

The PRESIDENT—Allow me to say on behalf of the Association, I accept this photo as a very fine testimony of the appreciation in which this Association is held by the town, and I can promise that this photo will hang in our regular rooms in Toronto in an honored place. I see here, by glancing at it, that there is a printed history of that early movement which shall be cherished and cared for.

The following telegram was received from Mr. Graham, M.P.P., whose name was on the programme for an address of welcome on behalf of Eastern Ontario: "Regret I cannot be with you to-night."

I have now very much pleasure indeed in asking Mr. John A. Paterson of Toronto, to reply. He is one of the oldest officers of the Association present, one on whom we rely. (Applause).

Mr. PATERSON—Mr. Mayor, Mr. Gill, and good people of Brockville—I am charged with the duty, and gladdened by the privilege of answering the words of welcome which have been addressed so bountifully to this Association. I do it very gladly. I do it because I feel the duty is an easy one, because, indeed, the man that could not respond fitly to such eloquent words of welcome with some degree of intelligibility, would be lacking in the common elements of human wisdom. I notice that Mr. Gill, whom we have just heard, was President, as I believe, of the Convention that met here sixteen years ago. At least it is the same name. Is it the same?

Mr. GILL—It is the same.

Mr. PATERSON—Then I congratulate him that the Association which he fathered sixteen years ago is still living, and is still so prosperous. Your fellow citizen belongs to a distinguished line of kings. Here (refers to Dr. Harrison) sits the 35th of the dynasty; here is the 19th (refers to Mr. Gill); others are scattered through the towns of Ontario, and some are now in the audience.

I notice, too, that our Association Conventions have not assembled east of Toronto since they met at Belleville some six years ago, and then in the fulness of time. The cycle of the west having been completed, we now come back to the east. We go as a Convention from city to city because we are provincial. We go as a Convention from church to church because we are interdenominational; not provincial only, we are world-wide; we are cosmopolitan; we are more than metropolitan. We find ourselves sometimes in London, that world's centre, and thus we have a mighty stretch from the little log cabin school house, hewn out of the virgin forest by the hands of men both good and true, away on to that world's centre, London, England, where, in a mighty cathedral we find coroneted earl and belted duke sitting side by side with the humblest people of all countries, and discerning the wisest way and best methods of bringing the children of all nations to the feet of the Nazarene. We respond gladly to the wealth of your welcome; we would like to respond eloquently to the fulness of your greetings; but, at least, we respond most truly and