

THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN,

AND
MASONIC RECORD.

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Editor & Proprietor.

"The Queen and the Craft."

{ \$1.50 per annum
in advance.

VOL. XX.

PORT HOPE, ONT., OCTOBER 15, 1884.

No. 10.

ADDRESS BY THE D. G. M. OF QUEBEC.

The following address was delivered by R. W. Bro. J. Fred. Walker, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, at a pic-nic given by Zetland and Corinthian Lodges, Montreal, at Highgate Springs, on the 29th August last:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I must congratulate the promoters of this pic-nic on its being so successful—fine weather—fine music—and, what is better than all, a splendid gathering of the fair sex, without which nothing is a success, except Freemasonry. (Hear, hear.) The ladies do not need to join the Craft to practice what we consider our especial virtue—brotherly love. It is quite natural for them to love their fellow men. Talk of the mysteries of Freemasonry, why woman is the greatest mystery of all mysteries. (Hear, hear.) In kindness of heart, love of truth, honor and virtue, women will always take the first rank. God bless them. Although Freemasonry is called a secret society, the objects of Freemasonry are not secret. The names of those who are Masons we do not attempt to keep secret. Many Grand Lodges publish a list of the members of each lodge. Masonry is not "a private gathering of men, all of one turn, all of one thought, all of one opinion," but a gathering of men of very different thoughts and very different

opinions. Freemasonry is a neutral ground for all political opinions and religious creeds, and while meeting as Masons all political and religious discussions are forbidden. Freemasonry has certain mysteries, but what is there without its mysteries? The origin of life is a mystery and the close of life is equally a mystery. The charm of friendship is in its mysteries disclosed only to the favored few. During the earlier period of the Christian church, the sacraments were administered in secret. Our distinguished brother, the late Bulwer Lytton, in his thrilling novel, the "Last Days of Pompeii," almost introduces you into the sacred precincts of a Masonic lodge when he brings Olinthus and Apaecides into the secret assembly of Christians. He knocked thrice—then the following dialogue:—

Peace be with you;
Peace with whom?
The faithful.

After which they were admitted and met he whom Christ had raised from the dead. The Christians of those days were accused by those who had not access to their secret meetings of even worse crimes than Pope Leo XIII. accuses the Freemasons of. Yet those early Christians are supposed to have lived purer and more self-sacrificing lives than many who publicly flaunt their religion in the present day. (Cheers.) The attacks