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MEN AND WOMEN

WHO HAVE HELPED TO MAKE
ENGLAND GREAT.

We now come to the greatest of the seventh century lights in England, if not in the world. "The Venerable Bede." Born at Weremouth in the County of Durham about the year 673, he entered a monastery when seven years old, and at 19 he became a priest at Jarrow, where he remained until his death, which took place on May 26th, 735. Bede was the most celebrated scholar of his age, and was the best known man in Europe at the time of his death. His writings include treatises on astronomy, mathematics, grammar, music, etc., but his reputation rests chiefly on his "Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation," from which work, I have already drawn largely in these papers. He was employed many years on this work, gathering information from all parts of the Island and other sources, and he completed it about the year 734. It was first written in Latin, was translated into Saxon by Alfred the Great, and was first printed in 1474. By close application to work, an attack of consumption resulted which rapidly extinguished one of the brightest intellects ever inherited by man.

It is related that on the night of his death he continued dictating to his amanuensis a translation of the Gospel of St. John into Anglo-Saxon. He asked the scribe how many chapters remained. "Only one," he replied, "but you are too weak to dictate." "No," said Bede, "take your pen and write quickly." After some time the scribe said, "Master, it is finished!" to which Bede replied, "Thou hast said truly, consummatum est." (It is finished), and, having repeated a short prayer, he expired.

We are indebted to this great man for much that we know of English matters previous to the date of his death; and it was largely due to him that the Anglo-Saxon race became so well known, and so much respected during the 7th, 8th and 9th centuries. Shortly before his death, twelve unpretending Anglo-Saxons, conceived and executed a mission among their benighted brethren in Germany. "This Anglo-Saxon clan," says a noted German author, "is only surpassed by that of the twelve destitute disciples, who, seven centuries before, started from Jerusalem to win the world to their crucified master." Bede, who gives a full account of their wanderings and works; unfortunately gives us but the names of two of these missionaries, *Wilbrod* and *Suidbert*, the former was born in Northumbria and educated at Ripon. Previous to his going to Germany, he preached twelve years in Ireland. A third one *Adalbert*, is mentioned in early German works as one of the introducers of Christianity in that country. I have been unable to discover the names of the other nine heroes, and it may be that history has failed to record their names, while it has paraded those of many less worthy men.

These twelve men started from Britain about the year 690 and went to Metz, where they were graciously received by Pepin, Duke of Austrasia, and by his wife Plectrude, Pepin was father to Charles Martel, who saved Europe from the yoke of Mahommed-

ism, A.D. 732. Charles Martel was the grandfather of Charlemagne, who united Europe and restored her to civilization.

Pepin, at the head of the impetuous Franks, had just conquered Citerior Friesland, whence he had driven King Rathbed. The arrival of the Anglo-Saxon missionaries was a "Godsend" to him. He at once invited them to preach, under his protection, to his new subjects. The zeal and example of these pious strangers soon attracted the Frisians to Christianity. Hear what Bede tells us about these countrymen of his, and ours:—"The brethren who were attending the ministry of the word in Friesland chose of their number Suidbert, a man moderate in his habits and meek in heart, to be considered their Prelate, who, being sent to Britain, was ordained Bishop by Wilfrid. Having returned from Britain, Suidbert went among the Bructeri and converted many of them by his preaching; but soon the Bructeri were conquered by the old Saxons, and Suidbert had to flee. He went with his companions to Pepin, who, at Plectrude's intercession gave them a home on an island in the *Elbe* (now called *Wede* (now *Kaiser-werth*), where Suidbert founded a monastery, and was buried. Wilbrod was after a time, made Archbishop of Friesland, and established his see at Utrecht, which he fortified and made a place of much importance. He laid the foundation stone of the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour in that city, and preached the first sermon in it. Remains of the Old Church are still to be seen in the Cathedral of more recent date. Bede speaks of him, about the year 700, "He is still living, being now venerable by reason of his age, and after many-fold conflicts of Heavenly warfare, sighing with his whole mind for the rewards of a heavenly recompense." Bede, also mentions two other Anglo-Saxon missionaries named *Hewald*, probably brothers. They went to preach to the Old Saxons, who murdered them and threw their bodies into the Rhine, whence they were taken and honorably buried by order of Pepin. Another Anglo-Saxon named *Willehad*, after converting many by his eloquence and zeal, was made first Bishop of Bremen, when he died in 787.

Thus did the Anglo-Saxons, within two-hundred years, nobly repay their debt to Rome, by carrying the light of a new and better faith into the lands their forefathers left. Thus, Germany, Austria and many adjacent countries, first owed their knowledge of a higher dawn to the Anglo-Saxon.

(To be continued.)
FRED. T. HODGSON,
Collingwood, Nov. 4th, 1895.

KEEPING TO THE FRONT.

Yorkshire Lodge, Montreal, is still forging ahead, we can always calculate on having one-third of our members put in an appearance on meeting night. This last summer we have had the best attended lodge in the city of Montreal, and always so bright and cheerful. A number of our members are, by profession, gardeners and florists, and during the summer large quantities of flowers were brought by them and distributed in different parts of the room, and I can assure you it materially added to the attraction of the lodge room.

We have lost one of our valued brethren by clearance, Bro. Bland, who has gone to Arrnprior, we have also lost by clearance Bro. Booth, who has joined Mercantile lodge, Toronto.

Yorkshire lodge has appointed a committee to arrange for a concert and dance in the near future.—B. T. S.

Mr. Chamberlain's Speech.

WHAT IT MEANS—ITS EFFECT
UPON THE EMPIRE.

London, Nov. 6th.—A banquet was given here this evening on the occasion of the opening of the National Railway, at which Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies; Sir Charles Tupper, Canadian High Commissioner; all of the colonial agents in London and several members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons were present. Sir Charles Tupper offered a toast in honor of Mr. Chamberlain, referring in very complimentary terms to the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Chamberlain, upon replying, said that Great Britain was approaching a critical stage in the history of her relations with the autonomous colonies. Upon their opinions of her policy during the next few years—certainly the next generation—would depend the future of the British Empire. This being together on a thread so slender that even a breath might sever it. Not long ago statesmen despaired of the possibility of maintaining a permanent union, foreseeing that a time would come when the colonies, having attained a position of independence, must be expected to claim an entire separation. These great communities had taken rank with the nations of the world. He did not suppose that the idea of compelling them to remain in the Empire was within the range of intelligent speculation. Yet, notwithstanding that the time had come for these conditions to be fulfilled, the expectations of the statesmen referred to had not been realized. As the possibility of separation had become greater, the desire had become less, until it no longer existed. Great Britain, on her part, was prepared to do all that could fairly be expected of her. The mother country rejoiced greatly at the wider patriotism embracing the whole of Greater Britain. He believed that the slender thread of which he had spoken was capable of carrying a force of sentiment and sympathy which would be a potent factor in the history of the world—just as a slender wire would carry an electrical force capable of moving machinery. He heard on all hands that Imperial Federation was a vain, empty dream. He would not contest that opinion; but men must be blind who did not see that it was a dream that impressed itself on the mind of the English-speaking race—the sort of dream which, somehow or another, becomes eventually unaccountably realized. The signs of the times were already in the direction of such a movement. Mr. Chamberlain concluded with an appreciative reference to the African colonies.

OTTAWA NOTES.

Ottawa Sons of England have been busy during the last month with S.O.E. matters. Bro. Wm. Teague, D.D., has brought the lodges into sympathy with the idea of having district meetings—which will finally develop into a district lodge. On Thursday night representatives from the five lodges were in session, and appointed Bro. N. B. Shephard secretary. The chief business was the celebration of the 21st anniversary. It was settled we should have a social gathering in Stanley lodge room on the evening of the 12th of December. Committees were struck

to make the necessary arrangements. It was also urged upon the delegates the advisability of having a lecture by a prominent member of the Order. It is probably the matter will occupy the attention of the committee, and it is likely to take a definite shape sometime during the coming session of Parliament.

On Sunday the 14th, Tennyson lodge, Hull, held a church service to the Presbyterian church, when the Rev. Mr. Scott preached an appropriate sermon. About 30 members from Ottawa went over and accompanied our Quebec brethren to church. On Wednesday night the lodge celebrated its third anniversary by a smoking concert, which was well attended and fully enjoyed by the large number present.

We have received a copy of the proceedings of the Sixteenth Convention of the North America St. George's Union (which was held at Kingston, Ont., last August) through Mr. C. F. Winter, Sec. of St. George's Society, of Ottawa. The report is full of interesting reading to the Englishman. The address by Bro. Dr. E. H. Smythe, Q.C., the president, was a masterpiece.

The concert given by St. George's Society, on the Patron Saint's Day, added \$184.00 to the funds of the Society.

ETON LODGE, P.E.I.

Citizens of Charlottetown, P.E.I., are asking more every day concerning our Order, the result is—applications every meeting of Lodge Eton, No. 148. We have a fine membership of nearly seventy, all good and true Englishmen. Now that Bro. Wright is in the field with us—after an absence of five months—everything is humming. Our picnic this summer passed off very pleasantly. We are hoping for lots of good this winter. Our W. R. D. is very successful. Already the wise heads are together arranging the best men for the offices, and it is hoped none will accept positions unless they will work with a will.—E. J. Lucas, Sec.

GENERAL S. O. E. NOTES.

A great deal depends upon the selection of your officers, as to how your lodge will prosper. Officers and members should draw up a compact—a pledge among themselves—and say, I will do my best to bring in one—only one—new member during the year 1896. That would ensure over 30,000 members by the close of the year; it can be done. Will you join the compact? Will you do it! Be determined, set about it with that confidence that you will do so—then it will be a realization. You can then retire from office with the known fact that you have done something for the good of your fellow man and the Order at large.

The same could be said of our Beneficiary. Let each lodge add one member to the beneficiary each month—multiply 12 months by 220 lodges—and see what will be done in that most important bulwark of our Order! Think over what is your share and your duty in this matter, and do it. Remember, your efforts might be blessed by the widow and orphan.

The Supreme Grand President and Secretary, were in Montreal last week, opening a lodge. They also attended a mass meeting of the Montreal lodges.

Among the veterans who have gone out to enforce the law in Lowe, Que., are Bro. A. S. J. Davis and Geo. Low, (privates), and S. Maynard Rogers, (Major) of the 43rd Rifles.

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