

Honoring St. Andrew

Victoria Scotsmen Hold Their
Annual Dinner at the Driard
Hotel.

Eloquent Speeches and Loyal
Toasts the Order of the
Evening.

St. Andrew's night is one which is never forgotten where Scotsmen are to be found the world over, and last evening proved that the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society of this city have lost none of their old-time renown for celebrating in right royal style. Last night's banquet was the forty-first for the society, and like all its predecessors passed off to the satisfaction of everyone. The guests, to the number of seventy-five, gathered in the corridors of the Driard and at 8:45 filed into the dining-room, led by Piper H. McDonald, in Highland costume. The menu was a good Scottish one, including the never absent "Great Chieftain of the Puddin' Race," the Haggis, which received the usual honor of being carried round the table to the music of the pipes.

Keen regret was felt that owing to indisposition both His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and the genial president, H. Dallas Helmcken, Q. C., were unable to be present. The following letters which were read during the evening expressed the regret of these gentlemen at their enforced absence:

Dear Sir—I am very sorry that I shall not be able to attend the St. Andrew's banquet on Friday evening, and I think it is as well to let you know at once, so that you may entrust to another the pleasure of presenting the toast that you have allotted to me. I am under the authority of the doctor, and do not think he will let me stir this week.

With best wishes for the success of the St. Andrew's banquet,

H. G. JOLY de LOTBRIERE.

Sir—Will you kindly present my compliments to the assembled guests, and express my great regret that through medical orders I will be unable to be present this evening.

It was bad enough to lose the banquet of the American consul, worse to have lost the privilege of voting on the by-law, but worst of all to be incapacitated through illness on this evening, of all.

I should have liked more than ever to be present to-night, on account of the events which have happened during the time which has elapsed since the last St. Andrew's dinner, which has witnessed the birth of a new Empire, in the formation of which Scotsmen have played a conspicuous part, over which all true and loyal Scotsmen rejoice, to think that our gracious sovereign Queen Victoria still reigns the supreme head and the honored of all nations. All Scotsmen most assuredly wish that she may live long, and that God will bless her.

I hope, too, that the representatives of these forces at Ladysmith will be present to-night, and as the toast, "The Army, Navy and Volunteers," is now understood to mean the Imperial forces, I hoped to have done honor to those gallant soldiers who went from here to fight the battles of their Queen and Country, and who, I trust, will honor the board on this occasion; also to have paid a tribute of respect to the memory of those who have lost their lives fighting for their Queen and Country.

Scotland, too, has witnessed, only last month, the extraordinary union in ecclesiastical matters between the Synod of the United Presbyterian church and the Assembly of the Free church; and the last event I see recorded in the latest British papers is the report of an address delivered by the present American ambassador in Edinburgh, on Abraham Lincoln, at a meeting presided over by Lord Rosebery, so that I hope on this evening joy will reign supreme, and that the society may witness many more future gatherings.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN.

Letters of regret were also read by Secretary Russell from R. E. Gossnell for the premier, Dr. J. S. Helmcken, Right Rev. Bishop Orib and Bishop Fawcett.

In the absence of President Helmcken the second vice-president, W. A. Robertson, took charge of the dinner. To his right were seated: Capt. Fleet, R. N.; Mayor Hayward, Hon. J. H. Turner, Hon. Senator Templeman, and Right Rev. Bishop Cridge, while on his left were: United States Consul Abraham E. Smith, Lieut.-Col. Prior, M.P.; Senator Macdonald, John Mortimer and C. H. Lumsden.

The complete list of guests who sat about the table were as follows:

Bishop Cridge, Senator Templeman, Hon. J. H. Turner, Mayor Hayward, Capt. Fleet, W. A. Robertson, United States Consul A. E. Smith, Col. Prior, Hon. Senator Macdonald, John Mortimer, C. H. Lumsden, L. McLean, Alex. Begg, E. J. Bodwell, J. C. Jameson, Ald. Stewart, J. V. Bodwell, W. Bryce, W. T. Hardaker, D. Stewart, E. C. Smith, D. Stewart, Ald. Williams, A. G. McCandless, D. E. Kerr, Dr. Fraser, John Cochrane, J. R. Mackie, A. B. Fraser, Jr., Herbert Guthbert, Lyman, P. Duff, A. Campbell, Leonard C. Mills, S. Perry Mills, Major Muttter, C. E. Redfern, A. Graham, N. McDonald, M. C. Cameron, J. K. Angus, Ald. Cooley, John Russell, Mildon Williams, W. Wallace, J. C. Scott, H. W. Shepherd, James Dean, C. A. Greig, R. Dunn, Geo. Snider, Phil. R. Smith, D. Ross, F. L. Wilmer, W. Anderson, Richard Hall, M.P.P., T. N. Hibben, F. R. Northcott, J. Stewart, A. L. Belyea, C. C. J. Robertson, Wm. Lortimer, A. C. Beech, G. Mill, Seymour H. O'Dell, Dr. Hart, B. Williams, F. Finch-Smith, D. Adams, Jas. Sargison, B. N. Hurst, Nugent Short, E. T. Wood and W. H. Price.

After the dinner had been duly honored the following telegrams which had been dispatched by President Helmcken were read by the secretary:

TO GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Ottawa is further from Victoria than Hawick from Edinburgh, but your too short visit only makes us more anxious for an early return. Heartly congratulations and best wishes.

TO VANCOUVER.

Nowhere beats the heart so kindly as

beneath the tartan plaid. We wish ye a merry night.

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

We'll hae a richt gude wullie-waught for auld lang syne.

TO WINNIPEG.

Ye, my bairnies, blythe and gay, Why laugh and sing the leech lang day, Kittle up your sang and say your say, Wi' main as micht, An' toast auld Scotland far away Wi' a' your micht.

TO OTTAWA.

Sons o' the heather, we're unco thankfu' for your greeting—Be leal the night in honor o' St. Andrew.

TO WESTMINSTER.

We'll mind yer guid advice, tak' tent to it yerse's, may ye a' hae hale brooks, a scone an' a gill o' whusky. A bithesome night, tae ye.

TO HALIFAX.

East and West thegither ca', an' sociel glee unite us a'.

TO MONTREAL.

We'll mak' oor mant, we'll brew oor drink, we'll dance an' sing an' rejoice, man.

TO NEW YORK.

Here's a han', my trusty freens, for auld lang syne.

The following telegrams were received in reply during the evening:

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 1, 1900.

To H. Dallas Helmcken, Victoria:

His Excellency thanks you heartily for good wishes, which are warmly reciprocated.

GRAHAM, Capt., A. D. C.

FROM KAMLOOPS.

In this land o' brown heath and shaggy wood; this land o' the mountain and the flood, we feel at home and drink to ye.

ALEX. D. MACINTYRE, Pres. St. Andrew's Society of Oregon.

FROM PORTLAND.

Our twenty-fifth anniversary, we wish muckle joy the right. Here's to the land o' the heather. Here's to its sons so fine.

ALEXANDER H. KERR, Pres. St. Andrew's Society of Oregon.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

Hail ye breath to cool yer kail. Here's wishin' ye a' weel.

ALLAN POLLOCK, President.

FROM WINNIPEG.

Ye Western Scots attention len, We wire ye this to let ye ken The laddies here are mair than wullin' To drink yer health in Lagavulin, An' dell choke the himmet.

ANDREW WRIGHT, Bard.

FROM OTTAWA.

Fraternal greetings to our fellow countrymen of Victoria. May peace and plenty be the lot of ilka kindly brother Scot.

D. B. MACINTYRE, President.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.

Leece me on ye canny can. Lang may ye hae a rowth o' faris, forby a drap o' today, an' gear an' graith, a haor o' baith, an' rany ye jook frae ilka skalth o' saul as weel as body.

A. E. VERT, Chief, Sons of Scotland.

FROM HALIFAX.

The East send hearty greetings to the West on this St. Andrew's Day.

I. D. IRVING, Pres. North British Halifax.

FROM VANCOUVER.

Vancouver Scots rax a freendly han' tae their brethren in the Pacific Island, an' wish them weel for auld lang syne.

F. P. BURNS, Vice-President St. Andrew's & Caledonian Society, Vancouver.

FROM ROSSLAND.

The nicht nae cottillions brent new frae France, but horripipes, flaps, strathpears an' red put life an' amitie o' oor heels; to-morrow the laddies in the bon o' the Reckles will dig oot muckle gowd an' silver frae the hills tae rejoice the Scottish heart. Hae a pint stoup wi' us.

JOHN McKANE, President.

FROM NELSON.

May the win's waft a snuff o' oor haggis tae the chieftains in Victoria.

J. RODRICK ROBERTSON, Pres. St. Andrew's Society.

FROM MONTREAL.

Here's to the grand fabric, the great federation. All colonies with Britain, in one mighty nation.

J. STEWART.

The first toast of the evening, "The Queen and members of the Royal Family," proposed by the chairman, was drunk with customary honors, and the company sang the National Anthem, accompanied by the Haynes orchestra.

Mr. Robertson then proposed the toast to the "President of the United States," and paid a high tribute to President McKinley, who was one of the statesmen weighed in balance and not found wanting. The speaker coupled the name of Consul Smith, of this city, whom he looked upon as a worthy representative, and one Victoria felt proud of. (Applause.)

Consul Smith, in replying, thanked the guests for the hearty way in which the toast was drunk and for the kind words of personal reference from the proposer. He referred in terms of high appreciation of President McKinley, who had risen from the humble walks of life to take a place among the statesmen of the world.

E. C. Smith, in proposing the toast, "The Governor-General of Canada and the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia," pointed to the fact that the Governor-General was the patron of the society, in which connection they were proud to have him. The Lieutenant-Governor's popularity was mentioned, and the desire expressed that when his term of office had expired the citizens would still have him in our midst as a citizen. (Applause.) The toast was drunk with cheer, and the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

James Deans then followed with an original poem, entitled "Victoria's Welcome to Her Sons from the Transvaal."

which evoked great applause and called for an encore. "The Wedding of Mary Macaulay," which was a reminiscence of early days.

The poems were as follows:
VICTORIA'S WELCOME TO HER SONS
FROM THE TRANSVAAL.

Thou art welcome again to thy dear native plain,
From the fields of thy fame, fresh in story,
To thy dear native land, with its wild, rugged strand,
To the home of thy youth, to Victoria.

From thy wanderings afar, 'midst the fortunes of war,
Thou returnest unscathed from the foray;
Now thou hast a claim, for thy bravery, to fame,
A claim to both honor and glory.

When thy country did crave, from the gallies of war,
A help from her sons in her sorrow,
You did not delay, but up and away,
Saying, "We shall be ready to-morrow."

Canadians are brave, and Kruger, old knave,
Shall yield, or clear out from Pretoria;
Cronje also shall yield, if we die on the field,
Or leave it all crippled and gory.

Our friends who did fall—by veidt, Modder or vaal—
We will think to their memory in sorrow;
Sins they cannot be here, to partake of our cheer,
We will leave them alone in their glory.

Their names shall go down with the names of renown,
Whose deeds are recorded in story,
Theirs was a good cause, and the nation's applause
Shall lighten the weight of our sorrow.

Build them a monument good, neither shabby nor crude,
With carvings artistic and pretty,
Place it somewhere in our pleasure grounds fair,
On our Hill, or in part of our city.

Thou art welcome again, to thy dear native plain,
From the fields of thy fame, now in story;
We welcome you here, to partake of our cheer,
Your auld Scottish freens in Victoria.

THE WEDDING OF MARY MACAULAY.

A reminiscence of olden times. In the month of May, 1853, William MacNeill, son of Captain MacNeill, of the H. B. Co., was united in wedlock to Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. Donald MacAulay, in the fort, by the Rev. Mr. Staines. They had a genuine Scottish wedding. The sport was kept up till daylight next morning.

On a point in the sea, in the year fifty-three,
Lived a lassie baith tidy and brawly,
Who was lo'd unco weel by young Willie MacNeill.
This bonnie lassie was Mary MacAulay.

After courtin' some years, baith in sunshine and tears,
Young Willie his courage did rally,
And on that same day, without further delay,
He proposed to young Mary MacAulay.

When she kent his intent, she gave her consent,
And her auld folks they quickly did rally,
With needless delay they appointed the day,
For the wedding of Mary MacAulay.

Their friends far and near, to partake of their cheer,
Were invited frae hills and valleys,
While us chieftains frae Craigflower came the bottoms but ower,
To the wedding of Mary MacAulay.

In their best Sunday coats, by canoes and by boats,
All banded to the fort soon did rally,
While there Mr. Staines took the trouble, and pains,
To make Mrs. MacNeill, bonnie Mary MacAulay.

Then the piper did play them a march to the bay,
The young couple looked comely and brawly,
Yes, indeed, she looked weel, the young bride of MacNeill,
Who nae longer was Mary MacAulay.

Then homeward ance mair, to the point they repair,
Where the guests were invited to rally;
Soon they all wished her weel, the nice bride of MacNeill,
The fair daughter of Donald MacAulay.

'There was singin' and dancin' and laughin' and prancin',
While some, wi' good whusky, grew squally,
There was Gaelic galore, and of good things a store,
At the wedding of Mary MacAulay.

When the sun's early ray cast its tints on the brae,
And the mist still hung low ower the valley,
Each started for home, by the way which they came,
Frae the wedding of Mary MacAulay.

"The Navy, Army and Volunteers" was proposed by Alex. Begg, who paid tribute to these defenders of our country, referring to recent matters in Africa.

In response to this toast Capt. Fleet, R. N., referred in kindly words to the hospitality of Victoria, which was a leading feature of life in this city—(Applause)—and also to the safety of Vancouver Island from attack while defended by the army, navy and volunteers. (Applause.)

Short speeches were also made by Major Muttter and Corp. O'Dell, who spoke of the gallantry of Canadians in Africa and of the jolly times spent round camp with the Gordon Highlanders. (Applause.)

"The Clergy and Medical Profession" was proposed by Senator Macdonald, and responded to by Bishop Cridge and Dr. R. L. Fraser.

Allan Graham proposed the toast "The Land We Left and the Land We Live In," which was enthusiastically received and responded to by John Mackay in a song "Scotland Yet."

Sir Henry Crease was to have proposed "The Senate, the Dominion Parliament and the Legislative Assembly of

British Columbia," but being absent, this duty was assumed by Mr. E. V. Bodwell. Suitable responses were made by Hon. J. H. Turner and Senator Templeman.

Sensor Templeman then offered the toast, "The Mayor and Corporation of the City of Victoria." His Worship Mayor Hayward and Ald. Williams replied.

"The Press" was proposed by James Deans and responded to by C. H. Lumsden.

"The Day and All Who Honor It" was proposed by Major Muttter, and replied to by W. A. Robertson, "The Bench and the Bar" by ex-President John Robertson, and responded to by Messrs. Bodwell, Belyea and Mills, while E. C. Smith offered a final toast to the "Ladies."

Enjoyable songs were rendered during the evening by ex-Ald. Begg and by Geo. Sheldon Williams, who sang "Boys of the Old Brigade" and "I Want to Go Home to My Ma."

The gathering broke up at a late hour by the singing of "God Save the Queen" and "Auld Lang Syne."

North Pole Exploring

Suggestions of Local Navigator,
Who Made Voyage on the
Alert in 1875.

Advices Use of Wooden Ship, and
an Early Start From
Victoria.

Captain Bernier's expedition to the North Pole, which Eastern papers announce is to start from Victoria some time in May or June next, is being largely discussed among local navigators and especially by those who have had Arctic experience. There perhaps are more numerous in this city than in any other city this side of the Maritime Provinces, and the opinion advanced on the feasibility or non feasibility of the expedition are many and diverse.

Of the many who have been within the Arctic circle and who take a deep interest in all schemes which have been devised for the solving of the mystery of the Ice King, is one who was on the Alert during that vessel's famous polar expeditions in 1875-76, and who has, no doubt, seen as much of the Far North as any man living in Canada. He is at present running a steamer out of this port, and for various reasons does not want to be quoted. He thinks, however, that Captain Bernier's venture ought to be successful if properly conducted, but it is very important, he considers, that two vessels should be employed in the work.

There are two vessels on the Markham expedition, in 75, the Discovery, having acted as the Alert's consort, and the value of this kind of companionship was then demonstrated to be almost inestimable. The vessels should travel side by side, and should so proceed as far as navigation would permit. Then one could anchor while the other drifted with the currents into the great unknown region.

There are other considerations which this navigator thinks Capt. Bernier should pay attention to, one being the necessity of leaving here, not in May or June as proposed, but in the month of April, and another the importance of getting the right men to command the vessel. Theoretical knowledge was, to his mind, not so requisite in those men as good practical experience, and for this season from the Orkney or Shetland island were nowhere to be excelled. These men were inured to the hardships and frigidities of Arctic travel, and could be depended on when the most perilous end of the expedition came.

Still one other suggestion which he had to offer was in regard to the ship to be employed in the proposed expedition. A wooden vessel, he says, is superior every time to a steel or iron craft, for the simple and obvious reason that one will give under the pressure of the ice while the other will not.

Five of the crew of the United States auxiliary cruiser Yosemite were drowned by the capsizing of one of the boats off the island of Guam.

The smallest boat in the world is only half the size of a postage stamp. It is in the possession of the Earl of Dufferin, and is an edition of the sacred book of the Sikhs.

Charles Harrison, of Masset, Queen Charlotte Islands, to be a stipendiary magistrate for and within the county of Vancouver.

Frank S. Murray, of the city of Victoria, to be a stipendiary magistrate for and within the county of Victoria.

Paul Harvey Marshall, of Ladysmith, to be a stipendiary magistrate for and within the county of Victoria.

Earle Jennings Scovell, of Windermere, S. M., to be a stipendiary magistrate for and within the county of Victoria.

William Fleet Robertson, of the city of Victoria, provincial mineralogist, to be a member of the geographic board of Canada, to represent the province of British Columbia.

A McLeod has been appointed deputy-mining recorder for Fernie.

After Monday next the bridge crossing Victoria Arm at Craigflower will be closed for repairs.

The following companies have been incorporated: British Columbia Record, Ltd., capital \$20,000; Nelson Power Co., Ltd., capital \$75,000; Royston Gold Mines, capital \$1,000,000; Silver Belt Mining Company, Ltd., capital \$100,000. Courts of Revision will be held as follows: Vancouver county, at the Vancouver court house on Thursday, January 10th, at 11 a.m.; West Kootenay district, Revelstoke Riding, at the Revelstoke court house on Monday, December 10th, at 10:30 a.m.; Yale district, West Kootenay, at the court house, Yale, December 27th, at 11 a.m.; in the court house, Lytton, December 28th, at 11 a.m.; in the court house, Ashcroft, December 29th, at 11 a.m.; Yale district, East Kootenay, at Enderby, December 12th, at 9 a.m.; at Vernon, December

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WEEK'S OFFICIAL NEWS.

Craigflower Road Bridge to Be Closed For Repairs After Monday Next—Companies Incorporated.

The Official Gazette published last evening contains the following appointments: To be justices of the peace for the counties of Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver, Westminster, Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay: George Arthur Rendell, of Elnoh; Samuel Macartney, of Savona; William Henry Cooper, of the city of Grand Forks.

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