

nd in the cutting
make all kinds of
b, and the "wise
end understand-
which was cen-
e Mount.

Temple that the
s sublimity and
and magnificent
fellow crafts, and
of 156,600 men.
ith *understand-*
iron, stone, and
itect.

y traced to the
degree obscured
ch followed.

ts conquest, by
st, A.M. 3949 or
tinued gradually
e Roman legions
Masonry departed.
urred in Britain
t remains, unless
me, that Ambro-
nument on Salis-
om the populace
nee of the bloody
sh nobles.

thens, despising
ans and Britons,
glorious remains
Scotemen came
nity; but it was
d King of Kent;
Heptarchy were
o build churches
nothing but the
ignorant and des-
ow to repair the

ise, but did not
ronized by the
m the night of
n Masonry arose
dawn spread its
America.

a, and in Penn-
the English sol-

diers, who came to protect the Colonists of the eastern portion of the States, now known as the United States of America; from thence it gradually spread itself northward. But the original Charters from which Masonry in Canada sprung, came from England—that in Quebec the most ancient.

Rawdon Lodge held its sittings under a Warrant from the Prince of Wales.

Having now cursorily traced Masonry from its foundation to its debut in Canada, you, perhaps, would like that I should continue a subject so fruitful for the Canadian Mason, and sketch its progress here; but time will not permit, and I can only state that the first Masonic Lodge (Rawdon) that sat in Toronto, was on the 14th day of May, 1797; and that Masonry has continued to flourish as the green bay tree since that period. That this District alone contains 23 Lodges, over which I have the honor to preside, and that there are 175 Lodges now working under the Grand Lodge of Canada, besides several working under other jurisdictions.

If we look back through the long vista of ages, so far as history, tradition, or other evidences point, do we not find the most celebrated sages, heroes, and patriots, numbered with the craft. If we open the sacred volume of inspiration, will we not discover a recognition of Masonry in numberless passages, and so indubitable as to convince us that the writers had a knowledge of the Art. Without reference to the many texts which support this suggestion, there is one so clear, I must ask you to examine it. In xxviii. chap. of Isaiah, 16 verse, you will find these remarkable words:—"Therefore thus saith the Lord God, "Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a *tried stone*, a precious *corner stone*, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Judgment will I also lay to the *line*, and righteousness to the plummet," &c. Here it is obvious that emblems are taken from Masonry to illustrate and enforce religious and moral truths.

But Masonry is not only venerable for its antiquity, *honorable* from the virtue, merit and talents of the Brethren in every age of the world, and praiseworthy for the utility of its labours; it possesses, besides, in its nature, every principle that dignifies or adorns humanity, and every quality that sweetens and embellishes life.

"To do Justice and love Mercy" are the peculiar characteristics of the Brethren; and the beautiful charge of our Divine Master, "Do unto others as you would that others should do unto you," is impressed on the heart of every true Mason; the walls of a Lodge shut out evil passions: *malice, guile, hypocrisy*; envy and evil speaking enter not there, whilst affections that soften the heart to benevolence are received and cherished.

These are the fundamental principles of our Order, and are summed up by that inspired Master, St. Paul, in these words: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, what-