

# THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN,

AND

## MASONIC RECORD.

J. B. THAYES, F.D.D.G.M.,  
Editor & Proprietor.

"The Queen and the Craft."

{ \$1.50 per annum  
in advance.

VOL. XXI.

PORT HOPE, ONT., JANUARY 15, 1885.

No. 1

### "IN HONOR PREFERRING ONE ANOTHER."

In the profane world the conflict in which honor is the victor's reward is a severe, and sometimes a bloody one. Not so in Masonry. Although honor cannot set a leg or an arm, or take away the grief of a wound, few think, with Falstaff, that it is "a mere scutcheon." No; there is something solid about it. But Masons do not fight for it (Templars might), nor unduly strive for it, nor bend to any meanness to obtain it. Oh, no. You have often been in a lodge, or chapter, or commandery? Yes. You have seen many friendly contests for station? Yes. You never, meanwhile, witnessed any unseemly conduct? No. But what did you observe? Many notable events, of which the following are a few:—Bro. Brown has been a member of his lodge for many years, always attentive, always thoughtful and studious, always eager to advance the prosperity of his Lodge. Some of his brethren recognize his modest merit, and resolve to reward it. But there is an obstacle in the way. There is another brother, who is young in Masonry, young in knowledge, young in ability, but old in the ways of the world, and old at securing pledges, and he gathers about him a score of spirits ten times abler than himself in a peculiar ability, and the result is he is elected. Take another case. An important committee is to be

raised, a committee whose action will likely reflect honor on the chairman, and his fellow-members. Who is named first? The modest brother of sterling ability? Let us see. There is one who is obtrusive, diffusive, persuasive. He is a worker, an "influential member," a valuable friend. Let him have it. And so goes the world (profane) always,—Masonic sometimes. Thus it is that some "in honor prefer one another." But it may be aptly replied, This is more easily said than done. True, most things are. Saying is always easy, and doing often hard, but the honor is in proportion to the difficulty. It must be confessed that the Divine injunction, "in honor preferring one another" almost requires Divine aid to enable one to carry it into effect; but it is worth the effort. We owe it to our fraternity, as well as to ourselves. If America's revolutionary patriots, in the Declaration of Independence, mutually pledged to each other their "lives and fortunes and sacred honor," can Freemasons do less? A Craftsman's honor should be above price, and be to him as a conscience. What you may do with honor, do it, but where honor protests, that instant cease from doing. Here, as in many another instance, we may learn a lesson from our sage brother Robert Burds. In his famous "Epistle to a Young Friend," written