

gressive aldermen. He has held a seat in the City Council for seven years, and has been chairman of the Finance Committee, member of the School Board, and in fact, a member of every important committee. He is the only newspaper man in Halifax to occupy such a position.

Halifax, Jan. 2.

W. D. TAUNTON.

EARLY CANADIAN MEMORIALS IN ENGLAND.

NO journalist in Canada has done more to bring old Canadian records to light, to investigate obscure points in early history, and to republish prints and sketches of Canadian places and houses, than Mr. John Ross Robertson, of *The Toronto Telegram*. Every year when in England Mr. Robertson is not unmindful of a task which with him seems to be a labor of love. During his visits to the British Museum, and while looking into some of the treasures in the King's Library, he found a number of highly interesting pictures relating to Canada. Among them were no less than thirty-two small sketches done on the bark of trees, oval, in size about 4 x 5 inches, and executed by Mrs. Simcoe, the wife of the first Governor of Upper Canada. These she had presented to King George, and they went with His Majesty's Library to the Museum. They include a sketch of Navy Hall, at Niagara, a view of the Old Fort in Toronto, etc. Mr. Robertson has had reproductions made of these. He also found in the library an old plan of Niagara, with a picture of the fleets on Lake Ontario in 1757, showing both the English and French vessels, and giving the names of each ship. He secured a photograph from a picture of Ogdensburgh in July, 1763, or Oswegatchie (black water) as it was then.

Another visit made by Mr. Robertson, full of interest to the students of Canadian history, was a journey to Wulford, near Honiton, in Devonshire, the home of John Graves Simcoe. The Manor House of Wulford was built under the personal supervision of Governor Simcoe, and contains many memorials of his Canadian life. It is now occupied by Mrs. Simcoe, widow of Governor Simcoe's grandson. Mr. Robertson called upon Mrs. Simcoe, who is a charming woman, and whose niece, Miss Macrone, an entertaining companion, lives with her. The Canadian visitor was enabled to examine the original drawings of Mrs. John Graves Simcoe, the wife of the Governor. In the spacious entrance hall is an oil painting of Chief Justice Osgoode, of Lieut.-Col. Shanks, who took part in the war of 1812, and the only full length oil painting of Simcoe done when he was young. He is painted standing at the tomb of a friend, along with two other friends. In the drawing room there is a good miniature of Simcoe from life, as well as a drawing of Mrs. Simcoe. Mr. Robertson, in looking over this valuable collection, came upon some pictures not previously known to be in existence. There is one of Colonel Talbot's house, one of the earliest residences in Upper Canada in the London district. A picture of the King's Head tavern at Burlington Bay, where, it is said, the Queen's Rangers' Masonic lodge met on one occasion, is also there. This lodge was at work in York between 1797 and 1800. Another picture is a view of Cartwright's mill near Napanee, and there is a sketch of Kingston in 1796, one of the first, the earliest being that of Lieut. Peachy, of the 60th Regiment, in 1783-4, showing Fort Frontenac. In Mrs. Simcoe's collection Mr. Robertson saw a view of the old fort at Toronto and the first two bridges over the Don. There are several

views of Burlington Bay, when it had no outlook into the lake, save a small creek. The entrance hall at Wulford contains the original colors of Simcoe's Rangers, the corps which fought in the revolutionary war. Near Wulford on the Simcoe estate still stands the farm house where John Scadding, father of Dr. Scadding, of Toronto, was born about 120 years ago. There seem to be only two monuments in England relating to early Canadian officers, the one to Simcoe in Exeter Cathedral, the other to Brock in St. Paul's. The latter is hardly ever seen by Canadian visitors, being placed high up, and escaping notice in a casual inspection. Mr. Robertson has a photograph of this, as well as of the pictures previously referred to. The zeal and sagacity evinced in making these researches are to be highly commended.

NEWSPAPER NOTES ABROAD.

THE London Daily News, the great English Liberal paper, celebrates its fiftieth anniversary January 21. The issue of that date will contain a sketch of the paper from the days of its first editor, Charles Dickens, to its present editor, Sir John Robinson.

The publication of *Life's Monthly Calendar*, New York city, will be discontinued with the December number. *Life's Comedy*, a quarterly, will replace it.

The *Jiji Shimpō*, a newspaper published in Tokyo, is about to revolutionize Japanese journalism. Heretofore the paper was closed at 9 p.m., nothing being put in type after 8 p.m., except for some great emergency. The paper has put in a rapid press, and now editors and reporters will remain at the office until 1 a.m., and the local news of Tokyo is to be gathered up at midnight.

Sir George Newnes has bought *The London Weekly Dispatch* for £12,000, and intends making it a serious rival to Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper and Reynolds' Weekly Newspaper.

Alfred E. Beach, editor of *The Scientific American*, died in New York January 1, aged 70. With Orson D. Munn he bought *The Scientific American* in 1845, and being of a scientific turn of mind made the paper a great success.

Hoe is building for *The New York Herald* the fastest printing press in the world. The speed and capacity of this press are estimated at ninety thousand four or six page papers per hour, which is at the rate of twenty-five per second; seventy thousand ten or twelve-page papers: thirty-six thousand sixteen-page papers; or twenty-four thousand twenty four page papers per hour. All of these papers will be delivered from the machine complete—cut, pasted and folded.

The Chicago Dispatch has some pointed remarks regarding the competition in Chicago. It says: "While the other Chicago dailies are fighting among themselves, it is sincerely to be hoped that they may see their way clear to abolish an excrescence which they have lately permitted to disfigure Chicago journalism. Bargain counter methods should go. News is the only thing a newspaper logically can sell to its readers; publicity is the only thing it can logically sell to its advertisers. When a paper resorts to gift enterprise schemes it not only degrades the journalistic profession, but it also weakens its hold upon the public and demoralizes the newspaper business. This evil in Chicago has assumed large proportions lately. All sorts of inducements have been held out to readers—books, pictures, cheap wood cuts, coupons for watches, clocks, jewelry, sewing machines and bicycles."