

"and of their petition to His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, the M. W. Grand Master, and in reference to these several documents I have now to communicate to you the decision of the Grand Master, and of the Grand Lodge of England, upon the subject of your application to them.

"It has been an extremely unfortunate circumstance to the state of masonry in your Province that the late Prov. Grand Master Bro. Jervis, neglected to communicate to Grand Lodge, from which he had received his patent, any report of the proceedings which he had adopted, or the Lodges which he constituted under his authority. Therefore that Grand Lodge up to the period of the Union, to which you refer, and in which that Grand Lodge was, as you suppose it to have been, comprehended, and since that period the United Grand Lodge has remained ignorant of the existence of these Lodges, or the authority under which they acted, except in so far as the same has been stated in the recent application for constituting a Provincial Grand Lodge, and appointing a Provincial Grand Master."

"Under these circumstances, the Most Worshipful Grand Master being desirous of acceding to the wishes of the Brethren of Upper Canada, so far as the same could be complied with consistently with the constitution of Grand Lodge, has yet felt considerable difficulty in the mode of proceeding to accomplish this object. His Royal Highness had no disposition to question or to doubt the respectability or the fitness of the individuals successively recommended to be appointed to the office of Prov. Grand Master, but His Royal Highness could not appoint to that office, a brother whose name did not appear as a member of the Fraternity in the Books of the Grand Lodge; and any Brother so appointed by the Grand Master, could not regularly exercise jurisdiction over the Lodges in Upper Canada, until their Lodges should first be constituted by or acknowledge the authority of the Grand Lodge of England."

"H. R. H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master considering that these technical difficulties, as well as those arising from want of information in regard to the state of Masonry in the Province, might be obviated through the means of my present visit to this country, inasmuch as having been one of the Grand Wardens of England, at the time of the Union, and assuch holding a certain rank in the Grand Lodge, and being personally known to the Grand Master, and also from the circumstance of my name and connection being known to the leading persons in the Government and Society of the Province, it was supposed that I might have more influence than a stranger or a younger Mason, in reconciling any dissension or difference of opinion subsisting among the Brethren of Upper Canada. H. R. H., induced by these considerations, has been pleased to appoint me, the Prov. Grand Master, with power to appoint a Deputy, and to constitute a Prov. Grand Lodge, as well as to give the necessary sanction and authority to private Lodges, and especially I am instructed and charged to make particular inquiry into the state of Masonry in the Province, and on my return to England, to report the same, as well as my own proceedings to the M. W. G. Master.

"I am also by another patent, appointed Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch Masonry in the said Province of Upper Canada. And in order, amongst other duties, to pay every attention in my power to that of Masonry, it is my intention to make a tour through the Province, and to communicate personally with as many Lodges and Chapters as I can conveniently meet before I summon them to meet me in Provincial Grand Lodge.

"I have therefore to request that you will be pleased to transmit to me a list of those Lodges which you conceive to have been represented in the convention, and with which, as such you are in communication, specifying the place of meeting and the names of the Masters and Wardens of such Lodges, in order that I may know the person to whom I ought to apply."

"I purpose being in Kingston in about three weeks, and I hope then to have the pleasure of seeing you; in the meantime, if there are any of your Lodges in Cornwall or Prescott, I could see something of them on my way up. It is my intention after conferring with you, to proceed to York, to Niagara, and probably to the Western District.

I have the honor, &c.

"P.S.—I further request that you will have the goodness to promulgate the knowledge of my mission and my intended visit to those Lodges and Brethren, who have been represented in your convention, and that you will particularly communicate the same to Brother Fitzgibbon, with my personal respects."

The R. W. Bro. McGillivray, also addressed a letter to Edward McBride, Esq., of Niagara, the greater part of which we extract.

MONTREAL, 20th July, 1822.

"SIR,—I have now before me two letters, bearing date respectively on the 12th of August, 1818, and the 14th April, 1820, signed by John Burch, Esq. as Provincial Grand Secretary of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, and addressed to the Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of England. I was about to write a letter to Mr. Burch in reply to these communications, when having the good fortune to meet Dr. Kerr, whose name I find quoted in the first of the above mentioned letters as Prov. Grand Master, and in the second as Past Grand Master, I am informed by him that the answer which on the behalf of the M. W. G. Master and the United Grand Lodge of England, I am authorized to give on the subject of the said letters, ought to be addressed to you."

He then deploras the fact of Bro. Jervis, having neglected to report any of his proceedings &c., much in the same way as he does in his letters to Bro. Dean, and proceeds:

"These differences of opinion," viz: between those holding with the convention, and those acknowledging the Niagara Brethren, "and the dissensions to which they naturally lead, are the consequences of imperfect information, arising from the want of regular communication, and they afford a proof of the necessity which exists for every friend of Masonry, to unite in forgetting local distinctions and prejudices, and to vie with