

place. The ashlar, too, were not only numerous in quantity but excellent in quality.

During his first year of attendance at the Grand Lodge of Canada, he was appointed Grand Registrar, and the following year was elected District Deputy Grand Master of the Eastern Townships, which office he held till the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in 1869. The district at that time comprised nearly all of the Province of Quebec south of the River St. Lawrence, yet during the whole period he held office he annually visited each Lodge in this immense territory, and the Eastern Townships, during his administration, obtained for their Lodges a very high position in the Craft, receiving a great impetus through his zeal.

On the ever memorable 20th and 21st days of October, 1869, the Convocation of Freemasons was held in Montreal, and the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Quebec, regularly and constitutionally established. Our learned Brother Graham was at that time unanimously selected as the *one* brother *especially* qualified for the trying position of first Grand Master, and, as will be remembered by all who took any interest in the stormy trials, the unfraternal attacks, irregular and unconstitutional doings that followed in a wild hurricane of madness and delirium upon those who participated in this movement, we repeat, as will be ever remembered. M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, during all this fierce turmoil and confusion held the helm with a steady hand, and from the first nailed the flag of Exclusive Supreme Grand Lodge Sovereignty to the mast of the Masonic ship of Quebec, demanding for his young Grand Lodge the same sovereign rights as her American sisters possessed, and so nobly and faithfully did he uphold and maintain those principles, that even after the Grand Lodge of Quebec was formally recognized by her mother Grand Lodge of Canada, he respectfully declined the

qualified recognition of the Grand Lodge of England, which that Supreme Body first offered in 1875, and of which M. W. Bro. Graham says, in his address of 1876:

"I cannot, for many obvious and important reasons, recommend the acceptance by Grand Lodge of the conditional recognition proffered by the Grand Lodge of England."

We should explain that the *conditional* recognition was the same as accorded to the Grand Lodge of Canada at its foundation, viz., recognition by England of the Grand Lodge, but not withdrawal of warrants of subordinate Lodges still working in her territory under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, but no more charters to be issued by Grand Lodge of England in jurisdiction so recognized. This Bro. Graham had the boldness to decline, and although the Grand Lodge of England has not yet officially recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec, her Masons are received cordially and heartily in England, as proved by the respect shown to our distinguished brother during his visit to London in 1874, at which time he was received and most fraternally welcomed by the then Grand Master of England at the Annual Banquet of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and in 1875 M. W. Bro. Graham was present at Albert Hall on the occasion of the Installation of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England; and in the historic steel engraving of that event, his likeness appears among the other Masonic notabilities on the *dais*.

To return, however, to his advocacy of exclusive sovereignty, we may mention that during the same year the Grand Lodge of Missouri extended recognition to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, provided "said recognition did not interfere with the vested rights of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland over such of their daughter Lodges as may prefer to re-