

It is perhaps unnecessary at this time to speak of the acknowledged importance of every Mason being well informed as regards the Institution of which he is a member. He should not be content, merely with an acquaintance with certain forms and ceremonies, even though he may have stored in his memory with scrupulous exactness all that pertains to the working of a Lodge, if his Masonic knowledge extends no further he has yet much with which to become acquainted. He should inform himself as to the history of the Fraternity—examine into the records of the past, be cognizant of what is transpiring in the present, and be able to boast of something beyond mere ritualistic information, which, though of importance in certain respects, does not complete his education. To accomplish this he must read; sources of information are various: books, magazines, and the less pretentious but equally useful, journal. In the latter class we present the MIRROR, and respectfully claim the assistance of our Brethren in extending its usefulness. None are too poor to subscribe, and every Master-Mason should do so. We shall use our best endeavours to render it deserving of general esteem; it will contain ably written articles on topics of interest, reliable historical sketches, biographies of eminent Masons, and local and general news of value to the Craft.

The MIRROR has exclusive claims upon the members of the Fraternity in the Maritime Provinces, and we respectfully solicit their aid. We would especially ask the assistance of the Secretaries and other officers of Lodges throughout the Country in circulating this paper, and have no doubt our appeal will meet with a cordial response.

We cannot close these remarks without returning our sincere thanks to those who have heretofore lent us so much encouragement in our labors, assuring them it will be our best pleasure to reciprocate by striving to render the MIRROR in every respect an object of attraction.

THE FREEMASONS IN CARLETON held their Annual Festival on the 10th January, in their new Hall, under the banners of Carleton Union Lodge. The party was well attended and was exceedingly pleasant.

The lower room tastefully decorated with flags and evergreens, was set apart for dancing, supper was served up stairs, and the side suit of rooms was appropriated to the various games. When the Grand Master arrived he was escorted through the lines of brethren to the head of the room where he was formally welcomed by W. M. Drake, of Carleton Union Lodge. Then dancing commenced and was kept up with great vigor until supper time, and after that until near the dawn. The supper was provided by the committee of the Lodge, under the personal superintendence of Bro. Charles Ketchum, and did him great credit. One of the greatest merits of the affair was its sociability, but this is characteristic of all the gatherings of our Carleton brethren. The Lodge there appears to be one family; and visitors from the City remarked that the gathering seemed more like a family than a public party. None but Masons and their ladies had the right of entering, and all the grades were well represented.

Yours,  
A MASON.

#### KENT COUNTY.

KINGSTON, Jan. 4th, 1871.

Robert Parkin, Esq.—

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—At a meeting of Lodge St. Andrew, No. 16, N. B. R., at the Masonic Hall, Richibucto, the following officers, for the ensuing year, were installed:

Charles Carr, W. M.; Edward Tweedie, I. P. M.; James C. Moody, S. W.; Rev. James Law, Chaplain; David McMillan, T.; Thomas W. Bliss, S.; John Robertson, S. D.; James Richardson, J. D.; David Palmer, S. S.; John T. Caie, J. S.; William Brown, M. of C.; James B. Bliss, I. G.; John Johnston, Tyler.

There was an unusually good attendance of the brethren and every thing passed off well. This lodge meets the first Monday on, or after the full moon, in every month.

Yours,  
C. C.

MUSICAL.—We have received from the publishers Messrs. White & Goulland, 86 Tremont street, Boston, Mass, a very fine selection of music. Of the following we cannot avoid making special mention. "Flowers of Perfection," a set of four beautiful song and choruses, the first "Weary Watching," composed by E. N. Catlin, (words by George Cooper); "Angels Watching," by Charles Horner, (words by Agnes Wilner); "Package of Old Letters," by E. N. Catlin, and "Little Dolly's Vision," by Louis Frederic, these are sure to win popularity. A very fine ballad entitled "Remembrance," composed by A. E. Warren; a solo composed by W. Meyer Lutz, (words by H. S. Leigh), entitled "Joyous Bird," an English song, "Beautiful Emmeline," by Charles Blamphin; a sweet little ballad, by Harrison Millard, entitled "The Love that is gone from me;" "The Prussian Prize Quickstep;" "The Snowdrop Polka," and "Fairy Echoes," the latter, a selection of choice pieces for the piano, are very fine.

Messrs. White & Goulland pay special attention to the publishing business, always keeping on hand the finest selection of music.

FRATERNAL GATHERING.—On the evening of Thursday the 5th inst., "Victoria Temple of Honor, No. 2," paid a fraternal visit to "Alexandra Temple, No. 6," of Indiantown. Owing to the disagreeable state of the weather the attendance was not so large as was expected. Notwithstanding this, however, those who did venture to face the storm passed a very pleasant evening. Speeches and singing were the order of the day, and at 10.30 o'clock the meeting was closed, all retiring to their homes satisfied with the evenings entertainment and determined that those fraternal meetings, which tend to cement us more firmly together in the bonds of friendship, should be more frequent in the future.

NOTICE.—We would call the attention of the Societies in the Lower Provinces, to the advertisement of C. W. Showaker, Esq., of Philadelphia. He pays special attention to the manufacture of Paraphernalia, &c., &c., for secret organizations, at the very lowest prices.

the grave?"

SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.—"Man walketh in a vain shadow, he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them."

M. W. GRAND MASTER.—"When he dieth he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him."

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.—"Naked he came into the world, and naked he must return."

M. W. GRAND MASTER.—"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

The roll was then handed the Grand Master for deposit in the archives.

The Grand Master then ordered a procession to be formed, and proceeded to the late residence of the departed brother.

The Band of the 62nd Volunteer Battalion preceding the Cortège, followed by the officers and members of

New Brunswick Lodge, of which Br. W. G. McFarlane is W. M.

Leinster Lodge, Bro. H. J. Thorne, W. M. Union Lodge of Portland, Bro. Henry Duffell, W. M.

Hibernia Lodge, Bro. Geo. Kilnapp, W. M. Saint John Lodge, Bro. H. G. Hunt, W. M. Carleton Union Lodge, Bro. Uriah Drake, W. M.

New Brunswick Royal Arch Chapter in charge of the 1st Principal Comp., James McNichol, Jr.

Albion Lodge in charge of Past Grand Master, B. L. Peters, and the Grand Lodge of N. B., under an escort of Knights Templar.

Arriving at the late residence of the deceased, the officers of Grand Lodge took a last and farewell look of their departed brother.

An immense crowd had gathered at or near the house and in Waterloo street, through which the funeral cortège passed, a large concourse of citizens lined each side.

The solemn procession, the noiseless march, the measured tread of the Knights, the melancholy music, the various Lodge Banners closely furled and heavily draped in mourning. The cross swords, apron, baldric and gauntlets of the deceased deposited on the coffin, made the occasion one to be remembered, and of melancholy interest to all.

The pall bearers were of his intimate friends and brethren, viz:

Brother Thomas M. Reed, Esq., Mayor, and Past Master of Albion Lodge.

Bro. Robert Cruikshank, Albion Lodge.

Duncan Robertson, " "

Geo. Hutchinson, " "

Chas. H. ... Hibernia Lodge.

Robert Shives, Portland Union Lodge.

Following the mourners were the members of the St. Andrews Society, and a long line of friends.

Brother the Rev. George J. Caie, Chaplain to St. John Lodge and Pastor to St. Stephen's Kirk, to which the deceased belonged, performed the service at the grave. The offered prayer was most fervent and touching.

The ceremony peculiar to the fraternity was then proceeded with by the M. W. Grand Master, Wm. Wedderburn, reading the ritual. No rendering of the work could have been more impressive. It was po-

1869, a Knight Templar. Was also as we have already intimated, Past Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick. And as one of the fraternity highly esteemed.

As a husband and father, a friend, or neighbour, he discharged his duty faithfully. Thus he lived and died true to all who had claims upon him, true to his obligations as a Mason, true to his race, and true to the country which gave him birth.

#### MASONIC ORDER OF THE RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.

In our issue for the month of December, we made an extract from the Gavel in reference to the introduction of the "Red Cross of Rome and Constantine" into Canada, and now for the information of our Masonic friends publish the following taken from the Annual Report of the Grand Council of the order of which our distinguished Brother The Right Hon. the Lord Kenlis is the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, and Ill. Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Esq., is Grand Recorder:

Declaration of the principles of the above Order written in 1806 by the late Judge Waller Rodwell Wright, then M. I. Grand Master of the Order, and R. W. Provincial Grand Master for the Ionian Islands, under the Grand Lodge of England.

"The Order of the Red + is one of those numerous branches of chivalry which had their origin in the Holy Wars, and the distinction worn by its Knights was the original badge of the Crusaders in general.

"As this Order never was endowed with particular revenues, its members were for the most part persons of independent condition, or associated with one of the great Sovereign Orders of the Temple, or St. John of Jerusalem.

"As, however, the distinguishing characteristics and constitutions of this Order, though existing only in unwritten tradition, have been partially preserved to the present age, some K. Templars, zealous in the united cause of Masonry and chivalry, have thought it expedient to revive it, on the footing of its ancient establishment, and that for various reasons:—

"First. Because the original intent of the Masonic Institution has been greatly frustrated by the indiscriminate admission of persons of every description and character.

"Second. Because it unfortunately happens that the sublime branch of our system known by the denomination of Christian Masonry has fallen into still worse hands, whereby the Test of Faith originally required by the Candidates for initiation has been dispensed with, the rites and mysteries of the Order degraded, and selection rendered indispensably necessary.

"Thirdly; and this, indeed, is the most powerful reason which has induced us to bring forth to counteract the evil designs to which the privileges of the Masonic system have been perverted by men of unprincipled character, and to combat the enemies of Christianity and social order by the same secret and powerful means which they have made use of to effect their purposes.

"The objects, therefore, of the Red + are these:—

"To draw closer the bond of Masonic union, purify the system of Masonic science, extend its limits, and increase its influence by combining such of its professors as are best qualified by character and principle, respectability and influence, genius and talent, to effectuate this great purpose.

"To prevent the perversion of its institutions and privileges to objects contrary to and abhorrent from its original intent.

"To combat infidelity and treason under whatever form existing, and promote by

Body. And this has been accomplished by the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of New Brunswick, at its Annual Convocation in August last, at least so far as the York Rite in the Dominion of Canada is concerned:

O. COUNCIL OF R. AND S. MASTERS OF CANADA. IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.

Some months since we clearly pointed out the incongruities of the so-called "American System," York Rite, the articles at the same time attracting considerable attention not only among several of our cotemporaries, but also with the thinking portion of the Craft.

At the period we allude to we clearly pointed out how the degree-masters of America corrupted their system:—(1)ly by the introduction of the so-called "American System," York Rite, the articles at the same time attracting considerable attention not only among several of our cotemporaries, but also with the thinking portion of the Craft.

Secondly, low the installation ceremony of a Master of a Lodge was raised to the rank of a Chapter degree; thirdly, how the so-called degree of Most Excellent Master was made out of whole cloth, so as to make the series known as the Chapter degrees. We also proved that the degrees of Royal and Select Master, known as Council or Cryptic Masonry, were borrowed from A. A. Scottish Rite: as was also that prerequisite to obtaining the Order of Knighthood (essentially Christian), the degree of Red Cross or Babylonish Pass (essentially Jewish), and which had no connection whatever with it as to time or incident.

Our cotemporary and good friend GOULEY, in his *Freemason*, after cogitating on the subject, admitted the correctness of our conclusions, and though the avowed champion of the "American System," to the exclusion of all others, suggested the modification of that system, somewhat as follows: 1st series—Symbolic—Entered Apprentice; Fellow Craft, including the Mark Master; Master Mason. The ceremony of the installation of a Master, to be taken from the Chapter and restored. 2nd series—Chapter—Throwing overboard the Most Excellent Master, and tabulating the degrees thus: Royal Arch; Royal Master, Select Master, Super-excellent Master, and Red Cross or Babylonish Pass, a degree also taken from the A. A. Rite, having some connection with R. A. Masonry, but none whatever with the Templar Order. 3rd series—Knighthood—The degrees of Knight Templar, and Knight of Malta.

Could the American system be thus modified, of which, however, there is not much hope, owing to the long establishment of the same, it would be well; but our Canadian friends, in order to enable their brethren to visit bodies in the United States, have greatly modified their previously pure English system, and permitted the conferring of the American Chapter degrees of Master, Past and M. Ex. Master, in their Chapters; also by establishing Councils of R. and S. Masters, and authorizing the conferring of the Red Cross or Babylonish Pass.—*Pomeroy's Democrat*.

THE LANDMARK OF JANUARY 7th, now lays before us. It is a sprightly little sheet, published in octavo form, by Messrs. G. F. Hsley, & Co., New York, at \$3 per annum. This valuable little paper has only passed into the hands of its present proprietors, this present month, Bro. B. S. Hill, Esq., being its former publisher. "Long may it wave."

The Newspaper Agency of Messrs. Geo. P. Rowell, & Co., Nos. 40 and 41 Park Row, New York, is becoming celebrated throughout the Union, and is already widely known over the whole extent of the Dominion of Canada. The business of this firm is done in a prompt and efficient manner, to which their tens of thousands of customers daily testify.