

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE OF THE NEW CENTRAL SCHOOL, AT WINDSOR, ONTARIO, WITH MASONIC CEREMONIES.

On Wednesday the 30th ultimo, the Corner Stone of the new Central School building, about to be erected at Windsor, was laid in accordance with the rites and ceremonies of the order of Freemasonry.

At one o'clock the members of Great Western Lodge No. 47, with delegations from the Detroit lodges, assembled at their Hall, and from thence marched in regular order to the Town Hall, where they were joined by the Mayor and town Council, invited guests, municipal officers and citizens, to the number of about 300. At 2 o'clock the procession moved from the town Hall and proceeded up Windsor Avenue to the sites of the school building, being met at the the Corner of Chatham street by the teachers and children of the several Protestant schools, who joined in the procession, simultaneously singing in admirable manner the following appropriate and very pretty verses, composed for the occasion by Mr. J. C. Patterson, the Inspector of schools for the town:—

Bid ye welcome heartily,  
Brothers of the Mystic Tie.  
While the trowel ye apply  
To the stone ye lay.

May kind Providence look down  
On us and our thriving town,  
And with His approval crown  
All our work to-day.

May the great Chief Architect  
Bless the building we erect,  
And the youthful minds direct  
Who are nurtured there.

Long within these rising walls;  
Flourish learning's chosen halls;  
Here may wisdom's gentle calls.  
Fruit of wisdom bear.

Here may pure ambition's fire,  
Rouse the son to join the sire  
In the race to which aspire  
All the good and great.

May our children here be wrought  
Into youths with learning fraught—  
Men of free speech and free thought  
Bulwarks of the State.

Everywhere throughout our land,  
May our youth, a noble band,  
Prosper 'neath God's prosp'ring hand.  
Full of wit and worth.

Till they come to take their place  
Mid the nations, face to face,  
Sons of the Canadian race,  
Freemen of the North.

During the progress of the march an artillery salute was fired, Mr. S. Lodi, a Crimean veteran, manipulating the gun.

On arriving at the ground, the ceremony was at once entered upon by the children singing "God Save the Queen."

R. W. Bro. John Tracy, D. D. G. Master, for the St. Clair District, representing the Grand Master, assisted by the officers and members of Great Western Lodge, No. 47 and other brethren, performed the ceremonies of laying the stone in an appropriate and impressive manner.

The acting Grand Master was presented with a beautiful silver trowel bearing the following inscription:

Presented by  
The Windsor Public School Board,  
to  
JOHN TRACY, Esq.,  
D. D. G. M., St. Clair District  
On the occasion of his laying the Corner  
Stone of the Central Public School,  
November 30th, 1871.