

vince reign paramount in our hearts, acknowledging the correctness of our proceedings even to the annulling of old and still revered authority for this prompt and truly fraternal treatment your Grand Lodge cannot entertain nor express too deep a sense of gratitude.

Your committee would express their confidence that the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, composed as they are of most enlightened and generous brethren, will, before our next communication, have also admitted the justice of our cause, and recognised our constitutional position.

To the several Grand Lodges in the United States, who have acknowledged the legitimacy of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and with whom we are now in fraternal communication, the cordial feelings of your Grand Lodge should be expressed. May the Supreme Ruler of the universe grant that "prospering they may prosper," to the diffusion of light and knowledge throughout their respective districts. To the brethren of Kentucky especially, your Grand Lodge is indebted for kindness to, and cordial reception of, your Grand Master, in his recent visit.

Your Committee regret, however, that the duty entrusted to them involves matter of a less pleasing nature, and with much pain feel compelled to allude to the position adopted towards us by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, still in connection with the Grand Lodge of England. While they cannot but congratulate you on the truly masonic feeling which has characterized the management of the affairs of your Grand Lodge, and the tone of its correspondence in strictly adhering to the principles of attributing to those brethren remaining in connection with the Grand Lodge of England the same and equal credit for sincere and masonic motives, to that we claim for ourselves, and in every case avoiding the least approach to any expression of a personal nature, conceiving that the "good of the craft" is, or ought to be, the chief aim of every brother, it must therefore be a matter of regret that any brother of the Provincial Grand Lodge, while, personally, professing the approval of the motives by which we were actuated, admitting the necessity for the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, and expressing the best wishes for success, and hesitating only as to the decisiveness with which we have acted, should have so far forgotten the principles of masonry as to asperse and malign our motives, and misrepresent our conduct and position in a circular issued to other Grand Lodges, without even having the candour to furnish us with a copy, and this too before their parent Grand Lodge and governing body had expressed any opinion on our proceedings. This conduct is the more reprehensible, as it is well known that we have the sympathy of a great majority of the Lodges and brethren still adhering to them, who await the decision of that Grand Lodge.

Your Committee regret that they cannot but concur in the remarks of the M.W. the Grand Master in the action of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York towards us, believing as they do, that interested influences, of which your Grand Lodge is doubtless aware, have been brought to bear to our prejudice. But they cannot pass over this part of their duty without alluding to the anomaly of a Grand Lodge whose internal state is such as to... are the remarks made by its Grand Master, in the same paragraph in which he denounces us, taking upon itself to condemn, as un-masonic, the action or motives of such of its sister Grand Lodges as have recognised us.

Your Committee, while regretting the action taken towards us by parties in office in the two bodies just alluded to, would still strongly recommend, that no alteration be allowed to appear in the tone of the correspondence of this Grand Lodge towards or respecting them, and that the privilege of our Lodges be freely extended to such of the brethren as may desire to use them, believing sincerely that in neither of these bodies is there any brother (except those few to whom it is now our painful duty to refer) who would not still be

willing to grasp the hand of each member of this Grand Lodge and hail him as a brother.

Your Committee, however, would recommend, that whilst this treatment be accorded and continued to the members of those Lodges already in existence, that this Grand Lodge being now regularly formed and duly recognized, and that too, by one of its parent Grand Lodges, and being, therefore, the supreme masonic authority in this Province, that no new Lodge be considered otherwise than as clandestine in Canada, unless it derive its authority from this Grand Lodge, and that due notification of such intention be furnished to all concerned.

Your Committee fully concur in the remarks of the Grand Master on the necessity for deciding on the system of working to be adopted throughout the Province, and as to the desirableness of including the mark degree in that of the fellow crafts, and beg to recommend to the Grand Lodge to appoint a Committee to consider these important subjects and report to the next Communication of Grand Lodge.

Your Committee with pleasure refer to the allusion made in the Grand Master's Address, to those masonic publications that are rapidly becoming so important, as a means of diffusing masonic knowledge among the brethren. To the *Masonic Review* of Cincinnati, your Grand Lodge is much indebted for the liberal and unprejudiced manner in which our position has been discussed in its columns. And your Committee consider the Grand Lodge and the brethren generally called on to lend their support in as great a degree as possible to that truly masonic and able journal, lately commenced in Montreal—the *Pioneer*.

In conclusion, your Committee would express the hope that another year may find us still on our onward progress, ever advancing, and exemplifying the benefits of masonry in a degree hitherto unknown in this Province.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at 7 o'clock.

The consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Grand Master's Address was proceeded with when the following resolution was offered by RW. Bro. Daniells, seconded by W. Bro. Duncan, and unanimously carried:—That the Report of the Committee on the Grand Master's Address now read, be adopted, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge be requested to carry out the principles therein laid down.

The Grand Master appointed a Committee composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and all present and past District Deputy Grand Masters, to consider the form of working to be adopted by the Lodges of this Province, and also the question of attaching the mark degree to that of the fellow craft, and to report thereon to Grand Lodge at its next Communication.

The Report from the Grand Secretary on the business of the Grand Lodge since the last Communication was read and received, when it was moved by RW. Bro. Bernard, seconded by RW. Bro. Stephens, and resolved,—That the best thanks of the Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to RW. Bro. Harris, for the zeal and assiduity displayed in conducting the business of his office from the formation of the Grand Lodge.

The Report of the Grand Treasurer for the same period, was then read and received, when it was moved by RW. Bro. Simpson, seconded by RW. Bro. Daniells, and resolved,—That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be offered to RW. Bro. Bellhouse for the care and attention he has bestowed upon the discharge of his duty as Grand Treasurer.

The Report of the Standing Committee on Correspondence was submitted, when it was moved by RW. Bro. Abbott, seconded by RW. Bro. Magill, and unanimously adopted,—That the Report as read be adopted.

RW. Bro. Bernard then moved, seconded by RW. Bro. Simpson,—That the Grand Master do nominate a brother as representative of this Grand Lodge, at the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland, which having been unanimously adopted, the M.W. the Grand Master was pleased to ap-

point RW. Bro. Furnell, Provincial G. M., to be such representative.

RW. Bro. Bernard moved, seconded by RW. Bro. Osborne,—That the Grand Master do nominate a brother as representative at the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Vermont, when the M.W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint RW. Bro. J. B. Bowdish as such representative.

It was then moved by RW. Bro. Simpson seconded by RW. Bro. Daniells,—That the Grand Lodge appreciating the kind and valuable counsel and services at all times, of RW. Bro. Stephens, do present him with a masonic honorary jewel or other suitable mark of their esteem, which was unanimously carried. And the Grand Master appointed RW. Bros. Simpson, Daniells, Harris, Osborne, and Bro. Duggan a committee to carry out the wishes of the Grand Lodge.

RW. Bro. Osborne then moved, seconded by RW. Bro. Bethune,—That the best thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, for his devotion and zeal in behalf of the Grand Lodge, which was unanimously adopted.

And on motion of RW. Bro. Magill seconded by RW. Bro. Harris,—The warmest thanks of the Grand Lodge were expressed to the RW. Deputy Grand Master Bro. Bernard, for his great and successful exertions in furtherance of the good of the craft.

The Grand Master appointed the various committees for conducting the business of the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form with solemn prayer.

J. OSBORNE, Secy.

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MONTREAL, AUGUST 1, 1856.

To the exclusion of several articles and communications already in type, we present our readers with full minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Canada, at the Annual Communication in Hamilton, on the 9th, 10th and 11th days of July last, including the Address of the Grand Master, and the Report of the Committee to whom that Address was referred. We need scarcely invite attention to these proceedings.

We much regret that circumstances entirely unforeseen and over which we had no control have caused considerable delay in the publication of the present number of the *Pioneer*. We trust our subscribers will kindly pardon the delay, promising in future to see to it, that the *Pioneer* shall be "on time."