

THE D. G. M. IN LONDON.

Visit of R. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson to Quatuor Coronati Lodge.

R. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, Deputy Grand Master, has just returned from a trip to Europe. While in London he visited the Lodge Quatuor Coronati, which met at Freemasons' Hall on Oct. 4. This is the literary lodge of Great Britain and its purpose is to encourage research in Craft lore and the study of Masonic subjects. It has a large membership, embracing many of the best and brightest minds in the kingdom. The London Freemason of Oct. 12, referring to Bro. Robertson's advent in London, says:—

A brother of great distinction and high position has lately passed through London in the person of Bro. J. Ross Robertson, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Bro. Robertson's name is a household word and a tower of strength in Canada and even far beyond the confines of his own jurisdiction. Having met him we are now enabled to account for his personal popularity, a fact which even the great activity displayed by him in the exercise of his office was hardly sufficient to explain. Bro. Robertson also takes an active interest in the literature of the Craft and is, of course, a member of the Correspondence Circle of Lodge Quatuor Coronati. Despite the shortness of his stay in Europe he made arrangements for attending this lodge's meeting on the 4th inst., although at a sacrifice of a portion of the time he had previously allotted to Paris. The American Association for the Suppression of Masonic Mendicancy, about which he talked, is worthy of imitation here. Bro. Robertson gave many racy anecdotes of its working, and the wrath of the dismayed and discovered tramps. The evil is a growing one in England, and should be met promptly.

At the meeting of Quatuor Coronati Lodge referred to, Bro. William Simpson, the well-known artist of the *Illustrated London News*, whose faithful pictures of the Crimean war are so well remembered, occupied the chair. Robert Freke Gould, the Masonic Historian; Col. S. C. Pratt, of Aldershot, B. W. of the lodge, and many other prominent students in Masonry were present, among whom were noticed: W. M. Bywater, P. G. Swd. Br., J. W.; G. W. Speth, Sec.; Prof. T. Hayter Lewis, S. D.; W. H. Rylauds, P. G. Sd.; W. M. Williams, J. Finlay Finlayson, C. Purdon Clarke and C. Kuferschmidt. Also the following members of the Correspondence Circle, viz.: Bros. J. Ross Robertson, Dep. G. M. Grand Lodge of Canada; E. A. Gowan, P. W. Driver, Rob. Roy, E. T. Edwards, G. A. Nock and J. E. Mackey, and the following visitors: Bros. G. Gregson and Dr. B. W. Richardson.

Grand honours were accorded to R. W. Bro. Robertson, who said:

"R. W. SIR AND BRETHREN.—Words fail to express the gratification I feel in being present with my brethren of Quatuor Coronati Lodge this evening, a pleasure enhanced by the fact that I have the honour of being a member of the Correspondence Circle. The kindly words spoken by yourself and Bro. Gould inspire me with the feeling that I am at home, and assure me that, although remote from my own jurisdiction, I am with those who, in thought and speech, are united to me by the bond that cements the fellowship of Canadian Craftsmen with that of those who first re-

ceived light at an altar of the mother Grand Lodge of the world—the United Grand Lodge of England. Gladly, indeed, did I postpone a visit to the French capital, with its Eiffel tower and array of attractions, to be present with my brethren of this lodge who are doing so much for Craft lore, giving, as they are, renewed life to those who, like myself, are delving into the by-gone days of the Craft, to find facts that will give the modern Mason a knowledge of the work of the veterans of old, who, in the early times, carried the banner of the Craft, and have planted it on the pedestal of victory—in the centre of a jurisdiction that we are proud to hail as Mother, where the pure principles of our Order are exemplified in the truest sense—an example to be emulated by the Masonic world at large. We, as Canadians, are proud of our ancestors in the dear old land, and although we inscribe on the banners which hang on our outer walls 'Canada for Canadians,' yet for our kinsmen and Craftsmen on this side of the Atlantic—be they English, Irish or Scotch—we have the feeling that we hail from one common stock, the subjects of an empire that is climbing up to perfection in art, science and literature, having within its realms a myriad of Craftsmen loyal to the old flag and faithful to the obligations of the Order we all love so well."

"My visit here this evening is indeed to me one that will be long remembered. You, W. Sir and Bro. Gould, have said many pleasant words for the Grand Lodge of Canada and for myself as Deputy Grand Master, and from my heart I thank you. Indeed, I feel that I would fail in my duty did I not convey the fraternal message that you send to our Grand Master. He is not personally known to many of you, but I can assure you that M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem is a brother that we delight to honour, the unanimous choice of a thousand Craftsmen in Grand Lodge assembled, an exemplar in his daily life and Masonic work of all that should endear him to his brethren. Our Grand Master is one whose endeavour is to discharge his duties on the lines laid down in the ancient charges, and within a few months many of you will have the pleasure of meeting him, as he purposes visiting Britain during the coming winter. For the Canadian Craft let me say that although we are young in years and cannot look very far into the vista of the past for our antiquity, yet we have a history—and one full of interest, and some day soon the types may tell our story as yours has been, and so well told by my friend Bro. Gould. We hope in 1892 to celebrate our centennial.

"In our work our desire is to emulate all that is good—all that endears Masons one to another, and stand, as we hope to do, at the front of all fraternal organizations in this world. With 360 lodges and 20,000 Craftsmen in the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, with 5,000 Royal Arch Masons and 80 chapters, with a score of preceptories and nearly 2,000 Templars, we are surely, as our American cousins would say, keeping up with the procession, endeavouring to avoid as much as possible the mistake of making too many members, and not enough Masons. Our membership is active, and by visits of grand officers to all parts of the jurisdiction we hope to inspire with new zeal the active Craftsmen, and quicken those who lag by the way and

need but a helping hand and a kindly word to lead them to success. Our friend, Bro. Gould, made an allusion to-night to the work of relief pertinent to an application made by a brother in distress, and Bro. Junior Warden has used a term familiar to all engaged in the work of relief, when he speaks of not encouraging 'the Masonic tramp. We in Canada and in the States have peremptory method of dealing with the tramp through the medium of the General Board of Relief of the United States and Canada. This association is composed of representatives from the Grand Lodges and local Boards of Relief that affiliate in this association on payment of one halfpenny per head for the entire membership.

"Thus, the Grand Lodge of Canada, with 20,000 members, pays \$200 per year. When brethren who are unworthy apply, we take their names, ages and description. This is sent by the secretary of the local Board to the general secretary at Baltimore, U. S. This officer then sends out monthly to all subscribing members a printed circular with a list and accurate description of all the tramps for the month. In three years we have caught about 800, and in that time we estimate we have saved the Craft by our warnings the sum of \$20,000. We have so few tramps calling now at Toronto that we hope in a year to take the photograph of 'the last Masonic tramp' to keep as a souvenir of, as we call him, 'the Masonic tourist.' But I am wearing out my welcome, and you are so patient and appreciative that in closing, I know it will please English Masons to hear that in 25 years we have expended nearly \$200,000 in the relief of the widows and orphans of those of our brethren who have passed away. It is our pride to think that these beneficiaries have a claim upon us, for have they not been left to us as a sacred charge for the Craft to shield?

"Many brethren are sometimes inclined to minimise the influence of the Craft. The work of Masonry is, however, not seen to its best advantage in the days of peace and prosperity, but the darker the night of human sorrow the brighter shines the light of the Craft. We are earnest in our work, and if we cannot pour the oceans of gold into the lap of Charity, as the generous Craftsmen of England do, we give as we are able, and in our gifts we try to remember the lesson taught us in the Book of Books, 'that he who shutteth his ear to the cry of the poor and needy, shall cry himself, and not be heard.'"

The R. W. Bro. sat down amid loud applause.

IS BRO. JACK QUALIFIED?

Ill. Bros. Edward Mitchell and Gavin Stewart, of Hamilton, have returned from Montreal, where they were both elevated to the 33rd degree in Masonry at the triennial meeting of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Every member of the Order in Canada will gladly tender congratulations to the brethren named on their elevation; but, by the way, would it not look a trifle more cosmopolitan if a few 32° Masons outside of Hamilton were similarly honoured—that is, of course, if there are any qualified!—*London Free Press.*

Daniel O'Connell, the "Liberator," was a zealous Freemason, and W. M. of lodge 189, Dublin. In 1838 he was induced by the clergy of his church to withdraw from the Order. He died in 1847.