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**Rise and Progress  
 OF THE  
 SONS OF ENGLAND.**

**A Short Sketch of the Forma-  
 tion.**

**PART IV.**

Henceforth they seemed to make steady upward progress, in ratio to their numbers. The first public reference to the society, by the press, appeared in the Ontario Workman, Jan. 7th, 1875, which is worthy of reprinting—

**SONS OF ENGLAND.**

"We are glad to see that a step in the right direction has at last been taken by Englishmen in this city. We allude to a new benevolent society just formed exclusively for Englishmen and their descendants. Up to the present, Englishmen have certainly been remiss in combining together for their mutual improvement, the only society for Englishmen as far as we are aware of, existing in this city being of a charitable character. Why this should have been, we are not prepared to answer; but it has been felt by certain Englishmen that it was not right that they alone, out of all the different nationalities at present residing in Toronto, have never had a society where they could assist each other by advice and by more substantial means.

"Charity, though the chief of all the virtues, has somewhat of a degrading effect on the recipient of it. No man, with the principles of an upright, honorable man, can receive charity without at least feeling under an obligation for the gift; and the founders of the Society at present, the subject of this article, have felt that it is less degrading and more honorable for a man to receive relief from his own countrymen as his right, from having when in health and plenty laid up a store against sickness and adversity, than have to be dependent on the charity of others. The benefits of the Society in question are, we believe, entirely different to any yet conferred by any other benevolent Society at present in operation. In addition to the usual sick and general benefits the other benefits are of a character that must command them to the working classes. Temporary loans to pay rent, orders for coal or wood, and orders on tradespeople for goods, are a class of benefits that, during the winter months, at any rate, will prove to be acceptable to many who cannot be strictly termed the working classes, and we hope that Englishmen and their descendants will do their utmost to render the new Society a success. The initiation fees and weekly subscriptions are small when compared with the fees demanded by other societies, and would be not only a good investment to make, but would not make it irksome on any man with ordinary prudence to pay.

"Any Englishman wishing for further particulars, can obtain them by addressing Secretary, P. O. box 1475, Toronto."

In the beginning of April, 1875, Court Albion, No. 1, moved to the Trades' Assembly Hall, Adelaide st., east, where they remained, and grew so strong that new lodges branched off.

In the evening, of the Queen's Birthday of 1875, a concert was given in the Agricultural Hall, corner of Yonge and Queen streets. At this, their first public entertainment, Bro. Lomas, pre-

sided. There were present about 500 people present, after the programme was gone through, the objects and aims of the society were fully explained, all of which was duly reported in the city papers next day. During this quarter seven more members were added.

In the autumn a drum and fife band was formed, all members but one, of the Sons of England.

At the close of the first year, ending December, 12th, 1875, the officers were able to report 63 additional members, making a total of 71 strong.

The first anniversary was celebrated by a real English supper at the "Cockney's Retreat," on the east bank of the River Don, Toronto east, and was attended by 56 brother Englishmen, "members of the society only." A good time was spent, it being daylight before the meeting broke up.

Though they had prospered in numbers their principles had to stand the test; as an evidence, the first case of distress became known, between meeting nights, the executive collected beef, bread, groceries, fuel, and \$10 cash; went to the home of the distressed brother, which surprised and gladdened him and his family—relieving their wants. Thus Fidelity were their's in practice.

**English Nobility.**

A very remarkable piece of testimony to the character and career of a leading English nobleman is the reference made by the London correspondent of the New York Tribune, Mr. G. W. Smalley, an American citizen residing in England, to the late Duke of Devonshire. Here are this American correspondent's words in the issue of that paper:

"The Duke of Devonshire's death was due mainly to old age. He was 83 years old, and to the last in full possession of his faculties. He had one of the best minds in England. He was one of the most distinguished scholars who ever added to the renown of Cambridge University. He was a man of the world, a man of business, a student of science who, like Lord Salisbury, would have been eminent in science had other duties left him leisure. He was the greatest landlord in Great Britain. He lived through a period when landlords have been held up to the execration of mankind, yet none ever named this landlord but to praise him. He was beloved by his tenants even in Ireland. He was respected even by the Land League, which never dreamed of attacking his Irish properties, and never denied his justness or generosity. He had broad views, and something of that creative spirit has made the growth and prosperity of America the marvel of the world. He did not shrink from investing vast sums in turning villages into great towns. He administered the whole of his immense properties. His was the mind which planned, directed and decided everything. His fortitude survived the murder of one son in Phoenix park, and the recent death of another not less dear to him.

"There was no relation of life in which this great nobleman, although a nobleman, was not admirable. His charities and his public spirit were alike without stint. By his rank, his wealth, his position, he had every title to the enmity of those new Radicals whose gospel is a gospel of hatred, and he goes to his grave without one word of detraction. They of his order can find nothing to say against him who was the chief of his order, and no

marble is too white on which to write his epitaph."

Not one word need he added to this tribute to a leading member of the British aristocracy, a class which a certain run of critics would have us believe is the cradle of every vice, moral and political. But your rabid critic of aristocracy is often a tuft-hunter, or "a social parasite," and would eagerly accept a title if one were offered him. It is the lack of one which makes him ascribe all the evils of the body politic to the aristocracy, and all the virtues to the mob.—Empire.

**A BRIGHT WITNESS.**

An eminent judge, who was trying a right-of-way case in England, had before him a witness—an old farmer—who was proceeding to tell the jury that he had "known the place for sixty years, and my fether told I as heered my grandfather say—"

"Stop!" said the judge: "we can't have any hearsay evidence here."

"Not?" exclaimed Farmer Giles.

"Then how dost know who thy feyther was, 'cept by hearsay?"

After the laughter the judge said—

"In courts of law we can only be guided with what you have seen with your own eyes, nothing more nor less."

"Oh, that be blowed for a tale," replied the farmer. "I ha' a bile on the back of my neck, and I never seen um, but I be ready to swear that he's there, I do."

**IN ENGLISH BANKS.**

The Bank of England's doors are now so finely balanced that the clerk, by pressing a knob under his desk, can close the outer doors instantly and they cannot be opened again except by special process. This is done to prevent the daring and ingenious unemployed of the great metropolis from robbing the famous institution. The bullion department of this and other great English banking establishments are nightly submerged in several feet of water by the action on the machinery.

In some of the London banks the bullion departments are connected with the manager's sleeping-rooms, and an entrance cannot be effected without setting off an alarm near the person's head.

If a dishonest official, during day or night, should take even as much as one from a pile of a thousand sovereigns, and the whole pile would instantly sink and a pool of water take its place beside letting every person in the establishment know of the theft.

**QUICK MARCH!**

Even an extremely aggressive enemy can be easily conquered by strategy; it is only a question of employing the stratagem exactly fitting to the case. An open-air preacher of East London understood this very well, and his stratagem fitted to a charm. He was addressing a crowd, when a soldier who had been drinking came up, and loudly ridiculed the service.

Finding that it was useless to ignore the man, the preacher, said, "Ah, my friend, you're no soldier; you've only borrowed those gay red clothes! No servant of the Queen would get drunk and interrupt a peaceful service."

The man warmly protested that he was a soldier, and invited the preacher to test him.

"Very well," was the reply, "I will. Now then, stand at ease!"

This the soldier did as well as his condition allowed. "Right about face!"

This order was also obeyed, though with some trouble.

"Now, quick march!" and off went the valiant soldier, marching down the Mile end Road at a vigorous pace, while the preacher resumed his discourse.

**GREAT YOUNG MEN.**

Charles James Fox was in Parliament at 19.

The great Cromwell left the university at Cambridge at 18.

John Bright was never at any school a day after he was 15 years old.

Gladstone was in Parliament at 22, and at 24 was Lord of the Treasury.

Lord Bacon graduated at Cambridge at 16 and was called to the bar at the age of 21.

Peel was in Parliament at 21, and Palmerston was Lord of the Admiralty at 23.

Henry Clay was in the Senate of the United States, contrary to the Constitution, at 29.

Washington was a colonel in the army at 22, commander of the forces at 42, President at 55.

Judge Storey was at Harvard at 15, in Congress at 29 and Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States at 32.

Martin Luther had become largely distinguished at 24, and at 56 had reached the topmost round of his world wide fame.

Webster was in College at 15, gave evidence of his great future before he was 25, and at 30 he was the peer of the ablest man in Congress.

Morris of Saxony died at 32, conceded to have been one of the profoundest statesmen and one of the best generalists Christendom had seen.

Napoleon at 25 commanded the army of Italy. At 30 he was not only one of the most illustrious generals of the time, but one of the great law givers of the world. At 46 he was at Waterloo.

William Pitt entered the ministry at 14, was Chancellor of the Exchequer at 22, Prime Minister at 24, and so continued for 20 years, and when 35 was the most powerful uncrowned head in Europe.—*Young Men's Era.*

**GENERAL GRAINS.**

Despair increaseth debts.

The wrong comes to light.

The fool knows he knows all.

We were all born rich in opportunity.

The wise man knows he knows nothing.

The left hand often rips what the right hand sews.

Three things to contend for—honor, country and friends.

He who is everybody's friend has no time to be anybody's.

Making mistakes is entering into knowledge by the side door.

There is no true friendship among loafers and scallwags; there is only intimacy.

Don't try to make a friend out of a weak man; it is like trying to carry water in a sieve.

Theology is what people think about God, Religion is what they feel in their own souls.

Don't be too proud to ask and accept the humblest work till you find the task you want.

Half the things we groan over to-night will right themselves to-morrow night if we let them alone.

Frequently it happens in every-day life that those who have the most assurance know the least.

The diminutive chains of habits are generally too small to be felt till they are too strong to be broken.