

The Queen's Birthday.

At the Sons of England celebration, on the 24th May, at Selkirk, Manitoba, the following poem was composed especially for the occasion, and rendered with much taste and feeling by the composer, Miss F. E. Cox:

True loyal friends we welcome you,
All assembled here to-day,
To help pay homage to our Queen
On this twenty-fourth of May.

Long has she reigned, and may she still
Be spared to us for many years;
May many birthdays pass her by
Ere for her flow the nations tears.

Though far away from where she dwells,
Our hearts are loyal to our Queen,
Our love for her has lost no strength,
That land and ocean stretch between.

Here in the heart of Canada,
A sturdy British people dwell,
Who hold allegiance to their Queen
A privilege we're proud to tell.

With pride we glance on every side
Of this loved Canada of ours,
With snow-capped peaks which pierce the sky,
And verdant prairies decked in flowers.

From Atlantic to Pacific,
Loyal hearts this day rejoice
In this heritage of freedom,
In this loved land of our choice.

Proud are we, that o'er us floating
Waves the noble British flag,
Flags which sturdy sons of England
Planted first on Abram's crag.

Far to eastward the Atlantic,
Beats on Nova Scotia's shores,
Far to westward the Pacific,
On the reefs in breakers roars.

Let them chant with us the refrain,
On this day our voices vie,
Which can sing the loudest plaudits,
Till the echoes reach the sky.

God save England's gracious Queen,
Bless her with His choicest gifts,
Spare her to the British Empire,
To all the lands her rule uplifts!

Queen and mother, wife and widow,
Lived she well through every role
Holding ever highest ideals,
Showing still a lofty soul.

In her own life she has shown us
How the truest women live,
This we deem a greater glory
Than the brightest crown can give.

From Atlantic's rocky seaboard,
Where Britain's sturdy soldiers stand,
On the strongest sea-girt fortress
That is found in any land.

Roll the muskets! roar the cannon!
From the ship and from the shore,
Loud convey the loyal greeting,
Our Queen hath seen a birthday more!

From Victoria's pine-clad island,
From its battery's glaucous green
Peals aloft the loyal anthem,
God save our gracious Queen.

Here we welded in the centre,
In this land of prairie,
Sing aloud the same grand chorus,
Let it ring from sea to sea.

God save Queen Victoria!
Grant her many birthdays more,
Lift on high our glad thanksgivings,
Let them ring from shore to shore.

From the mountain and the seaboard,
From the fields and prairies green,
Myriad voices raise the anthem
May God save our gracious Queen.

Sons of England Notes.

A lodge of the Order was instituted in Charlottetown, P. E. I., last month. Bro. J. H. Bell, District Deputy.

We are in receipt of a very patriotic sermon delivered to the members of Suffolk lodge, Brockville, by Bro. Rev. Archdeacon Beford Jones, chaplain to the lodge.

Wellington Lodge, No. 19, Bowmanville, dedicated their new hall in Bleakley's Block on Tuesday May 6th, when there was a large attendance of members. Bro. W. S. Bragg, presided.

We are pleased to learn that lodge Devonshire, Campbellford, Ont., is doing good work. Great credit is due Bro. A. E. Bailey, D.D., for the zeal displayed by this lodge. A pushing officer is an awakening factor.

We regret to learn that Bro. J. Jab-bitt, secretary, of Lodge St. Asaph, No. 190, Longford Mills, Ont., has by accident suffered the loss of half of the fore finger of his right hand.

OTTAWA NOTES.

Ottawa had the pleasure of a visit from Bro. J. B. Bland, president of Avondale lodge, Toronto. He attended Bowwood lodge and acted as chaplain.

Stanley lodge had a very interesting meeting on Thursday night. After initiating a candidate an animated discussion was raised and entered into with vim. D. D. Teague stated he would visit the lodge officially at its next meeting.

Bowwood lodge has decided to adjourn during the warm months of July and August. The secretary and president will carry on the business of the lodge, unless something extraordinary should develop.

Bro. J. Bennett, secretary of Nelson lodge, Almonte, was in Ottawa last week. He says the lodge is doing well, they had two initiations, and have several propositions in.

A sad accident occurred on 1st of June, by the drowning of the youngest child Cecil, of Bro. Ex-Ald. Hawkins. Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins have the sympathy of the brethren of the Order in their sad affliction.

Bro. John Davis' baths are well patronized. On Sunday and Monday the Royal Scots to the number of 200 visited them and enjoyed a refresher.

The picnic to Wakefield on July the 1st was attended by about 300 members from Ottawa and Hull. The day was fully enjoyed, and the financial portion is a fair return for the energy spent.

"Instructed Delegates."

A brother writes: "Please be kind enough to give me your opinion, through the columns of the ANGLO-SAXON, upon a delegate being sent to Grand Lodge to vote on a matter which has had the best consideration from the members of his subordinate lodge, then do otherwise?"

We have always held that a delegate cannot be "widely enough instructed" upon a question which affects the whole membership of the Order, when he has only had the opinion of the members of his subordinate lodge to guide him. If his lodge is unanimous one way, another lodge by being contrary might be equally right. Before an intelligent decision can be given it is best to hear both sides, or form an opinion upon the question at issue when the pros and cons are advocated and the merits of the question is brought out on the floor of Grand Lodge. We further hold it is better not to send a delegate at all than to send one "instructed."

Belleville, Ont.

OFFICIAL VISIT AND CONGRATULATION - EXCURSION BY OXFORD LODGE.

Bro. J. W. London, S. G. V. P., paid an official visit to Lydford Lodge, Belleville, on the 24th May. He received a hearty welcome from the members and the following address was presented: To J. W. London, S. G. V. P., Sons of England Benefit Society,

The officers and members of Lydford Lodge, have much pleasure in congratulating you on your election to such a position as you now hold among us, we most heartily welcome you this evening. We feel proud of you as the Supreme Grand Vice President of our National Benefit Society.

We also trust you may be able to visit us frequently, and sincerely wish you perfect health and long years to remain among us to be a strong help to our society in years to come as you have been in the past.

Fraternally yours, LYDFORD LODGE.

Bro. London thanked the officers and members in a neat speech for the manner in which he had been received, and congratulated them on the success the lodge had made both in members and finances. At the close of the business a pleasant hour was spent in an adjoining room, where refreshments were served. Bro. Arthur Wensley, D.D., for Hastings and Prince Edward Cos., joined the brethren at the festive board and responded to the toast of Grand Lodge officers.

Oxford Lodge is again to the front with their popular excursion to Kingston and the 1000 Islands, it will probably net the lodge \$150. The Excursion takes place on the last day of July.

The crops in the Northwest promise to be abundant. With this hope before the country, and the probable early settlement of the school question, it will have a wonderful influence on the future destiny of Canada. Surely they are a favored people. We say bravo to Manitoba.

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Home of My Childhood.

THE NATURAL BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND.

Since one cannot come up to London without a short journey from the coast, the first word must be about the loveliness of English rural scenery. Whoever enters England at Southampton, the most convenient gateway, seems to be journeying all the way through a continuous park planned by a landscape gardener who has known the poetry of his art. It is not necessary to refer to the distant glimpse of the noble cathedral of Winchester, the picturesque villages, the thatched-roof cottages, the stately trees, the broad sweeps of level meadow, the flowering hedges, and other equally familiar details. What is most remarkable in this series of entrancing rustic pictures is the absence of blemishes and flaws. There is nothing unsightly at any turn. There are no blackened stumps bleaching in the fields; there are no ugly fences falling out of repair; no depressions in the slopes of the well-drained meadows, and no signs of disorder or lack of tidiness in the villages. There is the refinement of landscape art without traces of neglect, carelessness, or lack of harmony. No rural scenery can be more beautiful than the

ENGLISH FIELDS AND BYWAYS

in May, when the pink bloom is on the chestnuts, the hawthorn is bursting into flower, the meadows are lighted up with the golden tints of the laburnum and innumerable red and white flowers. Nowhere are the flowers lovelier and more delicate; nowhere are the trees more shapely or the fields greener. Everywhere there is a sense of symmetry and repose that comes from perfection of detail. The English country scenes are not in a transition stage with disfigurements to be removed. The English country is finished. Nothing remains to be done in order to perfect pictures of rural loveliness. The same impressions are produced by the magnificent pleasure-grounds of London and its environs. Everything is finished, perfect, and harmonious.

HISTORICAL SPOTS.

He must have indeed a dull soul who can stand in Westminster Abbey for the first time, or catch from the Thames his earliest glimpses of the dome of St. Paul's and the House of Parliament after a long walk from Hyde Park to Lombard street, with out being profoundly impressed by the vastness and stateliness of London. It is modern London in a transition stage that he sees. Of old London comparatively little remains, although what there is of it is either splendid in form or rich in precious associations. Therefore are storied spots in the busiest quarter haunted by benignant ghosts for those who have eyes to see them; but the modern town is now so incomparably great and interesting as to discourage historical reminiscences and sentimental journeys for the identification of famous sites. The visitor is now content in the last named spot his attention is distracted by the splendid new bridge which spans the Thames. That is a parable of the relations of past and present in London. The new is everywhere jostling and crowding out the old. London, in spite of its black stoned fronts, is essentially modern. It challenges attention and admiration less for what it has been than for what it is—the centre of latter-day civilization, the metropolis of the modern world.

LONDON'S VASTNESS.

With all the swollen traffic of the crowded thoroughfares and the ceaseless movement of equipages day and night, there is a duller roar than one expects to hear, and it is a deep undertone rather than a confused medley of sounds. But one cannot be long in London without having a consciousness of the vast human energy and activity that are concentrated here. Even in the impressive silence of London he feels the throbbing of all the world-wide industries and interests of the race. Statistics are not readily absorbed and interpreted. One hears without emotion or even intelligence that the Greater London of the Metropolitan Police District has a population of five millions, and that within twenty miles of Charing Cross there are at least seven millions of men, women, and children. But when one travels for hours across the town from one swarming hive of population to another, and sees the ebb and flow of ceaseless activity, he is appalled by the vastness of London, and thinks of it as a system of worlds, crossing orbits, and revolving one about another and forming something like a human universe. The displays of riders and equipages in Hyde Park morning and afternoon are commonly described as the most brilliant spectacle in London. What is even more impressive is the daily movement of life and traffic in the streets. That is the marvel of the modern world.

TORONTO S. O. E. NEWS.

Norfolk lodge, No. 57, now meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday in each month.

Bro. C. E. Smith, the esteemed secretary of Albion lodge, who has not been well for sometime past, left for England on the 10th inst. We wish him a safe voyage, and trust he will return fully recuperated.

In our last issue we reported the formation of a District Lodge for Centre Toronto. At the first meeting bye-laws were adopted and the same were forwarded to the Supreme Grand Executive for their approval or rejection. Owing to the fact that the holding of a Manitoba District Lodge was not entertained by the last Supreme Grand Lodge held at Woodstock the Executive could not in their official capacity recognize such a lodge, as it was out of their province. The formation of such a lodge must be in abeyance until the meeting of next Supreme Grand Lodge when the matter can be up in a proper and legal manner.

A successful and well attended "Gipsy Party" was held by Hammer-smith lodge, No. 183, on Saturday June 8th, on the grounds of Bro. Ex-Ald. C. C. Small. The brass band of Victoria Industrial School was in attendance and discoursed excellent music, also a string band for dancing. Over one hundred prizes were competed for. The committee Bros. Gardner, Vennell, Buckley, A. Capps, Nokes, Smith, McReath, F. Capps, Sweet, Jas. Busk (chairman) and C. Carr, (secretary) are to be congratulated upon the success of their labour which resulted in such an enjoyable entertainment.

Saturday June 15th was a red letter day for Cheltenham lodge, No. 178, on which day was held their annual picnic and games at Island Park. The races included girls' boys' members, three-legged, childrens' married ladies, (members wives only) fat man's, committee mens' and numerous others, all of which were eagerly contested. Bros. Geo. Clatworthy, S. G. P., and T. R. Skippon, P. S. G. P., were present and took a keen interest in the various contests. The committee were, no doubt, well pleased with the result of their efforts as a handsome amount will be the realised for the contingent fund of the lodge. After the games dancing was indulged in in the pavilion.

The Naval Brigade held a very successful ice-cream social in the Parlor of Shaftesbury Hall on Friday evening the 21st June. Bro. C. E. Sendell, chairman. A long and varied programme of music, song, and recitation was enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic audience.

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Hospital Board was held on Friday evening June 28th, the officers elected are Dr. W. L. Allen, chairman, J. F. Johnstone, secretary and J. Yorke Brown treasurer. The committee for the first time for months were able to report that not one member of the society was in the hospital under their care.

A cheap trip via the C. P. R. was run by Rugby Lodge, No. 80, and the Naval Brigade to Peterborough on Dominion Day, in which the Peterborough lodge joined and members from the surrounding districts. A grand procession took place to the Central Park accompanied by the Citizens' Band of Port Hope and the Sons of England Band of Peterborough. Upon arrival speeches were delivered by Bro. Geo. Clatworthy, S. G. P., and other prominent members of the society, after which various games and sports were indulged in. Lacrosse, "Elms" senior champions of Toronto vs. "Atheletics," baseball, Dauntless of Toronto vs. Peterborough, cutlass drill, S. O. E. Naval Brigade. May pole dance by children. Prizes were given for the best equestrian lady, and best equestrian gentleman, bicycle races for men, boys' and ladies', sack race, catching greasy pig, tandem race and various others. A pavilion was specially erected for those devoted to terpsichore. Owing to the large crowd and the great success of the immense undertaking a handsome sum will be realised for division between the various lodges participating in the demonstration.

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