

The Supreme Grand Vice-President announced the Mayor of the city, Bro. Thos. Elliott, Past Supreme Grand President, in awaiting with an Address of Welcome from the Corporation of the City of Brantford. Bro. Elliott, on being admitted, was received with three hearty English cheers, and proceeded to read the following address:—

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BRANTFORD, March 9th, 1897.

BRO. J. W. LONDON, *Supreme Grand President.*

*Officers and Delegates of the Supreme Grand Lodge of the Sons of England Benevolent Society:—*

SIRS AND BROTHERS,—It affords me a very great deal of pleasure to tender you all a hearty welcome to the City of Brantford, pleasure in two ways, first being the Chief Magistrate of the City, and the second way as a Past Supreme Grand President of the Society, and an active and well-wishing member of the Order.

I trust that your deliberations while you remain in Session in this City may be characterized by wise consideration of the matters brought before you in the interests of the Society, and that the legislation which may be perfected will redound to the credit of this Grand Lodge and a benefit to the Order as a whole.

The citizens of Brantford are much pleased to have you with them, and hope that you may all carry back to your homes a very favorable impression and many pleasant recollections of the Telephone City.

We are aware of the object of your assembling together in Grand Lodge, and are fully in accord with your actions as a Society which tend to the benefit of mankind.

Brantford has many pleasing features and points of attraction, while it was the home of the Inventor of the Telephone, it has also within its limits many and varied lines of manufacturing industries, some of which are, the Brantford Bicycle Works; the Waterous Engine Works; the Massey-Harris Works; the two factories of Binder Twine; the Pottery; the Carriage Factory; two large Plow Works; the Buck's Stove Foundry; the Soap Works; the Confectionery and Biscuit Works; the Nail Works; the Institution for the Education of the Blind; our Public Schools; and several other institutions I might