

a former occasion, and I state it again, I am proud of the interest the brethren of this District, and in particular of this city, and none more than the brethren of this little Lodge. They have taken a great interest in me and they have made great sacrifices on my behalf, and I know not how to repay them, except that it can be by an expression of gratitude. To you R. W. Sir (referring to Bro. Collins). I must publicly state that I am under a deep debt of gratitude to Bro. Collins, as he has properly stated for over 20 years he has known me, and we have been good friends during that time. I trust R. W. Sir that that friendship may never come to an end. If any one should ask me for an illustration of what a true friend is, brethren, I have no hesitation in pointing to Harry A. Collins. W. Sir it is true I am greatly attached to this Lodge as well as to my mother Lodge. Brethren I aided R. W. Bro. Collins in transplanting this Lodge from the cold shores of Lake Simcoe to the fertile soil of the city of Toronto in the month of May, '95. I have witnessed its growth from seven members until now it has a membership of 125 on the Grand Register. I have witnessed the initiation of the brethren brought into this Lodge, and I can safely say from my knowledge of those brethren there is no lodge in the Province or Ontario that would not open its doors to them. I assure you brethren that the ballot box has not been neglected. R. W. Bro. Dinnis, P. D. D. G. M., praised this Lodge for its work, saying it was A1 in its work. With such a lodge I can wish it every prosperity, and I trust that peace and kindness may be the outcome of everything that is done within these walls. That the good lessons of Freemasonry taught within this Lodge may be instilled into the minds of the members, and that these members may show by their actions practical illustrations of what Masonry is to the outside world, then this Lodge will be honored and respected and Masonry something to be talked about. I am also delighted

to see such an assemblage here to-night. I see many of my old friends. I see many distinguished Masons present, and I see Masons here who were present when I was initiated. I take this not only as an evidence of their friendship for me but for the interest they take in this Lodge. W. Sir I can say little more with regard to the handsome address you have presented to me. I am deeply grateful to you, and I will say, that this address will be prized not only by me but by my family. I have a great many old friends among you, not only of this lodge, but from other lodges in the city. I assure you I treasure my Masonic friends above all others. It is with great pleasure I tear myself from business and come to visit my Masonic lodge to meet those whom I have known as old friends, and who have fought the battles of Masonry in the past with me. In Masonic lodge you will find the exemplification of true friendship. Believe my feelings when I say—

There are no friends like old friends,  
And none so good and true,  
We greet them when we meet them  
As roses greet the dew.  
No other friends are dearer  
Though born of kindred mold,  
And while we prize the new ones  
We treasure more the old.

There are no friends like old friends  
To help us with the load,  
That all must bear who journey  
O'er life's uneven road ;  
And when unconquered sorrows  
The weary hours invest,  
The kindly words of old friends  
Are always found the best.

There are no friend like old friends,  
To calm our frequent fears,  
When shadows fall and deeper  
Through life's declining years ;  
And when our faltering footsteps  
Approach the Great Divide,  
We'll long to meet the old friends  
Who wait the other side.

(Applause).

#### THE BANQUET.

The hall where the banquet was held was nicely draped with British and American flags, and the several long tables that extended the full length of