

Communications.

Whither are we drifting? To the Editor of the Anglo-Saxon.

SIR.—Permit me to take strong exception to the view expressed in the editorial comment you made on Lodge Richmond's resolution...

I would ask what is the use of publishing any information about the society at all if mention of the very keystone of the Order's structure is to be systematically suppressed?

It is well known that avowed supporters of Commercial Union (which has recently been described by Mr. Erasmus Wiman as "the right road to annexation") have held, and still hold, high office in the order.

At the last session of Grand Lodge, the following questions were put by myself as a delegate:

1st. Whether in view of clause 55 (now clause 110) of the Constitution the appearance on page 49 of the Official Annual Report of the Grand Lodge for 1888 of a certain address presented by the Ottawa Lodges to the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain is to be accepted by the brethren and by the public as committing the S.O.E.B.S. to approval of the political union of Canada with the United States...

Notice of the above questions was given in open lodge on 12th February, as will be seen by the official report. The questions were actually put and answered on the following day; but the official report does not contain either the questions or the answers.

It would have been interesting for members of the order to be able to read for themselves what were his actual answers to the questions put; but those responsible for a correct report of the proceedings have contrived to suppress his words.

Now this resolution was seconded by Bro. Elliott, put to the meeting, and lost, though the official report (strangely enough) represents it as having been "ruled out"—just as if the motion had been suppressed by the chair as out of order.

Now it is well to consider what is the actual effect of the above vote? The following results are what seem to me to have been reached:

(1) That the Grand Lodge has sanctioned the publication of a document incorrectly describing the objects of the order.

(2) That it has condoned the offence of publishing a matter affecting the order without previous sanction by the Grand President.

(3) That it has condoned the act of the Past Grand Executive in publishing such misrepresentation of the objects of the society in an official report of the order.

(4) That by not censuring the grand executive, the Grand Lodge has virtually sanctioned the statements of the address presented to Mr. Chamberlain and committed the order to approval of a political policy not contemplated by the constitution and involving annexation.

The above consequences are serious; and I would therefore like to point out how the order, whose constitution binds its members to promote the maintenance of British connection, has been ingeniously and jesuitically entangled into adopting an entirely opposite programme to what the majority approve, as since boldly promulgated by a political newspaper opposed to drawing closer the bonds of affection which hold the British Empire together, but favorable to Commercial Union and confederation of the English speaking peoples of the world.

Let the Supreme Executive Council read the following extract from an editorial which appeared in the Toronto Globe of Saturday July 13th, 1889, and then explain to the next session of Grand Lodge, if they can, why they persist in circulating an official prospectus in which all reference to the maintenance of British connection is suppressed:

FEDERATION OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD "If the teeming millions of loyal Anglo-Saxons scattered over this globe are to be drawn and bound together by one great dominating idea, why not let it be an idea at least broad enough to take in the whole Anglo-Saxon race, and cosmopolitan enough in its aim to contemplate the good of the whole human family?"

Such an idea would be broad enough and lofty enough to evoke an enthusiasm of loyalty that would not need to be ashamed. Can the same be said of any of the ideas now put forth in the much abused names of loyalty and patriotism?"

Have I said enough on this occasion to show loyal members of our order that it is about time that they insisted upon the inscription "British Connection" being nailed to the mast and stereotyped in every official document?

CHAS. WM. ALLEN, President, Lodge Richmond, No. 65, Toronto, Aug. 12, 1889.

Who is an Englishman?

To the Editor of the Anglo-Saxon.

SIR.—Applications are continually being made for membership in the Order of the Sons of England by persons whose surnames have an unmistakable Irish, Scotch, Polish, Russian, German or Italian sound, and the question arises whether the candidate is eligible, whether—

"In spite of all temptations To belong to other nations He remains an Englishman."

On turning to the constitution of the S.O.E. we find that the definition of an Englishman, as accepted by the Society is that he or his male ancestors must have been born in that part of Great Britain known as England. Is this a good definition looking at the objects of the Order?

The St. George's Societies in Montreal and Ottawa, have much the same definition, viz.: "A person who is a native of England, or a person born in the British possessions but a descendant of a native of England; and, 'a person of English birth or descent.'"

If the object is to secure members without regard to the strain of blood then these definitions are sufficient, but if the object, or one of them, is to foster and preserve the national characteristics then less diluted blood and a narrower rule of admission must be observed.

Nationality of origin is determined by one's birthplace or parentage; that which results from naturalization is by acquisition. Of these two tests, the place of birth, and the nationality of the father, neither is at present adopted by British, French or American law without qualification.

According to English law Natural-born subjects of the Crown, are all persons born within the Queen's Dominions,—and also all persons though born abroad whose father, or grandfather by the father's side were natural born subjects.

In France, if a child be born of foreign parents, it is an alien, but at the age of majority such child may claim the character of a Frenchman.

According to the law of the United States native citizens are: 1st, Those born, at home, of parents who are citizens; 2nd, The child, born abroad, of a citizen, if his father has ever resided in the United States; 3rd, The child born in U. S. of alien parents who are permanently domiciled within the U.S.; 4th, The child, born abroad, of an alien, if he be in the U.S. at the time his father is naturalized there.

The order of liberality in conferring citizenship varies from the jealousy shown by France, to the moderate and reasonable terms of England, to the omnivorous generosity of the United States of America.

With the customs of these great nations before them the Grand Lodge S. O. E. may easily frame a series of Rules to guide the Lodges in admitting candidates. That is, of course, conditional on the repeal of the present definition. That it should be repealed and a less general and sweeping definition substituted seems to be the opinion of the leading men in Ottawa. For myself, I should prefer to see made part of the Definition of an Englishman for membership in the S. O. E., the rule by analogy taken from the English law, that a foreign born candidate must prove that his father, or at furthest his grandfather, was born in England;—and also the Rule borrowed from U. S. practice, that a candidate born in England of alien parents may be eligible provided his parents were at least permanently domiciled within the confines of England at his birth.

Owing to the constant immigration from England there is no fear of want of numbers from whom to secure candidates, if the rule is adopted of limiting the ancestry to one's grandfather.

Better to require a lengthy domicile in England from the foreigner parents of a child born in England, before permitting that child to claim the glorious charter of being an Englishman. Otherwise we should find full-blooded Chinamen, Austrians, Greeks and Turks knocking at the doors of our lodges and claiming—with justice—that they came under the definition of an Englishman according to S. O. E. Constitution, because while on Shakespeare's "sweet soil" of England their mothers were safely delivered of a male child.

R. J. WICKSTEED, Ottawa, Aug., 28th, 1889.

Objects, Aims and Benefits of the Order. To the Editor of the Anglo-Saxon.

SIR.—As the Supreme Executive Council absolutely deny that the official circular protested against by Lodge Richmond misrepresents the "Objects, Aims, and Benefits of the Order," and hold that our lodge has accused them wrongfully, I venture to set the facts plainly before your readers, so that Sons of England may judge for themselves. I will present the objections raised to the prospectus categorically.

1. Lodge Richmond says that all reference to British connection is suppressed. Is it true?

To satisfy themselves on this point, members have only to look through the circular and then refer to Clause 1 of the Constitution.

2. Lodge Richmond says "The restrictions upon membership are concealed." Is it true?

The prospectus says "The objects are to unite ALL honorable and true Englishmen who are in good bodily health and between the ages of 18 and 60 years in an association for mutual aid," etc.; yet, under the constitution (see clause 4) all Englishmen who are not Protestants are excluded; also Englishmen who, though Protestants themselves, have Roman Catholic wives. In addition to these two classes, at least two others can be named, viz: Quakers and Jews, for reasons which I am not free to state here.

3. Lodge Richmond says "The secret work of the society is falsely described." Is that true?

Members should read over the fourth and fifth paragraphs on the second page of the prospectus and then pay close attention to details on the next occasion when they are present at an initiation ceremony.

4. Lodge Richmond says "The system of payment of dues is falsely described." Is it true?

According to the prospectus all that is required of a member is "a small initiation fee and prompt payment of your dues." This is tantamount to asserting that our financial system is based on a cash, and not on a credit system. Neither the constitution, nor the practice under it, accords with the statement circulated by the Executive. The constitution (clause 91) says "Members shall not be entitled to receive benefits from the order who are more than six months in arrears," and there is not a lodge that has not members who, for convenience or by necessity, are in arrears. All this time the delinquents enjoy the following rights and privileges. They may vote for election of lodge officers or delegates to the Grand Lodge; they may vote on the disposition of funds of the lodge; and they can claim free medical attendance and medicine, and also funeral benefits, that have been almost wholly provided by the contributions of other members, because our constitution provides that, for every member not more than six months in arrears, his quarterly dues, for capitation tax (see clause 94), funeral benefits (see clause 90), page 43, paragraph commencing 90, and medical fees (see clause 82, page 40, sixth line) must be financed for him by his lodge. The lodge is compelled to advance these payments for the delinquent member under penalty, as to capitation tax, of a fine of \$1.00 per month of default if not paid within one month after quarter night (clause 100) and deprivation of representation in Grand Lodge (clause 5, last sentence on page 9); while it is declared (clause 90, page 43) that "Lodges neglecting to pay the usual funeral levies within one month after quarter night shall forfeit their claims to the Funeral Benefit Fund." Thus, the members who pay their dues regularly are compelled to pay in addition the proper contribution of every member not more than six months in arrears (and who may never again show his face in their lodge) or else submit to forfeiture of all the personal provision in case of the death of themselves, wives, or children; they have made perhaps by paying into the funds of the order for years. Yet the prospectus published by the Supreme Executive says, to influence intending candidates, "Whatever benefits you receive are not charity but right." How much "right" is there about the member over five months in arrears being able to claim benefits for which other members of the lodge have had to make advances on his behalf in order to protect the interests of themselves and families?

The prospectus further says, in the third paragraph, third page, that the benefits are "full sick and funeral benefits after being 12 months a member;" yet the constitution (clause 90) shows that full sick and funeral benefits, as set forth, are claimable by MEMBERS (as initiated), and that "members in good standing shall be entitled, in case of death, to half the above named sum of \$100, AFTER the expiration of six months from their initiation. * * * Also half sick benefits at the expiration of six months."

Probably the prospectus, in this case, gives what is really the spirit and intention of past legislation by Grand Lodge as to sick and funeral benefits; but benefits can only be properly and LEGALLY paid according to the constitution as it stands. The subject of the inaccuracy, as well as the ungrammatical phrasing, of this very important clause (clause 90), which concerns the pocket of every member, was pointed out in Grand Lodge at its last session; and an amendment formally submitted by Lodge Richmond that stated the details intelligibly was only withdrawn by its delegate on the express assurance of the Grand Secretary, before all the delegates, that he would adopt it in the forthcoming new edition of the constitution.

In view of his breach of faith, and of the sublime indifference exhibited by the Supreme Executive of the Society as to other obvious deficiencies of the constitution, it particularly devolves upon Lodge Richmond to carry out its steady purpose to bring about a better state of affairs, regardless of whose toes may get trodden on.

A MEMBER OF LODGE RICHMOND, Toronto, Aug. 17, 1889.

N.B.—All references to page or clause are intended to apply to the 1889 edition of the constitution.

[The above correspondent, it seems to us, is of the pessimist stamp. Some of his grievances are so far-fetched that one would need to import Lord Rosse's wonderful telescope to help sift them

out; while others are of such a frivolous and even ludicrous nature as to make a careful observer think that Lodge Richmond was indulging in a few capers for a mere piece of diversion. He says "the restrictions upon members are concealed" because "all Englishmen who are not Protestants are excluded." The prospectus says "The objects are to unite all honorable and TRUE Englishmen," and as Romanists place the Pope before the Queen we fail to see how they can claim to be TRUE Englishmen. We are not aware that Quakers are ineligible should they wish to join. All persons applying for membership must believe in the "Trinity," consequently English Jews are ineligible. The remainder of the communication dealing with "cash" and "credit payment of dues," will, we are sure, cause the great majority of the S. O. E. to smile at such reasoning. However, Lodge Richmond should bear in mind that the Grand Lodge made those laws, not the Executive, and it is unfair to abuse the latter for the supposed inaccuracies of the former.—ED. ANGLO-SAXON.]

out; while others are of such a frivolous and even ludicrous nature as to make a careful observer think that Lodge Richmond was indulging in a few capers for a mere piece of diversion.

He says "the restrictions upon members are concealed" because "all Englishmen who are not Protestants are excluded." The prospectus says "The objects are to unite all honorable and TRUE Englishmen," and as Romanists place the Pope before the Queen we fail to see how they can claim to be TRUE Englishmen.

We are not aware that Quakers are ineligible should they wish to join. All persons applying for membership must believe in the "Trinity," consequently English Jews are ineligible. The remainder of the communication dealing with "cash" and "credit payment of dues," will, we are sure, cause the great majority of the S. O. E. to smile at such reasoning.

However, Lodge Richmond should bear in mind that the Grand Lodge made those laws, not the Executive, and it is unfair to abuse the latter for the supposed inaccuracies of the former.—ED. ANGLO-SAXON.]

CHARLES REEVE, HOUSE AND SIGN PAINTER, 131 York Street, Toronto.

ENGLISHMEN. Read this!

WHY DO YOU SUFFER the agonizing pains, aches, and sit up nights, etc., etc.?

Oh! Because you have SCIATICA, RHEUMATISM and KIDNEY DISEASE.

We have a Positive Cure for you. It is taken internally. One dose in 24 hours. Not a cure all. One Bottle usually cures; gives relief instantly. Ask your dealer for

WRIGHT'S RHEUMATIC REMEDY. It is a true specific, used by thousands. Try it. Price \$1.00, all Druggists.

THE WRIGHT MEDICINE CO., St. Thomas, Ont. J. A. MUSGROVE, WHOLESALE AGENT, OTTAWA.

119 RIDEAU STREET Ottawa. \$1

Gents, we are selling for the above price a light Oxford Shoe.

Our \$1.50 Gents' Balmoral is equal in style and finish to any \$3.00 Shoe made.

LADIES, procure a pair of our justly celebrated \$2.00 French Kid Button.

C.J. BOTT.

Pritchard & Andrews, GENERAL ENGRAVERS. RUBBER STAMP MANUF'RS.

Brass and Steel Stamps in Every Style.

NOTARY COMPANIES' SOCIETIES' SEALS.

Estimates Given for Quantities.

Estimates Given for Quantities.

Estimates Given for Quantities.

Estimates Given for Quantities.

Estimates Given for Quantities.

Englishmen

If you want a newspaper that is devoted to the best interests of Englishmen

Subscribe

at once and get a monthly journal containing most valuable subjects of sound doctrine and patriotic ideas, written by the most competent writers,

For the

Benefit of every British-born resident in this Dominion, that he may help to fight, in his new home, the foes of his adopted country. The

Anglo-Saxon

has a wide circulation, and being the recognized organ of the Sons of England Society, it is scattered all over this Dominion in particular, England, Africa and America for

50c per Annum

Subscribers are requested to send their fees by P. O. Money Order or cash addressed to

P. O. Box 296, Ottawa, Canada.



Awarded Grand Dominion and Ontario SILVER MEDALS. E. ACKROYD, Manufacturer of Corsets, and to Measure. 134 Sparks Street, OTTAWA. Patronized by Mrs. Langtry and notable ladies of Canada.



THOS. CLAXTON, Importer and dealer in Music and Musical INSTRUMENTS. Agent for J. W. Pepper's, Jean White's, and J. S. Ricard's (Pattee's) and Southwell's Band and Orchestral Publications. Catalogues Free. Also, Collections of Howe's, Samuel's, Squire's, Ripley's, Fisher's, Dittson's and Young's Band and Orchestra Music. English Short Model, Large Bore Band Instruments. Price Lists with Cuts on Application. No. 197 YONGE ST., TORONTO. Large Illustrated Catalogue of Musical Instruments sent to any address on receipt of 10c

GREAT CASH SALE OF READY-MADE CLOTHING.

Men's Suits, Boys' Suits, and Hats.

BRYSON, GRAHAM & CO.

146, 148, 150, 152 and 154 Sparks Street.

Use only Clapperton's Spool Cotton, the best. Bryson Graham & Co.