

AGAINST AMALGAMATION.

LETTER FROM J. W. CARTER, SUP. GRAND SECRETARY.

Reasons Why Amalgamation Between the S. O. E. and Sons of St. George is not Desirable.—Both Doing Good Work in Their Own Sphere.

Editor ANGLO-SAXON: In view of the discussion now going on in your paper in the matter of amalgamating the Order Sons of St. George with the Sons of England, I beg to forward you copy of my report to Supreme Grand Lodge, February, 1882, upon this very question, which if you will kindly publish, will throw some light on the matter.

I might say my opinions are the same to-day on the subject of amalgamation, as they were at that time; in fact I might say they are stronger. The order Sons of St. George have not kept their word.

There is no necessity for the order Sons of St. George in Canada. There is for the Sons of England in the States, as both orders are fulfilling a mission, suited to the conditions and peculiarities of each country. Each order has a work of its own to perform, and can perform that work on their own territory without interfering with the territory of each other.

The order Sons of St. George is doing good work, and has our best wishes, but we do not, and cannot appreciate any attempt made by that order to oppose or obstruct the progress of the Sons of England, "as was done in one instance," in British Columbia. We deprecate opposition, discourage disloyalty, and when the order Sons of St. George attempted to squeeze out the Sons of England in Victoria, B.C., through some disaffected members, we thought it unkind, and beneath such an honorable society.

The report will speak for itself therefore, I need not explain it.

JOHN W. CARTER, Supreme Grand Secretary. Toronto, 22 July, 1882.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO MEET THE ORDER SONS OF ST. GEORGE OF THE UNITED STATES:—

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge, Sons of England Benevolent Society:

Brethren,—In accordance with the resolution passed at the last Grand Lodge Session, held in the City of Toronto, the M. W. Grand President and myself met, by previous arrangement, the R. W. Grand President and R. W. Grand Secretary, order Sons of St. George, in the City of Buffalo, on Monday, July 4th, 1881, and without any loss of time proceeded to discuss the object of the meeting.

Your honorable body will perceive, that unless some course was adopted whereby we could become acquainted with the rituals and secret work of each order, any discussion upon the question of affiliation would be useless, as the whole matter rested upon the question—Was there anything in the secret workings of a Lodge which prevented the members of one Order visiting the other.

I had, previous to our visit, pointed out this difficulty, and suggested that each party of the Committee should be elected honorary members of each Order, so that we could, without infringing upon either Constitution, examine the rituals of each Institution. This suggestion was thought too cumbersome, and a suggestion from the officers of the Sons of St. George, that we bind ourselves, as honorable men, to the faithful keeping of whatever we saw, heard, or read, was accepted by your M. W. Grand President; and an agreement (a copy of which is submitted with this report) was drawn up, and duly and properly signed by the Grand Lodge officers of the Order Sons of St. George, and the Grand Officers of the Sons of England.

Your honorable body will not expect under the circumstances and conditions of that agreement, that we should communicate one word contained in those Rituals, but only give our opinion, based

upon the facts brought before our notice.

The M. W. Grand President and myself spent several hours in examining the Rituals of the Order Sons of St. George, and, with the exception of one single paragraph in the whole of the Rituals, beg to report that there is nothing to prevent an affiliation of the Sons of England with the Order Sons of St. George. On the other hand, the officers of the Order Sons of St. George, after carefully examining our Rituals, saw great difficulties in the way of amalgamation, without an entire change in the whole system of our work; or, in other words, while the members of the Sons of England could, without any difficulty, or violating any constitutional principle involved in the secret work of the Sons of St. George, visit, and be received as Brethren in their Lodges, the members of the Sons of St. George could not, by any possible means, enter our Lodge room, witness our Initiatory Ceremony, or comply with the conditions and regulations of our Institution.

The only way to solve the difficulty was very frankly and openly suggested by the officers of the Sons of St. George, which, while it did not, by word or intent, pretend to belittle or lower the importance and dignity of our Institution, nevertheless was received with very great diffidence on the part of your Grand Lodge Officers.

The suggestion was, that we all become Sons of St. George, or in other words, that we haul down our own standard, hand over the results of our seven years' experience, with what ready cash, we have, and they would, very frankly and Brotherly, open wide their arms and give us a very hearty and glad welcome. Of course, your honorable body will know that we had not the power to go so far as to sign articles of agreement, and, while we were pleased with the candid and free offer of our Brother Englishmen of the United States, we, nevertheless, thought there was something of the cool and calculating Yankee about it, and we preferred laying the matter over for further consideration.

We found that the Union Jack was honored; that the Queen was held in great veneration—many of the Lodge rooms having portraits of the Queen hung in them. We found that the same feelings of love to the Motherland animated the breasts of Englishmen in the sister Order, as in our own. We found that the noble deeds and memories of the old land were cherished and esteemed by these gentlemen; but we also found that the glorious old Union Jack was shaded by the Stars and Stripes; that our noble Queen was not the reigning monarch under which they lived; and that while they loved England, they loved America better, as the country of their adoption. They argued (and rightly too), that it was their duty to be faithful and true to the land of their adoption; that where their interests and homes were, there they should help to build up, strengthen and obey the laws of the land. Your Committee encouraged them in this idea, congratulated them on their success in life, urged them to greater efforts for the uniting of Englishmen together (while not for national purposes), for social and pecuniary advantages, and we wished them Heaven's richest blessings.

The Joint Committee also consulted several hours on the benefit that would follow an international travelling passport or card, which would admit members of one Order visiting the other, and which would place members of one Order under the care and protection of the other. But here also difficulties stood in the way, though these difficulties may in time be removed.

The all-important question, and which your Grand Lodge Officers respectfully desire to leave in the hands of this honorable body, is, Are they prepared to amalgamate with the order Sons of St. George, under the conditions before mentioned.

The Institution could be worked as one, but the national part would be dropped. The head quarters would be in the United States, but the Grand Lodge would be movable. The same machinery could work both Institutions, and if amalgamated, Canada would be in districts, and under the charge of district deputies.

No doubt a grand Institution of Englishmen could be established that would be second to no Institution in the world. The Grand Lodge Officers of the order Sons of St. George were true types of Englishmen, earnestly devoted to their work, passionately fond of their countrymen, and gentlemen in the truest sense of the word. They entertained your Committee in the very best of spirit and good will.

The M. W. Grand President, Bro. Venables, did what he thought was right in keeping up the dignity of our Institution by entertaining the officers of the Sons of St. George. The cost of the visit to Buffalo was \$48.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN W. CARTER, Grand Secretary.

S. O. E. NAVAL BRIGADE.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO No. 1 Co., 2ND BATTALION.

An Interesting Ceremonial at Hamilton in the Presence of a Large and Appreciative Audience—Cutlass Drill.

For a long time the members of No. 1 Company, 2nd Battalion, Sons of England Naval Brigade, Hamilton, had been looking forward with pleasure to the interesting event—the presentation of the colors—which recently took place in their hall, No. 12 McNab street north. The hall was becomingly decorated with British and Canadian flags of various sizes. There was a large audience, all of whom seemed to enjoy the proceedings.

Shortly after 8.30 Mr. Wm. Hunt, the District Deputy of the Sons of England, took the chair, and on the platform with him were Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Forneret, Mr. D. Tyler,

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of the Sons of England Naval Brigade, of Toronto, and Mr. Edward F. Smith, Past President of the Rose of England Lodge.

The chairman made a few remarks and Rev. Mr. Forneret conducted the opening prayer and delivered a short address, thanking the officers and men for the honor conferred upon Mrs. Forneret and himself by asking them to present the colors. The chairman then introduced the Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Geo. Tyler, who made a few remarks, and then Mrs. Forneret came forward and

PRESENTED THE COLORS to Messrs. R. Webber, 2nd Lieut. of the Naval Brigade, and Reuben Trin, 3rd Lieut. The colors consisted of Union Jack, the Royal colors, and the white ensign. The latter flag bore a St. George's Cross with the Canadian Arms in the lower corner.

Both flags are made of silk, surmounted by a neat crown. Both the recipients knelt on receiving the colors, while the Sons of England Band, under the leadership of Mr. W. E. Sheppard, played the National Anthem, and three hearty cheers were given for the Queen.

After the ceremony short speeches were delivered by the gentleman on the platform, and a vote of thanks to Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Forneret was moved by Mr. Ed. F. Smith, of the Rose of England Lodge, seconded by Mr. Wm. White, of Britannia Lodge. This was unanimously carried and replied to. So concluded the ceremony of presenting the colors.

During the evening THE NAVAL BRIGADE, under their commander, Mr. Wm. Lockie, gave several exhibitions of drill, among others the cutlass drill, which was applauded. The Sons of England Band rendered a choice programme for the promenade concert.

Explorer Stanley on the Empire.

Henry M. Stanley in his last address to London electors in the recent campaign in Great Britain is for the maintenance, the spread, the dignity, the usefulness of the British Empire. I believe that we Englishmen are working out the greatest destiny which any race has ever fulfilled; but we must go on, or we shall go back. There must be firm and steady guidance in Downing street, there must be an invincible fleet upon the seas if trade is to expand and emigrants to spread and settle, and the name of England still to be revered in every quarter of the globe. In this island, in this great city alone, is a treasure of life and wealth such as no nation ever had to guard before."

British Sentiment in Montreal.

Commenting on the remarks of the ANGLO-SAXON on a paragraph in the Orillia Packet on the recent flag incident in Montreal the Packet says: " * * * For years we have noticed that on almost every occasion when bunting was displayed in Montreal, the Stars and Stripes and Tricolour were quite as conspicuous as the "Meteor flag," if not more so. When a prelate of the Reformed Church of England was asked why he gave such prominence to the republican ensign in his parochial entertainments, his reply was a two-column justification of the practice in Montreal. When an Ulsterman was spoken to on the subject, his reply was, Oh, we must do it—in Montreal." Look through the files of that excellent publication, the Dominion Illustrated, and see how far the Packet is astray in assuming that the people

of that city are uncertain which flag is their own. That there is a "splendid British sentiment in Montreal" we do not doubt, but it is so latent and the contempt for toadyism so mute, "that the only sound she gives, is when some heart indignant breaks, to show that still she lives."

LABOUCHERE AND GREATER BRITAIN.

The Colonies, in His Opinion, Worth "Not a Single Brass Farthing".

The following communication signed "Radical Unionist," appears in the London Times: As Mr. H. Labouchere is being loudly talked of as a member of the next Gladstonian Cabinet, it will be interesting to know what the coming Minister's views on colonial matters are.

Writing in Truth, on March 20, 1891, Mr. Labouchere says:—"What I want to know.—Is England the better for her colonies? Not a single brass farthing. On the contrary, she would be infinitely richer, infinitely, superinfinitely, more respectable, more respected, and, beyond all comparison, more powerful without them.

Why, the only one of the colonies she has had that is a feather in her cap is the United States of America. This independent colony, because it is independent, and great, and powerful, and progressive, really is a credit to the mother country. But, as for the others, I don't see that we get much credit out of them while they remain in a state of impotent (and perpetually squalling) babyhood, and if we get no credit out of them, I am sure we get no cash.

On the contrary we are always being compelled to put our hands in our pockets on account of these British bantlings, who will never be anything but bantlings and ne'er-do-weels, till they learn to set up for themselves and run on their own legs."

And so on for four more paragraphs, What an admirable Colonial Secretary Mr. Labouchere would make! The Gladstonian candidate for this constituency (Mid Oxen) has several times asserted that he is in favor of giving Ireland exactly the same kind of Home Rule that Canada enjoys. It is just as well, therefore, to know beforehand the exact value of our Colonial Empire in Gladstonian eyes.

The King of Roumania in London

The King of Roumania during his stay in London, visited some of the London docks. Afterwards he paid a visit to the Mansion-house, and in the absence, in Wales, of the Lord Mayor, was received by Alderman Sir Andrew Lusk, who was Lord Mayor in 1874, when his Majesty—then Prince Charles of Roumania—last visited the City.

The King and his Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Edinburgh, the Crown Prince of Roumania, and the Princess Marie of Edinburgh, also visited the loan collection of pictures at the Guildhall.

In the afternoon the party visited the Imperial Institute, and before leaving, the King of Roumania and the Duke and the Duchess of Edinburgh desired that their names should be enrolled as life Fellows of the Institute. The King of Roumania dined with the Duke and the Duchess of Edinburgh, at Clarence-house.

On the Sunday before his Majesty's departure, the King, accompanied by Princess Louise, (Marchioness of Lorne), the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Prince of Hohenzollern, paid a visit to the Marquis of Salisbury at Hatfield.

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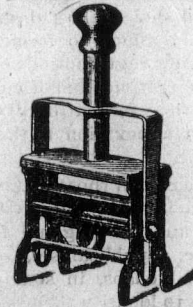
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