

THE EDITOR ON A HOLIDAY.

A TRIP TO CALIFORNIA.

On Tuesday, April 23, we, in company with our better half, started from the city of Toronto, along with the delegates to the Supreme Court of the Independent Order of Foresters, which was to hold its Tri-Annual Session in the Cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco. The company was a jolly one, with W. Bro. Hon. Dr. Oronhyatekha, at the head, in good health and capital spirits. R. W. Bro. Col. John A. McGillivray, Harry Collins, Dr. Milman, and along with us M. W. Bro. Hon. Judge Wedderburn, P.G.M., of New Brunswick, M. W. Bro. Hon. R. Lee Bryce, Grand Master of Scottish Freemasonry in Western Australia, R. W. Bro. Hon. Dr. Montague Acting Grand Dêpute Master of Western Australia. Our spiritual wants being looked after by R. W. Bro. Archdean Davis, P. G. Chap. of the G.L.C., W. Bros. Rev. French, McGillivray and Rowe who faithfully performed their duties on the train every Sunday. Besides these brethren we had representatives from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Australia, the different Provinces, and countries where the I.O.F. is established. If it was not for the presence of the ladies we might have opened Lodge at any moment. On reaching Detroit, W. Bro. Hon. Elliot Stevenson came on board, and at Chicago, and other stations on the route, we were joined by large numbers of Craftsmen belonging to American Jurisdictions, as well as W. Bro. W. E. Brown, Worthy Grand Patron, O.E.S., Lapeer, Michigan. If it were not that a few of the Foresters had not seen light, and our northern constitutions forbidding us to follow Mexican ways and admit the ladies, the Order of Foresters might be taken for a World Grand Lodge of Craftsmen, a Grand

Lodge not confined to any Province State or Country, but scattered around the whole universe.

At Chicago we made our first stop, spending most of a day in that great city. Our first visit to Chicago was shortly after the great fire, and we had the pleasure of visiting it several times since. The great progress it has made and the fine buildings and beautiful grounds that everywhere meets the eye, speaks of the wonderful go a head-activeness of the inhabitants. But one thing we took exception to. The overhead railway, to our mind, spoils the beauty of the city. With the eternal clatter of the railway, the noise of the vehicles on the rough stone roads, it was more like bedlam than the pleasant, orderly city of Chicago that we were accustomed to visit. Why the property-owners allowed their beautiful streets to be spoiled, we cannot imagine. If London, Paris, and the great cities of the old world can shove their railways under ground why not Chicago. Even New York was more careful, it put its elevated railway along secondary streets, and kept its better streets intact.

We left Chicago at 5.45 p.m. and arrived in Kansas City in the morning. As we only had a short stop there we did not see much of the city. But what we saw show Kansas to be an up-to-date city and apparently progressive, with a good business doing.

We stopped for a short time at Topeka, the city that Carrie Nation has made famous by the aid of her hatchet in the destruction of liquor saloons. On enquiring we found the destruction to the saloons had been repaired, which we thought a pity, as Topeka would be much more celebrated by a wrecked saloon to show travellers than any other curiosity it has.

On arriving at Dodge City we had to change our time, which we did twice before reaching California.

At Albuquerque we met many of the native Indians. They were fine large specimens of manhood, both men and women much taller than the Indian