

Together with a number of other brethren, some of whom were appointed to the following offices, viz :

Bro. William Durant, Grand Treasurer.

" Thomas L. Nicholson, Senior Grand Deacon.

" Charles Whitney, Junior Grand Deacon.

" Peter Hatfield, Grand Sword Bearer.

" Robert Ray, Grand Marshall.

" John Wood, Grand Standard Bearer.

The lodge was opened in due form and solemnity, being attended by St. John's and Union Lodges, and moved in procession to the foundation of the Masonic Hall, corner of King and Charlotte streets, in the following order :—

Two Bugles.

Union Lodge, No. 38, two and two.

St. John's Lodge, No. 29, two and two.

Band of Music.

The Grand Lodge, as follows :—

The Tyler.

Two Stewards.

Two Deacons.

Bro. Judson with the gold square.

Bro. Edmond with the gold level.

Bro. Merritt with the gold plumb.

Bro. Paddock with the gold mallet.

Bro. Rawleigh with wine.

Bro. Clark with oil.

Bro. Pagan, cornucopia with corn.

Secretary and Treasurer.

Two Wardens.

The Bible, borne by Bro. Paul, supported by two Stewards.

The Grand Master, supported by the D. G. M. and Bro. Sinnot.

The Grand Standard, supported by two Stewards.

The Grand Sword Bearer.

The Society of Carpenters, in their proper dress, with their Standard, closed the procession.

When the head of the procession reached the place, the whole halted. The Grand Lodge moved through the line formed in front, and took its station in the theatre erected for the occasion, in the East of the foundation, and the Grand Master having taken his seat, the ceremony of laying the stone commenced.

The stone was let down by direction of the Deputy Grand Master, the band playing an anthem, when the Grand Master and his Deputy proceeded to the stone. The Deputy deposited in the stone some pieces of coin of the present reign, and medals prepared for the purpose, which were covered with a plate bearing the following inscription:—

"This stone of the Masonic Hall was laid on the 28th day of September, A. D. 1816, the era of Masonry 5816, and of the reign of George the Third, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the fifty-sixth; in the Mayoralty of John Robinson, Esquire, by Thomas Wetmore, Esquire, Attorney-General for this Province, as Grand Master, substitute of John George Pyke, Esquire, Grand Master of the Society of Masons in Nova Scotia, and the Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging."

The Deputy Grand Master having retired, the Grand Master was then attended by two Operative Masons, who assisted in laying the stone.

The golden square, plumb, level and mallet were handed in succession to the Grand Master, and after being used, were returned to the respective officers.

Upon using the mallet, the Grand Master said,—“In the name of the R. W. John George Pyke, Esquire, Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia, and the masonical jurisdiction thereunto belonging, I now lay this stone, and may the Great Architect of the Universe, of His kind Providence, grant a blessing on this foundation, and enable us to carry on and finish what we have now begun.”

Upon which three huzzas were given, and an anthem played.

The corn, wine and oil were then brought and delivered to the Deputy Grand Master, who poured them on the stone, saying:—“May the bountiful hand of heaven bless this city with an abundance of corn, wine and oil, and with all the necessary conveniences and comforts of life, and