

N. B. BRETHREN AT CHURCH.

ELOQUENT SERMON BY REV. BRO. G. GOODRIDGE ROBERTS.

The Sons of England of New Brunswick Listen to a National and Historic Address.

Sunday, the 20th of August, being the second anniversary of the organization of Islington Lodge, No. 151, of Fredericton, N. B., the members met at their lodge room in full dress, and at 3.30 p.m., headed by the full band of the Royal Canadian Regiment marched to the pretty little parish church, of which the chaplain of Islington is the Rector, and listened to a sermon appropriate to the occasion.

The church was packed to its utmost capacity, and the services were conducted with great earnestness. The hymns sung were very appropriate.

The parade was marshalled to and from the church by our worthy Bro. Mayor Beckwith; the music furnished by the band was "Merry Maids of England" and "Jubilee."

The appearance presented by the members, and their correct marching was very favorable commented upon. A much larger number would have attended if the notice of such parade had been given in time, many of the members being absent from home. The following is the

SERMON:

"Now, therefore, if ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth is Mine: and ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and an holy Nation."—Exodus xix, 5 and 6 v.

St. Peter declares to us that the Christian Church has become heir to all those promises, those titles and privileges and honours which the Almighty had conferred upon His ancient church and people. Those who have been made members of it in Holy Baptism, if they are "Israelites indeed," who obey the voice of their Eternal King and keep His covenant, are unto Him "a kingdom of priests and an holy nation." The Jews, as a nation, were God's chosen people. He set them apart from other nations that they should exalt His name and keep alive His truth in all the world, that they and their whole history should typify the Christian church, that from them should come forth the promised woman who should bring forth the seed of the man, and so in them should be the nations of the earth be blessed. He calls them, in my text, "a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people." But He adds, "All the earth is Mine." We cannot doubt that God's fatherly hand was over all the nations of the men whom He had made, though this one was favoured above all the rest, and so now He is Supreme Ruler over all the earth, but he deals specially with Christian nations by a direct paternal rule which corrects them in mercy, which warns them when they go astray, which bears with them and pleads with them, and has long patience with them, and strives to lead them to their true and lasting place. He has given to special nations in the past the post of honour in His service for the advancement of His Kingdom on the earth, and they have fallen from their high estate, through worldliness and disobedience. He has given it now to the

WHOLE ENGLISH-SPEAKING RACE, the mother and representative of which is England, and as we commemorate to-day in God's house and by God's worship the anniversary of our beloved society of the Sons of England, it is not unfitting that I should endeavour, first, briefly to enumerate some of the marks and proofs of England's greatness, of her claims to our gratitude our love, our honour and our pride, that we may not only be drawn closer together in the bonds of brotherhood, but also may learn better to realize what as English we owe to God and to our country, and how best we may walk worthy of our high and glorious calling. The poet Browning, describing the passage by sea, when to the northwest "Cape St. Vincent died away," when "full in face Trafalgar lay," and "in the distance dawned Gibraltar grand and grey," exclaims, "Here and here did England help me; how can I help England?" The answer of each of us, my brethren, should be drawn from the blessed promise of my text: "If ye will obey my voice indeed and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people, and ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests and an holy nation." We look from the lofty watch-tower of history, and we see England, like a vast colossus, bestriding the whole earth with her strength and power. No empire, past or present, has attained such wealth and greatness, or exercised such widespread

sway. Into the hands of this mighty British nation have been delivered by God's Providence the keys of innumerable seas and islands and fortresses. To its controlling care have been committed the temporal destinies of multitudes of weaker races, which find under that paternal rule a tranquility, a security, a prosperity, a justice which they had never known before. Yes, we cannot but glory in the resistless might of England and her sons. How they have pressed onward with indomitable energy into every remote corner of the earth's surface till "the secret parts of the world are salted with their bones."

"Till now the name of names, England the name of might, And the call of her morning drum goes in a girdle of sound Like the voice of the sun in song, the great globe round and round; And the shadow of her flag, when it shouts to the mother breeze, Floats from shore to shore of the universal seas."

But more to us than this dauntless energy and iron will is the Englishman's character for sterling honesty and sense of duty; more still his loyalty and law-abiding patience combined with an invincible love of personal liberty, and hatred of oppression and injustice. More still his love of home life, his religious earnestness, his attachment to the ancient faith, his reverence for the Bible, his regard for the Lord's day and the Lord's house. These in the past have been his general characteristics. God grant that with the passing years they may become more marked and universal. And they have made England not only the home of the free and brave, the faithful, loyal and true, but above all the fountain of spiritual life and light to many distant and benighted portions of the earth. Not only has England, as a nation, become a world-state, a mother of nations, leaving Europe altogether behind her, not only is it true that never since the world began did "so many vast questions in all parts of the globe, calling for all sorts of special knowledge and special training, depend on the decision of a single people," but what is better, England has spread abroad over the world the empire of her pure and Apostolic Christian Faith. Her watchword, set in the forefront of the great charter of her liberties nearly 700 years ago, was this, "The Church of England shall be free," and for that freedom from foreign spiritual domination her martyrs gladly died. But has she not had as glorious martyrs since, who have not counted their lives dear unto them that they might go out into all lands to make free to all the blessings of England's faith! Her Henry Martyns and Pattesons and Hanningtons and multitudes of devoted men, who with heroic self-sacrifice have spent and been spent for Christ's dear sake and for the love of souls. In the swamps of Central Africa in the isles of the Southern Seas, by the banks of the Ganges, in the Australian bush, aye and in the backwoods of Canada, by such as these, she is taking the world by storm for the Divine Master whom she loves and serves. Surely we, who for so many years have received for our spiritual as well as our temporal needs, such fostering care from England, may well exclaim, "Here and here did England help me, how can I help England?" Or with another poet, (Henley):

What have I done for England, my England? What is there I would not do, England, my own? With your glorious eyes austered, As the Lord were walking near, Whispering terrible things, and dear As the song on your bugles blown, England— Round the world on your bugles blown. When shall the watchful sun, England, my England, Watch the Master-work you've done, England, my own? When shall he rejoice again Such a breed of mighty men As come forward, one to ten, To the song of your bugles blown, England— Down the years on your bugles blown!

How then shall we be worthy Sons of England? First, as I said to you a year ago at Stanley, "While we honour England's Queen, and glory in England's power and greatness, and are grateful for England's fostering care and strong protecting arm—while we cherish as our most precious birthright a share in the inheritance of England's renown in arms and arts and song, . . . yet we forget not that we are Canadians, and therefore that the patriotism and nationality mentioned in our constitution have special reference to Canada." Well may we be proud of Canada, our country and our home, and thank God with grateful hearts that our lot is cast in a land so free, so happy, so prosperous, and with so grand a future set before it, to be attained in the Providence of God through the

patriotism of her faithful sons and daughters. We grieve at the troubles of our kindred of the neighbouring republic, and in the bosom of the deepest business depression into which they have ever fallen, distressed by conflicting interests of the various nationalities composing it, with many momentous questions clamouring in vain for a solution. We rejoice that we, under protection of the mightiest nation in the world, are free alike from internal and external difficulties, pressing forward with high hopes and aspirations in the path of our national destiny. Ours it is then to be true sons of England by being worthy sons of Canada. The honour and prosperity we are to aim at is not to be measured by the miserable standard of easily accumulated dollars, or even of rapidly increasing numbers. There are higher and more necessary things than these in which we assuredly are advancing with a steady and healthy growth which will fit us in due time for our appointed place among the nations of the earth. Meanwhile our love for England is a strength and stay alike for her and for ourselves. She needs Canada as much as Canada needs her for the working out of the world-embracing destiny of the great English-speaking race. But "all the earth is Mine," says the Almighty Father, in my text, and in Him we live and move and have our being, whether as nations or as individuals. National existence, however grand, however comparatively permanent, is necessarily a thing of earth and of time alone. The aggregations of men which we call nations act together only for the accomplishment of earthly and, transitory ends, however lofty they may seem to us. But we, as men and women, whose lives go on forever, need to act here as those whose present actions shall affect eternal destinies. It is to us, as members of His church, as never dying souls which the Lord Jesus gave Himself to save, that God says, "If ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep my covenant then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me. Ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests and an holy nation." To hearken to this voice of God is our truest patriotism, as well as our highest wisdom. Through this obedience we shall become Englishmen indeed, Christians indeed, receiving from our Lord at last that commendation which was given on Nathaniel or Barnabas, whom the church commemorates on Thursday next, "Behold an Israelite indeed in whom is no guile." In whom is no guile, no deceit, no treachery, no vain pretence, no hypocritical cant, no insincerity either in word or deed; but at the same time no evasion of his duties as a true Israelite, no neglect of God's commandments, no holding aloof from religion and from God. God's covenant secures to us exceeding great and precious promises and privileges, but it binds us also to responsibilities from which no vain excuses can relieve us. "A kingdom of priests and an holy nation." No less than this does God call us to become, as St. Peter interprets it, we are to be "a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that we should show forth the praises of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light," or as he says in a preceding verse, we are to be "an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." This is that universal priesthood of all the members of Christ's body, which does not indeed trench upon or interfere with the special priesthood of Christ's ordained ministers, but which is for each one as real gift, and one for which as certainly a strict account must at the last Day be rendered. How are we, each one of us, exercising that holy priesthood? We have a sacrifice to offer—ourselves, our souls and bodies for God's service—and included in that self-surrender is the sacrifice of generous giving, of which the Apostle says, "with such sacrifices God is well pleased," the self-sacrifices of loving help and service to each other which is a fundamental principle of our S. O. E., by which we follow in the steps of Him who came not to be ministered unto but to minister and to give His life a ransom for many. Have we all thus entered honestly and faithfully in God's service, or are we holding aloof from it on all sorts of vain pleas which will not avail us for a moment on the Day of Judgment? "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof is the way of Death." There is a way, the way of simple obedience to God's commandments, which may need some resolution: to enable us to enter on it, and some energy and prayer and watchfulness to keep us in it, but the manly spirit shrinks not from effort in the path of duty, and the end is the peace of God which passeth understanding.

OTTAWA ENGLISHMEN BUSY.

BOWOOD LODGE FULL OF ZEAL FOR WINTER WORK.

A Resolution Passed to the Secretary, Bro. R. L. Broadbent—A Letter from the Admiralty Board—An Open Concert.

On Thursday night, the 21st of September, the regular night of meeting of Bowood Lodge, brought a large number of the brethren together. Bro. H. T. Pritchard, president, presided with his usual ability.

The secretary reported that Bro. A. J. Short was considered by the doctors to be no better.

A report was read from the picnic committee, which was well received and congratulatory remarks passed upon the efforts made by Bro. Broadbent, as secretary of the committee, in pushing to so satisfactory a conclusion the financial part of the work. Bowood Lodge honored itself by passing a vote of thanks to Bro. Broadbent, and he thanked the lodge for their confidence, and assured them it was a pleasure to work for such a worthy cause.

The following letter of acknowledgement was read from the Admiralty, London, England, upon the resolution passed by Bowood Lodge on the loss of the Victoria, and ordered to be published in the ANGLO-SAXON:—

"WHITEHALL, LONDON, S.W., ADMIRALTY, 5th Aug., 1893.

"SIR,—I have received and laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 12th ult., forwarding a copy of a resolution passed by Bowood Lodge, S. O. E., of Ottawa, Canada, respecting the catastrophe to H. M. S. Victoria, and their Lordships desire me to convey their thanks for the kind expression of sympathy contained therein.

I am, sir, Your obedient servant, (Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR." To the secretary Bowood Lodge, S. O. E., Ottawa, Canada.

The lodge has arranged to hold a concert on Thursday, October 16th. It will be open to all. Invitations will be issued to Englishmen, their wives and daughters; a good programme is being prepared.

Bro. S. J. Davidson, who has spent some months in England during the summer, addressed the lodge in a most interesting manner, drawing forth hearty applause from the members. His description of English life and scenery as he saw it was very graphic. He was pleased to note that there was a spirit prevailing throughout Canada for closer connection with England, as was evinced by the expressions of loyalty, so constantly voiced through the ANGLO-SAXON, and he could assure them this was recognized and appreciated by Englishmen at home. He attributed that spirit to a very large extent to the influence of the Sons of England.

Bro. R. J. Wickstead drew the attention of the lodge to the article in the ANGLO-SAXON, "Knights of the Empire." He dwelt at some length upon the objects of the new society, and said it was going to use planks which were already in the constitution of the Sons of England, and which the Sons of England were not at present using—or to a very limited extent.

Exception was taken by several brethren to the remarks by the learned doctor, but all agreed that there was room for such a society—that could devote its entire strength to the political requirements of our nationality in Canada.

Bro. Geo. Low, sr., thought that the Sons of England Society was concentrating its strength to the political questions of the day, and the time was not far distant when our society must be and would be considered a political factor in maintaining our position as a nationality in the internal politics of Canada, as well as maintaining our fealty to England.

After two hours of very interesting discussion the lodge adjourned at 10.30.

IF I WAS ASKED I WOULD!

We have waited for this opportunity. We now ask you to become a subscriber. "Hope deferred makes the heart grow weary." We are hopeful yet that you have not forgotten your promise. You said a year ago you would do it. Send \$1.00 to P. O. Box 296, Ottawa, for one year's subscription to the ANGLO-SAXON.

THE "ANGLO-SAXON"

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SUPREME GRAND LODGE

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

"We are instructed by the S. Grand President, to state that twenty-five or more extra copies of the ANGLO-SAXON will be supplied to DISTRICT DEPUTIES, for distribution among those of our countrymen who do not yet belong to our Society. Application should be made to Bro. John W. Carter, the S. G. Secretary, at Toronto, in good time before each issue. It is to be hoped that the D.D.'s will take advantage of this arrangement."

District Deputies.

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NEWS of the S. O. E. B. S. LODGES.