

THE SUPREME CHIEF'S HOME-COMING.

THE TEMPLE A SCENE OF BRILLIANCY AND SPLENDOR.

ADDRESSES OF WELCOME.

(Condensed from the Reports of the Toronto Daily Papers).

'Tis sweet to know there is an eye will mark
Our coming, and look brighter when we come.
—Byron.

If ever a man could speak those words of Byron, it is the Supreme Chief Ranger. There are home-comings and home-comings. There is the return from the wars, the return from a holiday, and the return from a business trip. The welcome invariably turns upon success. If the hero is conquering, a claim is his; if the holiday has been enjoyed, renewed vigor is his, and if the business has been successful, satisfaction is his. All three were Dr. Oronhyatekha's the evening of Thursday, 16th June. He went abroad four months ago in search of health, and to do what he could in Europe in the interests of the gigantic Order that his mighty effort has built up. He has returned, if not yet as hearty as his best friends desire, at least with some measure of renewed health, and with a great burden of well-doing for the Order. On June the 16th he was welcomed home. It was a spontaneous gathering.

Any man, even a man of the supreme common sense of Dr. Oronhyatekha, might well be pardoned for feeling elated at the magnificent reception tendered him. Dr. Oronhyatekha has been absent since February, seeking in travel the restoration of the health, which had been impaired by his constant attention to the splendid Temple building, the

NOBLEST BUSINESS BLOCK IN THE DOMINION

of Canada, which, though the first stone was laid by Lord Aberdeen now nearly three years ago, was only completed and ready for occupation in the month of December last.

The project of a great Temple which should serve as a palatial home and princely headquarters of the Foresters' Order had long been present to the Supreme Chief Ranger's mind. Seventeen years have now passed since he undertook the reorganization of the Order. During the period which has since elapsed immense progress has been made. Our Order has spread far and wide over the Dominion of Canada and the great Republic to the south, has been introduced into England and Ireland, and is everywhere, under the wise management of our Supreme Chief Ranger, instinct with vitality, prosperity and power. The S. C. R., of course, from the very beginning of his arduous labors had a prescience of the golden time of success that was coming, and perceived that a Temple of suitable magnificence must be provided for an Order whose ramifications were destined to extend over the most progressive nations of the civilized world. He was at length able to carry out his long-cherished plan, and behold in actual reality the noble fabric which will always be associated with his name, which, while serving the most use-

ful purposes, forms an abiding ornament to the city of Toronto, and which Forestry in many lands will, for centuries to come, regard as its home.

THE S.C.R.'S TRAVELS.

Accordingly he betook himself to the mild and salubrious climate of the south of Europe and forgot for a season, amid the lovely landscapes of Italy, the cares and responsibilities of his great office. But our Chief is not only a lover of nature; he also understands and appreciates the charms of art. The remains of ancient genius, the matchless statues and storied ruins, the pictures of Tuscan, Umbrian and Venetian masters, and the cathedrals gray with time, all exercised upon his spirit that soothing influence which they never fail to exercise upon those choice natures capable of feeling their immortal charm. From Italy he crossed to Egypt, continually improving in health, while, with his wide culture and susceptibility to religious emotions, he received unfailling delight from the contemplation of the august memorials of a vanished civilization, from the many-columned temples, from the Pyramids, from the Sphinx which through all the historic centuries has surveyed with an expression of changeless sadness the passage of the fleeting generations of men. Thence he proceeded to the hallowed soil of Palestine and to Jerusalem itself, dear to the memory of every Christian, doubly dear therefore to the Chief of a great Order whose Christian mission it is to make the widow's heart sing for joy.

Jerusalem marked the furthest point of his wanderings, and he retraced his steps to England. He was not yet entirely restored to his wonted vigor, but in the bracing English atmosphere of business activity and bustle, the abounding and indefatigable energy, which is perhaps the most extraordinary characteristic of this extraordinary man, broke forth irrepressibly, and his thoughts turned to our beloved Order. He visited all the High Courts in England, Scotland and Ireland, and attended conferences with the officers and members at various points in the United Kingdom; he instituted the High Court of the South of Ireland; began the domestication of Forestry in the cities of Norway, communicated constantly with the officials in Canada, and, from his station in England, directed every important undertaking of our Order on both continents.

It is gratifying to know that these trying occupations in no way retarded his recovery. He arrived in Toronto almost entirely restored in health, to the delight of his innumerable friends and especially of the members of our great Order, which he may be said to have created.

A number of the Subordinate Courts throughout the city at once arranged to give a hearty welcome to the Supreme Chief Ranger as an expression of their gratification at his return. The reception was the result. In addition to the addresses of welcome, which of course formed the chief feature, a first-class programme of vocal and instrumental music, together with some recitations, was provided. Short as was the notice given of the event, the crowd that turned out to welcome the S. C. R. was simply enormous. Long before 8 15 p.m., the hour for beginning the evening's programme, every seat in the large Assembly Hall was occupied, and the corridors and staircases were filled with a struggling multitude who vainly sought to obtain entrance. Thousands were turned away, or rather must have voluntarily left disappointed upon seeing the impossibility of getting into the Assembly