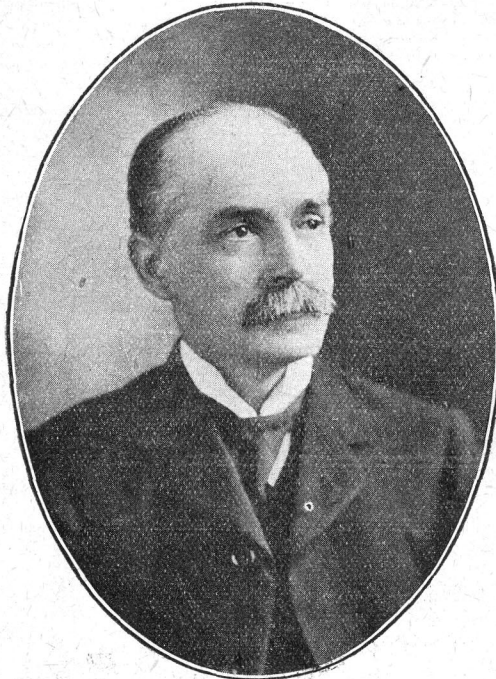


RETIREMENT OF CHIEF OF TIME-TABLE DEPARTMENT.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. MALLINSON.



Mr. J. Mallinson.

In presenting Mr. J. Mallinson, the late Chief of the Time-Table Department of the Company, on the 12th December, with a cheque subscribed by a large number of his friends and colleagues in the service, Mr. L. W. Horne, the Superintendent of the Line, expressed the regret he felt that the time had come when Mr. Mallinson considered that he must sever his official connection with the Company. Mr. Mallinson's eyesight had suffered recently under the strain of work, and having regard to the doctor's advice that a complete and continued rest was necessary, Mr. Horne said he could not press Mr. Mallinson to stay, much as he valued his assistance. The Time-Table had always been typical of Mr. Mallinson's character and devotion to duty, always correct and out to time, and he wished him every happiness in his retirement.

Mr. W. M. Turnbull and Mr. Guest added warm words of appreciation and good fellowship. Mr. Horne said Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke, the Chief Mechanical Engineer, had asked him to say how sorry he was he could not be present at the meeting as he intended.

A large and representative gathering of the Officers of the Company were present on the occasion.

Mr. Mallinson joined the service of the Company in September, 1873, as a Junior Clerk, in the Office of the Birmingham District Superintendent (then Mr. William Sutton, who remained in that position until about twenty years later), and had charge of the Goods Train

Reports, later the Passenger Train Reports, and later again the correspondence of the Trains Office.

In 1881 he was placed in charge of all the ordinary Passenger and Excursion Train arrangements, and fourteen years later Mr. Robert Turnbull (now Sir Robert) appointed him chief of the L. and N.W. Time-Table Department, at Euston, in which position he remained up to his retirement. During the 21 years he had charge of the Time-Table Department all the great accelerations and addition to the trunk services of the L. and N.W. Railway, improved residential and local services, etc., have been made under his supervision, and in many instances on his initiative—many of these improvements have now, alas, owing to the war, vanished, and when the war is over, let us hope that the public will once again enjoy the same liberal means of transit as they had before the unhappy August of 1914.

Mr. Mallinson, in expressing his appreciation of the handsome present which had been given to him, said he felt there was an added grace by the kindly words spoken with regard to him by Mr. Horne.

Continuing, he said, the gift will enable me to purchase various articles of utility and beauty, which otherwise, especially in these hard times, I should not have felt myself at liberty to acquire, but far more than the intrinsic value of the testimonial, do I appreciate the expression of personal esteem which I have received, not only in this room, but verbally and by letter from friends all over the line, since it was known that it was my intention to resign the position I have held so long.

For over 43 years I have been in the service of the Company, my father was about 38 years in the same service, and my son has been there nearly 17 years, so that the three of us have put in nearly 100 years—not a bad record, I venture to think, for one family.

During my 43 years service I have had to work very hard indeed and make very long hours, but notwithstanding this, my time, on the whole, has been a happy one. Almost all with whom I have been associated, from the highest to the lowest, have treated me with the greatest kindness and consideration, and in fact I may say that I have lived in an atmosphere of friendliness and good feeling.

To my personal staff who have always done loyally and well whatever I have asked them to do, to the district officers and their hardworking and capable Time Table staff, whose ability and zeal no one has been in a better position to recognise and appreciate more than myself, to everyone in any position whatever who has given me assistance or shown me kindness, I tender my most hearty thanks. Of Sir Robert Turnbull, my late chief, I can only say what I have said many times before, he was ever kind and thoughtful, approachable and considerate, and the twenty years I spent under him at Euston will remain with me a fragrant memory in my new home in Devonshire.

You, Mr. Horne, I have only had the opportunity of serving for a very short period of time, but I am grateful for all kindness shown to me, and for the warm appreciation of my services, which you have from time to time expressed.