

In consequence of the settlement of the difficulties between the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Lodge of Quebec, on the 17th of February, 1874, the Grand Master of Vermont promptly, on the 28th Feb'y., 1874, revoked and abrogated the edict of 27th Dec., 1872, forbidding Masonic intercourse between Vermont and Canada.

Lodges, 100. Membership, 10,447.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary both re-elected.

VIRGINIA—1873.

Annual Communication, 8th December, 1873. M. W. Robert E. Withers, Grand Master; and R. W. John Dove, Grand Secretary. 112 Lodges represented.

From the address we learn that "Peace and harmony have pervaded our entire jurisdiction during the past Masonic year." Fraternal remembrance is given to the memory of Past Grand Master, Levi L. Stevenson, a member of the Grand Lodge for fifty-three years. Dispensations had been issued for the formation of five new Lodges.

The Grand Master had, with "great hesitation, and strong doubts of its propriety," granted permission to a Gift Concert or Enterprize in aid of the completion of a Masonic Temple. He says:

"Believing the tendency of such enterprizes, at least, of doubtful character, nothing but the entire confidence I felt in the brethren who proposed to conduct it, and a conviction that it afforded the only prospect of relief from a most embarrassing complication, threatening ruinous pecuniary loss to the Fraternity of that city, induced me to give it my sanction; and though precedent furnished by this Grand Lodge can be cited to sustain my action, yet I feel constrained to indicate my desire that this additional precedent may not hereafter be pleaded to justify a resort, on ordinary occasions, to this method of raising funds."

We cannot but regret that any such precedents should be given, even under the most pressing necessity. There can be no doubt of the demoralizing tendency of such a mode of providing the ways and means for any object in connection with the Fraternity. Were the consent of Grand Lodges persistently withheld from such schemes, it would, in a great measure, prevent the reckless incurring of liabilities, assumed without caution, and entailing a resort to measures of the kind referred to, as necessary to relieve the Craft from pecuniary embarrassment.