

AN HONORED GUEST.

COMPLIMENTARY BANQUET TO MR. H. I. KIMBALL.

**An Indication of Atlanta's Appreciation
of the Past Services of Her Disting-
guished Citizen—What He, also,
Thinks of Atlanta.**

As an expression of their high appreciation of what Mr. H. I. Kimball has done for Atlanta, a number of citizens tendered him a complimentary banquet at the Kimball House, last night, which was a very enjoyable affair. Supper was served by mine host Beerman in a private parlor at 9 o'clock, and the following gentlemen participated: H. I. Kimball, Judge Bleckley, Governor Gordon, Mayor Cooper, Wm. Dickson, L. J. Hill, J. W. English, E. W. Marsh, S. M. Inman, H. T. Inman, A. E. Buck, Col. R. F. Maddox, S. H. Phelan, D. M. Baine, C. W. Hunnicutt, E. P. Howell, H. W. Grady, Gov. Bullock, W. A. Hemphill, M. C. Kiser, Tom Glenn, G. W. Adair, Geo. Hillyer, Dr. Rankin, Gen. Lewis, Jno. N. Dann, Dr. F. H. Orme, O. C. Fuller, T. A. Hammond, E. P. Chamberlin, Judge Jno. L. Hopkins, Jacob Elsas, Julius Dreyfus, B. B. Crew, W. R. Hill, Harry Jackson, Chas. Collier, Jno. Fitten, Hoke Smith, J. C. Kimball, J. A. Burns.

The bill of fare was most excellent, and after ample justice had been done to the dainty viands there were impromptu speeches, appropriate to the occasion.

The honored and distinguished guest was welcomed by Hon. H. W. Grady, who ended with the toast: "Good health, long life, happiness and prosperity to Mr. H. I. Kimball."

Mr. Kimball responded feelingly, and his earnest speech was greeted with the warmest applause. He said that it was more than twenty years since he first took up his residence in Atlanta; two-thirds of his life has been spent here, and there is no place on earth so much like home to him as this city. His present visit is not a business one, but purely a personal one to relatives and friends; he had no new scheme or enterprise to present for consideration, and hence the honor which had been done him in inviting him to be present at this magnificent banquet board was all the more marked. He accepted it as a delicate compliment in recognition of what personal service he had been so fortunate as to have been able to render in the past in the promotion of several important enterprises which had materially aided in the welfare and prosperity of the city. None understood better than the speaker, however, that to the citizens at large belongs the credit for the success which has come to Atlanta. The present great "boom" in the South, regarding which the Northern press are having so much to say, cannot fail to imply continued and increased prosperity to its leading commercial center—Atlanta. Those who own real estate here need not fear that it will ever be worth less than it is to-day. In all mining localities property is subject to sudden fluctuations, enriching some at the expense of the ruin of others, and the market is always more or less feverish, unhealthy and unsettled. Atlanta's progress has been firm, steady and strong, and she stands to-day as certain in her increased population and prosperity as any city in the United States. In his travels the speaker always registers as coming from Atlanta, for he is proud of her and loves her; it would be the acme of his ambition to live here to a green old age and die within her limits. The speaker justly prided himself upon the fact that every important line of railroad now running into the city was traced by himself and Gov. Bullock upon the great map hanging in the executive office eighteen years ago. The speaker referred to the recent speech of Hon. H. W. Grady to the New England society in New York, and said that it would go down in history as one of the grandest that ever fell from the lips of man. It gives Atlanta great prestige to be the home of such a man. The world is beginning to believe what was stated by our people sixteen years ago—that Atlanta is destined to take its place in the commercial world as

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Geo. W. Adair, in a humorous and graphic manner, related the story of the first advent of their honored guest in the city; how he sold him what was known as "Humbug Square" for \$80,000, and in less than seven months he had erected a \$600,000 hotel on it; he tackled Oglethorpe park and made it a success; then the union depot; then a number of handsome stores on "Humbug Square;" then the movement of the State capital, in which he was aided by Gov. Bullock; then the bringing of Peachtree street into prominence by erecting a magnificent residence, with beautiful grounds, where there was then not a house in sight; then followed other enterprises in quick succession, due to him, in whole or in part—Oglethorpe Park, the State Fair, the Atlanta cotton factory, the World's Exposition, the rebuilding of the Kimball House on a grander scale after it had burned, Peters Park, and, most important of all, the commercial convention. The speaker ended by saying that whenever Mr. Kimball takes hold of an enterprise here "he can depend upon me to the amount of my change."

Col. Adair was followed by Messrs. Sam Laman, English, Chamberlin, Orme, Kiser, Bullock and others, all in the happiest vein. Mr. Kimball added that whatever he may have done for Atlanta was not for the purpose of gaining notoriety or reputation; he prided himself mainly upon his honorable dealings with his fellow men, and whatever good he might have accomplished for the public, he had been very successful also in benefiting himself.

The party dispersed at 11 o'clock, the pleasant impromptu programme closing with a toast proposed by Mr. Grady—the success of the next Atlanta enterprise in which Mr. Kimball may embark.

They Arbitrated.

Wall Street News.

An old tramp who had agreed to saw wood for half an hour for his breakfast from a Baltimore woman, quit at the seventh stick and said:

"Madam, I have struck for more breakfast and less wood, are you willing to arbitrate?"

"Certainly," she replied, and she left the case in the hands of her bull dog, who run the tramp half a mile and decided that a lock-out was inevitable.