

and hope of the Masons of the cities of Winnipeg and also in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba that the fraternal bond of harmony and sympathy so happily inaugurated by the brethren of the military lodge at Fort Pembina in the year 1867 may never be disturbed, and to accept from the Masons of this city and jurisdiction fraternal greeting of good will for the new year."—*The Masonic Record*.

MONTREAL.

ST. JOHN'S DAY CELEBRATED.

Montreal Masons may mark Dec. 27, 1895, on the Masonic calendar as a red letter day for them, for the first time were they able to meet in a temple of their own to celebrate together the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist.

Eleven lodges were represented at the festival, and some two hundred members sat down to the supper served in the banquet hall of the Temple. R. W. Bro. Jno. Smillie, D.D.G.M., occupied the head of the table of honor; on his right was M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham; on his left M. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, and other brethren at the table were the Rev. Bro. Cherriman (Three Rivers), R. W. Bro. J. R. Dewar, R. W. Bro. Jas. Fyfe, W. Bro. Saul, W. Bro. T. P. Essery, W. Bro. M. Hirsch, W. Bro. Wynne, W. Bro. Bolt, W. Bro. Forbes, W. Bro. A. B. Ware, W. Bro. Petts and W. Bro. Ferguson. The vice-chairmen were W. M. Bro. G. Nicholson, R. W. Bro. Thos. Ryan, R. W. Bro. Adams, and W. Bro. Dougherty. Letters of regret were read from Past Grand Masters J. P. Noyes, T. Edgar, J. Dunbar, M. W. Tait, A. A. Stevenson, and the present Grand Master, Lieut.-Col. Massey.

Most Worshipful Brother J. H. Graham, of Richmond, P.Q., delivered the principal address of the evening. Bro. Graham said:

R. W. Presiding Officer, and Brethren:

Historically and otherwise, the soil of Quebec is sacred to Freemasonry as so many of you are well aware.

About two centuries and a half ago, Grand Conclave of the Knights of Malta, for New France, was established at the City of Quebec, only some forty years after the founding of "ye ancient Capital" by Samuel de Champlain as Agent of Sieur de Monts an eminent French Protestant.

One hundred and thirty-six years ago, St. John the Evangelist's Day, 1759, 'the first self-governing Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in North America, was formed at the Citadel of Quebec; and Bro. Lieut. Guinnett was 'elected' first Grand Master. Some eight years afterwards, it became a Provincial Grand Lodge under the Premier Grand Lodge of England.

One hundred and thirty-five years ago, 1760-61, dear old "St. Peter's Lodge, (of hallowed memory) No. 4, Quebec, at Montreal," was warranted by the 'Grand Lodge' at Quebec. It was the first Lodge of Freemasons, established in this goodly City now the Commercial Capital of the Dominion of Canada.

One hundred and twenty-eight years ago, last Friday, 1767, the first District Grand Lodge for the District of Montreal, was established by the 'Grand Lodge' at Quebec, with Edward Antill, Esq., as the first Deputy Residing Grand Master.

One hundred and three years ago, (1792) last St. John the Baptist's Day, our Summer Solstitial Festival, one year after the political dismemberment of the ancient Province of Quebec into Lower and Upper Canada, the Grand Lodge of 'York' or 'Ancient' Freemasons of Lower Canada, was duly constituted, with H. R. H. the Duke of Kent as first Grand Master. H. R. H. was succeeded, in 1812, by Grand Master, the Hon. Claude Dénéchau, M. P. P., and an honored Roman Catholic. Yes, Brethren, in those days of comparative religious tolerance, Masonic