

Minnesota, is, that the elder Rogers, his father, who died in 1857, knew Wm. Morgan well prior to 1826, and met him many years after in the backwoods of Maine. He said that Morgan escaped from those who had charge of him at Fort Niagara, and fearing for his life, if caught, he fled to the boundless forest of Northern Maine, where he built a cabin and lived a wild hunter and hermit's life. When he was accidentally discovered by Mr. Rogers, and recognized, he decamped, seeking a new and more secluded home, and was never heard of afterwards.

The astute reader may take his choice of these stories, or, rejecting both, frame one for himself. Probably the Morgan mystery will never be cleared up. Certainly interest in it has ceased in the United States, among anti-masons as well as the brethren. It was a "good enough Morgan" before the elections; it gave a class of political tricksters a pretence for elevating themselves into power for a time; but their rule was of short duration, and will never be repeated. There is no home American historian that has had the assurance to gravely charge upon Freemasons the murder of Morgan—that thankless and proofless assertion seems to have been reserved for one who writes three thousand miles away from the scene of the history; and distance in this instance does not appear to have lent either impartiality or enchantment to his view.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, courteously and fraternally yours,

CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA,

P. M. of Concordia Lodge, No. 67,

Philadelphia, U. S.

January 17, 1877.

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**FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.**

A movement is now on foot in the North Island of New Zealand for the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge under the S.C. Very recently Bro. the Hon. F. Whittaker, one of the founders of Freemasonry in New Zealand, was affiliated into Lodge Sir Walter Scott, to enable him to assume the position of P.G.M. From Bro. Whittaker's abilities and social position we have no doubt of his being able to fill the office with credit to himself and profit to the lodges under his jurisdiction. Bro. M. Niccol, who filled the chair of Lodge St. Andrew, No. 418, S.C., for two successive years, and, has now entered his second year as R.W.M. of Lodge Manukau, will be the Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Some dozen years ago a Masonic lodge under the Irish Constitution existed in the town of Onehunga, Auckland, New Zealand. A considerable number of the members migrated to the gold fields, and the lodge practically ceased to exist. In the middle of 1875 a few brethren met and discussed the advisability of re-opening the old, or forming a new lodge. After due enquiry, and several preliminary meetings, it was agreed that a new lodge under the Scotch Constitution should be opened, and advantage was taken of Bro. Niccol's visit to Dundedin to apply to the P.G.L., there for a dispensation, pending the receipt of the charter from Edinburgh. The dispensation was received in time to open the lodge on the first Wednesday of January, 1876, Bro. Anderson, P.M. of Lodge St. Andrew, 418, S.C., acting as S.P. G.M.; Bro. Doull, P.M. 411, I.C., as Dir. of Cer.; Bro. S. M. Leers, 686, E.C., as Installing Master, &c. The customary banquet followed, Bro. Malcolm Niccol, the R.W.M., in the chair.

During the last twelve months Lodge Manukau (so named after the harbour on which Onehunga is situated) has steadily prospered, and although the balance at the banker's is small the lodge is out of debt, and has paid for the jewels, regalia, working tools, and furniture of the old lodge, and supplemented them where necessary, making the lodge fully equipped.

At the regular monthly communication in November, the following officers were duly elected: Bros. M. Niccol, P.M., re-elected as R.W.M.; W. C. Walker, P.M. 418, S.C., as W.D.M.; H. Hardington, as S.M.; Dunwoodie, as S.W.; J. R. Hendry,