

every man when the kind word of advice is of far greater value than an open purse, and so it seems to me that it is incumbent upon all who join the ranks of the society before me, to strive earnestly to carry out the principles laid down by the Apostle James who said: "Pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." If we would extend to our brethren true and loving friendship, we must endeavour to lead them in the paths of righteousness and true holiness, so that when we issue our invitation to our fellow countrymen to come and join our ranks, let us use the words of Moses, the man of God, and strive to carry them out: "Come thou with us and we will do thee good." Now, in order to show that this idea is not altogether foreign to the Sons of England Benevolent Society, I refer you to the solemn words of counsel given, to the weighty questions addressed to those who seek to become partakers of the benefits of the society. I refer you also to the last address of the Grand President, and to the last report of the Grand Vice President. In these you will find an invocation of God's blessing, and the guidance of Almighty God upon the deliberations of Grand Lodge. Surely such an action on the part of those in high authority goes to show that the spiritual as well as the temporal welfare of the members is desired. It therefore behoves us to look well to ourselves that we prove faithful to the responsibilities we have deliberately taken upon us in becoming members of the Sons of England Benevolent Society. It is quite true that the society is not essentially a religious one, that is to say it does not in any sense of the word usurp the place or prerogative of the church, but in being an avowedly benevolent organization it cannot altogether overlook the spiritual wants of its members, for true benevolence does not consist merely in the distribution of funds, but also in a desire for the happiness of others. Now, I will ask you to notice more particularly the last verse of the text: "And it shall be, if thou go with us, yea, it shall be, that what goodness the Lord shall do unto us, the same will we do unto thee." The invitation displays something more than *benevolence*, it also displays *humility*. And humility should ever be a prominent characteristic in the conduct and disposition of all Christians, and ever go hand in hand with benevolence. They are well aware and are willing to acknowledge that they cannot give that which they have not received. But they also know from a blessed experience that a loving Father in heaven provides them with grace according to their needs. If their temptations in life are very great, there is the definite promise of the Almighty given to them by the hand of the Apostle Paul: "God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation make also the way of escape, that ye may be able to endure it." Are they poor, there is the promise of God to bless their bread and their water; are they feeble in health and strength, by patient endurance of affliction they shall become strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. But is this grace for themselves alone, to be selfishly used for their own spiritual benefit and their own everlasting happiness? Most assuredly not. It is given that they may become useful to others. If the glory of the Lord has risen upon them, they are to "let their light so shine before men that they may see their good works, and glorify their Father Who is in heaven." If they are converted they are to strengthen their brethren. If they are rich in this world's goods, they are to be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate—"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." Hence it should be our endeavour as a Christian society, in fulfilment of our responsibilities as Christians, to offer to our brethren not only the right hand of fellowship, not only counsel and advice, not only assistance in time of sickness and death, but also a share of that goodness which the Lord shall do unto us. Now, it may be said that I am taking altogether too exalted a view of the Sons of England Benevolent Society, and that the language I have used would be more appropriate to an assembly of religious enthusiasts. For my own part, I cannot see how we can ever separate ourselves from our Christian principles, that is if we are what we profess to be, children of the Triune Jehovah, and upholders of the laws of heaven and our beloved country. Can we expect to receive a blessing to ourselves, either as a society or individually, if in trying to benefit our fellow men we leave God out of the question? Surely not. If then it is our desire, and I believe it is, to benefit our brethren in the higher and spiritual sense of the word, as well as in its lower and temporal sense, we may confidently look for the blessing and guidance of Almighty God upon our deliberations and actions. And God is not unrighteous, to forget our work of faith and labour of love. A cup of cold water, given in the name of Jesus, shall in no wise lose its reward. Any sacrifices we may make for the sake of Jesus Christ, and to advance the welfare of the brethren, shall receive a blessing in this present life, and in the world to come life everlasting. In the words of the text, then, let us invite our brethren to become partakers with us of that which God shall do unto us.

"Come thou with us, and we will do thee good. And it shall be, yea, it shall be, if thou go with us, that what good soever the Lord shall do unto us, the same will we do unto thee."

Bowmanville.—The Sons of England of this town, accompanied by members from Whitby, Oshawa, and Newcastle, attended St. John's Church, when Rev. A. Macnab, D.D., preached a special sermon to the brotherhood. The brethren assembled at the lodge room at 10 o'clock, the service being in the morning.

Toronto.—The 12th annual church service was held on Sunday, May 27th, at St. James' Cathedral. The sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. W. H. Clarke, M.A., Rector of St. Barnabas Church. The sermon was well suited to the object and occasion, and was powerfully and effectually rendered. The members of the various city lodges assembled at Shaftesbury Hall at 2:30 p.m., and proceeded in a body to the church, accompanied by the Grand Lodge officers, the members of St. George's Society, and numerous Englishmen not members of the order. Special music was rendered by the Cathedral choir. The collection was in aid of the hospital fund, which amounted to \$120.

Montreal.—A special service in connection with the Sons of England lodges of this city was held in St. Jude's Church, Coursol St., on the evening of the 27th ult. The brethren assembled in the Chatham street hall at 6.30, where the marshal arranged them in order of procedure, and they then marched to the church in full regalia. An eloquent sermon, touching upon the society and its objects, was delivered by Bro. the Rev. J. H. Dixon, M.A., chaplain of Yorkshire Lodge. He took for his text a passage from the first Epistle of St. John as follows: "Now are we sons of God," etc., and in the course of his remarks said that he considered it a very great honour to comply with the request of the members of the society. The name of the order had suggested his preaching on the text he had chosen, and he thought the appropriateness of the text would be seen at once. The distinguishing feature of the organization was that they had chosen the name of sons of the motherland—of England, the greatest nation upon earth, of which all her sons might well be proud.

Woodstock.—The members of Bedford Lodge, No. 21, assembled in their hall, and headed by the Oxford Rifles band, marched to St. Paul's Church, which was crowded in every part. The Rev. W. H. Wade chose as his text 1st Thessalonians, 5th chapter and 14th verse: "Now we exhort you brethren, warn them that are unruly; comfort the feeble minded; support the weak; be patient to all men." He said that a brotherhood possessing nothing more than a name would only be the butt of men's scorn. So if it is known that a man has joined a certain fraternity the question is at once asked, what are its aims and obligations, or to what has he bound himself? Now the text addresses those who were, with its author, members of a brotherhood, and reminds them of some of the obligations binding upon them. It will not be out of place in speaking particularly to you who belong to the Sons of England Benevolent Society to remind you that you have as your greatest glory the name which is the synonym for not only all that is noble and chivalrous but, thank God, for all that is Christian too.

Peterborough.—Following their usual custom the members of Lansdowne Lodge, of the Sons of England, attended church in a body on Sunday, the 27th of May. St. Luke's Church, Ashburnham, was the church chosen, and the Rev. Mr. Bradshaw officiated. After the usual prayers, the Rev. gentleman took as his text the 23rd chapter of Matthew, 9th verse, reading: "And call no man your father upon the earth; for one is your father which is in heaven." In opening the reverend gentleman said that he was glad of the privilege of preaching to such a society, in whose objects and aims he fully concurred. As he understood them, the objects were the bringing together of Englishmen and Protestants for their mutual benefit and protection, the maintenance of British connection, and to render assistance to the needy of their own race. All Englishmen love liberty and justice and have an undying love for the mother land. Never in the history of the world, he said, was there more necessity for united action on the part of Protestants than at the present time, and all should unite to maintain the principles that their forefathers fought and bled for. British rule is synonymous with fair play and justice. As our beloved Queen has admitted, the open Bible is the secret of her greatness, and as long as her people remain true to their present faith there will be no decadence. One of the principles of the Sons of England is the maintenance of British connection, and wherever the red cross of St. George flies the feeling is the same. In ancient days it was a proud boast to say "I am a Roman citizen," but in these modern times a far prouder boast is to say, "I am a British citizen."

Sons of England Society.

From our own Correspondents.

(Subscription and advertising rates of the ANGLO-SAXON for the city of Toronto, can be had by addressing Wm. Barker, Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, who represents our interest in that city.—MASON & REYNOLDS.)

Toronto.—Albion Lodge, No. 1, met on Thursday, May 17th, at Shaftesbury Hall, Bro. T. Down, Pres., in the chair; Bro. R. D. Clarke, V.P., in the vice chair. Bros. J. B. Vick, E. L. Barstow, and C. E. Smith, the committee on bye-laws for the lodge, reported, the same were adopted, with the exception of two or three amendments. Four propositions for membership were handed in. An interval of twenty minutes for sociality was then called, when Bros. Partridge, Jones, and Fox sang some capital songs. Upon resuming business it was unanimously resolved that the officers and members visit Stafford Lodge in a body at their next meeting, and give them a surprise party. We should like to see such visits more frequent, as it has a tendency to strengthen weak lodges. Bro. H. J. Boswell, Pres., Richmond Lodge, spoke strongly in support of the beneficiary department.