

It rejoices our hearts to know that harmony has, and now exists throughout the Lodges of your District, and to notice the number of flourishing Lodges which have sprung into existence during your term of office; and it has pleased us to observe that your zeal has been tempered with discretion, in recommending only such Lodges as have already, and will no doubt continue to reflect credit and honor to the Craft.

We trust you will now permit us to express our high sense of your many private qualities. From experience we can testify that your heart is ever ready to sympathize with a brother's sorrows, and disposed to relieve his necessities.

And now, in conclusion, we pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may watch over and protect you and those dear to you, and that you may be long spared to uphold and extend the principles of our noble order.

Signed, V. W. BRO. M. M. TAIT, P. M.  
" BRO. THOS. HART, P. M.  
" BRO. A. W. HAMILTON, W. M.

On behalf of members of  
St. Francis Lodge, No. 69.

RICHMOND, March 30th, 1869

The following is the INSCRIPTION ON THE TEA SERVICE:

"Presented to  
"R. W. BRO. J. H. GRAHAM, M. A., LL. D.  
"District Deputy Grand Master,  
"Eastern Townships District,  
"By the  
"Brethren of St. Francis Lodge, No. 67, G. R. C.,  
"A. F. and A. M., Richmond, P. Q.—  
"March 30, 1869."

The R. W. Bro. replied that he would gratefully accept their generous testimonial, and in behalf of himself and family, returning them his most hearty thanks for this beautiful and valuable gift, and for the many other favors which they had so kindly bestowed upon him.

An address on Freemasonry was then delivered by the D. D. G. M., after which, on invitation from Doric Lodge, nearly all in attendance both ladies and gentlemen, repaired to the Hall of Bro. Wm. Barnwell, where a sumptuous repast awaited them, and to which ample justice was done.

The unanimous resolution of the Doric Lodge, to dispense with "Liquors," &c., at the dinner, was strictly carried out much to the general satisfaction.

By earnest request, the D. D. G. M. presided, and was supported by Bros. Leet, (R. A.) Thomas (K. T.) Hamilton, (R. A.) Hart, Tait and others.

After dinner, the chairman, on addressing the assembly, expressed his gratification at the pleasant, orderly, and efficient manner in which all had contributed to make the occasion a success, and was especially gratified that it had been so arranged to have the wives and "sweet-hearts" of the Brethren and friends present both in the Lodge room and at the banquet, and while he was heartily glad that the Lodge had pre-determined to dispense with "Liquors and Toasts," he could not forbear proposing one sentiment which they would not willingly have omitted, namely, "The Queen and the Craft." He said, no better Sovereign than Queen Victoria, ever sat on the British Throne, one of whose strongest pillars of support was Freemasonry. The sentiment was warmly applauded, and the whole audience rising, enthusiastically sang a part of the National Anthem, lead by Bro. M. M. Tait, whose powerful and melodious voice admirably fits him for such leadership.

By "dispensation," W. Bro. Leet volunteered to reveal the secrets of Freemasonry, which he did by the recitation of some humorous verses. The laughter with which they were received by the ladies and gentlemen, clearly indicated that they thought they were about as wise after the "revelations," as they were before.

One after another was called for, by the Brethren and Guests, and V. W. Bro. Thomas (K. T.) entertained the audience with one of the short, witty speeches, for which he is so distinguished.

Bro. Harris (R. A.) of Lennoxville, who never fails to delight his hearers on such occasions, sang one of his humorous songs.

J. P. Goodhue, Esq., one of the able and highly esteemed editors of the *Danville Union*, responded to the unanimous call, by delivering a short address, in which he mirthfully alluded to the frightful stories about Freemasons, which he had heard in his boyhood; but he must say that together with other things, the instructive, solemn exercises of the evening in dedicating their new Hall, and consecrating their Lodge, had tended to remove his earlier impressions. If they would always treat him as well as they had on this occasion, he would have no reason to complain of them. Dea. Goodhue, as at all other times, was most attentively listened to, and warmly applauded.

J. P. Stockwell, Esq., one of the leading merchants of Danville, expressed his thanks for the courteous invitation to be present that evening with so many of his friends and neighbors. He was greatly pleased to see so many ladies present and although he had understood they could not be Freemasons, yet their presence on such occasions, was very desirable. He was a member of a Temperance organization, of which they were members, and he believed, with the best results. He sang an amusing parody of an old song, on the "Velocipede," and on being called for again, he gave an excellent Temperance song.

Bro. Col. Lawrence (K. T.) of New York, manager of the Danville School-Slate Quarry, by previous request, then read a brief scholarly essay on the aspect of Freemasonry. It was an admirable paper, well read, and received with deserved applause. The Col. presented the D. D. G. M., (K. T.) with a beautiful and valuable masonic manual; which was gratefully and thankfully accepted.

Rev. Bro. C. P. Mallory, (K. T.) District Chaplain, in answer to the hearty call of the assembly, spoke of his exceeding pleasure at being permitted by a kind Providence, to be with them and to participate in the masonic ceremonies, also to be present at the dinner conducted on "total abstinence," principles. He hoped this example would be for good and that the practice would everywhere prevail among the Fraternity and throughout the world.

Other gentlemen called for, made amusing apologies for not making speeches, or singing songs. The Band pleasingly varied the entertainment by a well selected and well executed musical programme.

On motion of W. Bro. Leet, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the host and hostess, Bro. W. Barnwell and wife, for the excellent dinner which they had provided, and for the great trouble to which they had been. Bro. Barnwell briefly and appropriately responded.

And now "low twelve," admonished them of rapidly passing time, and after heartily singing the National Anthem, and Benediction by the Chaplain, this large concourse of Brethren and other friends separated, expressing themselves as having been "happy to meet, and sorry to part, and happy to meet again." So mote it be.