

amining my dear Higgins' clothes, hoping, if such a beast as a goat was used, to find some stray hairs which might have escaped from the back of that horrid animal. I made a thorough examination, but alas! nothing of the kind was to be found; and I returned disconsolate to my friend Mrs Clatterback, to inform her of what I had done, and what little success had attended my search. She told me I was very silly to expect anything of the sort to be found, as, she had it from the very best authority, that 'before using the goat, it was always covered with a white sheet—she had washed it, and saw with her own eyes the holes left for the horns. Now I always thought I was a very clever woman; but I must confess I am not quite so clever as I imagined. Why, Mr. Editor, use a goat? And why prevent wives from accompanying their husbands into the Lodge Room? Was it ever known that the appearance of woman in an assemblage tended to mar the happiness or joy of those around her? Is her advice and confidence to be despised and trodden under foot as useless and insignificant? Is her company obnoxious to a man as soon as he becomes what is called *initiated*?—the literal meaning of which is, abstracting from his or perhaps his wife's pocket, twelve dollars;—If not, why this exclusion? Why this secrecy from them alone? If they are not worthy of full confidence in all your doings, why unite yourselves with them in the holy bonds of wedlock? Some will say that a woman cannot keep a secret; but I stand forward as the champion of my sex, and exclaim that we are capable of keeping locked within our bosoms the mightiest secret of the two. I say, Mr. Editor, that by that one act—keeping the ladies from entering your Lodge—your profession of love and good will to all men, and women too, becomes—yes, I will say—by that one act alone, Odd-Fellowship becomes a disgrace to humanity; it casts a shade, a dark cloud over all the mottoes of Friendship, Love, &c. which adorn the walls of your Lodge Room. But I feel my temper beginning to get the better of me, and I will say no more. Yes I will—my once-loved Higgins has just returned from the Lodge. I have asked him in my usual loving manner what kept him—(the clock just struck twelve)—he replies, "they had been discussing their new By-Laws," and presented me with a copy. I told him I much feared they had been discussing something of a very different and more exhilarating nature—something to cheer and comfort their own poor distressed hearts, as well as the widow and orphans which we hear so much of. I have read and examined the copy of the By-Laws, the Constitution, the Resolutions of what you call your Grand Lodge, and can find no section, article or line, which prohibits the admission of women in membership into your 'Order—not a word—not a line. Now how can you prevent us women from becoming members? I write for information, Mr. Editor; and I request a speedy reply—a reply as swift as meditated on the thoughts of love, for I am determined to be proposed. If Higgins refuses, I'll call on you; and if you will not, your Worthy Grand Sire will. He is too good-natured to refuse to do anything

—I am confident he will, if both Higgins and you refuse. I remain, my dear Mr. Editor, yours, &c.

SOPHIA HIGGINS.

Montreal, November 10, 1846.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE R. W. GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF CANADA.

Montreal, October 10, 1846, 7½ P. M.

The R. W. Grand Encampment met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—M. W. G. P. Matthews in the Chair—R. W. G. S. W. Hamilton, R. W. G. Scribe Hilton, R. W. G. T. Whitney, R. W. G. Rep. Dunkin; Reps. Dyde, Sache, Edmonstone.

Roll called.

Minutes of last Session read and approved.

The following communications were then read, together with replies of the Grand Scribe thereto:—from Scribe St. Louis Encampment, Quebec, 12th Sept., 1846; Do. do. 14th Sept.; J. C. Chase, Stanstead, 21st Sept.; R. H. Taylor, Peterboro', 24th Sept.; Rep. Leseur, Quebec, 28th Sept.; Scribe Stadacona Encampment, Quebec, Oct. 2; Scribe St. Louis Encampment, Quebec, Sept. 30; Do. do. Oct. 2.

On motion of G. Rep. Dunkin, seconded by G. T. Whitney, these several communications were received, placed on file, and the answers to the same confirmed.

The M. W. G. Patriarch reported the return of the Deputation to Canada West, and that he was in possession of the necessary documents relating to the institution of Wellington Encampment, No. 5, in the City of Toronto.

On motion of G. T. Whitney, seconded by G. Rep. Dunkin, it was resolved, That the said documents be referred to the Committee on Elections and Returns, and if found correct and in due form, the G. Scribe be instructed to notify the Subordinates under this Jurisdiction of the Institution of Wellington Encampment, No. 5.

The G. Scribe, from the Committee on that subject, presented the following Report:—

The Special Committee to whom was referred the subject of Blank Books and Forms for the use of this Grand Encampment, do report, that they have procured the same, and that they are now in possession of the Encampment.

(Signed)

W. HILTON,

H. H. WHITNEY.

On motion of G. Rep. Dunkin, seconded by Rep. Dyde, the Report was received, and the Committee discharged.

G. Rep. Dunkin reported verbally the fact of his having attended the late Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the United States at Baltimore, and the favorable action of that Body, in regard to the application of the Grand Lodge and Grand Encampment of Canada for its recognition of a Sovereign Grand Lodge of British North America; stated that as soon as he should receive a printed copy of the whole proceedings of the Session, he would lay the same in due form before the Grand Encampment; and laid before the Grand Encampment a certified copy of the Charter, drafted under the orders of the Grand Lodge of the United States, to bear date the 24th ult., for the said Grand Lodge of British North America.

On motion of G. Rep. Dunkin, seconded by Rep. Dyde, the same was referred forthwith to a Committee of the Whole, for consideration and Report.

After some time spent in Committee, the M. W. G. P. resumed the Chair, and G. S. W. Hamilton, as Chairman of the Committee, reported the following Resolutions, which, on motion of G. T. Whitney, seconded by Rep. Sache, were adopted.

Resolved,—Provided the R. W. Grand Lodge of Canada shall concur—that this R. W. G. Encampment