

OUR SUPREME TRUSTEE.

Brother Thomas Ligget Honored by his Brethren of the A. O. U. W. on the Occasion of his Election as Supreme Trustee of Supreme Lodge.

One of the largest and most representative gatherings which has ever been held in Montreal under the auspices of our Order was the one which took place on Friday evening, August 11th, in Richmond Hall, when members of every lodge in the city, as well as those from distant places, met to do honor to one who is not only beloved by all the A. O. U. W. brethren, but is also most highly respected and esteemed by the public generally, both in a social and business way. The gathering was called together to present an address of felicitation to Bro. Thomas Ligget, P. G. M. W., on the occasion of his elevation by the Supreme Lodge to the important office of Supreme Trustee. Grand Master Workman A. W. Blouin presided, and supporting him on the platform besides the guest of the evening, were Bro. A. T. Patterson, Grand Recorder; Bro. Gaspard Lefebvre, Grand Receiver, and Bro. Ralph C. Thorneloe, Grand Outside Watchman. In addition to the various addresses, there was a very select programme of vocal music, and the whole proceedings were most enjoyably concluded with the serving of light refreshments and a social reunion, for which the brethren were indebted to D. D. G. M. W. James Brown.

In opening the proceedings G. M. W. Blouin said that the brethren could not let the occasion of Bro. Ligget's elevation to the Supreme Trusteeship pass without presenting him with a tangible token of their esteem. Bro. Ligget had been cast of the same mould as the promoters of the Order, Father Upchurch and others, who had started and built up the Order to what it was to-day. He had done more than any other in this jurisdiction to promote the welfare of our Order. His fidelity to the Order was well known; brethren in distress and the widows and the orphans had always found Bro. Ligget ready to give them a helping hand, and some of our brothers would not have died in good standing had it not been for him. These were the kind of men who had built up the Order, and made it what it was to-day, and in honoring Bro. Ligget they were honoring themselves. He felt it a very great honor indeed to preside at such a meeting.

After a song by Bro. Willett, Bro. Thos. Brady, Grand Trustee, was called upon to read the address. Before doing so, however, Bro. Brady, in eloquent periods, dilated upon the importance of the occasion, and referred to the incalculable benefits conferred upon the Order by the guest of the evening. The address was as follows:

To Thomas Ligget, Esq., Past Grand Master Workman, Grand Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Quebec and Maritime Provinces, and Supreme Trustee of Supreme Lodge.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—

The officers and members of the various lodges of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in Montreal and adjoining districts, having heard with intense satisfaction and pleasure of your appointment as one of the Supreme Trustees of Supreme Lodge, desire to tender you their sincere congratulations, and, at the same time, would give you an assurance of their continued confidence in your official and private efforts to advance the aims and objects of our distinguished Order in this grand jurisdiction.

Your appointment to one of the highest positions in our Order is, we feel, a just recognition of earnest, true and unselfish labors, continued in season and out of season in every department of the Order's work. Your labors have ever been adorned by that true Charity that suffereth long and

vaunteth not itself, and your work has been made effective and strong by your own enduring Hope and Faith in the stability of our Order and the protection it so amply guarantees to the widow and the fatherless.

Your brethren also view your elevation in our Order as a token of respect for this grand jurisdiction that has, since its formation, struggled loyally and valiantly to maintain the integrity and supremacy of the Supreme Lodge.

Unitedly and heartily, we ask you to accept this fall and free offering of our esteem and respect; and it is the fervent prayer of your devoted brethren that the Giver of all good—the Great Supreme Head of our Order—may long spare your life to labor in a field of work that has the blessing of heaven and the approval of mankind to commend it.

Signed on behalf of the members,
A. W. BLOUIN, G. M. W.
Montreal, August 11th, 1899.

Bro. Ligget then said: "Brethren, I sincerely thank you, but I will not interfere with the rest of the programme just now."

Bro. J. H. Smith then gave a capital song, after which D. D. G. M. W. Dr. E. LeBel, who with Bro. J. W. McDermott, had come up from the Ancient Capital on purpose to be present at such a memorable gathering, read the following series of



P. G. M. W. Thomas Ligget,
SUPREME TRUSTEE.

resolutions which had been passed by the lodges of Quebec city:

At a special meeting of several lodges of A. O. U. W. in Quebec, held in the Turkish Bath Hall, August 10th, 1899, it was unanimously resolved as follows:

That the members of the several lodges of the A. O. U. W. situate in the old and historic city of Quebec, have learned with satisfaction that their worthy brother, Grand Past Master Workman Thomas Ligget, having been a delegate to the Supreme Lodge sitting at Indianapolis, Ind., U. S., has been chosen as a Supreme Trustee of their distinguished Order, with all the privileges attached to the dignity of such position.

That this mark of distinction conferred on Bro. Ligget is but a just reward for the many and valuable services rendered by him to this Order and an official recognition of his great administrative ability, which has proved him to be one of the best business men of the Metropolis of Canada.

That the choice made by the Supreme Lodge is not only an honor conferred on Bro. Ligget, but it reflects equally on all the members of this Province and may be considered as a guarantee of the past good and efficient administration of the Society's affairs. It further gives testimony as to the spirit of justice which animates the members of the Supreme Lodge.

That the members of the lodges of Quebec consider it their duty to express their admiration for Bro. Ligget on this occasion and to recognize in him one specially devoted to the good of the Order, treating every person with courtesy and justice, a lover of progress and work, and above all

a noble and broad-minded citizen. These qualities have endeared him to each and every one of us and we may add to the community at large.

That the best wishes of his brothers from Quebec are tendered to him for his future happiness and prosperity and that of his family, feeling as we do that the Order will continue to prosper during his term of office.

Kowalski's delightful "Dieu Sauve la Reine" was here beautifully rendered by members of LeMoyne Lodge, after which Grand Outside Watchman R. C. Thorneloe, Grand Solicitor E. H. Godin, Q. C., and D. D. G. M. W. Charlemagne Rodier added eloquent words of eulogy upon the great work and the benefit conferred upon the Order by Bro. Ligget, and the more formal proceedings were closed.

Refreshments were served, and afterwards the toast of the "The Queen" was enthusiastically honored. The Grand Master Workman then proposed "The Supreme Lodge," which was drunk with Highland honors.

Supreme Trustee Ligget, in responding, said in part: "Grand Master Workman and brethren of all lodges, I thank you for this abundant expression of confidence and appreciation of my humble efforts in the advancement of our worthy Order. I thank many of the lodges for recording and conveying their congratulations over the wire and by letter, and also the many brethren who by hand and heart expressed their kindnesses and their satisfaction at my promotion. These combined feelings and influences, coupled with this magnificent address and your assurances of gratitude and continued confidence in the endeavors I have made for the advancement of our jurisdiction, are matters of the greatest moment to myself, and of pride and satisfaction to my family, and will be prized by them as an heritage from you."

Bro. Ligget then referred to the formation of this grand jurisdiction, which he looked upon with pride and satisfaction, and especially so on account of our Ontario brethren severing their connection with our great parent, and thus depriving themselves of the protection, sympathy and fraternity of the 367,000 brethren under the Supreme Lodge. Union is strength—united we stand, divided we fall. The work in the Grand Lodge, he continued, has been carried on at a minimum of expense. From 1894 to 1899 inclusive it cost \$7.50, and deducting from this the per capita paid to the Supreme Lodge of 16 cents, it leaves an average covering the six years of \$1.09 per annum per member, and at this small cost the jurisdiction has carried its beneficiaries to the extent of \$6,000,000. He felt it a great honor to be so closely identified with this great fraternity—the Gibraltar amongst fraternal orders, with its 37 grand jurisdictions, 4,993 subordinate lodges, and 367,000 members representing \$729,000,000 of insurance written at an average cost of \$11 per member, or one and one-fifth per cent., to carry a capital of \$2,000 for our families. The Order under Supreme working is providing for ten of our faithful brethren who die daily, or 3,700 per annum, at a disbursement of \$20,000 per day, or \$7,500,000 per annum, to relieve and restore comfort to 3,700 families yearly. He accepted his election to hold office in Supreme Lodge as a great honor and a full and honorable recognition on the part of the Supreme Lodge of our efforts and undisturbed loyalty in this grand jurisdiction.

This jurisdiction, he continued, is regarded by the Supreme Lodge as a true friend in season and out of season, on account of our voluntarily paying the call for the war tax, and in this connection he referred to the pleasing incident of the presentation at the last Supreme Session of our country's flag to Supreme Lodge, which

will hereafter hang alongside of America's flag, to adorn the Supreme legislative halls. He asked the fathers to have their sons in the lodges, to prepare them for the higher walks of life and make them better and nobler men in society. This grand jurisdiction has entered upon a new era, and the brethren should all be engaged in this mission field. The subordinate lodges—the bone and sinew of the Order—could appoint for themselves an organizer, and assisted by the members, hand in a list at each meeting of names of desirable candidates. The organizer will then secure the candidates, see to their medical examination, and get them initiated whilst they have fresh on their minds the advantages instilled into them by literature and the organizer. His own lodge (Mystic, No. 8) had already done something in this direction. At the last meeting, D. D. G. M. W. Brown volunteered to undertake the work, and he has in three weeks received 25 names and has already 20 candidates accepted and prepared for initiation at the next meeting. Let all the lodges give Bro. Brown names and he will give them candidates. Brethren, we have a prize to win, and we are going to win the Supreme Lodge prize of \$2,000 next June; and not the \$2,000 alone, but the nobler and grander requisition of two or three thousand good members for our jurisdiction and the great brotherhood of humanity.

In concluding, Bro. Ligget said: "Brethren, if I were permitted to divulge secrets I would say that my fellow representative has become in Supreme Lodge, as in his own jurisdiction, a very popular brother, and had he been the least inclined to honors in the Supreme body your humble servant would have had to return a full private. Therefore, whilst you honor me on this occasion possibly greater honors are due Bro. Patterson, our Grand Recorder. I now thank you all for this magnificent demonstration of your good will and brotherly love. I also thank our brethren from a distance who have so nobly made the sacrifice of time and money in order to participate in this generous tribute to myself. I shall cherish your kindness with my whole heart, and shall forever remember your generosity."

"The Grand Lodge" was also enthusiastically received, and responses were made by Bro. O. W. G. Dettmers and Bro. G. Lefebvre, Grand Receiver.

"Our membership" was happily replied to by Bros. E. W. Beuthner, H. A. Ross and Richard Lynch.

Bro. Thos. Brady proposed the health of the G. M. W., which was acknowledged by Bro. Blouin, and the gathering terminated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem.

Has each one of your friends whose premature death would leave a destitute widow or helpless orphans been offered an opportunity by you to provide for them by becoming a member of the A. O. U. W.? If not, there is something left for you to do. See that you do it.—Pennsylvania Workman.

Good intentions in the past will not take the place of food and raiment for the widow and orphan. . . . Frugality in youth will generally provide plenty for old age, just as a life policy protects a home. . . . Are you a drag in the wheel of progress of your lodge? or, do you try to make it turn more easily?—Protector.

Don't be afraid of a little fun in the lodge room, lest a hearty laugh should shake down some of the musty cobwebs there. Let the fraternal fires burn brightly each meeting night, and make the lodge room ever delightful with all those arts that the old enthusiasts so perfectly understand.—Illinois Anchor and Shield.