

decorated for the occasion and presented a very gay appearance, and was well filled by the wives and daughters accompanied by the members to the number of 500, during the evening. Bro. Dr. J. S. King addressed the large audience upon the advantages of the Society, dancing was kept up until the 'sma' hours of the morning.

BRITONS, HOLD YOUR OWN!

By the ages past, since the foeman's march
Passed o'er your firm, old sod,
By your land, which is true to freedom and God,
Britons, hold your own!

By the shadows dim of the Olden Time,
Where your halls beneath it lie,
By their chivalry which rushed to the fields of yore,
Britons, hold your own!

By your walls, where good swords hang,
By your faith which knows no alloy,
By your shields of knighthood, pure from stain,
Britons, hold your own!

By the hamlet's ivied church,
Where gleams the antique elm,
And where the minister lifts the cross,
Britons, hold your own!

By your martyrs, who shed their blood
That Briton's prayers might rise,
By the unfettered thoughts of former years,
Britons, hold your own!

By the isles beneath your trees
Where rest your glorious dead,
By their valor, wisdom and song,
Britons, hold your own!

By the deep o'er which many a fight has closed
Above your faithful dead,
By the red-cross flag above their head,
Britons, hold your own!

By the dying to keep your green sod free
From Foeman's tread unstained,
By their memory, pure and inviolate,
Britons, hold your own!

By the uplifting of the heart
To pray like them to stand,
By the summons from God for you to guard,
Britons, hold your own!

GEORGE H. ARMSTRONG,
Hamilton, Ontario.

MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL LAW.

ROMAN HISTORY NOT WANTED, BUT THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PREFERRED.

Our neighbors across the border are awakening to the fact that Separate Schools are not a blessing to the community, and do not tend to make, what all peace-loving countries desire, a homogenous people. We, in Ontario, have years ago recognized that Separate Schools are a hindrance to the Canadian family, but the remedy is a long while coming. Our American cousins, though, seem to display a little more of the Anglo-Saxon grit and determination when they take a thing in hand than here in the Province of Ontario. At Haverhill, Mass., the other day, the members of the School Board visited a French Separate School, at which several hundred scholars attend, where they found the principal studies to consist of the French language and Roman Church history and catechism. All other branches of education were practically ignored. What was the result? Why, they peremptorily closed the school and directed the truant officer, under the provisions of sec.

3, chap. 47 of the Public Statutes, to prosecute such parents as neglect or fail to comply with the provisions of the statute in reference to attendance at school, thereby compelling them to attend the Public School, where sedition to the State and lying history will not be taught to what ought to be "pure and loyal and American born children." The Public Statutes of the State declare "that every school must teach English, and its standard be up to that of the State Public School." Massachusetts State law allows the existence of a Separate School, but not Separate School Boards. There is but one school board within each locality or corporation, and that is the Public School Board, and as such, is the legal controller and custodian of all schools in the district. Of course, Father Oliver Boucher, of St. Joseph's Church, and his parishioners are indignant, but there is no appeal.

What a lesson our cousins have taught us by this firm and patriotic action. Here are the Counties of Russell and Leeds and Grenville, under the British flag, and upheld by a British Government (Ontario Legislature), teaching a foreign tongue, and in temporal matters, putting the "P" before the "Q," and making the English tongue a secondary consideration. When will we be blessed with such a sound school law? Alas! When?

Bro. J. Webster, Vice-President of Kent Lodge, has our sympathy in his bereavement, having had all his children afflicted with diphtheria, to which the eldest succumbed. We are glad to learn that the others are recovering though slowly.

THE ENGLISH-CANADIAN

PRINTING AND

Publishing Co. of Ontario (Limited.)

OFFICE—70½ SPARKS STREET, OTTAWA.

NOTICE of application for a Charter of Incorporation of the above Company is now appearing in the *Ontario Gazette*, and the objects for which incorporation is sought, are for the purpose of printing and publishing a weekly Newspaper to be called "The Commonwealth," and general job and other printing, and all manner of publishing. The Capital is to be \$20,000, in 4,000 shares of \$5.00 each.

The following are applicants for the Charter of Incorporation:—

ALDERMAN W. R. STROUD,
DR. R. W. POWELL,
F. J. ALEXANDER, Esq.,
E. J. REYNOLDS, Esq.,
F. BEBBINGTON, Esq.,
F. H. WEBB, Esq.,
A. J. SHORT, Esq.