A TIMELY LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS.

By Kitty Clover.

Blessed old Santa Claus, king of delights,
What are you doing, these long, busy nights?
Filling your budget with trinkets and toys,
Wonderful gifts for the girls and the boys?
While you are planning for everything nice,
Pray, may I give you a bit of advice?

Don't take it hard, if I say in your ear,
Santa, thought you were partial last year,
Loading the rich folks with everything gay,
Snubbing some poor ones who came in your way;
Now, of all times in the year, I am sure
This is the time to remember the poor.

Plenty of children there are in our city
Who have no father or mother to pity,
Plenty of people whose toiling and heeding
Scarcely can keep all their dear ones from needing.
Now, if I came, as you do, each December,
These are the ones I should surely remember.

Little red hands, that are aching and cold,
You should have mittens, your fingers to hold;
Poor little feet, with your frost-bitten toes,
You should be clothed in the warmest of hose;
On the dark hearth I would kindle a light,
Till the sad faces grew happy and bright.

Once, on a beautiful Christmas, you know,
Jesus, the Saviour, was born here below;
Patiently stooping to pain and distress,
So that the needy and poor he might bless;
Now, if we love him, he bids us to feed
All His poor brothers and sisters that need.

Blessed old Santa! I thought, if you knew it,
You would remember, and certainly do it,
This year at least, when you empty your pack,
Give to them most who the most seem to lack;
But,—if you chance to have anything over,
Please bring a gift to your friend, Kitty Clover.

NIAGARA FALLS ENGLISHMEN

CELEBRATES THEIR ANNIVERSARY.

Norwich Lodge, No. 100, held their annual banquet in the town hall. About 200 invitations were sent out, and at 8 o'clock fully 300 of the members and their friends were in the hall, which was handsomely decorated for the occasion. Viewed from the entrance, the stage was a perfect bower of beauty. Across the top was a large streamer, on which was printed "S. O. E., Norwich Lodge, No. 100." In the centre of the arch was a portrait of Her Majesty, the Queen, framed with a garland of red and white roses. On either side were the portraits of the Prince and Princess of Wales. At the rear of the stage was a large Union Jack, and smaller flags were placed in great profusion all around the hall.

Along the left side of the hall were two long tables, reaching from front to rear, and on the other side was a single table providing room for at least thirty guests. These tables groaned under the weight of delicacies, but were not to be relieved till a later hour.

Mr. Robert Little was chosen to act as chairman for the evening, and just here we might say that Mr. Little filled that important position to perfection. His witty remarks frequently brought down the house, and after the meeting several people were heard to say: "We'll have him again, he's a daisy." The programme opened with an address by Rev. Brother Fatt S. D. D., of Merriton, who spoke of the benefits of the society, and gave much valuable information about the brotherhood of sons which extends throughout the length and breadth of the British Empire. He was listened to with wrapt attention and on conclusion was loudly applauded.

The next on the programme was a song by Misses Cook, Carter and Stephens, followed by instrumental by Miss G. Fuller and Miss May Sills, both of which were well received.

Mr. Wm. Clarke rendered a solo which was much appreciated as was evidenced by him being recalled.

Miss Edith Lacy gave a recitation entitled, "The Minister's Mistake," and was loudly enchored. She responded with, "What Biddy said at the Police Court."

The last item on Part I of the programme, was a concertina solo by Mr. Geo. Fuller, accompanied by Mrs. Jagoe on the piano. Mr. Fuller also received a hearty encore.

Then commenced what Chairman Little part of the programme, the pillaging of the overburdened tables. Every chair was speedily occupied and for two hours all was a buzz of merriment and laughter. The Daughters of England, on whom devolved the labor of providing the sumptuous repast, attended to the wants of the guests. The success of the evening was greatly owing to the assistance rendered by the ladies

After ample justice had been done to the good things on the table, Part II, of the programme was commenced. Bro. W. P. Lyons who was called on for an address, devoted his remarks almost entirely to the history and progress of Norwich Lodge. It was, he said, in September, 1889, that the subject of organizing, was just broached, but it was not till November 12 of that year, that the organization meeting was held in C. Bowen's hall. He then traced the history step by step, to the present time, and his interesting subject was listened to with the closest attention. Mrs. R. Stone followed with a song which was well received.

Mr. J. Smithers effectively rendered the patriotic song, "That's What an Englishman's Made of" and after much applause was induced to respond to a hearty encore. The next on the programme was a song by Miss Aggie Carter, whose sweet voice needs no comment.

Ald. Peckham favored the audience with a bass solo which was well received.

An instrumental duet by Mrs. Stone and Miss Payne was encored.

The next was a well rendered recitation by Miss Greenman.

Mrs. Bush sang a solo in good voice, which was much appreciated.

Mr. Wm. Clarke was again called and had to respond to two encores.

The next was an instrumental duet by Misses Brown and Fuller, which evoked well merited applause.

Miss Maggie Payne, who has a very sweet voice, sang a solo and was loudly encored.

The chairman then made a brief and happy speech and ventured to hope that next year there would be another gathering of a similar nature. The programme was concluded by the hearty singing of God Save the Queen, led by the members of Norwich Lodge, who had gathered on the platform for that purpose, and all dispersed, feeling that they had indeed spent a very enjoyable evening.

FRATERNAL VISIT TO INGERSOLL.

The Sons of England Lodge of this town was paid a fraternal visit by members of the societies from St. Thomas and Aylmer. After the reception in the Lodge room and after business being transacted (including four propositions) the members took possession of the dining room of the Mansion House, where the tables were laden with the things that make an Englishman happy. Such was the spread that Mr. Lavin had provided in his usual style. After the inner man had been satisfied and the tables were cleared, Bro. S. King was called to the chair. The chairman then called on the brothers present to rise and drink to the ever loyal toast (the Queen, after which Bro. H. Jones sang the "Flag of Old England." "The Grand Lodge of Canada" was ably responded to by Bro. D. D., J. W. Cudlipp, who gave an interesting sketch of the Grand Lodge and its affairs, and the society now numbers 15,000. "Visiting Brothers" was responded to by Brother Thos. Stone (treasurer of Truro Lodge, St. Thomas, Jas. Hoar, secretary), and A. Culvert and Bro. Hollands of Aylmer, replied to it with pleasure at meeting with their Ingersoll brethren, and expressed the hope that it would not be long before they would have a visit from the members of Lodge Imperial. Bro. G. Roberts then gave a song. In response to "The Dominion of Canada and the Governor General of Canada," Bro. Hardcastle thanked the brethren for coupling his name with the toast just given, and said that there was one thing that an Englishman was proud of (whether Grit or Tory), and that was the connection of Canada with old England. He would advise all Englishmen here to-night to work for the society assembled here for it was patriotic in all its work. Dr. Rogers being called on, gave the comic song, "The Christening of the Man With Many Names," which brought down the house.

"The Country we Live in" brought Bro. Grigg to his feet, and he gave an interesting account of a visit he paid to England after living here for 30 years. He concluded by giving one of his own recitations on the "Invasion of Woodstock by way of Beachville."

The chairman, Bro. King, rendered in excellent style "The Death of Nelson," and for an encore "The Dutchman's Wife."

"Canada, the Land we Live in," was responded to by Bro. Bellamy, in his usual good style.

Songs were also rendered by Bros. C. W. Bowman and Bro. Tay, who delighted the party with his comic songs, entitled, "A Night With the Baby," and "Don't You Know."

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

SONS OF ENGLAND NOTES.

Lodge Shakespear, No. 164, held a social entertainment at the close of regular lodge meeting, November 25th, at S. O. E. Hall. The D. D. and president of Westward Ho, and other visiting members from other lodges were present, doing their share towards disposing of the good things provided for the occasion. This, though somewhat of a new departure, is an example worthy of following, as nothing is more conductive to fraternity of spirit amongst Englishmen than a good feed, a warm room, and congenial companions.

"The coming of age" of the society bids fair to put another notch in the post, if we may judge anything from the enthusiasm with which the event is taken up by the lodges.

It is proposed to hold a social gathering of members, their families and friends, at S. O. E. Hall. Vocal and instrumental music, speeches, and so forth, all provided from talent within the Order, followed by light refreshments, catered by the ladies of the D. O. E., is so far the programme set forth.

Readers of the SAXON will form the idea that the S. O. E. of Winnipeg are given over entirely to feasts and entertainments, but such is not altogether the case, for though the 23rd or 24th instant will likely witness a great Christmas Drawing for turkeys, geese and joints of meat, followed by a Christmas tree entertainment of a mammoth scale. Still before this comes off, we are promised a somewhat sensational episode before an arbitration committee.

All this tends to show the Winnipeg Sons are alive, though, thanks to the powers, so far, very few of them are kicking.

ORILLIA, ONT.

Lodge Rose of Couchicking, No. 23, having been burnt out, will meet until further notice in the Orange Hall, on the second and fourth Mondays in the month. After the fire the trustees went over the ruin and found that the S. O. E. lodge room was not totally destroyed, the furniture, regalia, etc., being damaged, but much can be utilized. The organ valued at $150, will cost about $50 to repair. The silver tankard valued at $70 and won by the Orillia brethren at a tug of war contest at the large S. O. E. demonstration held in Orillia, a few years ago, was also rescued in a slightly bruised state.

We have received our new Charters from the S. G. Secretary, and have them handsomely framed in oak and hung in our new quarters.

A copy of the "Anglo-Saxon" is placed regularly on the tables of the Orillia Mechanics Institute for the perusal of the public.

H. R. CHANNEN.

CARLETON PLACE.

Beaconsfield Lodge had an important night in their lodge room, Monday, the 25th of November. District Deputy H. R. Neapole of Pembroke, gave it eclat and edification, his address being skilfully pressed facts and sentiments like the product of the blue book. He witnessed an initiation, and took occasion to congratulate President Bate on his vive voce mastery of the Ritual—an exploit unique in this jurisdiction. After the lodge was closed refreshments were served and a merry programme given, which included a number of highly animated and dramatic pieces by a new artist in the person of Mr. James Rowledge. Visitors were present from Smith's Falls and Almonte.

President Jas. G. Bate presided at the entertainment after the close of the lodge. A varied and interesting programme was well carried out. We are glad to learn that Beaconsfield Lodge is doing well and adding to its membership.

It is now computed that on a general average, no fewer than 8,000 persons disappear yearly in various parts of the British Empire, and are never seen or heard of again. This makes no allowance for the class whose disappearance passes unnoticed because they have no friends; it deals only with people who vanish from their homes and are sought after more or less diligently, yet concerning whom neither a footprint, nor an echo, nor conjecture is never heard.

ART AND LITERATURE IN CANADA.

There are cynics who say that there is no public opinion in Canada, no literature. At a dinner given recently by the publishers of Toronto to Mr. Hall Caine, the great novelist, this question was discussed, and a leading publisher remarked that literature would never make rapid advance in this country because it is difficult to induce Canadians to read the works of a Canadian author. This statement, however, is not true with regard to *Toronto Saturday Night*, which has as large a circulation as any newspaper of its class in America. Its Christmas Number, which will be issued Dec. 1, is the eighth in a series of art numbers. It will be accompanied this year by five splendid colored supplements; the largest, a reproduction of a painting by a Canadian artist, done specially for *Saturday Night*, is 24 x 33 inches in size. Its title is "Champlain the Explorer," and depicts him and a flotilla of war canoes entering the mouth of a river on Lake Huron. The picture has been praised by the Historical Association as the most interesting and artistic attempt ever made to carry us back to the old days when Canada was little more than a geographical term. The other four pictures are done in sixteen colors, and the book itself, consisting of over forty pages, contains the four prize stories in the *Saturday Night* competition. Following is a list of contents:

1st prize, "A Reconnaissance at Fort Ellice," by William Bleasdell Cameron. Illustrations by J. C. Innes.

2nd prize, "Boh Shwey's Ruby," by W. A. Fraser. Illustrations from photographs.

3rd prize, "A Matter of Necessity," by John McCrae. Illustrations by F. M. Bell-Smith, R.C.A.

4th prize, "Widow Molony," by J. C. Innes. Illustrations by the author.

"Jim Lancey's Pass," by E. E. Sheppard. Illustrated.

"From the Sublime," by Warren H. Warren Illustrations by G. A. Reid, R.C.A.

"Nanton's Sister," by Alice Ashworth. Illustrated.

"Hendershott of Strathgannon," by Joe Clark. Illustrations by Carl Ahrens, A.R.C.A., and Beatrice Sullivan.

"So-Long," an etching by "Don."

"Hawkie's Dream," (poem), by Alexander McLachlan.

"The Love of the World Detected," (poem), by William Cowper. Illustrations by J. W. Bengough.

"Life of Champlain," by George Stewart, M.A., D.C.L.

"As a Little Child," (poem), by Evelyn Durand.

"A Song," (poem), by Gertrude Bartlett.

The price of the number, postpaid to any address, in a pasteboard tube to protect it from damage in the mails, is 50 cents, and in point of literary excellence and the quantity and quality of the supplements it far exceeds anything offered by foreign holiday publications. Mr. James L. Hughes, Inspector of Schools for Toronto, has said that the Champlain picture should be framed and hung in "every schoolroom in Canada," and schoolteachers everywhere should take an interest in bringing it before the public. Teachers and young people can do a good work by sending for a Christmas Number of *Saturday Night*, and a better work by acting as agent for it and inducing their neighbors to send for it as well. A liberal commission is allowed. Address the Sheppard Publishing Company, Limited, Adelaide Street west, Toronto. The price of the regular edition of *Saturday Night*, which undoubtedly stands alone as Canada's most interesting and thoroughly high-class illustrated weekly, is $2 per year.

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J. W. Cudlipp, Box 207 Ingersoll.
Thos. Jackson, Clinton.
S. F. Passmore, Brantford.
Rev. F. H. Fatt, Merritton.
W. H. Buscombe, Hamilton.
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W. Taylor, Barrie.
G. W. Sibbett, Bracebridge.
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NEW BRUNSWICK.

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ENGLAND.

Bro. A. J. Craston—Nichol's Building, Playhouse Yard, Golden Lane, Barbican, London, E.C.

It is significant of the prevalence of the bicycle craze in England, that mothers are beginning to advertise for governesses who can ride a bicycle and who can accompany their daughters on wheeling expeditions. Perhaps a new remunerative occupation may open up for women in the form of cycling chaperonage.

The London News Budget, says: "Surprise was expressed recently that the Princess of Wales spoke with a foreign accent. That she said 'shanel' for 'channel' amazed the recorder of a conversation with her. But where does the surprise come in? The Princess writes English wonderfully well for a foreigner. But a foreigner she is, and, in her accent, must remain."

The area of the whole Dominion is about 3,456,383 square miles, and it seems therefore that nearly one-third still remains unexplored. The whole of Europe is larger than the whole of Canada by only 300,000 square miles, and the United Kingdom could be contained thirty times over in the Dominion. Such facts as these are impressive, and give rise to speculations regarding the future possibilities and resources of the country.

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THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST.

HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

All even-numbered sections of Dominion Lands in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories, except 8 and 26, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or for other purposes may be homesteaded by any person who is sole head of a family, or any male over eighteen years of age, to the extent of one quarter-section of 160 acres, more or less.

ENTRY.

Entry may be made personally at the local office for the District in which the land to be taken is situate, or if the homesteader desires he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, receive authority for some one to make the entry for him. A fee of $10 is charged for an ordinary homestead entry; but for lands which have been occupied an additional fee of $10 is chargeable to meet inspection and cancellation charges.

HOMESTEAD DUTIES.

Under the present law homestead duties must be performed in the following way, namely, by three years' cultivation and residence, during which the settler may not be absent more than six months in any one year without forfeiting the entry.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT

May be made at the end of three years, before the local agent, or the homestead in spector. Before making application for patent the settler must give six months' notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands of his intention to do so. When, for convenience of the settler, application for patent is made before a homestead inspector, a fee of $5 is chargeable.

INFORMATION.

Newly arrived immigrants will receive at any Dominion Lands Office in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories information as to the lands that are open for entry, and from the officers in charge, free of expense, advice and assistance in securing lands to suit them; and full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, and copies of these Regulations, as well as those respecting Dominion Lands in the Railway Belt in British Columbia, may be obtained upon application to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior (Immigration Branch) Ottawa; the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Lands Agents in Manitoba or the Northwest Territores.

N.B.—In addition to Free Grant Lands, to which the Regulations above stated refer, thousands of acres of most desirable lands are available for lease or purchase, on easy terms, from railroad and other corporations and private firms.

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Yours faithfully,
H. F. ATWELL.

The Travellers' Safe-Guard.

AMAGAUDUS POND, N.S., Jan. 27, '90.
W. H. COMSTOCK, Brockville, Ont.
DEAR SIR,—For many years, I have been a firm believer in your "Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills." Not with a blind faith, but a confidence wrought by an actual personal experience of their value and merit. My business is such that I spend much of my time away from home, and I would not consider my travelling outfit complete without a box of Morse's Pills. Yours, &c.,
M. R. McINNIS.

A valuable Article sells well.

BORACHOIS HARBOR, N.S., Jan. 13, '90.
W. H. COMSTOCK, Brockville, Ont.
DEAR SIR,—This is to certify that I deal in Patent Medicines, including various kinds of Pills. I sell more of the Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills than of all the others combined. Their sales I find are still increasing. Yours, &c.,
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