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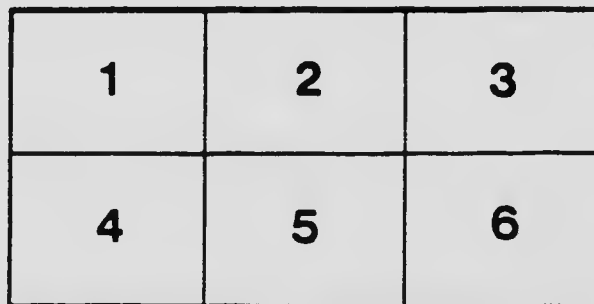
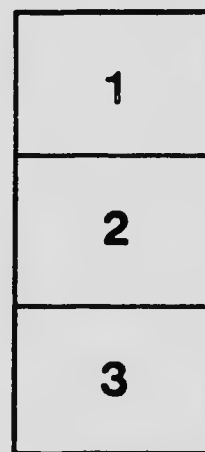
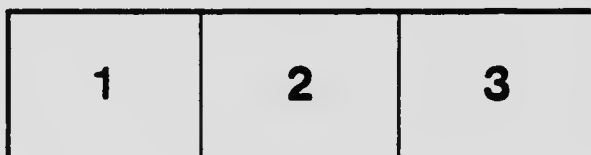
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OFFICIAL
SOUVENIR

54TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



GRAND LODGE OF ONTARIO

AUGUST 10, 11, 12, 13, 1908
ST. THOMAS ONTARIO

U:

610211



THE CITY IS YOURS



Rosebery Place



TWENTY-FOUR YEARS ago the Grand Lodge of Ontario of the I. O. O. F. met in St. Thomas.

Ever since, the latch string has been hanging out for you.

And now you are coming again: and you are going to find that the door will be open—either wide open or taken off its hinges.

For St. Thomas wants every Odd Fellow who can come, to be her guest on this joyful occasion of nineteen-eight.

Once in the city's doors, the keys will be handed over to you—the keys that unlock our larders and the keys that open to you all the joys of a home that's awaited your coming for years.

Of course you've known all along that a cordial welcome would greet you—you know that St. Thomas if it had any other name than the "Railroad City," it would be "The Odd Fellows'

City." You know that because of the fame our Canton has brought to this city in its achievements throughout Canada and the United States. You know that because of the prominent part played by St. Thomas lodges in the history of all works of Odd Fellowship. The first secretary of the Rebekah Chapter, for instance, was Sister Waddell, of this city, who was one of the most active in initiating the movement which resulted in the establishment of the model Ontario Odd Fellows' Home.

There have been other achievements of St. Thomas brethren and sisters that have placed this city in the front rank, and we believe that those Odd Fellows who recall the Grand Lodge Session of 1884 will agree with the statement that on that occasion no heartier welcome could have been accorded the delegates of nearly a quarter century ago.

Could a greater welcome have been given, then it will be the welcome of 1908



Metcalf Street



Ben Geddes Mayor

1908

THOMAS CITY COUNCIL

The City Is Yours

—Continued

There are over a thousand Odd Fellows here to start that welcome.

That means one in every fourteen people, including the children, is an Odd Fellow.

And that is in itself a guarantee of the Open Door.

But the citizens generally, will welcome you. The citizens are proud of their city and want you to see it. But that's only one reason. They are also proud of the leaders in civic life, and the representative men here, as elsewhere, are Odd Fellows.

Where Odd Fellowship is strong, good-fellowship is likewise strong.

We know you'll feel that that is true more than you ever did, when you come and find that only the hinges are left and the city is open to you—its homes and its hearts.

And when you go and the doors are put up again, we want you all to remember that the latch string will ever be out for every Odd Fellow who may return.

That you will all enjoy the freedom of the city and that you will carry away the pleasantest of recollections of your visit to St. Thomas, after profitable deliberations for the good of the Order is the fraternal wish of

THE COMMITTEE



TALBOT STREET, LOOKING EAST FROM HINCKS STREET



COURT HOUSE PARK



ALMA COLLEGE



ODD FELLOWSHIP IN ST. THOMAS

By "Observer" in St. Thomas Journal, March 10, 1908



Metcalf Street



AMONG the many fraternal and social orders in St. Thomas—a city of fraternal societies—perhaps no one is doing a wider and greater work in the fields of fraternity and benevolence than the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Its membership is considerably over one thousand, not including the affiliated organizations, to be members of which one has also to be a member of a subordinate lodge. Its motto, "Friendship, Love and Truth," is a live reality shown by kindly acts and the provisions made and carried out for the relief of distress and suffering. As in most fraternal orders the relief comes not as charity, but as something to which the receiver is entitled, and the charity that is twice blessed comes in the shape of kindly acts and deeds of thoughtfulness for the sick and needy.

The order is not of mushroom growth in this city, but has had a steady development which rests upon foundations of worth and stability. The first lodge was organized 64 years ago but through internal cause, lapsed and for seven years Odd Fellowship had no existence in the city, but from that time it has grown and prospered until it has reached the giant stature of to-day. In the city there are three subordinate lodges, an encampment, a Canton and a Rebekah degree lodge.

Elgin Lodge, No. 32, was instituted on May 3rd, 1854, the charter members being: Joseph Laing, John McLean, A. J. Allworth, James Mitchell and John C. Landep. The lodge lapsed and was reinstated on June 20th, 1878. The lodge which meets every Friday night in the hall over Meehan & Regan's shoe store, has a membership of 327. Last year it paid \$1,955.60 in sick benefit and \$600 of funeral benefit. Its assets amount to \$9,317.16. The officers for the present term are Dr. T. L. Gray, Noble Grand; R. Roberts, Vice Grand; W. T. Collins, Recording Secretary; J. H. Tonge, Financial Secretary; J. W. Stewart, Treasurer. Lodge physician and medical examiner, T. L. Gray, M.D.

St. Thomas Lodge, No. 76, the second largest lodge in Ontario, was instituted on the 14th of July, 1871, and for seven years was the only Odd Fellows' Lodge in the city. The lodge was instituted at a session of the Grand Lodge of which W. N. Ford of St. Marys was Grand Master. The charter members were: J. M. Green,



OFFICERS AND DEGREE TEAM, EDNA REBEKAH LODGE

Odd Fellowship in St. Thomas

—Continued

John C. Lindop, John Heard, Geo. A. Rose, C. H. Hankinson, T. L. Lindop, H. M. Wilson, Leonard Ferguson, W. A. Lipsey, W. T. Cripps, W. F. Forbes, D. H. Gilbert, Geo. K. Crocker, W. McKay and S. Chadwick. The present membership is 484 and during its existence 904 members have been enrolled in the lodge roster. Last year \$2,176.91 was paid in relief, \$750 to widows and orphans, and \$350 funeral benefits. The assets amount to \$9,313.27.

Elgin Encampment, No. 20, then a uniformed encampment, was instituted by Adam Parois, of St. Catharines, Grand Patriarch, on May 23rd, 1873. The charter members were J. M. Green, W. T. Cripps, D. H. Gilbert, John Heard, W. F. Forbes, O. C. Jarvis, Geo. K. Crocker, J. C. Lindop, Leonard Ferguson, J. E. Cloes, Angus Murray, D. Ferguson, Cornelius Mitchell and H. M. Mitchell. The camp has now a membership of 214, and 359 names have been enrolled since its existence. The officers are: F. R. Pearson, Chief Patriarch; D. L. Shafer, High Patriarch; H. Huck, Senior Warden; Leonard Ferguson, Scribe; J. B. Squance, Financial Secretary; S. Wild, Junior Warden; A. Barber, Treasurer. Its assets over liabilities are \$2,015.

Edna Rebekah Lodge, No. 14, whose work is of social character, visiting the sick and all who have need of their kindly offices, a work whose value cannot be computed in dollars and cents, has a membership of 225 and was instituted on November 15th, 1888. The charter members were: Leonard Ferguson, W. Holman, J. W. Burwell, Jas. Vicary, Charles Rowley, W. A. Miner, Jas. B. Squance, W. G. Bowker, George B. Maxwell, J. W. Stewart, C. Stringer and Sisters Mary A. Holman, Annie Forbes, Emma Worth, Ida Rowley, Olive Stringer, Amelia Miner, Maggie Waddell, Annie Brown, Nellie Strecks, S. Holman, Mary Taylor, Mary Brown, Mattie Branton and Mary A. Pearce.

Bro. G. T. Claris, a member of Elgin Lodge, No. 32, was the first Grand Treasurer of the first Grand Lodge at its organization at Brockville on the 23rd of August, 1855.

In August, 1861, a session of the Grand Lodge was held in St. Thomas at which Bro. John King, a member of Elgin Lodge, No. 32, who was then Deputy Grand Master, presided in the place of Samuel D. Dolson, Grand Master, who was prevented from being present by sickness in his family. At that session Past Representative Bro. A. Walthew, who was the Noble Grand of Elgin Lodge, No. 32, was appointed Grand Marshall.

At the Grand Lodge held in St. Thomas in 1884, Past Grand Leonard Ferguson, St. Thomas lodge, No. 76, was elected Grand Warden.



Alma College Campus

U!



MAHOMET SANCTORUM, NO 14, O O H. AND P, ST. THOMAS.



Canton Victoria No. 5

SHORT HISTORY OF CANTON VICTORIA NO. 5

On February 22nd, 1883, the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ontario met in St. Thomas and instituted St. Thomas Uniform Degree Camp No. 4. The instituting officers were M. D. Gordon, G. P.; E. Belt, G. M. P.; M. D. Dawson, G. S., assisted by a number of U. D. C. members from London. The following charter members were present: Thos. Cole, L. Ferguson, M. Ponsford, H. M. Wilson, P. Brown, W. F. Forbes, F. H. Ferguson, Ed. Neal, A. Murray, S. Schreck, Fred Doggett, W. H. Crack, A. H. Adkins, D. J. Boughner, Jas. Vicory, Jos. Gibbons, Wm. Worth, J. H. Love, Thos. Meek, W. Maldon, D. Ferguson. Officers elected as follows: L. Ferguson, Commander; Fred Doggett, Vice-Commander; F. H. Ferguson, Guard; T. Cole, Secretary; A. Murray, Treasurer. At that meeting the following Patriarchs were initiated: D. H. Gooding, H. A. Neal, D. Stewart, H. Stewart, J. McQueen Wardell.

On March 3rd, 1886, Uniform Degree Camp was merged into Canton Victoria, No. 5, Patriarchs Militant, by Lieut. Col. Jos. Oliver, assisted by Major J. Slater, with the following charter members: F. H. Ferguson, P. Brown, M. S. Ryan, D. J. Boughner, L. Ferguson, Fred Doggett, Wm. Walden, Thos. Cole, H. Ponsford, W. F. Forbes, H. A. Neil, W. J. Keiffer, Ed. Neal, John Morrison, Ed. Roberts, H. B. Smith, D. H. Gooding,



AMASA WOOD HOSPITAL



ELGIN COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Short History of Canton Victoria No. 5

—Continued.

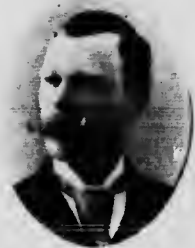
John H. Cole, Jas. Vicory, Wm. Worth, L. Jones, W. H. Crack, A. M. Hutchinson, R. Ching, S. Schreck, W. O. Foster, D. A. Stinson, John Berry, Geo. A. Hill, J. M. Love, Wm. Watson, Jas. Ellwood, A. M. Sharp.

The first officers of Canton Victoria: Captain, F. H. Ferguson; Lieutenant, P. Brown; Ensign, M. K. Ryan; Clerk, D. J. Boughner; Accountant, L. Ferguson.

The present Commander, Major James B. Squance, was admitted a member of Canton Victoria on April 3rd, 1888. Elected Lieutenant, April 16, 1889. Elected Captain by acclamation, March 13, 1890. Elected Drill Instructor or Commanding Officer by acclamation, March 13, 1890, and has been Commanding Officer continuously since that date to the present time.

Canton Victoria has given eighteen exhibition drills in various parts of Canada and the United States, and has taken part in the following drill competitions:

St. Thomas, May 26, 1890, First Prize.	Kingston, August, 1890, Second Prize.
Petrovia, July 1, 1891, First Prize.	Galt, July 29, 1891, First Prize.
St. Thomas, May 24, 1892, First Prize.	Cleveland, O., July 26, 1894, First Prize.
Detroit, Mich., September 21, 1899, Third Prize.	Milton, July 1, 1900, First Prize.
Rochester, N. Y., August 1, 1900, First Prize.	Rochester, N. Y., August 1, 1900, First Prize.
(The latter was individual drill by Major James B. Squance.)	
Indianapolis, September 21, 1904, First Prize.	Toronto, September, 1906, First Prize.
Belleville, July 1, 1907.	



HENRY T. PONSFORD

Initiated into Lodge No. 32, St. Thomas, and withdrew from that Lodge and joined El Paso Lodge No. 284, El Paso, Texas. Brother Ponsford is visiting his old home and attending the Grand Lodge.



PERE MARQUETTE YARDS



MICHIGAN CENTRAL YARDS AND STATION



PROGRAMME OF ENTERTAINMENT



THE committee of arrangements for the entertainment of the different Grand Bodies have arranged the following programme :

Monday evening, August 10th, Unity Encampment of Ingersoll will exemplify the Patriarchal Degree in the Hall of the St. Thomas Lodge, No. 76.

Tuesday, August 11th, the meeting of the Grand Encampment will be held in the Woodmen's Hall, on the corner of Talbot and Metcalf streets. The Rebekah Assembly will meet in the hall of Elgin Lodge, No. 32. Tuesday evening Edna Rebekah Lodge No. 14, will exemplify the Rebekah Degree in the Granite Rink. This will be followed by a banquet to members, and a programme of excellent music, speeches, etc., at which Mayor Geddes will preside.

In the evening the Department Council will meet in the hall of St. Thomas Lodge, No. 76. After the conclusion of its business the Patriarchs Militant Degree will be conferred by visiting cantons competing for a trophy given by the Department Council.

Wednesday, August 12th, the Grand Lodge will open at the Granite Rink, at 9 o'clock a.m.

At 1 p.m. a parade will be formed at the Horton Market, which will proceed to Pinafore Park, where there will be games, races, athletic sports, competitive drill of visiting cantons, and baseball matches. A trophy will be given to the lodge having the largest number of members in the parade, St. Thomas lodges not being included in this competition. All cantons competing must be in this parade.

Wednesday evening the Decoration of Chivalry will be conferred in the Granite Rink by Colonel Johnson and staff, a Silent Drill will be given by Canton Victoria No. 5, St. Thomas.

A reception will be tendered to Grand Sire Conway, the Grand Officers of New York, Michigan and other states, General Raney, Commander-in-Chief of Patriarchs Militant, and General Bradford, Chief of Staff. The prizes for the competitive drill of the cantons will be awarded.

Thursday : Continuation of the session of the Grand Lodge.



PERE MARQUETTE SHOPS



KETTLE CREEK, NEAR ST. THOMAS

COMMITTEES

Hotel, Billeting, Transportation and Reception—Bro. R. C. Devlin, chairman; Bros. Cross, Beal, Rowley, Jagoe, Brody, Leslie, Riddell, Doggett, Locock, Roberts, Bloye, Belbin, Compton, Pink, Calver, Norton, Barber, Williams, St. Thomas; Bros. Law and York, Harrietsville; Bro. Stevens, Aylmer; Bro. Bongard, Crampton; Bros. Hart, Morrison, Teir, Shedden; Bro. Young, Fingal; Bro. W. F. Bole, West Lorne.

Entertainment—Bro. Chas. Rowley, chairman; Bros. Leslie, Cross, Devlin, Squance, Doggett, Welter, Brody, Jones, Logan, Belbin, St. Thomas; Bro. Doan, Harrietsville; Bro. Howe, Crampton; Bro. Warnock, Aylmer; Bro. Hart, Shedden; Bro. Martin, Rodney; Bro. Price, Dutton; Bro. E. Kesson, West Lorne.

Printing—Bro. A. Calver, chairman; Bros. Barber, Devlin, Locock, Compton, Brody, Pink, Welter, Rowley, Adams, Perry, St. Thomas; Bros. Sells and Miller, Shedden.

Hall and Decoration—Bro. F. Doggett, chairman; Bros. Riddle, Squance, Logan, Devlin, Tanner, Williams, Locock, Welter, Pink, J. J. Roberts, Watson, Wild, St. Thomas; Bro. Morrison, Harrietsville; Bro. Farrah, Shedden; Bro. Lieber, Rodney.

Finance—Bro. L. O. Pearson, chairman; Mrs. A. Barber, Bros. Rowley, Devlin, Barber, Doggett, Jagoe, St. Thomas; Bro. Facey, Harrietsville; Bro. Craith, Crampton; Bros. Sells and Farrah, Shedden; Bro. Warnock, Aylmer; Bro. McLean, Rodney; Bro. Lewis, Glanworth; Bro. Blue, Dutton; Bro. W. A. Meldrum, West Lorne.

Patriarchs Militant—Bro. A. Barber, chairman; Bros. Squance, Logan, Lesle, Welter, Doggett, Tanner, Norton, Devlin, Calver, Belbin, J. J. Roberts, Watson, Wild, St. Thomas; Bro. Riddle, Harrietsville; Bro. Sells, Shedden.

Rebekah General Committee—Sister Barber, chairlady; Sister Anthony, secretary; Sisters Scott, P. Brown, Stringer, Cockran, Shaw, Gidley, Ponsford, Ley, Fitch, Munce, Cross, Hare, Wright, Clargo, Watson, Barkwell, Bird, Smith, Campbell, Welter, J. Brown.

Reception of Grand Officers—W. E. Stevens, Chairman, Aylmer; Wm. Warnock, Fred Doggett, C. F. Maxwell, L. Ferguson, Mayor Geo. Geddes.

Souvenir Book Committee—P. R. Williams, chairman; Hy. B. Smith, secretary; Fred Doggett, Jas. B. Squance, L. M. Miller, A. Calver, Geo. Ponsford, C. F. Maxwell, Sr., F. W. Wright.



W. T. COLLINS
District Deputy Grand Master



J. B. Squance



A. Morris



C. F. MAXWELL
Chairman of General Committee



W. E. Stevens



Fred. Doggett



S. Wild



J. Belbin

MEMBERS OF ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



Roberts



F. R. Pearson



A. Barber



E. Hunsberger
P. G. M., No. 76, now of Cleveland, O.



F. W. Wright

THE FATHER OF ODD FELLOWSHIP IN ST. THOMAS



LEONARD FERGUSON, P. G. P.

The father of Odd Fellowship in St. Thomas was born in Yarmouth on May 19th, 1838. He was initiated into St. Thomas Lodge, No. 76, at the time of its institution, July 14, 1871. He has served the lodge in all the elective offices and was elected Recording Secretary in 1874, which was a representative to the office he has filled ever since, and Grand Lodge in 1873-74, and again several years since. He was D. D. G. M. from 1874 to 1876 and was Grand Chaplain in 1878 and Grand Warden in 1885. He had been through the Encampment chairs and was elected Scribe in 1878, and has served in that capacity ever since. He has been a representative in the Grand Encampment a number of times and was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1897, and passed on to Grand Patriarch in which he was elected in 1900, and Grand Representative in 1902. He was the first Commander of Canton Victoria No. 5.



J. Tanner



P. R. WILLIAMS
Chairman
Souvenir Book Committee



H. B. SMITH
Secretary Souvenir Book Committee



L. M. Miller



W. Leggett



R. Devlin



C. Rowley

MEMBERS OF ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



J. Watson



J. Brodie



J. Roberts



A. Leslie



J. Beal



TALBOT STREET (Looking East from Hiawatha St.)



Residence of W. E. Cook, East St



SOUTH-WESTERN TRACTION CAR

U:



Y. M. C. A. BUILDING



E. S. CONWAY, Deputy Grand Sire
Oak Park, Illinois.



R. R. BRETT

The present Grand Master of the Order in Ontario, is a native of the historic town of Amherstburg, where he was born 39 years ago. He is a P. M. in the Masonic Order and has filled all the offices in the subordinate and encampment branches of the I. O. O. F.



JOHN B. GOODWIN, Grand Secretary
Baltimore, Maryland.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR "ELGIN BRAND"

ELGIN BRAND Meats and Lards

THE BEST THAT CAN BE MADE

Manufactured by

ST. THOMAS PACKING CO.

ST. THOMAS, ONT.

THE WISE MAN'S FOUR WISHES

Bread—When I'm Hungry,

Cold Water—When I'm dry,

Money—When I'm broke,

Heaven—When I die.

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Spencer's Home-made Bread

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House Decorator :: All Branches

319 Talbot Street

Q All Sheet Metal Work and General Jobbing
promptly attended to at reasonable prices.

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Diamonds

Watches

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and

Cut

Glassware



Jeweler

AND

Optician

296 TALBOT ST.

ST. THOMAS



E. C. TITTERINGTON
P. N. G. St. Thomas Lodge, No 76

Bro. Titterington was one of the most active workers in the ranks of Odd Fellowship in the city, and at the time of his death, March, 1908, was Chairman of the Printing Committee for the entertainment of this Grand Lodge.



CL. T. CAMPBELL, M. D., P. G. S.
London, Ont.



MRS. A. BARBER
Chairlady Rebekah Committee

J. B. DAVIDSON

Bicycles



TALBOT STREET
(West End)
Telephone 453

Repairing Done
Promptly



W. B. Jennings Furniture Co'y.

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FOSTER COOK

Plumbing, Steam and Gas Fitting

BOND'S BAKERY

Situated on Ross Street near the corner of Wellington you will find a first-class Ice Cream Parlor and a tempting display of fresh baked goods and candy ☪ ☪ ☪

Our Ice Cream is noted for its rich, smooth flavor, and the many people who daily buy our baked goods furnish proof as to their high quality ☪ ☪ At this store it is not the price but the quality that's high.

F. M. BOND The Ross St.
Confectioner

Square Odd Fellows

Will keep square with their wives and sweethearts if they visit the big busy cash store during convention week and select for them some suitable gift or souvenir to show that they were not forgotten when you were away. Think it over buys.

The Anderson Co'y.

LIMITED



EARLY HISTORY OF ODD FELLOWSHIP



HE antiquity of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows has furnished a theme for many gifted writers in preparing articles on the history of one of the grandest fraternal institutions that was ever devised for the uplifting and betterment of the human race. Some have gone back into the archives of remote ages to trace its origin as an established institution of past centuries, but beyond the fact that at almost every period of the world's history there are evidences of fraternal bonds having existed between men who were bound together by the ties of a common friendship, there is no certainty that Odd Fellowship, as we know it, had an organized existence previous to the seventeenth century. In that epoch there existed in the City of London, England, a society known as "The Ancient Order of Odd Fellows," which was organized by a number of workmen for purposes of social enjoyment. Beyond that the promoters had no definite purpose other than to induce "every good fellow to be an Odd Fellow." It was a very informal association of kindred spirits, without any clearly defined objects, except convivial enjoyment and social pleasure. But the name lived as the years rolled on, and gradually the institution was brought from its chaotic state into a system of fraternal benevolence and reciprocal aid which proved useful and beneficial to its members. Then the Order began to grow, and lodges were formed throughout England which became popular, but strange to say they had no uniform system of work. It needed the hand of a master moulder to get the institution into concrete form, for there were divisions and dissensions among men in those days as now, with consequent envies and jealousies. In England, during the eighteenth century, there existed three different organizations bearing the name of "Odd Fellows," which were known as the Union Order, the London or Ancient Order, and finally the Manchester Unity. These elements, each with a different ritual, could not harmonize, and the institution dragged along without any very great progress being made, until the seeds of Odd Fellowship were planted on American soil on the 26th of April, 1819, by Thomas Wildey, who may rightly be termed the Father and Founder of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows as we enjoy it to-day.



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Early History of Odd Fellowship

—Continued

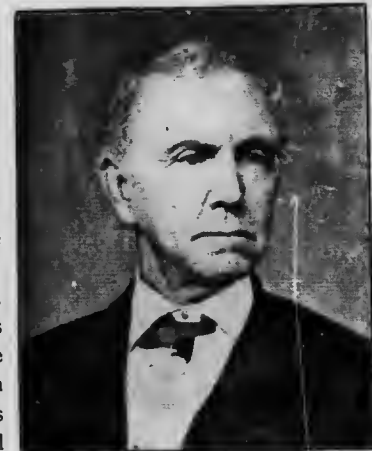
About the year 1804, Father Willey had been initiated into an Odd Fellows' Lodge in the City of London, at the age of 22, and became active in the work of the Order until his removal to America in 1817. Settling in Baltimore he met another Englishman named John Welch, who had also been a member of the Order in the old country. The two friends conceived the idea of forming a lodge of Odd Fellows in their new American home, and by the aid of an advertisement inserted in a Baltimore newspaper, were fortunate enough to discover two more members of the fraternity, namely, John Duncan and John Cheatham. The four brothers, having satisfied themselves that each was a genuine English Odd Fellow, resolved to discover one more, as it required five members to form a lodge under ancient usage. They accordingly inserted another notice in the "Baltimore American" on the 27th of March, 1819, when Richard Rushworth answered the call as the "fifth link," and the magic number was complete.

It was then decided to form a lodge forthwith, and in a room in the "Seven Stars" Hotel, on Second street, in the City of Baltimore, on the 26th of April, 1819, the five brothers met, and after obligating each other in due form, solemnly instituted and opened the first Lodge of Odd Fellows organized in America, which they named "Washington Lodge, No. 1." Thomas Willey was installed as Noble Grand and John Welch as Vice-Grand. "Thus with all due formality and dignity," as related by our lamented brother, James L. Ridgeley, "was the first stone laid in the foundation of American Odd Fellowship."

From this beginning—the planting of this small acorn—the sturdy oak of Odd Fellowship has grown and flourished on this continent, until its branches at the present day shelter over a million and a half of our brethern who owe allegiance to the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

Of the early struggles of the sturdy pioneers who launched the Ark of Odd Fellowship, and their steadfast endeavors to keep it afloat on sometimes very troublous seas, it is not the purpose to dilate in the condensed space at the command of the writer. Suffice it to say, they were true and earnest men, who "buildd better than they knew," and millions of our race who have during the past eighty-nine years been benefited by the grand fraternal Order that they founded, have blessed them, and for years to come humanity will hold their names in holy reverence.

Washington Lodge, No. 1, had its trials and tribulations, but its members were zealous in the cause, and they decided to obtain authority from the parent Order in England to extend the benefits of the fraternity throughout the whole land. Accordingly they took advantage of the offer of Past Grand Crowder, of Preston, Lancashire, Eng., to act as a messenger for them and obtain constituted authority to



James L. Ridgeley
Born Jan. 27th, 1807. Died Nov. 16th, 1861.

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R. H. BLACKMORE

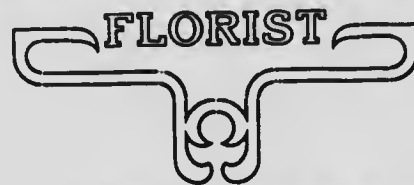
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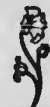
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Early History of Odd Fellowship

—Continued.

institute subordinate and grand lodges in America. The petition was duly presented to Duke of York Lodge, in Preston, by Brother Crowder on his return to England, and it was immediately granted. On February 1st, 1820, a charter was issued by that body to "Washington Lodge, No. 1, the Grand Lodge of Maryland and the United States of America, with power to grant a Warrant or Dispensation to a number of brothers of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in any State of the Union, for the encouragement and support of brothers of the said Order when on travel or otherwise." During the succeeding year there existed some dissensions and troubles among the pioneers as to how the Grand finally cleared away by the members of the warrant they had received from the Past Grands of Washington Lodge. This on February 22nd, 1821, and proceeded to and title of the "Grand Lodge of Maryland" choice of the following officers: Thomas Deputy Grand Master; Wm. S. Couth, Grand Boyd, Grand Guardian, and Wm. Larkham, the parent Grand Lodge of Odd Fellowship all over the world as "The Baltimore Washington Lodge, No. 1, and Franklin and from these organizations the seeds of wide throughout the United States. For considerable progress, and having been and Pennsylvania, it became necessary to practice. Therefore the name was



Wildey's Tomb, Baltimore, Md.

United States," and on the 22nd of February, 1825, the first session of that Great Body was held in the City of Baltimore. Its constitution had been already adopted at a preliminary meeting held on the 15th of January, 1825, and the officers were installed at an adjourned meeting held on March 30th, 1825, as follows: Thomas Wildey, Grand Master; John Welch, D. G. M.; Wm. Williams, Grand Secretary, and Thomas Mitchell, Grand Guardian.

On the 15th of May, 1826, the Manchester Unity granted an independent charter to the Grand Lodge of the United States, which is recorded by Ridgeley as being "the charter of independence of American Odd Fellowship," as it contained full power to conduct the business of Odd Fellowship *without the interference of any other country.*

With the zealous Thomas Wildey as the first Grand Sire, and a devoted band of brothers to assist him in

Lodge should be constituted, which was the Washington Lodge deciding to surrender Duke of York Lodge to a Committee of being done, the Past Grands assembled organize as a Grand Lodge under the style "and the United States," with the Wildey, Grand Master; John P. Entwisle, Warden; John Welch, Grand Secretary; John Grand Conductor. Thus was launched ship in America, or what became known Unity." Charters were granted to Lodge, No. 2, both located in Baltimore, Odd Fellowship were scattered far and the succeeding four years the Order made established in Massachusetts, New York broaden its scope in name as well as in changed to the "Grand Lodge of the

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Early History of Odd Fellowship

—Continued.

disseminating the principles of the Order throughout the land, the "Grand Lodge of the United States" entered upon an era of prosperity. Formost among his colleagues of those early years was Brother James L. Ridgeley, who for over forty years held the position of Grand Secretary, and who was one of the principal pillars of the Order. Of his grand work in the cause of Odd Fellowship too much cannot be said. He was a king among men, and his name shall ever remain imperishable upon the tablets of our Order. His last appearance at a session of the Sovereign Body was at Toronto in September, 1880, and in the following year he passed to the Great Beyond, deeply lamented. During the years of his life he was an earnest worker in assisting all over the civilized world, and so thorough when he died the Order was truly planted "from Ocean to Ocean," but also in many foreign countries, to-day is recognized as the strongest and most substantial fraternal organization in existence.

Bro. Ridgeley joined the Order in at once threw his whole soul into the associates to extend its sphere of usefulness of Odd Fellowship in America, Bro. Ridgeley for it was mainly through his untiring efforts that the real work of expansion was accomplished. To him is ascribed the high moral plane, based upon the foundation of the "Brotherhood of Man," and his whole life by every possible means a higher life of our triple link under the motto of Friend-

During the latter years of his life, when the weight of years was upon him, he grieved much because of his inability to perform the active work he desired to do for the Order, and in formulating his conception of Odd Fellowship to his brethren bequeathed the legacy in these solemn words: "My days of usefulness are passing away; I cannot much longer mingle in the counsels of the Order. Certainly I can no longer write and speak for the Institution as in days gone by. This doubtless is my last effort to serve Odd Fellowship. It is my last tribute to that great and good cause—my farewell to that loving band of brothers throughout the world who have so warmly greeted me ever since they learned to honor and revere the Order. In the hope that it may do good for Humanity and Fraternity, I commit it to the brotherhood."



Wildey's Monument, Baltimore, Md.

Baltimore in 1829, at the age of 22, and work of assisting Father Wildey and his mess. While Father Wildey was the founder ley may aptly be termed "the builder," efforts that the real work of expansion the glory of elevating the society to a tion of "The Fatherhood of God and life was spent in endeavoring to promote Faith, Morality and Virtue, symbolized in ship, Love and Truth.



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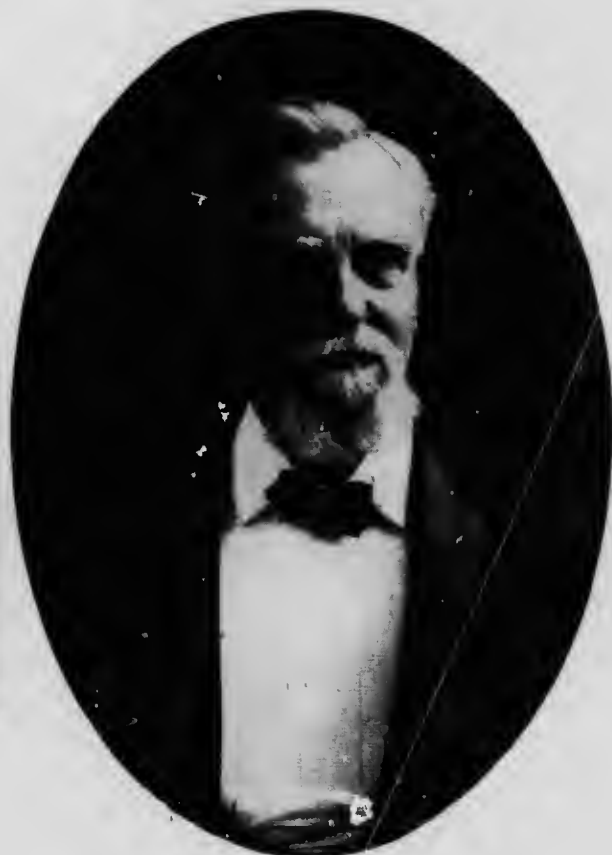
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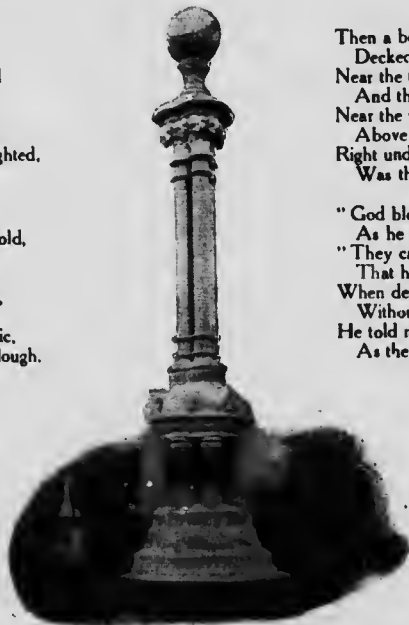


I saw in a distant city,
Far over the pathless sea,
A scene in the days of my boyhood
That always seemed grand to me.
I beheld a vast column approaching
With plumes half clouded in dust,
And I read on its pure folds, when sighted,
Our motto:—"In God we trust."

I saw the column move forward,
In the ranks both the young and the old,
Arrayed in the garments of splendour,
Regalia of crimson and gold.
There marched the prince and the peasant,
Methinks I can see them all now
As they move to the soul-stirring music,
With the knights of the avvil and plough.

They wore on their breasts strange devices
Crossed gavels, crossed axes and keys,
The pen, the sword and the hour glass,
And a fresh budded rod from a tree;
One had the bow and the quiver,
Another the serpent-twined rod,
And one dressed in Heaven's regalia
Carried proudly the volume of God.

There came an old man, bearing hard on his staff,
He must have passed three score and ten;
His tottering limbs and his wrinkled brow,
How I wish I could see them again!
He bowed to the throng on his right and his left,
He was pleased with the chosen lot,
And seemed to say, as he passed us by,
Forget it not! Forget it not!



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Then a beautiful banner held high in its ranks,
Decked with emblems brilliant and bright,
Near the top, I remember, were three golden links,
And the heart and the hand on the right:
Near the top of the flagstaff three arrows were set,
Above them a young turtle dove,
Right under the links in letters of gold,
Was the motto, "Truth, Friendship and Love."

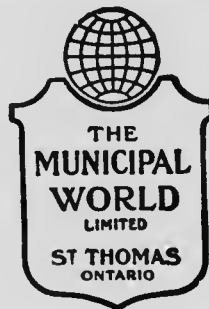
"God bless the Order," an old man said,
As he tried to keep pace with the ranks,
"They cared for me, they buried my dead
That have crossed over Jordan's banks;
When death laid his hand on my only son,
Without asking, they came to attend,
He told me they'd come under God's command,
As the widow's and orphan's friend.

With fraternal care they carried him out,
Down where the willows wave,
With brotherly hands they laid him away,
Close by his mother's grave.
Don't think it strange that I honor
These men of three links, heart and hand,
May the Order extend, may it flourish and grow
And the sound of the gavel reach every land."

Stand firm by your banner pure and white,
Let no stain mar its beautiful folds,
The truths that we learn from our ritual each night
Are more precious than silver or gold.
In the battles of life we have trials and cares,
Ah! who has not been by the tempest tossed?
If true to this motto, "In God we trust,"
We'll get nearer and nearer the cross.

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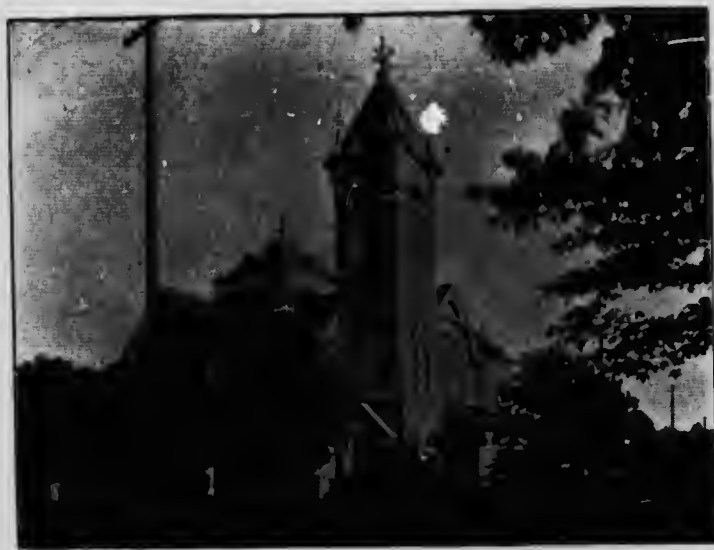
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ODD FELLOWSHIP IN CANADA

By J. B. KING, Grand Secretary of Ontario



THE introduction of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows into Canada occurred at Montreal on August 10th, 1843, when Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1, was formally instituted by Bro. Alfred Moore, P. D. D. G. M., of Troy, N. Y., who was appointed by the Grand Sire as a Special Deputy for that purpose. The sponsors for the new Lodge were John H. Hardie and George Mathers, two zealous New York Odd Fellows who had removed to Montreal, and were so desirous of getting the Order established on this side of the line that they got three other citizens of Montreal interested in the movement, namely, Wetherill Taylor, Joseph Kirkup and William Rodden, and these gentlemen agreed to join a lodge in New York State for the purpose of becoming qualified as applicants for the Canadian charter. This being accomplished, the five brothers made formal application to the Grand Lodge of the United States for a charter, which was duly granted, and the career of Odd Fellowship in Canada was launched in a garret over the hardware store of Bro. Wm. Rodden, on St. Paul Street, Montreal, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the date mentioned. Within the first week eighteen gentlemen of influence and good standing in the community were admitted, and the new society rapidly grew in strength and favor with the public. It made such rapid progress that on the 4th of December of the same year a second lodge (Queen's, No. 2), was instituted in Montreal, which also prospered. In 1844 another lodge was instituted at St. John's under the title of Prince Albert, No. 3, and the prospects for the growth of Odd Fellowship on Canadian soil became so bright that the Grand Lodge of the United States granted a petition to issue a charter to the "Grand Lodge of Canada," which was duly instituted on November 16th, 1844, by Special Deputy Grand Sire Case. The first Grand Master was a bright young barrister of Montreal named William M. B. Hartley, and his co-laborers in building up the Order were drawn from the very best classes of society. Such great progress was made by their combined efforts that the Order was extended to the ancient City of Quebec, where Albion Lodge, No. 4, was instituted on November 20th, 1844, and in December of the same year Commercial Lodge No. 5, Montreal, was added to the roll.

In the summer of 1845 the first lodge in what is now called the province of Ontario was instituted .t



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Odd Fellowship in Canada

—Continued

Belleville, being christened Victoria, No. 6. The western province seemed fruitful ground, and as many influential people who resided in this section had "taken the degrees" while in Montreal attending to parliamentary duties and commercial business, and were desirous of having lodges established in "Canada West," the Grand Lodge decided to send a deputation westward on a "missionary tour." The brethren chosen for this duty were Thomas Hardie, Deputy Grand Master, and Past Grands George P. Dickson and Ed. Murney. The missionaries were all well qualified for their work, and were invested with the most complete powers. The Grand Lodge empowered them to make Odd Fellows "at sight," receive petitions, grant dispensations, institute lodges, and do and perform all other acts and things which might become necessary to carry out their purposes. They had an absolutely free rein. The deputation left Montreal on March 4th, 1846, for a trip of more than 800 miles, mainly by stage coach over very rough roads, and in very inclement weather. But their hearts were warm in the work, and their zeal exceedingly keen. The first point visited for work was Brockville, where they instituted Brock Lodge, No. 9, which is still flourishing to-day, and is the oldest and one of the most active Lodges in the Jurisdiction of Ontario. Kingston was the next place visited by the missionaries. Here they met Bro. John A. Macdonald (who in later years became one of Canada's most famous statesmen), and through his efforts a large number of prominent Kingston citizens were initiated into the Order when Catarqui Lodge, No. 10, was instituted, Bro. John A. Macdonald being installed as the first Noble Grand. The missionaries then moved on to Picton, where Prince Edward Lodge, No. 11, was instituted with Bro. Henry Corby as Noble Grand. Cobourg, Peterboro', Port Hope, Toronto, St. Catharines, Hamilton and Cornwall were successfully visited by the deputation, and in each of these towns lodges were instituted, some of which are alive and thriving to-day. The missionaries reached their homes after a month's absence, during which period they had had a very successful tour, and the Order was thoroughly planted in "Upper Canada," or what is now designated as the Province of Ontario.

Odd Fellowship in Ontario, almost from the institution of its first lodge has been a success. True, in its early years, owing to many causes, its advancement and growth was not rapid, but as the tenets of the Order became known from year to year they took deep root in the heart of the membership as well as in the estimation of a discriminating public, and while the advance may have been slow, it was sure, and its record to-day is one that every member may well be proud of. Failure has not for one moment perched upon its banners, but a steady progress has attended it, until to-day, after over half a century of useful work it stands the peer of any fraternal benevolent society of the age.

The "Grand Lodge of Canada West" (now known and hailed as the "Grand Lodge of Ontario"), was



Chauncey Yale, P.G.M.

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Odd Fellowship in Canada

—Continued

instituted at Brockville on August 23rd, 1855, by Bro. Thomas Reynolds, Acting Deputy Grand Sire. Seven lodges were represented by the following Past Grands:

Brock Lodge, No. 9, Brockville—Wm. Fitzsimmons and George Sherwood.

Union Lodge, No. 16, St. Catharines—G. W. Morgan, Chauncey Yale, J. R. Cook, Nicholas Riggins and Thomas Fletcher.

Industry Lodge No. 25, Grafton—Charles E. Ewing.

Eureka Lodge No. 30, London—Geo. W. Ashton.

Elgin Lodge, No. 32, St. Thomas—G. T. Claris.

Erie Lodge, No. 33, Port Burwell—W. A. Glover.

Gore Lodge, No. 34, Brantford — John Cameron and B. F. Van Brocklin.

After the usual formalities of institution and the adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws, the elective officers were chosen to guide the destinies of the infant Grand Lodge, which has since attained to such vigorous manhood that it now governs 325 lodges, and has enrolled over 35,000 members. The first officers of the Grand Lodge of this Province were:—Thomas Reynolds, Grand Master; Chauncey Yale, Deputy Grand Master; John Cameron, Grand



Daniel J. Woodward
Canada's Oldest Odd Fellow

Bro. Woodward joined one of the first lodges established in Canada West in 1847 and is still in good standing in Argyle Lodge, No. 212, Napanee, Ont. He is 95 years of age, and for nearly 60 years has been a faithful member of the Order. At present he resides at Corry, Pa.

Warden; A. Dixon, Grand Secretary; G. T. Claris, Grand Treasurer; Thos. Reynolds, Grand Representative; George Sherwood, Grand Marshal; C. E. Ewing, Grand Conductor; Wm. Fitzsimmons, Grand Guardian. Of these old pioneers in Ontario Odd Fellowship none remain alive. All have paid the debt of nature and rest from their labors. Still the foundation of the structure so wisely constructed, and on which they so substantially built, will stand securely until time shall be no more. The names of these grand men, pioneers of this great fraternity, are engraven deeply on the tablets of our Order in this Jurisdiction. Of the great progress that has been made in the growth of Odd Fellowship in this Province during the past fifty years, only the annals of our Grand Lodge can fully demonstrate. The limited

space at the command of the writer will not suffice. In 1868, when the Confederation of the Canadian Provinces made it necessary to choose a territorial name, the title of the Grand Lodge was changed to its present appellation. Its steady progress is ample evidence of the worth and adaptability of the institution to Canadian soil, and working in concert with our brothers in other Provinces of the Dominion who have the interests of the Order so dear at heart, may confidently look forward to increased vigorous growth in this rising young Nation of the North, until we shall have Odd Fellows' lodges flourishing in every city, town and village throughout our land. God speed us all in this great work of humanity.

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EARLY DAYS OF ST. THOMAS

HISTORICAL SKETCH
BY JAMES H. COYNE, M.A., F. R. S. C.



ALBOT ROAD extends through the lake shore counties from the Detroit to the Niagara Rivers. In the early portion of the last century it was already not only the longest but also the best road in the province. Where it crosses Kettle Creek lies St. Thomas, capital of the far-famed Talbot Settlement, county town of Elgin, and one of the most important railway centres of the province. There was a time, however, when the whole Ontario peninsula was almost an unbroken forest. There were no roads. The Neuter nation were the only human inhabitants. The hunting grounds were famous for beaver. The Neuters cultivated their cornfields, fished the rivers and lakes, traded in flint axes, arrow-heads and spear-points with some neighboring tribes, and carried on relentless and ruthless war with others. The forests were described by French writers as the most beautiful in the world, and they spoke the truth. The Jesuit missionaries on the Georgian Bay decided upon a mission to the Neuters. In 1639-40 and in the following winter, Fathers Chaumonot and Brebeuf visited this region. They appear to have reached the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers. They probably crossed Kettle Creek at what is now the city of St. Thomas. Sanson's map of 1650 shows the creek for the first time. His map of 1656 locates missions a little west of St. Thomas (*St. Alexis*), near Windsor (*St. Michel*), and about midway (*St. Joseph*). Brebeuf met the martyr's fate near Georgian Bay at the hands of the Iroquois, who about the same time destroyed or drove out the Neuters, leaving south-western Ontario an uninhabited wilderness. The first white man who descended the chain of lakes was Louis Jolliet, famous afterward as discoverer of the Mississippi. In September, 1669, he left his canoe at or near Port Stanley and followed the trails to Burlington Bay. Near Westover, he met La Salle and two Sulpitian ecclesiastics, Galinée and Dollier de Casson, proceeding westward. La Salle broke away and discovered the Ohio River. Early in 1670, after wintering at Port Dover, the missionaries walked through the county of Elgin as far as Jolliet's canoe. They were the first white men known to have ascended the lakes. Afterward the lake itself and the trails were familiar enough to La Salle, the Tontis, Cadillac and others, especially after the founding of Detroit in 1701. Kettle Creek was well-known to both Indians and

Early Days of St. Thomas

—Continued.

French; to the Iroquois as the Kanagi, to the Ojibways as the Akik-seebe, and to the French as the Rivière de la Chaudière—each meaning Kettle River. Its value was chiefly owing to its harbor and the portage paths



ST. THOMAS COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE AND CADET CORPS

leading from it. For a time it was known as the Tonti, either from La Salle's famous lieutenant, the Man of the Iron Hand, or from his less distinguished brother, Alphonse, lieutenant-governor of Detroit. Is it not possible to revert to its Iroquois original, the dignified and sonorous Kanagi? The French made no settlement on the north shore of Lake Erie. In May, 1801, Colonel Talbot was chopping trees near Port Stanley, with a view to settlement in the township of Yarmouth. On 21st May, 1803, we find him at Port Talbot at the mouth of Talbot Creek, 14 miles west of St. Thomas, beginning the Talbot Settlement by cutting down the first tree. He had a romantic history. His family was one of the oldest and most renowned in Europe; Malahide Castle, where he was born has been the home of the Talbots for more than seven hundred years. His mother was Baroness Talbot of Malahide in her

Early Days of St. Thomas

—Continued.

own right. He was the friend from boyhood of Arthur Wellesley, known to history as the Duke of Wellington. Royal princes were his bosom friends and patrons, more especially King Edward VII.'s grandfather, the Duke of Kent. He held the King's commission at 11 years of age. At 24 he was colonel of the 5th regiment of foot. At 20 he was secretary and special protégé of the first lieutenant governor of Upper Canada, General Simcoe. Never did fortune seem to shine more auspiciously on any ambitious youth. Suddenly, at 29, he sold his commission, abandoned the army, the court, the world of society, and buried himself in the Lake Erie forests. He never married. For 50 years he remained, most of the time directing the settlement which perpetuates his name, with almost regal powers, his influence, almost supreme with the English authorities in his not infrequent disputes with the Upper Canadian government. Short, fat, rubicund, dressed in homespun, with his renowned sheep-skin coat and high-box sleigh, he made his annual visit to York (Toronto), where he was in winter a well-known figure, mingling in the festivities of the



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The Early Days of St. Thomas

Continued.

vice-regal court with all the graces of a scion of the ancient Talbot stock. Many were his foibles and eccentricities, and many are the legends associated with his name.

In 1804 he built his house, and began a main road through the proposed settlement. In 1809 Talbot Road was laid out, and settlers began to come in. David Mandeville and Daniel Rapelje were the first settlers at St. Thomas. Others followed from year to year. The war of 1812 paralyzed the settlement for the time. Mills were hurned and property looted by the invaders, leaving the settlers destitute. About 1817 the nucleus of a village was formed. At Kettle Creek crossing, James Hamilton started a general store. On 21st May in each year the Talbot anniversary was celebrated at or near St. Thomas. The Colonel presided at the ample supper,

to which full justice was done. The settlers' wives and daughters graced the festive board with their presence. There were two toasts, first, "The King." by the chairman; then some settler proposed "The Honorable Thomas



BALACLAVA STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

Early Days of St. Thomas

—Continued.

Talbot, Founder of the Talbot Settlement." Both toasts were drunk with all the honors. The Colonel responded, concluding his speech with the usual "God Bless You All." Then the Colonel opened the ball by leading out the prettiest girl, and dancing with all the grace and skill he had learned at the royal court of St. James and the vice-regal court of Navy Hall at Old Niagara.



MYRTLE STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

opening in the little village of the first medical college in Ontario, under the name of The Talbot Dispensatory. Its founders were Doctors John Rolph and Charles Duncombe, both afterwards conspicuous figures in the

In 1818 a Masonic Lodge was formed at St. Thomas. The Colonel had already been canonized by the villagers prefixing the 'Saint' to his Christian name, although neither his sanctity nor his Christianity, it may be stated by way of parenthesis, was particularly obtrusive. It was not long before Hamilton's store was followed by a grist-mill, distillery and potash factory. But the village grew slowly. The year 1824 was signalized by the completion of the old St. Thomas Church, still in existence, the erection of the St. Thomas Seminary, and the

Early Days of St. Thomas

—Continued.

Rebellion of 1837. Such were the beginnings of St. Thomas in the primeval wilderness.

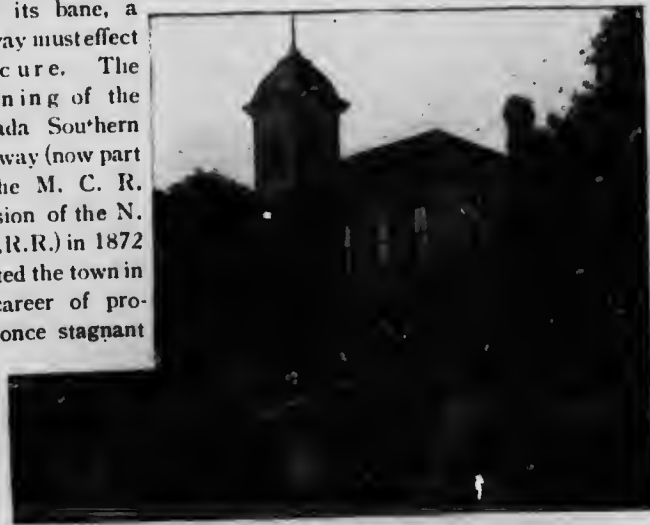
It is a far cry from the little village of 1824 to the flourishing city of 1908. In 1853 it became the county town of the newly formed county of Elgin. In



MANITOBA STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

1860 it was incorporated as a town; in 1881 as a city. It became a great railway centre. But railways were not always benefactors. The opening of the London and Port Stanley Railway in 1856 was the signal of decay to both St. Thomas and Port Stanley, whose trade was drawn off to London. Within a few years the population of St. Thomas diminished by one-half. Then it began to grow again, but very deliberately. The old remedy—a hair of the dog that bit you—proved effective. A railway had been its bane, a railway must effect the cure. The opening of the Canada Southern Railway (now part of the M. C. R. division of the N. Y.C.R.R.) in 1872 started the town in a career of progress which has continued without abatement ever since. The once stagnant little town of 2,000 inhabitants is now a flourishing city of nearly 15,000, with colleges, churches, schools, newspapers, municipal and government buildings and institutions, factories, private residences and public parks, which would do credit to much larger cities. The St. Thomas Collegiate Institute ranks among the very foremost in the province. The Central, Myrtle and Balaclava Public School buildings are not surpassed

1860 it was incorporated as a town; in 1881 as a city. It became a great railway centre. But railways were not always benefactors. The opening of the London and Port Stanley Railway in 1856 was the signal of decay to both St. Thomas and Port Stanley, whose trade was drawn off to London. Within a few years the population of St. Thomas diminished by one-half. Then it began to grow again, but very deliberately. The old remedy—a hair of the dog that bit you—proved effective. A railway had been its bane, a railway must effect the cure. The opening of the Canada Southern Railway (now part of the M. C. R. division of the N. Y.C.R.R.) in 1872 started the town in a career of pro-



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Early Days of St. Thomas

—Continued.

in the Dominion. The Disciples of Christ in Canada have established at St. Thomas their college, now called Sinclair College. The St. Thomas Business College has a wide reputation and attracts students from many places. Alma College, besides its departments in Literature, Art, Elocution and Physical Culture, and Domestic Science, as well as a commercial course for young ladies, gives an advanced musical training, all under the direction of experienced and solely Canadian professors.

St. Thomas is a city of homes. To a very large extent each citizen owns his home. It is a city of churches and they are well attended. While the growth of the town was chiefly due to its place to the Canada Northern Railway, this but one of the reasons why which the city is served by these the C. S. R., London & Port Stanley Railway and Lake Erie and Detroit & Western (both owned by the Erie Marine and the Wabash) have their divisions headquarters here. The C. P. & G. T. also run a trolley system, and about a hundred acres of parks, are owned and administered directly by the municipality. The Board of Trade is an active and flourishing institution. There are no less than seven chartered banks. We have upwards of 60 lodges of the various fraternal societies, not the least of which are the five active branches of the O. O. F., viz.: St. Thomas Lodge with 500 members; Elgin Lodge No. 32 with 350 members; Elgin Encampment No. 20; Alma Rebekah Assembly No. 14; and Canton Victoria, No. 5, the pride of St. Thomas.



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through the city. Nearly 50 passenger trains pass through the city every day. The transportation facilities are therefore of an exceedingly satisfactory character. St. Thomas is the Railway City. The railways pay out nearly two millions of dollars per annum to their employes. The largest car-wheel foundry in Canada is located here, and the railway shops are on a large scale. St. Thomas is one of the most enterprising and progressive of municipalities. Municipal ownership with us is not a question, but a fact. The supply of gas, water and power, the

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THE RAILWAY CITY IN 1908

A FEW FACTS AND FIGURES



T. THOMAS, population 15,000, known as "The Railway City," is admirably situated midway between the Detroit and Niagara Rivers, eight miles from Lake Erie. It is regarded as one of the healthiest, liveliest and most progressive cities in the Province of Ontario. It has five steam railways, a municipal street railway, an inter-city electric line opening up a fine farming section, and offers unequalled locations and transportation facilities for manufacturing industries. It is unexcelled as a place of residence, and its citizens are men and women of the highest type. A few of St. Thomas' many features are as follows: Healthy climate, central location, a ladies' college, good newspapers, Collegiate Institute, three stockyards, population 15,000, a \$50,000 city hall, beautiful residences, five Board of Trade, reasonable taxation, efficient police force, center of rich district, two Colleges of Music, two historical societies, five express companies, two handsome theatres, fifteen wholesale houses, a \$100,000 court house, Model School for teachers, assessed value \$6,454,683, forty-five miles of streets, about 100 acres of parks, adequate fire alarm system, two cold storage companies, Retail Merchants' Association, sixty fraternal society lodges, fifty miles of stone sidewalks, Alina College for young ladies, commercial and business college, freedom from labor disturbances, seventy-five miles of water mains, over two miles of business houses' twenty-five miles of underground sewers, two public markets open twice a week, largest car-wheel factory in Canada, City Council composed of capable men, many factories of different descriptions, a \$27,000 public library completed in 1905, two telegraph companies—C. P. R. and G. N. W., one of the best waterworks systems in the world, nineteen hundred square acres within its limits, newly remodelled government and post office building, divisional headquarters of four of its five railways, seventeen first-class hotels of various grades and prices, good gas electric lighting and power plant owned by the city, five public schools and a separate school unexcelled anywhere, one consolidated trust and loan company and branch office of outside company, one large hospital with nurses' training school and railroad hospital attached, seven and a half miles of street railway owned by the city, charging a three-cent fare; branches of five national banks—two having two branches each—and numerous private banks; telephone system extending to radius of ten miles and connecting with all long distant 'phones; two large railway shops where locomotives and passenger coaches and freight cars are manufactured; fine church buildings, comprising three Methodist, two Anglican, two Presbyterians, one Catholic, one Baptist, one Disciple and one Latter Day Saints, besides a Salvation Army barracks and meeting places of several other denominations, a

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The Railway City in 1908

—Continued.

majority of the buildings being imposing and up-to-date structures, while the re-building of others is contemplated. No other city in Canada—or on the American continent for that matter—can boast of a better railway service than St. Thomas. Five of the most important railways of Canada and the United States run into the city, and a large percentage of the citizens are employes of one or other of these roads. The city is the divisional headquarters of four of these lines, the fact that it lies midway between Buffalo and Detroit being taken advantage of. No better idea of the value of these railroads to St. Thomas can be secured than by reference to the amount of wages paid their employes in the city alone. The M. C. R. pays out approximately \$90,000 per month, the P. M. \$45,000, the Wabash \$15,000, the G. T. R. \$12,000 and the C. P. R. \$1,500; a total of \$163,500 monthly.

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339 Talbot St.

The Railway City in 1908

—Continued.

established its plant in 1875, and the same stockholders held their interests until the sale to the city. The city council retained the employes, including Mr. George L. Oill, the manager, and continued the conduct of the plant on the policy of the former owners. It has been more than successful. Business has increased remarkably—more than at any other period in the history of the enterprise. Within eight months it showed a revenue (with deductions for interest on capital invested) of \$16,986.51. In the electric department separate dynamos supply five different circuits—the alternating, the street arc, the commercial arc, the commercial power and the street railway circuits. The gas and electric plant is the most up-to-date in the country, and improvements are continually being made. A practical scheme in connection with this plant, which has been very successful, is the heating of the city hall and library from the exhaust steam of the municipal works. The finance committee has control of this plant, and it has certainly made it a successful business proposition. It is



ST. THOMAS WATER WORKS

not the council's purpose to make a revenue from the works, but to give the people the benefit of them, and in the brief space of three years the cost of gas for all purposes has been reduced from \$1.40 to \$1.00 per thousand feet. The department also pays \$5,000 annually into the general fund of the city as its share of taxation, besides providing for the annual payments of principal and interest on its debenture indebtedness.

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THE care of the aged and infirm, and the protection, education and guidance of the orphan, is a duty which devolves upon every human being. It is a sacred trust, and to those whose hearts are attuned to the chord of sympathy, one which is a sincere pleasure to perform. To the Odd Fellows of Ontario, the necessity of establishing a Home for the aged members of the Order and for the orphans of deceased members became a matter of intense interest about ten years ago, and it is pleasing to point to the fact that to-day the brothers and sisters of the Jurisdiction have realized their fondest anticipations in this respect. To the originators of this laudable undertaking much credit is due, for they have done their work faithfully and well, while the great heart of the whole membership in this Jurisdiction has nobly responded to their appeals, and with open-handed generosity provided funds to bring their plans to a successful fruition.

Among the first and foremost advocates of an Odd Fellows' Home for Ontario, was our beloved brother Past Grand Sire, Cl. T. Campbell, who with his characteristic zeal, enthusiasm, and love of humanity, entered upon the work with his whole soul. He made the idea a part of his life's work, and by his diligence, perseverance and self-sacrificing efforts, warmly supported by the brothers of the province and sisters of the Rebekah Branch, has achieved a noble triumph in the establishment of an institution which will long remain a monument to his memory. As everything which may be expected to have a successful issue must have a good beginning, Brother Campbell built his foundation on correct lines. Bringing the matter to the attention of the membership by introducing a resolution in the Grand Lodge in reference to the establishment of a Home, he paved the way for the future progress of his dearly cherished idea. This was referred to the Committee on the State of the Order at the session of the Grand Lodge of Ontario in 1895, who reported as follows:—

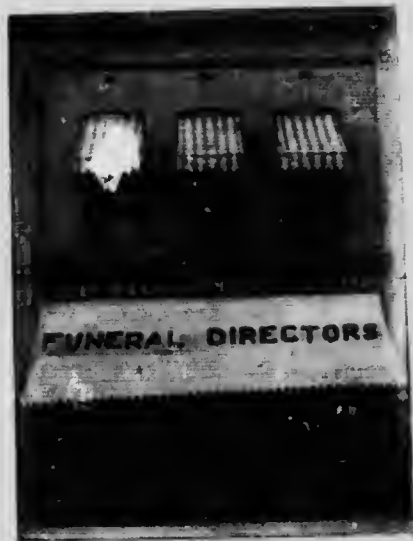
"Your Committee on the State of the Order, to whom was referred the resolution of Cl. T. Campbell, Past Grand Sire, as follows: That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge it is advisable at the earliest opportunity to establish an Odd Fellows' Home for the Order in Ontario, beg leave to report:

Your Committee have given the question some consideration, and are of opinion that the matter is of sufficient importance to warrant us in recommending that a Special Committee be appointed, to whom the matter shall be referred, with instructions to said committee to prepare a report on the subject, and present the same at the next session of the Grand Lodge."

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The Ontario Odd Fellows' Home

—Continued

The above report shows the official action taken by the Order in this province in the direction of establishing a Home for aged Odd Fellows and the orphan children of deceased members. In the same year, at the session of the Rebekah Assembly, the report of its Secretary (Sister Maggie Waddell) called the attention of its members to this important matter, and started the Sisterhood on an active campaign on its behalf, which has been conducted by them with great enthusiasm from that day to the present.

During the recess, the Grand Master appointed the Special Committee called for, consisting of Bros. Cl. T. Campbell, A. W. Cameron and J. J. Manning. Owing to some misunderstanding as to the organization of the Committee, nothing was done until the Grand Lodge met the following year in Sarnia. The Committee simply reported progress, but accompanied their report with a subscription list of over \$1,000, contributed by members of the Grand Lodge. The Rebekahs also reported contributions from their lodges of \$233.

When the Grand Lodge met in Belleville, in 1897, the Committee had sufficient data to be able to show the representatives the urgent need for an institution of this kind, and also to point out what other Jurisdictions had been doing in this direction. A scheme for the establishment and government of the Home was also submitted, and, in the main, approved by the Grand Lodge. To one very important feature of the plan, however, decided objection was taken. The Committee suggested a per capita tax of twenty cents per member for five years, which, it was estimated, would in that time produce over \$25,000—a sum ample for the purpose of establishing the Home. But the subject was comparatively new. Its importance was not realized, and the idea of taxing the membership was eminently distasteful. The advocates of the Home had no idea of perilizing the enterprise by stubbornly holding to what they thought was the proper financial basis. They had confidence in the Order in Ontario, and felt that if only the thin end of the wedge could be inserted, the desired result would be finally obtained.

They agreed that the fund should be raised by voluntary subscriptions from lodges and individuals, with such annual appropriations as the Grand Lodge might be able to make. It was not a bad beginning. The subscription list has now reached \$2,000; the Grand Lodge appropriated \$1,000, while the Rebekah Assembly reported \$350.

It was decided that the Home should be managed by a Board of Directors, consisting of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, *ex officio*, and three representatives elected by the Grand Lodge, to serve for three years; two representatives from the Grand Encampment, and two from the Rebekah Assembly. The Grand Lodge chose as its representatives Past Grand Sire, Cl. T. Campbell for three years, Past Grand Master W. H. Hoyle for two years, and Past Grand Master Henry White for one year. These brethren have continued on the Board until the present with only one change. Bro. White resigned last year, and the Advisory Committee of the Grand Lodge appointed Past Grand Master John T. Hornibrook in his place. The Grand Encampment sent Grand

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The Ontario Odd Fellows' Home

—Continued

Scribe M. D. Dawson and Past Grand Patriarch A. H. Blackeby, who are still on the Board. The Rebekah Assembly selected Sisters Laura E. Ryan and Elizabeth Lee. Sister Ryan still retains her position, her colleague being Sister Ida J. Robins. Grand Secretary J. B. King and Grand Treasurer W. J. McCormack continue in office, but, of course, the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master have been changing each year, so that the Executive officers of the Grand Lodge are always on the Board.

It had been the intention of the Directors to purchase land and erect buildings suitable for the purposes of the Home. But the cost of building was high, and an opportunity presenting itself, it was decided to purchase a property which could be utilized without great expense. Accordingly, on the 8th of May, 1903, a farm was purchased near Oakville, in the fruit belt of Ontario, and later another property adjacent was secured, and the buildings remodelled and put into good repair. Briefly our Home may be thus described: We have 73 acres of land, of which 55 acres are under cultivation—largely with fruit, though enough grain, hay and vegetables are grown to supply our own establishment. There are two large buildings—one used as the headquarters, with accomodation for the older inmates; the other serves as an Orphanage, and will accomodate 40 children. The buildings are in good condition, and thoroughly and beautifully furnished. There is also a cottage which serves as a residence for the Farm Superintendent. The farm is well supplied with stock and implements. There is an excellent system of sewerage and water supply. The Home, with its furnishings, represents an asset of over \$20,000, and is free from all indebtedness.

The entire cost of our Home has been met by voluntary subscriptions, and grants from the Grand Lodge. It is hoped that some day the institution will be self-supporting. At present an annual grant of \$1,000 to \$1,500 from the Grand Lodge is all that is necessary to supplement the voluntary assistance given by lodges and individuals, and the revenue from the farm.

In 1905, a change in the management of the Home was made. The domestic concerns were placed under the control of a Matron, while the farm is managed by an experienced farmer.

The Home is beautifully situated on the main road about two miles east of the pretty little town of Oakville, and has a fine vista over the waters of Lake Ontario. Being surrounded with trees and shrubbery which afford grateful shade in the heat of summer, and located in a most healthy and salubrious climate, it is an exceedingly pleasant place, and one that is greatly enjoyed by our brothers and sisters who are resting there in the declining years of their lives. The furnishing of the rooms has been mainly done by the sisters of the Rebekah Lodges of Ontario, who have shown great taste and judgment in the superior manner in which they have carried out their labors of love in this respect. To them all honor is due for their sisterly co-operation in a good cause, and for their earnest and untiring effort to make the Ontario Odd Fellows' Home a perfect paradise.

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of the Grand Lodge in Ontario; member of Edna
Rebekah No. 14; and member of the General
Committee.



E. N. COMPTON

Past Grand, 35



B. J. SCHULTZ, P. G.
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FRED W. WRIGHT, J. P.

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THE FIRST enactment for a uniform public appearance in dress by the Order was by the adoption in 1870 of a law permitting Subordinate Encampments to wear such style of head-dress as might be approved by the Grand Patriarch of the jurisdiction. This small concession followed several efforts for a uniform, but strongly resisted, made at different times on and after 1866. With the use of the head dress thus authorized, in some jurisdictions were added other articles, and receiving such information, in February, 1871, Grand Sire Stuart proclaimed the use of swords and belts inadmissible and improper. In 1872, however, Encampments were authorized to wear such uniforms as might be approved by their Grand Encampments. Thus came into existence uniformed degree camps, which ran along with more or less of a precarious existence and embarrassment to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. The friends of a strictly military degree and display had remained unceasingly active, and September 24th, 1885, the Patriarchs Militant degree was adopted as it now had, having passed through but one revision since its adoption, and that appertaining more to the method of administration than to the character representation of the degree.

A more loyal army, pulsating with fidelity to its sovereign, never existed. Breathing the spirit of Chivalrous Knighthood, with swords unsheathed only in defence of honor, maintenance of the right and administration of justice, the ideals sought and realized are so ennobling as to have carried with them, and into the body of the great organization itself, a higher realization of human desires, conceptions and capabilities. Attaining its present standing against a wave of adversity, achieving a victory undirected, and winning laurels where seeming oblivion was the only port in sight, "that which was once rejected has indeed become the head of the corner."

Whenever and wherever enlistment is had, observe the personnel of the Militant enrollment, and in it will be found the work-bees of the subordinate hive, the artisans of the Encampment Temple, and the gentlemen

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—Continued.

The Patriarchs Militant

of the Rebekah flower. The collar of the initiate and a Grand Sire differ only in the emblems of rank; and to the layman simply indicate that the wearer is an Odd Fellow; but upon the mind of the most indifferent observer is impressed the thought and attention attracted to the Chevalier in uniform, as one who has scaled the ladder of attainments within the Order. To more zealous hands could not be entrusted the "Crown, as the emblem of the rank, the Shepherd's crook of peace or the Sword of Justice." And no sovereign, statesman or national hero's head was ever held more proudly erect, bearing crown or chapeau than is that of the Chevalier, honoring himself and the Order in proclamation. Its present standing success, and as its votaries march forth, proud because that they have for the great has ever known, "the right

In this dawning of a bright future well look to the North, West and report, "all is of youth has but been first estate. The renovation of the new enlistments, added together with the betterest and zeal, cannot otherings of admiration and part of the Sovereign Grand for a child; pride to see

centre of the world's stage, diploma in hand, winning the plaudits of all. Within the aims of this army only peace is honorable and all strife is vile. He alone being the true servant, benefactor and worthy of honor who brings comfort where before was wretchedness; who dries the tear of sorrow; who pours oil of consolation into the wounds of the unfortunate, and who by his own virtuous genius, enlivens and exalts. Such is the man of honor and the true Chevalier. At this time the organization is most complete in nearly every State and Territory of the United States, the Provinces of Canada, in Denmark and Hawaii.



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ing the fact of his enrollment is that of a magnificent can justly and proudly thereof, and the knowledge est organization the world of column."

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THE REBEKAH ASSEMBLY



INSSTITUTED at Stratford, on August 12th, 1891, the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario, was the result of a grand Convention of members of the Degree of Rebekah which assembled there on that date. Bro. Dr. Cl. T. Campbell (Acung Grand Sire), presided, and in due form organized the Assembly and installed the officers who had been chosen by the delegates, as follows: President, Sister J. Bowden, of Windsor; Vice-President, Sister E. Cook, of Toronto; Secretary, Sister Maggie Waddell, of St. Thomas; Treasurer, Sister Heien Crozier, of Gananoque; Warden, Sister M. G. Saunders, of London; Chaplain, Sister E. Seels, of Toronto. There representing nine lodges, but all were imbued with enthusiastic zeal in their endeavors to extend their efforts in this direction have been successful. On June 30th, 1905, there were 66 Rebekah of 3,613 brothers and sisters. And still the large increase in members when this year's Ontario are a live lot of building up that branch them the brethren of much for their valued support at all times good of the Order" is with the entire fraternity a hearty welcome to their brothers and sisters, and will endeavor to make their visit to St. Thomas as pleasant and happy as possible.



Mrs. Maggie Waddell,
Past Sec. Rebekah Assembly of Ontario.
One of the ardent promoters of the
Ontario Odd Fellows' Home.

were only eighteen delegates present, representing the true spirit of the Order, and manifested the work of the Rebekah Branch. This success is demonstrated by the fact that 66 Lodges in Ontario, with a total membership of 3,613, good work is going on, with prospects of a bright future. The reports are all received. The Rebekahs of this province owe very assistance and hearty when anything for "the suggested. In common ty, the Rebekahs extend

On another page of this book will be found the portraits of the Officers and Degree Team of Edna Rebekah Lodge, all of whom are noted for their earnest and unselfish efforts to promote the work of humanity as exemplified by the beautiful ritual of the Degree of Rebekah.

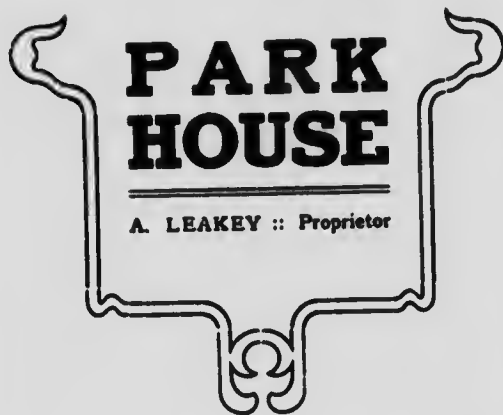


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The Rebekah Assembly of Ontario

—Continued

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Mrs. M. A. Pearce, Toronto
Secretary, 1904-8



Mrs. Nellie Dodson, Chatham
Treasurer, 1901-1908



Miss Anna Baron, Blenheim
Warden, 1907-8

EDWARD PARKER MORREY

Grand Senior Warden



EDWARD PARKER MORREY
Grand Senior Warden

Joined Samaritan Lodge, No. 35, Ingersoll, of which he is still a member, on the 26th of September 1886.

He is a P. C. P. of Unity Encampment No. 21, and a member of Canton Toronto, No. 7, and of Rebekah Lodge, No. 69.

He was appointed Grand Sentinel 1904-5, Grand Conductor 1906-7. Elected Grand Junior Warden at the session of 1907 and on the death of our late Bro. Wm. Bushell, was elected Grand Senior Warden.

The present year he was appointed to the staff of the Department Commander as Hospital Sergeant.





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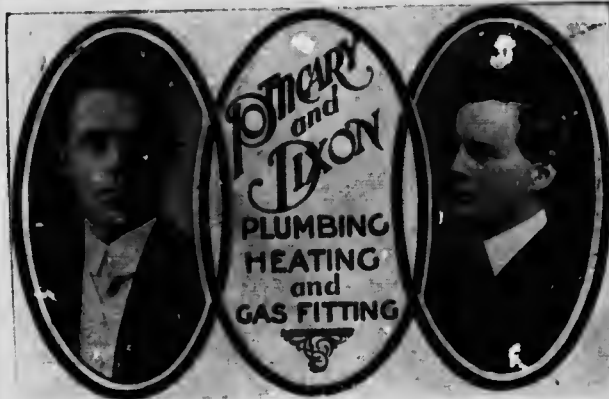
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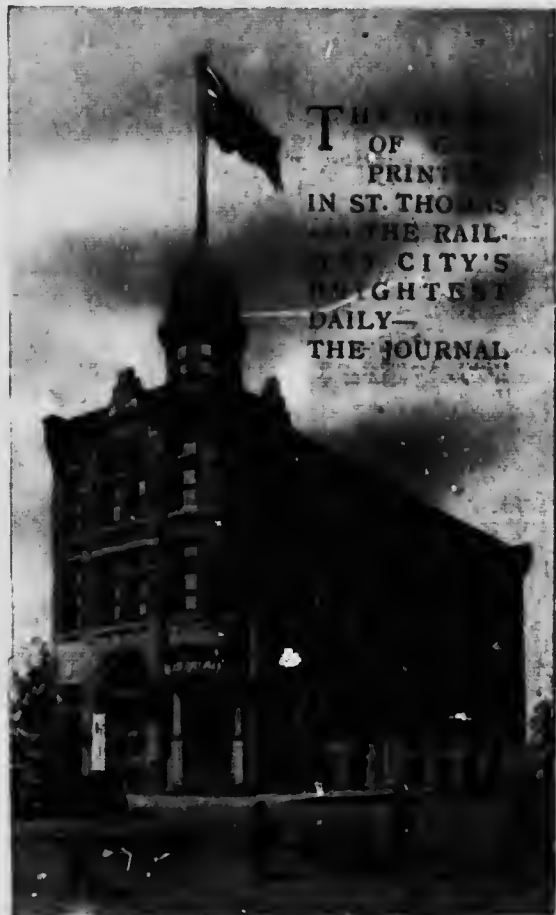
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ALMA has a well equipped Household Science Department. The individual system of instruction is followed.

ALMA has a Junior School for girls under 13 years of age.

New students admitted at any time when there is a vacancy.

COLLEGE RE-OPENS SEPTEMBER 9TH

Calendar and full information sent on application to
REV. R. I. WARNER, M. A. D. D., Principal
ST. THOMAS, ONT.

