

Secretary do send a copy of this resolution to the Grand Secretary."

While towards the close of the meeting,

"Br. Henry Crouse Senior Warden of Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe, gave notice—"That if our Petition for a Canadian Grand Lodge does not meet with a favorable reception at the Grand Lodge of England, Norfolk Lodge will again bring the subject up to be disposed of in such a manner as may be deemed proper."

On the 23d October, 1855, the Provincial Grand Secretary had the painful duty to communicate to the Provincial Grand Lodge the first secession from their allegiance in the case of Norfolk Lodge, County of Simcoe, No. 500. While to show the strong feeling of attachment still existing, the following Resolution was immediately adopted:

"That the Norfolk Lodge having officially notified, under the Seal of the Lodge, this Provincial Grand Lodge, that the said Lodge has thrown off its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, the Provincial Grand Master be respectfully requested to notify the Lodges remaining true to their allegiance, that they are not to admit to visit them any member of said Norfolk Lodge, nor of any other Lodge which may adopt the same course, until the Provincial Grand Master has received instructions from the Grand Lodge of England how to act."

At this same meeting once more was it resolved to seek a reply from the Grand Lodge of England to their long neglected Petition, and the following strong resolution was adopted:

"That the Grand Lodge of England be earnestly requested to entertain, without loss of time, the Petition of this Grand Lodge, forwarded so long back as December, 1853, as this Provincial Grand Lodge cannot but feel that the vital interests of Masonry in Canada are now at stake."

Your Memorialists have thus recorded in detail the patient and earnest endeavour on the part of this Provincial Grand Lodge to avoid a schism with your august Body, but ere the next half-yearly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, a large number of Brethren had withdrawn, and your Memorialists cannot in this their Memorial do more than allude to the organization of a Body styled *The Grand Lodge of Canada*, and annex in the Appendix, under the letter "D," a copy of the published Report of their proceedings. Deeply deploring this event, although the very recital your Memorialists have just given might well have led to the conclusion that such a contingency was inevitable, the Provincial Grand Lodge held firm to their allegiance, and in the following Resolutions showed their earnest desire still to maintain the same, while clinging yet to the hope of receiving that consideration to which their patient loyalty, if nothing else, might well entitle them:

"1st. That the Board of General Purposes be instructed to communicate the true position of this Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, and all the Grand Lodges of the United States, as regards the movement of the self-styled Grand Lodge of Canada, stating the correct number of Lodges present at the Convention in Hamilton, in October last, and from what Grand Lodges they hailed, the number of Lodges holding Warrants under the Grand Lodge of England, at the time of said movement; the number of Lodges which have seceded, and the number of new Lodges, established since, under this jurisdiction.

"2nd. That this Grand Lodge has seen with satisfaction a notice in the April number of the *London Freemason's Magazine*, signifying the intention of Br. the Rev. George R. Portal, P. S. G. W., to introduce at the next Quarterly Meeting of the Grand Lodge of England, a motion to the following effect:

"That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it is expedient that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, should enjoy all the immunities and privileges of an *Independent Grand Lodge*, save

and except, that it shall once in every three years submit the names of one or more brethren to the M. W. the G. M. of England, who shall appoint one of them to be Prov. G. M.; and the Prov. G. M. so appointed shall exercise the same powers within his Province as are exercised by the M. W. the G. M. in England. That it is further expedient that the same privileges be accorded to other Foreign Provincial Grand Lodges, on their Petition; and the M. W. the G. M. is hereby respectfully requested to carry this resolution into effect as early a period as possible; and also, 'That the thanks of this G. L. are due, and are hereby given to those Canadian Lodges which have maintained their allegiance to the M. W. the G. M. and G. L. of England.

"3rd. That this Provincial Grand Lodge heartily approves of the principle contained in the said intended motion, and would respectfully, but strongly urge its adoption by the Grand Lodge of England, satisfied as they are that wide-spread dissatisfaction, resulting in disastrous consequences to the peace and prosperity of the fraternity in Canada, will follow, should immediate action on their just complaints be longer delayed; that this Provincial Grand Lodge would suggest that the said Resolution be modified, so as to provide that the election of the Grand Master be made by this Grand Lodge with this proviso—that if disallowed by the Grand Lodge of England within six months after it shall have taken place, it shall be void, but otherwise have full force and effect.

4th. That the foregoing Resolution be transmitted by the G. S. to the G. L. of England, and that copies be forwarded by him to each of the G. Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, and to Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, with a request that they will be pleased to support the same at the next Session of the Grand Lodge of England, after its receipt."

The Report prepared in accordance with Resolution No. 1, has been already forwarded to the Grand Lodge of England, but is again annexed hereto as Appendix "E."

Your Memorialists now come to that stage of their narrative when they have to notice at length—not a reply, from the Grand Lodge of England, for this has never yet been vouchsafed them—but an official publication under date of June, 1856, containing the remarks of the Grand Master, as put forth with all the weight of his authority, when the matter of their Petition was at length brought forward, (see Appendix "F," but the desire and firm resolve on the part of your Memorialists to confine themselves in this their Memorial, within the due bounds of respect and moderation in approaching your august body, will not allow them to allude more than passingly to the observations as therein recorded of the M. W. the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, and the painful sensation they have created in the minds as well of your Memorialists, as of all Masons desiring to preserve, amid repeated neglect, their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England. Your Memorialists merely desire to append the resolutions adopted in Provincial Grand Lodge on the 23rd of October, and which have led to this Memorial:

"1st. Resolved, That this Provincial Grand Lodge have been deeply pained that the Grand Master of England should have received in such a manner the constitutional conduct which this Provincial Grand Lodge have pursued throughout their difficulties and grievances, and this pain is rendered more intense, that he should in any way have blamed for unconstitutional conduct the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who has by the direction of the Provincial Grand Master, conducted the entire business of the Province, and whose zeal for Masonry, and whose efforts to maintain it in unsullied purity, have gained for him the deepest respect and esteem of all the Masons in Canada.

"2nd. That this Provincial Grand Lodge desire to express in the strongest terms their disapproval of the unjust and uncourteous treatment which they have experienced at the hands of the M. W. Grand Master of England, and to express their

conviction that most of the difficulty which has occurred in Canada has arisen from the loss or mislaying of documents transmitted by this Provincial Grand Lodge, in the Grand Secretary's Office, and which if they had been properly preserved and carefully read, would have removed the lamentable ignorance of Canadian affairs which has been exhibited by those high in office, who ought to have been better acquainted with our position.

"3rd. That the cordial thanks of this Provincial Grand Lodge be tendered to the Rev. G. R. Portal for the interest he has taken in our affairs, and that he be respectfully requested as a member of the Board of General Purposes, to act as our representative at the Grand Lodge of England, and that the Grand Secretary be informed thereof.

"4th. That inasmuch as this Provincial Grand Lodge petitioned the Grand Lodge of England through the M. W. the Grand Master, and in doing so wished to tender, and imagined they were paying the highest compliment to the M. W. Grand Master, and inasmuch as the M. W. Grand Master has refused to allow the Grand Lodge of England to be recognised in his person; Be it Resolved, That this Provincial Grand Lodge do now present a Petition to the Grand Lodge of England, in the place of the one forwarded to the M. W. the Grand Master.

"5th. That Brethren Harington, Harman, Richardson, Barron, Whitehead, Cumberland and Harding be a Committee to embody fully in a Petition, with ample minutes and dates up to the present time, the grievances and present wants of the brethren, and that the same be printed and sent round to every Lodge in Canada West retaining its loyal attachment to the Grand Lodge of England for their earnest consideration thereof, and that the R. W. Deputy Grand Master be respectfully requested to call a Special Meeting to confirm the Petition for transmission to England."

In conclusion, your Memorialists would firmly state, that they consider the time has been allowed to pass, when moderate concessions would have more than satisfied the Masons of Canada, and that less than *entire independence* as to the government of the Craft will not allay the excitement which now too largely prevails in this once happy, united and loyal Province. They would therefore respectfully memorialize your august body to give recognition to the establishment of this Prov. Grand Lodge as *The Grand Lodge of Upper Canada*, with full and unrestricted powers, to whom it will ever be a proud and grateful consideration, that hailing from the Grand Lodge of England they will remain essentially an *English Grand Lodge*, in this the noblest Province of England's dominion, and that their independence has been constitutional, and that her statutes will remain their law.

APPENDIX.

A.—Petition dated May, 1853.

"To the Right Honourable Thomas Dundas, Baron Dundas, of Aske, in the County of York, Earl of Zetland, &c., &c., the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England.

"The Petition of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada West, under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England, humbly and fraternally

"SHEWETH—That your Petitioners entertain towards the United Grand Lodge of England the most fraternal feelings of gratitude, respect and esteem; and it is their most ardent desire to cultivate and promote those feelings of brotherhood, to advance the interests, and establish on the firmest basis, the genuine character of Masonry in this Province.

"That the first Patent to call and establish a Provincial Grand Lodge in Canada West (then Upper Canada) was granted on the 7th day of March, A.L. 5792, by the Grand Lodge of England—of which His Grace the Duke of Athol was