

home! But how did I come here? Who brought me?

The father and mother interchanged glances. 'We found you on the moor last night, Ally, and brought you home.'

'Last night! last night! I don't remember. It's all gone from me. I seem mazed like; and oh, so weak! Mother dear, I am dying!'

The old woman tried to speak, but grief choked her. David answered for her, himself little less moved. 'My child, life and death are in the Lord's hands. His will be done!'

'Nay, David,' said his wife, with an effort; 'don't give the child a false hope now. Ally dear, we fear—in deed, we know that—that—' The mother's voice broke down, but her choking sobs told all the rest.

There was the faintest quiver of the drooping eyelids, and a single tear rolled over the wasted cheek.

'Are you afraid to die, Ally?' said her father.

'No, father dear, I don't think I am afraid; I've longed for death many and many a time lately, and prayed to be ready to meet it; and now it has come, I don't fear much. But it's hard to leave you and mother so soon after I have got you back, and my poor little baby. May I have him now, please mother? it won't be very long, I think. There is such a strange feeling of numbness coming over me.'

The babe was placed in her arms, and she kissed and fondled it with passionate tenderness. 'Oh, my baby! my baby! it's very, very hard to leave my little wee baby all alone!'

'Not alone, darling, not alone,' sobbed her mother.

'No, not alone,' said the dying girl, smiling through her tears; 'not quite alone, after all. Mother dear, I give him to you, the last gift of your poor wayward Ally.'

'My darling, I take him, not as a gift, but as a precious trust—a trust to keep for his mother in heaven.'

There was a long quiet pause, in which nothing was heard save the heavy breathing of the dying girl, and the hard tick of the clock on the mantelpiece, counting her life away.

The solemn stillness was broken at last by a voice so faint and low, the listeners had to bent forward to catch the parting words. 'Mother dear, where are you? I can't see you! How dark it is getting—Hark! they are calling to me.'

The dying arms drew the babe closer in a last embrace. 'Mother dear—baby—don't forget. God bless—' And then the soul flew away with the blessing on its lips, and sped to finish its loving prayer at the foot of the great white Throne.

A corner of the window-curtain had fallen aside, and through the opening a stray sunbeam crept in, and fell, quartered by an intersection of the lattice, upon the white coverlet. Was it an omen? Was it chance? The lifeless form, with a smile on its silent lips, lay sleeping UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS.

And now, as the freed soul shook the earth from its wings, and spread its pinions for its heavenward flight, the church-bells burst forth with their chime of joy and gladness, in honour of the Christmas morn. The sound of the joyous peal floated into the death-chamber, and brought sweet hope and peace to the aching hearts within. The mother's face was sad, but the look of weary longing had passed away. 'God knows best, Davy dear. Without this bitter cup, mayhap we wouldn't have had peace and good-will in our hearts to-day. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be His name!'

Amen! Amen!

A. J. L.

CHIEF OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE QUEBEC GRAND LODGE OF F. A. & A. MASONS.

JAMES DUNBAR, Q. C.,

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

James Dunbar, Esq., Q. C., elected at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in September, to the highest dignity in the Brotherhood in this Province, was received into Freemasonry at the city of Quebec on the 19th April, 1854, in the St. John's Lodge, then No. 214. English registry, of which he was Master 1862-3. He served as Grand Warden of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec and Three Rivers, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. At the Masonic Convention held in Montreal, at which were present representatives of twenty-one of the thirty-seven Lodges of all jurisdictions then working in this Province, and when the Grand Lodge of Quebec was established, he was unanimously chosen Chairman of the Convention, and for "the able and excellent manner" in which he discharged his duties as such, received a unanimous vote of thanks from the Grand Lodge immediately after its organization. He (with Brothers Isaacson and Borlase) was deputed to sign the declaration announcing to all Grand Lodges "the constitutional formation of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Quebec" on the 20th October, 1869.

In 1871 he was elected Deputy Grand Master, which office he held for three successive years, and until elevated to the still more honourable position he now fills. He was Chairman of the Committee of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which met in conference with the Committee of the Grand Lodge of Canada at Montreal in February

last, and happily settled the difficulties between those two Grand Lodges, whereby peace and unity have been restored among the Masons of Canada. The present Grand Master is the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ohio near the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and has had the rank of a Past Grand Warden of that Grand Lodge conferred upon him. As a Royal Arch Mason he was in 1872 elected to the office of Grand Third Principal of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, which he held for the usual term. The portrait is from a photograph by Ellisson & Co., Quebec.

JAMES O'HALLORAN, Q. C.,

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

Mr. O'Halloran was born near Fermoy, in the county of Cork, Ireland, in 1822, and is consequently fifty-two years of age. He was educated at the University of Vermont in Burlington, Vermont, where he graduated in 1843, and received the degree of M. A. in course in 1849. He was admitted to the bar in the district of Montreal in 1852, and commenced the practice of his profession in the district of Bedford, where he still resides, and enjoys an extensive and lucrative practice. He was made a Queen's Counsel in 1864. At the general election in 1861 he was elected Member of Parliament for the County of Missisquoi, and was again re-elected by acclamation for the same county in 1863, and sat in the Parliament of the late Province of Canada until Confederation in 1867, when he retired from politics, being since that time actively engaged in the promotion of the South Eastern Railway, of which he is Vice-President. He is a Past Master of the Royal Canadian Lodge, Sweetburg, and during the late difficulty between the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Lodge of Quebec, Mr. O'Halloran, with his Lodge, warmly took sides with the Grand Lodge of Canada against the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. He was one of the Committee of Conference appointed by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for the arrangement of the basis of settlement of the differences between the two Grand Lodges; and those difficulties being honourably adjusted at the first annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, held thereafter, Mr. O'Halloran was elected Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.

THE REV. HENRY WASON NYE, M. A.,

GRAND CHAPLAIN.

This gentleman was born in Somersetshire, England, in 1840. He came to this country in 1859, but soon afterwards removed to the United States, where he took holy orders, and remained some years. He has filled important educational positions both there and in Canada. In 1870 he was appointed by the present Bishop of Montreal to the mission of Boscobel, and, in 1872, was transferred to Iron Hill, where he now resides. He was initiated into Masonry in Clarenceville Lodge in April 1869, and became Fellow Craft, Master Mason, and Senior Warden in May, June, and December of the same year. In 1872 he was elected to the office of Grand Chaplain, and was re-elected in 1873, and again in the present year.

HENRY MATHEWSON ALEXANDER,

GRAND TREASURER,

Was born in Montreal April 8th, 1843, is son of Charles Alexander, M. P. P., of that city, was initiated into Freemasonry in the spring of 1864 in the St. Lawrence Lodge, E. R., No. 440, in the ensuing year with other brethren, was one of the Charter members of the Royal Albert Lodge under the registry of the Grand Lodge of Canada, has continued in active membership with that Lodge since, and has occupied from the lowest to the highest position attainable in a private Lodge. During the two years he presided as Worshipful Master of his Lodge, the differences (now happily settled) between the Grand Lodge of Canada and the brethren who deemed it advisable that the Province of Quebec should have a Grand Lodge of its own originated and existed. Bro. Alexander, with his Lodge, took a prominent part in the controversy. The second year after the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec he was elected to the position of Grand Treasurer, which position he has held with a unanimous vote for the three subsequent years. During the present year the M. W., the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick has appointed him its Grand Representative near the Grand Lodge of Quebec—an honour highly appreciated by Brother Alexander. He is also a prominent member of the Royal Arch Chapter, and has always taken an active part in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the craft in this Province.

JOHN HELDEN ISAACSON,

GRAND SECRETARY.

R. W. Bro. John Helden Isaacson, the present "venerable" Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Quebec A. F. & A. M., was born at Great Chesterford, in Essex, England, on the 9th of February, 1820, consequently he will soon have completed his fifty-fifth year. He was educated in England, at Newmarket, Cavendish and Norwich; emigrated to Canada in 1837; was initiated into Masonry, passed, and raised in 1852, in Zetland Lodge, then 731, E. R., now No. 7,

Q. R.; filled all the subordinate and principal offices of this Lodge, being Worshipful Master at various times, and, in the aggregate, for five years. He was a charter member, and for three years W. M. of the Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, No. 17, Q. R.; took chapter degrees in Caernarvon Chapter at Montreal, Knight Templar degrees in Richard Cœur de Lion encampment at Montreal, and the A. O. A. rite degrees up to the 32nd degree at Norwich, Connecticut—thus, by a somewhat singular coincidence, finishing his scholastic education in Norwich, old England, and his Masonic education in Norwich, New England.

R. W. Bro. Isaacson has not been a drone in the Masonic hive. It was a favourite boast of his when a young man that for twelve years in succession he had never missed his attendance on his lodge at its monthly and emergent meetings, that he was never one month in arrears for dues, and that he had initiated, passed, and raised more Masons, as he believed, than any one brother in the Dominion.

R. W. Bro. Isaacson was one of the earnest supporters of the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec, is a P. D. D. G. M. and P. G. T. W. of the former, and was elected Grand Secretary of the latter-named body in the second year of its existence, which office he continues yet to hold. He is one of the oldest practitioners in Montreal in the notarial profession, is a justice of the peace, and Lieut.-Colonel of Volunteer Militia.

DANIEL THOMAS,

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.

Mr. Daniel Thomas was born at Melbourne, Quebec Nov. 26th, 1835. He has been Deputy and acting Registrar of Sherbrooke since 1869. He was admitted to the practice of the notarial profession in 1863. He was initiated, passed, and raised in Victoria Lodge, No. 71, C. B., 1863, of which Lodge he was W. M. in 1867-68, and took chapter degrees in Golden Rule Chapter, Stanstead, in 1864, North Star Commanding, Lancaster, N. H., 1865, member of Sussex Preceptory, Dunham, Que., appointed G. J. D. of the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1867, elected Grand Junior Warden in 1869, which office he resigned at the regular communication of the Grand Lodge at Montreal in 1870. He was elected Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in 1874.

SAMUEL JOHNSTON,

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.

He was born at Montreal in the year 1840, where he has ever since remained a resident, having thus had an opportunity of witnessing the many improvements undertaken and completed, which make his native city a place one may well be proud of.

At an early period our subject entered commercial life, in which he has steadily persevered, and is now a member of the firm of Empey, Johnston, & Co. Mr. Johnston's first connection with Masonry took place in 1865, by joining the Royal Albert Lodge, which was then in its infancy, and he has shared in its honour, and contributed his assistance towards placing that Lodge in the present proud position it has now attained, having filled several successive posts in it. He was last year elected as its Worshipful Master, and we understand is the Master elect for the ensuing year.

The Grand Lodge of Quebec, at its last regular communication, honoured him by electing him as its Grand Junior Warden, and receiving him as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, in this Province.

JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, A. M., LL.D.,

PAST GRAND MASTER,

Of Richmond, P. Q., is a native of Renfrewshire, Scotland. He was instituted into Freemasonry in the year 1855. For several years he was the Worshipful Master of the St. Francis Lodge, Richmond, and for a lengthened period he was District Deputy Grand Master of the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada. He held several offices in the Grand Lodge of Canada, is a past Z. of the Golden Rule Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, a past officer of the Sussex Encampment of Knights Templar, a past officer of the Grand Priory of Canada, and a member of the 32nd degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, &c., &c.

Most Worshipful Brother Graham was, in the year 1869, unanimously elected the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of the Province of Quebec, which office he has held for the past five years.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

DRESS REFORM. * It is a remarkable circumstance that, spite of the steady opposition offered thereto, every subject affecting the condition of woman—whether mental, moral, social or physical—is meeting in the United States with decided recognition from the public. No other proof is needed of this fact than the number of able works recently published on these several topics. The question of female dress has been particularly ridiculed, and indeed it often de-

* Dress Reform. Abba Gould Woolson. Boston: Roberts Brothers. Montreal: Dawson Bros. 120 Blue Cloth, pp. 263.

served to be from the ludicrous expositions of it made by indiscreet women, but in its higher and more philosophical aspects, it has been treated with much skill and usefulness. No work on this point has pleased us more than that edited by Abba Gould Woolson, which is a series of lectures delivered in Boston, during the spring of the present year, by female physicians of recognized ability and position. We like the book and recommend it because it is honest and business like. It aims at no fanciful or sensational dress reform, it does not even prescribe any "regulation suit," but lays down common sense rules based upon well known principles of anatomy and physiology. The chapter on corsets is startling to the male reader, and we venture to refer our female patrons to its perusal.

F. GRANT & CO. † A good straight forward tale intended for boys setting up in life. It teaches young men how to be honest partners in business and how to keep to their legitimate business whatever it may be. The book is well written and its mechanical outfit has been neatly provided for by the popular firm of Roberts Brothers.

ANNUS DOMINI. ‡ This is a neat portable volume gotten up in the usual ecclesiastical style. It contains a prayer for each day of the year, founded on a text of scripture, and a short calendar assigns certain prayers to certain seasons, if such classification is wished for. The prayers are short, fervent, and in most cases a condensed interpretation of the text. The name of the author is an additional recommendation.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE QUEBEC CHRISTMAS PIE.—This admirable cartoon will commend itself first for the fidelity of its portraits. Hon. Mr. Church, the Chairman of the Tanneries Investigation Committee, stands cutting the pie. Mr. Joly, the chief of the Quebec Opposition, sits opposite, handsome and disgusted. To the right of Mr. Joly is Mr. Bachand, of St. Hyacinthe. To the right of Mr. Church is Mr. Verreault, with hair standing on end in horror and dismay. To the left of Mr. Church is Mr. Trudel, whose napkin is going up to his nostrils in token of repugnance. These five gentlemen compose the Tanneries Investigation Committee.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL, ST. JOHN.—The extremely limited space left us in our Christmas number, prevents us giving a full description of this remarkable ball. We shall only say that there were over 250 invited guests, and that under the dais sat Lieut-Governor Tilley and members of his suite.

THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.—We call particular attention to the artistic excellence of this pictorial satire. It is correct in drawing and refined in sentiment. Our readers of Ontario will understand the allusions to the late McKellar investigation in the Provincial Assembly, without further explanations on our part.

THE NEW DOLL.—Rosie shows her new Christmas doll to her papa. Of course, he never saw it before—he didn't buy it, he didn't bring it home in tissue paper, he didn't deposit it, in conspiracy with mama, under his darling's pillow. No wonder papa looks perfectly surprised and delighted.

OLD FATHER CHRISTMAS AND HIS DARLING. The two extremes of life. Frosty old age and warm budding infancy. And yet how placidly one rests on the other, the weak upon the strong, the child upon the veteran. There is love in both their hearts, but the deepest and the tenderest is in the bosom of that pinched-featured, broken old man.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE.—The immemorial pyramid of mysteries and delights. No pomifer of the Heperides was ever like it. It is a pity we neglect planting it in this country. No Christmas attraction is equal to it in variety of enjoyment.

HOMELESS ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT.—The pathetic elbows the amusing in this world. We have introduced this beautiful little picture purposely to remind our readers, our young ones especially, how they should cultivate charity while they enjoy God's blessings dispensed to themselves.

CHRISTMAS IN THE DRAWING-ROOM.—CHRISTMAS AT BETHLEHEM.—This allegorical picture should be carefully studied. It is replete with episodes growing out of the Christmas season. The social aspect of the season is shown in the scenes within the lighted dining-room. The religious side of the festival is displayed in a slight sketch of the Gospel story at Bethlehem.

LITTLE JACK HORNER.—Our Ontario readers in looking at the caricature on our last page, will try and remember if they see any analogy with the case of a certain member of their Legislature, whose connection with the Great Western Railway was recently the subject of a searching investigation before a Parliamentary Committee.

† F. Grant & Co., or Partnerships, &c., by George L. Chaney. Boston: Roberts Brothers. Montreal: Dawson Bros. 120 Blue Cloth, pp. 281.

‡ Annus Domini, &c. By Christina G. Rossetti. Jas Parker, Oxford & London, for Roberts Brothers, Boston. Dawson Bros. Montreal, 320 cloth, pp. 366.