

# TORONTO ENCAMPMENTS' RECEPTION TO THE D.D.G.P.

Toronto Encampment was at its best on Thursday last evening, when a hearty welcome was extended to the new D.D.G.P., W. Brunswick Robinson. The members of Rehoboth Encampment were also present in large numbers to join in honouring the incoming official. Before adjourning to the board room for refreshments, one brother was admitted to the Patriarchal Degree, and some routine business was rapidly pushed through by Chief Patriarch Post. The committee on new by-laws reported their task completed, and the by-laws ready for distribution. The board room had been tastefully decorated for the occasion and the tables were bountifully covered with good things provided by Caterer Cutter. The retiring D.D.G.P. Blackett Robinson efficiently discharged the duties of the chair. The usual toasts were suitably proposed. "The Sovereign Grand Lodge" elicited a long and stirring response from P.G.M. Hornbrook. Grand Marshal Colby and Major Unitt responded for the "Grand Encampment," both brothers making good speeches. "The Guest of the Evening, Bro. W. Brunswick Robinson, D.D.G.M.," was received with loud applause, and the Patriarch responded in such a manner as testified to his fitness for the high position to which he has been elected. The Vice-Chairman, Chief Patriarch Post, proposed "Rehoboth Encampment," and James Munro, Chief Patriarch of Rehoboth, replied in a modest speech. P.C.P. Graham also responded for this Encampment, and, in sitting down, moved a vote of thanks to Patriarch Blackett Robinson for his valued services as D.D.G.P. during the year. The chairman then referred to the near departure of Bro. Dr. Washington from the city to take up his residence in Atlanta, Ga., saying that for so true an Odd Fellow and Patriarch the members of the Order in the city could have nothing but the best of good wishes for their friend's health, happiness and prosperity in his new field of labor. Dr. Washington responded in happy terms, and the meeting broke up, singing a verse of "Auld Lang Syne." Thanks are due to the brothers who favoured us with vocal and instrumental music. PILGRIM.

## SMITH'S FALLS.

### L.O.O.F. BAND ENTERTAINMENT.

The entertainment given at Smith's Falls last week will long remain green in the memory of all, when others, of a higher class perhaps, will be forgotten. There were avalanches of fun and enjoyment, the only drawback being the crowded state of the Town Hall and the high temperature.

The mayor occupied the chair, and made the customary speech, his subject being the Odd Fellows and their objects.

The programme was varied, and every number seemed to catch the popular taste. After a selection by the band, Miss Fanny Robinson gave a solo, which was warmly applauded, followed by a reading by J. T. Rooke. Then there was a quartette by Mrs. Craig, Miss Cullen, W. W. Foster and T. G. Macalister, which was very amusing and excited the risibilities of all. Miss B. Williams gave a recitation, "The Saving of St. Michael's," which brought into fine relief her tragic powers. Miss

F. Robinson and Harry A. Lavell appeared in a duett, "The Music Lesson," which kept the audience in roars of laughter. P. H. Stitt, W. Steele and the Chief gave an instrumental selection, followed by a recitation by Miss Williams. H. A. Lavell gave a solo, and for an encore he gave one which fairly captured the boys.

After another piece by the band, the debate came on. It was supposed to be a burlesque affair; but, amid much that was extremely ludicrous, there was a strong vein of sound argument and solid sense. All of the debaters were in great feather, and apparently had made considerable preparation. The subject was: "Country vs. Town—Which Produces the Better Man?" Mr. Craig, the leader for the hayseeds, started at the garden of Eden, and gradually worked down the ages. He showed that the noted reformers, inventors and poets were from the country. Scientists such as Tyndall, Huxley, explorers such as Stanley, historians such as Macaulay and Froude, inventors such as Morse and Edison, educators such as Ryerson, Principal Grant, John Knox, Wesley, Spurgeon and Talmage were all country boys. In our own town the doctors, clergymen, businessmen, and the present Council, with one exception, had all been reared in the country. After this, it was the general conclusion that the town boys' name would be Dennis.

J. Sim Gould, the leader on the side of the town boys, said that he had not looked up authorities, but believed many of the historic characters mentioned by the previous speaker were not country boys at all. He then commenced with Cæsar, the Roman emperor, and wound up with Wellington, as town boys, showing their influence in making history, and in shaping the destinies of mankind. At the five minutes he was rung down without finishing his argument.

Mr. A. Ross was next called for the country boys. He explored the fields of nature, and in rounded periods and eloquent language showed the position of the farmer as being above all professional men, as without him they would have nothing to eat and nothing to go to law about. George Washington was a country boy, and when he cut down the tree with his little hatchet, he could not tell a lie about it. The distinctive fact about a country boy was that he could not tell a lie. Wm. Tell and Abraham Lincoln were country boys—and here he was rung down, much to the regret of the audience.

S. N. Percival dilated on the privileges country boys had in the schools and colleges in town. If they had been kept at the plough handles, they would never have amounted to anything; but after coming into town they got the burs and rough corners knocked off, and then could aspire to something.

Milt. W. Everitts, for the country boys, claimed that physical vigour went alongside of mental vigour, and this, combined with self-restraint, was why the country boys excelled the town boys when brought into competition. Fresh air was a great thing, and the only sniff of fresh air the Smith's Falls boys got was when they went on an expedition to the new post-office. (Well done, Milt!) The wrecks at colleges were generally town boys.

Stewart Gilroy contended that it did not matter where a boy was born; it was his education and associations that made the man. Shakespeare probably never would have been heard of had he lived in the country. Attending the theatre at Stratford gave his genius its bent. Longfellow, the poet; Stephenson, the engineer, and Angelo and Raphael, the painters, were town boys. Turning his attention to the speakers who preceded, he said one claimed that almost the entire Council was composed of country boys, and what was the result? The rate had gone up to 24½ mills. This hit was received with tremendous cheers.

The leaders Gould and Craig were allowed three minutes each to sum up.

A jury consisting of Principal Houston, Dr. Easton and W. M. Keith had been selected, and without consultation they unanimously returned a verdict in favour of the hayseeds.

Six hundred people made up the audience, and the band will net a nice profit from the entertainment. A series of the same class are to be given during the winter.

## OUR SIGNS AND TOKENS.

The signs and tokens of fraternal societies speak a universal language, and act as a passport to the attention and support of the initiated in all parts of the world. They cannot be lost so long as memory retains its power. Let the possessor of them be expatriated, ship-wrecked, or imprisoned; let him be stripped of everything he has got in the world; still these credentials remain, and are available for use as circumstances require. The good effects which they have produced are established by the most incontestable facts of history. They have stayed the uplifted hand of the destroyer; they have softened the asperities of the tyrant; they have mitigated the horrors of captivity; they have subdued the rancour of malevolence, and broken down the barrier of political animosity and sectarian alienation. On the field of battle, in the solitudes of the uncultivated forest, or in the busy haunts of the crowded city, they have made men of the most hostile feelings, the most distant regions, and the most diversified conditions, rush to the aid of each other, and feel special joy and satisfaction that they have been able to afford relief to a brother in distress.—*The Lodge Record.*