SONS OF PILGRIMS DINE.

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY.

Prof. Wilson of Princeton Jokingly Reminds His Hosts That Most of Puritan Descent Have Not Done All That Has Been Done in Upbuilding the Republic—Other Speeches.

More than 400 descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers and the other old Puritans who followed the Fathers to New England sat down to a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria last night in celebration of the coming of the Mayflower to Plymouth Rock. It was the ninety-second annual festival of the New England Society of New York. The banquet was in the grand ballroom of the hotel.

Among those who were present were, next ever Nelson A. Miles, Rear Admiral Barker, J. Pierpont Morgan, Major-General John R. Brooke, Daniel F. Appleton, Horace Russell, Frederick J. De Peyster, Robert B. Roosevelt, Senator Chauncey Depew, James McKeen, Henry L. Stoddard, Stewart L. Woodford, Henry E. Howland, James A. O'Gorman, Frederick De Peyster Foster, George Gray Ward, John T. Terry, Milton E. Southard, Julien T. Davies, Morris P. Ferris and Thomas B. Reed.

The feature of the evening was the address of Prof. Woodrow Wilson of Princeton University. Himself of Scotch-Irish stock he took occasion to remind the celebrants of Dec. 22 that everything grand and glorious in the United States was not due to the Pilgrims and their descendants. He gave to his own stock much of the credit for the great things we have done as a nation. Prof. Wilson was gently ironical in his remarks and at the same time good-natured, and his points against the New Englanders were received by the diners in the best of spirit.

William E. Dodge, President of the New England Society, presided. In his opening address he spoke briefly, because he said the society was going to turn over a new leaf and go home early. He said he was especially anxious that they should get through early last night, because it was Saturday, and the descendants of the Pilgrims could not afford to desecrate the approaching Sabbath. He introduced as the first speaker President Arthur T. Hadley of Yale.

President Arthur Twining Hadley said in part:

"The day is past when the automatic action of enlightened self-interest could be trusted to regulate a great deal when a few simple principles of commercial law, if properly applied, secured the exercise of justice in matters of trade. The growth of large industrial and of large corporations has enabled those who have ability to do for the public much better service than was possible in ages previous. It also permits those who use them wrongly to render the public correspondingly greater injury. The problem which we have to meet this difficulty. The outcome depends on the character of the people. If our business is to be dominated by the spirit of the adventurer, of the gambler, of the Pullman car, we can expect years as a mere sphere of investment and commercial power as a plaything to be used in the game of personal ambitions. Or shall we treat the fortunes which come into our hands as a trust to be exercised for the people, from the people, which we inherit from its abler ancestors, and unspiritually refusing to associate with others who abuse it? We have to decide that last point this evening and to carry the decision back from the Pilgrim Fathers if we have any doubt concerning our answer. Let us throw ourselves, heart and soul, on that side of the industrial question which gives the society of Puritan ancestry—the side which regards wealth as a trust to be used for the whole public good, and in the furtherance of the purposes of God's government."

Prof. Wilson was called upon to speak to "The Puritan Example in Letters and Affairs." He said:

"I cannot but regard it as a whimsical fortune that a Scot should be asked to be the first speaker at a dinner of the New England Society. The Scotch-Irishman is not fond of contributing.

"I think, however, that nothing gives one strong race a better satisfaction than to see its traits in an other strong race. I became interested in that when I did but be a better contributor for saying your characters and your ancestors. We all know certain characteristics he added which we had in common and which we have here, perhaps, in a degree diminished taking root in this, like every other, soil. I mean, I suppose, the tenacity of purpose, the hard, unyielding, unpliable character, the tendency to carry out the principle, right or wrong, to the end, and the tendency to settle it afterward. I think that there is a strong family likeness between us in these respects.

"The Puritan was an Irishman. If he said—generally human, but—he was not generalized to that extent. He was a man of three lines, the clear logic, the strong will, the tender conscience. It is in the union of these three that the Puritan character consists.

"And I believe that there is a strong family likeness between us in these respects. We are, I think, not quite so ready as the Puritan to see the logical consequences of our principles. We are not quite so ready to see the ideal in the practical. We are not quite so ready to see the ideal in the practical. We are not quite so ready to see the ideal in the practical