

that every member will do his duty, and that when the Legislature of Ontario and Parliament of the Dominion again meet there will stand on the floor of those houses a body of Patrons sufficient to check any future approach to class legislation that has too often marred our statute books in the past.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. GIFFORD, Chairman.

Bro. Grand Lecturer John Millar read the report of his department, and on motion of Bro. A. Forster, seconded by Bro. J. S. McDonald, was received and referred to Committee on Officers' reports.

GRAND LECTURER'S REPORT.

To the Grand President. Grand Officers and Members of the Grand Association of Patrons of Industry of North America, in the Province of Ontario:

BRETHREN,—I have the honor of submitting for your consideration the following report on the Lecture work commissioned to me to perform in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

On April 26th, 1899, I received a communication from the Grand President wherein he was pleased to state:

That at a meeting of the Grand Board held in the city of Toronto April 12th and 13th, 1898, a programme of Lecture work had been arranged, to begin in the last week in May and extend to about the middle of July, every organized county in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec was to be visited by two of the Grand Officers, and one or two meetings to be held in each county. This field was divided into three parts: The Grand President and Grand Trustee Gifford were appointed to take charge of the Western part, Grand Vice-President Currie and Grand Trustee Kennedy the Central part, and Grand Trustee Wilson and Grand Lecturer Millar the Eastern part of Ontario and the organized counties in Quebec.

In accordance with the Grand President's instructions, on June 2nd, 1899, I proceeded to Alexandria, in the County of Glengarry, and there met Bro. Grand Trustee Wilson.

We commenced our labors on June 6th, and addressed meetings in the following counties in the Province of Quebec: Two meetings in Argenteuil, one in Vaudreuil, one in Chateauguay, and one in Huntingdon. No meetings were held in Soulanges and Beauharnois. The County Officers having failed to advertise and arrange for said meetings, we were greatly disappointed in being unable to meet the Brethren in these counties, but we believe that the principles of our order has taken deep and firm root, and the members are rapidly increasing in this Province of Quebec. If the organizers and county officers work faithfully there is no doubt but that in the near future almost every habitant and farmer will enroll under our fair banner.

We now proceeded to the Eastern Counties in Ontario, and addressed two meetings in Glengarry County, one in Russell, one in Prescott, two in Carlton, one in Lanark, one in Leeds, one in Grenville, two in Stormont, two in Dundas, Lennox and Addington joined together and held one meeting. The county officers of Renfrew and Frontenac seem to have failed in making arrangements for meetings, so we were unable to meet with our brethren in these counties, and the officers in Hastings county decided that on account of the farmers being busy it would be better to defer the meetings till later in the summer. Nearly all of the above meetings were very largely attended, from six hundred up to three or four thousand being gathered around the platform and the people listened with great interest and close attention to the various addresses. There is no doubt but that the principles of Patronism has taken a deep and lasting hold on the inhabitants of the counties of eastern Ontario and we believe that these meetings will be the means of greatly increasing the ardor and enthusiasm of the brethren and adding largely to the membership of our order. We have also great pleasure to be able to inform the Grand Association, that wherever Bro. Wilson and I went we were received and treated by our brethren with the greatest kindness and respect. We cannot conclude this portion of our report without bearing the strongest testimony to the great ability and usefulness of Grand Trustee Wilson. He is a graceful and eloquent speaker, genial and kindly in manner, always ready and willing for his work