

of one day, they were so handsomely treated by Mayor McLellan that the delegates pinned upon his breast the medal of the Institute, thus constituting him a member of that body. This was an honour conferred upon few, if any, on this continent. Again, in July of 1891, during the visit of the drill corps of St. Bernard Commandery of Chicago, the kind and generous manner in which the Knights were treated by his Worship, called from them a testimony of his worth, and they made him an honorary member of their corps, and presented him with a handsome medal.

After the above sketch had been written, indeed while it was in type, our subject was prematurely called to his rest. He had been sojourning for a short season at Dansville Sanatorium, N.Y., and had just returned apparently fully restored to his usual health and strength, but on the following day a feeling of lassitude coming over him he reclined on his bed, and in a few hours afterwards was found in an unconscious state, and never rallied, although the best medical practitioners in the city of Hamilton were summoned to his aid, and finally passed away at 2.50 p.m., on the 16th March, 1892. The news of his death caused profound grief in the city and, indeed, in all parts of the province, as the deceased had been well known throughout the country. A special meeting of the city council was called and a resolution passed expressing regret at his death and condolence with the bereaved family on the irreparable loss they had sustained. The council attended the funeral in a body. The members of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons, and various benevolent societies of which he was a member, were well represented, indeed, the cortege was the largest seen in Hamilton for many years. The whole of the Hamilton papers contributed their meed of praises to the memory of the deceased, even the *Spectator*, which was opposed to him during his régime as Mayor, could not forbear to offer its humble tribute to his moral worth.

JOHN GRAHAM,

Ottawa, Ont.

JOHN GRAHAM, one of the old timers, as well as a prominent citizen of the capital of the Dominion, is a splendid illustration of what can be accomplished by a judicious use of brains, sustained by courage and animated by a determination to succeed. He was born on the banks of the Ottawa, in the township of Nepean, Carleton county, on the 6th June, 1830. His father, Andrew Graham, was a native of the County Fermanagh, where his ancestors were for generations land owners and engaged in

agricultural pursuits; and his mother, Eliza Alexander, was born in the County Tyrone. Actuated by love of adventure and that spirit of enterprise, characteristic of the inhabitants of the emerald isle, he determined to seek his fortune in British North America, and in the year 1826 he arrived in Canada and settled in the County of Carleton, where he was married. Here Mr. Graham, senior, remained engaged in farming and lumbering until 1847, when he removed to Ottawa and engaged in the hotel business, on the corner of Rideau and Nicholas streets. This enterprise he conducted for five years, when it was amalgamated with the grocery business, to which Mr. Graham afterwards gave his attention. The family consisted of five children, two boys and three girls. Young John received his education at the common school, in the township of Nepean, and at the age of fourteen years was articled to Messrs. Z. & H. Wilson, then the leading merchants in Ottawa. During the time he served with them he received a thorough knowledge of the business, and of the general principles which govern trade, and also acquired the habits and developed the character which have enabled him, even under great difficulties, ultimately to achieve success. When he had been with this firm about five years the partnership was dissolved, but the business was continued by Mr. Z. Wilson, who was afterwards county treasurer, and is now collector of customs for the port of Ottawa. With the latter he remained for more than a year, when he took charge of his father's business, conducting the same for some months. Moved, however, by a spirit of adventure, and excited by the rumours of the great opportunities in the far west, Mr. Graham determined to try his fortunes in the golden state. Early in 1852 he accordingly took passage from New York for California. Under the most favourable circumstances, however, in those days this was a journey always attended with difficulty and great inconvenience, sometimes, indeed, with perils and dangers known only to few. To those acquainted with the comforts of an ocean voyage in these later times, the experience he had was a rough one, for he had a surfeit of danger by land and sea on this ever-to-be-remembered trip. Through failing to make connection, they were detained over two months at the Isthmus of Panama, where their condition soon became serious, owing to insufficient commissary arrangements, and at times they were on the verge of actual starvation. He finally took passage on a coal vessel for San Francisco, on which he and his fellow passengers suffered terrible privations from want of food, so much so that it was with the greatest difficulty that death from starvation was prevented. It was not until the month of June, five months after he left New York,