

S. O. E. NOTES.

SHALL S. O. E. BANQUETS BE OPEN OR FOR THE ORDER.

An Important Case in Point Brought up by a Correspondent—An Ancient Custom Reversed—The Old Country Given a Back Seat.

A correspondent writes: I was present at the Hamilton banquet, and thought the committee made an unfortunate mistake in not confining the affair to the Sons of England and guests in sympathy with the Order. Although United States Consul Monaghan gave a good speech, yet he could hardly be expected, as representing a country that is showing marked hostility to Canada and Great Britain, in the Alien Labor Law, the Behring Sea, the McKinley Bill, and many other vital matters, to be quite in touch with an Order like the Sons of England. Such an unsympathetic if not hostile element in our midst could only have a disturbing effect on those who desired to make the occasion peculiarly and essentially English and patriotic.

The opportunity was an unusual one for exchanging views on matters of great importance relating to the Order, for Supreme Grand President Stroud and Supreme Grand Vice-President Elliott were both present. In view of the presence of strangers and aliens, much that they would have said of special interest and value to the Order as well as to Englishmen and Britishers generally would, no doubt be held back in deference to the guests and in the interests of harmony.

Again, what a reversal of custom, usage, habit, the accepted ways of Englishmen, and the general fitness of things, placing the toast of the "American Republic" before "England." It was probably done out of an exaggerated feeling of courtesy to guests, but what a mistaken idea, what an exhibition of weakness, servility and obsequiousness. There are two toasts that according to the sturdy English custom never take second place to anything on earth, in the company of loyal Englishmen, whether in Canada or elsewhere. The first is the declaration of loyalty to the land of our birth or from which we are descended, in the shape of a toast to the visible head and fountain of authority, the occupant of the throne "The Queen," the second is that of the motherland herself, "England."

You will find on the toast list I enclose sandwiched in between "The Queen" and "England," on the above occasion, the "American Republic."

It is charitable to assume this was done, either, as I said before, in an exaggerated and mistaken idea of courtesy, or if not, then in absolute, bare, naked, absolute, downright ignorance of the usages and customs of English life. I call your attention to this, hoping the thoughts of the Order may be drawn to it through the columns of the ANGLO-SAXON in such a manner that no repetition of the offence may take place elsewhere. It is an offence which, although it may be passed over in comparative silence now, is nevertheless under the surface very much resented. Only those who desire disaster to the Order would deliberately introduce elements of discord, and I will assume in fraternal love that it was not deliberately done on the occasion in question, that is, not deliberately with a foreknowledge of the offense it would give and its consequences in closing the lips of the Supreme Grand President and others on the topics dearest to all our hearts, and let it go at that.

Good News from Edmonton, N. W. T.

Bro. W. H. Clarke, a member of Albion Lodge, No. 1, three months ago left Toronto for Edmonton, N. W. T., to make his fortune, and by the letters received from him he is in a fair way of accomplishing his object; but we are glad to hear that he has a more noble object in view, for he has written for all particulars as how to go about forming a lodge of the Sons of England. He says he can hunt up quite a few Englishmen, although Edmonton is a Scotch settlement. They have a good S.O.E. Lodge at Calgary, which is about 200 miles away, so he is very anxious to have a Lodge where he is.

Good for you, Bro. Clarke. We wish every member when he settles in a town where there is no S.O.E. Lodge would do as this brother. There are quite a number of members in different parts of the great North-West, who, if they would only exert themselves, might in a short time have at least 50 Lodges up there.

Bro. Clarke speaks in glowing terms of the country. He says a man with a

little money could soon be independent by taking up land and going in for mixed farming. Provisions are almost as cheap as in Ontario, but clothes, furniture, etc., are a lot dearer, and coal can be had for the digging, or for \$2.50 a ton delivered. He would not advise anyone to come there except those who would go into farming. There are plenty of carpenters, but he says it is the best country he has ever struck for farming. We wish Brother Clarke every success, and we are sure the Executive will gladly send him all the information required to start a new Lodge.

If Bro. Clarke would communicate with Bro. G. C. King, District Deputy for Alberta district, Calgary, he would assist him. We hope the next time we hear from Bro. Clarke, it will bring the news of a good strong lodge formed at Edmonton.

THE GREAT AMERICAN HOG.

His Hogship Turns up in Various Places in Connection With Flags.

Tuckahoe, N. Y., October 12.—An unexpected Columbian celebration was held at Armour park this afternoon. A Mr. McKenzie, a resident of the park, hoisted a British flag on his gate post this morning, and saluted it with the remark that he supposed it would make the residents pretty mad and that it would probably be torn down before night.

The news spread through the community like wildfire, and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon about fifty men, who had probably not been able to attend the celebration in New York, eagerly seized upon the opportunity to form a parade of their own.

Armed with Revolutionary flintlocks, shot-guns, and revolvers, the gallant citizens of Tuckahoe marched across the country, with a Tuckahoe constable, who went at the head of the column.

Mr. McKenzie may or may not have anticipated the visit, but at any rate he was in the city when the crowd reached his house, and in reply to the request that the offensive bunting be taken down, Mrs. McKenzie stated that they were English subjects and they would do as they pleased. The crowd then tore the flag down, fired two bullets through it, and hoisted the American flag in its place.

THEY BURNED THE FLAG.

Batavia, N. Y., October 17.—All Batavia threw out flags in honor of Columbus day. An Englishman named Williams, who has lived here fifteen years but has never been naturalized, ran up the British flag. His neighbors objected to his displaying the Union Jack alone, and asked him to put up a American flag with it.

Williams said the British flag was going to stay right where it was and alone; he would not put out the flag of any country whose people were in the habit of making fun of England, English institutions and Queen Victoria, as Americans were.

The neighbors then got a lot of Roman candles and began to bombard the Englishman. He escaped into his house, and they turned the candles on the flag, burning and tearing it to shreds.

THE AMERICAN HOG IN BROOKLYN.

New York, Oct. 15.—Walter M. Hall, of No. 309 Fifteenth street, Brooklyn, is a British subject. He is very indignant over an insult to his flag. On Wednesday Mr. Hall decided to decorate the front of his house. A British flag was crossed with the American colors between the parlor windows of his home. Five American flags were put in a row above. Mr. Hall viewed these decorations with pleasurable emotions, for he had honored Columbus and his mother country at the same time.

The flag waved all day. At night Mr. Hall left home to view the pageant in New York. When he returned the British flag had disappeared. It was torn from the staff, but the Stars and Stripes still waved. Mr. Hall does not know who tore down the emblem of his country, but says if he finds out he will make it hot for him. He has sent a letter to the British Consul requesting him to take measures to make it a punishable offence to insult the British flag.

Mr. Hall said to a World reporter yesterday that he had a suspicion who tore down the flag, but was unprepared to make a specific charge. The neighbors believe it was the work of a few wicked boys in the neighborhood. Another British flag was torn down from Mr. Blackford's house on the same street.

To be Issued in Book Form.

We published on Aug. 15th, portions of a sermon by Rev. Edwin H. Burgess, Stellarton, N.S., which we stated at the time, attracted wide attention.

The New York Times of Oct. 17th says: The Rev. Edwin H. Burgess of Stellarton, N.S., author of "At the Place Which is called Calvary," "Loyalty," etc., published a sermon two or three months ago on the duties of Canadians to their country, which is to be published soon under the title "For Canada and the Old Flag," with a letter of introduction by Sir Charles Tupper.

THE INWARD ENGLISH MAILS.

Mr. McNeill, M.P., in England.

Mr. McNeill, the well known member of the Dominion House of Commons, who carried the famous preferential trade resolution, addressed the Sheffield, Eng., Chamber of Commerce on behalf of Anglo-Canadian preferential trade. He warned Englishmen that Canadian loyalty is being subjected to a terrible strain, and urged that the offer of the Dominion Parliament for preferential trade, on which Canada is united, should be accepted.

Heavy Losses in Wales.

During the heavy rain storms the mail driver between Hawarden and Chester had a narrow escape from death, the lightning throwing him off his van on to the high road. In Colwyn Bay there was a waterspout. In Flintshire the rainfall was of almost tropical violence. The Alyn, a tributary of the Dee, speedily overflowed its banks at Rhydymwyn, and blocked the Chester, Mold, and Denbigh line.

Heavy losses of cattle are reported. The lower part of the city of St. Asaph, which is situated on the banks of the Elwy, was completely flooded. Numerous buildings have been washed down, and several narrow escapes are reported.

The Welsh farmers are suffering terribly, the corn, as yet ungathered, being utterly ruined.

Temperance Legislation.

At the annual meeting of the North of England Temperance League at Newcastle-on-Tyne, it was resolved so advise the Government so keep any licensing reform measure apart from a measure enacting the direct popular veto, for this conference warns the Government that on the question of licensing reform no unanimity on the part of temperance reformers can be relied upon. A resolution in favor of Sunday closing was carried, and so was this resolution. "That this conference is of opinion that to relegate the function of licensing to county councils would, by the introduction of other issues, hinder rather than help us to secure our object. It therefore reaffirms its faith in the direct veto of the people on the issue of licenses as a simple and constitutional method of dealing with the manifold evils of intemperance."

The Weather in England.

The year has so far been in many ways peculiar. Its temperature has been deficient, especially since the beginning of May; and yet there was a week and more, early in April, which was warmer than has been experienced at that season for about half a century. Notwithstanding the low temperature, bright sunshine has been abundant, especially over the southern districts, where the excess of sunny hours above the mean has been equal to what is due to 32 average summer days. Rainfall has been deficient except in certain of the northern and north-western districts, and over the south-western and southern countries the deficiency varied from nearly a third to about a fourth of the mean for the time of year. Since 1883 there has been a very considerable deficiency in the amount of rain collected over the United Kingdom.

Long Hours and Railway Accidents.

Major H. A. Yorke, in his report to the Board of Trade on a collision on August 21 at Leman Street, on the Great Eastern Railway, when a good many persons were injured, says that the collision was due to forgetfulness on the part of a signalman, whose momentary error should not, in view of all the circumstances, be judged too severely. As to the driver, who travelled 540 yards before he found out that he was on the wrong road, Major Yorke does not think that he can be fairly charged with carelessness. He feels it his duty, however, to draw attention to the long hours of duty of this man on the two days preceding the collision. "It appears to me," says Major Yorke in conclusion, "to be impossible to expect from a driver who has been at work 16 hours that constant watchfulness and vigilance which are enjoined in the rule-book, and which are essential for the public safety."

English Crop Report.

The weather early in the month was not of a character in which much harvesting work could be done, and it also put a stop to the preparation of heavy lands, which became wet and sticky. On light soils, however, the rain was not unacceptable, and in the south-western districts of England the moisture was welcome from the fact that it was replenishing springs and streams which for a long period had been well-nigh, if not quite, dry.

There was still much to do in the way of saving corn in the northern part of the kingdom, and odd lots of oats and beans were yet to be seen out in the earlier districts.

Reports of threshings of wheat did not come in a more favorable form than did the estimates of the crop, and in the majority of cases the returns were disappointing, both in quality and quantity. Further, it was found that this cereal was not generally in such a condition as to lead to an expectation of large quantities being forced upon the markets.

There was a good demand for best malting descriptions of barley.

The low state of the wheat market is shown by the imperial average price for the week ending Saturday, Oct. 1, being returned at 27s. 10d. per quarter, or 6d. less than the week before, with much less sold than in the corresponding weeks of the last three years. The root crops still gave a good account of themselves, and the yield was expected to be abundant; potatoes, too, were coming up well, and, notwithstanding the disease which prevailed, there would be a very tolerable return.

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THE

AIMS, OBJECTS AND BENEFITS

OF THE

SONS OF ENGLAND

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Organized in Toronto, December 12th, 1874

To Englishmen and Sons of Englishmen:

The mission of this Society is to bring into organized union all true and worthy Englishmen; to maintain their national institutions and liberties and the integrity of the British Empire; to foster and keep alive the loving memory of Old England, our native Motherland; to elevate the lives of its members in the practice of mutual aid and true charity—caring for each other in sickness and adversity and following a deceased brother with fraternal care and sympathies, when death comes, to earth's resting place.

Great Financial Benefits, viz.: Sick pay, Doctor's attendance and medicine and Funeral Allowance are accorded. Healthy men between the ages of 15 and 60 years are received into membership. Honorary members are also admitted. Roman Catholic Englishmen are not eligible.

Reverence for and adhesion to the teachings of the Holy Bible is insisted on. Party politics are not allowed to be discussed in the lodge room.

The Society is secret in its proceedings to enable members to protect each other and prevent imposition—for which purpose an initiation Ritual is provided, imposing obligations of fidelity to the principles of the Society on all who join it.

The Society is making rapid growth and has lodges extending over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores, having a membership upwards of 12,000 at present, the ratio of increase being for greater as the Society's influence and usefulness is better known. Lodges have been started in South Africa and will soon probably be started in England, etc.

The Beneficiary (Insurance) Department is providing insurance to the members for \$1,000 or \$2,000 as desired, at the minimum cost, insured by any other fraternal Society in Canada, and is conducted on the assessment system. The assessments are graded. A total disability allowance is also covered by the certificates in class "A." There are no disability claims in class "B." No Englishmen need join other organizations when the inducements of this Department are considered.

Englishmen forming and composing new lodges derive exceptional advantages in the initiation fees, and 12 good men can start a lodge.

The Society is governed by a Grand Lodge with subordinate lodges—the officers of which are elected annually.

In our lodge rooms social distinctions are laid aside and we meet on the common level of national brotherhood, in patriotic association for united counsel and effort in maintaining the great principles of our beloved Society. As such we can appeal to the sympathetic support of all true Englishmen—asking them to cast in their lot with us, thereby swelling the grand roll of those bound together in fraternal sympathies and in devotion to England and the grand cause of British freedom.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned.

JOHN W. CARTER,

Grand Secretary.

Grand Secretary's Office,
Shaftesbury Hall,
Toronto, April 1st, 1892.