

HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.

THE 24TH AT BRANT HOUSE
PARK BURLINGTON.Speeches by Prominent Citizens—The new
D. D. Bro. R. Hannaford zealously at
work—Other important news from the
Ambitious City.

Hamilton, May 12th.—Our new D.D., Bro. R. Hannaford, has commenced the duties of his office in a very zealous and commendable manner by issuing a circular to each of the lodges in the district apprising them of his appointment, also expressing his willingness to assist in any way, any matters requiring his attention. Bro. Hannaford has been a very zealous worker on our newly formed Hospital Board, and the success of the undertaking is to a great extent the result of his labours, although we must not forget the valuable services of Bro. J. Gadsby, W.P., of Acorn Lodge, and Secretary of the Board, as well as the other representatives who have been very constant in their attendance at the various meetings of the Board. While speaking on this matter a word of commendation and thanks is due Bro. Johnson, the secretary of the Toronto Hospital Board, for his kindness and courtesy, as well as valuable information, which materially assisted the Board here in its labours. Bro. Hannaford had the satisfaction of practically introducing the very commendable system as it became his duty to attend Bro. S. Karn, a member of Britannia Lodge to the Hospital, the first member taken their under the new scheme. Bro. Karn is making rapid progress toward recovery. I am pleased to say that Bro. C. Burden, P. Treas. of Hamilton Lodge, who recently underwent a painful and dangerous operation in the City Hospital, is on a fair way of recovery.

The "At Home" of Britannia Lodge, held in the spacious S. O. E. Hall on McNab St. on the 3rd inst., was a pronounced success, there being a large crowd of members and friends of the old pioneer lodge present, amongst them being our D. D. G. P., and several of the P. P. who held sway in "ye days gone by," also a very large contingent of lady friends of the Order, who appeared to thoroughly enjoy the splendid vocal programme introduced by the chairman, Bro. F. H. Revell, W.P., of the lodge, and by no means must we omit to mention the superb rendering of several choice selections by the S. O. E. Naval Brigade Band, under the leadership of the noted cornetist, Bro. W. Peel.

This band has attained to a high standard of efficiency under his leadership, as is evinced by the fact that our city fathers have recently voted the \$300 for a series of concerts by the band, to be given during the summer months in the public parks of the city. The band will soon be in possession of their new uniforms, which are expected to be on hand so that they can make their first appearance in them on the occasion of our annual Church Parade, which is to take place on Sunday, May 21st.

CHURCH SERVICE.

The service will be held at the Church of the Ascension. The sermon will be preached by the rector of the church, the Rev. W. Wade. This probably will be the largest turn out of the Order ever made in the city on such an occasion. An energetic committee has been working on the matter for some time under the chairmanship of our ex-D.D.G.P. Bro. W. Hunt, with Bro. J. Tulk as first lieutenant in the role secretary of the committee. The proceeds of the collection at the service will be divided between the Cemetery (S. O. E.) Plot Committee and the Hospital Board.

BURLINGTON LODGE.

The Burlington brethren are visiting the various city lodges to bring before their notice the monster demonstration they intend to hold in Brant House Park, Burlington, on May 24th. Amongst the attractive features of the varied and lengthy programme as shown on the posters are the following, viz.: The S. O. E. Naval Brigade Band, addresses by several prominent gentlemen of Burlington. Among them will be Mr. Kerns, M.P.P., for Halton, Co.,

Bro. Rev. Canon Belt, Rev. C. Abraham and others. Another prominent feature will be a presentation by the members of Burlington Lodge to our esteemed D. D. G. P. Bro. W. Hunt, who has evidently, by the zealous and courteous discharge of his duties during his late term of office, won the affections of the brethren of Burlington Lodge, as well as of the entire district. The Supreme Grand President, Bro. T. Elliott, of Brantford, will make the presentation on behalf of Burlington Lodge. Add to this a good programme of sports, etc., which, with the well known and beautiful natural attractions of Brant House Park and its close proximity to Lake Ontario and Hamilton Bay and Beach, should secure a large patronage from not only the city and its neighbourhood, but also from our brethren from the Queen City of the West, Brant House Park being easy of access and in close proximity to G. T. R. station at Burlington, and no great distance from the Beach wharf where the Hamilton Steamboat Co.'s boats stop on their trips to and from Toronto. It is to be hoped the affair will be a grand success as the Burlington brethren are sparing no effort to make it so.

HAMILTONIAN.

THE LIFE BOAT IN COMMISSION.

Launching of the Grace Darling for the
Season—An Interesting Ceremony—Pre-
sentation of a Flag.

Toronto, May 1.—The Sons of England lifeboat, the "Grace Darling," was put into commission for the season on Saturday afternoon in the presence of an interesting and enthusiastic assemblage, numbering over 2,000 persons. The ceremonies were conducted by Mr. Richard Caddick, high admiral, and other members of the admiralty board.

Before reading the commission Mr. Caddick spoke briefly, expressive of the satisfaction the officers and men felt in the great interest taken in their movement by the public, as evidenced by so large a gathering on so unpleasant an afternoon. Proceeding, he gave a brief history of the naval brigade of the S. O. E. B. S., through whose exertions the boat had been built and the life-saving station founded. The brigade, he said, was started three years ago, and at present numbered 130 men, 40 of whom are in active service, and ready at a moment's call to man the lifeboat, and, at the risk of their lives, if need be, go to the rescue of anyone in distress on the waters of the bay or its vicinity. (Applause.) Others were in training, and before the present season was far advanced he believed they would have as efficient and well equipped a service as any existing on this continent, or even in old England. (Cheers.) The expenses of building the boat and fitting up the station last season had been about \$1,000, or rather more, and of this some \$900 had been collected, the appeal for aid to the general public having been most generously responded to. Of this amount, however, less than \$50 had been contributed in small sums, and he earnestly appealed to those present and others to help with their quarters and half-dollars, for these would materially aid the work. The annual running expenses, when the present indebtedness was cleared off, would be about \$500, the greater part of which would be needed for the two outlook men, one of whom was constantly on duty day and night during the seven or eight months of navigation. These were the only men receiving any pay whatever, the crew itself from the captain down giving their services willingly, and absolutely without monetary recompense or reward. (Cheers.)

Commander George Tyler was then called to the front, and the commission authorizing the launching and working of the boat was read and handed to him. Immediately following this the boys sprang into their places, and with three ringing cheers the noble craft glided down the runway, and took the water in right royal style. In addition to the captain, coxswain and twelve of the crew, the only other voyager was Capt. Andrews, the blind hero, whose noble and oft-repeated services in saving life in the bay and lake are too well known to need further reference here. After going through a series of manoeuvres in the bay the boat was hauled back to her berth, and a small crew took out the harbor dingy and practised for awhile.

Another feature of interest in the afternoon's proceedings was the unfurling of a handsome flag presented to the brigade by the Daughters of England. The flag is a white ensign, 21 feet by 7 feet, bearing the Canadian arms in the lower quarter, and having inscribed on the red St. George's cross in the centre the legend "S. O. E. lifeboat." The flag was run up to the top of the flag-staff on the boathouse by High-Admiral Caddick, and unfurled to the breeze amid the plaudits of the onlookers.—Globe.

TORONTO S. O. E. NEWS.

Lodge Windsor No. 35, held its regular meeting Tuesday 25th ult. One candidate was initiated and considerable general business transacted. Bro. H. W. Rich on behalf of the Entertainment Committee reported everything in a forward shape for a successful affair, May 8. After the R. R. meeting a W. R. degree meeting was held two brethren being advanced to the degree. The sum of \$10 was granted to the widow of a late member of the lodge who was in distressed circumstances.

Norfolk Lodge, No. 57, held a pleasant meeting Tuesday night 25th. Several important matters of business were disposed of. Bro. H. Jennings was selected for the position of organizer, and the first entertainment under his management will take place on May 16th. The negligence of the members in not producing doctors' certificates when declaring on and off the lodge funds and not writing to the secretary was taken up. The rule will be strictly enforced. The secretary was instructed to write to S. G. President Bro. Elliott and say that the lodge heartily endorsed every sentence of his official letter. He was also appointed correspondent for the Evening News.

The district deputy for Center Toronto, Bro. F. H. Herbert, is making preparations to hold an amalgamated, White Rose degree meeting for the exemplification of the ritual on the evening of Tuesday, May 30th. The large parlor of the Auditorium will be fitted up as a lodge room and the chair will be filled by officers and past officers from all lodges in the district. This promises to be the most important event of the year and will be looked forward to with pleasurable anticipation.

The annual meeting of the Hall Committee was held Thursday night April 27th. The annual statement and balance sheet was presented and adopted. The old board of directors were re-elected, viz.: Dr. John S. King, Dr. W. W. Ogden, Geo. Clatworthy, B. Axworthy, A. J. Pattison, Albert Ogden, Samuel Wesley, of Barrie. A resolution was adopted approving of the bylaw made by the directors, making a call of 15 per cent. to pay off some of the existing mortgages. A resolution was passed authorizing the directors to interview the city council to have the auditorium placed on the same footing of other halls as to exemption from taxation.

Duchess of Kent Lodge, Daughters of England, held its meeting in Dominion hall, Queen and Dundas streets, on Wednesday night April 26th. Four propositions were handed in, and two candidates were initiated. The members are preparing for their first social, to be held on Monday, 15th May. The appointment of Grand Lodge delegates was deferred until next meeting.

Lodge Litchfield held its regular meeting on Tuesday April 25th, corner Prospect and Ontario streets. President F. C. Broomhall presided. Four propositions were presented. A number of visitors were present from Avondale and Preston lodges.

Lodge Boston No. 129 held an interesting meeting Thursday evening, April 27, in Ossington hall, Bro. F. W. Broome presiding. Two candidates were proposed and one member reported sick.

The General Excursion Committee held a meeting on Wednesday evening, May 3rd, to prepare for the celebration of the Queen's birthday. Partial arrangements were made. The event will be attended with a procession in the morning, an excursion to the Island in the afternoon, and a grand concert in the Auditorium at night.

Lodge Manchester held a very successful meeting on Monday evening April 24th, in the lodge room, Winchester hall, Parliament street, the W.P., Bro. Jesse E. Harris, presiding. There was one proposition received, one candidate initiated and one beneficiary policy granted. At the close of the Red Rose degree the lodge opened in the White and two of the brethren were advanced to that degree. This lodge is in a flourishing condition, ever on the increase.

Lodge Alma Juvenile S. O. E. B. S. held their second annual at home Friday April 28, in Dovercourt Hall. The parent lodge furnished a supply of provisions, to which the boys did full justice. Afterwards the president

gave an account of the growth and prosperity of the lodge, which now consists of 59 members, and is in a flourishing condition. This was followed by a very interesting program by members and friends.

THE B. C. REPRESENTATIVES AT
GRAND LODGE.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Victoria, B. C., *Colonist* writes as follows to his paper under date March 18th:

"Bros. Prior and Corbould had a great reception at the Sons of England Grand Lodge meeting in Montreal this week. Owing to the distance of the location of the lodges which they represented, from the meeting place of Grand Lodge, a special welcome was accorded the two delegates. They were called upon the dais and formally welcomed by the Grand President, ex-Alderman Stroud, of Ottawa, after which both members made appropriate replies. The principal topic of discussion before the Grand Lodge was as to the advisability of adopting a new constitution which had been drafted by a special committee during the past year. Copies of this draft constitution had only got into the possession of the subordinate lodges in Eastern Canada a few days before the meeting of the supreme body. The point was rightly taken that not enough consideration had been given to the proposed changes to enable a decision this year on the important suggestions made, and accordingly the whole project was deferred for twelve months. Messrs. Prior and Corbould took part in the discussion in reference to the institution of Provincial grand lodges, and here it should be noted that a curious incident occurred. Mr. Corbould had been especially instructed by his lodge to advocate the institution of a Provincial grand lodge, while Col. Prior's instruction were in a directly opposite direction. It would be well before next year's meeting for the Sons of England in British Columbia to harmonize their differences and endeavor to agree upon a uniform line of action before the next Grand Lodge meeting, which is to be held in the city of Toronto. Col. Prior's remark that in view of the contradictory nature of his and Mr. Corbould's instructions it would have been well if they had paired on the matter, evoked hearty applause and laughter. Both honorable gentlemen advocated the recognition of the Daughters of England Society."

ALBION LODGE NO. 1, TORONTO.

SERMONS AND PARADES—PICNICS AND
LABOR BUREAU.

Toronto, May 11.—The elements seem to be against Old Albion, for at their last regular meeting it rained, but it did not deter a goodly number being present. Bro. Howard, the President, occupied the chair. Five members were reported on the sick list. One candidate was initiated, and five propositions were handed in, which shows the members to be working up. The Committee reported there would be two church parades, the first on May 21st, in Broadway Tabernacle, sermon to be preached by Bro. Philp, and the second in the Pavilion, on May 28th, sermon by Dr. Wild. The general picnic committee reported everything going on very satisfactory for the turn out on May 24th. Bro. Glazebrook reported on the Labor bureau; he said the Committee met on April 29th and discussed the matter fully, but the great difficulty they found was, how to get funds to carry out the scheme. They could not tax the members. It was, therefore, after much careful consideration, decided to adjourn until May 29th, when each delegate should bring the matter before his lodge, and see what they were prepared to do. After discussing the matter for some time, it was finally referred back to the committee. Bros. J. Wright, W. White, J. Wilby, F. C. Brett, and J. Strongitharm were added to the Co-operative Committee. One brother was granted the usual relief, he being in distress. Bro. F. Coulter was appointed on the General Picnic Committee, in place of Bro. Worsdall, resigned. Letters of condolence were ordered to be sent Bros. T. Down and H. Woodrow, they having each lost a child by death. The meeting was then brought to a close.

The Labor or Employment Bureau Committee, at their last meeting, drafted a constitution, and a copy has been sent to each of the Toronto Lodges, with the request that they express an opinion upon them, especially to the clause in regard to expenses, which reads thus: "Clause 10.—Expenses."

COMMEMORATION.

GREAT SUCCESS AT THE BIJOU
OPERA HOUSE.

A Full House and an Appreciative Audience—The Sons of England Annual Celebration a Success.

Winnipeg, April 24.—For the second time the Sons of England have cause congratulate themselves upon the success of the commemoration of Shakespeare's natal day in the city of Winnipeg, the entertainment on Monday night the 21st ult. being a great success in every way. The audience was a large and enthusiastic one, and an appreciative one, besides discriminating, thus the encores were reduced to a minimum, consequently added enjoyment was to be seen on the hundreds of smiling faces assembled in the Bijou opera house last evening.

His Honor Lieut.-Gov. Schultz was unable to be present, but most of the other patrons were, including H. J. Macdonald, M. P. for Winnipeg; Mrs. Macdonald and party, Major Coutelee and party, Col. Boswell and party, and many other city notabilities adding interest to as representative a national gathering as ever the Sons of England have brought together.

To the majority of those present considerable interest was aroused in the presentation of Falstaff scenes by local members of the various lodges connected with the parent society, a task by no means as easy as it appears on the surface, and one requiring considerable care in choosing suitable persons to fit the varied characters.

As we all know, Shakespeare was a many-sided man, and to depict all the phases of human nature with which the bard has endowed Falstaff, as far as its frailties are concerned, is almost a superhuman task, and that Mr. J. L. Broughton succeeded so well is a decided dramatic feather in his cap.

Mr. A. Bush made a creditable Prince Hal, and he had good support in Mr. Jos. Harrison as "Poins."

The first part of the entertainment was composed of instrumental and vocal music, and was one of the most pleasurable features of the evening. The opening overture, Auber's "Le Domino Noir," was excellently played by Paul Henneburg's orchestra.

The other support, Messrs. Webb, Fred. Roo, Mrs. Broughton, Richards and Josnhon, must be commended.

The stage was well managed, doing credit to Mr. Hutchinson and his assistants.

The others taking part were Messrs. Hanby, Johnson, Hattens, Mrs. E. B. Young and Mrs. Verner.

We have to refer to the tasteful stage setting for the concert, real flowers and trees forming a pretty background, and shrubs each side of the stage; the hall freely decorated with the flag of old England; even the orchestra chairs had the Union Jack waving around, the flag that has for a thousand years braved the battle and the breeze, as predominant as it ever should be, ever kept in the minds of her sons and daughters as the emblem of liberty, truth and progress. Long may it wave.

The flowers were kindly sent from the Fort Rouge greenhouses, Messrs. Braxton and Bowyer proprietors. Mr. Gravely had charge of the hall arrangements, and very comfortable they were.

The management of the Sons of England Benevolent Society have done well in this, their second Shakesperian anniversary, and its members will gather courage to make even a bolder flight on the next.

General and S. O. E. Notes.

We are sorry to hear of the sad bereavement in the family of Bro. T. Down, Past Pres. of Albion, another of his children having died. This is the second one he has lost within six months. We are sure the sympathy of the members are with Bro. Down.

The flagship of the British squadron is named after Robert Blake, the famous admiral who fought for the commonwealth under Cromwell against the Dutch in a series of brilliant engagements.

The Duke of Connaught, who has just been raised to the rank of full general, has been in active service for nearly twenty-five years. He obtained his first commission as lieutenant of Royal Engineers on June 19, 1868.

The expenses of the Bureau shall be met by contributions from the lodges in the Bureau pro rata according to membership, also by money from other sources, such as voluntary contributions, etc., etc. The Committee will meet again on May 29th.