

BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

Now, 'my friends, I am an Odd Fellow,
And it is my pride and boast
That I've been considered worthy
Of communion with that host ;
Our motto's Truth, Love, Friendship,
And fraternity our plan ;
Our greatest pride and glory is
The Brotherhood of Man.

Yes, we dry the wretched orphan's tears,
And cheer the widow's sigh ;
We succor age's failing years,
And bury when they die.
All kinds of vice and wickedness
We place beneath a ban ;
We own the Fatherhood of God,
And Brotherhood of Man.

Yes, we aid the poor and needy,
And cheer the weary heart ;
In every phase of life we try
To act a noble part.

No matter who may lag behind,
We strive to lead the van,
And bear aloft the banner of
The Brotherhood of Man.

And let us hope 'twill be our pride,
When we are called away,
To see the blessed fruits that grow
From seeds we sow to-day ;
And that the glorious angel band
Will emulate our plan,
And Heaven bless all those who own
The Brotherhood of Man.

—Bro. George W. Morgan.

THE INSTITUTION OF GATEWAY LODGE.

A number of the leading members of the Order are engaged in preparing a new work on Oddfellowship. Bro. Campbell, P.G. Sire, who has charge of the Canadian section of the work, has secured many interesting papers connected with the history of various lodges in the Dominion, which are too extensive for use in the book, but too valuable to be lost. Among them is the following description of the institution of Gateway Lodge, No. 4, of Emerson, Manitoba, written by Bro. H. G. Alton, P.G., one of the charter members. Bro. Alton was initiated in Oakville, Ontario, in 1874, but is now an active member of Portage Lodge, No. 3, Manitoba.

ODDFELLOWSHIP IN EMERSON, MANITOBA.

In the early part of the year 18—, a few Odd Fellows having located at the thriving and progressive town of Emerson, and from casual meetings between those Brothers individually, it was thought best to organize a lodge of the Order in that place, and a meeting was called for that purpose. Brothers Kaspar, Killar, Stauffer, Wm. Mills, H. G. Alton, and others, attended and after some discussion they unanimously decided to procure their withdrawal cards from their several lodges in the eastern provinces and canvass all other Odd Fellows in the vicinity to assist.

For some years previous to this two lodges had been in existence in the City of Winnipeg, viz., Manitoba Lodge, No. 1, and North Star Lodge, No. 2, which had been doing a noble work in assisting and

advising their brethren who were constantly arriving in this new land with the object of locating, and hoping, ardently, to in the near future make their fortunes and retire to enjoy a life of ease. But in many cases the hopes of the young stranger were not to be realized. Frequently a Brother would arrive who, after a severe trip over what was then known as the Dawson Route, by land and water, from the older Provinces, would be so exhausted both physically and financially, that were it not that he was an Odd Fellow and at once found friends, his condition would have been sad, indeed. Many Odd Fellows can point with a thrill of gratitude to the early days of Winnipeg, when they found the assistance that was so greatly needed by them at that time, and it is hoped that they still continue in extending the many acts of kindness and brotherly love to others, which were so generously extended to them.

But I have been digressing. To return to the subject. The necessary withdrawal cards began to arrive in Emerson, and it was decided to send the first five that arrived and ask for a charter, which at that time we could only procure through D.D.G. Sire Bro. Geo. Andrew from the Sovereign Grand Lodge, under whose jurisdiction the two lodges in Manitoba were working. We had learned that the brethren of Portage la Prairie were also working with the view of organizing a lodge at that point, and we were very anxious that our lodge should be numbered three and be the first lodge organized in the Province outside of Winnipeg. But such was not to be. When our charter arrived we found that we had the authority to work under the title of "Gateway City Lodge, No. 4," and that our brethren of Portage la Prairie had beaten us in the race, while we were a "good second." However, as a balm to our wounded feelings, owing to the Portage Lodge papers being delayed in the mails, our lodge was the first of the two to be organized, and therefore had the honour of being the first lodge in the Province organized outside of Winnipeg.

A short time prior to the organization of that lodge, an incident occurred which, although very sad, had the effect of calling a large amount of attention from the public to our Order, and no doubt did considerable towards increasing the membership later. It was this. A young brother from Union Lodge, St. Catharines, Ontario, whose name I have forgotten, arrived in Pembina, Dakota (a town about three miles south of Emerson), without funds. He was also, as we afterwards learned, bad on his lodge books, and when he fell ill in Pembina, no doubt he was more delicate in applying to Odd Fellows for relief on that account. However, he suffered in silence, and when on his deathbed he then made known the fact that he was an Odd Fellow. This came to the ears of Bro. Mills, who at once went to see the brother and constituted himself a relief committee, gave orders to have the stranger made comfortable and receive the best possible attention. And when he died Bro. Mills, assisted by other Odd Fellows, paid all his expenses and gave his body decent sepulture. This sad incident occurring as it did before any lodge was organized in the locality, set people to thinking that an Order must be a good one, the members of which, although not

organized, and scattered somewhat apart, would rally to the assistance of a brother in distress, and render that aid and comfort which was so necessary to him at that time, and under the circumstances.

When organization was decided upon, arrangements were made with the proprietor of a brick store then in course of construction, for a lease of the second flat in the building for a lodge room, to be fitted up to meet the requirements of the lodge. When the charter arrived, the lodge room was not nearly ready for occupancy, and the only place procurable was the upper story of a vacant frame house, which was divided off into rooms, the largest of which would not be more than 16 feet square of floor space, and as the building was not more than one and a half story high, a person could not nearly stand upright against the side walls owing to the slope of the roof. However, in that building the lodge was organized, and the first candidates there received their first lessons in the Order, and although the place was not convenient for making our lessons as impressive as they ordinarily would have been, yet we hope that many good Odd Fellows received their first lessons in that humble abode, and there learned the rudiments of the sublime principles of Friendship, Love and Truth.

THE OTTAWA DISTRICT: A GOOD CIRCULAR.

This important District is in good hands. The best interests of the Order are being looked after in a vigorous and wise manner. Bro. F. J. Hamon, the D.D.G.M. is a host in himself ; and it is needless to say that he is ably and enthusiastically seconded by the District secretary, Bro. Geo. Bell, whose capacity and inclination for work is simply phenomenal. We can safely venture the prediction that No. 9 will give an exceedingly good account of itself next August. From a circular just issued by the D.D.G.M. we make the following suggestive extracts :

We have noted the fact that past committees have with unflinching regularity recommended the interchange of fraternal visits by lodges, the success of which all are fully aware. This year we would recommend the more frequent visits of individual members to the lodges within this district. It is our aim to have a united fraternity, and while we favor the visits of lodges in a body, we feel strongly on the question of individual visits as the bond by which we hope to cement more closely and firmly the friendship that should exist between the membership of the different lodges, and we can see no better way than by friendly exchange of ideas on the questions arising from time to time the discussions of which would broaden our views, and enlarge the sphere of affection. Then let us be more social and more fraternal, and by so doing many lukewarm members will be stirred up by the influence of contact and association. The prosperity of the Order depends on the element of sociability, for the fruits of Oddfellowship cannot be produced on cold and selfish soil.