

list of about nine paying members; and that at the emergent communication of that Lodge on the 24th of June, (four days after I left the Province) the names of W. N. Kennedy, E. G. Conklin, W. G. Scott, and others, appeared as visitors, and a motion was recorded on the same evening declaring the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba illegal. At this meeting Bros. W. N. Kennedy, Geo. Black, and others, accepted the appointment of delegates to protest against the proceedings of the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

At my visit on the 4th November, the Lodge was opened by the aid of visitors, who fortunately happened to be present, at about 10 o'clock, p.m. There was no business before the Lodge, and there had been no initiations for twelve months. During the year several months had passed without any meeting.

In view of the foregoing facts, and the disloyal action of Lisgar Lodge, and in remembrance of a similar disloyal motion, which I had removed at my last official visit, I considered the charter of that Lodge should be arrested, and so expressed myself in open Lodge; but as a proposition had been made for removing it to Selkirk, about five miles northward, with apparently brighter prospects, and as the Board of General Purposes were summoned to meet on the 7th of November, I concluded to delay action until I had inquired further into their prospects at Selkirk, and laid their case before the Board. On the following day I visited Selkirk, and, finding the proposed Lodge room unsuitable, their prospects hopeless, and their disloyalty greater than I had discovered on the previous evening, I returned to A. W. Mee, the W.M. of Lisgar Lodge, and asked him for the books, papers, &c., of that Lodge. They were refused, and I immediately summoned him to appear at the Board of General Purposes on the evening of the 7th. and to bring with him the warrant of Constitution and all books, papers, &c., belonging to the Lodge.

To this summons he paid no heed, and on the 12th of November I arrested the charter and suspended the Lodge. On the same date I received the following notice:—

[COPY.]

"GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

"WINNIPEG, Man., 11th Nov., 1878.

"DEAR SIR AND M. W. BRO.,—You are hereby notified to attend an Emergent Communication of Grand Lodge, to be held in the Masonic Hall, here, on Thursday, the 22nd inst., at the hour of 10 o'clock, a.m., for the purpose of re-considering the business transacted at the last Communication of Grand Lodge. Also, to consider the true position of Freemasonry in this Province,

and to take such action as may be advisable for the good of Freemasonry.

"Fraternally yours,
"(Signed) E. G. CONKLIN,
"Grand Junior Warden."

[COPY.]

"WINNIPEG, 12th Nov., 1878.

"DEAR SIR AND BRO.,—You will please transpose Wednesday, the 20th, in place of Thursday, the 22nd, in Grand Lodge notice of 11th instant.

"Fraternally yours,
"E. G. CONKLIN,
"Grand Junior Warden."

This note was received on the 18th—probably was written after notice of the Board of General Purposes had been received, so as to have the clandestine meeting before the Board pronounced upon the conduct of offending brethren.

I promptly suspended Bro. E. G. Conklin by the issue of the following Edict:—

"GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA, ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASON.

"Office of the Grand Master,
"WINNIPEG, Nov. 12th, 1878.

"To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of all Regular Grand Lodges of Freemasons throughout the world, to whom these presents shall come—

"GREETING:

"BRETHREN,—I am compelled, in the proper discharge of my duty, to issue the following

"EDICT:

"To all Brethren in obedience to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A. F. & A. M.

"Whereas, Bro. E. G. Conklin has presumed to issue, without my knowledge or consent, a notice, calling a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, such notice bearing date, Winnipeg, Nov. 11th, 1878, and signed by him as G. J. Warden—which he is not; and whereas such proceeding is a direct violation of the Constitution, clause 18, on page 16, and an usurpation of my authority:

"Be it therefore known to you all that I, in virtue of the authority in me vested, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A. F. and A. M., do hereby suspend the said Bro. E. G. Conklin from all Masonic rights and privileges, and all brethren are hereby notified not to hold Masonic intercourse with him; and any Brother who shall appear at the Masonic Hall, Winnipeg, or elsewhere within this jurisdiction, in answer to such clandestine notice, or any similar notice, shall be subject to like penalty of suspension.

"Witness my Hand and Seal of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, at Winnipeg, Province: