

AMONG THE SOCIETIES

A SECTION OF THE MASONIC ORDER IN ST. JOHN.

Men who were the founders of Free-Masonry in this city—what Progress it has made—some interesting facts and figures about the Order.

The two previous articles dealt with Craft Masonry and the Scottish Rite. The natural sequence would have been, however, to have dealt with the Royal Arch after Craft Masonry and so we will hasten to take it up here.

Royal Arch Masonry.

Royal Arch Masonry as consecutive history dates from Jan. 19th, 1805, when Carleton Chapter was constituted at the lodge room of Saint John's lodge in Cody's Tavern on the south-east corner of Prince William and King streets, where the Bank of Montreal now stands. Thomas Wetmore was the first high priest, David Waterbury, King, Hugh Johnston, scribe; Chapman Judson, royal arch captain; John Paul, first grand master; Richard Lawrence, second grand master; Jeremiah Pecker, third grand master; Richard Bonaall, Zerobabel and treasurer, and Robert Laidley, Tyler.

The chapter worked under the authority of Saint John's lodge until 1815, Union lodge until 1822 and the grand royal arch chapter of Scotland until 1877 when the grand royal arch chapter of New Brunswick was erected by delegates from seven out of the nine chapters in the province. One of the other two, Mount Lebanon, of Chatham, remained without until this year, only within the last few weeks receiving a warrant from the grand chapter of New Brunswick. M. E. Camp B. Lester Peters was the first grand high priest. Carleton Chapter is the second oldest Masonic body in the province, its senior being Saint John's lodge and it possesses its records complete from the date of its organization.

There appears to have been a chapter antecedent to Carleton chapter probably called Hiram Royal Arch Chapter, but little or nothing is known about it except that it existed about 1790.

Hibernia Chapter was constituted in 1858 under warrant of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland. In 1864 the name was changed to New Brunswick Chapter and in 1868 they surrendered their warrant and obtained a substitute from the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Union Royal Arch Chapter was constituted at Carleton in 1860 under authority of the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland until they united in the creation of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.

Order of High Priesthood.

The grand council of High Priests was formed in this city in the year 1864 under an authorization of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland to the late M. E. Comp. John Willis, Past Principal Z, who was the first president of the council. From 1868 to 1892 it was dormant but in the latter year it was re-established under the designation of the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood of the Province of New Brunswick. Its resuscitation was chiefly due to the exertions of M. E. Comp. Robert Marshall who was chosen president of the council.

Royal and Select Masters.

Our last article on the Masonic bodies dealt with the inception of the Cryptic Rite in this city just thirty years ago, through the efforts of Mr. Robert Marshall, and of the main facts in the history of the Scottish Rite.

The first of the Cryptic Rites established was that of Royal and Select Masters. In 1867 three councils were organized, the premier councils in Canada, Saint John Council, No. 1, on August 12th, under charter granted by the grand council of Royal and Select Masters within the State of Maine, dated May 8th, 1867; New Brunswick Council, No. 2, constituted August 12th, 1867, and Carleton Council, No. 3.

On August 14th of the same year representatives of these three councils met at Masonic Hall for the purpose of forming a Grand Council. The grand council met until 1872 and granted charters to six additional councils at Halifax, Toronto, Orillia, Galt, Moncton and Branford. For twenty years after this, however, there is a gap in the history of the rite. In 1892 the grand council was reorganized and rehabilitated and new charters were granted to Saint John and New Brunswick the old ones having been destroyed in the fire of 1877. The following have been the most illustrious Grand Mas-

ters of the Grand Council of New Brunswick:

- Robert Marshall, 1867-68.
- Joseph C. Hatheway, 1869-70.
- David B. Muoro, 1871-72.
- John V. Ellis, 1892-4.
- William B. Wallace, 1895-7.

Knights Templars.

We now come to the military branches of the order. The first established here was the Carleton Council of Knights of the Sword, Knights of the East, and Knights of the East and West, or Babylonian Pass—commonly called Knights of the Red Cross. This was constituted in the Masonic Hall, Nov. 25th, 1867, under a working dispensation granted by M. E. Comp. George, Arnott, Walker Arnott, Grand Principal Z of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch chapter of Scotland. The principal officers of a council are styled the King, the senior General and the junior General.

Saint John encampment, No. 48, religious and military order of the Temple and Holy Sepulchre of Scotland was organized on the authority of a charter from the chapter general dated Oct. 4, 1856. The petitioners for the charter were Alexander Balloch, Charles E. Raymond, Wm. F. Bunting and Robert Stubbs. By their charter they were empowered to confer the degrees of knights of Malta, with the preceding step [known by the name of the Mediterranean Pass or Knight of St. Paul; also the knight of the Red Cross of Constantine; and likewise of the priestly order of the Temple. The encampment includes on its registry many of the leading masons of the province and exhibits an admirable esprit de corps. Recently it transferred its allegiance from the grand priory of Scotland to that of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada and is now known as St. John encampment, Knights Templar and Knights of Malta, No. 3 A.

Union DeMolay Preceptory, No 11, K. T. and Knights of Malta under the register of the sovereign great priory of Canada was originally owing allegiance to the great priory of the royal exalted religious and military order of Masonic Knights Templars of England and Wales and the dependencies of the British crown from whom it received its charter, No. 104 on the roll, May 21st, 1869. The present charter was dated at Barrie Ont., July 8, 1884 and signed by Wm. J. B. MacLeod Moore, supreme grand master, and Daniel Spry, grand chancellor.

The oldest military encampment in the province however is Hibernian Encampment, No. 318 K. T., constituted at St. Andrews April 5, 1840, under warrant from the supreme grand encampment of Ireland.

Royal Order of Scotland.

One of the most recherche and select of all the orders is the Royal Order of Scotland which is represented in this city by the provincial grand lodge of the Maritime provinces. Only one body or chapter of this order can exist in any one country, state or province and it consists of two degrees—the Royal Order of Herodim and Chapter of the Rosy Cross, technically termed "The High and Honorable Orders of Herodim and the Rosy Cross: The order was originally instituted by Robert Bruce on the field of Bannockburn in 1314 and the King of Scotland (when that country had a king) was the hereditary grand master. This grand lodge formally held jurisdiction over New Brunswick alone, according to its patent of Jan. 4, 1860. The following have been the provincial grand masters:

- Robert Stubbs, 1860-63.
- Robert W. Crookshank, 1864-69.
- B. Lester Peters, 1870-1891.
- T. Nisbet Robertson, 1892-94.
- J. V. Ellis, 1895-97.

Knights of Rome.

St. John and New Brunswick has the distinction of having the premier conclave in North America of the Masonic and Military order of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, the invincible order of the K. H. S. and the Holy order of St. John. This very exclusive and knightly order was introduced into America in 1869 by Mr. Robt. Marshall who was granted a warrant by Lord Kenlis, Grand Sovereign of the Grand Imperial Council of England, to constitute McLeod Moore conclave, No. 13. Mr. Marshall was the first Sovereign of the conclave and was also by patent issued the same year appointed intendand general of New Brunswick. Since this date the order has spread considerably over the United States and Canada due mainly to a fine piece of finesse of Mr. Marshall's whereby through the New York and other press he made it known how steps could be taken to establish the order and to whom application should be made. He refused the first position in the order on this continent, that of Chief Intendant General for Canada and the United States, in favor of Col. W. J. B. McLeod Moore because he felt that some one more prominent should be appointed but his services could not go unrewarded and so last year

he was created a Grand Cross of the order a distinguished honor which can be conferred on only 80 individuals in any one country. Up to 1896 he had been Intendant General for this province but on his elevation to the higher dignity, Mr. John A. Watson rose from the honor of Sovereign of the conclave to that of Intendant General.

Like several others of the Masonic bodies the fire of 1877 proved a great stumbling block. The warrant and other property was lost and for some years the conclave became inactive. Its foster father Mr. Robt. Marshall, however, in 1892 breathed into it new life, the warrant was renewed and a new staff of officers elected, Mr. Marshall being the First Sovereign and the late Robt. W. Crookshank, First Viceroy.

To capitulate, the following are the dates of the inception of the various branches of the ancient and honorable rite of Masonry in existence in this city.

Craft Masonry.

- 1802—St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
- 1828—Albion Lodge, No. 1.
- 1827—Hibernia Lodge, No. 3.
- 1846—Carleton Union Lodge, No. 8.
- 1846—Union Lodge of Portland, No. 10.
- 1856—New Brunswick Lodge, No. 22.
- 1867—Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

Royal Arch Masonry.

- 1805—Carleton Chapter.
- 1858—New Brunswick Chapter.
- 1860—Union Chapter.
- 1864—Grand Council of High Priesthood.
- 1867—Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.

Knights Templars.

- 1856—St. John Encampment, Knights of the Temple, No. 48.
- 1867—Carleton Council, Knights of the Red Cross.
- 1869—Union DeMolay Preceptory, No. 3, A.

Royal Order of Scotland.

- 1860—Provincial Grand Lodge.
- 1860—Royal and Select Masters.
- 1867—Saint John Council, No. 1.
- 1867—New Brunswick Council, No. 2.
- 1867—Carleton Council, No. 3.
- 1867—Grand Council.

Knights of Rome.

- 1860—McLeod Moore, Conclave.
- Scottish Rite.
- 1870—Saint John Lodge of Perfection.
- 1870—Harrington Chapter Sovereign Princes Rose Croix.
- 1870—New Brunswick Sovereign Consistory.

"If."

If wishing could bring it back to me,
If wishing could bring it back to me,
The many sentences that flow away
To mar the joy of another's day;
If wishing could bring it back!

If working could bring them back to me,
If working could bring them back to me,
The snail's pace I dread away,
That made all toilful another's day;
If working could bring them back!

—Sel.

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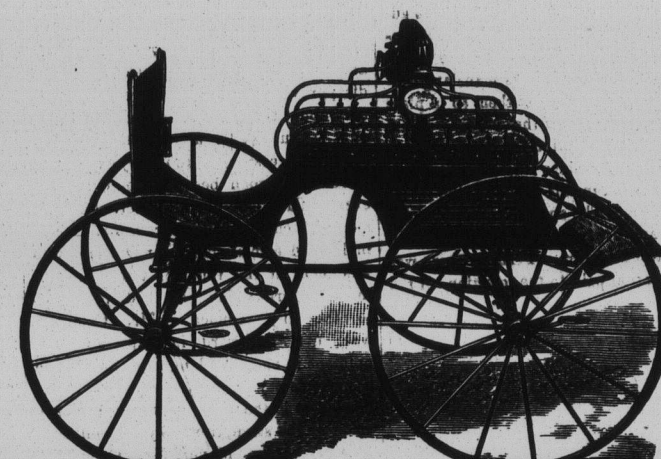
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