

LONDON OLD BOYS' SCHEMES

To Secure Successful Reunions in the Future.

Pleasant Wind-Up of the Local Association's Business for the Year—Secretary James Bell's Efficiency Receives Tangible Recognition.

The Old Boys' reception committee wound up all the business incident to the annual reunion at a meeting held in the city hall last night. The meeting was of a peculiarly happy nature, for not only was there every opportunity for mutual felicitations upon the successful outcome of their work, but advantage was taken of it as a fitting occasion for the members of the committee to make known their keen appreciation of one of their most energetic confederates, Mr. James Bell. Since the "Old Boys' idea was first mooted, Mr. Bell has given freely of his time and industry to its propagation, and to quote one of the gentlemen present last night, has done more than any other man in the city to extend this happy movement. So when the regular business had been concluded, Chairman Frank Love surprised Mr. Bell by presenting him with a magnificent gold watch and chain, with a diamond pendant, at the same time reading the following address:

"To Mr. James S. Bell, Esq., Secretary of the London Old Boys' Committee of the City of London:—

"Dear Sir, on the occasion of the closing up of the business connected with the Old Boys' reunion of 1900, we deem it an opportune occasion to express our sincere gratification to you for the efficient and successful work performed by you in the fulfillment of your duties as secretary of the London Old Boys' committee.

"Notwithstanding the arduous and severe labors entailed on you by your duties as a city official, which also received your faithful attention, you still devoted a vast amount of time, energy and skill to the duties devolving on you as secretary of our committee referred to.

"You at all times, in your capacity as secretary, displayed the utmost promptitude and efficiency and exhibited towards us all, and towards every one of the business connected with the Old Boys' reunion, the utmost patience and courtesy and unvarying kindness and good nature.

"Few, if any of us, can fully realize the arduous and trying nature of the work you were called upon to perform, and the difficulties you had to surmount, yet you cheerfully performed your duties and successfully overcame the difficulties with which you were confronted.

"The great success which attended the last London Old Boys' reunion here, the genuine pleasure there afforded to the citizens and our visiting Old Boys, and the lavish praise bestowed on the occasion by prominent newspapers from every important place on the American continent, all testify in the most emphatic manner to the grand and successful performance of your labors.

"Your work not only reflected credit on yourself, but was a great and practical benefit to the city, and we trust you may be long spared to perform the many arduous duties devolving upon you, which we are so pleased to commend.

"The accompanying gift, which we ask you to receive from us in the same kindly spirit as it is given is only a slight recognition so far as pecuniary value goes, of our appreciation of your rare and valuable qualities, and we believe you will regard the gift as particularly valuable in this respect, that it is accompanied by our heartfelt gratitude to you for and appreciation of your grand work, and that the sincere nature and the kindly feeling toward you, which prompt and actuate the donors, will at all events atone for any deficiency which may otherwise mark the event.

"With the sincerest and most heartfelt desires for your future success and welfare, we beg to subscribe ourselves, Sir John Carling, B. C. McCann, Ald. Pritchard, Ald. Jolly, Ald. Ross, Ald. Gurnett, Ald. Gerry, Wm. Jones, Trustee Wilkins, Trustee Jones, Trustee English, Trustee Morgan, Alf. Talbot, John Wilkey, Wm. Ward, Wm. Wansley, P. McPhillips, E. W. M. Flock, Ald. Brener, Ald. Jenkins, Ald. Malloch, Ald. Dreaney, Ald. Cooper, Ald. Bartlett, J. W. Little, Trustee Teasdale, Trustee McCormick, Trustee Ziegler, Trustee Macpherson, R. A. Carrothers, R. R. Bland, J. W. McCallum, Wm. Gray, T. Coffey, John Graham, Harry Carling, T. R. Parker, Walter Bartlett, John A. Nelles, A. Searson, R. K. Cowan, W. T. Strong, James McCormick, John Stevely, J. L. Fitzgerald, A. Friend, J. R. Minihnick, Ed. Sanders, D. J. Cowan, George P. Jewell, E. De la Hooke, C. E. A. Carr, R. Ironside, W. G. Coles, R. W. Bennett, Frank Cooper, O. H. Talbot, O. Ellwood, Frank Adams, E. Griffith, R. Southam, Thomas A. Browne, J. W. Pocock, John Carling, Sun. Harry Merritt, W. A. Mace, Hugh A. McLean, E. R. C. Struthers, R. H. Avey, T. Brennan, W. Cousins, John Pope, Nicholas Wilson, Sam Stevely, John W. McIntosh, James Mattinson, S. H. Craig, Kirkpatrick, Dr. Fred Wood, John W. Jones, Thomas W. Scandrett, Wm. McPhillips, James D. Tytler, George Loveless, T. J. Murphy, James Herrick, W. Gould, John Fraser, A. O. Graydon, Andrew Dale, Andrew Greenless."

The steem in which all who have met Mr. Bell in social and business life hold him was voiced by President P. McPhillips, Vice-President Love, Mayor Rumball, Ald. Jolly, ex-Mayor Wilson and Mr. Wm. Ward, who expressed the general appreciation that is entertained for his gratuitous and helpful assistance.

Mr. Bell expressed his gratitude briefly and most suitably.

The business that was transacted related to the future as well as to the past. All that pertained to the outgoing year was finally settled, and, as far as possible, a foundation for the future was prepared. Last year the committee had to devise schemes by which they accumulated funds, and it is the desire to provide early for all the expenses of

next year's reunion. The council of 1901 will be asked by a committee comprising Frank Love, J. W. Jones, R. Bennett and E. J. MacRobert, to set apart in the estimates a sum for this purpose. It is considered that the great benefits the reunion is to the city justifies this request.

The railroad difficulty of this year was also considered, and efforts will be made immediately to guard against its repetition. The companies will be informed that the reunion will likely be held the first week in August; this is to be supplemented with a request that they consider a special rate for the occasion.

The secretary was instructed to communicate with all the associations to learn when it would be most convenient to hold the annual meeting of the International Association.

Mr. Wm. Cousins, of Medicine Hat, was welcomed to the meeting, and was made a member of the committee.

The end-of-the-century meeting of local Old Boys was concluded by the taking of a palatable collation, during which songs and speech-making added much to the enjoyment.

SHIPPING DISASTERS NUMEROUS

Result From the Storm on Britain's Coast.

Thirty-Four Lives Lost by the Wreck of One Vessel Alone—Many Other Fatalities.

London, Dec. 28. — Reports arriving from all the coasts announce damage done by the storm. Vessels in great numbers are seeking shelter in the harbors, and a number of minor wrecks have been announced.

34 LIVES LOST.

The Primrose Hill went on the Penros rocks, three miles off South Stack (not far from Holyhead). She broke in two and went to pieces in a few minutes. One man out of the crew of 35 men was saved by a lifeboat. Some time before she struck the Primrose Hill dropped her anchors, but mountainous seas were running. No sooner had the ill-fated ship touched the rocks than the three aftermost waterboards, and she broke in twain, leaving only the foremast standing. Three minutes later this vessel also. The crew was soon smashed up. The crew was huddled on the poop, when a huge sea dashed over the vessel, and all away save one sailor, who was finally hurled against the rocks, sustaining terrible injuries.

FOUR MORE.

It now appears that the Pegasus grounded off Lavernock Point, but was subsequently floated and towed to a place of shelter. When she grounded her boats were made ready for lowering, and the fall of one precipitated five men into the water. They were all drowned with the exception of a sailor, who was picked up by a tug.

LIFEBOATS UNABLE TO OPERATE.

A Spanish steamer was driven ashore at the Portland breakwater. The Weymouth lifeboat attempted to rescue her crew, but the fearful seas running prevented. The endangered vessel is the Enecuri (last reported arrived at Bilbao, Nov. 2, from Boulogne), which had sought shelter in Portland roads. It is believed the crew can be saved.

FIERCEST IN YEARS.

The gale is so furious in the channel that the continental services were suspended this afternoon.

The hurricane is increasing at Queenstown, where the observers say it is the fiercest storm in years. The Maria, laden with coal, sank at her anchorage.

The British steamer Jersey City, from New York, reports a boisterous passage. She shipped quantities of water, and had rails and stanchions broken.

The British steamer Rosefield, from Pensacola, lost part of her deckload on the voyage.

H. M. S. Black Prince, at Queenstown, and H. M. S. Teaser, at Portsmouth, were both badly damaged.

Wales appeared to have suffered the worst effects of the gale, both on land and sea, but everywhere the telegraph lines are much disorganized, and reports are therefore incomplete.

Some 50 barges and sailing craft broke from their moorings in the Thames alone.

At Oswestry a theater was destroyed.

The steamer Zeziro collided with another steamer at Clevedon, on the British Channel. A lifeboat rescued nine of the Zeziro's crew.

NINE DROWNED.

The Austrian bark Capricorn was driven ashore near Budo, Cornwall. Nine of the crew were drowned, one was saved and four still on board, with little likelihood of being rescued.

Two other vessels are ashore on the Cornwall coast. Several were stove in at Lifecombe harbor.

THREE PERISHED.

The bark Ragna was wrecked off Trevine, near Cardiff, three of her crew being drowned, and nine being rescued by rocket lines.

TERRIBLE DESTRUCTION.

A terrible accident took place near Taunton. The breakwater at Watcher harbor yielded to the force of the gale and became a wreck, permitting a tremendous sea to have full play against the shipping in the harbor. Several vessels broke adrift, two foundered and five others were driven into a hopeless tangle in a corner between a pier and a wharf, where they lay grinding each other. Their masts and bulwarks speedily went, and their hulls were greatly battered. The damage will reach many thousands of pounds.

FULL EXTENT OF DAMAGE UNKNOWN.

Incessant reports of innumerable shipping casualties show that the gale was one of the worst known in many years. Probably several days will elapse before the full extent of the damage becomes known. In addition to some vessels not yet identified, which have been wrecked or placed in great danger, the fate of some of the cross-channel mail steamers is in doubt. For instance, the Great Western Railway Company's steamer, plying between Milford and Waterford, is twelve hours overdue, and no tidings of her have yet been received. It would be impossible to enumerate all the minor casualties.

In response to rockets from Eddystone Light, Plymouth, sent a dockyard tug, with a lifeboat, to assist

what was reported to be a large steamer in distress in the channel.

LARGE STEAMER LOST.

London, Dec. 28. — The dockyard tug sent out from Plymouth with a lifeboat has returned, and reports the probable loss of the steamer with all hands.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Trade Has Been Very Active in London, Ont.

The Situation in Other Canadian Cities and Across the Border.

New York, Dec. 28. — Bradstreet's weekly report of trade in Canada says:

Trade at Montreal this week has been fairly active, considering that it practically closes the year's operations, and is a week not usually productive of much activity.

London—Business at London has been very active the past week. Large sales of holiday goods put the retailers in possession of considerable money, and the recent cold weather has enabled them to get rid of some of their heavy winter goods. The prospects for spring, when the travelers get to work again, are very promising.

Hamilton—Travelers are at home, and the wholesale trade has been somewhat slow this week. There was great activity in holiday goods among the retailers. Values of spring line are steady to firm. Remittances are fair.

Toronto—Trade at Toronto has been rather quiet this week, as is usual at the close of the year. The travelers are off their routes, and the retailers are busy stocking up their warehouses for the holiday rush preparatory to getting ready for the spring trade. The results of the Christmas business have been very encouraging, and payments should be very good for some weeks at least. The position of goods for the spring trade is excellent, and values having been firm in the outside markets since purchases were made by jobbers. Prices of domestic lines are keeping firm, and the mills being busy on orders and having little or no stock to force on the markets, staple goods are in excellent shape.

Ottawa—There has been an active week in retail trade circles, and somewhat of a lull in wholesale business with travelers off the road. Sales of holiday goods were large and more expensive goods sold than in former years. Payments are somewhat better. Values of staple goods for the spring are firm.

Mild weather interfered somewhat with trade in Winnipeg last week, but the Christmas business did much to revive activity, and sales by retailers were large, making it necessary to place some orders with jobbers to meet the holiday demand. The deliveries of wheat at the country elevators had been increasing lately. There is a good demand for labor, and men are wanted for bush work.

At the coast cities trade in holiday goods was very active till the beginning of this week. Large shipments of goods for the holidays were made to inland cities and towns, and the reports show that business in seasonal goods was quite active at nearly all points. The outlook for business is fair. At a meeting of 42 canneries it was decided to renew the agreement made last spring.

OVER THE BORDER.

New York, Dec. 28. — A fitting close to a year of exceptional and in some respects unprecedented activity is furnished by the very general reports of large holiday business in the past week. In the wholesale trade business has been of seasonably small proportions, but reports from leading lines, such as iron and steel, shoes, leather, lumber, glass and spring drygoods, have been encouraging.

Speculation in cereals has been light, and increases in supplies and large surplus reports from the Argentine have still further depressed the long interest in wheat. Corn has sympathized with wheat and country elevators have been increasing lately. There is a good demand for labor, and men are wanted for bush work.

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A Gentleman's Slipper.

Comfort for cold evenings.
Resting at home after the day's exertions, nothing more easy for the foot than "The Slater Slipper."
Made of a special grade of Kidduck, soft as a kid glove, in seal brown or black.
High cut back and front and the elastic at sides makes the slipper clinging and comfortable.
Can be worn when traveling on train or steamer, where another slipper would look out of place.
Price \$2.50—and this with the name is stamped on the sole in a slate frame.

Only Sold in London at THE SLATER SHOE STORE

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TRUST FUNDS OF ABOUT \$3,000 TO loan at 5 per cent, in one or more sums. G. N. Weekes, solicitor, 367 Richmond street, London.

PRIVATE FUNDS TO LOAN—LOWEST rates. Buchner & Mills, 83 Dundas street, London.

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PRIVATE AND TRUST FUNDS TO loan at 4½ and 5½ per cent on real estate security, in sums to suit. No commission charged. T. W. Scandrett, solicitor, 38 Dundas street, London.

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THE EUROPEAN HOTEL LUNCH and Dining Parlors now open on the European plan, from 8 a.m. until 11 p.m. Jerry McDonald.

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Popular hotel, popular prices. Newly fitted and refurbished. James K. Paley, proprietor, late Hotel Royal, Hamilton.

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