

ST. ANDREW'S DAY.

(From THE MAIL, 1st December.)

THE St. Andrew's Society of Toronto held their annual dinner in celebration of "The Day" last night in the Queen's Hotel, and the occasion proved, as has been invariably the case in past years, most enjoyable. The gathering was select, but thoroughly representative, and was full of the joviality and enthusiasm characteristic of those national occasions on which Scotchmen foregather. The company first met in one of the parlors in the hotel, when the newly-elected officers were declared installed and a few items of routine business disposed of. They then, headed by Piper Charles Munro, who played the stirring march, "The Caledonian Society Quickstep," proceeded to the dining-room, where a sumptuous repast awaited them. The table was decorated with a variety of plants, flowering and foliage, among which was a fine display of growing heather in pots; epergnes loaded with fruits, designs in jellies and meats, and conspicuous among the dishes was the time-honoured haggis, a monster dish weighing about thirty pounds. It measured over two feet by twenty inches, and was laid, surrounded by heather, on a huge silver tray. The "King of the puddin' race" was prepared by an old Scotch lady whose skill in mixing the ingredients has been in request for many years at St. Andrew's dinners. The old flag of Scotland—the Lion Rampant—the flag of the Society, emblazoned with the St. Andrew's cross and the well-known figure of the patron saint encircled by a thistle wreath, and other flags were hung around the walls and gave a brilliant appearance to the banquetting hall. The menu was all that could be desired, and the speeches and songs which interspersed the toast list were of a soul-stirring and thoroughly patriotic character. A feature of the evening was the bringing in of the haggis to the strains of "The Campbells Are Coming," played by Piper Munro in his own masterly manner. "Granny," as the pudding was familiarly called, was taken twice round the table, the company the while cheering and the piper playing. An orchestra assisted the piper during the evening, giving excellent renderings of familiar Scottish airs, which stimulated the never-flagging enthusiasm of the assembled guests. The Society has completed its fifty-first anniversary, and it was allowed by many of the old members present that for heartiness and spontaneity no past annual celebration excelled that of last night.