

THE THREE ENGLISH AND SCOTCH LODGES IN THIS PROVINCE.

Among the many favors vouchsafed by the Most High to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, the fraternal union, and the voluntary adhesion thereto of three English Lodges and one Scotch, has been the cause of great satisfaction, lively gratitude and immense good.

The union with this Grand Body of the three remaining lodges, the St. Paul's Lodge, No. 374 R.E., the Elgin, No. 348 R.S., and the St. Lawrence, No. 640 R.E., would be hailed with the greatest rejoicings. We know that these lodges are composed of many excellent men, and good masons, and we earnestly desire their union with this Grand Lodge. The honor which their adhesion would confer,—the efficient aid which they would give to it,—and the perfect unity of the Craft throughout the Province, which would be the result,—are such weighty considerations, as must have great influence with every enlightened well-wisher of the Craft of every registry.

Some of us know full well how tender, yet how strong, are the ties which bind one to the land from which he derived his birth and infant nurture, and fully appreciate the earnest desire, among Masons especially, to continue as long as possible, to be connected with, and to be partakers of the blessings, and sharers of the honour and renown of their mother Grand Lodges; but it cannot fail to appear to every thoughtful brother that these considerations may be carried to such an extreme as to be detrimental to the highest interests of the Craft in the country of one's residence or adoption; and although by the righteous orderings of God's Providence, children are separated from parents, for the more perfect fulfilment of the chief ends of their existence, yet, thereafter, neither do prudent parents nor dutiful children, have the less, but rather the more, interest in, and love for one another; in like manner, alwise Parent Grand Lodges, do exceedingly rejoice to see their own offspring, in other lands, or in other parts of the paternal domain, in the fulness of time, not shrinking from, but rather courageously taking upon themselves the duties of manhood, by the formation of Grand Lodges of their own—the better to perpetuate and extend the blessings—to imitate the virtues, and to strive to equal, and, if possible, to excel the glories of their illustrious progenitors.