

MONTREAL WILL HAVE A TEMPLE.

For a long time, says the Montreal correspondent of the *Empire*, it has been a source of great surprise on the part of Masons visiting the city that Montreal with her 22 lodges, 3,000 active members and twice as many more who do not attend the regular meetings of the Craft, has never yet undertaken the erection of a Masonic temple. If all goes well during the next few months this reproach will be no longer applicable in the commercial metropolis, as plans are now prepared, and all necessary steps are being taken to secure the construction of a temple that will not only provide an elegant home for the members of the Craft in this district, but will be a credit to the fraternity throughout the Dominion. The location of the building, which is estimated to embrace an outlay of from \$100,000 to \$150,000, has not yet been fully decided upon, but it is presumed that the Montreal temple will be erected not far from St. Catherine street centre, and may be in the vicinity of Dominion square. A large sum of money has already been subscribed and a great many of our most wealthy business and professional men have promised to contribute to the supply of a want felt by a respected and influential portion of the community.

THE 13TH BAND AND THE TEMPLARS.

The 13th Band arrived home, covered with glory, says the *Herald*, of that city. Every one of them is loud in his praises of the treatment they met with wherever they went during their tour with the Templars of Chicago. They were entertained at the best hotels and invited to several receptions and excursions. Just before leaving Chicago they had to decline a complimentary banquet tendered by the Canadians of Chicago. The tickets had been printed and arrangements had been made for the dinner to come off at the Clifton House, but the members of the band were many of them under obligations to reach Hamilton at a certain time, and the invitation had to be respectfully declined. The band commanded universal attention both from its fine appearance and from the excellent music it furnished. To it was assigned the chief honour in the musical ceremonies before Washington's tomb, and out of the bands that took part in the big procession at Washington, the 13th was selected by Mrs. Logan to attend her reception. The band, however, could not attend, as they had an engagement elsewhere on that evening. One of the successes of the trip is the probable engagement of the 13th next year by the Chicago Shriners to go to San Francisco. Another pleasing event that follows the trip is the acceptance by the St. Bernard Commandery of an invitation by the 13th to visit Hamilton next summer. Arrangements will be made to make the occasion a big and memorable one. The St. Bernard Commandery comprises about 150 members, and they are among the best equipped and best drilled body of Knights on the continent. There is no uniformed company that can be found to compete with them in military movements and drill. If they visit Hamilton next summer, as they no doubt will, a large concourse of relatives and friends will come along, and the presence of so distinguished a body of Masons will bring the Masonic fraternity from all sections of the country. The 13th will cele-

brate the occasion with one or two grand concerts.

Excursions to Toronto, Niagara Falls and other places will be on the programme. The visit of the Commandery will be as big a thing as the visit of the 13th Regiment of Brooklyn during the carnival. They spend a large amount of money each year for their annual excursion. Their expenses in connection with their recent visit to Washington must have reached a pretty high figure. It cost about \$5,000 to engage and meet the expenses of the 13th Band alone. Their other expenses must have reached a big, big figure. The St. Bernard Commandery will get a good welcome, not only from the 13th Band, but from Hamilton generally.

THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

At the October meeting of St. John's Lodge, 2090, London, a lecture was delivered by the Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. Rev. D. Armstrong, D. D., on "The Moral Aspects of Freemasonry." Turnout of members of St. John's and visiting brethren was large and representative, not fewer than 150 being present on the occasion. W. Bro. Geo. C. Davis presided. The Grand Chaplain was introduced by R. W. Bros. Dewar, Porte and Simpson, and after the grand honours had been accorded him launched out upon his lecture in an easy, off-hand style, which captured his hearers at the outset. For over an hour he riveted the attention of the brethren by his matter-of-fact style of placing the plain, unvarnished truths before them, and it is safe to say that but few left the hall without feeling that he had been personally benefitted by the admonitions so pointedly and impressively put by the reverend brother. The great moral truths underlying the Order were portrayed in language which could not be misunderstood by the veriest dullard, and, in a word, the lecture was voted the very best ever heard within the walls of the Masonic Temple. It should be delivered in all the centres of Masonry in the jurisdiction, and even, if at all possible, in every lodge room of the province. The result cannot but be an awakening amongst the Craft, and a general shaking-up of the "dry bones," something sadly needed in Masonic circles. The doctor was in his happiest mood, and after three minute addresses had been given by the following visiting brethren, Bros. Porte, Munson, Simpson, Fisher, R. J. C. Dawson, Burns, Taylor (Mayor), Essery, Broderick (Molson's Bank) and others, the doctor replied very felicitously. The lodge was then closed, and the meeting broke up. It is understood that the Grand Chaplain is besieged with applications from all sections of the jurisdiction to deliver the lecture. He will, so far as it does not interfere with his parochial duties, endeavour to comply with the requests of his brethren before his term of office expires. Toronto, Kingston, Hamilton, Ottawa, Belleville, Thorndale, Forest and several other places are underlined for a visit, of which particulars later on.

Referring to the lecture the *Free Press* says: "Every brother with whom we have conversed, regarding the recent lecture given in the Blue Room here by the Grand Chaplain, (Bro. Rev. D. Armstrong), expresses the one opinion, that it will do more good than a thousand essays on Craft Masonry, about which, in nine cases out of

ten, the listener was equally as well posted as the lecturer. In the Grand Chaplain's discourse he did not mince matters, did not cloak the sins of omission and commission under silken covers, but plainly, bluntly and forcibly brought the brethren face to face with the facts—and then asked if they were not all to a greater or lesser extent guilty. The Grand Chaplain should be commended for the interest he has evinced in the Order by the preparation of such a paper, for it is bound to do an incalculable amount of good—if the brethren take its teachings as deeply to heart as they appear to do.

RIGHT YOU ARE, BRO. JOHN.

As the year draws to a close we urge upon the Craft the necessity of looking well to the selection of their officers for the coming year. The election of good active men means a year of prosperity and pleasure. Because Brother So-and-So happens to have been appointed to a minor office and to have filled it passably well it does not follow that he is either by intellect or nature fitted to occupy the East. There is at times too much sentiment in the selection of officers. This should not be. Place the best available men in the responsible offices and success will be the reward.—*London Free Press*.

SELECT GOOD MEN.

Every officer should be found in his place when the gavel sounds on lodge night, ready to perform any duty connected with it, as he obligated himself to do when he was installed into office. Let the brethren observe whether this is the case, and if any are default in duty, let it be remembered at the annual election of officers which is now close at hand. Retain in office and promote only such as have served faithfully during the past year. No lodge can hope to prosper with negligent or inefficient officers, and this is true, only to a less extent, as pertains to the members. While good officers are essential to the prosperity of a Masonic body, they are greatly hampered in their work unless zealously supported by the members. Every member is responsible, to a greater or less extent, for the condition of the body, be it good or bad. Think of this, officers and members, and enter upon this busy Masonic season with the determination, each one for himself, to do his part. If this is done you may rest assured that your lodge will surely prosper, and you will derive far greater benefits from being a Mason.—*Masonic Advocate*.

UNION IS STRENGTH.

Masonic organizations are sure to prosper where there is earnest, united efforts on the parts of the members. There may be union where there is only a passive condition, which is very much like death itself. A healthy agitation of the waters is sometimes the best thing that can happen to a stagnant pool. A little difference of feeling as to men or measures will not harm the average lodge, and the expression of such differences will not retard prosperity. But deep down in the hearts of brethren, who stand associated together, there must be the spirit of sympathy and co-operation. There must be a strong bond of fellowship between the members of every progressive and prosperous lodge, or other Masonic organization. Only thus can the best work be done and the best results achieved.—*N. Y. Sunday Times*.