

(Cheers.) Before this was done, we, one and all, were thoroughly convinced it was for the good of Freemasonry in New South Wales, and being actuated by such principles, we have persevered, and even now abundance of good has been the result. Look to the English and Scotch Masons! Have we not put new life into them? Where would their Scholarship or other charitable efforts have been had it not been for the Grand Lodge of New South Wales? Again, look at that monument being erected in Castlereagh Street—I mean our own Masonic Hall—not to speak of our Widows & Orphan Fund and Benevolent Fund. This alone is sufficient reward to a true-hearted Mason, and I feel proud of such. When in England, Ireland, and Scotland I shall make it my business to call on the several Grand Secretaries, and if I can be the means of settling the present differences among the Masonic brethren of New South Wales, I shall do so.

I shall also endeavor to return by Canada and the United States, and visit some of the leading Craftsmen in the Dominion, and the Great Republic. In conclusion, Brethren, I sincerely thank you.

HISTORY OF MASONRY IN MANITOBA.

The history of Freemasonry in Winnipeg and the North-West begins in 1864. Previous to that, and in fact from the time of the earliest settlement, individual members of the fraternity came and went, but it was not until the date named that a sufficient number were domiciled in the city and neighborhood to warrant the establishment of a lodge in Winnipeg.

The officers stationed at the American Fort Pembina, about sixty miles distant southward, had formed a lodge there, and some of them had occa-

sionally visited Winnipeg, and during such intercourse encouraged the Winnipeg brethren in their design to form a lodge, and recommended their petition to the M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota; this territory bordering on that of Minnesota, the then Grand Master, Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, considered the Red River Settlement to be within his Masonic jurisdiction, and granted the prayer of the petitioners, by issuing a Dispensation authorizing Bro. Jno. Schultz as W. M., Bro. A. G. B. Bannatyne, S. W., and William Inkster, J. W., to institute a lodge in the Red River Settlement, Rupert's Land, and there to institute, pass, and raise Freemasons, according to ancient custom. The said Dispensation was dated St. Paul, Minnesota, the 20th May, 1864, and was signed by the Grand Master above named.

Some delay occurred in the transmission of the paper, and in fitting up and furnishing a hall in which to meet. This hall was in the second story of a building at the corner of Main and Post Office streets, and the first meeting of the lodge was held on the 8th of November, 1864, with the following named officers:—Bro. John Schultz, W. M.; Bro. A. G. B. Bannatyne, S. W.; Bro. William Inkster, J. W.; Bro. J. E. Sheal, Treas.; Bro. William Coldwell, Sec.; Bro. W. B. Hall, S. D.; Bro. Charles Curtis, J. D.; Bro. R. Morgan, Tyler. Several petitions for initiation were received at this and subsequent meetings. The lodge flourished amazingly, and made many good Masons. Hector McKenzie, John and Thomas Bunn, Dr. J. C. Bird and Archdeacon Hunter were among the worthy Masons made in the old North-Light Lodge. The lodge was held by the same principal officers for