

irregular. They claimed to exist by authority of English warrants, Nos. 613 and 923; under the respective names of St. George's and St. Lawrence Lodges. But it appears that in 1855, after the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, these warrants had been surrendered to the Provincial Grand Masters of Montreal, as the representatives of the Grand Lodge of England, and that the Lodges originally created by them had been enrolled upon the Register of the Grand Lodge of Canada. They could not therefore be recognized as legally conducted Masonic Lodges. Another body of Masons in London, C.W., claiming to exist under an Irish Warrant, was dealt with in a similar way.

It has been determined to found a Canadian Masonic Asylum for aged and infirm masons, their wives and widows, and a school for the education of the children and orphans of indigent masons. A Committee has been appointed for the purpose, and immediate steps are to be taken to carry out this noble and praiseworthy object.

A very high compliment was paid yesterday to one of your citizens, and, I believe, one of your City Fathers, in conferring upon him the highest rank and most distinguished title in the gift of the Grand Lodge. It was resolved, "That in consideration of the zeal and ability displayed and the services rendered by R. W. B. Dr. A. Bernard in promoting the interests of Canadian Freemasonry, he be awarded the rank and title of Most Worshipful Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge."

One hundred and ten Lodges were represented—(forty-nine by proxy.)

The representatives of the Grand Lodges of Maine and Kansas presented their credentials. These brethren were rapturously received by the Grand Lodge.

The election of officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows:

M. W. Bro.	Thomas Douglas Harrington, of Quebec, G. M.
R. W. "	W. B. Simpson, of Brockville, D. G. M.
" "	D. Gale, of Quebec, G. S. W.
" "	T. R. Warren, of St. Thomas, G. J. W.
V. W. "	E. Heathfield, of London, G. Registrar.
" "	Goff, of Simcoe, G. Treasurer.
" "	J. B. Harris, of Hamilton, G. Secretary.
R. W. "	Charles Magill, of Hamilton, D. D. G. M. Hamilton District.
" "	Thomas, D. D. G. M., London District.

OTTAWA, July 14th, 1860.

On the Grand Lodge resuming business at 9 o'clock this morning, the M. W. G. M. Wilson invested and installed the M. W. G. M. elect, H. B. M. Bro. T. D. Harrington, as G. M., and thanked the members of G. L. for the kindness which had been shewn to him for the past five years.

M. W. Bro. Harrington then installed the officers elected last night, and also those elected and appointed this morning, which are:

For D. D. G. M. for the Wilson District, R. W. Bro. F. W. Whitehead.

For the Huron District, R. W. Bro. Melius Irvine, of Galt.

For the Ontario District, R. W. Bro. J. B. Hall.
For the Prince Edward District, R. W. Bro. A. A. Campbell.

For the Central District, R. W. Bro. George F. LaSalle.

For the Toronto District, R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman.

For the Montreal District, R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.

For the Quebec District, R. W. Bro. Richard Pope.

For Grand Chaplain, Bro. Prichard was elected and invested.

For G. D. of C., Bro. DeGrassie, of Toronto, was appointed and invested.

The Ottawa and Prescott Railway, with that liberality which is not usual to railways, put on a special train, after the Grand Lodge closed, to bring the members to Prescott, and which enabled all to get to their homes on Saturday night. This liberality was duly acknowledged on the cars by sundry votes of thanks.

ADDRESS OF THE M. W. G. M. WM. M. WILSON, ESQ.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge,—

It gives me much pleasure again to meet the Representatives of the Canadian Craft, assembled in their annual Convocation, and while I reflect with unmingled satisfaction and delight upon the fact, that during the year that has now passed away, nothing has occurred, either to mar our harmony, or to interrupt our peaceful progress, I am sure that I but express the feeling common to every member of this Grand Body, when I say, that to God, and to him alone, we are indebted for the peace, happiness, and prosperity, which has thus far attended our efforts and blessed our labours: with grateful hearts and due solemnity we would, therefore, earnestly entreat our common Father to continue to us his protection, blessing and guidance. We should never forget, that "wherever we are, and whatever we do, His all-seeing eye is upon us," and this thought should not only be ever present to our minds, but should influence us in all our thoughts, words and actions.

THE MISSION OF MASONRY.

The greatest aim of masonry, as I understand it, is to cultivate and improve the mind, and to impress upon its votaries, the solemn truth that there is an omnipotent, omniscient and Everliving God, who rules and governs all. In the interesting and beautiful ceremonial of our order, we are constantly reminded of this great and important truth, and also that the same Mighty Power that fashioned and sustains the Universe, created also the mind of man, bestowed upon him a thinking, a reasoning, and a feeling nature, placed him in a universe of wonders, endowed him with faculties to comprehend them, and enable him to raise by his meditations to a knowledge of their divine origin, "to look through nature up to nature's God." The language used by a distinguished statesman and savant of our own day, on a recent occasion, may well and appropriately be applied to our *divine art*: for masonry must make an impression on the minds of its disciples, which can never wear out by a lapse of time, or be effaced by the rival influences of other contemplations, or obliterated by the cares of the world. The lessons then learned, and the feelings then engendered or cherished, will shed their auspicious influence over the mind through life, protecting against the seductions of prosperous fortune, solacing in affliction, preparing the mind for the great change that must close the scene of our earthly labours, by habitual and confident belief in the only wise God, and in the humble hope of immortality, which the study of His word must inspire, and which the gracious announcement of His revealed will abundantly confirms.

MASONIC CHARACTERISTICS.

Masonry from its origin, to the present time, in all its vicissitudes, has been the steady, unvarying friend of man; it has [in the language of an eloquent brother,] gone forth from age to age, the constant messenger of peace and love; never weary never forgetful of its holy mission, patiently ministering to the relief of want and sorrow, and scattering, with unsparring hand, blessings and benefits to all around. It comforts the mourner, it speaks peace and consolation to the troubled spirit, it carries relief and gladness to the habitations of want and destitution, it dries the tears of the widow and the orphan; it opens the source of knowledge; it widens the sphere of human happiness; it even seeks to light up the darkness and gloom of the grave, by pointing to the hopes and promises of a better life to come. All this masonry has done, and is still doing. Such is masonry, and

such is its mission: and we should never forget, while enjoying its benefits, and appreciating its value, the duties we owe to the Order, for there is no right, without a parallel duty, no liberty, without the supremacy of law, no high destiny without earnest perseverance, and no real greatness without self denial.

NEW LODGES.

Since our last annual communication, I have granted Dispensations for opening 21 New Lodges in various parts of this jurisdiction, the names and localities will be reported to you by the Grand Secretary. I will add, with reference to this subject, that in every case I have insisted upon satisfactory evidence being produced, that the officer who had been selected to preside, possessed the necessary qualifications. In addition to the number mentioned, I have to inform you that the Dispensations formerly issued to "Cassia" and "Stanbridge" Lodges, have been renewed. I have also much pleasure in announcing that "Corinthian" Lodge, of Peterboro', has returned the English warrant under which that Lodge was held, and has affiliated with this Grand Lodge.

MASONIC INCIDENTS.

On the 9th September last, I performed the pleasing duty of laying the Corner Stone of St. James' Church, in the City of London, with masonic honors. On the 25th of October last, I performed a similar duty in Toronto, laying the Corner Stone of a Reformatory prison, and on the 24th of May last, the Birthday of our beloved Sovereign, I had the pleasure of laying the Corner Stone of the Crystal Palace in the City of Hamilton; on each of these occasions I was supported by a large number of the Brethren; the preliminary arrangements had been most carefully and admirably made, and the ceremonies appeared to afford much satisfaction and pleasure to the large multitude which had assembled to witness them. Indeed I may say with reference to the gathering at Hamilton, that it was one of the most imposing and effective I had ever witnessed.

On the 15th of September last, I assisted in the consecration and constitution of Wilson Lodge at Waterford, on which occasion I delivered a public address on Masonry, which was listened to by a large and attentive audience. I am pleased to say that this Lodge is in a most flourishing condition, and is most admirably worked and governed.

On St. John's Day in December, I paid my first official visit to the Masonic District of Prince Edward; and the hospitality and kindness with which I, and the Grand Officers who accompanied me, were received by our M. W., Brother John C. Franck, Esq., the D. D. G. M. of that District, and the brethren generally, demand my warmest acknowledgements. Upon that occasion I had the pleasure of installing eight Masters of Lodges, who had assembled at Belleville for that purpose. An admirable sermon, most appropriate to the occasion, was delivered by our Worshipful Brother, the Reverend James A. Preston, M. A., the District Grand Chaplain: This discourse dedicated to me, was subsequently printed, and distributed among the Brethren, to whose careful perusal I heartily commend it.

NEW YORK.

On the 6th day of June last, I visited the Grand Lodge of New York, then in session; from this Most Worshipful and influential body my reception was most kind and fraternal, and I indulge in the hope that my visit to them may have the effect of cementing still more closely the bonds of friendship and brotherly love which now unite us. When in New York I had also the pleasure of making the personal acquaintance of many distinguished brethren from other jurisdictions, from all of whom I received the most gratifying assurances of the lively interest felt by them in the prosperity and progress of Masonry in Canada.

I might mention many other occasions in which I had the pleasure of meeting our subordinate Lodges, and the members of the Order, during the past year; but time will not, at present, permit; I must therefore only say that I have reason