

Which ne'er was borne by slave,
And Oxford bold, and staunch Bengal
Staid back, their hands to mix
With those whom soon the Temple saw
Raised high for justice, truth, and law,
In eighteen fifty-six.

Some others, too, proved purples true,
And rallied round the chair;
The bard will know them, 'praps ere long,
And when he pens another song
'They shall be honoured there.
But now the Muse must save the mail,
Her postage stamp she ticks,
To bid far off the tidings fly.
Of the true Masons' victory,
In eighteen fifty-six.

Suffice to say we heard enough
To wish to hear again,
Carnarvon's classic eloquence,
And light chaff mingled with the sense
Of Warren's bearded grain.
Tried men we'll muster in our van
To break the bonds of cliques,
And show, as years new meetings bring,
Each year one well-spent evening
Like eighteen fifty-six.

P.S. We did with some surprise,
(I half forgot to say.)
In vain for our Grand Master wait,
When such great motions for debate,
Upon the paper lay.
And we would humbly beg Grand Lodge
Such meeting times to fix,
As may not with Newmarket vie,
Since Marson cuts out Masonry
In eighteen fifty-six.

—Observer.

The *Canadian Masonic Pioneer* is published on the first of every month, at Montreal, C.E. Terms, — Five Shillings Cy., per annum payable *invariably* in advance.

All communications must be pre-paid, and addressed to the Editors *Masonic Pioneer* Montreal.



The Canadian Masonic Pioneer.

MONTREAL, APRIL 1, 1857.

The question of the masonic legality, or constitutionality of the Grand Lodge of Canada, has occupied a large proportion of the columns of the *Pioneer* from the commencement of its publication. Several articles—the productions of our own youthful and unpractised pen—appeared in the earlier numbers, which we have reason to know awakened considerable interest and induced candid, earnest investigation, on the part of many intelligent masons. We should have continued our efforts, feeble as they were, and presented to the world a complete series of articles designed to show the Grand Lodge of Canada to be “A Strictly Legal and Constitutional Body of Masons,”

had not several of the most intelligent and learned members of the fraternity, now living, taken up their masterly pens for the same purpose. When such men as French and Tucker, as Morris and Mackey, as Moore and Hyneman, saw the correctness of our position, and became the champions of our cause, all that was required of us was, to find room in our columns for their able and eloquent, productions. The resistless arguments of the Hon. B. B. French, in his report to the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and of P. C. Tucker, Esq., in his address to the Grand Lodge of Vermont, have, we think, forever set the question at rest. From the east and the west, the north and the south we hear but *one opinion*, and that is, that the arguments adduced by these brethren are perfectly unanswerable. No attempt has yet been made, and probably none ever will be made to answer them. On the other hand, it is gratifying to find, that a large number of brethren, who, from want of information, have thought it possible that the Grand Lodge of Canada *might* be irregular, are now fully convinced of its legality. We have taken some pains to circulate those numbers of the *Pioneer* containing the documents to which we allude, and we are pleased to see that our masonic contemporaries, in every quarter, are giving them publicity. The result is sure. The mason whose skull is so thick as not to be penetrated by these arguments, may be left to grope in darkness, for it is certain that no farther assistance can be rendered by which he can be brought to light.”

UNAFFILIATED MASONS.

An unaffiliated mason is one who is not connected with any Lodge. There can be no doubt, says Mackey, that such a position is contrary to the spirit of our institution, and that affiliation is a duty obligatory on every mason. The old charges which have been so often cited as the fundamental law of masonry, say, that “every brother ought to belong to a Lodge, and be subject to its bye-laws and the general regulations.”

Explicitly as this doctrine has been announced, it has been too little observed. In all times unaffiliated masons have existed. Masons who have withdrawn from all active participation in the duties and responsibilities of the order; and who, when in the hour of danger and distress, have not hesitated to claim its protection or assistance, while they have refused in the day of their prosperity to add any thing to its wealth, its power, or its influence.

The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, has the following article on this subject, which, we have no doubt, will be strictly enforced.

“No Brother residing in this Province, and not affiliated with some Lodge, shall be entitled to the benefit of the benevolent funds

for himself or his family, to masonic burial, nor to take part in any masonic ceremony, *public* or *private*, nor entitled to any masonic privilege whatever. Nor can he be permitted to visit any one Lodge in the town or place where he resides, more than once during his secession from the craft.”

Most of the Grand Lodges upon this continent, at least, are entering their protests against the system of “demitting” as it is termed, and excluding from all masonic privileges, those masons, if they may be so called, who think so little of the institution as to withhold from it their support. The committee on foreign correspondence of Ohio, we believe, recommends their expulsion from the order. It is clearly the duty of every mason to be a contributing member of some Lodge. And those in Canada who are not, must not expect in future to enjoy any of the benefits of the institution.

We invite the attention of our readers to the following extract from a letter written by our esteemed Brother H. J. Martin, W. M. of Golden Rule Lodge, No. 8, R. C., Stanstead, C. E. We hope the object of its publication will be attained, and shall feel obliged by any information in reference to the whereabouts of the old warrant. In times gone by, “*surrendered warrants*” do not appear to have been in quite so great demand in Canada, as they have been more recently. Otherwise the venerable parchment of 1814 might, perhaps, be found adorning the wall of some old past-master's bed-room, and constituting the “*Legitimate*” Golden Rule Lodge. No matter if all the members had united with another jurisdiction.

“I wish to make an inquiry—and I fancy I can get an answer only through that valuable paper the *Pioneer*.”

In 1814, the 23rd day of February, Golden Rule Lodge, No. 19, Standstead, L. C., was installed, and worked under a warrant of constitution from the “Grand Lodge of the most honorable fraternity of united ancient freemasons of England, in and for the province of Canada, and masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging”—“Quebec.”

The Lodge continued to work under this warrant until the “20th Dec. 1823, when the Lodge received an order from the Grand Lodge of Montreal, to surrender the old warrant and take out a new one directly from England.

Past Master J. C. Peasley was sent to town with the warrant, and surrendered it to the Provincial Grand Lodge on the “30th Dec. 1823.”

The new warrant was received from England, bearing date “April 26th, 1824.”

Now what I wish to ascertain is, *what* has become of the old warrant issued by the Grand Lodge at Quebec? Was it sent home to England, or retained by Provincial Grand Lodge and burned at the time the Masonic Hall was burned in Montreal some time ago, or is it still in the hands of some venerable brother, who was a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge at the time, say brother Turton Penn who was the Grand Secretary.

Why I make these inquiries is this. Golden