
FROM PAST GRAND MASTER SIMPSON.

Montreal, January 19th, 1875

To J. K. Kerr, Deputy Grand Master :

Deeply regret official duties will prevent my being present at Grand Master Wilson's funeral. Pray tender my heartfelt sympathy to his family in their affliction.

W. B. SIMPSON, P. G. M.

Resolutions of condolence were adopted, and a committee was appointed to convey the same to the family.

In consequence of the detention of the Grand Trunk East at Toronto, many brethren from points east of that city failed to reach in time to connect with the train for Simcoe.

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE.

Masonic Hall, Grimsby, January 21st, 1875.

Union Lodge, No. 7, A. F. and A. M.

Moved by V. W. Bro. W. F. Biggar, seconded by W. Bro. William Forbes, and—

Resolved,—That it is with the most profound regret that we have learned of the death of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Judge William Mercer Wilson, one whom every Canadian Mason had learned to honor and revere as the father of the Craft in this Dominion. The services he has rendered are too well known to all Masons to call for any particular reference from an individual lodge. While extending our heartfelt condolence and sympathy to his bereaved family, and fully appreciating their severe loss, our fervent Masonic hope is, that in the Grand Lodge above we shall all meet again; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of the deceased, to the Grand Secretary, and to the CRAFTSMAN.

JOSEPH CHAMBERS,
Worshipful Master.

JOHN A. NELLIS,
Secretary.

MASONRY IN HAMILTON.

OPENING OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL.

WEDNESDAY, December the 30th, 1874, was a day ever memorable in our local Masonic annals, for it witnessed the dedication of the new Hall, in which Hamilton Masons feel so much pride, and justly too, for it is indeed a noble structure, and every way worthy the purposes it was designed for. There is no place in the wide domain of Her Most Gracious Majesty's North American possessions that has prospered more vigorously in Freemasonry than the city of Hamilton, which has long been regarded as the chief point of Masonic interest, owing to the many prominent proficients in Masonic lore residing in it. When a mere village it had its good and true Masons, and it has gradually grown into the most populous Masonic District in the west, numbering at the present time no fewer than five lodges of Craft Masonry alone. In consequence of the large increase of the fraternity it was long since deemed desirable to obtain a more commodious Hall than the one in use, but it required a vast deal of effort to secure the object in view, and years were spent in the endeavor to carry out the design so recently accomplished. The old hall was found to be utterly inadequate to the growing wants of the Order, and through the exertions of some of the most prominent brethren, an association was formed, a suitable site—probably the best in the city—was obtained, and in due course one of the handsomest and most substantial edifices in the city was erected thereon. The corner-stone, it will be remembered, was laid with the greatest *eclat* that ever attended a similar occasion, and those interested in the building have seen it gradually rise until it now stands an ornament and an honor to the Craft of the fourth city in the Dominion.