

CIVIC WELCOME TO KINGSTON.

It having been announced that His Worship the Mayor, J. A. Minnes, Esq., was in attendance to welcome the Sovereign Great Priory to the City of Kingston, the Most Eminent the Supreme Grand Master suspended the session for a short time.

The Sir Knights standing to attention, the Mayor entered the hall accompanied by V. Em. Sir Knights W. J. Renton, Presiding Preceptor of Hugh de Payens Preceptory, H. J. Wilkinson and J. Hewton, Past Preceptors. V. Em. Sir Knight Renton, in a few well-chosen words, introduced the Mayor, who was cordially invited by the Supreme Grand Master to take a seat on the Dais. His Worship then officially welcomed Sovereign Great Priory to Kingston, as follows:—

*Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada.*

It gives me the greatest possible pleasure to extend to you a most sincere and cordial welcome to the good old Limestone City, and to assure you that the citizens of Kingston appreciate the honor done their city in your selecting it as the place of your assembly for 1900. I sincerely trust your visit may be a pleasant one, that the deliberations of your noble Order may be for its permanent good and that you may form many warm and enduring friendships. I have had a great many pleasant duties to perform in this my official year as Mayor of Kingston, but none I can assure you Most Eminent Sir, more pleasant than this one, viz., of extending to you the greetings of Kingston's citizens. I trust you will carry away with you a favorable impression of Kingston. It is not a great metropolis, but Eminent Sir, we can boast of having contributed our quota to the growth of this fair Canada of Ours. For 40 years this constituency was represented in Parliament by that distinguished and late lamented statesman Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, the Father of Confederation. On the wall of this lodge room you may see the apron of that distinguished Brother who, I may say, was a member of the Ancient Saint John's Lodge No. 3, G. R. C. I might refer also with considerable pride to many other eminent men whom Kingston has produced. I may refer to our Educational Institutions, such as the Royal Military College and Queen's University. Over 100 graduates of the Royal Military College are now holding Imperial commissions. Some in India, some in the fortresses of the Mediterranean and South Africa, doing duty for Queen and Empire, perpetuating British laws and