

not procure a copy of his speech, which was replete with truly Masonic sentiments. He was listened to with the most marked attention, and, on resuming his seat, was most enthusiastically cheered.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland. Band—St. Patrick's Day. Replied to by W. Bro. Morris, W.M. of Lodge No. 1.

The Grand Lodge of Vermont and the other Grand Lodges of the United States. Band—Yankee Doodle. Bro. Barnes responded.

The Grand Lodges of England and Scotland was given from the West. Band—Entered Apprentice. This toast was responded to very appropriately by Bro. Leeming. Song—Scotland I love thee.

The Grand Master calling on the Brethren to fill a bumper, then gave, The D. G. Master and Masons of Montreal. Band—Home, Sweet Home. Bros. Bernard and Brown replied.

Bro. Fowler and our Brethren of the Eastern Townships. Bro. Fowler replied. Song—The Red, White, and Blue.

The R. W. the Grand Senior Warden and the other Officers of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Bros. Isaacson, Haldimand, and Spence acknowledged the compliment. Band—The Englishman.

Three Lights of Masonry: Bros. Morris, Mackay, and Tucker. This toast was most enthusiastically received, and the D. G. M. spoke eloquently on behalf of the honored ones.

Several volunteer toasts then followed, amongst which were, "Dr. A. Fenwick and the members of St. Andrew's Lodge," "The Masonic Pioneer," "Miss Nightingale," "Unity," &c. At about twelve, the J. W. gave, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again," and the company broke up, evidently delighted with the social manner in which the evening had been spent.

On the following day, attended by the Grand Senior Warden and the D. D. G. Master for the Montreal District, Bro. Wilson took the cars for Melbourne, and there visited St. Francis Lodge, where he witnessed an initiation and two raisings. On Friday, Victoria Lodge, Sherbrooke, was honored by the presence of the G. M., who was here joined by the D. G. Master, and several brethren from Montreal. "Golden Rule" Lodge of Stanstead was next visited, and an Address presented by Brother Gustin, the oldest Mason of the District.

Bro. Wilson most eloquently replied. Again we can but express our regret in not being able to publish the G. M.'s remarks. Here, as at St. Francis Lodge, they were most favorably received, and have made an evident impression on the minds of all who heard them.

The G. M. returned to Montreal on Monday afternoon, expressing the gratification he felt at his visit, and left for Brockville on the fol-

lowing morning, where he was to visit the Lodge in that town.

In the name of the craft in this section of the Province we beg to express our gratitude to Bro. Wilson for the visit with which he has honored us. We fully appreciate the sacrifice it must have cost him, and value "the labor of love accordingly."

### The Grand Lodge of Canada A STRICTLY LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL BODY OF MASONS.

#### No. 4.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts or rather the St. Johns Grand Lodge as it was called, the oldest in America, was established as a Provincial Grand Lodge by the Grand Master of England, in 1733. This Grand Lodge, however, was entirely broken up. From 1775 until 1787, a period of twelve years, it did not hold even one regular communication. It was, according to all masonic law, extinct, masonically dead. Yet without any application to the power which had created it, the *old local lodges assembled*, proceeded to the choice of new officers and went on, independently, with Grand Lodge business under its own name, until it was merged in the new Grand Lodge which was formed in 1792. No one ever pretended that this was an irregular body of masons, or that in thus organizing a governing power in the craft, the brethren of Massachusetts had been guilty of masonic "rebellion."

But in 1769, while St. Johns Grand Lodge was in full operation, the Grand Lodge of Scotland established another Provincial Grand Lodge in Massachusetts. This was called the "Massachusetts Grand Lodge," and was also, entirely broken up. In 1783 it was without either a Grand Officer, or a subordinate lodge—*completely annihilated*.

In this state of things, some of its former members assembled, *assumed* an elective supremacy, and under that supremacy, chose a Grand Master and other Officers and created a Grand Lodge with independent powers and prerogatives. The Grand Lodge of Scotland did not complain, nor charge the Massachusetts brethren with masonic irregularities or rebellion.

In 1792 this Grand Lodge and the St. Johns Grand Lodge, *voluntarily* united themselves into one body, and thus formed the present Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Grand Lodge of New York was organized as a Provincial Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodge of England in 1782. This Provincial Grand Lodge seems to have enjoyed from the commencement of its being, a privilege which the present Grand Master of England thinks it "preposterous" in the Canadian brethren, even to petition for, viz., of electing their own Grand Master. For we find in 1783 the Grand Master resigned and the Junior Warden was unanimously

elected. In 1784 the Grand Master again resigned, and the Hon. Robert R. Livingston was elected. In 1785 the Grand Lodge of New York seems to have *assumed* an independent character. For at this period we find it adopting the same constitution which existed in the Grand Lodge of ancient freemasons of England as published by Dermott.

In 1787 several of the Lodges still holding their original warrants from England, considered that something more remained to be done, and a committee appointed to consider their relation and that of the Grand Lodge to the mother body, or Grand Lodge of England, reported in the month of June, 1787, that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York *is established according to the ancient and universal usages of masonry*, upon a constitution formed by the representatives of regular lodges, and, that nothing further is necessary or essential in future proceedings of the Grand Lodge, than that a committee be appointed to prepare a draft of the style of warrant to be hereafter granted by the Grand Lodge conformably to said constitution.

Let us "mark well" the mode in which these two American Grand Lodges were formed. They seem to hesitate in fraternizing with the Grand Lodge of Canada. And we think we shall be able to show that in strict accordance with the laws and usages of masonry, it is as legal and constitutional a body of masons as either of them, if not indeed more so.

The Grand Lodge of Delaware was formed in 1806. There were at that time 6 Lodges in the State. Five had been chartered by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and one by the Grand Lodge of Maryland. Nine Brethren, representing four of these Lodges, met in Wilmington, and unanimously resolved "that the several Lodges of ancient masons in the State of Delaware, there represented by deputies properly authorized—consider it as a matter of right and for the General benefit of masonry, that they ought to form a Grand Lodge within the said State, and now do proceed to form and organize themselves into a Grand Lodge accordingly, to be known and distinguished by the name of the "Grand Lodge of Delaware." The Grand Lodge thus formed, is now in full communication with all the Grand Lodges in the world.

In 1794 there were five Subordinate Lodges in Vermont. Two held charters from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, two from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts—and one from the *Provincial Grand Lodge of Lower Canada*, of which Lord Dorchester was P. G. Master. On the 14th day of October, 1794, the representatives of these Lodges met in Convention, formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, declared their own—masonic independence—and made and adopted a Constitution. The body thus formed has been the only recognized Supreme Masonic Authority known