

presence, grace this assemblage, and shed lustre on this auspicious event:—and I am sure that it is the fervent prayer of every one here, that all the sons of this people may be like green olive trees in the house of God, and their daughters be as *corner stones* polished after the similitude of a palace.

Brethren of the Masonic Fraternity, and members of the Grand Lodge of Quebec,—Your alacrity in responding in such large numbers from all parts of the Province, to assist in the pleasing ceremonies of this day, deserves and receives my highest praise and commendation. This is indeed a notable day in the Calendar of our Grand Lodge. This is the first Corner Stone laid under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which God greatly prospers. This day becomes historic in the annals of the Craft in this Province. It is moreover, to me, a day of peculiar honor and happiness. You and others, by whose affection and favor, the distinguishing perferment of being the first Grand Master of our renowned Grand Lodge, has been conferred—will I know, heartily rejoice in the felicity of having the first official act of this character, transpire during my term of office, in this charming village, the abode of Doric Lodge, and in the County of my residence.

Nor can I forbear congratulating you my Brethren, on the unparalleled success of our new Grand Lodge, which but scarcely twenty months old, is in full, fraternal intercourse with twenty-three Canadian, American and European Grand Lodges, with every prospect of soon being united in the bonds of Fraternity with every *regular* Grand Lodge in the world; and all whose organic acts have now been ratified and confirmed by about 300,000 of our Brethren, after such careful consideration as perhaps has not been given to any other Masonic event of modern times. But my Brethren, let us ever remember that all our successes come from Him who doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and while we continue to act towards one another, and to all men, as faithful Craftsmen, let us ever be mindful to serve Him with fervency and zeal. Amen and Amen.

The R. W. G. Chaplain then pronounced the following Benediction:

May the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob,—the God of our Fathers,—graciously command His blessing upon the labors of