

KNIGHTS OF ST. BERNARD.

As a return for the kindness shown them in Washington, the members of 13th Battalion band of Hamilton have invited the St. Bernard Commandery of Knights Templars of Chicago, to visit the Ambitious city next summer, and the invitation has been accepted. The commandery has the reputation of being the best dressed and best equipped of the many crack Templar Commanderies in Illinois, and its presence in Hamilton will prove an immense attraction to Masons all over Canada. Why not make the time of its visit the occasion of the next summer carnival, says the *Herald*? The visitors will then see Hamilton at its best and brightest, and will themselves attract thousands of other visitors from all Canada, and, perhaps, from the States as well. Those who are interested in seeing next year's carnival a success, should consider the St. Bernard Commandery one of its most important features.

QUEBEC WITHDRAWS.

On October 23rd, M. W. Bro. Isaac H. Stearns, Grand Master of Quebec, issued his proclamation withdrawing the edict of non-intercourse with England in the interests of fraternal harmony, to secure, if possible, a peaceful solution of the pending difficulty between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of England, with reference to the latter's Montreal lodges. The original edict of non-intercourse was issued in 1886. This withdrawal is most proper, and with judicious manipulation the happiest results will follow.

ROBERTSON'S DICAST.

A revised edition of the admirable "Digest of Masonic Jurisprudence," by M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, LL.B., Past Grand Master, is to hand. A new edition was rendered necessary by the recent thorough revision of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario. All the amendments and alterations then made, as well as all the rulings and decisions of the Grand Masters, approved by the Grand Lodge, since the first appearance of the work, have been carefully collated and embodied in the original text, making the book a complete compilation of Canadian Masonic law to date. The contents also include an essay on the duties and powers of District Deputy Grand Masters, a code of procedure for Masonic trials, and a valuable collection of forms for the use of lodges and members of the Craft, to whom, as well as to all Grand Lodge and subordinate officers, the work cannot but prove most useful and instructive. The alphabetical arrangement which has been adopted is most convenient for ready reference.

On the evening of 11th Nov. brethren of Ogdensburg and surrounding county paid a friendly visit to Salem Lodge, Brockville. About fifty came across the river to fraternize with the Canadian brethren. After the business of the lodge they were handsomely entertained at the Grand Central.

On the occasion of the visit to Temple Lodge, Hamilton, recently, of the Niagara Falls (N. Y.) and other brethren, M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray exemplified the third degree according to the Canadian ritual, and the brethren from the United States did the same, according to the New York ritual, in a very interesting manner.

AN OLD CERTIFICATE.

R. W. Bro. W. J. Morris sends us the following copy of an old certificate now in possession of True Britons Lodge, Perth, Ont.:-

"In the name of the Father, of the Son, of the Holy Ghost.—Amen.

"We the High Priest, Captain General and Grand Masters of Royal Arch, Super-excellent Encampment and Grand Assembly of K's Templars o' Minore, held in Lodge No. 8 in the 90th Reg't of Foot under the Provincial Grand Register of Andalusia held in Gibraltar, Do certify that our dearly beloved brother Sir Joseph Farnell was regularly initiated in the above sublime degrees, also the following illustrious Orders Ark and Markmason K's of Malta and Mediterranean Pass, having with true skill and fortitude and valour withstood the amazing trials on his admission.

"Wherefore we do greet well all our Brethren of the said Illustrious Orders on the face of the globe they may reach, and recommend him to their brotherly care and assistance.

"Given under our hands and seal of our Grand Charter and Assembly aforesaid this 22 day of May 1800 and of Royal Masons 3297.

(Signed)

D. THOM, R.H.P.

R LAKIN, C.G.

J. LEWIS, R.A.C.

J. LEE, 1st G.M.

J. LAPIN, Sec'y, W. SMILEY, J. CARR, S.G.W.

LITERATURE OF FREEMASONRY.

Nothing can form a better criterion of the development of the institution of Freemasonry than its literature, as books are the medium through which the thoughts of the wisest and noblest of the Craft are imparted. The ideas of the best writers on the Science of Freemasonry, of all ages, permeate, and it is replete in the many published volumes to the Craft of standard works.

The publications of Masonic authors and editors during the last century have been distinguished for the freedom, as well as ability, with which the most abstruse questions and principles of the fraternity have been discussed, and have greatly added to its literature.

The science, the philosophy, the history of Masonry—these are the topics which need all the research of the student; and the more that is written and published and the more they are brought before the minds of the Craft, and rendered accessible to the Masonic student, the more will their value be increased, and the more will the institution, of which they constitute the very foundation, be elevated and ennobled.

Of late years, the literature of Freemasonry has assumed large proportions. The ablest men in the fraternity, men of genius and learning, have devoted themselves to its investigation. Its principles and its system have become matters of study and research. The results of this labour of inquiry have been given, and still continue to be promulgated to the world at large, in the form of treatises on Masonic Science, which have tended to the advancement and renewal of our noble institution.—*Despatch*.

A District Deputy Grand Master says that if you will "show me an enthusiastic Master supported by common sense, I will vouch for a live, active lodge; without it the lodge is dead."—*Illinois Freemason*.

HERE AND THERE.

A jaw bone has been unearthed recently at the Wauchula, Fla., phosphate beds. It measures eighteen inches in length and about seven in width. The idea that it belonged to a prehistoric W. M. who failed to be re-elected in his "little lodge," originated with some malvolent (not benevolent) scribe.

The *Church Times*, the organ of the High Church party in England, has the following suggestive paragraph:—"The supposition that Freemasonry is opposed to Christianity is entirely erroneous, and is due to the hostile attitude adopted by the Roman authorities towards the continental societies. Here in England the Craft is distinctly an assistance to religion."

Goodwood Lodge, of Richmond, Ont., presented an address of condolence to the widow and family of the late R. W. Bro. Collar M. Church, M. D., of Aylmer, on the 21st ult. Dr. Church was a charter member of Goodwood Lodge, and was in regular communication until summoned to appear on high. Mrs. Church made a feeling reply to the address.

At the Triennial Conclave the vexed question of the ritual was referred to a committee of one from each State. For consideration the subject was divided as to essentials and ceremonials. The report of the Committee on Essentials was made mandatory on Grand Commanderies, and will be promulgated by February 1st, 1890. The matter of ceremonials is left with the Grand Commanderies for the coming three years, when the committee, which is continued, will submit a report at the next Triennial Conclave upon this part of the subject.

On the 4th inst. McColl Lodge; A. F. & A. M., West Lorne, banqueted Bro. Alfred Partridge and invited brethren from a distance to assist in doing honour to the occasion. Bro. J. J. Stalker, W. M., of McColl Lodge, presided, and was supported on his left by P. D. D. G. M., J. A. C. Anderson, of Ridgetown, T. W. Kirkpatrick, P. M., Rodney, and on his right sat the guest of the evening, supported by Dr. Dorland, W. M., and by H. F. Jell, J. W., of Rodney Lodge. The vice chair was ably filled by Peter Stalker, P. M., of McColl Lodge. Bro. Partridge is about to visit England.

WANTED.

One copy of the *Freemason* for November, 1887, and also for December, 1887. Any brother who has these copies will oblige by sending them to the *Freemason* office, marked "Personal." The papers are required to complete a file. A reasonable price will be paid for them.

"PROCEEDINGS" WANTED.

To complete a set, Grand Lodge of Canada "proceedings" for the years

1863, 1864, 1865, 1875 and 1876, are urgently wanted. Any brother having a duplicate copy of any of these will confer a favour by communicating with the W. M. of Zeta Lodge, No. 410, W. R. CAVELL, Barrister, 39 Adelaide st. E., Toronto.