



Guests' Book

King Edward Hotel

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIX

2000

1000



The King Edward Hotel
Opened May 11, 1903



KING EDWARD HOTEL



TORONTO
WILLIAM C. BAILEY
MANAGER

KING EDWARD
HOTEL
GUESTS' BOOK

Issued for distribution to visitors to Toronto by
THE KING EDWARD HOTEL COMPANY
ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT

The business houses whose announcements appear, have been carefully selected and are guaranteed as worthy of confidence and patronage. Guests visiting these leading establishments will confer a favor by mentioning this publication.

THE MAIL JOB PRINTING COMPANY
TORONTO



Greeting



It is the wish of the management that this small brochure shall serve as a guide for our guests to the various features of interest about the King Edward Hotel, during their stay, and as a pleasant souvenir of their visit after their departure. Within its covers may be found a description of the art collection, articles of vertu, and objects of historic value which a stroll through the rotunda and public rooms will reveal to the art-loving visitor. To the complete enjoyment and understanding of these, and of the Hotel generally, it has been felt that some compilation of this kind was necessary, and to fulfil such a mission is the object of this publication.

The staff in every department of the King Edward Hotel appreciate and are loyally endeavoring to carry out the chief injunction of the management—that the care and comfort of the guests shall be their first consideration. Politeness, carefulness, and a satisfying and willing service is expected from every employee of the Hotel, and the guests are respectfully reminded that by exercising care in giving instructions and allowing reasonable time for the execution of their orders, they may do their part to secure the end so much desired by all—a perfect service.

Copies of this brochure may be obtained at the office for perusal or for the purpose of mailing to friends.

WILLIAM C. BAILEY

Toronto, the Queen City

The city of Toronto has now (1906) an estimated population of 280,000, which is constantly on the increase. More than two-thirds of that population has been added during the past quarter-century. It is the second largest city in the Dominion of Canada, and the chief commercial centre of the province of Ontario. It is also the administrative centre of this province, which extends from near to the borders of Vermont on the east to the state of Minnesota on the west. It is also a railroad and navigation centre; an educational centre;



A Group of Churches.—Bond Street, looking north



Municipal Buildings, Toronto

and the headquarters of some of the leading religious bodies of the Dominion. In short, it is what its name in the Ojibway speech implies—"The Meeting Place." It was by the name Toronto that the Indians knew the spot on which it is located centuries before the white man penetrated the country of the great lakes. Under the old French *regime* it was a trading post known as Fort Rouille. After the British conquest it became a British settlement, and was called York. In the War of 1812 between Great Britain and the United States it was burned to the ground by the Continental forces. It sprang to life again, and in 1834 was incorporated as a city under the old Indian name of Toronto.

Toronto, the Queen City

Continued



University of Toronto

As has often been the case with cities of newly developed commercial prosperity, Toronto was for years a shabby looking town with nothing to attract the eye, and though it cannot altogether be said to have kept pace in building with its expansion, the endeavor to make it a city of beautiful, permanent edifices will be observed on every hand. It enjoys a great summer advantage in its lovely natural surroundings and its facilities for outdoor enjoyments. By railway and by steamboat it is within two hours' reach of some of the most beautiful tourist districts of Ontario. With its growing prosperity and natural advantages it is impossible as yet to predict the future of the city.

3

The city's commercial prominence was obtained by virtue of its sheltered harbour in the days prior to 1850 when distribution was almost entirely in the hands of the vessel-owners of the great lakes. With the advent of railways the citizens used every exertion to attract the companies, with good results. So great has the traffic become that a large section of the waterfront is now under expropriation for more track room. Collateral with this has been an immense industrial and trade expansion. The Legislature of Ontario is established here, with the large administrative departments of Governments. The High Courts of the province are located here. The University of Toronto, a government and federated institution, has ten affiliated colleges. The city is still the chief centre of navigation on either side of Lake Ontario. It leads all the other cities of the Dominion in its export of manufactured products.



A King Edward Bus, the first thing you see.

Story of the King Edward

(By a Guest)



SINCE the day on which it was opened, May 11th, 1903, the King Edward Hotel has been an object of admiration and pride with the citizens of Toronto. It is looked upon by them as an institution that lends itself to the progress and permanence of Toronto in the same sense as do the municipal and legislative buildings, the large cathedrals and the many colleges which adorn the city. The tone of luxury and elegance which pervades it have made it a household word with patriotic Torontonians and it is visited monthly by hundreds who are not guests but merely sight-seers. Allowing for local conditions, it may be said (always in the comparative sense) that it occupies something the same relation to Toronto as does the Alhambra to the city of Grenada, Spain.

There comes a day in the history of all towns destined to have a permanent place on the map when the citizens begin to look about them for means to make strangers acquainted with the fact that theirs is a good place to live in. It was this sentiment that led to the construction of the King Edward Hotel, which owes its existence not only to private enterprise but to civic sympathy and ambition.



King Street Entrance to the King Edward

In a purely financial sense it has more than justified the hopes of the optimists and even out-run them. It has influenced the progress of events in the city of Toronto in many diverse ways. To give but an instance, the two or three million dollars spent on its construction and decoration has been followed within two years by the expenditure of an almost like amount on the improvement of many small hotels because of the tone set thereby.

For years the cry had been that Toronto, though progressive in many things, was badly and even wretchedly equipped in the matter of hotel accommodation. A few public spirited men banded together and decided to grapple with the problem. The result, after the usual set backs and obstacles had been encountered, is the King Edward Hotel, and it is admitted that its projectors did not do things by halves. One of the proposals in connection with the enterprise which has been carried out was the opening of a new short thoroughfare which not only proved a boon to the business district but permitted the architect to make his building an airy and well lighted edifice and present a broad-side of artistic elegance from three sides to the casual passerby. The location of the King Edward Hotel, near the corner of King and Yonge streets, after many alternative sites had been mooted, was an especially happy idea. No other site, considering the layout of Toronto,



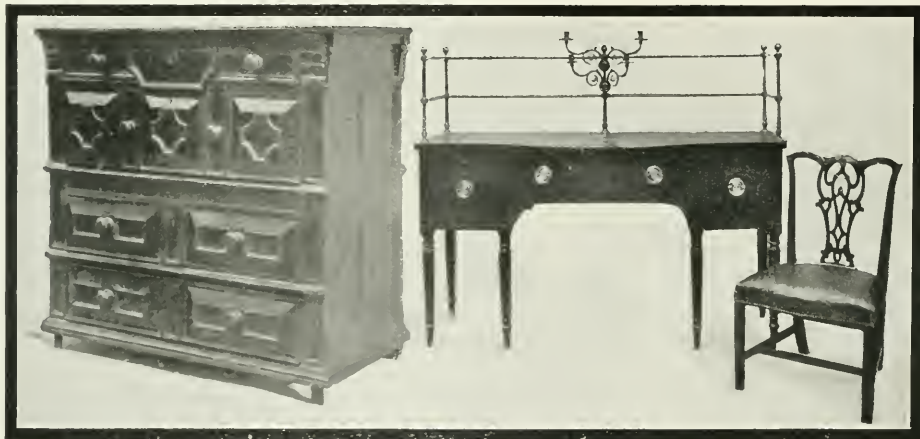
A Corner in the Rotunda, looking towards the Ladies' Entrance, on Victoria Street.
Showing the Great Mantel-piece and Candelabra.

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Visitors to Toronto cordially invited to inspect this interesting establishment.

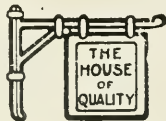
affords such ready access to the wholesale and financial district, the shopping district, and the loc theatres. It may be said to be placed almost at the hub of the city's business activity. The new Union Station shortly to be constructed, and the docks of the leading passenger steamers of the great lakes lie within a brief distance of it. This important position makes its vast rotunda at all times a humming hive of social chat and business activity.

The artistic elegance of the exterior is plain to the most unpracticed eye; it is in the Renaissance style and the combination of grey granite, grey cut stone and buff pressed brick makes a chaste yet rich effect. The carven decorations are multiform but also rich and delicate and in absolute unity. As one enters the vast rotunda from any one of the three portals one immediately finds that its interior is in

keeping with the promise of its outward appearance. Lighted by a great dome of clouded glass its vast harmonious proportions at once impress one. The mural decorations, which are dealt with in a separate article in this brochure, arrest the eye, the vast pillars that uphold the high groined ceiling give the impression at once of airiness and of solidity. The pervading richness of color conveys a sense of satisfying warmth, while in the rich and luxuriant upholstery and furnishings, comfort and elegance have been perfectly achieved. The floor is laid in marble mosaic and the walls are trimmed with Sarancolon marble. Scattered about are priceless Turkish and Persian rugs. Surrounding the rotunda and overlooking it are broad corridors, forming a series of colonnaded galleries from which the lady guest may overlook the busy scene below. These are beautifully furnished



The Palm Room



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and replete with objects of art. One of these has been turned into what is termed a "palm room" where visitors may regale themselves with tea and refreshments, and it is daily thronged by fashionable folk.

In the matter of ministering to the needs of the inner man the hotel is most luxuriously equipped. Dining rooms, buffets, grill rooms, for the accommodation of everybody, according to his taste, take up a large portion of the edifice. The American dining room on the first floor up is one of the airiest and most beautiful chambers imaginable. It is designed in the modern colonial style with a southern exposure, a high vaulted ceiling of clouded glass floods the room with light and makes it at all times cheerful, while the rich red of carpets and walls, the delicate frescoes and the handsome oil paintings, give a charming effect. To the taste of many, the European dining room on the ground floor, opening off the rotunda, is even more attractive because of its delicate beauty. In truth it is elegant enough in style to serve as the boudoir of a Pompadour were its dimensions not so vast. A room filled with light, its predominating colors of old ivory and green, the beautiful paneling and tinted relief work, the drapings of dull green silk and lace, all delight the artistic eye. Needless to say, the napery, silverware and cut glass in all the dining rooms of the hotel is of the most refined and luxurious quality.

A centre of good cheer is the cosy grill room, where the business and professional men of Toronto meet to exchange good stories and gossip over things in general. The atmosphere here is that of Bohemia in the best sense of the word: a Bohemia governed by rich and genial surroundings.

While the King Edward Hotel has accomplished the purpose it was originally designed for—that of attracting visitors who desire luxurious surroundings—it has taken a distinct place in the social life of the city.



The Grill Room



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KING, COLBORNE, AND VICTORIA STREETS
TORONTO

It affords the man of moderate means without a mansion in which to entertain, a charming resort for a dinner, a ball, or whatever function he may devise, while to the women it is an absolute boon. One has only to visit the "Yellow Room," with its beautiful furnishings, or the small banquet reception room, with its lovely Rococo decorations, to understand, what it means to them. The society woman whose house is closed for decoration or repair, the visiting actress or musician of distinction, who wishes to return hospitality, finds here exquisite surroundings and perfect service for a "tea" or any function that may be devised.

Needless to say that in all the things also which tend to the comfort and indulgence of the male guest, the hotel is magnificently equipped. The bar and buffet have the sumptuous dignity of an old baronial hall, while even in the barber shops the same note of luxury prevails. On the furnishing of the four hundred bedchambers a fortune has been lavished and yet good taste has ever been a marked quality therein.

There has not been space to adequately describe many other points of interest and luxurious appointments in which the King Edward building abounds. Just off the palm-room, for instance, one may find the exquisitely fitted manicure parlors, where competent manicurists and hair-dressers are in waiting throughout the day. On the main floor is a well-equipped news stand and book and souvenir shop, where the leading American, British, and European papers may be obtained. Also on this floor is the King Edward hotel drug store, a glimpse of which is shown herewith, and which is in charge of an experienced pharmacist. The two great Canadian railroad systems have combined in one office in the hotel rotunda, and travellers can secure all information and transact their business here without being put to the necessity of calling at the ticket offices in the station.

The King Edward is not only a repository of many beautiful things, but it is a thoroughly equipped modern hotel in all that the phrase implies.



A Corner in the King Edward Hotel Drug Store

C. P. R.

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Art in The King Edward

(By Paul Bissett)



MAGNIFICENT as are the furnishings and decorations

of the King Edward Hotel, it is perhaps the exquisite collection of objects of art which it boasts that constitutes its most precious feature. These have not been chosen for their showiness, as in the case of many important hotels, but have been gathered by connoisseurs of assured taste and knowledge for whom meretricious display could have no charm. Scattered through the rotunda and other public



Carved Wood Torsion Columns (17th Century work) from a Church in Bruges, Belgium.

rooms of the edifice, they are really an important educational contribution to the art life of the city. They embrace specimens of all the fine arts in their finest manifestations: paintings, carvings, metal work and pottery of many nations and many epochs. Some of the unique and precious curios were purchased for the Clemenceau collection of Paris, one of the most famous institutions of its kind in the world. It was gathered during the middle of the nineteenth century by one of the most distinguished of French



Torsion Column at Main Entrance.

public men and remained intact until a few years ago when it was sold by his heirs.

Perhaps the most important of these exquisite achievements in art and handicraft is a carved ivory jewel box which is said to have been made for that typical figure and brilliant woman of the French renaissance, Diane de Poitiers. It is indeed a gift that would do honor to a princess and adorn a palace. It stands on a rich gold pedestal and is valued at \$3,000. The ancient character of the work is unques-

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tionable and the carved decorations have a delightfully rococo quality. Upon it four scenes from the story of the goddess Diana are carved in replica, one showing her starting for the chase with her hounds and nymphs; another illustrates the well-known episode of Antaeus who surprised the goddess bathing, and was by her turned into a stag and slain by his own hounds; a third shows Diana awakening; and a fourth, in pursuance of her vow of perpetual maidenhood, repulsing the whisperings of Cupid. The grace of arrangement betokens rare artistic taste as well as skill of hand.

Yet another piece of great value is a terra cotta statue of Venus, about 8 inches in height, which forms a chief attraction at the Palm Room. The antiquity of the work is unquestioned and experts place it as of the period of 300 B.C. It was unearthed by antiquarians near Tanagra in Greece, and is but slightly corroded by time. The rosy quality of the original material is still apparent, the features of the statue are remarkably preserved. It is an interesting reflection that this once precious household possession to which daily devotion was paid, should still be intact and prized in a far-off land that was not even dreamed of until nearly 2,000 years after it left the sculptor's hand.

From the far-off Orient comes another wholly different possession, but born of religious



The Ivory Jewel Box of Diane De Poitiers.
An Historic and Beautiful Object of Vertu from the Clemenceau Collection, Paris.
To be found in the Ladies' Parlor.

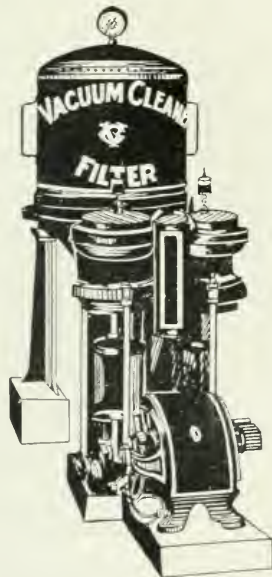
DIPLOMAS :

Toronto, 1905

Ottawa, 1905

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Prince Sakyamuni, Founder of the Buddhist Religion
A superb specimen of fifteenth century wood carving to be found on the lounge floor.
The figure is life size.

devotion also. It is a life-sized statue of Prince Sakyamuni who afterwards became Buddha, and founded the religion which still dominates the minds of countless millions in Asia and the islands of the far East. Wood carving on a grand scale has always been a pre-eminent feature of oriental art, and this is as superb a specimen of the suavity and skill of the artificers of the East as can be found anywhere. It is Japanese work, carved in the 15th century, and heavily lacquered with gold. Five hundred years has not sufficed to entirely take the glow from the statue; the face, which is of course Japanese in character, is broadly intelligent, and the whole statue is pervaded with a spirit of quiet and contemplation wholly appropriate to the founder of Buddhism—the most contemplative of religions. A Japanese bronze temple lantern of great size and exquisitely decorated in the mode of the oriental bronze workers, is another object of rare interest. It is also the work of the 15th century, and once stood in a Shintu Temple at Nara.

Of ancient tapestries, which are rapidly becoming priceless, the Hotel possesses a number which are in a state of beautiful preservation. The original colors are remarkably retained and the softening hand of time has only served to make them more charming. In an age when so many of the beautiful

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88 West King Street,
TORONTO



The European Room
(Main Floor)

things of the past have been cheaply imitated, the authenticity of these pieces makes them the more precious and interesting. One of these, made at Aubussen in the 17th century, representing a large hunting scene, with made incidents, is valued nominally at \$5,000, while a much smaller piece representing Mars and Minerva is placed at half that figure.

A vast number of smaller objects which delight all lovers of the beautiful in handicraft are unobtrusively scattered through the corridors of the Hotel. There are specimens of old Italian Fayence wares from Urbino and Castelli, ancient chests and cabinets decorated by the Flemish and Belgian wood-carvers, exquisite specimens of metal work, by the famous artificers of Venice, of China, of

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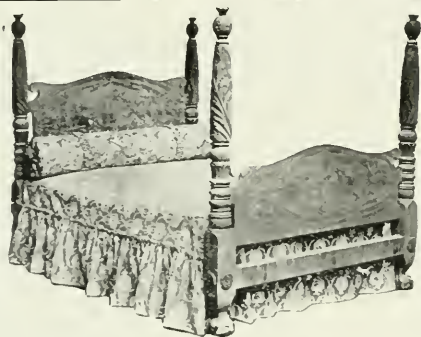
Morocco, of Florence, and of the Low Countries; there is exquisite chromatic pottery of types as varied as Delft and Chinese. Nor has the best modern work been disdained. One of these is a beautiful and felicitously inlaid clock case, carved out of solid mahogany logs. It is exquisite in its purity of line and figured at the Paris Salon of 1902 when its designer was made a Knight of the Legion of Honor.

In choice and valuable pictures the Hotel's possessions are equally rich. It is probable that thousands visit the institution every year without availing themselves of the opportunity to see the numerous works of world-famous painters, living and dead, that are gathered within its walls. One of the most precious of these possessions is a river scene by the great English landscape painter, John Constable (1766-1834). Ever since his death, seventy years ago, his pictures have been constantly rising in value, and recently general attention was attracted to him by the munificent action of the Prince of Wales in presenting eight of his works to the Dublin Art Gallery. His painting is remarkable for its freshness and fidelity, and the little piece to be seen at the King Edward is unique in its charm of coloring and breadth of style. Of great artistic interest also is a specimen of the work of Theodore Rosseau, one of the Barbizon school of painters, and also one of the most famous men of the 19th century in France. The piece on view is entitled "The Old Mill," and possesses that grave, yet tender, quality of atmosphere which distinguishes Rosseau's style,



Fire-place in the Rotunda

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The Ladies' Parlor from the
Rotunda

tion and in a fine state of preservation. The Duchess is fancifully painted as Diana with bow, quiver and hundo.

Of the works of M. Dastugue, a modern French artist of rare versatility, a good draughtsman and skilled in charming color arrangements, the King Edward possesses a considerable number. A beautiful life-sized nude study "At the Toilet," attracts much admiration because of its grace of line and tenderness of coloring; three Oriental studies—"Interior of a Mosque," "Street in Cairo," and "Court in Cairo," are interesting not only for their skilful drawing of Oriental types but for the manner in which the opalescent amospheric tones are suggested. "A Bit of Sky" and "A Stroll on the Beach" are also delightful outdoor studies.

A pair of small landscapes by C. V. de Windt, "The Edge of the Woods," and "On the

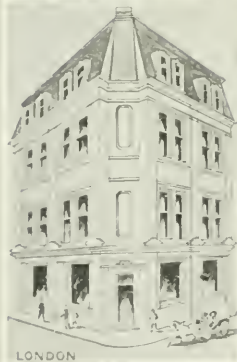
and at the same time exhibits the fine free sweep of the brush. There is also a most exquisitely colored oriental study by the great French artist Regnault, which also displays his admirable and vivid drawing. Charles Daubigny's "Bords of the Oise" also repays careful study. It is a peculiarly lovely landscape, painted with a broad brushwork that brings out most delightfully the salient features of the scene.

Monticelli's "Venetian Carnival"—another valuable possession—when viewed in the correct light, is a most vivid study of a night scene, filled with brilliant splashes of color.

A very charming work of the old school is Netscher's portrait of the Duchess D'Angouleme. It is most charming in color and composi-



The Ladies' Parlor, which contains many of the Art Treasures mentioned.



LONDON



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2	RESERVES AMOUNTING TO \$2,064,099 A SUM \$152,000 IN EXCESS OF GOV'T STANDARD	2
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5	MOTTO: "FIRST AND PARAMOUNT— ABSOLUTE SECURITY TO POLICYHOLDERS"	5

THE IMPERIAL LIFE

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Farm," delight the eye by their fidelity of treatment, refined composition and rare beauty of treatment. A. Brion's oil study, "The Young Mother," is replete with tenderness and simple charm. H. Vander Weyden's landscape, "Near Montreuil," is a typical specimen of the impressionistic school. Ludovici's "Asking Papa" is a pretty humorous sketch, and a landscape by Szementowsky is a vivid study. Two water color drawings by the distinguished artist Charles Pepper, "Girl and Goat" and "Study of an Old Man," are exquisite bits of workmanship. A large felicitously colored piece of the school of A. Boucher, "Leda and the Swan," is a fine study of the nude, Montreal, one of the most distinguished in coloring and strong in composition.

In addition to the original works ward, the projectors of the Hotel have of the choicest and most expensive reproduction of the eighteenth century to the most excellent. There are whimsical cartoons by men like There are poetic studies as soft and beautiful as of the Whistlerian school. To enumerate but the collection of 18th Century prints as "The Royal Suite" must arrest the Century prints are now bringing fabulous exceeding in many cases the sums obtained of to-day. The King Edward collection expert. They are for the most part the Valentine Green, Samuel Cousins, and other have become immortal in the annals of sented in these reprints comprise that of British Portrait painting which included Sir Joshua Reynolds (1723-1792); Thos. Gainsborough (1727-1788); George Romney (1734-1802); George Morland (1764-1804); and John Hoppner (1759-1810). Perhaps the gem of this gallery of prints, in the eyes of collectors, would be a mezzotint by J. R. Smith, of Sir Joshua Reynolds' portrait of Miss Carnac. In England to-day "J. R. Smiths" as they are called, particularly his mezzotints of women, command enormous sums, and by experts he is deemed the greatest of all mezzotinters, British or European. The print in question is a capital specimen of his style.



The Lamp that lights
the traveller in

which adorn the walls of the King Edward Hotel, furnished its myriad rooms with hundreds of reproductions from the rarest mezzotints of exquisite products of modern lithography. Leon Morin and Willy Sluiter, and there the finest pastels, by modern lithographers them would simply bewilder the reader, which adorns the series of rooms known attention of every connoisseur. Eighteenth century prices on the other side of the water, for original works by the cleverest painters was obviously made by the most discerning work of such engravers as J. R. Smith, masters of reproductive art whose names art. The great painters who are represented in the remarkable Eighteenth Century school

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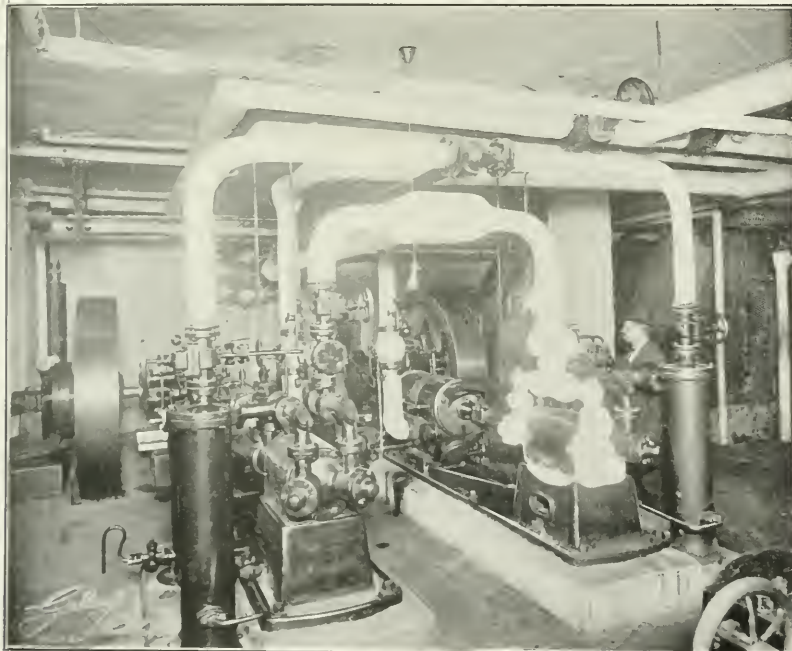
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Two very important features of the collection are Reynolds' Duchess of Rutland, engraved by Valentine Green, and Reynolds' Lady Elizabeth Lee by the same workman. Both are faintly tinted and form companion pieces. Sir Joshua is further represented by exquisite prints of his Duchess of Devonshire, and his delightful study in child life, "Robinetta." The great though eccentric genius Romney, who is immortalized in one of Tennyson's most beautiful poems, is represented by several fine prints, including his portrait of Lady Hamilton as Ariadne looking out over the sea for her lover Nelson. His Lady Craven and Lady Milner, both famous studies in womanly beauty, are reproduced in a manner impossible of imitation to-day. Hoppner, who has won a tremendous vogue among picture buyers of late years, is also seen in several of his most characteristic works, including his portraits of Viscountess St. Asaph and Miss Frances Beresford. There is one very charming portrait of a lady, by Gainsborough, and several very dainty though old-fashioned reproductions in color of the work of George Morland. Among the several foreign works reproduced is a beautiful print of David's famous portrait of Madame Recamier, and Greuze's portrait of the Dauphin. One has not attempted to name all the many engravings of great value in this suite, but enough has been said to indicate the extent and beauty of the collection. The prints have all been preserved with a freshness that is astonishing when it is remembered that most of them are more than a century old.

Altogether the King Edward Hotel is in a real sense a museum of the choicest in painting and the fine arts.

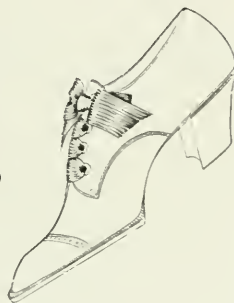


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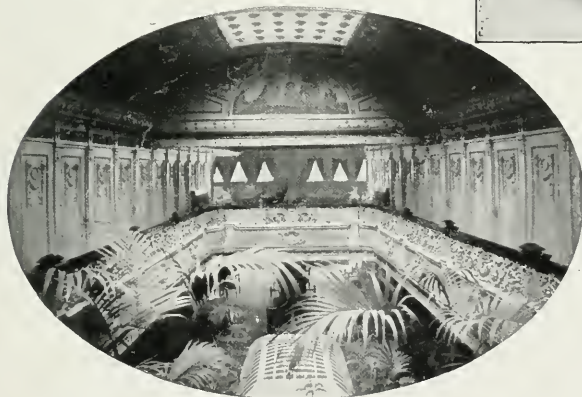
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The Richelieu & Ontario Steamer "Kingston"



Saloon of the Steamer "Kingston"

running the rapids of the St. Lawrence, always a novel experience. From the Thousand Islands to Montreal the entire trip is made in daylight through most entrancing scenery. Connections are made at Montreal the same evening with steamers for Quebec, Murray Bay, Tadousac and the far-famed Saguenay River. Visitors are advised not to forget to enquire regarding the popular Saturday to Monday excursions to the Thousand Islands.

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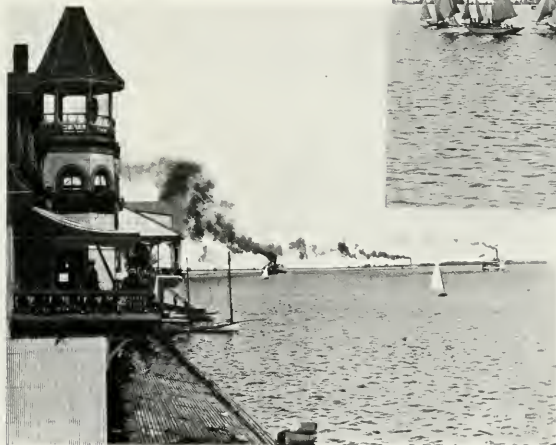


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View from King Edward Hotel windows showing a fleet
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Some Pleasant Outings

Continued

the windows of these upper floors. Glimpses of the water on an afternoon either in summer or winter are very beautiful. During the hot weather the bay is always dotted with sail boats, skiffs and canoes from the various aquatic organizations, and in the winter the swift ice-boats may be seen skimming over the ice in impromptu races.

In addition to the regular lines of steamers mentioned elsewhere, the Hamilton Steamboat Company maintains a splendid service between this city and Hamilton. It is a beautiful sail along the lake shore and the return trip can be made in an afternoon. Enquiries concerning the boats will be gladly answered at the hotel office.

A Day on the Links

Guests of the hotel who are golf enthusiasts will be welcome at the magnificent links of the Lambton Golf Club. Through the courtesy of the directors of this club the privileges of the links are open to all of those who make application through the manager. It may pardonably be claimed for the links of the Lambton Golf and Country Club that its grounds are among the finest in the world. The quaint Humber River winds through a portion of the links which are easy of access by the street railway or by Canadian Pacific trains. A pleasant day on the links often results from guests in the hotel uniting in one party to visit them.



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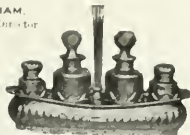


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Trips Further Away

Nothing has been said of the opportunities for trips to Muskoka, with its beautiful and luxurious King's Royal Hotel, of the adjacent mining regions, where the busy man can prospect and holiday at the same time, or of the longer trips into the great North-West or down to quaint Quebec. Canada's two great railroads, with their splendid equipment, are making Canada more and more the place for the tourist.

"The Figure 8"



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"Trading at Fort Rouille"—A Scene in the Early History of Toronto
Mural Decoration in Rotunda by Mr. F. S. Challenger

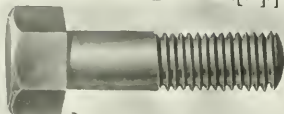
Mural Art



NE of the features of the King Edward Hotel which has never failed to attract the interest and admiration of the many thousands of visitors who have entered the majestic rotunda of the beautiful edifice is the mural decorations which grace its walls. They are designed on a large scale with life size figures; the groupings are heroic, without stiffness, and very harmonious, the drawing is strong and accurate, the coloring rich and satisfying in contrast to the pale and misty tones which characterize modern decorators. Moreover they have a vital romantic interest apart altogether from their technical and artistic qualities.

Visitors from the United States and from across the ocean are sometimes unaware of the romantic interest which attaches to the early settlement of Canada prior to the British conquest of 1759. It is a Bostonian, however—Francis Parkman—to whom the French occupation owes its finest record. Those who have read his pages and become familiar with the intrepid French adventurers of whom he writes; of

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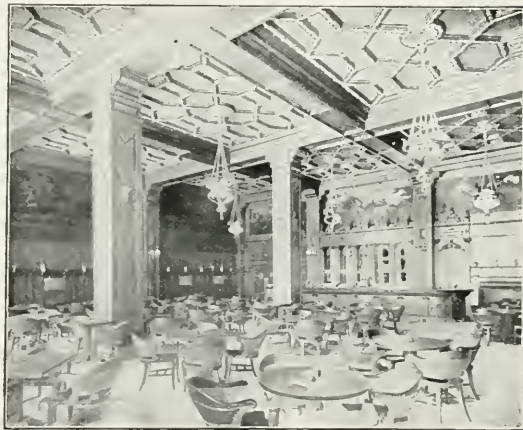
40 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO

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the red warriors with whom they come in contact, know how fascinating is the story. It would seem that the artists who designed these vast decorations—Mr. Dodge of New York and Mr. Challener of Toronto—had endeavored to express the very spirit of Parkman. Partly allegorical, partly historical, partly episodal, they seem to be the epitome of an heroic epoch in the history of this continent which closed a century and a half ago.

The largest work and the one which on account of its location first attracts attention, illustrates an episode which was one of the first manifestations of the government of France's policy of seriously attempting to colonize Canada. At first a policy of mere exploitation was pursued, but when the Baron de Courcelles brought from France a shipload of young women to become wives of the men who had adventured into the new world, it was obvious that the purpose of building up a French nation over seas had been formed. Imagination and fancy rather than mere sordid realism have governed the artist in his treatment of this episode. The women are seen landing from the great three-decked warships of ancient times and awaiting them is a mingled group of habitants, armed soldiers, trappers and coureurs de bois. At a distance the red men gaze in awe on the apparition of beautiful white women. It is not probable that the women Courcelles brought over were so beautiful or so delicately nurtured as the aristocratic dames depicted by the artist, but he was no doubt entitled to poetic license and we will not quarrel with his chivalrous intent. The coloring of the work is exquisitely delicate, yet well contrasted, and the general design is a stately one.

Even finer in conception is the allegorical piece which is placed over the vast renaissance fire place of the rotunda. It typifies the traditional attitude of the red



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Another view of the rotunda, around the walls of which are to be found the mural decorations
In the centre the massive chandelier is shown

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A Corner on the Mezzanine Floor

in the history of this continent. It often escapes attention that, barring of course the legendary Vikings, English mariners were the first to plant a flag on that part of Canada which was destined to pass into the hands of France and to be taken again by conquest. The picture illustrates the landing at Gaspé of the Cabots—John and Sebastian—mariners of Bristol. The English ship of the ancient model is in the offing and sturdy sailors are seen shoving the captain's gig through the shallows on to the beach while the Indians gaze in amazement at the new comers. The coloring is sombre and the vastness of the ocean which the dauntless seamen have traversed is admirably suggested.

A smaller work placed immediately beside the main staircase illustrates an incident which might have occurred at any of the chain of trading posts which the French established along the great lakes and the valleys of the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers. In this case the artist has chosen for his locale Fort Rouille which

men toward the white invader. In the centre is a group of Indians magnificently posed and executed, sternly stretching forth the arm of defiance in all directions. On the one side is seen the on-coming host of Gallic adventurers bearing the white banner strewn with the lilies of France; on the other the red-coated captains of Albion, bearing "the meteor flag of England." It would be difficult to praise too much the remarkable symmetry of the design and the harmony of line with which it has been worked out. The coloring, moreover, is rich and in keeping with the dignity of the conception. What especially pleases those with an eye for detail is the grace with which the flowing banners of the two contrasted nations have been drawn.

Facing the allegory on the opposite side of the rotunda is a finely conceived seascape illustrating one of the earliest episodes

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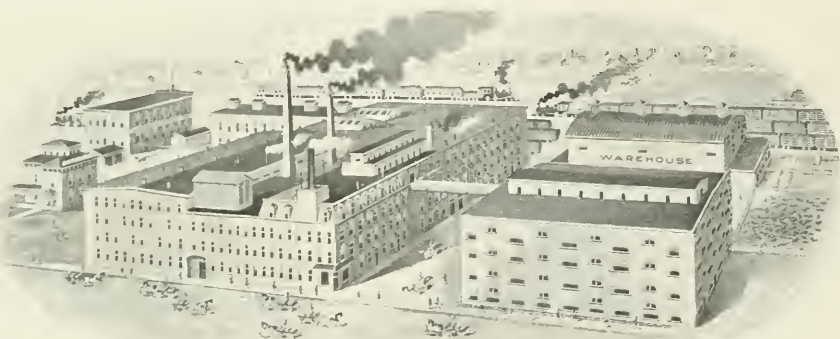
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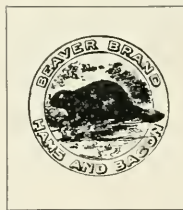
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The hotel is under the management of Mr. George R. Major, recently manager of the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, from whom all particulars may be obtained, addressed to the Clifton Hotel, Niagara Falls, Canada. The new hotel has some 200 guest chambers, which may be had single or en suite, with private baths, parlours, etc. Private dining rooms can be engaged for dinners. There is also a beautiful ball room, with a stage suitable for concerts or private theatricals, billiard rooms, and also a broker's office equipped with wires to the leading markets. Guests need have no fear of delay from the examination of their baggage into Canada, as a bonded room has been arranged for in the hotel, their baggage being shipped direct to the hotel.

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