

At the quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of England held on the 7th ult., M. W. Grand Master said that a notice stood on the paper to the effect that he would make a communication to Grand Lodge in reference to the district of Montreal, but as the question related to a matter which occurred several years ago, at a time when he did not appear to be present in Grand Lodge, he would request Bro. Havers, who was acquainted with all the circumstances of the case, to make the communication for him.

Bro. Havers said it would be in the recollection of many members who attended Grand Lodge that on the 29th June of last year, in consequence of the absence of the Grand Registrar, he (Bro. Havers) took charge of the appeals. Among them was one of Bros. Brown and Robinson, of Montreal, and the remarks he had made upon it had given great dissatisfaction and discomfort. Many letters had been received on the subject, among others, from Bro. Badgely, District Grand Master, stating that his authority had been set at naught in his own province in consequence of that statement. At the time he (Bro. Havers) made it he believed it to be true, and he would give the grounds of his belief at that time, that Bro. Badgely was not District Grand Master of Montreal. He hoped the statement he was about to make would be satisfactory to that brother, but he thought it his duty, in justification of his own conduct to make it. In 1859, in the troubles of which he (Bro. Havers) took a large part, the then Grand Master, Lord Zetland, said that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal having virtually ceased to exist for several years past, he did not think it advisable to, nor should he, take any steps to resuscitate it. He thought then and now, that from the time the words were uttered the District Grand Lodge of Montreal did not exist. But it appeared there was subsequent action taken, and the late Grand Secretary, Bro. Gray Clarke, wrote to Bro. Badgely and asked him to resign. But he did not resign; and that letter, coming from the recognised officer of this Grand Lodge, must be taken to be an admission that Bro. Badgely still held office. An answer was requested, which did not come, and nothing more was heard of the affair. In 1860 the Grand Secretary removed the name of Bro. Badgely from the calendar. But he had never been superseded, and therefore from the course events had taken, he was still District Grand Master of Montreal. The explanation, he hoped, would be satisfactory to Bro. Badgely, and be deemed an apology for any wounded feelings he (Bro. Havers) might have caused.

At Rest.

DIED.—At his residence Silver Hill, County of Norfolk, on Monday, January 2nd; Bro. Lewis Smith, aged 40 years.

A large number of Brethren of Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, of which he was a cherished member, followed the remains to the grave in which they deposited them with the usual masonic ceremonies.

DIED.—At Port Hope, Ontario, on the 6th instant, Bro. James Soules Johnston, late editor and proprietor of the *Port Hope Guide*, in his twenty eighth year.

The deceased was well and favorably known in Port Hope, and his funeral was very largely attended. His remains were interred with masonic ceremonies, the service being conducted by W. Bro. J. B. Trayes, W. M. of Ontario Lodge, No. 26, of which our deceased brother was a member.