

THE LEON REPORTER.

Charles Aldrich

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CROFFORD BACK TO PEN

The Bondsmen of Dr. J. W. Crofford Surrender Him and He is Again in the Penitentiary.

Dr. J. W. Crofford, of Lamoni, who has twice been convicted of the murder of Maud Stone, is again in the state penitentiary at Ft. Madison, his bondsmen having surrendered him last Thursday. The readers of THE REPORTER are all familiar with his case. On Jan. 29, 1901, Miss Maud Stone, a prominent young lady of this county (died at Dr. Crofford's sanitarium at Lamoni under suspicious circumstances, and a post mortem examination revealed the fact that her death was caused from the effects of a criminal operation. Dr. Crofford was arrested charged with the crime, and at the November term of court in that year the case was tried in the Decatur county district court, the jury returning a verdict finding Dr. Crofford guilty of murder in the second degree, and Judge H. M. Towner sentenced him to serve thirteen years in the penitentiary at Ft. Madison, and he was taken there at once, as the laws of Iowa at that time provided that a person convicted of murder in either the first or second degree could not give bond pending the appeal of his case to the supreme court, but must remain in prison until the supreme court passed upon the case. At the session of the state legislature which convened the following January, M. L. Temple, of Osceola, who was one of the attorneys for Dr. Crofford, introduced a bill which he succeeded in having passed by both houses, allowing a person convicted of murder in the second degree to give bond pending the appeal, and after serving about six months of his sentence Crofford was released, having filed a bond in the sum of \$12,500. Some time after this the supreme court reversed the Crofford case on account of Judge Towner admitting certain letters and evidence, which Crofford's attorneys objected to at the time of the trial, and a new trial was ordered.

The second trial was held at Osceola last April, a change of venue having been taken to Clarke county. Dr. Crofford alleging he could not secure a fair and impartial trial in this county, and for the second time he was found guilty and Judge H. K. Evans, who presided sentenced him to serve twelve years and six months in prison, the original sentence being reduced six months on account of the fact that Crofford had served six months in prison. Notice of second appeal to the supreme court was at once served and Crofford has been at liberty under a bond for \$12,500 with J. N. Brown, of Lamoni, A. W. Davis and M. C. Betts, of Pleasanton, as sureties. For some time Dr. Crofford has been in Texas on a business enterprise, and last week his sureties becoming dissatisfied he was induced to come from Beaumont, Texas, to Lamoni, on the plea of settling some business matters, but as soon as he arrived at Lamoni at the request of his bondsmen he was taken into custody by constable Lampkins, and arrangements made to bring him to Leon and turn him over to sheriff Wallace, but it was found that he would have to be turned over to the sheriff of Clarke county, as he was convicted in that county, so deputy sheriff Ira Wallace met Lampkin and Crofford at the depot Thursday evening, and took charge of him, taking him on the same train to Osceola, where he was placed in the custody of the Clarke county sheriff. Friday a mittimus was made out for his commitment to the penitentiary, and the sheriff of Clarke county took Crofford to Ft. Madison Friday afternoon and delivered him to the warden of the penitentiary.

The second appeal of Dr. Crofford to the supreme court is still pending, his attorneys now being at work on the abstract of the evidence, but unless Dr. Crofford can succeed in getting a new bond he will have to remain in prison.

A Pleasant Surprise.

Christmas eve being the tenth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Carrithers, of north Leon, a number of their friends from the neighborhood of their country home drove to Leon Saturday morning, bringing with them many baskets of good things to eat and a number of tin presents to remind them of their marriage which took place near Richmond, Ky., ten years ago. An elegant dinner was served and Mr. Perry Worden gave a fine entertainment with his phonograph. The guests departed late in the afternoon, after wishing Mr. and Mrs. Carrithers many happy returns of the day. Those present on this happy occasion were the families of Charles Peugh, Abe McVey, John Cox, Clyde Merrill, Preston Creveling, Charles Hague, Charles Worden, Charles Ryan, James Madden, Wm. Painter, Mr. and Mrs. K. Hickman, Messames Dunn, Pierce, Hiatt and Marston, Miss Kennedy and Mr. Newman Worden.

Want Better Train Service.

The towns on the K. & W. from Centerville to Van Wert are making an effort to compel the Burlington to give them better train service. After the Burlington bought the old K. & W. they immediately took off part of the passenger trains, so there is only one train each way a day, and it is claimed that this is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the traveling public. A petition was prepared and forwarded to the railroad officials, but they paid no attention to it, and the matter has been brought to the attention of the state railroad commission who have the matter under discussion with the railroads and have intimated that if the railroad does not provide better service in the near future that they will take steps to compel them.

In this connection why would it not be a good thing for Leon to take up the matter of better service on the Leon-Des Moines branch. As it is now a passenger cannot get west on the main line from here until late at night, and only on every other day can a passenger from any of the towns along the Keokuk branch or west of Grand River get to Leon the same day, as the freight train to Cainsville runs only every other day. The service could be materially improved if the railroad would extend the run of the Van Wert-Des Moines train which now starts from Van Wert about 8 o'clock in the morning, and gets back to Van Wert at 3:15 in the afternoon, on to Leon. The train could leave Leon at 7 o'clock in the morning and get back about 4 in the afternoon, and this would provide the connections which this town is now deprived of. The train could just as well start and lay over at Leon as at Van Wert. We trust that some one will interest themselves in this matter and circulate a petition. They would have no trouble in getting plenty of signers.

Louie Hurst Hurt at Ottumwa.

Louie Hurst, of Leon, was injured this afternoon about 1:30 o'clock while at work unloading goods from a car into the new building of J. H. Merrill & Co. He was pulling a truck load of goods from the car onto the platform when the small drawbridge between the car and the platform slipped off the car door precipitating the truck load forward and pinning the unfortunate man to the platform. The ambulance was called and Hurst was taken to the hospital, where Dr. D. C. Brockman rendered the proper medical attention. After a thorough examination the physician in charge pronounced the injury a slight one unless unforeseen complications should develop.

It was stated that there were no bones broken and it was not thought they were any internal injuries. However, the injury was a very painful one and the shock a great one. Young Hurst rooms it is said at 330 East Second street. He is a nephew of John Hurst, well known to Ottumwa fans as one of the star pitchers of the Marshalltown team during the season of 1904.—Ottumwa Courier.

Attention Township Trustees.

The trustees of each township are required by law to make and file with the county auditor a full and complete itemized report of all monies received and disbursed in the township road funds; the report showing to whom each order was paid and the amount, as well as for what it was paid. These reports must be filed before the meeting of the board of supervisors on January 1st. Last year the trustees did not seem to know that they were required to file these reports and considerable bother was caused the auditor in securing them. It is so hoped that every report will be on file when the board meets next Monday. The justices of the peace are also required to have their annual report on file at the same time.

License to Wed.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Clarence Skinner, Lamoni | 25 |
| Alotha May White, Lamoni | 21 |
| D. A. Downey, Davis City | 20 |
| Stella Allen, Davis City | 17 |
| M. L. Robbins, Davis City | 24 |
| Ione Beasley, Davis City | 19 |
| M. W. Hamilton, Kellerton | 26 |
| Edith F. Andrew, Grand River | 10 |
| Calvin W. Githens, Davis City | 26 |
| Nellie G. Sutherland, Davis City | 19 |
| C. S. Heckathorn, Lamoni | 32 |
| Luella Coons, Leon | 25 |
| James Smith, Decatur City | 19 |
| Daisy Ross, Leon | 24 |
| Dr. J. S. Coontz, Woodland | 26 |
| Hattie A. Still, Woodland | 26 |
| Wm. Owens, Leon | 40 |
| Sarah Quigley, Leon | 20 |

Notice.

All coupons on Graphophones must be in on or before Jan 5, 1906—as they will not be good, except for records, after that date. H. MIDDLEBROOK.

Vellie Buggies.

MOUNT AYR SENSATION

More of the History of the Gay Costa Rican, who did not Wed Mt. Ayr Society Girl.

The escape of Don Amando de Cespedes, the Costa Rican who was to have married Miss Bertha Shrimplin, a well known society young lady of Mt. Ayr, continues to be the talk of our neighboring town. All of the big daily papers have published sensational accounts of the affair, and pictures of all the parties involved in the affair. It is claimed by some that the fellow was simply trying to get hold of some of the bride's father's wealth, and that he had no intention of marrying the girl.

The Mt. Ayr Record of last week says: Don Amando took his departure on last Thursday night on the midnight train over the Great Western. Many a wedding cake is still unbaked and the white gloves which Amando ordered to go with the rest of his wedding togs, are in the show window of a local haberdasher. Don Amando left declaring his unwavering love and intense devotion for Miss Shrimplin, whom he insists is the only girl he ever loved. He intends to return to Costa Rica, so it is claimed where he will endeavor to secure a divorce from his former wife and return with the document duly signed by the American consul. Armed with this document he hopes to secure a marriage license here and once more set sail upon the uncertain sea of matrimony.

LETTER FROM FORMER WIFE.

Chicago, Ill., December 17, 1905.—EDS. RECORD: Your letter has been received, and I gladly comply with your request for a letter giving a history of my married life.

I was united in marriage to Amando de Cespedes by Rev. W. H. Pool, pastor of the Methodist church of which I am a member, on October 16, 1901. He represented to me that he had two farms and a studio in Costa Rica, that our wedding tour would take in the following places: Chicago, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, New York and within two weeks we would take the steamer and sail for Spain where we would sojourn for a year or so and then go to Costa Rica, our future home. We managed to get as far as Buffalo when funds ran out and he was obliged to send to New York for a draft of one hundred dollars which he happened to have in a bank, and which proved to be the end of his capital. On this and an additional amount of his paying his watch fob, he lived in a little four room apartment in New York City for three months, he doing nothing towards earning a living. By the first of January, 1902, he had succeeded in getting a mortgage on his mother's house in Costa Rica (which is valued at three hundred dollars) for one hundred and twenty dollars. With this money we secured passage for Costa Rica. On reaching San Jose, our future home, he borrowed five hundred dollars from a friend of his to start a photographic material store, from which he earned a scant living. He still is in debt to his friend for this amount and various other small amounts which he borrowed from time to time.

On August 6, 1902, our baby girl was born and on July 31, 1903, a little boy was born to us. In November, of the same year, complications having arisen from his continued indebtedness, he left me saying he was going to go to work in the mines near Nicaragua. He hadn't the means to go on and wanted to pawn a bracelet that my father-in-law had made me a present of, which was worth thirty-five dollars, and a watch which he had given me before we were married. I refused to let him have them and he became enraged and threatened to shoot me with a revolver which he had in the house. This I can prove by witnesses. However, after such threats as was I did not care to sacrifice my life for the price of a bracelet, I gave them to him. He returned, however in a month's time, when his funds had run out and he could not borrow any, not having gone to work at all—merely making it a pleasure trip.

He still had the small kodak supply store in San Jose, but not having business qualifications to conduct it properly its worth had dwindled down to the value of \$1.50, for which amount he sold it soon after his return. With this money he told me he was going to start up a show (circus) business, but instead on the third day of March, 1904, unbeknown to anyone, he snaked out of the country, going to the United States, leaving me penniless and without any means of support, and dependent upon the charity of my sister who was then visiting me, and who was at that time employed as stenographer for Thomas Scott, a broker in San Jose. On arriving in the United States he patched up his actions by writing me that he was so heavily in debt that he had to take this means of getting out of the country, and that he was going to procure work at the St. Louis Fair, which he afterwards did by applying to the General Commissioner Don Gonzalez from Costa Rica, and not through the government as he represents, working on a salary of fifteen dollars a week. He wrote me love letters all the time and told me that if I could raise the money to come to him, and naturally wanting to get back to my own country where I had some means of protecting myself in case of such actions being repeated as before, and the outlook of a home for myself and children, I sold what furniture we had and came with both babies to St. Leon in company with my sister.

On November 13, 1904, a terrible accident happened to our little girl. She was so badly burned that she was not

expected to live for two months, and in the meantime, with this little one on her deathbed, this man, having secured money from a stranger, took the little boy and left for Costa Rica, leaving me without a cent and to fight the battle of the world for myself and child, who remained in the hospital until April 3, 1905, when I came with her to join my sister in Chicago. I shortly procured work here with the Chicago Telephone company.

In the meantime he was keeping up a correspondence with me, always telling me he would send for me as soon as he made his fortune, which was all false and which he had no intention of doing, as has been proven by his actions the last few days. It has been stated, and I know no better way of expressing it than that he is a worthless "woman grafter," holding no government or social position whatever in his own country nor ever did. He hasn't a cent to his name and a good proof of this is shown by the fact that he hadn't the price to buy an overcoat, which he acknowledged to me in a letter from San Francisco in his own hand writing, and which I have in my possession.

He is a hot tempered man. For instance, if the meal was not prepared at the moment he arrived to partake of it he would sit down at the table and break the dishes on the floor, breaking them into a thousand pieces. Furthermore, when I was ill and my neighbors brought me in delicacies to eat, if he could not eat them all he would throw them on the floor and stamp on them to keep me and the children from having them. This statement I can prove absolutely by witnesses, and happened while we lived in St. Louis, and his last good-bye was a good slap in the face that made my mouth bleed, etc., etc. There are so many things—too numerous to mention.

Concerning the country: it is very beautiful but I have said so much already that I have not the time to devote to description of it. My mother-in-law, a very poor woman, but certainly a good religious woman and worthy of all the praise that can be given a dutiful mother is all that any girl could wish for from a mother-in-law.

During all the time that he has been struggling for a living working five hours at night in the telephone office and half the day doing plain sewing, making a living but far happier than I would be if I was living with him, and in conclusion as I have to go to work, will say that I have plenty of friends who are standing by me and ready to vouch for the facts that are stated in this article, and furthermore I have dozens of letters in his own hand writing which will prove many statements I have made. MRS. DORA DE CESPEDES.

LETTER TO MISS SHRIMPIN.

The following letter was received by the Mt. Ayr News, its publication being requested by Mrs. Kepley:

Elmhurst, Ill., Dec. 15, 1905.

"An open letter from the Elmhurst W. C. T. U. to Miss Bertha Shrimplin, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

"DEAR YOUNG LADY:—The Elmhurst W. C. T. U. feel called upon to congratulate you upon your escape from the snare set for you by a wily and wicked adventurer, since they were the Providential means whereby he was exposed and put to flight, and you saved from his clutches. Your deliverance was as much a Providence as was the escape of Susannah from the wiles of wicked men, and you can thank God, who is able and willing to deliver us, if we ask it of Him. Instead of mourning and lamenting rise up, put on your beautiful garments, and with a shining face and joyful heart give praise to your God for the wicked one. No American young woman should lament the loss of a base and wicked one, but should rejoice and be glad that rescue from a miserable fate has been happily sent to her. Shakespeare tells of a beautiful lady upon whom a spell was cast so that she fell in love with a low creature with the head of an ass. This Cespedes is a powerful animal, and he may have cast a hypnotic spell upon you that caused you to see in his lying face the ideal you have had of a noble man. Cespedes won for his wife here a young girl just graduated from our high school; her wedding dress was her wedding robe. He deceived her with lying tales of his vast wealth, and of houses in his own country and in Spain, and then left her to earn her own bread. She bore him two beautiful children, but he cast her off, and to make excuses for his attempt to deceive and abuse her he lied, and gave the mother of his children the vilest name that can be bestowed upon a woman. He lied about his church when he said that in the Catholic church a separation constitutes a divorce—any Catholic priest can tell you that. If he were a Catholic, as he said he was, he knew that his church declares openly that all marriages contracted without the sanction of the church are considered adulterous, and if he were a Catholic he knew that the church does not countenance such marriages at all. He undoubtedly did not consider himself bound to the woman he married, nor would he have considered himself bound to you after he had plucked you of your means, and you then would have shared the fate of the lady he married here. The young woman he married was left an orphan, and was a ward of the great order of Odd Fellows for years. Her name has never had a smirch except the one put upon it by Cespedes, whose lawful wife she is.

"It was a young woman far from here who brought to our notice the fact that Cespedes was about to marry you." She sent a clipping from a newspaper concerning your wedding. You were at once communicated with, and others took it up, and you were saved as a miracle. So we advise you as a self-respecting American young woman to rise up, cast off the villain who as a wolf in sheep's clothing has sought to ruin your young life, and give thanks with great joy to God, who has so

wonderfully deceived you. "Yours for God and home and every land, and purity," ADA H. KEPLEY, President Elmhurst W. C. T. U. MAGGIE OSWALD, Secretary.

MATRIMONIAL.

Still-Coontz.

Dr. J. S. Coontz and Miss Hattie A. Still, two of the well known and popular young people of Woodland, were quietly married at the M. E. parsonage in this city Sunday afternoon, the ceremony being performed by Dr. A. M. Pileher, pastor of the M. E. church.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Still, two of the oldest and highly respected residents of Woodland and she was born and raised in this county. She is a young lady endowed with all the graces to preside over a happy home.

The groom also comes from a well known Woodland township family, being a son of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Coontz, pioneer settlers of this county. After attending the schools in this county Dr. Coontz attended a medical college at Keokuk, and after graduating returned to Woodland and engaged in practice and has built up a large and steadily growing practice. He is a bright young man who will make his mark in his chosen profession.

Dr. and Mrs. Coontz will go to house-keeping at once in a cozy home in Woodland and a host of friends, including THE REPORTER extend their best wishes and congratulations. May their married life be a long and prosperous one is the wish of all who know them.

Coons-Heckathorn.

At the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Coons, two miles northeast of Leon, on Christmas afternoon there was a quiet home wedding, the contracting parties being their daughter, Miss Luella and Mr. C. S. Heckathorn, the ceremony being performed in the presence of the immediate relatives by Rev. A. C. Heckathorn, pastor of the Davis City M. E. church, an uncle of the groom.

The bride is a charming and beautiful young lady who enjoys the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends. The groom is an exemplary and industrious young man, employed in the bridge department of the C. B. & Q. R. R. They have not as yet decided at what place they will reside, as Mr. Heckathorn is changing locations frequently on account of his work, but wherever they may locate, the well wishes of many friends will follow them and that their journey through life may be a path of roses, ever blooming, is the wish of their many friends.

Grand Foreman of Brotherhood of American Yomen Visits Leon.

On Thursday evening of last week, Leon Homestead No. 145, was honored with an official visit from Grand Foreman Wm. Koch, of Des Moines, and they had invited the members of all the neighboring homesteads to meet with them on this happy occasion, there being about forty visitors present, and a good time was had. The Leon team went on the floor work in a manner which was endorsed by all present, Grand Foreman Koch highly complimented them on their work, there being 118 archers present. At this meeting nine applicants were voted in and a class of fourteen candidates were initiated in the secret work. After the work was completed the ladies of the Leon Homestead served a bountiful supper which was heartily partaken of by all present and then followed a good social time until a late hour, and as they left the hall all joined in singing "God be with you till we meet again." Deputy Combs who has been working for several weeks in Leon is certainly hard to beat when it comes to securing new members. He came to Leon late in the fall agreeing to build up the Homestead to at least 100 members, and at that time they had only a membership of 74, so he had to secure over 25 new members, and he has secured more than double this number, as well as having taken the application of quite a number for other Homesteads in this county. He has strong hopes that he will show a membership of over 200 members in the Leon Homestead before the winter is over.

Election of Officers.

At the regular meeting of the Modern Woodman held Friday evening the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Venerable Consul—S. E. Benefiel.
Adviser—Geo. L. Jackson.
Banker—L. N. Beard.
Clerk—H. Farquhar.
Escort—U. G. Benefiel.
Physician—Dr. J. W. Greenman.
Watchman—W. H. Howard.
Sentry—Fred Marvin.
Trustee—O. E. Hull.
Auditor—D. E. Morgan.

Vellie Buggies.

Winners of Corn Premiums

The following is the list of prize winners in the corn contest at the Decatur County Farmers' Institute held at Garden Grove:

Class A—10 Ears of Yellow Corn.
1st. \$8.50 pair International Stock Food, H. W. Potts.—Fred Woolley.
2nd. 1.00 pair Pratts Stock Food H. H. Young.—Wm. Crichton.
3rd. 1.00 package chicken food, W. H. Stiles.—W. H. White.
Class B—10 Ears White Corn.
1st. Scoop Board, G. M. Russell.—E. G. Monroe.
2nd. Scoop Shovel, E. Ray Sullivan & Co.—J. W. Aten.
3rd. Buggy Whip, N. M. Ridgway.—W. D. Smith.
Class C—10 Ears neither White or Yellow.
1st. 1 sack Golden Sheaf Flour, J. L. Still.—John Duffield.
2nd. One suit underwear, G. M. Miller.—Will Waters.
Sweepstakes—Best 10 Ears any color, One Young American Cheese, C. D. Mallette.—Fred Woolley.
Class D—Single Ear Yellow Corn.
1st. One pair Douglas shoes, W. A. Williams.—Wm. Crichton, Leon Ia.
2nd. One pair men's gloves, Connor Bros.—Ed Guant, Leroy Ia.
Class E—Single Ear White Corn.
1st. Sack of Shorts, Thos. Boyce.—Geo. Bartlett.
2nd. One man's cap, Geo. Gehlhaar.—E. G. Monroe.
Class F—Single Ear neither White or Yellow.
1st. One year's subscription to Garden Grove Express, R. C. Hoadley.—Will Waters.
2nd. One year's subscription to Breeders' Gazette, J. E. Vail.—W. D. Smith.
Sweepstakes—Best Single Ear any color.
2.00 Hand Saw, Miller & Spellerberg—Wm. Crichton.
Class G—Biggest Ear any color.
1st. Sack of Shorts, Garden Grove Elevator Company.—Ralph Baker.
2nd. Four Horse shoes set, Hoadley & Clark.—Ralph Chase.
In the boys and girls contest there were no studs entered for competition so the prizes offered in that contest were distributed among those competing in the 10 ears class of popcorn.

Boys and Girls Contest.
Best 10 Ears Pop Corn any color.
We were unable to learn the order in which these prizes were awarded so give only those winning in order.
Glen Hamill.
Howard Bruce.
Opal Brown.
Hazel Deak.
Joseph and Arnold Guant.
Frank Mallette.
Chester Leighty.
Best Single Ear Pop Corn.
1st. Statue of McKinley, T. J. Silvers.—Hazel Dadd.
2nd. 50c, H. G. Arnold.—Joseph and Arnold Guant.
3rd. 50c, W. C. Still.—Fred Boyce.
Special for the best Dolly or piece of Embroidery made by girl under twelve years.
1st. One pair Miner's Gloves, Connor Bros.—Merel Warrington.
2nd. Two yards Nick Ribbon, Gillette Sisters.—Eunice Mitchell, Davis City.
3rd. One pound Candy, G. W. Murrharger.—Merel Warrington.
4th. 50c, Dr. Ward divided.
Special for the best Pumpkin Pie made by girl under fifteen years.
1st. \$1.00, Fred Woolley.—Myrl Lillard.
2nd. 50c, Dr. Lyon.—Mabel Morgan.
3rd. 50c, S. H. Amos.—Bertha Young.

Knights Templars Observe Christmas.

The members of the Knights Templars in this city assembled at their hall on Christmas morning at 11 o'clock for the purpose of holding special Christmas exercises, which ceremony was observed in every Knights Templars lodge in the world.

In order to be assembled at the same moment, the Knights Templars of the mountain time district gathered at 10 o'clock those on the Pacific coast at 9 o'clock, in Alaska at 8 o'clock, while the Knights Templars of Hawaii had to arise and put on their uniforms at 6 o'clock their time to be toasting the grand master at the identical moment the New York knights were sending noon greeting to him. In England the hour for the service is 5 o'clock in the afternoon, while in the Philippines the Knights Templars had to stay up until 1 o'clock the morning of Dec. 26, to hold their exercises at the same time it was 11 o'clock in Leon.

The same toasts are used throughout the world and are annually prepared by Sir Stephen Berry of Portland, Me., the author of the pretty custom. The following toast was proposed this year by the general committee of the grand encampment:

"To our Most Eminent Grand Master, George M. Moulton:
"A Merry Christmas with health and prosperity to all the goodly fellowship of the cross."

In response to the toast the grand master, George M. Moulton of Chicago sent the following greeting to all the Knights Templars of the world:

"To all the loyal and loving soldiers of Christ enlisted under the banner of our order, whosoever dispersed throughout the world: Peace be unto thee and that contentment which cometh from a firm and unflinching reliance upon our Father who art in heaven.

After the reading of the toasts by Eminent Commander Horace Farquhar, a short but very appropriate address was delivered by Sir Knight Rev. J. A. Armstrong, which was highly appreciated and enjoyed by every Knight present.