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THE SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE.

REPORTS SHOW A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

Good Work Done by the Society—Lt. Col. White Re-Elected President—Reports of the Officers.

The regular annual meeting of the St. George's Society of Ottawa was held in St. John's Hall, on Tuesday evening, March 6th, the president, Lieut.-Col. White, in the chair. Among the members present were Lieut.-Col. Bacon, Rev. Hy. Pollard, Messrs. W. Lake Marler, T. Starmer, Ald. Fred. Cook, Wm. Mills, treasurer; C. D. Fripp, secretary; Harry Bott, Wm. Gliddon, Geo. Low, sr., F. C. Lightfoot, Dr. Mark, C. F. Winter, J. E. Andrews, Geo. Preston, Rev. A. W. Mackay and others.

A GOOD SHOWING.

The annual report of the committee of management, which was read by the secretary, was an able review of the operations of the society for the past year.

In order to carry on the charitable work of the society satisfactorily, it is absolutely necessary that there should be an income of at least \$200 a year from subscriptions. There is no reason why the members of the society should not exceed five hundred.

Your society has been saved a great deal of expense in obtaining a place of meeting by the kindness of the church wardens of St. John's church and Col. White. At a nominal cost the church wardens have granted the society the use of the Sunday School hall for the general meetings.

On motion of the president, seconded by Ald. Cook, the report was adopted.

The report of the treasurer, Mr. Mills, showed the balance at the credit of the society to be \$1,024. The total receipts, including the balance brought forward from last year, was \$1,490, and the expenditure \$435. The report was adopted.

The president read a number of communications which he had received from the presidents of the St. George's Societies in Halifax, Montreal, Hamilton and other cities giving interesting information respecting the doings of the societies in those places.

A cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Col. White for the information.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President, Lt.-Col. Wm. White, (re-elected); first vice-president, Dr. Mark; second vice-president, Geo. Low, sr.; secretary, C. Downing Fripp; assistant secretary, H. Bott; treasurer, Wm. Mills; chaplains, Revs. Messrs. Bogert, Pollard, Mackay, and Winfield; physicians, Drs. C. R. Church, Powell, Inanson, Sweetland, Horsey and Shillington; solicitor, R. A. Bradley.

Committee of management—Lt. Col. Bacon, Ald. Cook, Rev. A. W. Mackay, Messrs. W. L. Marler, C. F. Winter and H. Bott.

Stewards—Messrs. J. E. Andrews, C. E. Preston, H. T. Pritchard and B. Chilton.

Auditors—Messrs. Wm. Parris and C. Medlow.

Rev. Mr. Pollard, in returning thanks for his election, said it was 25 years that evening since his first election as a chaplain of the society.

Prof. E. E. Prince and Mr. A. Ralph were elected members of the society.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

It was decided to attend divine service in St. John's church on the Sunday afternoon preceding St. George's day and to ask the Rev. Mr. Pollard to preach the sermon.

The annual banquet of the society will be held on St. George's day.

Mr. Fripp and Ald. Cook were delegated a committee to raise subscriptions for the purpose of nominating a life director to the Old Mer's Home.

After singing God Save the Queen the meeting adjourned.

STILL A BRITISH SUBJECT.

In the British House of Commons on Jan. 5, in answer to a question by Mr. Dalziel, the Solicitor General stated that "as a general rule a British subject swearing allegiance to a foreign state did not *ipse facto* cease to be a British subject, but if he becomes a naturalized citizen in accordance with the Naturalization act he ceases to be a British subject." The question arose out of inquiry as to the status of the Duke of Edinburgh after taking the oath of fealty to the German Emperor, as reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

Opinions of the Press.

Britannia Still Rules the Waves.
Montreal Gazette.

If half that the critics say is true, the French navy is in a bad way, and the British war alarmists have been making a big fuss with very little reason. There is no doubt that France has been spending a great deal on her navy, but it looks as if she had not got good value for her money. Britannia still rules the waves and seems likely to do so for some time to come.

Hasten the Day.

Toronto Empire.

The mails despatched to England by the White Star steamer *Majestic* were laid down in London several hours before those sent on the New York, of the American line. The *Majestic* landed at Liverpool and the New York at Southampton. In mails, as in freight traffic and passenger travel, the gain of a few hours in time is a great consideration. But the day is not so far off when the Canadian route will knock all others out.

Canada Will Influence British History.

Toronto World.

A commissioner representing The London Times has just made a tour through the Dominion, and in writing to that paper expresses the opinion that the course which affairs take in Canada during the next few years may have a decisive influence upon the direction of British history. The writer touches upon a theme that is beginning to interest Canadians in no small degree. The possibilities that loom up through a closer and more genuine federation of the various countries that form the British Empire are eminently alluring to us Canadians. As soon as the line of the through travel between England and Australia runs through Canada, as it eventually will, the beginning will have been made of a genuine consolidation of the Empire. It is coming and Canadians are well pleased at the prospects.

In conversation use some but not too much ceremony; it teaches others to be courteous, too. Demeanors are commonly paid back in their own coin.

UNDER THE BRITISH FLAG.

THE POWER OF ENGLAND IN DIPLOMACY.

Freemen! Freemen of the World—History in the Schools—Flying the Historic Old Flag.

Some times we, as Canadians, are apt to forget the greatness of the Empire of which we form a part and become lost in the contemplation of the greatness of this vast Dominion. We are to be forgiven for this, for surely no country in the early stages of its development ever presented such a magnificent sight and object lesson to other peoples as we do with our boundless expanse of land, unequalled the world over for fertility, lakes teeming with fish and forming a natural waterway such as is to be found nowhere else in the universe, rich in timber and minerals beyond calculation, with a steadily increasing population and a system of government such as only freemen like ourselves could found and maintain. Small wonder, *westy*, if we are apt to become absorbed in the proud contemplation of such a glorious heritage.

PART OF THE EMPIRE.

But great as Canada is she is only part of that vast Empire which, by the blessing of God, has risen from the ocean and spreads its influence for good over mankind. The writer of this article will never forget a scene witnessed in the capital of France, a few years after the close of the Franco-German war. A meeting of workmen was called, and gathered in the large hall were representatives of workmen's organizations from all the countries of Europe. As the representation of each nationality rose to address the meeting he was respectfully greeted, but when the British delegate rose the vast audience sprang up and cheered again and again, whilst the words "The freemen! the freemen!" were shouted in half a dozen different languages. These words contained the truth, for Britons are and always have been the freemen of the world. What a thrilling story is that of the battle of the Britons to maintain the freedom of their seagirt isle. We have not space to recount here how Roman, Dane and Norman came to conquer, and ended by commingling with the Scotch and Saxon races, becoming imbued with their spirit of freedom, and marrying with them gave to the world the Britons, who at Rannymede, on Bosworth Field at Bannockburn and Stirling Brig, demanded their rights, and, when needs must be, fought like heroes, even although among themselves, until out of the cauldron of internecine strife there arose the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

MORE HISTORY IN THE SCHOOLS.

We would like to see every boy and girl in the schools of Canada asked one day in every week to pause in the rush for learning and contemplate the magnitude of the Empire over which our beloved Sovereign holds sway. Look at the British Isles, forming but a very small speck on the map of the world and placed close to the coast of Europe, whence one would think it would be easy to swoop down on those little islands and capture them in a night. The reverse has been the story in the world's history, for forth from those Isles have gone the navies which swept the seas clear of all foes, and the handful of men who have, against fearful

odds, carried the banner of Britain to victory in a thousand fights. What recked they if at Badajoz or Alma, at Waterloo or Inkerman, the enemy outnumbered them ten to one. They had left the white cliffs of Dover, the sombre vale of Tay, and Shannon's green banks to meet the enemy of their country in his own land, and to save their own dear homes from the sword of the fierce invader. For Britain, home and duty was their watchword, and the handful of British freemen scattered the cohorts of the tyrants like chaff before the wind. The stream of victory has been one of continuity, and if at times an occasional check was given to it, the waters, as it were, gathered up with a mighty effort sent on the current, which flows to-day as it has flown since the days of Creecy and Poitiers.

ENGLAND'S POWER IN DIPLOMACY.

To peruse the columns of a daily paper is to learn at a glance something of the might and majesty of Britain. From the Orient come tidings of the masterhand of British diplomacy settling Chinese and Japanese difficulties, whilst behind the silken glove of the diplomat rides the ever ready navy and from the grim walls of fortresses over which flies the Union Jack, peep the cannons which bid defiance to the world. The Indian Empire, with its teeming millions of dusky warriors to aid in repelling the attacks of Britain's enemies. Verily, Asia is but an appendage of the British Crown.

In Africa the royal standard of Britain floats everywhere, and whether it be on the banks of the ancient Nile or the Zambesi, in Matabeland or the Soudan the British lion has his paw on each fair field, and it is "hands off" to all other nationalities.

Under the southern cross the Australian colonies, New Zealand, Tasmania and the thousands of smaller yet valuable islands are owned by Britain, and under her just and equitable sway a mighty federation of all these southern dependencies will grow up loyal to the old land and making her stronger than ever.

FLYING THE UNION JACK.

On this continent the might of the British Empire is everywhere visible. Not long since the "Sailor's Friend" stood looking at the shipping in New York harbour when a Yankee asked him what he thought of the sight. The reply was, "It is magnificent, but if all the vessels flying the Union Jack were to leave, it would look a miserable show." This was the truth, and so it is the world over. One may travel round the universe and never get from under the folds of the glorious Union Jack. In the councils of the nations the first question is, what will Britain do or say. In the tariff debate at Washington, the naval debate in Paris, the army discussion in Berlin, the Asian policy of St. Petersburg, the Federal bill division in Vienna, the question is always asked, What will Britain say? In Rio the Yankee Admiral recently made a display of fireworks, and threatened to blow somebody to atoms. Nobody was frightened. What the people were anxious about was the action of the British admiral. Everybody knew that the vessels flying the British flag were there for service, not for fireworks display, and had the British admiral ordered the decks to be cleared for action not a ship flying Mello's or Peixoto's colors would have stayed in the harbor a moment longer than was necessary to get steam up and clear out. It is the banner of the free, "the flag that braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze." It flies over us and will forever do so, for unstained our fathers gave it us and so shall we bequeath it.—Orange Sentinel.

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