

Officers ascended the platform, when the M. W. Grand Master spoke as follows :

" Men, women and children here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony, know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and professing to fear God, who is the great Architect of all things, to honor the Queen, confer benefits on our brethren, and to practice universal benevolence to all mankind. We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered ; but these secrets are lawful and honorable, and are placed in the custody of masons who alone have the keeping of them to the end of time.

" Unless our craft were good and our calling honorable, we should not have existed for so many centuries, nor should we have so many illustrious brothers in our order, ever ready to sanction our proceedings and to contribute to our prosperity. To-day we are assembled in the face of you all to build a house for masonry, which we pray God to prosper if it seems good to Him, that it may become a house for great and worthy men to practice beneficent actions, and to promote harmony and brotherly love till the world itself shall end."

The acting Grand Chaplain, Dr. Utley, invoked a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U.

R. W. Deputy Grand Master, A. A. Stevenson, read the inscription designed for the cavity of the stone, as follows :

" By the blessing of the great Architect of the Universe, and in the 29th year of the benign reign of her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria ; the Right Hon. Charles Stanley, Viscount Monck, being Governor-General of British North America, and Jean Louis Beaudry, Esq., Mayor of the City of Montreal, the upper portion of which is set apart for a Masonic Hall, was laid with proper ceremonies by William Benjamin Simpson, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, on the festival of St. Jean Baptiste, Saturday, June 24th, in the year of our Lord 1865, and of the year of Masonry 5865.