

lette sang by request the Masonic hymn, "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth," and had necessarily to give an encore. Mr. Neil Warner read in his usual able and humorous manner, "The improved weather system." Mrs. Barnes again appeared and sang "I wandered by the mountain side." This time the audience insisted on an encore, and would not be satisfied, as on the previous occasions, with a courtesy in acknowledgment of the recall, so she sang the good old English song, "Home, Sweet Home" with simplicity and feeling. Mr. Earnest Lavigne played a cornet solo, a *fantaisie brillante* from Arban, with success equal to his first effort, and was accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Lavigne. The "Temple Quartette" showed their ability in an extravaganza, "The Hoarse Singer," and a gleé by Dr. Arnold, "The proper Day to Drink," both of which created great laughter and applause. "God Save the Queen" by the quartette and others who assisted, concluded a highly successful concert.

The Canadian Craftsman.

Port Hope, January 15, 1879.

Capitular and Cryptic Masonry.

BY BRO. G. F., JUN.

The proposition started in the Masonic Jurisdiction of Mississippi, that the Cryptic Degrees of Royal and Select Master should be conferred in Councils under Royal Arch Warrants is at present attracting the attention of the different Royal Arch Chapters in the neighboring Republic, and is well worthy of careful consideration on the part of those who favor this beautiful little rite and appreciate its mystic symbolism.

These degrees originally were side degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and conferred upon Royal Arch Masons by Inspectors-General of that Rite. It was about 1817 according to Comp. Schultz in *Keystone*, Jan. 11, that Temery L. Cross received the degrees in Baltimore from P. P. Eckel, who gave him authority from the Supreme Grand Council of the A. and

A. Rite of the Southern jurisdiction to confer these degrees upon Royal Arch Masons without fee, and organize Councils, which he did in New York, Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and other States.

In Texas these degrees for some years past have been conferred in Subordinate Chapters under the authority of the Grand Chapter of that State.

In some jurisdictions Grand Chapters absorbed them and conferred them as *pre-requisites* to the Royal Arch, (the Grand Chapter of Maryland, for example, only yielded its authority over them six years ago "in order to be in unison with other jurisdictions"), whilst in other Grand jurisdictions, independent Councils were formed, and subsequently Grand Councils established, and up to 1829 the General Grand Chapter of United States claimed supreme authority over them. In Ontario they were first communicated in 1871 to a number of Royal Arch Masons at Orillia, by Rt. Ill. Comp. Robt. Ramsay, 33°, under the authority of a dispensation granted by Rt. Ill. Comp. T. D. Harrington, 33°, Inspector-General for Ontario under the Grand Council of New Brunswick, when a convention was held and a charter (Shekinah, No. 4, New Brunswick, now No. 1, Ontario) was granted, and subsequently other Councils were formed, and in 1872 a convention was held in Toronto and a Grand Council organized. We have thus briefly sketched an outline of the different manners in which these degrees were first given, that our readers may have some idea of the present movement.

The Cryptic Degrees are certainly intimately connected with the Royal Arch, explaining much that at present cannot be understood by Companions of the Chapter, and properly speaking they should precede the Royal Arch. The object, then, of these advocates for the amalgamation of Capitular and