

of England, in its present state, towards any amelioration of our foreign Brethren, or the maintenance of its own respect. That somnolent body has already lost its prerogative over Canada, and, like the electric eel, possesses the power of benumbing every object within its scope, whilst dragging on in its congealed veins a torpid semi-existence. Like Dante's Inferno, "hope comes not" there; and whilst Masons allow such a gross contravention as the present of all recognised constitution to exist in the appointment of their Supreme Body, they deserve no better state of things. We write now for those good men and true who feel for Masonry, abroad and at home, as for some high and delegated trust, some really important responsibility, some conscientious privilege to help the Brethren of all "people and languages" and we think that, as to the season at which their strenuous exertions are required, when they peruse, the following consideration of what our home abuses have led to in Canada and the statement of persecution endured by the Maltese and West Indian Brethren, they will admit "it is high time."

We find, then, that as to Canada, forty-one Lodges, more than double the number ever associated to erect a new Grand Lodge, have united in the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada; and whilst we admit both the reasonableness of their act, and the decorum which characterizes its declaration, we think all must acknowledge, notwithstanding the potent argument of distance operating to produce a necessary severance, that the latter would not have occurred had common courtesy been exhibited towards the primary representations of their conduct, by their English parent. It is astonishing how much inconvenience men will readily submit to, if they are only treated with civility, and their requirements candidly and promptly considered; and how soon, on the other hand, evils, hitherto quietly endured, grow intolerable when inattention to their existence is manifested by those who have the means of cure. Granted, therefore, the inconvenience of distance; the diversity of interests, resulting from Lodges hailing from no centre of union; the injustice of distant provinces being mulcted to support a parent Lodge, from which they are substantially alienated; the unreasonableness of nomination of officers being vested in those who are ignorant of peculiar local requirements, which are the grievances set forth in the Canadian manifesto; yet it is evident the head and front of the offence—that which broke down the last remnant of affinity to England—was the discourteous apathy, or unbusiness like disregard, with which repeated communications from Canada were treated by the Grand Lodge, its Secretary and Registrar. A short method of judging conduct in communities is simply to place them as man and man. Should we wonder, at all loss of respect towards that person who, though respectfully addressed and repeatedly invited, could not even recollect the common rules of politeness so far as to answer a letter? And if grievances were the subject to which sympathy was in the mildest terms, solicited, who allowed them to exist, whilst he persevered in stolid indifference or lofty inattention? If the offices of Grand Master and other members of Grand Lodge are to become a mere sinecure, and to be perpetually maintained as vehicles of patronage, for a few, we may rely upon it that not Canada only, but the West Indies, and every other foreign Lodge hailing from us, will soon mark their proper contempt of our inefficiency and neglect by getting rid of allegiance to what must in that case prove an incubus, not a benefit. It is impossible to read the Canadian address without a feeling of indignation that those who exemplify in every line of their manifesto, the most true masonic forbearance, should have been so treated; of indignation also at ourselves, whose apathy is the secret cause of the callous impolicy of Grand Lodge. Are we so stultified in our toadyism that nothing but rank in our Grand Masters will serve our turn? Do we love the head of gold so much that we ignore altogether the tottering incapacity of the feet of clay? Were the Grand Masters and their officers chosen in the purer days of Masonry for rank, above merit? What position did Desaguliers hold in the peerage? Or if personal influence in society is needed for the benefit of

the Craft, is it now so scant of noblemen, that we are obliged, for the say-so of the thing, to put up year after year with the present Grand Master, who these very evils greatly prove, as it is notorious also, never exerts himself for the Craft at all?

Yes, had an energetic, talented Mason held the reins of office, we should have heard nothing of the severance of Canada. The evils our brethren complain of justly would have been anticipated, and remedied without solicitation, not, as now, waste from us; but if the heart be inert, it is useless to look for life in the extremities. We have deservedly lost Canada, and under circumstances affixing a lasting stigma on our Masonic discourtesy and non-observance of the first principles of propriety. It is all very well to trumpet forth the virtues of past servants, but a powerful organization like our own cannot sacrifice its wide-world interests to the namby-pamby maudlin of compliment. If the most important officer grow incompetent for business, we are rich enough to pension him; but Masonry cannot afford to lose its self-respect and imperil its dignity by keeping in office the inert and exhausted agent of its operation. Now that the evil is done, active determination is generally announced to us, by influential Masons, to recall the Craft to a sense of its duty in restoring the law of triennial re-elections of the Grand Master, and sure we are no healthy tone can be recovered by the Order until this most necessary amelioration of the present state of things occurs.

A most lamentable degree of ignorance exists in the Grand Secretary's office in England, in reference to the Lodges in Canada. The "Freemasons Calendar," published in London, for the benefit of the charity fund, "under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England," professes to give an accurate list of all Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, corrected annually from the "books of the Grand Lodge." By this official authority we are informed that there is the Union Lodge, Montreal, C. E., Wellington Persevering Lodge, do., Columbia Lodge, Hull, C. E., Odell Lodge, Odelltown, C. E., Sussex Lodge, Quebec, C. E., Prevost Lodge, Freileigsburgh, C. E., not one of which exists at all. The same inaccuracy and ignorance is shown in reference to Lodges in Western Canada. They exist merely on paper, and if the same is the case in regard to other countries, as may very reasonably be supposed, what reliable information have we as to the number of Lodges over which the Grand Lodge of England exercises jurisdiction? She may have a thousand, she may have half that number. One thing, however, is certain, her officers either at home or abroad have evinced a most shameful neglect of duty, and we are not surprised at the severity with which they are handled by the London "Masonic Magazine."

The London Freemason's Monthly Magazine, to which we are subscribers, has not come to hand for several months past. This is very vexatious, as we learn from other quarters that the March, April and May numbers contain some exceedingly clever articles in favor of our Grand Lodge, placing the position of the Canadian seceding brethren in such a light that the legality and propriety of their acts cannot be questioned. We hope, in our next, to be able to lay these writings, or a portion of them, before our readers.

### Address of R. W. Bro. Bernard.

We commend this Address to our readers, as containing an amount of Masonic information, and an exhibition of Masonic principles, which will amply repay an attentive perusal. The invitation to our R. W. Deputy Grand Master to officiate as orator, on an occasion of so much importance, was, doubtless, intended by our Vermont brethren as a compliment to the Masons of Canada; and if we may judge from the encomiums of the Vermont press, the ability and eloquence of the orator did honor to himself, and to those he represented. In order to present the address to our readers entire, we publish a supplement.

Several articles and communications intended for insertion in this issue of the *Pioneer* are unavoidably excluded for want of room. We already begin to feel the necessity of a larger sheet, and trust the support we shall receive will justify us in soon enlarging our paper.

We are much gratified at the receipt from Bro. W. H. Miller, Secretary of King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto, of the resolution which we publish below. We can assure our Toronto Brethren that no effort on our part shall be wanting, to prove ourselves worthy of the confidence they have been pleased to express in us. Will some Brother of King Solomon's Lodge kindly consent to undertake the duties of agent for the *Pioneer*, in Toronto?

KING SOLOMON'S LODGE,  
Grand Register, Canada,  
June 12. 1856.

Moved by W. Bro. G. L. Allan, P.M., seconded by W. B. Kivas Tully, P. M.,

The members of King Solomon's Lodge observe with pleasure that a periodical is now published in Montreal which professes to advocate the interest of Free-masonry in this Province.

*Resolved*.—"That this Lodge recognizes the *Pioneer* as the exponent of Masonic opinions, generally, throughout the Province; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Secretary to the Editor of the above Periodical, with the best wishes of the members for its success.

W. H. MILLER,  
Secretary.

### BIRTHS.

In Montreal, on the 21st June last, the wife of Bro. E. Morris, W. M. of Lodge of Social and Military Virtues, of a son.

In Montreal, on the 14th ult., the wife of Bro. George Lulham, of a daughter.

In Montreal, on the 23rd ult., the wife of Bro. Compain, of a son.

### MARRIAGE.

At Cornwall, C. E., on the 19th ult., at the residence of the bride's father, Bro. John Wurtelle Haldimand, of this city, to Miss Margaret Ann Mattice, elder daughter of Bro. Wm. Mattice, M. P.P. for the town of Cornwall.

### DEATH.

At Montreal, on the 31st May last, Johana Maria Sebold, wife of Bro. John Bower.