

mended Grand Lodge to recall and cancel Bro. Baynes' commission, and to suspend the operations of the District Grand Lodge of Montreal. This proposal was adopted by Grand Lodge. We do not see by the report of the proceedings at that Communication, as published in the *Freemason*, that any further action was taken; but this is explained by a letter in the *Freemason* from Bro. James H. Wilson, P.P.G.M. Grand Lodge of Scotland, and Hon. P.S.W. Grand Lodge of Quebec, in which he states that the official papers from Quebec, only arrived in Edinburgh on the day of the meeting of the last Grand Committee of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. No doubt the arrangement entered into by the District Grand Lodge of Scotland with the Grand Lodge of Quebec will be approved by the Grand Lodge of Scotland at its next Quarterly Communication, and the movement so happily begun will be consummated. We note that M. W. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart was re-elected Grand Master; Bro. R. F. Shaw Stewart, G. S. W.; Bro. Rt. Hon. the Earl of Haddington, G. J. W.; Bro. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary.

The London *Freemason* gives the following brief sketch of Irish Freemasonry:—

The history of Freemasonry in Ireland is still very doubtful and obscure. Anderson, in his Constitutions of 1738, though he mentions St. Patrick, A.D. 403, and his building of St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Priory of St. Avog at Lough Derg, says nothing about the Masons, though he would, by implication, have us infer that St. Patrick was connected with the Operative Masons. His first mention of a Grand Lodge in Ireland is under Lord Kingston in 1730. There is a statement to which Maskey calls attention in the Irish Book of Constitutions of 1730 in Spencer's "Constitutions of the Freemasons," p. 39, that "about 370 years before the birth of Christ, the four sons of Milesius the Spaniard, with a fleet of sixty sail, came to Ireland, subdued the kingdom, settled themselves in several parts of it, planted colonies, and erected lodges." This statement we may fairly relegate at once

to the prehistoric times. There is evidence to show that a Grand Lodge of Munster was in existence about 1626, and it probably will have dated from about 1720. But the earliest historical evidence so far incontestable is, that in 1729 a Grand Lodge was formed in Dublin, with Lord Kingston as Grand Master. We may observe that some have contended that it was a Privy Grand Lodge in Munster—not a Grand Lodge—which was set up; and that its records exist from 1726. In 1749 the Grand Master's Lodge was formed, and in 1779 the Grand Lodge of Ireland recognized the sphismatic Atholl Masons in London, as also did the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In 1779 Mother Kilwinning Lodge gave a warrant to some brethren in Dublin to form a lodge to be called the "High Knights Templar," to confer the Three Degrees; and though it is quite clear that the warrant of constitution only extended to the Craft Degrees (though why we know not as there was a Grand Lodge in Ireland), yet this afterwards became, no doubt, the origin of the Grand Encampment of Ireland. Freemasonry has spread gradually, though deeply, in Ireland, and there are under the Irish Grand Lodge over 1,000 Lodges (not all active) on the roll, and the high grades also flourish in Ireland. The Irish system somewhat differs from the English, and we confess that we prefer our own arrangement. Freemasonry in Ireland has had much to contend with in consequence of the open opposition and anathema of the Roman Catholic Church, Archbishop Cullen, now Cardinal, having declared it to be a "deadly sin" to be a Freemason. In 1850 the Roman Catholic Synod at Thurles promulgated a Brief against the Freemasons, which after declaring that as Clement's Bull "in eminenti," confirmed by Benedict's "Providus," 1761, by Pius VII's "Ecclesiam" in 1821, and by Leo's "Quo graviori" in 1826, had condemned Freemasonry and Freemasons, they practically excommunicated all Roman Catholic Freemasons! Since then the Allocutions of Pius IX. have been used against the Freemasons in Ireland. But they have not lost heart, and are still a numerous, intelligent, charitable, loyal body of men. The list of Irish Grand Masters is as follows:—

Viscount Kingston, 1730.
Colonel Maynard, 1730.
Viscount Netterville, 1732.
Lord Kingsland, 1738.
Lord Kingston, 1735.
Lord Tyrone, 1736.
Lord Montjoy, 1738.
Arthur St. Leger, Viscount Doneraile, 1740.
Lord Tullamore, 1741.
Lord Southwell, 1743.