

poned by that which has taken place. (Cheers). This I can say of this extraordinary visit, that we witnessed in New York, and in every other important city of the United States, an amount of enthusiasm which was perfectly extraordinary, from the moment on which we entered Detroit till our departure from Portland. (Cheers). With one solitary exception we met with nothing but enthusiasm; and in fact I do believe that this visit of the Prince of Wales to America has done more to cement the good feelings between the two countries than could possibly have been effected by a quarter of a century of diplomacy. (Cheers). The two great peoples on either side of the Atlantic have disclosed those feelings of fraternity which they entertain towards each other. (Cheers).

(The Editor & Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions of Correspondents.)



MONTREAL, FEB., 1861.

#### TO THE CRAFT.

When the proprietors of this Journal consented to embark in the undertaking of publishing a Masonic Periodical, they did so at the earnest entreaty of a number of influential members of the Masonic Body, who not only promised their support, but their influence and contributions, it being well-known that for a couple of years, the Paper would not be self-supporting. A *contretemps* at starting deprived this Journal of some support, which the publishers had a right to depend upon; that impediment has, however, been removed, and they trust that the Brotherhood, will not allow the only Masonic Organ in British America to die for want of support.

The object of its publication is not as some papers of the same class, on this continent, a *catch-penny*, but a medium through which reliable information upon matters relating to the order may be freely discussed and conveyed to the brethren, thereby inducing a feeling of unity and good-fellowship among the nearest and most distant of the Craft. They now call upon the Masters of Lodges, &c., and others interested in the keeping up of a journal *entirely* devoted to Masonry, to use their influence in procuring both subscribers and advertisers, as the small subscription requisite, will not allow them to pay a travelling agent. To such of our subscribers and advertisers, who are in arrears, we beg they will at once "square" with us, without being further called upon. Should future support warrant it, the paper will not only be enlarged, but a greater quantity of original matter will be found in its columns.

"Help, Help," "Cash-us," or we sink.

In order more fully to comprehend the intention aimed at in P. M.'s letter in this number of the Canadian Freemason, and for the information of those brethren who have not an opportunity of seeing the Freemasons' Magazine (London, England) of December 1, 1860, we give E. G. C.'s letter in full.

We publish in this month's issue several very interesting items of masonic information. The speech of the Duke of Newcastle on the occasion of his being installed P. G. M. for Nottinghamshire, is replete with a warmth and depth of good feeling and hearty fellowship. On the other hand, the writer in the *London Freemason's Magazine* seems quite as anxious to stir up strife. Perhaps it would be well in this case, as is usually done in law, to (allow the prisoner the benefit of the doubt) give our correspondent the benefit of the doubt and conclude that he knows nothing about what he is saying. Doubtless, from his deductions, our excellent friend and brother the conductor of the *London Freemason's Magazine* has expressed himself in such terms as would shew that either some petty annoyance, or a misconceived idea of the position of the R. W. G. M. of Canada, led him to make the assertion he did in the January (5th) number of his *usually* very correct periodical. It must be allowed to the Canadians to choose their own Officers, and it was decided on all hands that, to use a cant phrase, they had "put the right men in the right place." An over-anxiety for the welfare of the craft, may perhaps have led Pro. Harrington into errors of minor importance, which, doubtless, are immensely magnified by repetition, but this much we can say, that all connected with Canadian Freemasonry are united in awarding a merited meed of praise to the Grand Master for the firm and unwavering position he occupied, regarding the affair at Ottawa. From our contemporary, *The Brooklyn Standard*, we clip a very brief but succinct account of the introduction of mark masonry in England, in a history of the mark degree. For a more complete account of this beautiful step in the masonic ladder, we would refer our readers to Lawrie's history of masonry, where it is fully and most beautifully illustrated. The organization of the several Grand Lodges in the United States, we copy from the same source, and would advise the brethren to keep it as a reference for future time.

In another place we give the inscription taken from an old tombstone removed to the Dorchester Street Burying Ground from Great St. James Street in 1815. To us masons it is highly interesting and from the age inscribed thereon, proves that neither grey hairs nor position are sufficient to place us in the highest

position we can occupy as masons, but the uprightness of character and steadfastness of purpose in doing good which is the eminent characteristic of all good and true masons.

The proceedings of the Annual Conclave of Knights Templar of the Grand Commandery of Indiana have been received, and from a cursory glance at the report, we find that although the grim tyrant death has made havoc among their ranks, yet they still press onwards, confident in that symbol which has ever designated Templar Masonry. We wish them a truly hearty success.

George Washington, the 1st President of the United States was made a Freemason in 1752 in the Fredericksburgh Lodge, No. 4, Ancient Fraternity, Free and Accepted Masons of Virginia; he was passed 3rd March, and raised to the M. M. Degree on the 4th August, 1753, while the Bible on which he was initiated, is still in possession of No. 4 Lodge. It is well known that George Washington, never took any Degrees above the Master, and this at once decides that the Lodge of "Social and Military Virtues," now the Zeland in this city, which dates back, only to 1792 could have had no part whatsoever in his becoming a Mason.

"Was't thou as chaste as ice, or as pure as snow, thou shalt not escape calumny."

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—When I penned my last communication to you, I little thought that any member of the Craft in Canada, could so far have forgotten the duty imposed upon him by his Masonic obligation as to coolly sit down, and over an anonymous signature, bring charges against the character, conduct and respectability of our worthy G. M., such as those contained in the December number of the *London Freemasons' Magazine* and *Masonic Mirror*, signed "E. G. C." a communication evidently written in a spirit of malevolence totally at variance with every principle of the order, and an insult to the great body of Canadian Masons, whose votes elevated the G. M. to the "oriental chair." If the G. M. has violated any known principle, why does not E. G. C. drop the flimsy mask which he supposes conceals his face, and manfully step forward in the Grand Lodge, and bring his charges there where the G. M. can answer them, and not meanly "slander his Brother behind his back," and avoid the responsibility in sending his slander to be disseminated far and wide by a journal published 3000 miles off; admitting for argument sake the charges true, is a London periodical the tribunal before which the G. M. of Canada is bound to defend himself. The *modus operandi* of the G. Master on the occasion is no