

preserve it from ruin and decay to the latest posterity."

Upon which three huzzas were again given, and an anthem played.

The procession then formed again, and returned in the same order to the place where the Grand Lodge was opened, when it was closed in solemn form.

The New Brunswick Courier, in its issue of that date, made the following editorial remarks upon the demonstration:—"On Saturday last, the corner-stone of the spacious and elegant building intended to be erected at the head of King street, for a Masonic Hall, was laid with the usual formalities on such occasions, by the Society of Freemasons in this city. A Grand Lodge *pro tempore* was formed, by dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, Thomas Wetmore, Esquire, His Majesty's Attorney-General for New Brunswick, acting as Grand Master. They were joined by the St. John's and Union Lodges, and many respectable brethren from the adjacent counties, &c., which, together with the Carpenter's Society—a respectable body recently instituted in this city—formed a handsome procession. The day was uncommonly fine, and the number of people gathered together on the occasion was innumerable."

A few years after the corner-stone was laid, the building passed into private hands, although it was occupied by the Masonic fraternity, as tenants, as late as 1852. In the year 1837, a joint stock company opened it as a hotel, under the name of the St. John Hotel. From that date it was also used for Society meetings, theatrical and other entertainments, lectures, balls, public meetings, &c., up to the disastrous conflagration, in St. John, of June 20th, 1877, when it was reduced to ashes.

WM. F. BUNTING.

SAMPLES of all kinds of forms used by Lodges, Chapters, and Preceptories, sent to any address, on application to THE CRAFTSMAN, FORT HOPE.

## THE BLUE LODGE.

A Masonic lodge may be truly termed a "body;" the officers are the limbs of that body, performing their various functions only as they are directed by the will-power of the head—the Master. He alone has the power to make the lodge of benefit to its members and a power for good in the community in which it is located, or a reproach to all its members, and that responsibility he cannot evade or avoid. He is the representative of one of the Three Great Lights, always displayed before him in the lodge, to ever remind him that it is his particular duty to dispense light and knowledge to his brethren. That duty is not performed, nor is that which the old charges require, that opening and closing his lodge the Master shall give or cause to be given a lecture, or part of a lecture, for the instruction of the brethren, by asking and receiving the answers to two or three merely formal questions, which, without explanation, have no meaning. On the contrary, that duty is far higher and more important, and it behooves the Master to be prepared to perform it; nor should any one accept the office of Master, until by acquaintance with the history, morals and philosophy of Masonry, he is fitted to enlighten and instruct his brethren.

It is his duty to impress upon the minds of the brethren correct views of the spirit and design of the institution; its harmony and regularity; of the duties of the officers and members; and of the particular lessons contained in the legends and symbols of the three degrees.

It is the duty of the Master to urge upon the brethren the practice of the virtues inculcated in the lodge, without regard to time or place; inculcate them to love one another, to be devoted to each other; to make it the rule of their lives to think well, act well, speak well; to see that their professions and practice, their