

An Emigrant's Farewell to England.

Farewell, O Land, wherefrom I drew my all!
 The charm of venture lures me o'er the main;
 Although vehemently thy mem'ries call
 Me sharply back, with yearnings to remain,
 I yet must snap their tendrils, should they cling
 In twisted coils around my very soul,
 Or leave their impress where they grew, to sting
 Me as thy shores fade past each rocky shoal.

Farewell, O England! Dimples in thy breast,
 When seen afar, thy verdant valleys seem;
 Ne'er left a pilgrim an oasis rest
 With more reluctance to be gone, I deem,
 Than now I bid adieu to thee, to cross
 A desert dreary as Sahara's waste,
 Upon whose trackless leagues far weeks to toss
 Before is sighted where my hopes are placed.

Lo! now we part, Ancestral Land and I,
 And distance wraps thee in its veil of haze;
 Each well-known landmark sinks below the sky,
 While tears be-blur my vision as I gaze,
 What but experience can unfold the scroll,
 Whereon is writ life's chapters yet unread,
 O! shall I say, when I have scanned the whole,
 I was not from thee by a mirage led?

Farewell, my country! Bear, O waves, the words,
 As on ye leap in gambols droll toward
 The caves and crannies in the cliff that girds
 The strand, where yonder beacon burns to guard
 Such luckless ships as the enamoured sea
 Would cast as tributes into England's lap,
 With adoration's prodigality,—
 The trophies of its power, through dire mishap.

Farewell! farewell!! Though strained shall be the bond
 Of cordial union, which affections bind
 To kinship's kind remembrance, when beyond
 The influence of friends I leave behind,
 Allegiance of my love to England's name—
 So well deserving of a patriot's love—
 My truthful lips or acts shall ne'er disclaim;
 My birthright yields me prestige where I rove.

Farewell! I, absent, love thee none the less,
 My heart is thine. God prosper thee and bless!

WILL T. JAMES.

Windsor Lodge, Toronto.

The Anniversary Concert of Lodge St. George

Was held on Monday November, 12th, at St. George's Hall, Toronto, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the lodge. The concert was a great success in every particular and the committee are to be congratulated on the able manner in which they carried out all the arrangements. The artists were Mrs. S. H. Marchee, Miss Glover, Miss Z. Walters, Mr. J. H. Denison and Bro. J. Lister Nichols. "The Sunflower Quartette" gave a parody on "Mary had a little Lamb," which was very amusing and brought down the house. The solo violin playing of Prof. Donville, was much appreciated while the rendering of several selections of Bro. Claxton's orchestra was an appreciable addition to what was a most enjoyable entertainment. It is proposed by the lodge to have several open meetings during the winter, at which concerts will be given, the first will probably take place in January, when something entirely novel will be introduced. The musical committee consisted of Bro. F. H. Torrington, our veteran Toronto musical conductor, Wm. McCartney, Thos. Claxton, T. A. Blakeley, J. Lister Nichols, Geo. Catto and C. E. Swait.

Open Council.

DUES AND BENEFITS.

To the Editor:—

I wish to say a word or two on the principle of "every member getting another, and the Lodge thereby duplicating itself."

That principle is good provided it could be carried out practically—but this indiscriminate button-holing a man because he can boast of British ancestry and inducing him to join our ranks is something I entirely condemn.

If we wish to maintain the integrity of our Order we must have *good men and only good men*. Better have a Lodge of fifteen good, than fifty indifferent members. Experience has instilled this sentiment. This brings me to a question which I hope to see thoroughly ventilated through "our paper." I refer to the graded scale of subscriptions or dues. When I have spotted a man of good healthy frame, sound judgment, and strict morals (an Englishman of course) I cautiously approach him with a double motive (viz.), to get him to subscribe for the ANGLO-SAXON and thereby prepare him with a desire to become a member and to that end I place a copy in his hand and as our "aims and objects" at once meets his eye the figures of course attract his attention first. Then almost invariably the question comes, "do those who pay most get the largest benefit?" I tell him to read carefully and I will talk to him later, and the argument he brings is that it is not based on equitable principles. Holding the same views I cannot argue the point and I have often desired to get the general opinion of members on the question through the medium of your columns. I will therefore open the discussion. Of course the more years a man lives the nearer he is to the end of life's journey, and therefore no objection is taken to a graded entrance fee, but I contend the man of 50 is not as likely to be on the funds as the man of from 15 to 30. The records of the Bedford Lodge established that fact and the result is the same in all other lodges as far as I can be informed. Now if the reverse was the case then the dues should advance with the age. Is that sound reasoning? Then again, Grand Lodge has assumed the payment of the death benefit, and the individual assessments are uniform! That even more than justifies the reason for a uniform rate of dues. There is certainly some modification needed here, and the sooner the better. Hoping the point will be taken up by abler men than myself, I remain

Yours Fraternally,

W. E. WILKINSON,

Bedford Lodge, No. 21, Woodstock.

A Cheering Letter.

To the Editor:—

Having been away from home now for some weeks I am afraid I have neglected giving you an account of our Lodge doings up this way, but all the same I had the furtherance of our beloved Order at heart, and was determined to leave another Lodge here in Guelph before I left. I am now proud to say that Lodge Royal City, No. 73, has been started on a good foundation. Our R. W. G. Sec. has most likely informed you of the opening on the 8th of Nov. We commenced with twelve members; we have now had three meetings and have initiated 7 members each night, making a total of 33, with one more meeting before the charter month closes, when we hope to make it up to 40, and then I have no doubt that the young Lodge will soon make itself known and become one of the strongest Lodges in the province. The newly formed brethren are all working with a will and will soon let some of their elder brethren see that if hitherto they have held aloof from the Order, their indifference is to continue no longer.

Last night we initiated among our number the editor of the Guelph Mercury, a solid S. O. E. We had six initia-