NAPOLEON'S ROMP.

The Dethroned Emperor's Pranks With "Little Betsee" at St. Helena.

The recent decision of the English Government to withdraw the garrison of imperial troops stationed for so many years on the lonely and threatened rock of St. Helena awakens a thousand recollections. Many a heart sank at the aspect of the abrupt almost perpendicular, sides of this huge mass, when, early in the century, a British man-of-war approached the island, bearing on board the unhappy Napoleon Bonaparte. Seventy days of almost unendurable life on the Northumberland ended by one night, passed under military guard in a hostelry in St. Helena. The hateful prison of Longwood being as yet unprepared for its guest, the authorities selected the house of Mr. Balcombe, a merchant, as a temporary resting place for the unfortunate prisoner of war, and he went thither the next day.

Mr Balcombe had a charming wife and a young family. One young daughter, about thirteen years of age at the time, has recorded her impressions of the Emperor Napoleon in a deeply interesting narrative. For nearly two months this sprightly girl was daily in the society of that most unhappy exile, and saw him through a different medium from that in which he had ever had the opportunity of presenting himself to English eyes; though Talma, and other stars of the French stage—not forgetting Mdlle. Georges, the actress who begged permission to share and lighten his captivity—knew his gayety and his artistic nature. Mr. Balcombe, holding the appointment of purveyor to the Emperor, was in communication with him, not only during the stay at the Briars, but in the subsequent terrible captivity at Longwood, and the young girl who recounts her impressions of Napoleon was without fear or self-consciousness in her intercourse with him.

All preconceived notions of the terrible "Bony" gave way before the playful and friendly manifestations shown by Napoleon to "Mademoiselle Betsee," as he called her. The coldness of his stern, pale features soon melted into fascinating smiles, and his games of play with the child quickly put her quite at her ease. Once, it is true, finding her at lessons, he asked a question as to the capitals of Europe. "And what is the capital of Russia?" he asked. "Petersburg now, but Moscow formerly," said the little girl; when, with a voice of thunder and fiery eyes, Napoleon asked who had burned Moscow. This ghastly and frightful remembrance no doubt scorched his very heart, and quickly changed the courteous gentleman into an image of unbounded terror in the eyes of his youthful companion. But, as a rule, Napoleon would show an almost boyish mirth, not unmixed with a tinge of malice.

A little friend of "Mademoiselle Betsee" came to the Briars, and having heard terrible stories of "Bony," clung in agony to "Betsee" when the Emperor came out on the lawn. Seeing this Napoleon walked up to her, brushed his hair up with his hands, shook his head, made horrible faces, and gave a regular howl, after the Cossack manner. Having frightened the child almost into hysterics, the Emperor began to laugh violently.

The adventurous "Mees Betsee," in revenge for some teasing tricks of the Emperor, kept him at bay, on one occasion, in a corner of the drawing-room at the Briars, by flourishing over his head a magnificent saber which he had shown her as a curiosity. The spirited child made repeated passes at her illustrious victim, and entreated him to say his prayers, as she meant to kill him. Her cries of exultation brought her elder sister to the spot, and, indeed, "Mees Betsee's" arm was dropping from sheer exhaustion, and she soon desisted. The grand chamberlain also came to the rescue, his parchment visage glowing with indignation at the insult offered to his master. Napoleon, however, only pinched the ear of the young rebel, and laughed good humoredly.

At the whist table that evening he revenged himself on his youthful tormentor by revoking, and finally mixing the cards together to prevent discovery. On being accused of this by "Mees Betsee," he adroitly ran off with her new frock, which lay on the sofa—a white frock with rose buds, intended to be worn at Sir George Cockburn's ball. It was Napoleon himself, who had asked leave of Mr. Balcombe for the little girl to be allowed to attend this ball, and he now ran off with her dress, and locked himself in his own apartments. "Mees Betsee" remonstrated outside the closed door, both in English and French, but was answered only by laughter from within, and it was not until the very day of the ball that the Emperor restored the dress. Such amusements as these hid for a few hours the galling sense of surveillance which weighed on the mind of the unsubdued captive.

The fire still burned unquenched in those veins of Napoleon's. He who would play at blind man's buff with the children at the Briars, and tease "Mees Betsee" to the point of weeping, had his own terrible hours of gloom and depression. It must have been strange for Mrs. Balcombe to hear him regretting his two wives, and equally—one as "Grace," the other as "Innocence."

The discrepancy between preaching and practice, so often found in the case of those who assume the role of moral reformers cannot be justly charged against Count Tolstoi, the famous Russian novelist and reformer. He preaches a life of self-denial and, though a count, he lives in the companionship of peasants, welcomes them to table and devotes himself to their interests. We may not be able to accept his extreme views touching marriage and the Christian life; but we may at least respect him for his sincerity and candor, and heartily wish that in these respects his imitators might greatly increase.

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(Grand Lodge Proceedings, continued from page 5)

of the Order is in existence, and not nearer than ten miles to a place where no Legion is located, may, with the consent of the Grand Commander and under his directions become members-at-large.

On making application for admission to the Order, they shall comply with all the requirements of the Constitution exacted from Charter members, and after being approved by the Grand Medical Examiner, must be obligated according to the Ritual either by the Grand Commander himself or by his Deputy or Deputies, especially authorized for that purpose. They shall pay an Initiation Fee of Five Dollars, which amount is to be forwarded by the obligating Officer to the Grand Recorder, who shall place it into the General Fund of the Grand Legion. They also shall pay the regular fees for a certificate or certificates, also the advance assessments, all of which are to be forwarded to the Grand Recorder to be accounted for by him in the regular manner.

Such members at large shall pay all Assessments on their Certificate, or Certificates, direct to the Grand Recorder. They shall also pay to him as dues the sum of seventy-five cents every three months, which shall be placed into the General Fund of the Grand Legion. Any member-at-large failing or refusing to pay such dues when due shall be promptly suspended from membership by the Grand Recorder, and such suspension for non-payment of dues shall have the same effect as if a member of a Legion has been suspended for a like cause. A member-at-large desiring to connect himself with an existing Legion, or with a new Legion to be instituted, shall apply to the Grand Recorder for a Clearance Card, which shall be granted to him on payment of One Dollar in favor of the General Fund of the Grand Legion, and of all his arrears for Endowment, Beneficiary or Dues. When fifteen or more members-at-large are, in the opinion of the Grand Commander, so situated that a Legion can conveniently be formed by them, the Grand Commander may instruct the Grand Recorder to issue a notice to each of such members to form said Legion, and arrange for a date on or before the new Legion shall be formed by the Grand Commander or a properly authorized Deputy. A fee of One Dollar shall be paid by each of the members-at-large (the amount thus collected not to exceed Fifteen Dollars) to defray the expenses of the necessary supplies. Any member-at-large refusing to assist in forming the new Legion shall pay to the Grand Recorder, as a fine for his refusal, the sum of One Dollar and Fifty Cents every three months, as dues.

Proposition 25.—Amend Section 68, Grand Legion Constitution, by adding the following:—"If an application is rejected by the Grand Medical Examiner, he shall forward the same to the Grand Recorder, who, immediately on its receipt, shall inform the Recorder or the Organizing Deputy, as the case may be, of such rejection. The applicant thus rejected may, however, be admitted to membership in the Endowment Department on his signing a special application for a limited certificate; that is to say, he agrees that in the event of his being in good standing in the Department at the time of his death, the person or persons he designates for the purpose shall only receive the amount actually paid by him into the Endowment Fund in full of all claims against the Endowment Department arising out of the Endowment Certificate to be issued to him on the strength of such application. The limited Certificate to be issued by the Grand Recorder shall read in substance like the regular Certificate described in Section 71 of this Constitution, the Disability Clause, however, to be omitted and the afore described conditions to be inserted therein.

DOCUMENT No. 13.

Past Commander, J. J. Patterson, of Alpha Legion No. 81, proposes the adoption of the following amendments:

Proposition 26.—Amend Section 4, page 3, Grand Legion Constitution, by striking out the words, "The Grand Legion shall hold an Annual Session on the third Tuesday in May of each year," and insert instead, as follows: "The Grand Legion shall hold its next regular session on the third Tuesday in May, 1893, and on the same day in May every second year following."

In same section, erase the word "Annual," and insert the word "biennial," and wherever else it appears in Grand Legion Constitution.

Proposition 27.—Amend Section 48, page 22, Grand Legion Constitution, and all other Sections relating thereto, wherever found in Grand or Subordinate Legion Constitution, by striking out the same and substituting the following:

A.—"The Select Knights' Journal and Advocate" shall henceforth be the official organ of the Order.

B.—And it shall be published between the first and eighth day of each and every month, and if an assessment shall be ordered, notice of such assessment shall be inserted, and no other shall be given.

C.—The publisher of said paper shall insert the proceedings of said Legion to every Legion in the Grand Jurisdiction, viz., Select Commander, Recorder and Recording Treasurer, and for such services the publisher shall receive from Grand Legion the sum of.....to be paid quarterly.

Proposition 28.—Add a new Section to Grand Legion Constitution that an Executive Committee shall be formed which shall consist of the Grand Commander, Junior Past Grand Commander, Grand Vice-Commander (who shall be ex-officio President of the Committee), the Grand Lieutenant-Commander, the Senior Trustee, Solicitor, Grand Medical Examiner, and one other, elected by ballot, and one appointed by Grand Commander.

B. In the month of May of each year in which there is no Regular Session of Grand Legion, the Grand Commander and Executive Committee shall report to the various Legions a detailed statement of their actions in the interim.

C. And any action taken by the Grand Commander and Executive Committee shall be as if done by the whole body of the Grand Legion; provided, however, that all legislation enacted by them shall be retractive in its character.

Proposition 29.—Add a new Section to Grand Legion Constitution that in future the office of the Grand Recorder shall be located at Toronto, in such place and in such manner as shall be deemed best by Grand Legion.

Proposition 30.—Add a new section to Grand Legion Constitution that each District Deputy Grand Commander shall receive from each Legion in his District the sum of One Dollar per annum, payable in the month of May of each year, for the purpose of covering his expenses *re* postage and stationery.

Proposition 31.—Add a new section to Grand Legion Constitution as follows:—It shall not be necessary for any Comrade to serve in any elective office to qualify for the position of Select Commander.

On motion, all the proposed constitutional amendments were referred to the Committee on Laws.

DOCUMENT No. 14.

The Chairman of the Committee on Laws, Past Commander MacWatt, submitted the following report on behalf of that Committee, and moved its adoption:

To the Grand Commander, Officers and Members of the Grand Legion, Select Knights of Canada.

Your Committee on Laws begs to report, with reference to the proposed amendments to the Constitution, as follows:

That numbers 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 be rejected.

That numbers 2 and 8 be adopted.

That numbers 9, 10, 11 and 12 be rejected.

That number 13 be adopted with the addition of the words, "when there is a bank within one mile of the hall in which the Legion holds its meetings."

That numbers 14 and 15 be rejected.

That number 16 be adopted.

With reference to number 17, sub-section 1, the Committee prefers to leave this proposal for the Grand Legion to decide.

Sub-sections 2, 3 and 4, of number 17, will be rejected if sub-section 1 is rejected, and otherwise if adopted.

That numbers 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 be adopted.

That numbers 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 be rejected.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

D. F. MACWATT,
JOHN MCL. STEVENSON,
O. C. GRAVES.

Toronto, 20th May, 1891.

On motion the report was received and ordered to be considered seriatim.

Proposition 1.—The report of the Committee was adopted.
" 2.—The report of the Committee was not adopted.
" 3.—The report of the Committee was adopted.
" 4.—The report of the Committee was adopted.
" 5.—The report of the Committee was adopted.

Pending the consideration of Proposition 6, the hour fixed for adjournment arrived, and the Grand Commander declared a recess until 2 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grand Legion was called to order at 2 p.m. by Grand Commander Lewis.

The Grand Standard Bearer reported all present as qualified to sit in the Grand Body, and a quorum being present, it was declared open for business.

Grand Medical Examiner, Dr. King, on behalf of the proprietors of Shaftesbury Hall, invited the Grand Legion to inspect the building after the close of the afternoon session. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

DOCUMENT No. 15.

Moved by Grand Treasurer Stevenson, seconded by Past Commander MacWatt,

"That the members of this Grand Legion be paid at the rate of five cents per mile and three dollars per diem."

The motion prevailed.

Grand Legion then proceeded with the election of officers.

FOR GRAND COMMANDER.

Grand Vice-Commander Fenton nominates Past Grand Commander Lewis.

There being but one nomination, Past Grand Commander Leubsdorf declared Past Grand Commander Lewis duly elected Grand Commander for the ensuing term by acclamation.

FOR GRAND VICE-COMMANDER.

Past Commander MacWatt nominates Comrade W. R. Fenton.

There being but one nomination, the Grand Commander declared Comrade Fenton duly elected Grand Vice-Commander for the ensuing term by acclamation.

FOR GRAND LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

Grand Trustee McCrady nominates Comrade W. J. Parkhill.

There being but one nomination, Grand Commander Lewis declared Comrade Parkhill duly elected Grand Lieutenant Commander for the ensuing term by acclamation.

FOR GRAND RECORDER.

Grand Standard Bearer nominates Past Grand Commander Leubsdorf.

There being but one nomination, the Grand Commander declared Past Grand Commander Leubsdorf duly elected Grand Recorder for the ensuing term by acclamation.

FOR GRAND TREASURER.

Grand Lieutenant Commander Parkhill nominates Past Grand Commander Stevenson.

There being but one nomination, the Grand Commander declared Past Grand Commander Stevenson duly elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing term by acclamation.

FOR GRAND STANDARD BEARER.

Grand Vice-Commander Fenton nominates Past-Commander J. J. Ulley.

There being but one nomination, the Grand Commander declared Comrade Ulley duly elected Grand Standard Bearer for the ensuing term by acclamation.

FOR GRAND SENIOR WORKMAN.

Representative Hudson nominates Past-Commander J. C. Walker, who declines.

Past-Commander MacWatt nominates Comrade W. J. Graham.

There being but one nomination, the Grand Commander declared Comrade Graham duly elected Grand Senior Workman for the ensuing term by acclamation.

GRAND JUNIOR WORKMAN.

The nominations for this office were:

Representative Chas. Robson, of No. 67.
" Thos. Bell, of No. 6.
" Edw. Parnell, Jr., of No. 113.
" Wm. Boulter, of No. 83.
" Wm. Sanders, of No. 115.

A ballot was taken with the following result:

C. Robson receives	28	votes.
E. Parnell "	27	"
T. Bell "	22	"
W. Boulter "	12	"
W. Sanders "	12	"
Total	101	votes.

Necessary for a choice, 51 votes.

None of the candidates having received a majority of the votes cast, the Grand Commander ordered a second ballot to be taken; Comrades Boulter and Sanders withdraw. This ballot resulted as follows:

C. Robson receives	37	votes.
E. Parnell "	36	"
T. Bell "	33	"
Total	106	votes.

Necessary for a choice, 54 votes.

None of the candidates having again received a majority of all the votes cast, Representative Bell withdraws and a third ballot is taken with the following result:

C. Robson receives	63	votes.
E. Parnell "	39	"
Total	102	votes.

Necessary for a choice, 52 votes.

Representative Chas. Robson having received a majority of the votes cast, the Grand Commander declared him duly elected Grand Junior Workman for the ensuing term.

FOR GRAND GUARD.

Grand Junior Workman Graham nominates Comrade S. B. Fell.

There being but one nomination, the Grand Commander declared Comrade Fell duly elected Grand Guard for the ensuing term by acclamation.

FOR GRAND TRUSTEE.

Nominations were made as follows:

Past Commander Hy. Watson, of No. 90.
Representative W. Boulter, of No. 83.
" A. D. Ellis, of No. 59.

A ballot was ordered by the Grand Commander and resulted as follows:

Hy. Watson receives	48	votes.
A. D. Ellis "	28	"
W. Boulter "	20	"
Total	96	votes.

Necessary for a choice, 49 votes.

None of the candidates having received a majority of all the votes cast, Representative Boulter withdraws and the Grand Commander ordered a second ballot to be taken, which resulted as follows:

Hy. Watson receives	56	votes.
A. D. Ellis "	33	"
Total	89	votes.

Necessary for a choice, 45 votes.

Comrade Hy. Watson having received a majority of all the votes cast, the Grand Commander declared him duly elected Grand Trustee to serve for three years.

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Past Commander, Geo. Woltz, of No. 23.
" " N. M. Black, of No 62.
" " J. J. Patterson, of No. 81.
Representative C. Keith, of No. 43.
" W. B. Northrup, of No. 64.
" P. H. Stewart, of No. 16.

A ballot was taken and resulted as follows:

Geo. Woltz receives	65	votes.
N. M. Black "	48	"
P. H. Stewart "	31	"
J. J. Patterson "	22	"
C. Keith "	9	"
W. E. Northrup "	3	"
Total	178	votes.

There being no election, a second ballot was taken and resulted as follows:

Geo. Woltz receives	62	votes.
N. M. Black "	60	"
P. H. Stewart "	23	"
J. J. Patterson "	21	"
Total	166	votes.

Comrades Woltz and Black having received a majority of the votes cast, the Grand Commander declared them duly elected members of the Finance Committee for the ensuing term.

ADVISORY BOARD OF THE ENDOWMNNT FUND.

There were nominated:

Representative W. Boulter, of No. 83.
" A. Hudson, of No. 118.
" A. Wicks, of No. 89.

Four ballots were taken, and on the last one Comrade Hudson had received a majority of all votes cast, whereupon the Grand Commander declared him duly elected for member of the Board for the ensuing term.