

of the volume would have exceeded prudential limits; and, notwithstanding my efforts to be concise in this and other particulars, the number of pages has exceeded my original intention.

The volume contains histories of the early Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; Hiram Lodge, No. 17; St. John's Lodge, under the warrant held from Nova Scotia, England and New Brunswick; Excerpts from records of Old Mark Master's Lodge; Biographical sketches of the Founders of St. John's Lodge, and of the Brethren who have presided in the East; Roll of members of St. John's Lodge from 1802 to 1894, etc.; Lodge of New Brunswick from 1784 to 1855; Lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge of N.B.; Grand Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges, etc., etc.; Royal Arch Masonry; Council of Knights of the Red Cross; Royal Ark Mariner's Lodge; Royal and Select Masters; Knights Templars; Royal Order of Scotland; Order of Rome and Constantine; Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite; Buildings in St. John, occupied by Masonic Bodies, etc., etc.

In the early history of Masonry in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the author shows the "free and easy" mode of government assumed by the lodges in those early times. How the "*Dermont or Ancients*" Grand Lodge of England was not at all scrupulous in granting extraordinary privileges or allowing the utmost latitude to the Subordinate bodies holding under this Grand Lodge. How St. Andrews, No. 155 and St. John, No. 211, in Halifax, N.S., granted dispensations and started no less than five other lodges into existence. One of these was Hiram, No. 17, the Pioneer Lodge of New Bruns-

wick. This lodge after working two years under the dispensation granted by the two foregoing lodges received a warrant from the Provincial Grand Lodge of N.S., dated at Halifax, Dec. 6, 1786.

The following sketch of its history shows how some of our fraternity in those good old times understood their obligation:

Hiram Lodge had an existence of only twelve years, during which time, if the sparse population of Saint John be considered, it increased quite rapidly in membership, as shown by the returns made to the Provincial Grand Lodge. The total additions during that period by initiation and affiliation numbered seventy-six.

The unfortunate troubles which arose in the lodge, and eventually caused its extinction, are taken from the Provincial Grand Lodge records and files of papers. They had their origin during the time W. Brother John Sinnott occupied the East. It appears that he was a clerk in the office of Samuel Hake, a brother mason and commissary of stores of war and provisions. Hake, unfortunately for his reputation as a mason and an official of the imperial government, was in the habit of secreting or misappropriating the stores and provisions in his department. His perfidious practices were discovered by a cooper in the employ of the department and reported to the military authorities. Upon the information laid by this man, a court of inquiry was summoned by order of His Excellency Brigadier General Carleton, to which Bro. Sinnott, who was also cognizant of the embezzlement, was notified to attend and give evidence. Previous to the hearing, Hake, who was a member of the lodge, obtained the appointment of a committee of brethren to bring influence to bear upon Sinnott to keep him away from the court, and, if possible, dissuade him from giving his testimony. Sinnott, while acknow-