

## HISTORY OF THE CRAFT.

I desire to call the attention of Grand Lodge to what I deem a matter of singular importance ere the fathers of the Craft have passed away, or the records now accessible shall have gone into oblivion. The written History of Freemasonry in this Province would be of profound interest and of great importance. Every zealous Brother earnestly desires to know more of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Lower Canada, of Quebec and Three Rivers, of Montreal and William Henry, and of some of the oldest "daughter" Lodges on the American continent. I would, therefore, recommend Grand Lodge to take into consideration the advisability of appointing a Historical Committee composed of at least one eminent and devoted Brother from each District, and that Grand Lodge defray the incidental expenses connected therewith.

I improve the present memorable occasion, to communicate to Grand Lodge one or two additional extracts from ancient documents, of no little interest to the Craft in this Province. They will explain themselves:—

"In the year of Masonry 580. The most noble Prince John, Duke and Marquis of Athol, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Stratblay, Stratbardle, Viscount of Ballquider, Glenalmond and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belveny and Gask, heritable Captain and Constable of the Castle and Constabulary of Kincleaven, Earl Strange and Baron Murray of Stanley, in the County of Gloucester, &c., &c., &c., Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, &c., &c."

"These Bye-Laws printed by order of the Grand Lodge.

"Rules and orders which are to be punctually observed and kept by the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, according to the old constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince EDWIN, at YORK, in the year of Our Lord, Nine Hundred Twenty and Six, and in the year of Masonry, Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and Six.

"In order to prevent all feuds, controversies, illegal arguments, or debates, which might in any sort disturb or make void the true intent and meaning of this our unanimous conjunction,—We, the Master, Wardens, Deacons and Secretary, together with the rest of the members of our Lodge, No. 18, (by and with the approbation and consent of the Grand Lodge,) have thought proper to subscribe and establish the following Rules:—

"1. That a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, aforesaid, shall be held at the Township of Eaton, to sit the Thursday preceding the Full Moon, of each Calendar month, &c., &c."

In the Minutes of this Lodge I find the names of twenty-seven members recorded.

The above will probably give an unexpected intimation to many Brethren of the existence and progress of our Fraternity, even in the remote parts of the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada, in the early part of the present century, and serve to point out the propriety of rescuing from oblivion as far as possible, so interesting a history.

## ADJUSTMENT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

Now that our relations with the Grand Lodge of Canada are so happily and harmoniously adjusted, it is reasonably to be anticipated that our relations to the Imperial Mother Grand Lodges of England and Scotland will in like manner, be most satisfactorily arranged at a very early day, by the affiliation with this Grand Lodge of the few remaining Lodges in this jurisdiction still holding warrants from England and Scotland, and by full and complete recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as the only Sovereign Masonic authority in and for this Province, and by the establishment of fraternal communication and correspondence, and the interchange of of Grand Representatives.

England, after having for more than a century aided in establishing and upbuilding our beloved Order on the continent of North America, will equally honor herself in this last great act in the historical drama, in the withdrawing of the last vestige of her Masonic jurisdiction, feeling assured that, in accordance with our ancient constitutions so clearly evolved in the entire Masonic history of Grand Lodge organization and jurisdiction on this continent, she is lawfully and fraternally committing the supreme government of the craft here, to those who as Masons or as men will not prove themselves unworthy of their origin or their destiny. So mote it be.

## G. L. OF Q. MOVEMENT.

I deem it an example of simple justice to several eminent Brethren in other jurisdictions, who have been spoken of as inciting the Grand Lodge of Quebec movement, or by adverse advice retarding the settlement of our differences with the Grand Lodge of Canada, to state once for all that the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec was a movement having its origin completely amongst ourselves, and to us alone belongs the