

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, has given notice of the following motion for December:—"That the Board of General Purposes be requested to procure a return of the number of Provincial Grand Lodges held in each province during the last ten years, specifying those at which the Prov. Grand Master has presided in person, and to report the same to Grand Lodge."

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The Canadian Masonic Pioneer.

MONTREAL, DEC. 1, 1856.

Besides publishing a Supplement we are this month compelled to put off the publication of several interesting articles and communications in order to give, in full, a report of the last regular communication of the Grand Lodge of England, and also, the report of a special committee of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia appointed a second time to consider the legality of the proceedings which attended the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The simultaneous publication of these two reports gives rise, in our mind, to very conflicting feelings. One of them we would very gladly withhold; but, interested as Canadian Masons are, in all that takes place, in the Grand Lodge of England, we fear that to do so, would be unjust to our subscribers. We therefore give, as it appears in the *Freemason's Magazine*, a report of what took place at the last meeting of that body, and we much mistake the spirit of our brethren in this province if its perusal does not give rise to feelings of sorrow and disappointment.—Sorrow, to see a body, which hitherto, they could and did respect, conducting their business in a manner more befitting a Covent garden cider cellar than a temple: and disappointment, that, while evidently admitting the existence of many of the evils complained of by Canadian, and, as it appears, other Colonist Masons, Lord Zetland should confine his proposed ameliorations to mere petty half-measures which, however good in themselves so far as they go, come altogether short of the requirements of the craft, and which we firmly believe, will, if adopted, only make the "confusion" which already exists "worse confounded."

ed"—simply because that instead of simplifying the machinery by which the G. L. of England manages colonial affairs they go to make it more complicated.

Of the report to the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, we feel that nothing need be said. Its rise, progress, and consummation, as well as the circumstances which attended its every step are best explained by itself. Its results to the Gr. Lodge of Canada must be important, but it will take time to develop them. Meantime, we hope that it may come under the eye of every Mason in Canada, no matter from what Grand Lodge he hails, and to this end, trust that our city cotemporary, which took the initiative in publishing a very excellent synopsis of the report to, and action of, the Massachusetts Grand Lodge on Canadian matters, will, in fairness to its own readers (if for no higher motive) devote like space to a condensation of the one we now publish, which emanates from brethren second to few, if any, upon this continent, in their knowledge of Masonic law and usages, and which has been adopted by a Grand Lodge, remarkable alike for the inflexibility of its rule within its own jurisdiction and the jealousy with which it has eyed all past aspirants to Masonic equality with itself.

REPORT OF THE GRAND LODGE OF COLUMBIA.

In the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, in annual communication, Nov. 4th, 1856.

Bro. Past Grand Master B. B. French, from the Committee to whom was re-committed, in June last, all the papers relative to the formation of the Independent Grand Lodge of Canada, for re-examination, made the following report, which was read, accepted, and the resolution accompanying the same, was agreed to by the Grand Lodge.

To the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

The undersigned, a Committee appointed to consider the matter of the recognition by this Grand Lodge, of "The Grand Lodge of ancient, free and accepted masons of Canada," make the following report:

That,—at the semi-annual meeting of this Grand Lodge, in May last, the Most Worshipful Grand Master laid before this Grand Body, a circular from the Grand Lodge of Canada, stating, very fully, the reasons for the formation of that Grand Lodge, and closing in the following words—

"Engaged in one common cause—the good of our fellow-men, by promoting the interest of our time-honored Institution—and it being our sincere desire to establish and perpetuate an intimate alliance with your Grand Lodge, we extend to you, in the name of our Divine Art, the right hand of brotherhood, and confidently claim from you a reciprocation of our fraternal regard."

That circular was referred to the undersigned as a Committee to consider and report upon the same forthwith. The Committee retired at once, and having examined the circular, had no hesitation in coming to a unanimous conclusion that it was the duty of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, to recognize the Grand Lodge of Canada, and enter at once into fraternal correspondence with it.

They accordingly reported resolutions carrying out their views, and after the reading of the circular, and such necessary explanations as the subject seemed to demand, those resolutions were unanimously adopted by this Grand Lodge, and our Grand Secretary was instructed to transmit a certified copy of them under the seal of the Grand Lodge, to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of the Provinces of Canada.

This, your Committee, are officially informed, the Grand Secretary did, accompanying the same by a letter, dated May 8th, 1856, expressing, in a very appropriate manner, the action of this Grand Lodge.

Thus, as your Committee supposed, the most fraternal relations were established between this Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of Canada.

On the 13th of June following, the Chairman of your Committee received a letter from our Most Worshipful Grand Master, accompanied by a printed circular from the Secretary of the "Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West," which, that this Grand Lodge may understand the entire matter, your Committee embody in this report.

Here follows the Circular of the P. G. L. of Canada West, with which our readers, are, no doubt, acquainted, and which we are compelled to omit for want of space.—ED. C. M. P.

Grand Master's Office,
Gr. Lodge of the Dist. of Columbia,
June 13th, A. L., 5856.

M. Wor. Sir and Brother.

Enclosed I send you a printed communication dated the 28th ult, from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, under the authority of the M. W. Grand Lodge of England, recently received by me, having reference to the formation of a new and Independent Gr. Lodge in Canada, and which latter Grand Lodge we recognized at our last G. L. Communication.

I had doubts, from the commencement, of the propriety of our recognition of the doings of the latter, not only upon the mere abstract ground of insubordination on their part to their legitimate head, but also because of the stand we had taken in reference to a like question in the State of New York, but I was overruled in my opinion by those of others whom I consulted, and induced to present the matter to the Grand Lodge without any suggestive objections on my part.