

## MASONIC BALL AT PORT ARTHUR.

The ball given by Shuniah Lodge on the evening of the 29th Dec., was probably the most brilliant social event that has yet taken place in Port Arthur. For weeks the fair portion of the population had been in a pleasing flutter of expectation over the gay event, and the galaxy of youth, beauty, wealth and fashion that assembled, formed a company of which Port Arthur may feel proud. Few towns of much greater pretensions than Port Arthur could produce as brilliant an assemblage, or boast as many fair faces as last evening shed a lustre of happiness and grace all around them. Ladies were present whose beauty would command admiration anywhere, and we hope we may be pardoned for saying there were many fine, handsome men there too. Port Arthur could not have made the astonishing progress that has made her famous, were her men not men of vigor and intellect, and amply endowed with the highest manly qualities. We may, therefore, say that Port Arthur may feel proud of the manliness of her men, as well as of the beauty, and regal virtues of her women.

The large Town Hall had been well prepared for the purposes of the ball, the walls being hung with paintings, and other handsome works of art, and festooned with national flags, and truly giving it an appearance in unison with the engaging assemblage within. The splendidly furnished lodge-room up-stairs was thrown open for the pleasure of guests not engaging in the dance, and in the dining-room of the lodge, at a suitable hour, supper was served. Mr. P. W. Colter, was the caterer for the occasion, and the spread he prepared claimed and received praise from all, and showed that in that respect also Port Arthur was not to be outdone, nor was he to be outdone in Port Arthur. A magnificent epergne

adorned the centre of the table, and the display of other silverware was very fine. As for the viands set before the company, they were sufficient to satisfy the most epicurean taste.

Dancing began about nine o'clock, and continued until a late hour in the morning. The effect of the contrast between the full dress of the gentlemen, the masonic aprons worn by the fraternity, the lovely faces, graceful forms and rich costumes of the ladies, and the soft gliding motion of the dance, were very fine. Music was furnished by Charles A. DeFeio's Italian orchestra. Not a ruffle occurred to mar the enjoyment of the guests, of whom there could not have been less than 250, and the Masonic fraternity deserve much credit for the completeness of the arrangements.

## CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS.

Gondemar Preceptory, at Maitland, seems to have taken quite a new start, and a number of aspirants are seeking admission.

Rev. A. H. Munro preached a very interesting and instructive sermon to the Craft of Peterboro', on the 28th December.

We regret to announce that there is no improvement in Bro. Longley's health. It seems as if the efforts of the medical fraternity were in this instance of little avail.

R. W. Bro. Robert Ramsay has received his commission as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Victoria, near the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The Union Banquet of Orillia Lodge, No. 192, and Thorne Lodge, No. 251, at the American Hotel, Orillia, on the 29th inst., was a great success. The brethren of the two lodges in Orillia are working very harmoniously, and a good deal of work is being well done.