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THE CRAFTSMAN

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VOL. I.

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NO. 13.

HISTORY OF MASONRY IN CANADA.—No. 4.

BY B. W. BRO. S. D. FOWLER, P. O. S. W.

(Continued.)

We now make some extracts from the report of R. W. Bro. MacGillivray H. R. Highness the Duke of Sussex.

"On my arrival at York, and after seeing Bro. Fitzgibbon respecting whom I had made sufficient previous enquiry, I determined to appoint him my Deputy, and accordingly gave him the necessary act of appointment. It then did, and still appears to me that Bro. Fitzgibbon's character and habits qualify him peculiarly for the performance of the duties of what is likely to prove rather a troublesome office, and what requires more than ordinary zeal in the cause, to undertake. His masonic experience has not been very great, but such instruction as I was capable to afford has been given him, and I feel confident that he will soon greatly improve the state of the Lodges under his superintendance.

"It was obviously necessary to appoint a Prov. Secretary, to assist and act under the direction of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and from the great extent of the province, (some of the Lodges being situated at a distance of 500 miles from each other,) and the probability that the Prov. Grand Lodge might occasionally meet in different districts, I thought it would be extremely convenient to have the assistance of two Secretaries, and therefore in addition to Bro. Dean, I appointed Bro. Turquand assistant to the surveyor general of the province, to be the other Prov. Grand Secretary.

"On the 18th day of Sept. the brethren from the country began to arrive, and they kept making their appearance in twos and threes during the 19th, 20th, 21st, so that it was impossible to hold a meeting on the appointed day, (the 20th,) since there was some labor for the Secretaries and myself in arranging the documents brought up by the different Lodges, and preparing dispensations for them, without which, they had notice that they could not be received into the Prov. Grand Lodge. I saw very soon that the required payment of the registering fees would occasion difficulties, as it was easy to perceive the drift of several questions asked by different parties in succession, to detail all which would be needlessly to intrude upon your Royal Highness's time.

"At length, on the morning of the 21st, a note was placed in my hands stating that "a committee appointed by the delegates of several of the Lodges in the province wished to confer with me on "masonic business," to this note I returned a verbal answer, (the note was signed by C. Duncombe,

chairman of said committee,) by one of the secretaries, stating that I could not recognize or receive delegates from Lodges, nor hold any communication from a committee professing to act in that capacity. I had summoned the attendance of Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of Lodges, and I could not receive them in any other character, but if any private brethren, as individuals, wished to converse with me, I should at all times be glad to see them. Accordingly five of the brethren came to my quarters, and my deputy and secretary being present, a very long conversation took place, the whole of which it is impossible to repeat, but the substance of a part of which I feel it right to report to your Royal Highness.

"The Chairman of the Committee was the principal orator, and he really possessed great fluency of talking. He and those who thought with him, (for they were not unanimous,) wished to negotiate, instead of giving the preliminary promise which I had required, "to obey the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the commands of the Grand Master." They stated that although they directly represented only three Lodges, yet there were several others which would certainly follow their example; in short, they plainly gave me to understand that they were leaders of a party who were doubtful about submitting to my authority, and who meant to claim further concessions as the condition of receiving a Provincial Grand Master, appointed in England. The first point, therefore, for which they contended, was that they ought to have the power to appoint their own Grand Master. They were pleased to say that they had no objection to me, and they were even disposed to pay me personal compliments, but referred to my predecessor's neglect of his office, and asked what guarantee they could have against similar neglect in my successor, or what check they could have over a Prov. G. Master, unless that of a re-election. They then complained of being called on to pay the registering fee, talked of the poverty of the Province, (which at the present moment is too true,) and affirmed that several of them had already paid these fees to the Grand Lodge of Niagara, as it is called, and how did they know that they might not be called on to pay the same fees a third time? To these questions, some of which were scarcely courteous, I gave the best answers that occurred to me. I told them that after their Lodges had obtained warrants, and they themselves should be registered Masons on the books of the Grand Lodge, they would have a right to be there represented, and to complain of any misconduct or neglect in their Prov. G. Master or any other officer. That as to the fees, I lamented to hear it stated that they had already been paid at Niagara, since if that was the case, the

" money had been misapplied, and on further enquiry, they stated the fees to have been paid to the unfortunate Brother Danby; as to their plea of poverty, I observed that in my opinion, any individual to whom the amount of the fee was an object, was a very unfit person to be admitted a member of the Lodge, and as to giving them satisfaction that their fees should not be required a third time, I had to tell them it was not my intention to touch a shilling of their money, but having obtained the consent of the Hon. John H. Dunn, His Majesty's Receiver General for the Province, to act as Prov. Grand Treasurer, it was my intention to propose his election to that office, and they would thus have a sufficient security for all moneys paid to him. I requested them to understand that they were not to expect concessions as if I were negotiating with them, or had any point to gain by persuading them. On the contrary, they were to be the gainers, they were at present not within the pale of legitimate Masonry, and in consequence of their own repeated applications to the Grand Lodge, I was authorized to receive them into the fraternity on very liberal terms, which had been very fully explained in the circular letter, and ample instructions given respecting the steps to be taken by them to qualify themselves to be so received; and if they neglected or refused to follow those instructions, or if their influence should persuade others so to do, they themselves would be the only sufferers, because they would be excluded from communication with the Lodges forming the regular establishment. I laid before them the Book of Constitution, and my own instructions from Your Royal Highness, and told them that having made no reserve or concealment from the beginning, but having, with the frankness which I thought became my Masonic character, duly stated explicitly what was required of them, they were to consider what my ground was, and that I should abide by it. They said that their Lodges had not had time to prepare the necessary documents in consequence of the short notice, and that they had brought no money with them to pay their fees, to which I replied that money was no question with me, the Lodges would have to settle that point, when they had received their dispensations, with the Provincial Treasurer when he should be elected, and it was my duty to see that none should receive dispensations, except such as took the proper way of applying for them.

" This was the result of the conference, and I understood afterwards that there was a general meeting of the Brethren held in the evening, the particulars of which did not transpire, nor did I make any enquiries about them.

" The following day was Sunday, and having given dispensations to all the Lodges whose officers had applied with the proper documents, I appointed them to assemble in Prov. G. Lodge on Monday, the 23rd, at noon. The Lodge No. 16, at York, had a very good Lodge room, which was prepared for the occasion, and as soon as the keys were in our possession, I delivered to the Secretaries the formal instructions inserted in the appendix No. 17, directing whom to admit and whom to exclude; and whether in consequence of this decided step, or of a previous re-consideration, I know not, but I was speedily favored with another

" visit from the delegates, who came now to express their regret at having been misinformed on some points, and to offer their own influence in order to satisfy their own and other Lodges of which they had spoken, and to request permission to attend the Prov. G. Lodge. I told them I was glad to find this change in their sentiments, but I did not see how they could be admitted to the Prov. G. Lodge unless they had brought up the proper documents to enable me to grant dispensations to their Lodges. As individuals I could not admit them, nor I could not accept the promise or promised influence of any person, as an equivalent for the official proceedings of Lodges and the signatures of petitioners. On this a petition from one Lodge, regularly signed, and which it seems was kept back to try what I would concede without it, was produced, and I gave them a dispensation, but still two Brethren remained unqualified to be admitted, and as I refused to deviate from the plan I had laid down, or to receive them as members of the Grand Lodge, they asked permission to attend as visitors; to this I objected, and pointed out to them the difference betwixt the situation in which they had placed themselves, and that of actual visiting Brethren, or members of acknowledged Lodges. Their Lodges were for the present, in consequence of their own contumacy, to be considered not acknowledged by the Grand Lodge, and until they should set themselves right on this point, none of their members could be admitted to any Masonic communication. Upon this, one of the gentlemen (he who had been the principal spokesman,) said, that according to my explanation, he had a right to be present as a visitor, in consequence of being a Past Master of a lodge in the United States, and, admitting the principle, I asked him for documents to prove the fact, but he said he had left them at home; and then considering that the point I wished to establish was now fully admitted, and that it might be good policy to send these persons home satisfied with our proceedings, I told them that although they were not members of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and I could not permit them to assist in constituting it, yet that after the Lodge was opened, if they should apply for admission as visitors, I should not prevent them being so admitted, but should submit the question to the decision of the Lodge, and thus the matter was satisfactorily settled, as the vote for their admission was unanimous.

" I annex in Appendix No. 18, a copy of the proceedings of our Prov. G. Lodge, which, in substance at least, will, I trust, be satisfactory to Your R. Highness. In the choice of officers, I was led by the wish, as much as possible, to conciliate the feelings of the different parties, and to shew impartiality between the different districts of the Province.

" Thus the Prov. Grand Senior Warden is the son of Dr. Kerr, of whom I have already made mention, and who is himself a member of the Prov. Legislature. The Grand Junior Warden is a respectable lawyer residing in Kingston. The Grand Senior Deacon is the son of Bro. Adams, whom I superseded as nominal Provincial Grand Master, at Niagara; and the Grand Junior Deacon is a young lawyer from Kingston; of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the Treasurer, and the

" Secretaries I have already spoken, and the Chaplain is a respectable clergyman from Brockville, and principal of the Royal Arch Chapter at that place, thus the Prov. Grand Lodge is very respectably constituted, and I trust its proceedings will continue to merit the approbation of your R. Highness and the Grand Lodge.

" In order to avoid any reference to former dissensions, I prevented any mention of the convention or of its proceedings from appearing in our minutes. The members of that body formed a decided majority amongst us, and their first proposition was to confirm the proceedings of the convention, and to pass a vote of thanks to its president, Bro. Phillips. I said I had no objection to a vote of thanks to Bro. Phillips for his services in the cause of masonry generally, and that it was my intention to confer on him a mark of distinction in the Prov. Grand Lodge, but in consequence of the differences which had existed among them, the proceedings of the one party could not be confirmed without implying a censure of the other, and to deal frankly with them, I could not concur in wholly approving the conduct of either party. The vote of thanks, as it now stands in the minutes, was then passed, and I have since transmitted to Bro. Phillips the mark of distinction to which I alluded, being a warrant or patent which gives him in the Province of Upper Canada the rank of a Past Prov. Deputy Grand Master.

" These gentlemen who had been elected at Niagara as Prov. and Deputy Grand Masters, I have left to return to the ranks as private brethren, but I have recognized the rank of Dr. Kerr and another Brother; who were in succession appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Masters by Bro. Jervis, and as they were both from the Niagara District and of the Niagara party, I thought it fair to appoint Mr. Phillips to the same rank, as representing the Kingston District and the party of the convention.

" This is the only instance in which I have exceeded the specific powers contained in my commission, and in consideration of the circumstances of the case, I humbly hope your R. Highness will approve of the proceeding.

" In order, so far as I could, to prevent any future recurrence to the dissension which had existed or at any rate to put upon record my opinions as to the merits of the case between the two parties, I took occasion in answering a letter from Bro. Adams containing a rather injudicious application in behalf of the unfortunate Bro. Danby, to enter a little into the merits of the case at Niagara. Bro. Adams letter and my answer, with a further letter of the same date, and on the same subject to Bro. Kerr are inserted in the appendix, Nos. 19, 20 and 21. Then lest it should hereafter be asserted that I had wholly approved of the proceedings of the convention, I thought it right subsequently to write to Bro. Phillips and to my Deputy, Bro. Fitzgibbons, the letters Nos. 22 and 23, with which I shall conclude the appendix to this report, reserving for the subject of separate applications, various points upon which I shall have to solicit your further instructions, which appear to me likely to promote the interests of Masonry in Upper Canada.

" I could have wished to make this Report less voluminous, but it seemed to me right to mention all the circumstances I have stated.

" The substance of it is that in pursuance of your Royal Highness's instructions I have constituted in Upper Canada a regular Prov. Grand Lodge, and have given dispensations to twenty private Lodges, of which one is a new Lodge, and the other nineteen of which I found acting under such warrants or dispensations as I have hereinbefore specified. Their petitions for warrants of constitution, I herewith submit to your Royal Highness and beg permission humbly to second their request that the same may be granted. There are, or have been about sixteen Lodges more in different parts of the province, some of which from the distance and difficulty of communication to some of the new settlements have not had the opportunity to apply regularly for dispensations, and others possibly could not have obtained them. The cases of those whose character and conduct may entitle them to be received as Brothers, I shall hereafter have occasion to submit to your Royal Highness, and in the hope that this report of my proceedings will be received with that gracious indulgence which has always characterized your Royal Highness's acceptance of my humble services."

" I have the honor to be M. W. Grand Master,
&c. (Signed,)

SIMON MCGILLIVRAY,
Prov. Grand Master of Upper Canada.

The following is the letter of instruction to the Provincial Grand Secretaries for their guidance in admitting Brethren into the Prov. Grand Lodge, which R. W. Bro. McGillivray refers to in his report.

" YORK, 23rd September, 1822.

" From the liberal, cordescending and brotherly consideration of the interests of masonry in this province, manifested by the M. W. Grand Master in the appointment of the P. G. M., and in the instructions given to him, whereof the substance has been circulated by the Prov. Grand Secretary, and the printed letter bearing date the 7th inst., no other result could have been anticipated, than that the mission of the Prov. Grand Master should have been received with feelings of fraternal cordiality and gratitude to the M. W. G. Master, and to the Grand Lodge of England.

" It is to be regretted that the notice of meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge has been so short as perhaps to prevent some Lodges in the more remote parts of the province from being regularly represented, but this is of the less consequence, since Lodges in that situation will have opportunities to come forward hereafter, and this exception cannot be pleaded in favor of Lodges who have sent representatives or delegates to attend the meeting summoned by the Prov. Grand Master, and who have neglected or refused to take the necessary steps for duly qualifying them to be admitted and vote in the Prov. Grand Lodge.

" Since, therefore, it has become necessary to draw the line and to discriminate between those Lodges who are disposed to "promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master, and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge," and those who refuse such obedience, and who instead of receiving with becoming deference the constitution and submitting to the authority of the United Grand Lodge of England, seem to aim at

"setting up some separate authority for themselves, it only remains for the regularly constituted authorities to exclude from the benefits and privileges of fraternal and masonic communications all persons whom they shall find not regularly qualified to be admitted to the same.

"The Prov. Grand Secretaries are, therefore, hereby authorized and directed to station proper persons at the entrance of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and to admit no person, whatsoever, excepting the Prov. Grand Officers, or those summoned to be appointed such, and the Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of the Lodges regularly constituted by dispensation from

SIMON MCGILLIVRAY,
"Prov. Grand Master.

"To the Prov. Grand Secretaries of U. C."

All preliminaries having been arranged, the Prov. Grand Lodge met and was constituted in the Lodge room of Lodge No 16, at York, on Monday 23rd September, 1822. There does not appear to have been much business done besides granting dispensations to the various Lodges and appointing Prov. Grand Officers.

The following representatives were present :

Rev. Bro Smart, P. M., Sussex Lodge.....	No. 3, Brockville.
Alex. Hutton, W. M.....	4, Niagara.
Jas. Turline, Jr., S. W.....	
Alex. J. Ferris, W. M.....	6, Kingston.
Geo. Millward, P. M., St. John's.....	
John Dean, W. M.....	13, Bath.
Benj Fairfield, S. W., Addington.....	
Henry Hixson, W. M.....	15, Grimsby.
Thomas Hewitt, S. W. and P. M.....	
John Terry, W. M.....	16, York.
Thos Hamilton, P. M.....	
W. W. Pattison, P. M., St. John's.....	17, Belleville.
Ason Ladd, P. M.....	
Henry Skinner, P. M.....	19, Halimand.
Joseph Pringle, W. M., Union.....	25, Richmond.
Elias Smith Adams, S. W. and P. M.....	27, Murray.
John Singleton, W. M., United.....	Ancaster.
H. T. Page, W. M.....	
Abner Everitt, P. M.....	Newmarket.
Jos. Shepherd, J. W. and P. M., Union.....	
Jacob Harman, W. M. Western Light.....	Hallowell.
Wm. Spafford, W. M.....	
Isaac Austin, J. W. and P. M., P. Edward.....	

Being in all, 23 representatives from 14 Lodges.

After opening Prov. G. Lodge, and reading the patent of the Provincial Grand Master, the following officers were installed and invested :

James Fitzgibbon,	Dy. Prov G. Master.
W. Johnson Kerr, No. 2.....	Prov. G. Senior Warden.
Benj. Fairfield, 13.....	" Junior "
Hon John Dunn,	" Treasurer.
Rev Wm Smart, 3.....	" Chaplain.
John Dean, 13, }	" Secretaries.
Bernard Turquand, 1, }	
Elias S. Adams, 27.....	" Senior Deacon.
Alex J. Ferris, 6.....	" Junior "

Z. M. Phillips was appointed member of P. G. Lodge, with the rank of Past Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and it was

"Resolved unanimously, that this Provincial Grand Lodge entertain the highest sentiments of respect for Bro. Z M Phillips, for his distinguished abilities and unwearied exertions in promoting the welfare of the fraternity in this Province."

The rest of the business transacted was only routine, and is of no general interest.

On the 17th Sept., a few days before the Prov. G. Lodge assembled, Bro. Adams, of Grantham, and

Past Master of Lodge No. 27, made application by letter to the Prov. Grand Master, requesting that the P. G. Lodge might be induced to do something towards the support of Bro. Christopher Danby, whose name we have had already occasion to mention in connection with the Niagara section of the Craft. It appears that Bro. Danby's mind had broken down about three years previous, that he was perfectly destitute, and was supported by the charity of the brethren. Further, that Bro. Adams was responsible for \$190 due to the person who had the care of him. To this application R. W. Bro. McGillivray made the following reply :

YORK, 24th Sept., 1822.

"SIR,—I received your letter from Mr. Merritt, and as it was addressed to me officially, I produced it yesterday in the Provincial Grand Lodge, whose answer will be sent you by one of the Secretaries, and I think it must be obvious on a little consideration of the case, that no other answer could be given to the application on behalf of Mr. Danby.

"For any further consideration of this matter, I must therefore refer you to the Provincial Grand Lodge: but in consequence of the purport of your letter as applying to myself, and the grounds upon which Bro. Danby's claims are particularly pressed, I feel myself under the necessity of entering into some discussion which I had hoped to avoid, in regard to that assemblage of Masons, who have for some time in the Niagara District assumed the name and authority of a Provincial Grand Lodge. I was in hopes that my letter of the 26th ult., and the passages in the Book of Constitution to which I therein particularly referred, would have been taken as a sufficient explanation, without reducing me to the necessity of expressly declaring that ever since the removal from Niagara of the late Prov. G. Master, Bro. Jervis, there had been no regular or legitimate Grand Lodge in that District, and that all the proceedings which have taken place under and by such pretended authority have been entirely unsanctioned by the Grand Lodge of England, and subversive of the Laws and Constitution. It therefore follows that all the moneys which have been collected as Masonic dues from the Lodges, have been illegally collected and expended, and if Bro. Danby, before the decay of his intellects, was the skilful Mason you represent him, he must have been fully aware that this was the case; and if with that knowledge he contributed essentially to mislead the brethren who placed confidence in him, and induced them to continue unauthorized proceedings, the money arising from which was chiefly expended for his own use,—all of which I am informed was the case,—then I must say that however much he may be an object of general compassion, yet I cannot see what peculiar claim he has to be received and supported as a pensioner of the Provincial Grand Lodge. To create a fund of benevolence in the Province is certainly a very desirable object, but if it was accomplished, instead of being scarcely projected, I should consider its legitimate object to be the relief of merit in sudden or severe distress, rather than the support of indigence arising from habits of confirmed intemperance.

"It has been stated and offered to be proved before me that the registering fees now required to be paid to the Grand Lodge have already been

" paid by many masons in this province into the hands of Bro. Danby, whose receipts for the same were offered to be produced. Now if this be so, these Brethren have certainly a right to complain, and the use made of their money deserves a name which it is unnecessary for me to apply to it. In the masonic arrangements which have recently been made, I have been particularly desirous to avoid meddling with any subject likely to revive disputes or unpleasant feelings, and I have observed a particular tenderness in regard to the irregular proceedings at Niagara, but it seems to me but right that the gentlemen concerned in these proceedings should be aware of the real merits of the case, and in regard to Bro. Danby it ought to be understood that whatever hold he may have on the feeling of those gentlemen to whom he may have been long known, or with whom he may have associated, or whom he may have led or misled in these proceedings, yet it remains to be shown what claim that gives him on the Provincial Grand Lodge.

" So much, in the public situation in which I am placed, I have felt it necessary to say. As an individual, I enclose my mite for the relief of a Brother in distress, and I remain, sir, yours, &c.,

" (Signed), SIMON MCGILLIVRAY.

GEORGE ADAMS, ESQ.

The Prov. Grand Master having in the preceding letter entered somewhat into the particulars of the so called Niagara Prov. Grand Lodge and shown in what points they had been amiss, thought it incumbent on him also to say something to the other party; this he did in the following letters addressed respectively to his Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Fitzgibbons, and to the president of the late convention, Bro. Z. M. Phillips.

MONTREAL, 7th Oct., 1822.

" DEAR SIR,—After writing my letters of yesterday's date which you will receive herewith, I wrote the enclosed letter to Mr. Phillips, late president of the convention of masons at Kingston, and it has occurred to me that it would be right to transmit that also through your hands as the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, because as you have retained in your hands a copy of my letter of the 24th ult., to Mr. Adams, expressing a censure of the proceedings at Niagara, I consider it desirable that in case of any future reference to these proceedings, or to those of the convention, you may be able, as far as they go, to quote my opinions on both sides of the question. You will recollect it was from members of the convention that we met the greatest difficulty in carrying through the arrangements at York, and I should not be surprised if some of these gentlemen should attempt to give you trouble hereafter, in which case, or in the event of their attempting to express censure of the proceedings at Niagara; it may be well, in answer, to point out the irregularities of their own.

" Believe me, &c., (Signed),

" JAS FITZGIBBONS, ESQ., S. MCGILLIVRAY.

MONTREAL, 6th Oct., 1822.

" SIR AND BRO.,—On my way from Kingston in the steamboat on the 30th ult., I landed at Brockville and left in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Smart,

" to be delivered to you, a patent or warrant, constituting you an honorary member of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, with the rank of Past Prov. Deputy Grand Master, which document I hope came safely to your hands.

" When I had the pleasure of seeing you on the 21st August last, I stated to you that I would refrain from communicating any of my intended plans, until after I had heard the statements of the leading individuals of all parties, and to this intention I adhered, except in the instance of Bro. Dean, whom I appointed provisionally to the office of Prov. Grand Secretary. I found all the leading Brethren with whom I sought this previous communication equally disposed to receive my mission with satisfaction, and submit readily to the authority of the Grand Lodge, but each party augured strenuous opposition from the other, and to deal frankly with you, there was something of an uncharitable feeling in a few of the representations made to me on both sides. I had determined from the beginning to avoid, in fact and appearance, any partiality to either side, and I trust this determination is sufficiently manifest in the appointments I have made, and the measures I have adopted. If I had found the one party absolutely right, and the other absolutely wrong, this impartiality would not, I confess, have been quite just, although it might have been politic to conciliate the feelings of both parties; but, in fact, there was enough of error on both sides to render it desirable for both to avoid investigation of the authority under which they acted. If the convention had confined its proceedings within proper limits, that is, if it had only set about regulating the existing Lodges and making the necessary representations to the Grand Lodge, I should, as far as I am informed, exempt its members from censure, and as the case is I admit they have rendered service to the cause of masonry. But in assuming the authority to grant dispensations, they acted in violation of the law, as much perhaps as the Brethren in Niagara did in any of their proceedings, and if the authority under which these dispensations were granted, had been investigated, the convention would have been subject to serious masonic censure, and all the masons made under its assumed authority must have been disowned. In the course that has been pursued I have taken a great responsibility on myself in confirming some of these dispensations, and although I hope and trust my conduct in so doing will be approved, yet I am not at all certain that such will be the case. I mention these circumstances just to satisfy you that there was really something to be said on, or rather against both parties, and that the best course was that which I suggested, to avoid recurrence to the past, and to endeavor to be right for the future. As you were prevented from attending the meeting, and as you did not transmit to me in writing your charges against Bro. Kerr, I had nothing to do with them, and even if you had sent them, as you led me to expect, I should be very unwilling to bring them forward.

" I had neither the inclination nor the right to deprive Dr. Kerr of his rank in the Prov. Grand Lodge, and in appointing you to hold the same rank, I meant, (besides what I have expressed in the instrument itself), to mark that impartiality

"between both parties, which I wished to distinguish all my masonic proceedings in the province.

(Signed), SIMON MCGILLIVRAY,

"ZIBA MARCUS PHILLIPS, Esq"

GOOD AND PERFECT WORK.

BY BRO. DAXTER.

The allegory of Freemasonry is founded in circumstances which occurred at the building of King Solomon's Temple upon Mount Moriah, and in the Capitular Degrees it is extended to the downfall of Jerusalem—the destruction of the first temple—the captivity—the return, and the preparations for building a second temple on the site occupied by the first.

We are informed that the Temple of Solomon was commenced in the second month of the sacred year, A. M. 2992, and was completed in about seven years and six months; while the Ephesian Temple of Diana, in every respect its inferior, occupied the period of over two hundred years in building. By the great wisdom of King Solomon and the wonderful skill of the chief architect, the vast multitude of workmen employed were so classified and governed, the whole minutiae of the work so systematically arranged, and the execution of the designs so judiciously superintended, that the building progressed to its completion in the most perfect order and harmony. The timbers were prepared in the forests of Lebanon, and the stones were squared, marked and numbered in the quarries of Zeradatha; and so perfect was the workmanship in all its several parts, that the use of metal tools was not required in raising the polished walls of the building. All the materials fitted together with such exact nicety that, when the edifice was completed, its beautiful symmetry was regarded by spectators as most wonderful, if not miraculous.

"All was of the choicest masonry."

Nothing but good and perfect work was allowed to have a place in its walls. Every block was carefully examined, and tried by the overseer's square; if not found to be of just proportions and good workmanship, it was rejected and cast among the rubbish; if it stood the test, the faithful craftsman received his reward in due time.

Companions, we may here see a type of deep significance and moral grandeur; a type of that spiritual temple which is being erected by the great Master Builder of the Universe, the immortal blocks of which are being prepared in the quarries of earth. As moral craftsmen, we are placed here to work out our eternal destiny, and earn for ourselves the title of Most Excellent Masters. The great designs have been drawn for us by the Master's hand, and the specimens of work which we present will be tried by the great Overseer with the square of His eternal Truth. If our work is approved, it is written, "Ye shall have your reward." A time will come when the craftsmen of this world will be assembled to receive their wages. High twelve will strike in eternity, and the work of life will cease; then, if, as faithful craftsmen, we have performed well the work given us to do, we may go forth from the quarries of earth, prepared to receive the "wages of eternal life." Our work, it is

true, may be rejected of men and cast among the rubbish of prejudice and ignorance; yet, if it is in accordance with the designs of the great Master Builder, its merits will ultimately triumph. But if we prove unfaithful workmen; if we neglect the designs of the Chief Architect, and waste our working days in idleness, until our hands are stained with the rust of the implements that have been given us, in vain we may frame excuses and think to receive wages that are not our due; there is a record kept in eternity, and by that record we shall be judged.

THE MASONIC APRON,

Is the symbol of labor and of purity of life and rectitude of conduct. It should be of pure white lambskin, without any device whatever, and should be square with a triangular flap.

The investiture of the candidate with the apron among the primitive Masons, formed an essential part of the ceremony of initiation, and was attended with rites equally significant and impressive. This badge received a characteristic distinction from its peculiar color and material. With the Essenian Masons, it was accomplished by a process bearing a similar tenacity, and accompanied by illustrations not less imposing and satisfactory to the newly initiated neophyte. He was clothed in a long white robe, which reached to the ground, bordered with a fringe of blue ribbon, to incite personal holiness, and fastened tightly round the waist with a girdle, to separate the upper from the lower parts of the body. With feet bare and head uncovered, the candidate was considered a personification of Modesty and Humility, walking in the fear of God.

PRIVILEGED "COWANS."

To admit "Cowans" now would be regarded by universal Masonry as destructive to our *secret* brotherhood.

These Ishmaelites of the craft were, however, received in Scotland and elsewhere three centuries ago. They were licensed to do certain work, called "Cowan work." There were Fellow-Craft Cowans and Master Cowans. They could not hew and lay. They generally paid to the Deacon for the use of the craft the sum of five pounds and one pitcher of ale, and took an oath to be true and loyal to the craft.

The Lodge of Kilwinning, 1705, a quarter of a century before it ceased to be an operative and became a speculative Lodge of Freemasons, authorized the employment of *Cowans* when circumstances prevented Masters obtaining the services of regular Masons, a privilege conceded also to English craftsmen.

ABOUT HATING.—Hate not; it is not worth while. Your life is not long enough to make it pay to cherish ill will or hard thoughts toward any one.—What if that man has cheated you, or that woman has played you false. If this friend has forsaken you in your time of need, or that one, having your entire confidence, has concluded he prefers to treat you as a stranger? Let it all pass. What difference will it make when you go hence to an undiscovered country? All who ill-treat you now will be more sorry for it than you, even in your grief and disappointment can be.

"NAH-HAMI;"—AN IDYL OF JUDAH.

FOR THE CRAFTSMAN.

BY THE REV. STEWART PATTERSON.

BOOK IV.—CONTINUED.

Yes all is hushed, save by yon open door,
 Within whose threshold sit two sorrowing boys;
 Their bitter sobblings tell of sad distress,
 As with dwarfed arms they clasp the rigid neck
 Of child-loved Cibsah—Cibsah, little lamb,
 Who used to gambol by their side and share
 The figs and melons of its boy-lords' feasts;
 But now 'tis dead, and hopelessly they grieve,
 Or with their fingers opening wide its eyes
 Closed by the leaden chain and bolt of Death,
 Seek in the dull glazed orbs a spark of Life.

Watching her children with a troubled look,
 Beyond the shadow of the ample porch,
 A matron stands in silent reverie,
 Comely and fair, meet for a monarch's mate,
 With calm pale face, whose pure transparency
 The presence of her passing thoughts revealed,
 As o'er her brow with darkening shade they chased,
 Like cloudlets sweeping o'er some marbled dome.

'Tis fair Nah-Hami gazing at her young,
 Whose wasted features strike her anxious heart
 With deep forbodings of impending woes.

Nah-Hami, none more excellent than thou
 'Mong all the daughters of thy Father's House.
 Thy Husband's heart doth safely trust in thee;
 Thy Lord in honor 'midst the elders sits,
 And in the Gates thine own works bear thee praise.

Now from the dimness of the shadowy hall
 Steps forth Elimelek to join his wife;
 For as he knelt within his chamber shut,
 And offered up to God his oraisons,
 He heard the wailings of his children rise,
 And came their new-born grief to suage
 With words of comfort by a father breathed.
 His soul was anxious, for he knew full well
 How lax the tenore of their feeble lives;
 For Chilion was a blighted drooping flower,
 And Mahlon sickly from his mother's womb.

Gently Nah-Hami raised one graceful arm,
 And wordless pointed to the mournful group,
 Her pallid Darlings, and their dead pet lamb;
 As with the other round her husband thrown,
 She leans confidently upon his breast,
 The love light beaming from her tender eyes,
 And thus addresses him with pleading voice:

"Dear Lord—my husband—hear thy handmaid's words,
 Behold our blossoms fade before our eyes;
 We see them pale like Lilies of the field
 When the Sirocco, with its blighting breath,
 Blows from the furnace of the Sun-smote South—
 Fair Judah's hills are well beloved by me,
 And all her vales, where I in girlhood's days
 Roted hand in hand with troops of laughing mates,
 And twined bright coronals of Nature's gems,
 Or chased the rainbow winged butterflies,
 And wept to find how soon the glory dimmed
 Of painted insect or of tinted flower.

Oh dear, that stream by-whose still brink I've musced
 And dreamed sweet thoughts, as looking at its flow,
 I've dared to hope my own life's tide would prove
 As pure and tranquil as its passing flood.

And dear, that grove, that well remembered grove,

Beneath whose shade of ever-whispering leaves,
 When youths and maidens held a rustic fete,
 I met you first, my ever kind Elimelek,
 And felt you loved me, though you breathed it not,
 Till there once more (but not by chance) we met,
 And there you whispered softly in my ears
 Which blushing tingled to their very tips,
 Some sweet low syllables and words like these:

"Nah-Hami—Sister of my Soul—my Love—
 Daughter of Ethan wilt thou share my home?"
 And I not knowing what to say or do
 Hid my poor face affrighted in thy breast,
 And clang to you, and answered not a word,
 Scarce certain if I stood in Earth or Heaven,
 Till drawing me to your great heart, you pressed
 My Virgin lips with Loves first Holy kiss—
 Oh dear, that grove, thus hallowed to my soul
 By fond remembrance of early vows,
 Whose truth is proved through all our wedded life.

Next! next to it, of all the spots on earth,
 I love you opse of sempitverdant yews,
 Beneath whose shadow sleep the honored Dead.
 Of all my House, since Israel held the land,

My Sire, hoar-headed, was the first I mourned;
 And after him I wopt for Ithamar,
 Who crawled all wounded from the wars to lay
 His locks of gold upon his sister's breast,
 And die encircled by these loving arms.

Soon my sad mother, mourning for her dead,
 Followed, alas! the loved ones gone before;
 And you and I, Elimelek, have lost
 And buried there—beside its grandame laid
 Our little bird—our child—our Zippora,
 Who as a swallow twittering in the spring,
 Clings fondly to the well remembered caves,
 Clasped her frail arms around thy neck and mine,
 And made a Summer in our loving hearts.
 Where now reigns Winter since she winged her flight."

The matron paused and laid her gentle face,
 Suffused with tears, upon her husband's breast—
 For at the mention of her Earth-lost babe,
 Days, months and years seemed as they had not been,
 And all her time-scared heart wounds bled afresh,
 While there uprose in Mem'ry's shadowy halls
 A child-like phantom, and the air around
 Seemed to be filled with softly prattled words
 And well known fall of little pattering feet,
 Wakening sad echoes in her emptied heart.

FRIENDSHIP.

[FOR THE CRAFTSMAN.]

When Brothers meet, and friends agree,
 Their unity is sweet to see,
 Holding with faithful heart and hand,
 The square, the compass and line.

True friendship's like the bees that roam
 From field and flower, then carry home,
 And store away a sweet repast,
 Secure from winter's stormy blast.

'Tis like a cool refreshing stream,
 Flowing along a burning plain;
 'Tis like the bright, the morning sun,
 Whose daily course has just begun.

'Tis like the shade when noonday heat,
 O'erpower's the weary traveller's feet;
 'Tis like the matchless western sky,
 Whose beauties fill the soul with joy.

The birds, the flowers, the 'railing vine,
 In harmony and beauty shine;
 The trees, the dolds, the waving grain,
 They say to all, *Let Friendship Reign.*

The Craftsman,
AND BRITISH AMERICAN MASONIC RECORD.
"THE QUEEN AND THE CRAFT."

HAMILTON,..... SEPTEMBER 15, 1867.

END OF VOLUME ONE.

With this number of THE CRAFTSMAN, we complete the first volume of the publication. In entering upon it a year ago we had some doubts as to the certainty of success. Others had tried the venture and had failed; and the history of publications in Canada, devoted to specialities, had not been such as to give much hope for greater good fortune in the future. The field was necessarily limited, and the fear which we entertained was, that Craftsmen generally might not feel the duty incumbent upon them to sustain a journal devoted especially to their interests. We determined, however, in undertaking the work, to make it, if possible, a success; at least to complete one volume which Masons would not be ashamed to recognize as their organ, and we are glad to know that this undertaking has, in the estimation of those best qualified to judge, been honorably fulfilled.

We are pleased to be able to say that, whatever our fears at the start, we have none now as to the permanent success of THE CRAFTSMAN as a Canadian Masonic publication. The support accorded to us has exceeded our expectations; and the arrangements being made for the coming volume will still further ensure that success. From the start, the circulation has steadily increased. At least half the Lodges in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario now sustain liberally the publication; and we hope the other half will, as we have reason to believe they will, equally heartily sustain it in the future. So encouraging is the prospect, that we intend to print a much larger edition of the second volume than we did of the first. And we shall make every effort in order that THE CRAFTSMAN may be not only an interesting vehicle of Masonic intelligence and Masonic lore, but a practically useful teacher in points of Masonic practice and jurisprudence.

With the next number we shall furnish a title page and index to the first volume, so that the work may be bound, and become a useful book of reference. We can only, thanking our brethren throughout the Dominion for their kind consideration and support in the past, bespeak from them an equally liberal support in the future. They can materially assist us, not simply by their subscriptions, but by furnishing accounts of interesting Masonic occurrences in their localities, and questions of Masonic law which arise in the working of their Lodges. And if they

will only appreciate the importance of thus lending a helping hand, they will find that THE CRAFTSMAN, admittedly interesting and useful in the past, will become increasingly so in the future.—So mote it be.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCES.

There is no feature in the Freemasonry of the motherland which so clearly illustrates the true genius of the Order, as the Masonic benevolences which have been established there. The *Freemason's Magazine* contains frequent notices of those excellent institutions, and of the efforts which are made to sustain them; and in all these notices the same pure spirit of Masonic love is the leading characteristic. They are the outward and visible signs of that inward spirit of philanthropy which ever marks the true Mason. They are the public recognition of that mystic tie of brotherhood which makes not only the brother mason himself, but his family, objects of the most intense interest, and entitled to the most unremitting care. They are the monuments which mark, more than anything else, this great truth, that Freemasonry is not simply a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, but that its allegories and symbols teach an important lesson of practical benevolence, which no man who honestly sets himself to the study of them can fail to learn.

These Masonic benevolences are not charities in the ordinary sense of the term. There is no one peculiarity of them more marked than this. The deceased or unfortunate mason's children are carefully guarded against the idea that they are the recipients of a public charity. That fact would, in the minds of many of them, be utterly destructive of that self-respect which is the great element in an upright and honorable character. This idea was forcibly presented at a recent anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Masonic Institution for boys at Wood Green, by Bro. F. Binckes. Speaking of the efforts which had been put forth in behalf of the school, he said: "We have done all we possibly could, with your assistance, to make this institution, not a charity—for it is not one; we ignore the term 'charity.' We are an institution, it is true, supported by eleemosynary contributions—to help those who cannot help themselves—whose parents and friends when they were in prosperity did what they could to assuage the sorrows and distress of others. Assistance held out to them is a right they have earned by the liberality of their fathers, to be aided in re-instating themselves once more in the good position which their fathers had obtained for them." That is the true genius of Masonry, the very essence of all its teachings. The term "charity,"—except in that higher sense in which the great apostle Paul

once used it—the charity which suffereth long and is kind—is utterly without meaning in Masonry. There is no alms-giving with us. We simply fulfil the most solemn obligations known to the Craft, when we relieve a brother or a brother's family in distress; and their acceptance of that relief in no way detracts from their dignity, or lowers their self-respect.

We have often been asked, of what value is Freemasonry? We have heard it denounced by those who knew nothing of its teachings, and still less of those silent and unpublished exemplifications of those teachings which are occurring daily—as a system of mummeries and meaningless displays. In answer, we can point with some degree of pride to these Masonic benevolences of the old world, and to the less ostentatious philanthropy of the Lodges in the new. We see in them simply the fulfilment of the teachings of our ritual. Not an implement in Masonry but has its lesson in the higher morality, and in the practical duties of life, to teach. Not a sentence in its beautiful ritual but points a moral, and impresses a great living truth. Not a symbol in its ceremonies but enforces the same great lesson of reverence for the Deity, and unceasing benevolence to mankind. Masons are but doing their duty, but fulfilling their most solemn obligations, but illustrating the science of which they are devotees, when they promote the success of such institutions as those to which we have been alluding; and it is in them that we find the truest exemplification of our principles.

We purpose in the early numbers of the next volume of THE CRAFTSMAN to give some account of these English Masonic benevolences. We shall do so, because we believe nothing more interesting, certainly nothing more practically instructive, can be presented to our readers. In this country, we have not the private wealth to rival our brethren in the old world in institutions such as these; but we may at least, to the extent of the ability we possess, imitate their pure spirit of benevolence—their exemplification of the great principles of brotherly love, relief and truth.

GRAND CHAPTER.

We publish in this number a full summary of the proceedings of Grand Chapter at its recent convocation, with the reports of the Grand Superintendents throughout the jurisdiction. These all are of the most satisfactory kind, and show capitular masonry to be in a flourishing condition in Canada. Some of the reports of the Executive Committee are also very interesting. We are sure our readers will prefer that our space should be occupied with these reports than with ordinary miscellaneous masonic reading.

VOLUME TWO.

With the next number we commence volume two of The Craftsman. We have addressed circulars and club lists to the Secretaries of all the Lodges, and we hope the subject of still more widely extending the circulation of the paper will be heartily taken up. It will be noticed that the terms of subscription are payment strictly in advance. We are forced to adopt this rule and rigidly adhere to it, as the only one upon which the publication could be made permanently successful. We hope our brethren throughout the Dominion will lose no time in sending in their lists of subscribers.

A GOOD BEGINNING.

R. W. Bro. William McCabe, who was elected at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, D. D. C. M. of the Ontario District, has caused a circular to be issued by his Secretary to each of the Lodges in his District, setting forth the importance of every officer and every member becoming acquainted with the established mode of working, and with that view, stating that measures will be taken at an early day to reorganize the Lodges of instruction which were in operation last year. It is also recommended that as soon as a Master of a Lodge becomes thoroughly acquainted with the work, he shall cause a Lodge of instruction to be established in his own Lodge, as provided by the G. L. Constitution, so that members unable to attend the regular Lodges of instruction may become familiar with the ritual. To assist those desirous of learning the established work, who may need further help than can be obtained in their General Lodge of Instruction, the D. D. G. M. proposes, in the meantime, to devote the first Friday of each month from 3 p. m., and the first Saturday of each month from 2 p. m., to their service, and he will be glad to meet any member, and more particularly any officer, of any of the Lodges in the District, on either of those days, at the Rooms of Lebanon Lodge, Corinthian Hall, Oshawa. This is the true spirit which should actuate these important Masters in the Craft, and we should be glad to see the example set by Brother McCabe very generally followed by the Deputy District Grand Masters throughout the jurisdiction.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

The annual assembly of the Provincial Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar took place at Ottawa on the 14th ult. An unusually large number of parties were present, and the address of V. E. Commander, Col. W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Provincial Grand Commander, was a most interesting paper. We shall give the address and the list of officers elected in the next number of THE CRAFTSMAN.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

The Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was held at the Masonic Hall, Ottawa, on Tuesday, the 13th August, ult.

The following Grand Officers and acting Grand Officers were present :

M. E. Comp.	T. D. Harrington,	Grand Z.	} G. Coun.
R. E. "	W. G. B. McLeod Moore, P. G. H., as " H.,	as " H.	
" "	A. A. Stevenson, P. G. H., as " J.,	as " J.	} G. Coun.
" "	T. B. Harris,	Grand Scribe E.	
" "	Henry A. Sims,	" " N.	} G. Coun.
V. "	A. G. Smyth, as	Prin. Sojourner.	
R. "	John W. Murton,	" Treasurer.	} G. Coun.
" "	William M. Jamieson,	" Registrar.	
V. "	A. T. Houel, as	1st Asst. Sej.	} G. Coun.
R. "	Alex. S. Kirkpatrick, as	2nd " "	
" "	George En. Earl, as	" Sword Bearer.	} G. Coun.
" "	Charles L. Beard, as	" Standard Bearer.	
" "	George Robertson, as	" Dir. of Ceremonies.	} G. Coun.
V. "	John P. Featherston,	" Organist.	
" "	Stan. H. Blondheim,	" Pursuivant.	} G. Coun.
" "	John Sweetman,	" Janitor.	
V. "	John S. Henderson, P. G. S., as		} Grand Stewards.
" "	Peter Begg, as		
" "	M. J. May, as		
" "	Wm. Reid, as		

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	David Curtis,	Wilson	District.
" "	James Adams,	Toronto	"
" "	L. H. Henderson,	P. Edward	"
" "	Thomas Milton,	Montreal	"

There were present besides, representatives from twenty-three Chapters, the attendance being larger than at any previous convocation.

The minutes as printed having been accepted as read, and all Royal Arch Masons in good standing having been admitted, the M. E. Z. delivered his annual address, which has already appeared in the columns of THE CRAFTSMAN. The address was referred to the Executive Committee, to report thereon at the earliest possible hour.

REPORTS OF GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

The following Reports of Grand Superintendents were then read :—

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the M. E. Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

M. E. SIR AND COMPANIONS:—In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution, I have the honor of submitting my report on the state of Royal Arch Masonry in this District for the past year.

I have visited the Hiram and St. John's Chapters in Hamilton, and feel pleased to report that both are in a healthy and prosperous condition, and ably presided over.

Owing to ill health, I have not visited the Chapters at a distance, but am well assured that Mount Moriah Chapter, at St. Catharines, steadily maintains its former good character, and continues to add to its numbers only such material "as we are authorized to receive." I learn from R. E. Comp. Seymour that he and two Past 1st Principals from St. Catharines did, on the 1st day of March last, install the following officers in the McCallum Chapter, at Dunnville, under the authority of a dispensation granted by the M. E. G. Z., viz:—

Comp. Laughlan McCallum, Z.; Comp. Orr Brownson, H.; Comp.

Jubez Amsden, D.; Comp. J. T. Farrell, Scribe E.; Comp. John Parry, Scribe N.; Comp. Joseph Hursell, P. Soj.; Comp. J. Nicholson, Treas.; Comps. M. C. Upper and J. Gibson, Asst. Sojs.; Comp. H. Root, Janitor.

Immediately after the installation, five candidates received the Mark, Past Master's, and M. E. Master's Degrees; and at the ensuing regular convocation held on the 19th April, the Holy R. A. Degree was conferred upon them. I am glad to learn that the outfit of this Chapter is good, and that the true spirit actuates the companions in their laudable endeavors to make it creditable to themselves and worthy of emanating from the Grand Chapter of Canada. But they will need careful supervision until thoroughly in working order. I would suggest that a warrant of confirmation be granted this Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. DUGGAN,
Grand Sup. H. D.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS DISTRICT,

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

To the Most Excellent Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

As required by the Grand Chapter, I beg to submit a brief report of Royal Arch Masonry in this District.

The number of Chapters is still nominally three.

In March last, accompanied by E. Comp. W. A. Taylor, Past Z. of Dorchester Chapter, I visited Golden Rule Chapter, Stanstead; installed its officers and inspected its work, which is in accordance with the ritual practised in the United States.

This Chapter continues to prosper steadily.

Previous to my visit its regular convocations were only held quarterly; but a dispensation was then asked for to hold them monthly, which I recommended, and which has since been granted by the Most Excellent Grand Z., and I have no doubt the change will materially benefit the Chapter.

During the year 1866, Dorchester Chapter, Waterloo, added none to its numbers, but several candidates have since been exalted, and other applications are now before it.

It is now upwards of five years since a convocation of Bedford District Chapter was held, and I see no reason why it should not be struck off the list.

It is with deep regret that I report the death of my brother, Jonathan Robinson, which occurred 26th Oct., 1866, at Waterloo.

He was for many years an active member of Dorchester Chapter, and one of the first exalted in it.

The whole respectfully submitted.

H. L. ROBINSON,
Grand Supt. Eastern Townships District.

TORONTO.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada :

It becomes my duty at this time, in compliance with constitutional requirements, to transmit an Annual Report of the state of capitular Masonry in the Toronto District, and in so doing it is with

pleasure that I am enabled to state that at no time in my recollection has it been in a more promising and prosperous condition than at present.

There are now three chapters in the District, in full work, acknowledging your supreme authority, viz:

King Solomon's, No. 8, Toronto.
 Manitou, " 27, Collingwood, and
 Pentalpha, U. D., Oshawa.

At the annual meeting, last January, I officially visited King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8, and installed their three Principals, as follows, V. E. comp. A. T. Houel, Z., E. comp. J. Curgenvin, H. and E. comp. A. T. Lamb, J., together with the other officers. The V. E. Z. informs me that since their Annual Report to Grand Chapter, they have added to their numbers five by exaltation and two by affiliation, and two have demitted, being an increase of five, and that their prospects are of the very best.

On March 4th, I officially visited Manitou Chapter at Collingwood, and installed their officers, the three principal are E. comp. Henry MacPherson, Z.; E. comp. John Nettleton, H.; and E. comp. John Harvie, J., also, E. comp. Henry Robertson, past Z. Although but little over a year since I instituted this chapter it now numbers thirty eight members, and I am informed by members thereof that they are in a most prosperous condition—financially and otherwise.

Last October an application was made by nine R. A. Masons for a dispensation to organize a chapter at Oshawa, which dispensation being granted by the M. E. Grand Z., I proceeded there on the 7th Nov., accompanied by R. E. comp. S. B. Campbell; V. E. comp. A. T. Houel; E. comp. A. DeGrassi, (of St. John's Chapter, G. R. S.,) and a number of other companions, and instituted Pentalpha Chapter, and then installed the following officers, viz: E. comp. Wm. McCabe, Z.; E. comp. Geo. H. Dartnell, H.; E. comp. Bradford Patterson, J.; comp. W. H. Billings as Scribe E.; comp. H. S. Northrup as S. N.; comp. Francis Keller, P. S.; comp. J. H. Greenwood, S. S.; comp. M. Gilbranson, J. S.; comp. R. Brodie, Janitor. Since then the chapter has progressed in manner that bids fair to make it rank among the best in the jurisdiction. It now numbers twenty members, all zealous in the cause. It meets on the first Friday of each month.

There is still another chapter under my superintendency to whose unfortunate position, I, in my last annual Report called your attention, I refer to St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 4, from whom no returns have been received for about four years, (1863.) and which, so far as I can ascertain, has held no meeting from that time until some five weeks since, when a notice calling the members together was issued by Comp. James Bain, Scribe N.; a second meeting was called for last week, for the purpose of electing officers, but there was no quorum present, so far as I am informed; under all the circumstances of the case I deem it highly necessary that Grand Chapter should take some definite action in the premises, as the state of abeyance in which that chapter now is, is highly injurious to the cause of Royal Arch Masonry in the District, and more especially to the chapter located in the city of Toronto.

The utmost harmony and friendly feelings continue to characterize the chapters of the District,

and every thing seems to promise a long career of usefulness and prosperity.

Most fervently do we all return thanks to the Most High for having kept us during so long a period free from sickness and from death.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES ADAMS,
 S. S. D.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the M. E. the Grand Council, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter, in Annual Convocation assembled:

Agreeably to the requirements of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, I again present my annual report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the London District.

It is a source of great pleasure to me to be able to report that the Royal Art is in a very flourishing condition throughout the District.

The duties appertaining to the office of Grand Superintendent have not been very onerous in my District, owing to the harmony and good feeling which prevails in the several Chapters, as well as their limited number.

On the 25th of Feb., with the assistance of R. E. comp. T. B. Harris, G. S. E. and V. E. comp. John Clark, 1st P. Z. of Ezra Chapter, No. 23, Simcoe, I installed the officers of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford, and on the 19th of June I installed the officers of Wawanosh Chapter, No. 15, Sarnia.

I had made an appointment to visit St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London, on the 28th June; but as I was that week engaged in the discharge of the duties of my office as D. D. G. M. for the Huron District, I was detained longer than I expected, and consequently was prevented from keeping the appointment I had made with the companions in London.

On the 7th of August, assisted by V. E. comp. Thos. Winter, 1st P. Z. of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford, and E. comp. John Harris, P. Z. of Hiram Chapter, I installed the officers of Huron Chapter—a new Chapter, opened U. D. in the Town of Goderich.

I think that it would be for the welfare of the Grand Chapter if the annual convocation could be held at the same time and place as Grand Lodge, inasmuch as it is a great tax, both in respect of money and time, to leave home twice within such a short space of time, particularly when the distance is so great, as it happens to be this year.

The business of Grand Chapter is but limited, and is usually transacted in a few hours, and no loss or injury could, in my opinion, result from the time of meeting being changed; and I have no doubt that by such alteration a much larger attendance would be secured.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CHAS. KAHN,

Grand Sup., London District.

QUEBEC DISTRICT.

To the M. E. Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada:

In accordance with the constitutional requirement of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit the

following brief report of Royal Arch Masonry in the District of Quebec.

I have much pleasure in reporting the continued prosperity of "Stadacona" Chapter, No. 13, it being the only chapter in this district under the G. C. of Canada, its members are increasing rapidly, and under the present Principals and Officers, has attained to a higher state of perfection than at any other period since I have had the honour to be a member.

All which is respectfully submitted,

THOS. LAMBERT,
Grand Supt., Q. D.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, in Annual Convocation assembled :

This being the close of the year by which my duties as District Grand Superintendent of Prince Edward District ceases, it becomes my duty to report upon the condition of Royal Arch Masonry under my superintendance.

There are but two chapters in the District over which I have the honor to preside, namely, Moira, No. 7, held in Belleville, and St. Marks, No. 26, held at Trenton, both of which are in a most prosperous condition.

I am happy to say that during the year nothing has transpired which has called for my interference, or in any way marred the harmony and good feeling existing among the companions of these chapters, and I have therefore to congratulate myself upon the easy task I have had to perform.

I have to thank the companions of these two chapters for many and uniform acts of kindness extended to me during the year.

All which is respectfully submitted,

L. H. HENDERSON,
D. G. S., P. E. D.

MONTREAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada :

Agreeable to the constitutional requirements of Grand Chapter, I have the pleasure of submitting to you my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Montreal.

Nothing of special moment having transpired in this district during the past year, my report must necessarily be brief. The two chapters, which are the Carnarvon, No. 21, and the Mount Horeb, No. 25, (both located in this city), continue to meet regularly and work creditably, labouring with that commendable zeal which should always be the distinguishing characteristic of our order, and faithfully discharging the duties incumbent upon them. The greatest peace and harmony prevails among the members of each chapter, no complaints have been heard, no discontent exists, and the love of a mason, pure both in principle and practice, appears to dwell in the breast of every one.

The Mount Horeb Chapter has removed to its new hall in Notre Dame Street, which has been leased for a term of ten years; it has been erected and furnished under the superintendance of the first

Principal of the chapter, and is admirably adapted to the purpose of Royal Arch Masonry.

The whole most respectfully submitted,

THOS. MILTON,
Grand Supt., M. D.

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

In reporting upon the state of R. A. Masonry in the Wilson District, I have to congratulate Grand Chapter on the general prosperity and harmony prevailing therein.

There being but *three* Chapters in this District, my duties as Grand Superintendent are necessarily very light, and the work of the chapters has, (through the large experience and superior intelligence of the Comps. presiding), been so well conducted that nothing was required of the Superintendent beyond an occasional friendly visit by way of recognition or encouragement.

The "Oxford" Chapter, at Woodstock, presided over by Comp. C. L. Beard is progressing very satisfactorily under his mild sway; seven members have been exalted in this chapter during the past year.

The "Mount Horeb" Chapter, at Brantford presided over by V. E. Comp. J. W. Lethbridge is gradually increasing its membership, giving more attention to the quality than to the quantity of the material carried up.

The "Ezra" Chapter, at Simcoe, presided over by V. E. Comp. J. Clark, has under the superior management of its popular chief attained a high degree of prosperity. Thirteen Companions have been exalted in this Chapter during the Masonic year now closing.

The books of the chapters respectively, I am happy to say, have been properly kept and the returns to Grand Chapter regularly made.

Respectfully submitted,

D. CURTIS,
G. S., W. D.

REPORTS AND REFERENCES.

These Reports were on motion of R. E. comp. A. A. Stevens, referred to the Executive Committee for report.

The statements from the Grand Scribe E., and Grand Treasurer, were read, and referred to same Committee.

R. E. comp. James Seymour, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted a very interesting report, which on motion of R. E. comp. T. B. Harris, was ordered to be printed in the Minutes, and the thanks of Grand Chapter were tendered to R. E. comp. Seymour for the admirable manner in which the report had been compiled by him.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

At the Evening Session the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, with the following result :

M. E. Comp. T. Douglas Harrington, re-elected Grand Z.
R " " David Curtis, Grand H.
" " " James Seymour, Grand J.

R. E. Comp. Thomas Bird Harris, re-elected Grand Scribe E.
 " " " A. G. Smyth, Grand Scribe N.
 " " " Aug. T. Hougl, Grand Prov. Soj.
 " " " Isaac H. Stearas, Grand Treasurer.
 " " " John S. Bowen, Grand Registrar.
 " " " Thos. Holywell, Grand Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. Charles Kahn, London District.
 " " " Charles L. Beard, Wilson District.
 " " " John W. Murton, Hamilton District.
 " " " James Adams, Toronto District.
 " " " H. W. DeLany, Prince Edward District.
 " " " Alex. S. Kirkpatrick, Central District.
 " " " Thomas Milton, Montreal District.
 " " " H. L. Robinson, Eastern Townships District.
 " " " Thos. Lambert, Quebec District.

The M. E. Z. subsequently was pleased to make the following appointments:

V. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Grand 1st Asst. Soj.
 " " " Rev. Charles Forest, " 2nd " "
 " " " William Reid, " Sword Bearer.
 " " " Henry J. Pratten, " Standard "
 " " " M. J. May, " Dir. of Ceremonies.
 " " " George En. Earl, " Organist.
 " " " Stanislaus H. Blondheim, " Pursuivant.
 " " " Peter Begg, "
 " " " S. G. Dolson, " "
 " " " William Johnson, " Stewards.
 " " " William Ellis, " "

The following companions were elected by Grand Chapter, as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz:—R. E. Comps. C. D. Macdonnell, L. H. Henderson, H. A. Sims, and V. E. Comps. Henry Robertson and J. P. Featherston.

TIME OF MEETING.

R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson gave notice at that the next annual convocation he would move to amend the Constitution, so that the Grand Chapter shall hold its annual convocation on the Monday preceding the annual communication of Grand Lodge in July.

REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee presented the following reports, which were, on motion, received and adopted:—

REPORT ON WARRANTS.

The Executive Committee begs leave to report that it has had under consideration petitions for the establishment of three new Chapters during the past year, to wit:

- The Pentalpha Chapter, at Oshawa.
- The McCallum Chapter, at Dunnville.
- The Huron Chapter, at Goderich.

Dispensations for the same have been granted by the M. E. the Grand Z., and the said Chapters appear from the District reports to be creditably conducted.

Your Committee therefore begs to recommend that warrants be granted to the said Chapters, so soon as they exhibit their minute books to the Grand Scribe E., and show them to be kept as the requirements of the Craft demand.

REPORT ON AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the Most Excellent Council:

The Executive Committee have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Scribe E. and the Grand Treasurer, and found the same correct.

The Committee have examined the following accounts, and recommend them for payment:
 John Ellis, for parchments and printing..... \$60 00
 W. C. Chewett & Co., engraving, printing and parchments..... 65 00
 Grand Scribe E., incidental expenses..... 26 83
 Grand Scribe E., salary to August, 1867, for one year..... 300 00
 Grand Scribe E., on acct. arrears..... 200 00
 \$651 83

From the accounts of Grand Treasurer, it appears that there was on hand, Aug., 1866, a balance of \$381 98
 Receipts since, as per statement..... 1007 15
 \$1389 13

Accounts passed at last convocation, and since paid\$504 61
 Printing minutes of last meeting..... 99 75
 604 36

This shows a balance in the books of Treasurer of..... \$784 77
 From which deduct the accounts recommended to be paid 651 83

Leaving a balance of.....\$132 94

The Committee recommend that the account for printing the proceedings of this annual convocation be paid so soon as the work is done; and that the balance of \$550 due the Grand Scribe E. be reduced by payments so soon as the funds will admit.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY A. SIMS,

Chairman Ex. Com., pro tem.

TABULAR STATEMENT, Extracted from the Returns of Chapters for the Year 1867:

Number.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE.	Registrations.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Members.	Fees.
1	Ancient Frontenac....	Kingston	2	3	..	..	47	1.20
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	4	1	..	..	1.58	31.60
4	St. Andrew's	Toronto .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	St. George's.....	London	8	3	1	..	1.41	31.50	
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	18	..	..	..	1.80	78.80
7	Moira	Belleville .....	..	..	..	..	64	12.50
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto	9	2	4	..	53	120.00	
9	Golden Rule	Stanstead.....	..	..	..	..	37	1.00
12	Catarqui	Kingston.....	1	2	..	..	122	8.50
13	Stadacona	Quebec	9	1	6	1	179	95.20	
14	Bedford District.....	Dunham .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	12	..	..	..	125	36.20
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa	18	8	3	..	56	75.40	
17	Dorchester.....	Waterloo.....	..	3	..	..	138	10.85
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock	5	..	1	..	239	25.80	
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines... 6	..	1	..	..	170	85.60
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	3	..	..	..	24	4.00
21	Carnarvon.....	Montreal.....	6	3	9	..	138	..	
22	Grenville*.....	Prescott .....	..	..	..	..	20	52.00
23	Ezra*.....	Simcoe	6	2	..	..	23	12.40
24	Tecumseh	Stratford.....	19	9	1	..	53	60.60	
25	Mount Horeb	Montreal.....	15	5	10	1	..	65.80	
26	St. Mark's*.....	Trenton	5	..	..	..	20	10.00
27	Manitou	Collingwood.....	17	..	..	..	26	68.00
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	..	..	..	..	11	40.00
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	..	..	..	..	10	40.00
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	..	..	..	..	12	40.00

* Made returns and payments in Grand Chapter.

BANQUET.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to attend a banquet at the Russell House which had been generously tendered to the officers, members, and representatives, in attendance at this convocation, by the companions of Carlton Chapter, No. 16, and to meet again the following morning, Wednesday, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 14, 1867.

The Grand Chapter resumed its sittings at 11 o'clock, a. m.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS.

The Executive Committee submitted the following report on the Reports of Grand Superintendents of Districts, which, on motion, was received and adopted:—

The Executive Committee has had laid before it the following reports. To wit: those of

R. E. Comp.	Charles Kahn of the	London	District.
" " "	David Curtis,	Wilson	"
" " "	Thomas Duggan,	Hamilton	"
" " "	James Adams,	Toronto	"
" " "	L. H. Henderson,	Prince Edw'd	"
" " "	Thomas Milton,	Montreal	"
" " "	H. L. Robinson,	E. Townships	"
" " "	Thomas Lambert,	Quebec	"

Your Committee has duly considered the said reports, and must congratulate Grand Chapter upon the excellent condition of capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction, as shown by the same.

Your Committee cannot endorse the recommendation contained in R. E. Comp. Kahn's report, relative to the annual convocations of Grand Chapter being held at the same time as Grand Lodge holds its communications, inasmuch as the week is fully occupied by Grand Lodge, and sufficient time cannot then be found for our convocations without holding them in the following week. This, your Committee thinks, would not be found convenient, inasmuch as it would keep the Companions away from their homes over Sunday.

Grand Chapter is not usually attended by the same brethren who attend Grand Lodge, and the objection to the present arrangement is not, in this view, as objectionable as might appear at first sight.

A later time in the year, say in September or October, might be selected for the Grand Chapter convocations, and might prove more generally convenient than the present meetings in August, following, as they do, so closely the Grand Lodge meetings.

Your Committee, however, recommend that in view of the Confederation of the Provinces, it is highly desirable that the present perambulating system of meeting of Grand Chapter should be discontinued, and that some central place should be decided upon where the meetings shall be held from year to year, as it is evidently undesirable that the books, records, &c., should continue to be carried about from place to place as heretofore.

Your Committee would suggest to Grand Chapter that some action should be taken to bring about uniformity of ritual in the working of subordinate

Chapters; and, if necessary to meet that end, that properly qualified persons be appointed to instruct Chapters—the Chapters availing themselves, paying for such services.

Your Committee notices that no report has been received for the Central District, neither was there any report received from that District at the convocation at St. Catharines. The Chapters in that District are, your Committee hopes, in a satisfactory condition; but still it thinks that the provision of the Constitution calling for such annual report should be punctually complied with. Your Committee would recommend that more care be observed in the nomination and appointment of the Grand Superintendents, and only those companions be selected for that responsible office who are likely to devote the requisite time to the duties.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY A. SIMS,
Acting Chairman.

On motion of E. Comp. Wm. Ellis, the thanks of Grand Chapter were unanimously tendered to the Companions of Carleton Chapter, No. 16, for the handsome entertainment extended to all the officers and representatives present at this annual convocation.

INSTALLATION.

The M. E. Z. installed and invested the newly elected and appointed officers present, who were proclaimed and saluted with the usual masonic forms; and he also directed that each Companion elected or appointed to office, and who was not present, should be installed and invested in the Chapter of which he is a member.

REPORT ON ADDRESS OF M. E. Z.

The Executive Committee submitted the following report on the address of M. E. Z., which, on motion, was received and adopted:

REPORT ON M. E. G. Z.'S ADDRESS.

Your Committee to whom was referred the admirable address of the M. E. G. Z., delivered at the opening of the present convocation, beg leave to report as follows:

The prosperous circumstances under which this, the tenth annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada is held, very properly calls for our devout acknowledgments to the Most High, through whose mercy and loving kindness we are again permitted to meet together to discuss the progress of our beloved order, and to devise measures for ensuring its continued efficiency.

Your Committee take great pleasure in welcoming to our fold the new Chapters to whom dispensations have been granted during the year, and they sincerely hope that an examination of their records will prove them worthy of receiving warrants as recommended.

Whilst noting the M. E. G. Z.'s remarks regarding the revival of St. Andrew's Chapter, Toronto, your Committee regret to learn from the Grand Superintendent of the District, now present, that the sanguine anticipations therein expressed have not

as yet been realized. They would therefore suggest that a period of three or six months be fixed by the M. E. G. Z., within which active work shall be resumed; and, in the event of failure, that the warrant of said Chapter be then revoked.

Your Committee heartily join in the M. E. G. Z.'s congratulations on the steady increase of subordinate Chapters hailing under this jurisdiction; and they glean with pleasure, from the several district reports, that in nearly every instance a living, active zeal marks their onward progress.

Your Committee are glad to learn that the careful revision of Chapter by-laws has engaged so much attention from the M. E. G. Z., and they rely with confidence on the beneficial results that will flow from his judicious action in this important department of his labors.

Regarding the suggested reduction of the exaltation fee required by constitution, to meet the peculiar circumstances of military and naval brethren, your Committee are of opinion that each subordinate Chapter can deal with all such applicants in a satisfactory manner without resorting to any change in the present Constitution, which might lead to pernicious irregularities that all would deplore.

Your Committee cannot too cordially endorse the M. E. G. Z.'s views upon *work*; the correct exemplification of which is a matter of deep moment to all our subordinates. They also commend to the serious attention of Grand Chapter the imperative necessity of securing uniform ceremonies upon constituting and consecrating new Chapters, as well as for installing officers after each annual election; and they strongly urge the appointment of a special committee by the M. E. G. Z. at the present convocation, whose duty it shall be to report thereon and exemplify the same at the next annual meeting.

Your Committee sincerely rejoice that the relations of this Grand Chapter with all sister Grand Bodies are of the kindest and most fraternal character, which, they fondly trust, will ever continue.

The report on foreign correspondence is, as usual, replete with useful and interesting information, forming a valuable addition to our Masonic literature; and too hearty thanks cannot be accorded to the Committee, and especially to R. E. Comp. Seymour, for the great care exercised, time expended, and trouble incurred in its preparation.

Your Committee are of opinion that the M. E. G. Z. has pursued a prudent and truly Masonic course in not hastily recognizing the so-called Grand R. A. Chapter of the District of Columbia, while its right to existence continues a subject of dispute with the general Grand Chapter of the United States, which claims to exercise supreme control over all capitular bodies in that country. They further believe that future action on this delicate question may be safely left in his hands.

Your Committee are pained to hear of the continued distress prevailing in the Southern States of the adjoining Republic; and, whilst regretting the inability of this Grand Chapter to contribute any amount towards their relief, they earnestly remit the M. E. G. Z.'s feeling suggestions to the benevolent consideration of all our subordinate Chapters and companion members.

Your committee hail with unfeigned pleasure the gratifying fact, so patriotically alluded to by the M.

E. G. Z., of the several Provinces of British America being united in one confederation, under the benign sway of our beloved Sovereign. They have the fullest confidence that the change will greatly tend to advance the material progress and promote the future happiness of the people of this important portion of the British Empire, and at the same time cement more strongly, if possible, the ties of kindred loyalty and interest which have bound them in bonds of filial attachment to the parent land.

Your committee concur in opinion with the M. E. G. Z. as to the altered territorial relations which confederation forces upon this Grand Chapter; and, in so doing, they endorse his views upon our right to exercise supreme jurisdiction over the several Provinces now united together. They therefore urge that the formal notice recommended by him be sent to the Parent Bodies; that the several chapters working under them be fraternally invited to accept Warrants from this Grand Chapter, and meet with us at our next Annual Convocation; and furthermore, that a special committee be appointed by the M. E. G. Z. to carry out the suggested preliminaries and report thereon at the first ensuing convocation.

Your committee are of opinion that the interests of this Grand Chapter will not be subserved by fixing upon a permanent place of meeting; for some time to come, if at all; and more particularly whilst the Grand Lodge of Canada holds to the belief that the general welfare of the craft is best promoted by the itinerary system now pursued, which applies with equal or greater force to the Annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter.

Your committee would cheerfully approve of any practical scheme emanating from the M. E. G. Z., whereby unaffiliated companions could be compelled to contribute towards our charities. They nevertheless fail to discover any effectual solution of the difficulty; for, while holding that non-affiliation deprives companions of all right to masonic relief, the justice of exacting contributions from such persons, to say nothing of the seeming impossibility of enforcing payment, is open to very grave doubts.

Your committee heartily echo the desire of the M. E. G. Z. in relation to old Masonic documents, and would urge upon all companions who possess any papers of historic worth the duty of lending them to R. E. Comp. Fowler, and co-operating with him in the interesting and really valuable compilation he is now publishing in *THE CRAFTSMAN*, which deserves generous encouragement.

In conclusion, your committee beg to tender the grateful thanks of this Grand Chapter to our M. E. G. Z., for his devoted attention to the interests of Capitular Masonry in Canada, the prosperity of which is largely attributable to his unwearied exertions in its behalf, and they would fervently unite with him in exhorting the companions to live up to those holy teachings inculcated at our altars, which he so impressively enjoins. By so doing we cannot fail to secure the continued blessings of the Most High, who will also support our order with every moral and social virtue.

All which is respectfully submitted,

H. A. SIMS,

Chairman, *pro tem.*

NOTICE OF MOTION.—JURISDICTION.

R. E. Comp. H. A. Sims gave notice that at the next annual convocation, he will move that, in view of the jurisdiction of Grand Chapter being extended over the whole Dominion of Canada, provision be made for creating the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia into Royal Arch Districts, and the appointment of Grand Superintendents for such districts; and that the Constitution be amended accordingly.

On motion of R. E. Comp. James Seymour, the M. E. Z. was authorized to name a Committee to correspond with the Parent Grand Chapters and subordinate Chapters of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, with a view to the establishment of one supreme authority over said Dominion, and to report at the next convocation.

RITUAL.

On motion of R. E. Comp H. A. Sims, the M. E. Z. was requested to name a Committee to arrange the necessary installation, consecration and dedication ceremonies, who shall report and exemplify the same at the next annual convocation.

The usual motion authorizing the M. E. Z. to pay contingent expenses of convocation was passed, and the labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in form after solemn prayer.

MONTHLY RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

—A movement is on foot in Austria for the separation of the public schools from the church.

—The Cable informs us that dispatches from the island of Malta represent the cholera as raging there.

—Some rather serious riots occurred in Montreal at the close of the election for the Western Division. The Mechanic's Hall, used as the head-quarters of Mr. McGee, was very greatly damaged.

—In the boat race, at Springfield, between the Ward Brothers and a New Brunswick crew, not the crew that won the great international race at Paris, the former were victorious.

—Active preparations are being made for the speedy departure of troops from India to rescue the British prisoners in Abyssinia. Sir Wm. Napier has been appointed to command the expedition.

—The Canadian Government has offered \$1,000 reward for the discovery of the incendiary who fired the coal oil store in Montreal, \$500 for the other buildings, and \$50 for the cutting of the hose.

—The Fenians have held another congress at Cleveland, electing Mr Roberts as their President, receiving reports from their war and other ministers, and issuing a declaration of principles. This fenian business is degenerating into a melancholy farce.

—Several changes in the location of Her Majesty's troops in this country have just been made. The 7th Fusiliers have left Brantford, and have been replaced by the 69th, while the 16th have left Hamilton to go into camp at Logan's farm, near Montreal, and have been replaced by the 29th.

—Further advices from China state that the port of Tamango, in Japan, had been designated by the Japanese government for the use of foreigners, and had been thrown open to the commerce of all nations, in accordance with an agreement made with the foreign representatives at Osaka.

—Havana letters of August 10th, say a serious riot occurred at Matanzas during a bull fight. The President attempted to stop the sport, when the people tore the circus down and let loose eight wild bulls in the street. A policeman was mortally wounded, and the President was compelled to flee. A detachment of troops was called out, and restored peace.

—It is reported that the differences between Prussia and Denmark in regard to North Schleswig, and the execution of the stipulations of the treaty of Prague, are in a fair way to be settled. The negotiations now going on between the two countries indicate a disposition on both sides to come to a speedy agreement.

—Lord Monck has been granted another year of office. The Imperial Government wisely considering that the Confederation scheme having been originated and carried out under his Excellency's administration, it is only right that he should remain at the head of the Government until the necessary measures are adopted to give effect to the union. Lord Naas is spoken of as his probably successor should the present Imperial Government remain in office.

—His Royal Majesty the Sultan, on his return to Constantinople, received an address from the Grand Vizier, whom he left in charge of the Government during his absence. In his reply to this address the Sultan, after reviewing his recent journey to Western Europe, says, that as the result of his observations, he is prompted to inaugurate an era of progress for the Ottoman Empire, and he promises to submit a series of measures of reform for the benefit of his subjects.

—The month has been a busy one in the Country, the elections for the House of Commons of the Dominion of Canada, and for the Local Legislatures having occupied public attention to the exclusion of almost every other subject. The elections already ended have resulted in a very large majority in all the Legislatures for the Governments. All the Ministers in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, with the exception of the Hon. Stephen Richards, have been elected, either by acclamation or by large majorities.

—The Reform Bill has received the sanction of Her Majesty, and is now the law of the land. In the House of Lords when the Bill was returned from the Commons, its consideration was resumed. Earl Derby was present and moved that the House recede from all its amendments to the bill, except the one providing for the representation of minorities, which had been accepted by the House of Commons. This resolution was carried. The Reform League has resolved to maintain its organization, and is now going to advocate the adoption of the ballot.

—The recent conference at Salsbury between the Emperor Napoleon and Francis Joseph, has given rise to a great many contradictory reports. One report states that the interviews have resulted in a good understanding, that no treaty has been made. Another declares that a formal treaty has been made for the formation of a South German Confederation, but that in consequence of the refusal of Bavaria to give in its adherence, the treaty has proved a failure. A Vienna journal, generally supposed to be the organ of the Prime Minister, Baron Von Buesst, asserts positively that a defensive alliance between the two powers had been formed; while another leading Vienna journal speaks of such an alliance as possible, in case a treaty of alliance should be made between Prussia and the Russian Empire.

—The Foreign Office has issued a blue book containing documents which have been filed in that department in connection with the Alabama claims, which have passed between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States for settlement of the Alabama claims. All the latest despatches show what progress has been made in the controversy, and state the conditions upon which the English Government is willing to attempt a final settlement. The despatch is addressed by Lord Stanley, Minister of Foreign affairs, to Sir Frederick Bruce, Minister at Washington. Lord Stanley informs Sir Frederick Bruce that England is willing to submit the claims of American citizens for damages caused by the Alabama, and all other similar demands on the part of the United States, to a Commission of Arbitration if the claims of British subjects against the United States for losses suffered during the late war or rebellion are likewise submitted to the decision of the Commission.