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The arrangements were, we need hardly say, perfect in every respect, and all enjoyed themselves in the mazy dance, the party not breaking up until a late—or rather, we should say, early—hour. It was one of the most enjoyable occasions of its kind, and we are sure that none could regret the happy time spent in doing honor to the most important event in the Masonic history of the good city of Hamilton.

## THE MASONIC RITES AND DEGREES.

### For the Craftsman.

As an amusement for a leisure hour, I have prepared the following notes upon the various Masonic Rites and Degrees, and also the Chivalric Orders of Knighthood, as practised in Canada, more particularly with the view of showing the *proper sequence* in which the various Masonic Degrees *should* follow each other. It is not in the least intended that these Notes should bear upon the existing order of things, they are merely thrown out as "Masonic Curiosities," and may perhaps afford amusement, if not information, to the follower of the "Mystic Tie."

#### A MASON OF ALL RITES AND GRADES.

### SEQUENCE OF THE "YORK" DEGREES AS ACTUALLY WORKED IN CANADA.

#### SYMBOLIC OR CRAFT MASONRY.

1. .... ENTERED APPRENTICE MASON.
2. .... FELLOW CRAFT MASON.
3. .... MASTER MASON.

#### CAPITULAR MASONRY.

4. .... MARK MASTER.
5. .... PAST MASTER.
6. .... MOST EXCELLENT MASTER.
7. .... ROYAL ARCH.

#### CRYPTIC MASONRY.

8. .... ROYAL MASTER.
9. .... SELECT MASTER.
10. .... SUPER EXCELLENT MASTER.
11. .... RED CROSS OF BABYLON.

### PROPER SEQUENCE OF THE DEGREES OF THE "YORK RITE" OF FREEMASONRY, AS WORKED IN CANADA.

1. ENTERED APPRENTICE MASON.—In this Degree the Neophyte is introduced into Masonry.

2. FELLOW CRAFT MASON.—Becomes a *Workman* and *earns wages*.

3. MARK [MASTER?] MASON.—Is taught how to *distinguish* his work by a "Mark," and the proper method of *receiving* his wages. [NOTE.]—This and the two following degrees are improperly called "Masters,"—no Master Masons, except the Three Grand Masters, S. K. of I., H. K. of T., and H. A. B., were in existence until the Degree of Master Mason (No. 6,) was conferred by K. S.

4. ROYAL [MASTER?] MASON.—Receives an explanation from H. A. B. of the *time* and under what *circumstances, only*, he can be made a Master Mason.

5. SELECT [MASTER?] MASON.—Receives an explanation of *how* and by *whom*, the Sacred Treasures, afterwards discovered in the R. A. Degree, were secretly deposited.

6. MASTER MASON.—Describes the death of H. A. B. *before the completion* of the Temple, and the substitution of a *word* for the *true one*, which remained concealed.

7. MOST EXCELLENT MASTER.—Describes the *completion* of the Temple, and the ceremonies attendant thereon.

8. PAST OR PRESIDING MASTER.—Inspection of the *finished* Temple by K. S., the Q. of S., and others, and their expression of *admiration* at its beauty.