

commendations of your amiable, distinguished, and exemplary course. And finally, having faithfully wrought out for yourselves a crown of glory, bearing the pious inscription of "Holiness to the Lord," while your virtues shall still live on perpetual record,—may your venerated names descend to posterity like the "rich perfumes of a sweet smelling savor."

The reply of the Grand Officers was very warmly received. After the Lodge had been closed in due and ancient form, the Brethren repaired with their guests to the Hotel of Bro. Winn—where an excellent supper awaited them—to which "ample justice was done." At low twelve the Brethren separated having spent a most delightful evening from which we trust "profit and pleasure were the mutual result."

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To argue with a wilful or a prejudiced man with the hope of convincing him of the incorrectness of those views to which he is wedded, is most commonly a loss of time and a useless expenditure of patience. We regret to find that our Boston Brother—Moore—is not an exception to this almost general rule. He still continues his uncompromising, and, to us, and very many of his friends in Canada, unaccountable opposition to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and lends the pages of his magazine to circulate assertions in respect to that body totally at variance with truth. In a former number we disproved many of his statements, but as yet, to the best of our knowledge, he has not had the manliness to acknowledge his errors. We perceive that he has admitted into the September number of the *Boston Freemason* an article from the pen of a correspondent, signing himself J. H. S., certainly cleverly written, but which contains a tissue of misrepresentations from beginning to end. The writer commencing with some excellent introductory remarks, the sentiments of which we most cordially endorse, proceeds to make some grave and sweeping accusations against the originators of the Grand Lodge of Canada. He says: "They have attempted to constitute an independent Grand Lodge in a way and

manner contrary to Masonic law, in violation of all customs and usages heretofore known among Masons, and in dereliction of every duty and solemn obligation." These charges we most emphatically deny, and dare the accuser to the proof; on the other hand, we affirm that the Grand Lodge of Canada has been established in strict accordance with Masonic law; every step, which by Masonic custom is required in such cases, has been carefully and with forethought adopted. A sufficient number of representatives of regularly warranted Lodges in Canada, *where no Grand Lodge then existed*, united in convention on the 10th day of October, 1855, and organized a Grand Lodge; those Lodges have since surrendered their Warrants under which they had been previously working, and have taken out new Warrants from the Grand Lodge which they constituted. These are the plain and simple facts of the case, which, unless Brother Moore and his ingenious, though, as to facts, not over scrupulous correspondent can disprove, they can ground no defensible argument against the strict legality and constitutionality of the Grand Lodge of Canada. We ask Bro. Moore, and we put it to J. H. S., where, in the above action, have the founders of our Grand Lodge acted in violation of all Masonic forms and usages? We pause for a reply, and shall be glad if they can prove us wrong, and can point out the right course to retrace our steps.

J. H. S. most unmasonically, we think, charges the originators of the Grand Lodge of Canada with being actuated by unworthy ambition, and of having resorted to misrepresentation of facts to secure their object. On their behalf we give an indignant denial to so serious an accusation; and protest against the right of any one to impute such base motives to the actions of just and upright men and Masons. In contradistinction to these base, and wicked and uncharitable observations, we fearlessly say that every assertion advanced by the Grand Lodge of Canada in its Address to its sister Grand Lodges, and otherwise, is literally true, and easily susceptible of being proved. We challenge any of our opponents to point out a single misrepresentation of facts.

J. H. S., and with him some others who are determined *per fas aut nefas* to put down this Grand Lodge of Canada, point triumphantly to a circular which has been recently issued under the auspices of that most miserable and incompetent of all Masonic bodies, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, which at its last meeting could scarcely muster a quorum, and which only lives through the energy of its Secretary; and, relying on the statements therein contained, exclaim, "there is the contradiction to the address of your Grand Lodge, and on that document we justify our disbelief of your statements." To these individuals, so ready, aye, and so anxious to believe the contents of this cunningly devised and concocted paper, we say we are prepared to tear from it

every semblance of truth, and to expose it in all the hideousness of deliberate falsehood.

This remarkable composition says: "They (the self-styled Grand Lodge of Canada) state that at the Convention held at Hamilton, on the 10th October last, there were 41 Lodges represented, and that the action taken at that meeting was unanimous, with one exception." And we still say so; and the "whereas" following the above quoted words, instead of contradicting, goes to prove what we state; for it continues, "whereas of the 41 Lodges there represented 15 were from the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, 10 from Canada East, acting under Warrants from England, 1 from Quebec, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and 15 under Warrants of the Grand Lodge of Ireland." Now, the 15, and 10, and 1, and 15, which this Solomon of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West formally allows, just make the identical number we claim, viz., 41; and the force and point of that terrible "whereas" is nothing more or less than a *non sequitur*.

The Provincial Grand Lodge (which, it must be remembered, is the Provincial Grand Lodge of England, and totally disconnected with the Grand Lodges of both Ireland and Scotland,) next gravely tells us, through the instrumentality of this remarkable circular, that the number of Lodges belonging to it, "at the time the Convention met, was 50, since which time only 7 have given official information of their affiliation with the new body." And then proceeds to draw the sage conclusion that, consequently, "at the present time there are 43 of the original number still true to their allegiance." We shall soon strip this assertion of its semblance to truth, by remarking that it is correct that, from neglect or otherwise, several of the Lodges, under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, which took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and which are now in affiliation with it, neglected to give to the Provincial Grand Lodge "official information of their affiliation with the new body." Yet, they remain true to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and were represented at the last meeting of that body, which was held at Hamilton, on the 9th day of July last. So it is evident that the assertion, that "43 of the original number still remain true to their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England," is not borne out by the facts.

The Provincial Grand Secretary admits there were 15 Lodges of his district represented at the Convention. Seven, he says, have given official notice of their affiliation with the Grand Lodge of Canada. He afterwards acknowledges that another, Union Lodge at Grimshy, has followed suit: this makes 8. Will he give the names of the 7 recusants? and we pledge ourselves to prove the correctness of our remarks above given respecting them.