

this purchase of Shaftesbury Hall by the Sons of England and for them alone, is very significantly commented upon by the Free Press of Ottawa. It says : " What do the advocates of Canadian independence think of the purchase by the Sons of England of the Shaftesbury Hall in Toronto, for the magnificent sum of \$55,000. This Society is a Benevolent organization, but its central principle is the preservation and maintenance of British connection. It is this latter principle that will in the immediate future, when the advocates of Canadian separation become more noisy, give a great increase of membership. The growth of this organization in a few years to be so wealthy as to pay \$55,000 for a public building in Toronto must show the Canadian separationists that if they are to win, something more than mere talk is necessary." We recommend all our Lodges and all our members to interest themselves in this enterprise, which is bound to prove a public benefit, and will become a home for hundreds of our fellow countrymen, who may come to this, our adopted land. We sincerely hope that by the summer months, we shall have the reading and waiting-room in good order, also the stationary office of your Grand Secretary.

Mention having already been made by the M. W. G. P. in reference to the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, I would recommend that a special committee be appointed to draw up a message of congratulation to her Majesty the Queen, to be sent under the auspices of this Grand Body. I beg also to state that I am taking the preliminary steps to call a meeting of all our representative members with a view of taking such steps that will do honor to the occasion, and shall be glad to receive the sanction of this Grand Lodge.

I am pleased to report that in compliance with resolution passed by this Grand Body (see printed proceedings, page 40) all our Lodges that could conveniently, attended divine service on the 24th of May, our Grand Chaplains in most cases preaching the anniversary sermons. A pleasing feature of the Toronto church service is that the collection on that occasion was donated to the Toronto General Hospital, as a fund to provide comfortable accommodation for unfortunate members who may meet with accidents. As the nearest Sunday to the 24th this year is the 23rd, I would respectfully ask this Grand Body to set apart the 23rd of May, 1887, as the general church parade day. Some of our lodges turn out in full force on St. George's Day, which shows to the members of that Society that we are interested in the work of their Society. I am pleased to report that there are a very large number of the Sons of England in the St. George's Society of Toronto.

I am pleased to report the opening of five new lodges during the past year. Chelsea Lodge, No. 37, instituted on March 26th by the M. W. G. P. and the Grand Secretary, assisted by the officers and members of Chester Lodge, St. Thomas. To Bro. Buckingham of Britannia Lodge is due the credit of completing our oft repeated efforts to organize the Sons of England in the city of London.

Lancaster Lodge, No. 38, at Bracebridge, instituted May 27th, by the Grand Secretary, assisted by the District Deputy, Bro. Matthews, and Past