

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE.

The influx of population to the Province, and the rapid increase in the then prospective city of Winnipeg, suggested the advisability of forming another lodge. Accordingly a petition was sent to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada for authority to institute Ancient Landmark Lodge, with Bro. James Henderson as W. M.; Bro. William F. Luxton, S. W.; and Bro. Walter Hyman, J. W. The petition was granted. They received a Dispensation, and held their first meeting at Winnipeg in December, 1872. This lodge also found abundance of good material for the erection of their Masonic edifice, and occupied a position in this Province second only to Prince Rupert Lodge. In due course they were chartered No. 288, G. R. C.

GRAND LODGE FORMED.

The three lodges were fully established and in good working order, and continued to flourish under the parental care of the mother Grand Lodge. But children arriving at a mature age generally desire to set up for themselves, so did these three lodges conclude to cast off the fostering mantle of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and on the 12th of May, 1875, declared themselves the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, with the following named officers: Bro. Rev. W. C. Clark, Grand Master; Bro. W. N. Kennedy, Deputy Grand Master; Bro. James Henderson, Grand Senior Warden; Bro. S. L. Bedson, Grand Junior Warden; Bro. Rev. J. D. O'Meara, Grand Chaplain; Bro. Jno. Kennedy, Grand Treasurer; Bro. W. T. Champion, Grand Registrar; Bro. John W. Bell, Grand Secretary; Bro. Gilbert McMicken, Grand Senior Deacon; Bro. W. J. Piton, Grand Junior Deacon; Bro. John J. Johnston, Sword Bearer; Bro. G. B. Spencer, Director of Ceremonies; Bro. Simon Duffin, Grand Pursuivant; Bro. John Norquay, Grand Steward; Bro. Thos. H. Parr, do.; Bro. Wm. F. Luxton,

do.; Bro. C. D. Richards, do.; Bro. T. H. Barton, Grand Tyler.

The three lodges thus forming the Grand Lodge were numbered Prince Rupert, No. 1; Lisgar, No. 2; and Ancient Landmark, No. 3; Grand Register of Manitoba. Shortly after the organization of the Grand Lodge, Dispensations were granted to St. John's Lodge in Winnipeg, with Bros. J. W. Harris as W. M., Archibald McNee, S. W., and Stewart McDonald, J. W., dated the 16th July, 1875; and to Hiram Lodge, at Kildonan, with Bros. John H. Bell as W. M., Rev. S. P. Matheson, S. W., and Colin Inkster, J. W., dated the 9th of October, 1875.

From the first establishment of Freemasonry on the Red River of the North, the more educated class of the native born inhabitants showed great interest in the institution, and many of them at once became members. The Hiram Lodge was composed principally of these brethren, as shown in the address of our much-esteemed Past Grand Master, Bro. W. N. Kennedy, delivered to Grand Lodge the 14th of June, 1876, at which time warrants were issued to the two lodges last named and numbered 4 and 5 respectively, G. R. M. On the 29th July, immediately preceding, Emerson Lodge was formed, U. D., with Bros. F. T. Bradley as W. M.; D. G. Dick, S. W.; O. Bachelor, J. W., and a warrant issued to them at the next communication of Grand Lodge held in June, 1877, and numbered 6, G. R. M.

It is here worthy of note, that the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, Bro. James C. Breden, evinced such truly Masonic liberality, and freely gave permission for the Emerson Lodge to receive petitions from and confer degrees upon persons residing in Minnesota, near the Province of Manitoba.

In the course of the ensuing year a Dispensation was granted to Assiniboine Lodge at Portage la Prairie, and a warrant issued to them as the