

- Bro. Rev. W. C. Clark, Grand Master.  
 " W. N. Kennedy, Deputy Grand Master.  
 " Jas. Henderson, Grand Senior Warden.  
 " S. L. Bedson, Grand Junior Warden.  
 " Rev. J. D. O'Meara, Grand Chaplain.  
 " John Kennedy, " Treasurer.  
 " W. T. Champion, " Registrar.  
 " John W. Bell, " Secretary.  
 " Gilbert McMicken, " Sr. Deacon.  
 " W. J. Piton, " Jr. "  
 " John J. Johnston, " Sword Br.  
 " G. B. Spencer, " Dir. of Cer.  
 " Simon Duffin, " Pursuivant.  
 " John Norquay, " Steward.  
 " Thos. H. Parr, " "  
 " Wm. F. Luxton, " "  
 " C. D. Rickards, " "  
 " T. H. Barton, " Tyler.

The three Lodges thus forming the Grand Lodge were numbered Prince Rupert, No. 1; Lisgar, No. 2; and Ancient Landmark, No. 3, Grand Register of Manitoba. Shortly after the organization of the Grand Lodge Dispensations were granted to St. John's Lodge, in Winnipeg, with Bros. J. W. Harris as W. M., Archibald McNeen, S. W., and Stewart McDonald, J. W., dated the 6th July, 1875. And, to Hiram Lodge, at Kildonan, with Bros. John H. Bell as W. M.; Rev. S. P. Matheson, S. W.; Colin Inkster, J. W., dated the 9th of October, 1875.

I may here remark that from the first establishment of Freemasonry on the Red River of the North, the more educated class of the native born inhabitants showed great interest in the institution, and many of them at once became members. This Hiram Lodge was composed principally of those brethren, as shown in the address of our much esteemed Past Grand Master, Bro. W. N. Kennedy, delivered to Grand Lodge the 14th of June, 1876, at which time Warrants were issued to the two Lodges last named, and numbered 4 and 5 respectively, G. R. M. On the 29th July, immediately preceding, Emerson Lodge was formed, U. D., with Bros. F. T. Bradley as W. M., D. G. Dick, S. W.; O. Bachelor, J. W., and a Warrant issued to them at the next communication of Grand Lodge,

held in June, 1877, and numbered 6, G. R. M.

It is here worthy of note, that the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, Bro. James C. Breden, evinced such truly Masonic liberality, and freely gave permission for the Emerson Lodge to receive petitions from and confer degrees upon persons residing in Minnesota, near to the Province of Manitoba.

In the course of the ensuing year a Dispensation was granted to Assiniboine Lodge at Portage la Prairie, and a Warrant issued to them at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge held in June, 1878, number 7, G. R. M., with Bros. Rod'k McQuaig, W. M., J. A. K. Drummond, S. W., Charles H. House, J. W.

At this communication of Grand Lodge, family jars occurred which divided the household of the fraternity, emanating, principally, from the question of Ritual. The older Canadian Lodges preferred to continue the method to which they were accustomed, while the more recently formed Lodges had adopted the American method, and endeavored to make it the established Ritual of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The Canadian workers demurred, and severed their connection with this body; a year of probation ensued, may I say of purgation, or of purification. I am at a loss for an appropriate Masonic definition of that period, but will take consolation by calling to mind the historic doctrine, that out of evil cometh good, for thus it proved in this instance. During this time two separate bodies had existed, each styling itself the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The Canadian Body had granted Warrants to three new Lodges, viz:—King Solomon Lodge, at the town of Morris, with Bros. W. H. Pringle as W. M., Robert Meiklejohn, S. W.; Solomon John's, J. W., No. 8, G. R. M.; Oakland Lodge, at the Boyne Settlement, with Bros. Rev. Walter Ross, as W. M., William Livingstone, S. W., Louis Renand, J. W., No. 9, G. R. M.;