

*To Major James Bennett, Past Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Right Worshipful Grand Orange Lodge of Ontario West, and Vice-President of the Triennial Council:*

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—The Orangemen of Ontario West desire at this their 26th annual meeting to express their appreciation of your long and valued services in connection with this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Ever since the formation of this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge you have taken an active interest in its welfare and devoted much of your valuable time and talents to advance its interests and the principles of our noble Order; and whenever your services were required, no matter at what sacrifice to your personal interests, the cause of civil and religious liberty as exemplified in the Orange Order was always paramount with you and received your first and most earnest attention. The brethren in the past have given ample proof of their confidence in you, by electing you year after year for six years as Deputy Grand Master, and afterwards as Grand Master for four consecutive years; but as a further proof of their appreciation of your valuable services, they desire to tender you this gold watch and chain, which they trust you will accept, not on account of its intrinsic value, but as a slight memento of the esteem in which they hold you, and as a mark of their indebtedness to you for your past services; and they pray and trust that you may be long spared to wear and enjoy them.

H. A. L. WHITE,

G. M. O. W.

W. W. FITZGERALD,

D. G. M. O. W.

WM. J. PARKHILL,

G. M. E. A.

Dated at Wingham this 18th day of February, 1885.

And at the close of the address handed R. W. Bro. Bennett a very handsome gold watch and chain and locket, amidst the warmest marks of approval of the members of the Grand Lodge.

The watch bears the following inscription:

"Presented to R. W. Bro. Major James Bennett, P.G.M., by the officers and members of the Provincial Grand Orange Lodge of Ontario West. February, 1885."

R. W. Bro. Bennett made a pleasing and interesting reply, as follows:

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,—I am afraid that I can hardly find words to thank you for this magnificent present and the flattering words expressed in the address you have just read. I shall ever prize this beautiful testimonial as a token of esteem from my brethren, and it will always be a source of satisfaction to me, as time rolls on, that my humble efforts in the cause of our beloved Order have met with your approval. You will excuse me, Most Worshipful Sir and brethren, but my heart is so full that I cannot say more, but again thank you for this handsome gift.