

THE CRAFTSMAN;

AND

CANADIAN MASONIC RECORD.

Bros. T. & R. WHITE, }
Publishers. }

'The Queen and the Craft.'

} \$1.50 Per Annum,
in advance.

VOL. IV.

HAMILTON, ONT., JULY, 1870.

No. 10.

GRAND LODGE.

The meeting of Grand Lodge, a report of which appears in this number of the CRAFTSMAN, which has just closed, was one of the most important and most largely attended that has ever taken place in Canada. The number of delegates and members was over six hundred, and when it is stated that no more than thirty Lodges were represented by proxies, the interest existing in the meeting may be fairly estimated. Throughout the jurisdiction the liveliest interest had been excited in the questions which it was understood would come up for settlement; and members came to the meeting in a spirit of earnestness which could not be mistaken, and with a firm resolve to do, at whatever cost, what appeared most likely to promote the best interests of our beloved order. Efforts, some of them of a very questionable character, had been put forth to prejudice the minds of brethren and lodges on the question of the recognition of the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec. A publication issued in Toronto in the interests of that body, had for months been almost exclusively taken up with the subject. Articles, not simply arguing the general question, upon which opinions may honestly differ, but containing the basest insinuations against members of Grand Lodge, from the Grand Master downwards, had appeared in its columns; and when Grand Lodge assembled, an extra number of the same publication, filled with the same unmasonic matter, was distributed gratuitously in the hotels of the city and in the rooms where Grand Lodge met. It is to the credit of the craft that these publications had but little effect. Members felt that the occasion was one of too great importance to justify a decision on *ex parte* statements; and they came to the discussion of the question with minds unprejudiced, and with a firm resolve to do whatever, on the facts presented to Grand Lodge, appeared to be right.