on proposed amendments to the constitution, and finally the following resolution was adopted and ordered to be sent to the Grand Secretary to be placed on the sessional papers.

Whereas we deem it expedient in the future interests of the Order, that the Constitution and By-Laws be more thoroughly and systematically arranged.

"We, therefore pray, that a Committee be appointed by the Grand Lodge, in Session at Ottawa, in February next, to draft and place before the Grand Lodge a more workable form of our constitution, and all appendages thereto, governing the White Rose, etc., the same to be fully explained by note or clause. And that the Committee have power to send for information, evidence, papers or records in the possession of any Lodge; and to hear any member who may wish to be heard; and that the Committee report to the Grand Lodge at its session in 1890; printed copies of such report to be in the hands of the members at least one month previous to such session of the Grand Lodge for the consideration of each and every member of the Order. That the constitution so arranged shall come into force in February, 1890, and that after that date it shall be permanently used as a basis of the Constitution of the Sons of England, and not be changed for five years at least, or till 1895."

"That the officer—District Deputy—be known as a Grand Lodge officer. That the District Deputy be the choice of the lodges comprising the territory of which said district shall be composed. That the officer as appointed receive credentials from the Executive of the Grand Lodge, in acknowledgement of said office, within one month after the choice is made. That the duties of said officer be to visit each lodge in his jurisdiction once each quarter and report to the Grand Lodge the result of each visit; to assist in developing the working of the Order, more particularly the Beneficiary Department and the other ritualistic work, etc.; that all reports made by said Deputies be published as an Appendix to the Annual Report from year to year. And that the expenses incurred by said officer in official visiting be paid by Grand Lodge."

Montreal.—Excelsior Lodge, No. 36, Sons of England, celebrated its third anniversary by a dinner in the lodge room, Place d'Armes, and a more enjoyable and more unpretentious affair has seldom taken place. The chair was occupied by the president, Bro. T. J. Bedford, who was supported by the secretary, Bro. Chas. Chappel, the vice-president, Bro. J. Field, Bro. Peter Millington, the past grand president of the Order. The speeches were few and short, the time being almost entirely devoted to songs, recitations, and instrumental music. The toasts of "The Queen," "The Governor General," and "The Army and Navy" were cordially received. The toast of "The Grand Lodge" was responded to by Bro. Millington, the past grand president, and that of "Sister Lodges" by Bro. B. T. Sellers, of Yorkshire Lodge, and Victoria Jubilee Lodge by Bro. J. A. Edwards. Bro. Horsefall sang "The Sandstone Girl," which was heartily encored. Bro. Anderson's song, "The Old Musketeer," fairly brought down the house. Bro. Hunt gave a capital rendering of "Rule Britannia," and in response to a hearty encore gave "The Old Brigade." Patriotic recitations were given by Bros. Westmore and J. A. Edwards, a clarinet solo by Bro. Peat, and a concertino solo by another gentleman. There were about 75 gentlemen present, and the dinner was a complete success, and the committee, Bros. Perry and Hunt, and the caterer, Bro. John E. T. Dixon, are to be congratulated on the result.

Heard Outside the Lodge Rooms.

The circular letter to the various lodges issued by Bro. A. Riddiford, Secretary of Warwick Lodge, Toronto, respecting the levying for the death benefit fund has been almost unanimously disapproved of by the Toronto city lodges.

On Tuesday evening, October 9th, the 12th anniversary dinner of Kent Lodge, No. 3, was held at the Marble Hall, Jarvis street, Toronto. Bro. C. Reeve, President of the lodge, acted as chairman, and was supported by Bro. S. B. Pollard, M.W.G.P., Bro. B. Hinchcliffe, R.W.G.T., Bro. John W. Carter, R.W.G.S., Bro. R. Caddick, P.G.P., Bro. J. Lomas, P.G.P., Bro. T. R. Skippon, P.G.P., and officers of various city lodges. After the usual loyal toasts the chairman read a letter of apology from Mayor E. F. Clarke for non-attendance in consequence of a previous engagement. The letter continued, "This I regret very much, as I know that I would have been made to feel at home among the brethren of your loyal and patriotic association. Wishing you an enjoyable and pleasant evening and also great prosperity." The remarks of the various speakers were well received and heartily applauded. The enjoyment of the evening was enhanced by songs, in which Bro. A. W. Harris, Bro. Robt. Clayton (Surrey Lodge), Mr. Geo. H. Thorpe and others took part. Bro. Clayton secured an encore for his excellent singing, while Bro. Marshall took the members by surprise by the happy manner in which he responded to the toast of the ladies. A pleasant evening was spent which went into the small hours of the morning.

The members of Brighton Lodge, Toronto, have inaugurated a scheme for social evenings during the winter months, when papers will be read by members of the various city lodges and debates will be held upon subjects relating to the society and the welfare of its members.

On Friday, the 19th October, the subject for debate was the "Aims and objects of the society. Which are the neglectful members, and why are they neglectful?" This was rather a comprehensive subject, and a prize, a bound volume of the English Illustrated Magazine, was offered for the best argument adduced. Bro. John W. Carter, Grand Secretary, was chairman. The debating ability displayed was so uniform that the chairman was compelled to defer his decision until the next meeting. A large number of visiting brethren were present from sister lodges, and contributed greatly to the enjoyment of the evening with their fine singing. Bro. R. Ivens, P.P. of Manchester Lodge, was present and let loose his buzzing bee, which he eventually captured on the head of Bro. J. B. Vick. Bros. Miles, Stark, Jones, Davis and others contributed to the enjoyment of the large number assembled, and were heartily applauded for their efforts. Coffee and crackers and cheese were served in the ante-room.

Our Anglo-Saxon Tongue.

BY DAVID TUCKER, M.D., B.A.

There is a little isle afar,
Whose iron heart and rim of rock
Long time have spurned the strokes of war,
Long time have spurned the ocean's shock.

It is the cradle of a race;
It is the cradle of a tongue,
Not dissonant, or void of grace,
But plain, expressive, clear and strong.

And with the tongue the race accords,
Like Vikings of the olden time;
Fearless and great in deeds and words,
It ranges every sea and clime.

Yet softer tongues there be for those
Whose flatteries lisp in gilded bowers;
In luxury, or dull repose,
Or dalliance, wasting noble powers.

But thou, O Saxon tongue! art made
For men of toil and men of might,
Who by no dastard thoughts are swayed,
Nor fear to battle for the right.

By snowy hills and frozen streams,
From the dark forests of the north,
The old familiar glory gleams,
The old familiar sounds come forth.

By Ganges' and by Plata's flood,
By Tartar fort and Arab tent,
Far south—far east—by stream and wood
On island and on continent.

Where sunbeams dazzle all the year,
And shadows from the palms are flung,
Still ring thy numbers, broad and clear,
O grand and conquering Saxon tongue!

Young nations springing into birth,
The scions of a mighty line,
Have spread thy music through the earth,
The east, west, north and south are thine.

Go forth, thou noble Saxon tongue!
Where'er thy nervous accents fall
Tyrants shall yet to earth be flung,
And fetters from the bondsman fall!

Thou art the tongue that Freedom loves,
To shape her creed, to frame her laws;
Thou art the tongue that Truth approves,
To champion her eternal cause.

In thee, as wont, O Saxon tongues!
By isles and rivers far away,
May heavenly songs be ever sung,
Thou herald of a brighter day.

The above verses appeared in *The British American*, a magazine published in Toronto in 1863-4.

The abolition of all tax exemptions is going to be the question in Ontario before very long. Public opinion is fast being driven in this direction by the increasing annual demands for exemptions and the growing inability of our cities and towns to make revenue meet expenditure in consequence. It is gratifying to note that one religious denomination at least has declared in favour of the abolition of exemptions.