

masonic literature, to the exclusion of the demoralizing yellow covered light literature scattered through the country, and found at every corner of the street, and quite too frequently sought after and perused by the members of our fraternity and their families—to say the least, to no benefit, if not a positive injury to them.—JOSEPH COVELL, Jay Bridge, Me.

## The Canadian Freemason

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MONTREAL, JULY, 1860.

Publishers are requested to send works for review addressed to the Editor of the CANADIAN FREEMASON, No. 2 Place d'Armes, Montreal, Canada East.

The Grand Lodge of Canada is about holding its next regular communication at the city of Ottawa, and we venture to express a hope that it will be largely attended, and that every lodge will be properly represented either by officer or proxy, thereby much good to the craft may be effected. Questions of grave importance to subordinate lodges will be brought forward. Amongst other matters, some definite action, no doubt, will be taken as to the position of St. Lawrence and St. George's Lodges, English Register, both of this city. It would be well that the D.D.G.M. for Montreal should receive his instructions so as to be able to inform those under his immediate care whether these two lodges are in good standing with the Grand Lodge of Canada, and if members made under either of their warrants, can be permitted to visit the lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of Canada.

On the last festival of St. John the Evangelist, and many times since, the members of the two lodges above named, to have been placed in a particularly awkward and unpleasant position, when endeavoring, in a good spirit, to visit the sister lodges in this city, we hope that the action of Grand Lodge will put a speedy termination to all such unpleasantness, and that the good work of reconciliation so happily commenced at Toronto, will be fully carried out at Ottawa.

In our last number we briefly alluded to the insulting and ignorant remarks of *l'Ordre* in attacking the publication of the *Canadian Freemason*. We intended to have allowed the matter to rest with the few observations then made, but having since received a long communication signed "*Catholicus*," we feel bound in her own justification to offer a few more remarks. "*Catholicus*" admits that the remarks of *l'Ordre* were uncalled for and distasteful to a very large number of the writer's co-religionists, but feels aggrieved, being both a Catholic and a Freemason, at what he terms our indirect attack upon his church. We most distinctly and emphatically deny having made any such attack, and assert most positively that our reference was alone directed towards the Jesuits, a branch unfortunately, (we think,) an influential one, of that Church, and which is itself as much a secret society as Masonry, having its grips, signs, and passwords, but with this difference, that endeavors to benefit its own people alone; this is universal in its charity and philanthropy; the former is energetic, domineering, arrogant, and persecuting: the latter industrious, persevering, calm, merciful and charitable. The history of both justify us in our remarks.

Our correspondent further adds, that the Church of Rome does not single out Freemasonry as an object of aversion, but that she is opposed to all secret societies. Are not the Societies of Jesus and St. Joseph, both in this city, secret societies? Why then suffer them, and oppose Free Masonry, Odd-Fellowship and the like.

The following communicated account, in the *Montreal Herald*, of the Pic-Nic Excursion of the Kilwinning Lodge of this city to St. John's, C.E., appears to have been written by a Brother who was present. We transfer it to our columns, simply observing that we highly applaud the warm masonic feeling that induced our youngest Montreal Lodge to celebrate the festival of St. John the Baptist:—

"The pic-nic to St. John's, on the 25th instant, of the Montreal Kilwinning Lodge Freemasons, was a decided success, and one of the most agreeable of the season. The party, numbering about sixty, left at 8.30 a.m., crossing the river in the Iron Duke steamer, and taking the cars of the St. Lawrence and Champlain Railroad Company at St. Lambert. Mr. Merry, Secretary of this Company, had made every arrangement to put them through pleasantly, and all arrived safely at St. John's about an hour after entering the cars. As soon as St. John's was reached, the superintendent of the Farnham Railroad kindly offered all the excursionists a free ride over his line to and from Farnham; but, from the arrangements already made, this polite offer was declined, with thanks. Having clothed

themselves in regalia, the members of the Lodge, headed by Brother Macdonald, their piper, marched in procession, followed by their ladies and families, to the pleasure grounds of the barracks, in the immediate vicinity of the town, the place chosen to spend the day, and one of the most charming spots in Canada. Here they were warmly welcomed by Mr. Wise, who is in charge of the Government property at St. John's, and who, being a brother of the craft, and withal of a sociable and hospitable turn of mind, knew full well how to entertain such a party, his indefatigable exertions in a very short space of time, sufficed to make all enjoy themselves. Dancing, racing, quoits, swings, boating, fishing, &c., &c., all had their devotees, and everything went merry as a marriage feast. At 2 p.m., a party of Dorchester Lodge, who had gone to Farnham, returned, and having been joined by some ladies, residents of St. John's, came up to the barracks, when all sat down to a most sumptuous repast, prepared by Mr. Hogle, also a member of the craft—whether it was the clear, invigorating country air, or the healthy, active exercises and amusements in which they had been engaged, or that the mind was freed from the cares and anxieties and toils of business, it is hard to say, but certainly from some cause or another every one seemed blessed with a particularly keen appetite, and the good things prepared by Mr. Hogle, and so judiciously and temptingly displayed, vanished at an alarmingly rapid rate; the fun and frolic of the party however, appearing to increase at the same rate that the edibles disappeared. Everything, however, agreeable as well as otherwise, must terminate, and the dinner being over, R. W. Bro. John Boyd, the W. M. of the Lodge, in a few, but appropriate remarks, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. John Thompson next, in the name of several young Masons, presented the S. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, with a very beautifully illustrated Masonic tracing board. The gift was becomingly acknowledged, and then all again adjourned to outdoor amusements, which were revived with a zest and earnestness proving how fully all were enjoying themselves. At 9.30 p.m. the bagpipes gave warning to prepare for the return, and all reached home delighted with the pleasures of the excursion, not a single event having occurred to mar in any way the happiness of the party—who will always be happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again.

MASONIC.—At a special meeting of the St. George's Lodge, No. 543, E. R., holden at the Masonic Chambers, on Friday, the 25th ult., the following address was presented to V. W. Br. William Wright, P. M., of that Lodge, amidst the acclamations of the brethren:—

"This testimonial is presented by the St. George's Lodge, Montreal, No. 643, E. R., to the