

with masonic emblems in gold and blue. At the extreme end of the room there was a beautiful Tableau (painted by Mr. Duncan) representing the old and new year. In the centre was a large bell tolling the passing hour: on the right side there was a group of females supporting a youthful figure, crowned with a star of gold: on the other side, an old man, representing the departing year supported on the backs of figures hooded and draped in black and carrying torches. Over the entrance door was a beautiful Maltese cross, in imitation brilliants, with the square and compass brilliantly illuminated in gas. The following mottoes were also arranged in the room:—"Prosperity to the Grand Lodge of Canada." "May the emblems of a Mason ever remind him of his duty." "Constant in Love, sincere in Friendship," "May Honor and Virtue distinguish the brethren." "To the spirited strains of Liston's Quadrille Band, the "many twinkling feet" were soon, tripping through the mazes of the dance; and polka, quadrille, waltz and cotillion, contra dance and gallop, varied the tone of the evening's amusement. As the clock struck twelve, the band stopped in the midst of the gay polka they were playing, and at once commenced "God Save the Queen." Dancing was for the time suspended, and at the conclusion of the National Anthem three hearty cheers ushered in the good new year. Very shortly afterwards the supper-room was thrown open, where by the watchful care of Brother Daly, all that could be procured good for food and pleasing to the eye, was displayed, and the tables literally groaned under the weight of the good things that were on them.

"Until early morn the ball was kept up; while old ladies and gentlemen struck to the card-room, and played their rubbers with immense satisfaction.

A sketch of the ball was taken, and has been sent to the proprietor of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, of New York, in which it will shortly appear. We have made arrangements to obtain the cut and shall present our subscribers each with a copy.

We have received a pamphlet containing the proceedings of the M. W., the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut at its last annual communication, held in the city of New Haven, May 14 and 15, A.L. 5856; and on perusal learn that G. L., has not received any official communication from the Grand Lodge of Canada—how is this? We trust our worthy Grand Secretary, brother Osborne, will see that our Connecticut brethren are well posted up. The following are the observations of their Committee on foreign correspondence.

The foregoing is all the information we have from Canada, not having received any official communication from the new Grand Lodge. We have deemed it our duty to lay before our brethren the action of Vermont in the premises, as well as the opinion of Grand Master Evans, of New York. There can scarcely be more than one opinion as to the desirableness of having an independent Grand Lodge in Canada, or whether our Canadian brethren have cause for complaint against the Mother Grand Lodge of England.

The only question is, have our brethren in

the Province acted *hastily or illegally*, in thus severing their connection with a foreign jurisdiction, and establishing an independent Grand Lodge for themselves? The enlightened committee of Vermont seem to think they have not, while the intelligent and careful Grand Master of New York thinks they have. In view of the circumstances of the case, and of numerous precedents which might be cited, your committee are rather disposed to agree in opinion with their Vermont brethren. Whether it is necessary or proper that the Grand Lodge of Connecticut should take any action on this subject and in advance of direct official correspondence from the newly formed Grand Lodge of Canada, is a question which we respectfully submit for consideration.

Again they say.—

"In view of the embarrassing circumstances which our Canadian brethren have so long been placed, we can not fail to sympathize with them in their efforts to place themselves on a firm and independent basis. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved.—That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has learned with satisfaction, the fact that an Independent Grand Lodge has been organized in the province of Canada; that we recognize said organization as a legally constituted Grand Lodge; and do cordially welcome her to the great family of American Grand Lodges."

The Grand Lodge declined for the present to take any action owing to the want of special information.

In accordance with our promise, we lay before our readers the address of the Montreal Lodges, through their Officers, to the G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Vermont.

To the M. W. Phillip C. Tucker, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vermont:

M. W. SIR AND BROTHER, —We the undersigned Masters, Wardens and Officers of the several Lodges of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons, in the City of Montreal, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, desire to express to you the sincere gratification which we in common with the members of our Lodges feel, in having the privilege we now enjoy of extending to you a most cordial and hearty welcome to our City.

Whilst we rejoice that the public celebration of an important event in the history of our country, which is about taking place here, has brought so distinguished a craftsman among us—we regret, that it precludes the possibility of giving you a reception more formal, and better suited to your exalted talents and position. We cannot, however, allow the opportunity to pass, without acknowledging the deep debt of gratitude which we, and the Masons of Canada generally, owe to you, and to the Grand Lodge over which you preside, for the just and liberal action you have been pleased to adopt towards the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Although but few of us have had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with you, your high Masonic character is well known to us all. Your name, though never mentioned by us, but with that esteem and gratitude so eminently deserved, is as familiar among us as "household words;" and we are confident that it will be transmitted among Canadian Masons from generation to generation, venerated as being the name of him, whose sense of duty shrank not from supporting the righteous cause of Canadian Masonry in the hour of necessity.

Permit us in conclusion R. W. Sir, to express the hope that your present visit to our City may be attended with pleasure to yourself and family, and on some future occasion we shall have the pleasure in receiving you in a manner more in accordance with our wishes and the respect and honor due to you from the Craft in Canada.

John H. Isaacson, W. M. Zetland Lodge.	
P. D. Brown, W. M. St. George's	do
R. A. Malcolm, S. W., S. & M. V.	do
John Martin, J. W. Zetland	do
A. W. King, S. W. Zetland	do
L. Levey, S. W. St. George's	do
Wm. Reed, Secretary of Zetland	do
David Moss, Treasurer St. George	do
Edward Moss, Treasurer Zetland	do
Edwin Morris J. W. S. & M. V.	do
Phillip Henry, G. M., S. & M. V.	do
J. W. Haldimand, W. M. J. Car.	do
J. C. Spence, J. W. St. George's	do
Montreal, Nov. 11, 5856.	

The Masonic Ball given at London Canada West seems to have been a most magnificent affair. It was held in the Town Hall of that city. The room, we are informed by a correspondent, was most handsomely decorated with masonic emblems; at its head an elegant drapery in large gold letters appeared the names "Wilson," "Ridout," "Daniells," &c., at the other end the names of the city lodges, St. John's, Kilwinning, and St. George's. A splendid throne was erected raised upon three steps, behind it a large and beautifully executed transparency, showing the pillars, &c., &c. The blue lodge chapter and knights templars entered in procession, opened their ranks through which the M. W. the Grand Master, who honored the hall by his presence walked to the chair, after which the brethren marched past doing homage, the public grand honors were then given, and the M. W. the Grand Master offered a few eloquent remarks, which were extremely well received; dancing then commenced, and was kept up with unflagging zeal until a late hour; the supper was worthy of the occasion. The attendance was large, and everything passed off most agreeably.