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COL. WILLIAM MERCER WILSON

Col. William Mercer Wilson is an inhabitant of the town of Simcoe, the county town of the county of Norfolk, in Canada West.—He was born in Scotland, on the 24th August, 1813, and emigrated to Canada in April, 1832.

He was initiated at Simcoe, in St. John's Lodge, (now called Norfolk Lodge), on the 11th June, 1840. Passed and Raised 9th July, 1840; elected Junior Warden in December, 1840, and by request of the Lodge, prepared and delivered an address at the public installation of the officers on St. John's day of that year, which was afterwards printed by order of the Lodge. He was first elected to the Chair in December, 1842, which he has filled, with brief intermissions, for ten years. Has been from date of initiation, and is now, a contributing member of Norfolk Lodge.

On the 7th of August, 1845, Col. Wilson laid the corner stone of the Presbyterian Church, in the village of Vittoria, with masonic honors, on which occasion he delivered



COL. WM. MERCER WILSON, PAST GRAND MASTER, A. F. AND A. MASONS OF CANADA.

an address, which was subsequently published in pamphlet form, with a dedication to Sir A. N. McNab, then Prov. G.M., for Canada West, the whole edition of which was sold by and for the relief of a distressed Mason, who, from disease, had lost his sight.—The proceeds of the sale were considerable, and had also, it is believed, a beneficial effect in diffusing a more general knowledge of the value and beauty of Masonry throughout the Province.

Col. Wilson has always taken a lively interest in educational and agricultural matters, being for many years a Director of the County of Norfolk Agricultural Society, and has filled the office of President of that Society. He is now a member of the County Board of Education, President of the Simcoe Board of School Trustees, and has for several years been President of Simcoe Mechanics' Institute. He is at present Warden of the County of Norfolk, Reeve of Simcoe, the County town; Senior officer of Militia in Norfolk, and was on General Napier's staff at the Brantford Review.