

**THE QUEEN CITY.**

**CELEBRATION OF THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY.**

A Great and Enthusiastic Gathering in Honor of the Event—Founders of the Order Present.

Thursday, December 12th, 1885, being the 21st anniversary of the **SONS OF ENGLAND BENEFIT SOCIETY**, was a red letter day in the history of the Society in Toronto. Never since the institution of the Society—twenty-one years ago—in a little cottage near the banks of the Don in the east end of Toronto, by that hopeful little band of men has such enthusiasm been displayed.

**THE CHILDREN FIRST.**

The happy idea of giving the children of the members a free entertainment was adopted by the committee, and the day's proceedings commenced at 4.15 in the afternoon with Stereoscopic Views entitled "A Trip to England," by Bro. F. W. Micklethwaite. Fully 2,000 children and their escorts were present. Short addresses were given by Rev. R. F. Taylor, Deputy Chaplain, and Geo. Clatworthy, S.G.P., appropriate to the occasion. Bro. Micklethwaite gave an explanatory description of the various views, which impressed upon their youthful minds the immense richness of the palatial buildings and country which is their heritage. The introduction of some specially comic scenes made the large hall resound again and again with their uproarious laughter. The crowning event of the afternoon was the "Punch and Judy Show," by Bro. Archie Oldfield, the writer has witnessed many such shows in the days of his youth in the Old County, but must confess that Bro. Archie Oldfield, equalled the best, when Mr. Punch in his diabolical wickedness, killed some of his victims and ground them into sausages in his specially constructed machine, came to one poor victim who was a nigger and the sausages came out black sausages, the screaming and laughter from the 2,000 young throats was something to remember for a life time. We must not forget to mention the proceedings opened with the singing of God Save the Queen, which the juveniles rendered in a manner as to prove that loyalty to their Queen and country had not been omitted in their education.

**THE DECORATIONS.**

The decoration committee are to be complimented upon the manner in which they carried out their work. The various lodges and the City Hall were requisitioned for their various flags which were freely granted. Upon entering the hall we noticed that the centre of the proscenium over the platform was occupied with a large silver shield inscribed with "Albion, No. 1, 1874-1895," other shields around the balconies had the following mottoes: Our Country, Canada our Home, Fidelity, Our Queen, Our Officers, Sister Societies, the Ladies, Our Guests. The platform was one profusion of flowering plants, and every available space a ladder could reach was decorated with the grand Old Flag and bunting.

**THE EVENING.**

How shall I describe the opening of the evening entertainment, the doors were advertised to open at 7.30, the people began to arrive as early as 6.30, and the crowd became so great that the management were obliged to open the doors at 7 o'clock in order to keep the street clear, at 8.15 the time for commencing the hall was filled to its utmost capacity, fully 2,500 being present, the doors had to be closed to stop the influx, and over 500 people had to resort to the dancing and lodge rooms and forego the concert.

The entertainment being under the auspices of the various city lodges, the Supreme Grand Officers became their guests for the evening. Special invitation cards had been printed for the guests, numbering amongst them the members for the city, representatives of the various societies and others. We noticed the seats of honor in front of the balcony were occupied by first and foremost two of the founders of the Order, Bro. G. F. Carrette, P.S.G.P., and Mrs. Carrette, Bro. Jas. Lomas, P.S.G.P., and Miss Lomas, also Bro. T. R. Skippon, P.S.G.P., and Mrs. Skippon, Bro. Dr. S. B. Pollard, P.S.G.P., and Mrs. Pollard, Bro. B. Hinchcliffe,

S.G.T., and Mrs. Hinchcliffe, Bro. J. C. Swait, P.S.G.P., and Mrs. and Miss Swait, Bro. Dr. J. S. King, P.S.G.P., and Mrs. King, Bro. Geo. Clatworthy, S.G.P., and Mrs. Clatworthy, Bro. J. W. Carter, S.G.S., Bro. J. E. Pell, Secretary St. George's Society, G. R. R. Cockburn, M.P., A. O. Howland, M.P. P., Dr. G. T. Ryerson, M.P.P., W. Williams, Supreme Secretary, A. O. F., Thos. Crawford, M.P.P. A large number of letters were received from the officers of the various fraternal societies who were unable to be present in consequence of some previous engagement.

A telegram was received during the evening from Bridgewater lodge, Sarnia, sending anniversary greetings.

**THE PROGRAMME.**

A most interesting programme was rendered by the following artists: Miss Maggie Huston, soprano. Miss Lillian L. Armonson, elocutionist. Bro. Sam Jones, elocutionist. Bro. J. F. Race, baritone. Bro. Fred Warrington, baritone. Bro. Harry Rich, comedian. Bro. Geo. Warburton, bass. Bro. Harry Brown, humorist. Bro. R. G. Stapell, accompanist.

The musical arrangements were in the hands of Bro. J. F. Scott, who it is needless to say carried them out in his usual able manner. Without wishing to be invidious, where all were meritorious, we must say that Bro. Harry Rich excelled himself in his side splitting songs which compelled him to accede to encore after encore.

There was one great drawback to the complete enjoyment of the entertainment, the room was too circumscribed, hundreds had to leave after wandering up and down the building, first into the lodge rooms, which were utilized for card parties and other games, down to the St. James' Hall every seat and available space was occupied. The parlor was reserved for refreshments which was fairly besieged. Although many difficulties had to be encountered owing to the vast assembly, the feeling seemed to be one of gladness that the function had proved such a great success. The members of the various sub-committees are to be commended, one and all, for their strenuous labour during the last six weeks, it is owing to their untiring energy that such a great success was attained. We will close these remarks by repeating what was written at the head of this notice, "that Thursday, December 12th, 1885, will be remembered as a red letter day in the history of the S. O. E. B. S. in Toronto.

BARKER.

**NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

A correspondent from Toronto, signing himself "A Visiting Brother," would send along his name and address, we would have no objection to inserting his letter. We have made it a rule, if it is not convenient for the name to be published, it must accompany the communication.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

**CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGLISHMEN DISCUSSED.**

Editor ANGLO-SAXON:

Sir:—England and her sons the world over have reason to be proud of her exalted position as the first nation in the world. The greatest nation intellectually, humanely and financially, that the world has ever known. A country copied and imitated by nations thousands of years older. A nation built up by the sterling material of her sons, displayed in war and peace. Whose conquests have been won, led by the light of heaven and contested for in the right of humanity, justice and civilization. Whatever may be the future of our country, which is now undoubtedly the envy of the world, the glorious past of England will never be equalled by any other nation, nor obliterated from the roll of fame, and may God in His great goodness, continue to keep her in the van of His army, as the leader of light and civilization. As I have said before, our country's greatness is the result of the sterling material of her sons. The names of Blake and Nelson, on the one hand, and Marlborough and Wellington on the other, are sufficient at any time to warm the hearts of Englishmen and inspire the same dauntless feeling in their breasts, which won the famous battles of Cressy, Blenheim, Trafalgar, Waterloo and Balaclava. England's conquests on the field of battle and the humane treatment accorded to her victims, are bright pages in history, and every Englishman must feel proud of his country's past history and the courage and endurance ever displayed by the gallant men who have fought and bled to uphold her honor. Examples are too numerous to mention of the bravery of English soldiers, and nothing but the faith which commanders have had in their men, and the men in their commanders could have carried to a successful issue battles which seemed beyond hope; take for instance Portiers, where the French were six to one, and the English army in a crippled condition at that

The Black Prince felt so sure of being defeated that he was willing to make peace on almost any terms, providing his honor was saved. But when King John of France demanded the surrender of his army, the Prince said, I will rather die, sword in hand, than to be guilty of deeds so contrary to the honor and glory of the English name, and his followers were with him. How the English won that battle is well-known, and although it is over 600 years ago since the Black Prince left us, his name is cherished for the heroic examples he left to his countrymen examples which have been faithfully imitated by commanders who have followed him in the glorious victories old England has won.

Hurrah for the victories old England has won.  
May her banner be ever unfurled;  
Hurrah for the deeds that old England has done.  
To enlighten and brighten the world,  
May she ever remain as a beacon of light  
And a friend where oppression may be,  
May her name live in fame like a star  
Shining bright.

As the land of the brave and the free.

Here in Canada, the land of our adoption, may the grand old flag ever wave and the Sons of England prosper, and work to forge the links tighter that bind us to our dear old Mother Land. In the ranks of the Sons of England are thousands of men who have in the past shouldered the rifle or grasped the sword to defend the good name of our nation, veterans who have seen active service all the way from the Crimea to the latest battles, and it is of these men I would now say a word. It is the duty of Englishmen (and I am sorry to say a duty neglected) to do all they can for the men who have served their country, the men who have served men, I do providing they are deserving men, I do not mean in the way of charity, but in helping them into situations.

There is a society formed in the city of Toronto, under the title of "Her Majesty's Army and Navy Veterans," which has the honor of the names of the Duke of Connaught, General Herbert and many other prominent officers on its list. This order was founded with a view to look after old soldiers in the way of finding employment and to see that they have a proper burial when their services on this earth are no longer required. Many of the old men who joined this order were unable to get into other societies, as there is no medical examination and they are taken up to 70 years of age. Any ex-British soldier can join who has been discharged with good conduct. The order is now very strong, and a parade of these old veterans, headed by their superb band, is a sight worth seeing. There are doubtless hundreds of ex-British soldiers in the Sons of England to whom this will be interesting, and I will willingly give any further information on this subject to any one interested. I am, Mr. Editor, I have not trespassed too far on your generosity in the matter of space; the fact that as the editor of the "Anglo-Saxon," is sufficient to assure me that your heart is in the work of your country's greatness, and consequently with those who have helped to make it great. I had intended to touch upon another subject, and that is in connection with our unemployed countrymen in Canada, which, if you will permit me, I will do later on, for I feel that anything that will tend to bind Englishmen together is worthy of the consideration of our order.

Yours fraternally,  
JOHN R. GRAY,  
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