

NEW MASONIC HALL.

CEREMONIES OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE.

The corner-stone of the new Masonic Hall to be erected by York Lodge, No. 156, near the Prospect House, Eglinton, was laid on the 28th May by M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master, with full Masonic ceremonies, and in presence of a large number of the Masonic body and ladies and gentlemen from Toronto and the vicinity of Eglinton.

The brethren assembled at their lodge room at Mr. Littlefield's Hotel, shortly after two o'clock, and after the opening of the Grand Lodge, marched in procession, headed by the Weston brass band, to the site of the new hall at Eglinton.

The following Brethren officiating as Grand Officers for the occasion, viz:

M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Col. Moore, as D. G. M.; James Bain, G. S. W., R. P. Stephens, G. J. W., Bro. Rufus Skinner, as G. Chap., R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, as G. Treas., V. W. Bro. F. Draper, as G. Reg., R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, G. Sec., V. W. Bro. J. F. Lash, G. S. D., W. Bro. F. G. Menet, as G. J. D., Bro. J. Fisher, as G. S. of W., Bro. Clayton, as G. D. of Cer., Bro. J. F. Ellis, as Asst. G. S., V. W. Bro. B. Saunders, G. S. B., V. W. Bro. J. Patterson, G. O., W. Bro. W. Jackes, as G. Pur., Bro. J. Nixon, G. Tyler, W. Bro. F. J. Blackwood, W. Hacher, J. Segsworth, Dr. Howson, E. Snider, J. Henderson, A. L. Wilson, Dr. Berryman, W. Norris, Grand Stewards.

The ceremony was commenced by the Grand Master delivering an address on the principles of the order and also referring to the ceremonies of the day, after which the Grand Chaplain implored the blessing of the G. A. O. T. U. Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Harris, read the scroll, which, with a copy of the by-laws of York Lodge, No. 156, copies of the Toronto daily papers, the *Craftsman*, several silver coins, paper currency and photographs of the Grand Master and W. Bro. Norris, W. M. of York Lodge, were placed in a bottle and the same deposited in a cavity in the stone. On the scroll were the names of the reigning sovereign; His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, Governor General of Canada; Hon. W. P. Howland, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario; Sir John A. Macdonald Premier of the Dominion Government; Col. Wilson, L.L. D., G. M. of Canada; the Trustees of the Hall, Messrs. W. Tyrrell, President; W. Norris, Vice-President. A. L. Wilson, Secretary and Treasurer; Jno. McCarter, W. Jackes, J. K. Leslie, and R. Jones; the architect, Mr. W. Tyrrell, and the contractors, Messrs. Jas. Fisher and T. Longbotham. A brass plate bearing an inscription of the date and particulars of the laying of the stone was then placed over the orifice of the stone and covered with mortar. The W. M. of York Lodge presented the Grand Master with a beautiful silver trowel with which the mortar was spread preparatory to lowering the upper stone.

The Grand Master in accepting the trowel said he did so with pleasure, and that he would retain it as pleasing memorial of that interesting occasion.

The upper stone was then lowered into its place by three regular stops, the band playing "God save the Queen." The proper implements were then applied to the stone; the M. W. Grand Master finished the work and declared the stone well formed, well laid, true and trusty,