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THE CRAFTSMAN,

AND

CANADIAN MASONIC RECORD.

Bro. J. J. MASON,
Publisher

{ 'The Queen and the Craft.' }

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in advance. }

VOL. VII.

HAMILTON, ONT., JULY, 1873.

No. 10.

A TALE OF THE BLACK FORREST.

TOLD ROUND A CAMP FIRE.

It is nearly twenty years ago since what I am about to relate took place—to me it seems like so many hours, and the memory of it is now as fresh and vivid to my mind as if it had happened yesterday. Often during my lonely rides through the dark, gloomy forest, or when lying by the camp fire watching the bright sparks flying upwards towards heaven, and listening to the melancholy howl of the native dog, in fancy I see the sweet, gentle face of Alice Griffiths, so soft and womanly in its every expression, with nothing to indicate her courage and resolution except a certain fire in her eyes, only seen there in her rare moments of deep and intense excitement. Then those lustrous and winning orbs in their fathomless depths, would blaze with a light almost fierce in its grandeur, as sudden in its coming as in its going, betraying an unexpected strength of character more akin to the daring determination of a bold man, quick of action and ready in emergency, than to the yielding nature of a simple girl, trusting to and dependent on others in moments of extreme danger. Rather tall, slightly and elegantly formed, very girlish in both manners and disposition, with what is so seldom seen together—dark blue eyes and fair golden hair, a clear, bright complexion, and a mouth perfectly bewitching in its loveliness—she had the beauty and grace of a Madonna, combined, as you will hear, with courage and presence of mind to an extent I never met with in any other woman, and of which any man might have been justly proud. She and her brother Arthur lived together on a station not very far from Kilmore, but in rather an unfrequented part of the country at that time. Their home-station was beautifully, almost romantically, situated. In front, a wide creek twisted and turned through a clear open flat of about half a mile in width, its course marked by the foliage of many a stately gum tree, and here and there clumps of wattle trees, dark in their winter beauty, but gay and bright when clad in their brilliant summer blossoms. At the back, within a few yards of the house, a black, dense forest of stringy bark trees frowned on the lovely scene in front, like some evil genii scowling on a lovely Peri. Alice

had a great love of flowers, and, with much care and a considerable display of taste, had formed a beautiful little garden, taking advantage of every natural beauty the place possessed. Little beds of flowers were prettily laid out, and a large charred and withered gum tree was made to do duty and contribute to the picture by spreading out its limbs to be covered with green-leaved and gay, bright-blossomed creepers.

A large paddock for horses adjoined the garden. In a corner of it was the stock yard, having slip rails opening into the paddock; and into this the horses were driven when any were wanted. There was no stable—they were not so common twenty years ago as they are now.

At that time a gang of bushrangers was roving about Victoria, robbing every one they met, and often murdering their victims when they did not get any money from them. It was this gang of which the following tale is told:—A settler, called J. H. P., was stopped several times; but, being rather a cute fellow, the bushrangers never got more than a few shillings from him. This constant disappointment so enraged them, that they told him that if they ever caught him without money again—and plenty, too—they would tie him to a tree, and burn him alive. I suppose, either he took care to carry a well-filled purse, or had the good fortune never to meet his friends again; for he has escaped such a very hot reception so far.

This gang was very daring, often committing the most impudent robberies in broad daylight, and on one or two occasions even robbing the police themselves, when this intelligent force was supposed to be hunting for them in order to obtain the reward offered for their capture. It was surprising how well-informed the gang was. If persons sold stock, or by any other means had money in their houses, they were pretty certain to receive a visit, and lucky were they if they only lost their money.

Having some business to do with a neighbor of Griffiths, I thought I would take their place on the way. Accordingly, I went there, intending to stay an hour, and then proceed; but we had so much to talk about, and Arthur had so many completed improvements to show me, and so many proposed ones to consult me about, that the time slipped away unobserved, until it was so late in the evening that I consented, very willingly, to remain all night—the more so as Alice added her persuasion to her brother's saying—

“You know, Mr. Flakman, you might meet the Black Forest gang, and surely you would not prefer their society to ours.”

Little she thought the meeting was so near, or what an important part she was to take in it.

Before dark, Arthur and I went to look at some young horses he had bred, which he had got in from the run for the purpose of breaking in; and as they were rather wild, we drove them into the stockyard to examine them at our leisure. After duly admiring and criticizing them, I noticed a very handsome horse—a dark, nutty chestnut, long, low, but very compact, with fine sloping shoulders, round barrel, powerful quarters, and great thighs, well let down, and one of the neatest heads, on a good but rather thick neck, I ever saw. This grand-looking horse stood on four of the shortest, flattest legs, with great big joints, you could imagine. He looked like carrying a man for his life, and, with his well-bred look and evident good condition, could no doubt

both go and stay. Of course I asked Arthur what he was, and where he got him.

"He is a good horse," he replied, walking up to him, and rubbing his ears, as the horse leant his head on Arthur's shoulder. I bought him last spring from Ryan, on the Gulburn, for my own riding; but he is such a first-rate hack, with gentle manners, and a mouth far too good for my rough, heavy hands, that I gave him to my sister. She never rides any other now, and has made such a pet of him that, when she calls him, he will leave the mob of horses and trot straight up to her. I really believe he likes being ridden by her."

"He is too good for such work," said I—"that is, I mean," correcting myself, "he is or ought to be from his looks, good enough to win any steeplechase in the colony."

"So he is," returned Griffith. "I had a spin once with Boomerang, and beat him, over two miles of fair country, too. But nothing will induce Alice to allow me to train him for the Melbourne races. And I think she is right, for he is perfection as a lady's horse, and racing would soon spoil him."

After we returned to the house, I remarked to Miss Griffiths what a splendid horse she had.

"Yes, he is a beauty, and as nice as he looks, she said. "We have many long rambles all over the bush together, and have got quite to like each other's company. I can leave him anywhere when I dismount, and he will always come when I call him. Ah, Chestu is a dear old fellow! But come, let us have a game at whist. Arthur can play dummy, if Mr. Flaxman will take me as a partner."

We must have been playing some time, when our attention was attracted by the loud, angry barking of the dogs, warning us that some one was approaching; but, thinking it might be one of the men from one of the out-stations, we took no notice of it. Directly almost, we heard footsteps on the verandeh; and as we both jumped up to see what it was, the door which entered from the verandeh was violently burst open, and two men rushed in, each holding a levelled pistol in his hand.

"Hold up your hands, or I'll blow your brains out!" cried one.

And you may be very certain we did not require a second bidding. For one instpnt I looked at Alice. Cool and collected she stood, her eyes flashing and glittering as I had never seen them do before. Then I thought of dashing at the nearest of the ruffians; but the sight of his pistol at once decided me that it was useless—nay, worse than useless, as it could but end in one way. A pair of worse-looking rascals I never saw. One was a short, thick-set, bullet headed, prize-fighting looking fellow, with a flat, coarse face, covered with a stiff bristly sort of beard. His eyes, red and weak, were deeply sunken in his head. His mouth, nothing but a mere slit across his face, was ornamented by long yellow tusks, and the corners were deeply stained with tobacco juice. A more repulsive villain could not be imagined. The other though not quite so hideous, was far from being a pretty boy. Taller than his companion, and equally strongly built, he looked the more dangerous of the two. Both were dressed in red serge shirts, cabbage tree hats and loose neckties—just like the generality of stockmen or shepherds

I suppose I looked on the most dangerous of our party, for one of them, the short blackguard, took a piece of rope and tied my hands behind me, whilst the other stood sentinel over us. Then they tied Arthur also, and began disputing about Alice, cursing and using the most

dreadful oaths when they spoke. One was for tying her up also, and the other said—I omit the oaths with which he garnished his speech—

What's the good of tying up a wench? One of us must stop here and watch them here swells, and the other can hunt for the swag. You go, Jack, and if this young 'ooman gives me any trouble, I'll find means to quiet her fast enough."

Jack laid his pistol on the table, besides his mate, and went in search of money. How I wished I could get free and seize the pistol on the table! I quietly tried my hands, and soon found it would be possible to slip them from the clumsily tied knot, but I did not see how I was to get free quickly enough to do any good. I saw Alice watching me as I tried to get my hands loose; and fearing the bushranger would also notice what I was about desisted. I had no wish for giving him the least temptation to make a target of me. Presently the tall fellow who was hunting for booty came back, and, showing a lot of trinkets belonging to Alice, went up to Arthur and demanded where he kept his money, warning him, in a manner more forcible than polite, that it would be as well to tell him, "for if I don't get the cash—the whole lot of it mind you—that you got for them 'jumbucks' you sold, I'll take it out of your hide." I told Arthur to tell him at once, as it was no use trying to save the money. So he told him it was in his room, and again he went off in search of it. I could hear him tossing everything about in the next room in his eagerness to find the money, and in a few minutes he called out—

"Here it is, Jack! We'll have a good burst over this lot next time we go to Melbourne for a spree."

Jack stepped towards the room, and in his hurry to know the result of the find, quite forgetting Alice, or not thinking a woman was likely to give much trouble, and no doubt trusting to our being tied securely, foolishly laid his pistol on the table beside his mate's.

Quick as thought Alice sprang forward, and catching them both up, held one out straight at the ruffian's head.

"Move but one finger," she said, in a low firm voice—looking, although pale with excitement, determined and fully able to carry out her threat—"and I fire."

For a moment I thought the man meant mischief, but something in Alice's face warned him not to tempt his fate, and he cowered like a cur before the fair, delicate girl. How beautiful she looked! Like a statue cut out of marble she stood; not a tremor showed the violent struggle within. Only in her eyes was there any sign of excitement.

Their soft expression was gone, and in its place blazed courage and determination, mixed with triumph and scorn. Little wonder that the miserable wretch shrunk beneath such a gaze, speechless with terror and amazement. Had he moved in the slightest degree, it would have been death; the pistol covered him with deadly aim, and was held there without wavering by a hand as cool and steady as if this game of life and death were childish play.

With a struggle I tore my hands free, and hastened to loose Arthur. Then, but not till then, Alice gave the pistols up to us, and saying "watch them—I am off to Kilmore for the police," hurried out of the room. Out into the lonely night she went. Did she not fear that more of the gang might be hidden outside, guarding against surprise? Where were the men-servants? All gone as soon as they knew the house was

“stuck up”—gone to keep out of the way, not for assistance; leaving to a young girl the work which ought to have belonged to men.

Through the darkness out into the paddock. “Chestu! Chestu! good horse! Chestu!” Quickly he answers to his name; and, with hands now trembling with excitement, she hurriedly places her saddle on his back, and mounting, gallops off. Onward the two brave spirits go—away through the black, gloomy forest. Little thought she of how much now depended on her reaching the police station, and returning with help quickly. Still the brave girl galloped onward, urging her horse at a pace through the wild forest, which would have shaken the nerves of many a bold, reckless stock-rider. Her horse’s flying feet started the dingo prowling round the sheep-fold, and frightened the “more-pork,” which sitting lonely on the limb of some tree, uttering its monotonous cry of “More pork! more pork,” flew far away into the neighboring scrub, seeking to hide itself from its natural enemy.

An hour’s riding at this reckless speed brought her to Kilmore; and she quickly told her errand, and refusing to remain in spite of all persuasion, returned with the police towards the station, but at a slower pace than that at which she came.

Meantime, Arthur and I had firmly tied the two rascals to a chair each; and placed them far enough apart to prevent their being able to render one another assistance, and had seated ourselves by the fire, each with a glass of grog and a pipe, to await the arrival of the police and to watch over our prisoners. We had been sitting there for more than two hours, when we heard the sound of horses’ feet at the back of the house, and of course concluded that the police had come, although rather surprised at their being so soon.

“Wait here with these two guests of ours, said Arthur to me, and I will go out and bring them in. I’m not sorry they have come so soon, for I half expected to see some more of the gang turn up, and if they had, our lives would not have been worth much.”

Arthur turned and went out as he spoke; and, looking at the two men tied beside me, I saw a villanous look of savage delight on their ill-favoured countenances, which made my heart stand still for an instant. It flashed at once, suddenly but certainly, across my brain that the rest of the gang had returned, and I rushed to the door, calling after Arthur to come back as he valued his life. As I passed through the door I met Arthur, who was hurrying back, and nearly knocked me down by coming full tilt against me in his confusion. “Back! back! he cried—the whole gang are here. Into my room—quick! Never mind the lights.”

Not a moment was to spare, for as we gained Arthur’s room, which opened off the sitting-room, the bushrangers entered the house. It was probably well for us that we had not time to take the lights into the small room with us, for we had thus the great advantage of seeing our enemies without their being able to see us. In they came—six dirty, low, desperate-looking fellows they were, each armed with revolvers and bowie-knives, and evidently half drunk, and ready for the commission of any crime.

“Now, Arthur, I whispered, don’t fire (he was raising his pistol;) reserve your powder until they attempt to enter this room, and then fire coolly and steadily at the left-hand man—I’ll take care of the right. We *must not* miss our aim, or we are lost. Our only safety lies in prompt energetic action. Remember they cannot see us, and therefore

cannot fire with any degree of precision; and if we can keep them off for a little time longer, we will yet be saved."

The blackguards were evidently greatly taken aback by seeing their two companions tied fast and prisoners; but the two worthies soon explained the matter, with many hideous oaths and deep vows of vengeance against Arthur and me. As soon as they were let loose, the one who was called Jack said to his companions—

"New then mates, the sooner we finish this here job the better, for that there wench won't be long before she brings the whole 'camp' down on us, like a swarm of ants. Now 't votes, mates, that we just get a hold of the two downy coves wots been and hidden away in that room, pointing to where we were.

Without more words they came on towards us, each with a pistol ready. I do not know what Arthur felt, but my pulses throbbled, and my ears seemed to be full and bursting; but my hand was as steady as ever, and my nerves like steel.

"Now then, I muttered in a hoarse low tone, remember—fire at the man on the left and aim low, and don't hurry."

Raising our pistols, we both fired together. The man that I fired at gave a sudden shudder and fell forward on his face, shot dead; and Arthur's man, shot through the breast, but not killed, staggered and nearly fell. The others drew back, taken by surprise; but only for a moment, for, firing their pistols towards us, they again rushed to storm our little stronghold.

"Fire again—quick, Arthur!" I cried, as I leveled my pistol, and pulled the trigger.

There was but one report, and another of the ruffians fell, either killed or badly hurt. This time the gang drew back, evidently thinking it was not safe to trifle with us.

Then I found Arthur was wounded in the arm, not dangerously, but sufficiently to prevent his being of much use should the fellows again make a charge on us. This, however, they seemed not inclined to do; and we could hear them discussing what was best to be done. One suggested firing at us volleys on the chance of maiming or killing us; but one, with greater ingenuity, proposed setting fire to the house, and either burning us alive, or, as he said, 'smoking the——things out, like a pair of 'Bandicots' in a hollow log.' This idea was received with general satisfaction, and preparations were at once commenced to carry it out. Logs and scrub were piled up against the walls of the wooden house and lighted in many places at once. The dry wood soon caught and in a few minutes was blazing bright and clear, but fortunately for us, with little or no smoke. Still, the heat was intense and suffocating, and in a very few moments more would have either become unbearable and driven us out to meet certain death at the hands of the cruel ruffians who stood around the house, laughing and jesting at our sufferings, or have consumed us where we were, with no chance of escaping from torture the most agonizing and horrible imaginable.

After a brief consultation, we agreed to rush out and face death at once, rather than bear the dreadful fate waiting for us. Hastily I tied Arthur's shattered arm to his side, and then, shaking one another by the hand, we were on the point of rushing through the flames, when we heard shots fired, and soon voices.

The police had come! How they captured the bushrangers I know not; except from heresay; for as we ran through the fire, blinded by

smoke and nearly smothered with heat, I felt a smart twitch in my side like a red-hot iron running into my flesh, and then a ringing, singing sound in my ears, a confused sound of voices, and a blank. When I recovered consciousness, I found myself lying in a bed, weak, and with a strange feeling of lassitude which was new to me. I had been badly wounded, and loss of blood had nearly killed me. It was many weeks before I was well enough to hear all the particulars of that night, and many more ere I was strong enough to go down to Melbourne, where I was wanted to identify the bushrangers taken by the police. Arthur soon got well, as his wound was not a very serious one although one of the bones in his arm was broken.

The brave girl who saved her brother's life and mine married about two years afterwards, and, with her husband, went back to dear old England, where they are now living, near a quiet, pretty village, and where she leads a peaceful, happy life, without fear of such interruptions to her happiness as she met with in this hot-bed of crime, wickedness, and sin, where the stern arm of law is the only check on the evil passions of ruffians who in their cowardice, fear man but who, worse than devils, neither acknowledge nor honor their God.

GRAND MASONIC CELEBRATION, ON DOMINION DAY, AT HAMILTON, ONT.

SIX HUNDRED BRETHREN IN GRAND PROCESSION.—THE LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL.—THE ASSEMBLAGE.—THE DAY.—THE CEREMONY.—THE DINNER, ETC., ETC.

It has long been known and it has been the proud boast of many a mason, that Hamilton is, and for years has been, one of the most thriving centres of that wide spread and eminently respected body of brethren, who, by the mystic tie, not revealed to men outside the brotherhood, are known to each other as fellows whom neither creed, color nor nation may sever, and who rejoice in the ancient name of Freemasons. In Hamilton at an early day, before the woods had ceased to grow almost unmolested on the very ground we now tread, a lodge was opened, and in Hamilton, too, in 1855 was constituted the Grand Lodge of Canada, with the M.W. Bro. W.M. Wilson, as Grand Master. Now there are four blue lodges, two chapters, a Commandery, a Consistory, etc., while in our midst live revered and respected, many a brother who now enjoys or has enjoyed the excellent reputation and *status* earned by being a high dignitary in the ranks of the A.F. & A. Masons of Canada. We had intended to have given a sketch of the birth, development and growth in this locality of the Order, but we have to succumb to that severest of all masters—want of space on a day succeeding one in which a Nation has been having a gala day in celebration of Confederation, and therefore restrict our efforts to the events of yesterday—events which will live fresh and green in memories now young, when the chief actors have laid aside their duties and gone to their long rest.

It had long been felt in this Ambitious City that the lodge accommodation of the Craft was far too small and on a scale unworthy the wealth, strength and influence of the resident Masons, and consequently efforts have been made to put on foot a scheme which should commend itself to the people as well as the Craft, and ensure the construction of an edifice that would be a double honor to all concerned. In accordance with this desire and by the suggestions of some gentlemen not in the

Order, a plan to place a \$30,000 Music Hall in the proposed Temple, was favorably considered. All our readers are acquainted with the several stages through which this project lived, and know that on account of a diffidence in subscribers for stock, the hall portion was at last abandoned. The Craft, while very anxious to meet the wishes of the citizens, felt that their having taken stock to the amount of about \$40,000 was, in itself, as much as they could well afford and, therefore accepted the verdict of the people and let the Music Hall go. New plans and new specifications were got out, Mr. Leith, was empowered to go on, and it was not long before the contracts for building were let. Only a few weeks ago the ground was broken for the foundation, but the Messrs. Webber pushed the work on so rapidly, that the Directors of the Masonic Hall Association, with W. Bro. Hugh Murray as President, completed their arrangements for the due laying of the corner stone on the Dominion Day of this year. Invitations were written with a generous hand, and brethren in Canada and elsewhere were assured of a hearty welcome should they come. Arrangements were made for lowered fares on the Great Western Railway, and *carte blanche* given those who had the celebration in hand to accomplish it to the honor of the craft and all concerned. The dimensions of the Hall are :

81 feet 6 inches on James street; 100 feet 6 inches on Gore street; height of building from sidewalk to cornice, 56 feet; total height from cellar to dock roof 78 feet. The style is Romanesque, and the structure will be finished in September, 1864. On the ground floor there will be four stores on James street, and one on Gore street, 14 feet in height; two stores will be 19 feet 6 inches wide and 90 feet long; the others will be 13 feet wide and 60 feet long; the one on Gore street will be 22 feet wide and 64 feet long; on the 2nd floor will be a Masonic Hall 64x34; Encampment, Priory, &c., 27x31 with their several ante and preparation rooms; reception room 23x14; wash rooms, water closet, &c.; committee and fuel rooms, offices for the Grand Secretary; fire proof vaults and hoist room. On the 3rd flat will be the Royal Arch Chapter Room, 23x38; Excellent and Super-Excellent Degrees Room, 11x28; A. and A. Rite occupies half of this story, comprising a space of 77x45. Banqueting room, 17x31; general reception room, 16x26. The flat on this story is also furnished with fuel rooms, hoist rooms, water closet and fire-proof vault.

The foundation walls were hurried forward consistent with prudence and the tops planked level with the street, in order to form a platform for the brethren. A few feet east of the place a substantial stand was erected for ladies, who were admitted by ticket. Between the two was a small stand for the use of the Grand Lodge, which was thus placed near and above the corner stone. The lower portion of the stone lay impeded in the wall, with the top surface on a level with the street. The upper one was huge and massive, and, besides being ornamental in its dressing, bears the inscription, which may be read from the street:

MASONIC HALL,
The Corner Stone was laid with
Masonic Ceremonies,
July 1st, 1873: A. L. 6873.
Wm. Leith, Architect.

This stone may be seen at the north easterly corner of the building. The cap stone hung several feet above the other, and was suspended

from a derrick, worked by men under the direction of Bro. Webber. In the lower stone was cut a cavity and a place made for a brass plate.

On Monday night quite a number of Masons arrived in the city and registered their names in the several hotels, but it remained for yesterday to witness the assemblage of a really vast concourse from all parts of the country. Notices had been issued through the local press of Monday, calling upon the Masons to meet at the Mechanics' Hall at 10.30 a. m., in order to form a procession, and for the Grand Lodge to assemble at 11.30 at the Masonic Hall, and there open and proceed in due time with the ceremonies which the whole city was alive to see. The streets in the neighborhood of the new hall were absolutely crowded to a state of crushing, by the swaying multitudes, and doorways, windows, and even the roofs of Mr. Williams' new buildings, the Royal Hotel, and adjacent stores and dwellings were drummed into service to find footing and sitting room for the persons daring enough to ascend to them. From one of Mr. Turnbull's windows, glared the object glass of the camera, the *Canadian Illustrated News'* artist was to use in securing a photograph of the ceremony. Cabs and carriages pressed around, and waited for perhaps hours, before the procession arrived.

The services of the excellent military band of the 13th Battalion had been secured, and heading a deputation from the city Lodges, it marched to Browne's Wharf, where, at a rather later hour than was to be expected, the *Corinthian* proudly steamed in with an excursion party from Toronto. The masons on board numbered about one hundred and twenty-five, and were accompanied by their wives, children and friends to the number of nearly two hundred more. These having disembarked, formed procession and gaily marched to the Mechanics' Hall. In the meantime the heat had become very intense and oppressive, and the sun, who, when he arose, seemed unable to determine whether there should be rain or shine, now came out in too good earnest and smiled very effectively upon the proceedings of the day. A breeze which seemed inclined to dispute the sun's prerogative, though its efforts were abundantly appreciated in occasionally throwing a bank of clouds into the line of his rays and fanning many a heated brow, failed to deep down his temperature and he reigned almost supreme. The weather, with the exception of the warmth, was magnificent. Though the streets from the late rains were muddy, that mattered little, as they were not used, the procession taking the walks and pavements.

When the Toronto brethren had arrived, supported as they were by the excellent band from Cooksville, the brethren in the Mechanics' Hall were marshalled into order and sent off under their regular officers. The Torontonians fell into the rear, and the procession advanced along James Street to Main, when it turned down to Prince's Square, where it halted in the walks, while the Grand Lodge was being opened in ancient form, a few rods off in the Masonic Hall. Owing to the absence of some of the Grand Lodge officers, and the late arrival of others, the procession did not receive orders to move on until some time after noon. When all was ready, the line of march was taken up under the guidance of the proper officers, R. W. Bro. Hon. H. B. Bull was Grand Marshal, and was mounted on a palfrey; he was aided by Assist. Marshalls V. W. Bros. R. Brierly, C. R. Smith, J. J. Mason and Bro. T. H. Bartindale, who had charge of the Blue Lodges, and by Bro. Mackay in charge of the Royal Arch and Templar Orders. Some idea may be formed of the length of the procession when

we state, that at the moment the Grand Lodge was turning from Main Street into King, the advance files had passed round the upper end of the Goro, and were marching down James Street. In the lines there were certainly six hundred Masons, from the Blue Lodge to the highest degrees, and arrayed in their variegated costumes and rich regalia with banners appearing at intervals throughout the procession, the sight was at once splendid, and formed a *coup d'œil* not to be forgotten. The following is a fair sketch of the order of

PROCESSION.

- Two Tylers with drawn swords.
 The 13th Battalion Band
 The Acacia, No. 61.
 The St. John's, No. 61.
 The Strict Observance, No. 27
 The Barton, No. 6, (Lodges of Hamilton.)
 The Representatives of the St. John's, No. 75.
 The Wilson, No. 86.
 The Rehoboam, No. 218.
 The Ionic, No. 25.
 The King Solomon, No. 22.
 The St. Andrew's No. 16.
 The Ashlar, No. 247, (Lodges of Toronto.)
 Union Lodge, No. 7, of Grimsby.
 The Ancaster Lodge.
 The St. Catharines Lodges.
 The Brantford Lodge.
 The Dundas Lodge.
 The Hiram and St. John's Chapters.
- The Godfrey De Bouillon Encampment, and Priory of Masonic Knights Templars and Malta, &c., &c.
- The Harington Conclave of Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.
 The Hamilton Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix 18.
 The Moore Sovereign Consistory, 32 of the A. and A. Rite.
- Representatives of other Masonic Bodies, including a deputation from Tuscan Lodge, of Lawrence, Massachusetts.
 The Architect with the plans.
- | | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| Grand
Steward | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{A cornucopia with corn, borne by} \\ \text{the master of a lodge.} \\ \text{Two ewers, with wine and oil,} \\ \text{borne by masters of lodges.} \end{array} \right.$ | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Grand} \\ \text{Steward} \end{array} \right\}$ |
| | | |
- Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.
 Grand Superintendent of Works, with the plate bearing the inscription.
 Past Grand Sword Bearers.
 Past Grand Deacons.
 Grand Secretary, with book of constitution on a cushion.
 Past Grand Registrars.
 Grand Registrar, with his bag.
 Past Grand Treasurers.
- Grand Treasurer, bearing a phial containing the coin to be deposited in the stone.
 Past Grand Wardens.
 Past District Deputy Grand Masters.
 District Deputy Grand Masters.
 Past Deputy Grand Masters.
 Past Grand Masters.
 Visitors of distinction.
- The Corinthian light, borne by the master of a lodge.
 The column of G. J. W. borne by the master of a lodge.
 The G. J. W. with the plumb rule
- | | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| Grand
Steward | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Banner of the Grand} \\ \text{Lodge} \end{array} \right.$ | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Grand} \\ \text{Steward} \end{array} \right\}$ |
| | | |

The doric light borne by the master of a lodge.
The column of G. S. W. borne by the master of a lodge.

The G. S. W. with the level.

The Grand Junior Deacon.

Grand	Steward	{	The Grand Chaplain bearing	}	Grand
			the sacred law on a cushion.		Steward

Deputy Grand Master with square.

The Ionic light, borne by the master of a lodge.

A Past Grand Master, or other brother of eminence, bearing the mallet.

Grand	Steward	{	The standard of the	}	Grand
			grand master		Steward

Grand Sword Bearer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The G. S. Deacon.

Two Grand Stewards.

Grand Tyler.

Among the distinguished brethren present were Ill. Bro. C. W. Milliman, 32°, and R. W. Bro. C. E. Young, of Suspension Bridge, N. Y.; R. W. Bro. J. A. Lockwood, and Bros. Jas. McConnell, Lewis Smith and N. A. Powell, of Buffalo, N. Y.

GRAND LODGE.

was opened in ample form, with the following officers :

M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, L. L. D., Grand Master ; R. W. Bros. E. Mitchell, as Deputy Grand Master ; H. McK. Wilson, D. D. G. M. Wilson District ; R. Kemp, D. D. G. M. Niagara District ; J. K. Kerr, P. D. D. G. M. Toronto District ; James Bain, Grand Senior Warden ; B. E. Charlton as Grand Junior Warden ; S. B. Harman as Grand Chaplain ; Otto Klotz as Grand Treasurer ; Allan McLean as Grand Registrar ; Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary ; W. Bros. J. M. Gibson as Grand Senior Deacon ; W. F. Fraser, as Grand Junior Deacon ; R. W. Bro. R. Bull as Grand Supt. of Works ; W. Bro. J. Howson as Grand Director of Ceremonies ; V. W. Bros. C. R. Smith as Assistant Grand Secretary ; J. J. Mason as Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies ; B. Saunders, Grand Sword Bearer ; N. L. Steiner as Grand Organist ; W. Bros. Wm. Forbes as Assistant Grand Organist ; E. R. E. Carpenter as Grand Pursuivant ; W. W. Summers, Grand Tyler ; R. W. Bro. Wm. Dewar, W. Bros. James Scarff, W. P. Eager, James Henderson, Stewart, R. W. Bro. J. Erskine, W. Bro. William Bell, Gavin Stewart, J. B. Nixon, Blackwood, Grand Stewards.

The head of the procession having reached the new building, on the corner of James and Gore streets, a halt was made, and the ranks opened out and faced inwards, when the Grand Master, supported by the Grand Lodge, passed through to the corner stone, where in due time all the brethren congregated. The Grand Lodge was stationed on the platform above the stone, and the Company, in opening the ceremony, sang to the accompaniment of an organ, and to the tune of "Old Hundred," the following

ODE.

Accept, Great Builder of the skies,
Our heartfelt acts of sacrifice !
Each brother found a living stone,
While bending low before thy throne.

While Craftsmen true their work prepare,
With thoughts unstained and holy care,
May each be fitly formed, and placed
Where Love Divine his hopes had traced.

With all my powers of heart and tongue
I'll praise my Maker in my song ;
Angels shall hear the notes I raise,
Approve the song, and join the praise.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

After which the M. W. G. M., Wm. Mercer Wilson, LL. D., etc., etc., stepped forward and delivered the following

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.—At your request I have caused to be convened an especial meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada to meet me here to-day, for the purpose of assisting me in the interesting ceremony of laying, with masonic honors, and in accordance with the rites of our ancient fraternity, the corner stone of your proposed Masonic Temple, an enterprise most creditable to the Masons of Hamilton, and the completion of which, according to the designs and plans submitted, will be a cause of pride and satisfaction to the fraternity in general, and will form a beautiful addition to the already numerous magnificent structures which adorn your flourishing city. Hamilton has been called an ambitious city, but her ambition is a noble one. (Applause.) From a small sleepy village, overshadowed by Ancaster (as I well remember it upwards of forty years ago), she has become one of the leading cities in the Dominion; she is now the centre of a net of railways; standing, as she does, at the head of the navigable waters of Lake Ontario, with all the advantages of its beautiful Bay, she has now become, through the energy, enterprise, and public spirit of her inhabitants, the great commercial emporium of the western section of our Province. May prosperity attend her progress. (Applause.) To the Freemasons of Canada, Hamilton—as the birth-place of our Grand Lodge—must ever be an object of the liveliest interest. The day selected for the performance of this ceremony is also an auspicious one, for it is the anniversary of the founding of this great Dominion. The beneficial results of Confederation are now admitted by all, and each succeeding year witnesses an increased prosperity. May the Great Architect of the Universe pour down His richest blessing upon our Queen and country. May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us. (Applause.) We will now proceed to lay the foundation stone according to ancient custom, and our Acting Grand Chaplain will implore a blessing on the undertaking.

R. W. Bro. S. B. HARMAN, Acting Grand Chaplain, then offered up the following prayer: "Great Architect of the Universe, Maker and Ruler of all worlds, deign from thy Celestial Temple, from Realms of light and glory, to help us in all the purposes of our present assembly. We humbly invoke Thee to give us at this and all times, wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in all our difficulties, and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, O Thou Author of life and light, great source of love and happiness, to erect this building so that hereafter it may be useful for the important purposes for which it is intended. Glory be to God on High!"

Response:—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. So mote it be.

At the request of the M. W. G. M., the Grand Secretary read the following scroll, which had been beautifully engrossed by Mr. Wm. Bruce:

In the NAME and by the FAVOR
of the
GLORIOUS ARCHITECT OF HEAVEN AND EARTH,
on this
FIRST DAY OF JULY, A. D., MDCCCLXXIII. ,
and of the
ERA OF FREEMASONRY, ANNO LUCIS, 5873,

and in the
Thirty-seventh year of the reign of our Gracious
Sovereign VICTORIA,
Queen of Great Britain, Ireland, India and the Dependencies in Europe, Asia, Africa
the Dominion of Canada, Australasia, &c., &c., &c.
The Right Honorable Sir Frederick Temple,
EARL OF DUFFERIN, K. P., K. C. B., &c., &c.,
being
Governor General of the Dominion of Canada.
The Honorable WILLIAM PEARCE HOWDAND
being
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario.
The Right Honorable
Sir JOHN ALEXANDER MACDONALD, K. C. B.,
&c., &c.,
being Minister of Justice and Attorney-General, Premier of the Dominion of Canada.
BENJAMIN E. CHARLTON, Esquire, Mayor of the City of Hamilton.
Hugh Murray, Esquire, President; Thomas B Harris, Esquire, John W. Murton, Es-
quire, Richard Brierley, Esquire, Edward Mitchell, Esquire, Charles R.
Smith, Esquire, Chas. Davidson, Esquire, being Directors,
and Chas. R. Murray, Esquire, Treasurer, and
John J. Mason, Esquire, Sec. of
Hamilton Masonic Hall
Association.

This
Corner Stone of the Masonic Hall,
Erected by the Masonic Fraternity of Hamilton,
was laid by

M. W. Brother WILLIAM MENCER WILSON, Esquire, LL. D. &c., &c.
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge
of

A. F. and A. Masons of Canada,
Assisted by the Grand Officers and a large concourse of the brethren, in accordance
with the ceremonies and usages of the Order, which, may the
G. A. O. T. U. ever protect and prosper.

Masonic Bodies in the City:

The Barton Lodge, A. F. and A. M. No. 6.
The Lodge of Strict Observance, A. F. and A. M., No. 27.
The St. John's Lodge, A. F. and A. M., No. 40.
The Acacia Lodge, A. F. and A. M., No. 61.
The Hiram Chapter, R. A. M., No. 2.
The St. John's Chapter, R. A. M., No. 6.

The Godfrey de Bouillon Encampment and Priory of Masonic Knights Tem-
plar and Knights of Malta &c., &c.
The Harington Conclave of Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and
Constantine.

The Hamilton Sov. Chayter of Rose Croix, 18 , and
The Moore Sov. Consistory, 32° of the A. and A. Rite.

CONTRACTORS:

Masonry, Esau Webber. Carpentering, Robt. Butcher; Painting, James Mathews;
Plumbing, Hy. Harding; Iron Work, Hugh Hennessy; Plastering, McKay and Boyd.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

The Secretary then announced that in the glass bottle deposited in
the cavity of the stone were placed:

The Inscription or scroll.

A copy of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

A copy of the Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for the year
1872.

A complete list of the Officers of the Grand Lodge since its forma-
tion in 1855.

A list of the Officers of the various Masonic Bodies in the city for the year 1873.

A copy of the *Craftsman* and *Masonic Record* for May and June.

Copies of the *Hamilton Dailies*, *Times* and *Spectator*; Toronto dailies, *Globe*, *Mail* and *Leader*. Copy of the *New Dominion*, weekly.

Copy of Programme of Proceedings of the day.

Silver coins : 50c., 25c., 20c., 10c., and 5c. pieces. Copper Coin; 1c. piece; and a 25c. currency scrip.

He also read the following inscription on the brass plate, very finely engraved by Mr. Fell of this city :

The Corner Stone
of this
MASONIC HALL
was laid on the
First day of July, A. D. 1873, A. L. 5873,
Dominion Day,
with full Masonic Ceremonies,

by
M. W. Bro. Wm. M. Wilson, Esq., LL. D., &c., &c., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge
of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

The bottle being deposited, the plate was fixed in its place and the necessary mortar laid for cementing the two parts of the corner stone.

W. Bro. Hugh Murray, President of the Association, then addressed the Grand Master, by saying, on behalf of the Directors of the Masonic Hall Association, I have exceeding pleasure in presenting you with the trowel to assist in completing the work so auspiciously begun. The pleasure is rendered doubly great by the fact that you yourself laid the foundation stone of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and that, too, in this city. (Applause).

On receiving the trowel the M. W. the Grand Master said he had laid many corner stones, but never yet had he been presented with so beautiful an instrument. He would retain it with exceeding pleasure.

The trowel was manufactured by Bro. W. H. Rudel, of this city, after a design by R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary, and is a beautiful specimen of silver smiths work. It is of solid silver, with an ebony handle mounted with maple leaves. At the point of the blade is engraven Col. Wilson's crest, an arm uplifted holding a scimitar, with the motto *Pro Libertate*. Occupying the centre of the blade is the following inscription :

PRESENTED
to
WILLIAM M. WILSON, ESQ., LL. D.,
GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE
of
A. F. & A. M. MASONS OF CANADA,
BY THE FREEMASONS OF THE
city of Hamilton,
On the occasion of the laying
of the
Corner Stone
of the
Masonic Hall,
July 1st, A. D. 1873, A. L. 5873.

At the base of the blade is engraven a blazing sun, emblematical of the office of Grand Master; at the extreme base, in raised gold on

frosted silver, are the square and compasses, level, plumb, rule, and Past Master's jewel. Both in design and execution the trowel is the best we have ever seen.

The cement having been spread, the upper stone was lowered with three halts, at which interval the 13th Band played bars of the National Anthem; when it had been guided into its place, the Grand Junior Warden applied the plumb-rule, the Grand Senior Warden the level, and the Deputy Grand Master the square, and they having reported that the stone was just, true, and properly laid, the Grand Master said, "having full confidence in your skill in our Royal Art, it remains for me to finish the work." He then struck the stone three times with the gavel and said, "May this undertaking be conducted and completed by the craftsmen, according to the grand plan, in Peace, Harmony and Brotherly Love."

As they were handed to him, he poured out the customary libations, saying: "I strew corn upon the stone as an emblem of Plenty, I pour wine on it as the emblem of Cheerfulness, and I anoint it with oil as the emblem of Comfort and Consolation. May corn, wine and oil, and all the necessaries of life, abound among men throughout the world, and may the blessing of the Supreme Architect of the Universe be upon this edifice, and all connected with it." Response: so mote it be.

The implements having been gathered, the M. W. G. M. presented them to the Architect saying; "The foundation stone of this building being now laid, I present you the implements applied to it, also the plans, in full confidence that, as a skilful and faithful workman, you will use them in such a manner that the building may rise in order, harmony and beauty, being perfected in beauty and strength, that it may answer every purpose for which it is intended, to your credit and the satisfaction and honor of those who have selected you for the work.

He also addressed the Building Committee as follows: Having completed our work according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry, we offer you our congratulations and transfer the building to you for completion, having no doubt that as it has happily been begun it will be carried on, by God's will, to a happy ending. He said he noticed present a brother who was high in capitular masonry, and he would be glad were he to say a few words.

R. W. Bro, Harman stepped forward and delivered a short address, having many excellent points. He congratulated the citizens of Hamilton on having in their midst so energetic and influential a body of Masons; and he congratulated the Craft upon that, too, and also upon the fact that in a short time a beautiful temple was to arise to the honor of the city and the Order. He referred to the Order, and spoke of it in warm terms of praise, and he stated that the initiation of a Mason was, in a manner, like the laying of this stone, for it gave him a foundation upon which he could rear a superstructure to his honor as a Mason and a citizen. The true Mason was the embodiment of morality, virtue and honor, and thus became a valuable member of the community. In the course of his remarks, he took occasion to say that Hamilton was regarded as one of the oldest centres of the Craft in the country; for, while woods were still standing where they were now met, the Barton Lodge was formed, and was working out an agreeable destiny. To-day Masonry in this city was most flourishing, and he was sure the people of Hamilton were proud of the occasion and the Craft that had brought about such a gathering upon so momentous an event.

(Cheers.)—After some further remarks, he repeated the following lines, which occurred to his memory :

Believe me, if all these strange symbols and signs
Which we gaze on so fondly to-night,
Contain not some moral, some precept divine,
We should banish them all from our sight.
As they always have been, so they shall be adored,
Though the world unmasonic condemn ;
For to us they much precept of virtue afford—
All our actions are measured by them.
'Tis not the mere forms of the compass and square
That to us can such pleasure impart.
No. It is the deep moral inculcated there,
Which is dear to each true Mason's heart.
A Lodge of Freemasons, where'er it may be,
Is a Temple of virtue and love ;
For there is none who in thought or action may flee
From the All-seeing Eye that's above.

—(Cheers.)

The M. W. G. M., before closing his duties there observed that he had the great pleasure of noticing a number of American brethren present. He went on to say that our reciprocal relations were cordial, and we exchanged many commodities with them. He hoped we should always live in harmony, peace, and brotherly love. Masonry recognized neither nationality, creed or color, and tended to blot out all lines. (Hear, hear.) There was one thing, however, that we could never submit to see wiped out or exchanged, and that was the flag that waved above them. (Loud cheers.) In response to his call, three hearty cheers were given for the Queen. Three for the Grand Master and three for the Grand Secretary were called for by brethren in the assembly and given. A photograph was then secured by the artist of the *Canadian Illustrated News*, when the procession re-formed and returned to the Masonic Hall, escorting thither the Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge having been closed in ample form, the members were escorted to the Anglo-American Hotel, where a magnificent banquet had been prepared, and which was attended by about six hundred brethren. Such a profusion of the best of food was a matter of surprise, and Dr. Carpenter, the host, was fairly covered with praise. Every one ate of the delicacies and drank of the cool and delicious punch (of which some 400 gallons were made), to the full extent of the demands of the inner man.

A more pleasant and successful affair could scarcely be imagined, and thanks are due to the Hamilton Brethren for their excellent entertainment and the way they cared for their visitors.

IGNORANCE IN MASONRY.—The candidate for initiation is supposed to present himself not only as physically helpless, but as intellectually ignorant. His search is for knowledge—the knowledge of truth. He is said hitherto to have wandered in error, and he comes to the door of the Lodge that that error may be removed by the instruction which initiation supplies. It was so in the Ancient Mysteries, where the neophyte was taught new truths which hitherto he had not known, and when he had received them he was said to be illuminated. Thus it was that a sect of Masons in Germany called themselves Illuminati, or the Illuminated Brethren, because they claimed the possession of knowledge which had not been imparted to the profane or to Masons of inferior degrees, and all Masons of the present day call themselves, on the same principle, “Enlightened.” Ignorance is therefore, symbolized in Masonry by darkness, and knowledge by light. To be in darkness, is to be in ignorance of Masonic truth; to receive light, is to acquire a knowledge of that truth.—*Mackey's National Freemason.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

The Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada was opened at the Queen's Hall, St. Catharine Street, Montreal, on Wednesday the 9th July.

Grand Lodge was opened in ample form by M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master, assisted by the following Grand Officers :

R. W. Bro. Thos. White, Jr., D. G. M. ; R. W. Bro. James Bain, G. S. W. ; R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, as G. J. W. ; W. Bro. Rev. Montgomery, as Grand Chaplain. ; R. W. Bro. Col. McLeod Moore, as Grand Treasurer. ; R. W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, Grand Registrar. ; R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary. ; V. W. Bro. John F. Lash, G. S. D. ; V. W. Bro. W. S. Martin, G. J. D. ; V. W. Bro. W. T. Munday, as S. of W. ; V. W. Bro. W. McCoy, as D. of C. ; V. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, as Asst. G. S. ; V. W. Bro. Wm. Nivin, Grand Organist. ; V. W. Bro. A. D. Stevens, as Grand Pursuivant. ; V. W. Bro. R. Colquhoun, Grand Tyler.

The usual motion accepting the minutes as read and confirmed having been passed, and the Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Lodge read, the M. W. the Grand Master delivered the following

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF GRAND LODGE : It gives me great pleasure again to meet the representatives of our Lodges in this, our eighteenth annual communication. The practice of delivering an address from the chair, introduced by myself at our first meeting, followed the example set us by our Sister Grand Lodges in the United States, and has ever since been adhered to by the distinguished brethren who have so ably discharged the duties of Grand Master in this jurisdiction. In the early period of the existence of our Grand Lodge, matters of government, points of Masonic law, our relations with the Masonic world in general, and with other grand bodies in particular, together with innumerable matters of detail, afforded ample scope for consideration and discussion ; these, however, are now well understood and satisfactorily settled, and it appears to me that the " Annual Address " is now only useful as placing upon record the Masonic incidents of the past year, and for bringing under the notice of Grand Lodge such topics as may be considered worthy of especial consideration, or as requiring future legislation. Acting upon this view, and declining to take advantage of my position to read you a lecture on Masonry, I shall confine myself to a brief detail of the Masonic events which have transpired since my re-election, after which I will introduce such matters as seem to me requiring your consideration.

My attention having been directed to a certain resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Vermont at their last annual meeting, which instructed their Grand Master that in the event of this Grand Lodge not having withdrawn all claims to jurisdiction over the Province of Quebec, at our annual communication in July last, it would be her duty to issue circulars to the different Grand Lodges and to their own subordinate Lodges, notifying them that all Masonic intercourse had been suspended between us ; and feeling that this most unfriendly and dictatorial act of the Grand Lodge of Vermont required prompt action on my own part as your Grand Master, I at once issued the following edict :

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

To all whom these Presents shall come, Greeting :

WHEREAS, Official information has reached us *this day* that, at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont, the following resolution was adopted, viz :

" WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Canada still refuses recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and is asserting jurisdiction over Lodges located in the Province of Quebec ; and

WHEREAS, Such assertion of jurisdiction violates the well-settled principles of Masonic law, applicable to such cases ; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Master is hereby instructed (unless the Grand Lodge of Canada at its next session withdraws from and ceases to assert any jurisdiction over any Lodge or Masons in the Province of Quebec) to issue circulars to the different Grand Lodges, as well as to the subordinate Lodges of this State, that the Grand

Lodge of Vermont and its subordinates have suspended all masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Canada and Masons under its jurisdiction, until the wrong is made right."

AND WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge of Canada, since its establishment in October, 1855, has claimed and exercised exclusive masonic jurisdiction and authority over the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, which claims to masonic sovereignty have been recognized and admitted not only by the Masons of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of Vermont, but also by the Grand Lodges in every quarter of the globe; and

WHEREAS, while we readily admit to the *right* that our sister Grand Lodges have (in accordance with their knowledge of the facts and of masonic law) to recognize and establish friendly relations with any body of Masons whom they may deem worthy of that honor, we at the same time most emphatically deny the *right* of any Grand Lodge to dictate to us as to the course we should follow in such cases; and we therefore at once indignantly repel the attempt thus made by the Grand Lodge of Vermont to coerce this Grand Body into the recognition of a body of Masons, who, without the assent of this Grand Lodge, and in contempt of all masonic law and precedent, have thus attempted to wrest from us a portion of our lawful territory and authority. The Grand Lodge of Canada, while jealous of her own honor, and careful! at all times not to encroach upon the rights or prerogatives of others, will permit no interference, and will submit to no dictation from any quarter whatever.

Now therefore, for the reasons above stated, and by virtue of the power vested in us as Grand Master, we do hereby order and direct that all official correspondence and communication between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont shall now cease and terminate; and we do hereby charge and command all our worshipful and loving brethren within our jurisdiction to refuse admission into our Lodges, and to hold no masonic communication with, any Mason hailing from the jurisdiction of the said Grand Lodge of Vermont. We also further order and direct that this Edict shall remain in full force and effect until the Grand Lodge of Vermont shall rescind the unfriendly and unjustifiable resolution above recited.

Done and passed at the office of the Grand Master, at Simcoe, this 24th day of October, A. D. 1872.

WM. M. WILSON, Grand Master.

This was promptly followed by a characteristic letter from our M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, resigning his position as representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, near this Grand Lodge, a copy of which will be found in the appendix, and also as a necessary sequence by the withdrawal of the credentials of R. W. Bro. Batchelor, our representative near the Grand Lodge of Vermont. While I regret the necessity of these proceedings, I entertain no doubt of your unanimous approval.

I have to announce for your information, that our R. W. Bro. W. Fraser, having ceased to reside in the State of Wisconsin, resigned his position as our representative to that Grand Body, and I had much pleasure in appointing as his successor, our R. W. Bro. Chas. Kahn, who has become a resident of that State. R. W. Bro. Fraser has since received his credentials from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, as their representative near this Grand Lodge, and will doubtless present them during the present session. I have also been notified that our R. W. Bro. Hugh A. Mackay, has been appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan to this Grand Lodge, and entertain no doubt but that both of them will be received in their position as representatives of the respective Grand Lodges which they now represent.

I had also much pleasure in appointing our R. W. Bro. Dr. Lorenzo Montafar, 33°, Secretary of State of the Republic of Costa Rica, as our representative near the Grand Orient of Central America, and have since received and accepted credentials from that Most Worshipful Body as their representative to this Grand Lodge.

On the 13th of November last I had the pleasure of dedicating a new Hall at Windsor, occupied by Great Western Lodge, No. 47. I had appointed the following day for a similar ceremony at Chatham, but was prevented by sickness from arriving in time to take part in the dedication. The ceremony, however, was ably performed by the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of that Masonic district. I had the pleasure of inspecting the new lodge room at this place, with which, and the hall at Windsor, I was extremely pleased.

In March last I dedicated to Masonry a beautiful Hall at Pembroke (upon which occasion I was the recipient of a very gratifying address), and also one at the city of Ottawa, on both these occasions large numbers of the fraternity attended. On the 3rd June last I dedicated a new Hall erected for the use of Beaver Lodge, No. 83, at Strathroy.

On the 20th day of May the corner-stone of an Episcopal Methodist Church was laid with masonic ceremonies at Colbrook, on which occasion I was ably represented by R. W. Bro. Richardson, the D. D. G. M. of Prince Edward District.

The corner stone of the Protestant Hospital at Ottawa was, by permission, laid with Masonic ceremonies on the 26th of May last, by R. W. Bro. T. White, D. G. M., on which occasion the ceremony was graced by the presence of His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, the Governor-General of the Dominion, who assisted in the work.

On the 28th of May last I laid the corner stone of a new Masonic Hall for the use of York Lodge, No. 156, at Eglinton.

On the 1st of July, inst., the corner stone of a Presbyterian Church was laid at Mount Forest, by permission, by the W. M. of St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200.

M. W. Bro. Simpson, P. G. M., kindly officiated for me by special dispensation, on the 1st of July, by laying the corner stone of an Episcopal Church at Napanee.

And on the same day I laid the corner stone of a new Masonic Hall at Hamilton, for which a special Grand Lodge was convened. The attendance of masons from various parts of Ontario was very large, about 800, and it is estimated that from six to eight thousand persons were present at the ceremony. For a full and correct account of the proceedings I refer you to the papers of the day. The preliminary arrangements were admirably made by our R. W. Bro. the Grand Secretary, ably assisted by the President and Directors of the Masonic Building Association. It is generally admitted to have been the most successful masonic demonstration ever made in Canada. I hope that in the proposed Masonic Temple a suitable suite of chambers will be reserved for the office of our Grand Secretary.

On the 20th of February last I spent a very pleasant evening with our Toronto brethren, at a conversation, upon which occasion I took advantage of the large gathering of Masons, to present, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, the testimonial voted at our last meeting to M. W. Bro. Seymour. For a full account of this most interesting meeting, and for copies of the very flattering addresses presented to me on that occasion, I refer you to the pages of the *Craftsman*.

On the 27th of May last I paid an official visit to Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, Yorkville and had the pleasure of witnessing an admirable exemplification of correct working.

My official visits during the past year were most cordial; and I shall never forget the generous hospitality and the warm greetings I received from my brethren in the various localities I visited. When on my way to visit Pembroke Lodge, I was met at Renfrew by W. Bros. Supple and White, who had brought a sleigh upwards of forty miles to convey me in comfort to Pembroke; and on my return the same thoughtful kindness was repeated.

On the 16th of September last I received a letter from M. W. Bro. D. C. Cregier, President of the Masonic Board of Relief of Chicago, covering a draft on New York for \$994, which he explained was the share *pro rata*, of unexpended funds contributed by the Masons of Canada in aid of the fund raised for the relief of those Masons who had suffered from the great fire at Chicago in October last. The draft was at once handed over by me to the Grand Treasurer, and the receipt of it acknowledged in suitable terms. As the correspondence was published at the time, I need not further refer to the matter at present, than to repeat what I expressed in my reply, "that the action of the committee in returning funds not required for the purposes for which they were contributed, would ever afterwards be cited as a noble precedent for future guidance in all similar cases."

I regret to inform Grand Lodge that the room occupied by Shuniah Lodge, U. D., at Prince Arthur's Landing, on Thunder Bay, has been destroyed by fire, by which calamity our brethren lost their Dispensation, Jewels, and Furniture. I directed that a duplicate Dispensation should be issued to them free of charge, and I recommend a grant of \$50 in money to assist them in refurnishing.

A number of Dispensations have been issued to enable brethren to appear clothed as Masons at balls and festivals; and several also to authorize the initiation of candidates who resided without the jurisdiction of the lodges interested.

I received petitions for a new lodge at Orillia, and also for one at St. Thomas, and, as neither of them had received a recommendation from the nearest lodge, I declined granting the Dispensations asked for, and referred the matter to the Grand Lodge.

During the year I have granted Dispensations for the formation of fifteen new lodges, a list of which I append.

September 7th, 1872, Wingham, held at Wingham, Ont.

September 13th, 1872, Shuniah, held at Prince Arthur's Landing, Lake Superior.

September 19th, 1872, Ancient Landmark, held at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

November 18th, 1872, Doric, held at Lobo, Ont.

December 30th, 1872, Leamington, held at Leamington, Ont.

December 31st, 1872, Dufferin, held at West Flamboro', Ont.

January 21st, 1873, Robertson, held at Nobleton, Ont.

February 17th, 1873, The Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, held at Jerusalem, Palestine. (Warranted.)

February 27th, 1873, Moore, held at Mooretown, Ont.

March 18th, 1873, Copestogo, held at Drayton, Ont.

March 27th, 1873, Temple, held at St. Catharines, Ont.

April 24th, 1873, Preston, held at Preston, Ont.

April 26th, 1873, Eddy, held at Hull, Ottawa.

May 10th, 1873, Victoria, held at Centreville, Ont.

May 30th, 1873, Mount Olivet, held at Thorndale, Ont.

I regret to announce that our friendly relations with the Grand Lodge of Illinois have been interrupted in consequence of a certain resolution adopted by that Most Worshipful Body at their last annual communication, which I regarded as of a most unfriendly and censure character towards this Grand Lodge. The correspondence which followed this act has by my direction been published and circulated, and it will now devolve upon you to express your opinion upon the whole question at issue, and to take such further action in the matter as you may consider requisite and necessary.

The report of our efficient and most trustworthy Grand Treasurer will be submitted for your inspection during the present session. I notice that on the 1st day of July instant, the financial position of Grand Lodge is as follows:

Grand Lodge funds in stocks, debentures and bank deposit.	\$47,325 24
Asylum Fund.....	6,193 66

\$53,518 90

Complaints at the instance of Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, of irregularities and improper conduct on the part of the officers and members of St. John's Lodge, No. 159, Irish register, L'Original, have been received, and have been forwarded to the Grand Lodge of Ireland for the consideration of that Most Worshipful Body, with our request that the matter might receive their earliest attention. A reply has just been received, from which it appears to me that the Grand Lodge of Ireland has not yet been sufficiently informed as to all the matters complained of, and I now place it on record so that it may not be lost sight of by my successor.

The reports which will be submitted during the present session by the District Deputy Grand Masters, will give you ample information as to the condition of Masonry in this jurisdiction; and it affords me much pleasure to announce that, so far as I am able to judge from my own personal observation, it is most satisfactory and cheering. The laudable efforts made during the past year by those in authority to instruct the brethren in the ritual sanctioned by Grand Lodge for the efficient working of a Lodge, and in the elucidation of interesting points of masonic law, by opening in various localities General Lodges of Instruction, have been most successful, and is most creditable to those distinguished brethren who have thus devoted their time and knowledge towards the general improvement of the craft. In December last I received a letter from our R. W. Bro. the D. D. G. M. of the Wellington District, announcing that, in consequence of ill health, he was unable to perform the duties of his office, and fearing that the craft might suffer, tendered his resignation. As provided for by the constitution, I requested the Grand Registrar to take temporary charge of the District until our R. W. Bro. was sufficiently restored to health to resume his duties.

The address to our illustrious brother H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, ordered at our last annual communication, was most beautifully engrossed, and forwarded under cover to R. W. Bro. Lord De Tabley, our Grand representative near the Grand Lodge of England, who presented it to His Royal Highness and transmitted to me the following gracious reply:

SANDRINGHAM, KINGS LYNN, NOV. 4, 1872.

"General Sir William Knollys is desired by the Prince of Wales to acknowledge the receipt of an address from the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, conveying their warm congratulations on his Royal Highness's recovery from his illness. His Royal Highness desires to return his cordial and sincere thanks to the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, and to assure them of the grateful sense he shall ever entertain of the kind feelings expressed towards him by the Masons of Canada."

"Most Worshipful Bro.

"W. M. Wilson, Esq., L.L. D.,

"Grand Master, G. L. C."

Among the Masonic deaths of the past year we have to deplore the loss of the Earl of Zetland, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, who departed this life in May last. For upwards of a quarter of a century our distinguished brother ably filled the Masonic throne of England. Under his benign sway, the light of Masonry with all its attendant blessings and advantages, has been widely disseminated over the globe, "from Japan to Gibraltar, from the Gold coast to the Himalayan mountains, through the ancient empire of Cathay and the bleak regions of Newfoundland, the blessings of our friendly craft have been spread, through his fostering care;" his heart was in the work and he spared neither time nor labor to ensure success. As an evidence of the lively interest which he felt in all Masonic matters, and the great ability with which he discussed them, I would refer the brethren of the Grand Lodge to the published correspondence which took place between his lordship and myself in the year 1859. By the death of our departed brother Masonry has lost a fervent supporter, and this Grand Lodge a warm friend.

Among "the old familiar faces" which in past years gladdened our hearts at our annual communications, we have to mourn one, now "at rest." I allude to our late R. W. Brother Captain Thompson Wilson, 33°. Our venerable brother, who had passed the ripe old age of four score years, had served his country for upwards of 27 years in the Royal Artillery, sharing in all the dangers and glories of the Peninsular war. He was present and took part in the great battle of Waterloo, and subsequently served for three years in the West Indies. On retiring from active service he settled in London, Ontario, in the year 1837; but again, at the call of his country, he rendered valuable service during the rebellion which broke out in this country at the close of that year. He was afterwards appointed barrack master on the Eastern frontier, at Prescott and Cornwall, subsequently retiring on half pay, after an additional service of sixteen years as barrack master. He then returned to London, where he resided, esteemed and respected by all who knew him, until his decease on the 20th of October last.

On examining the Masonic record of our distinguished brother, we find that he was initiated into Masonry in the Lodge of the 5th Regiment in the year 1816, and in the following year was passed and raised to the degree of Master Mason in Military Lodge 406 of the 91st Regiment. Our deceased brother having been elevated to the Royal Arch and installed as a Knight Templar, subsequently attained the grade of Sov. Gd. I. Genl. 33°. He also held the rank of a Past Deputy Grand Commander in the grand conclave of Masonic Knights Templar of Canada, and was an actual Past Grand Z. of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada.

In his career as a soldier, our lamented brother was distinguished for his loyalty, his zeal and his courage; and as a Mason, we all know that his love of the Order, as evinced by his strict adherence to its great leading principles, his unwearied efforts to promote its establishment, and to ensure its prosperity, was only second to his loyalty to the crown and his love to the country of his birth. Ever proud to regard him as a personal friend, it affords me a melancholy pleasure thus to place on record these evidences of his worth as a man, and his standing and character as a Freemason. The widow and orphan daughter of our R. W. brother can never want friends and protectors so long as Masonry exists in Canada or elsewhere.

We have also to mourn the loss of R. W. Bro. Alfio de Grassi, a past D. D. G. M. of the Toronto District, and a zealous and most useful member of our Order; and of R. W. Bro. Thomas Drummond, representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to this Grand Lodge.

Among the Masonic incidents of the past year, there is perhaps none possessing greater interest to the Craft generally, and to the Masons of this jurisdiction in particular, than the one to which I am now about to refer.

In the month of February last a petition was presented to me, signed by our distinguished and Most Worshipful Brother Robt. Morris, LL. D., and by M. W. Bro. Alex. A. Stevenson, both Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, by Albert G. Mackey, John Scott, DeWitt C. Cregier, John Sheville, Rolla Floyd, Robert Macoy, and many of the most eminent members of our fraternity on this continent, praying that this Grand Lodge would grant them the requisite authority, and constitute the said brethren into a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the title or denomination of "The Royal Solomon Mother Lodge," to meet at the city of Jerusalem, or adjacent places in Palestine. Regarding this as a very high compliment to our Grand Lodge, and approving most heartily of a scheme which had for its object the revival of *Masonic light* in that grand old *East*, which was the seat of its birth, and from which its brilliant rays had been transmitted by every quarter of the globe, I gave the matter my most favorable consideration, and after consulting with as many

of the Grand Lodge Officers as I conveniently could, I instructed the Grand Secretary to prepare the necessary authority [a copy of this document will be found in the appendix.] I trust that my action in this matter will meet with the approval of Grand Lodge, and I would now suggest for your consideration the propriety of marking the lively interest which I think you must feel in this event by forwarding to our distant offshoot the Three Great Lights of Masonry, together with the collars and jewels and clothing required by the officers of our new lodge.

A report from the trustees of the Masonic Asylum Trust will be submitted for your consideration. This important subject was first officially brought forward in 1860, but up to this period no decided action has been taken in the matter. I venture to express a hope that during the present session the subject will receive your careful consideration, and that you will decide either at once to give instructions for the carrying out of the suggestions made by the trustees, as to the purchase of lands and the erection of a suitable building, or to abandon the scheme altogether, for it does appear to me that (as expressed in the report) the protracted delay in carrying out a benevolent project, almost invites reflections injurious to the craft. When the scheme was first submitted, it was received with universal approbation, and a liberal support was promised; but it was subsequently argued by many of our leading Masons that the class of persons in this country requiring this kind of benevolence, were very different from those for whom the great charities of England were established, and that but very few of them would be found willing to accept a home which would separate them from their children and relatives. From my own personal knowledge I may say, that there are many whose hearts are now gladdened by your bounty that would rather relinquish it altogether than accept it upon the terms suggested. There are a few, however, who do not thus regard it, and as our country increases in population, so will these cases increase also. From our ample resources a commencement on a limited scale might now be inaugurated, the land required for this purpose may be obtained at a comparatively low price at present, and I am inclined to believe that the fund now at the disposal of the Trustees, would be found amply sufficient to purchase the land and to secure a Home which, for some years to come at all events, would be large enough to meet the necessities of our present position. I leave the whole matter in your hands, firmly believing that you will take such action as will seem to you to be most wise and prudent. Appeals from *poverty* and *distress* have never been disregarded by this Grand Lodge. The open hand, prompted by the generous heart, has ever been cheerfully extended to relieve the wants of our poor brethren, their widows or orphans; and the delay which has occurred in the matter of the Masonic Asylum, has really arisen from the anxious desire of the members of this Grand Lodge to ascertain the best way of directing the stream of their benevolence so as to secure the greatest good to the greatest number. And I am proud to say that the Grand Lodge of Canada not only appreciates but practices that beautiful sentiment of John Galt, "that whenever we do an act of justice or kindness to another, it is the benevolence of Heaven directing us to achieve some good for ourselves."

Brethren, having thus briefly and hurriedly referred to the various subjects and incidents of the past year, I will not further trespass upon your patience; I shall leave this chair conscious of the fact that my efforts to promote the interests of Masonry generally, and of this grand Lodge in particular, have fallen far short of my aspirations; But I shall also leave it with the gratifying thought, that while I myself entertain none but the warmest feelings of brotherly love to every Mason in Canada, I am proud to believe that I shall carry with me the good wishes and respect of the fraternity generally.

And now brethren, I shall conclude in the language of the great apostle "Finally brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace: and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

WM. M. WILSON,
Grand Master.

The address having been referred to the Board of General Purposes, M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington stated that he had sent back his credentials as representative of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana at this Grand Lodge, and gave his reasons therefor.

REPORTS OF D. D. G. M'S.

The Reports of the D. D. G. M's. of the London, Wilson, and Huron Districts having been read, it was moved by R. W. Bro. Gutman, seconded by W. Bro. Meyers, and

RESOLVED.—That in as much as the reports of D. D. G. Masters are referred to the Board of General Purposes for consideration, who will report on the same to this G. L., that the further reading of said reports be dispensed with.

ROYAL SOLOMON MOTHER LODGE.

The M. W. the Grand Master read the following letter :

JERUSALEM, May 19th, 1873.

W. M. WILSON, Esq., G. M. of Grand Lodge of Canada :

DEAR SIR AND M. W. BRO.,—I have the honor to report to you that "Royal Solomon Mother Lodge at Jerusalem, No. 293," was regularly constituted on Wednesday, the 7th inst.

Fraternally and truly yours,

JOHN SHEVILLE.

P. S.—By direction of Bro. Morris I enclose you an Olive leaf plucked from one of the trees in the Garden of Gethsemane.—J. S.

REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The following reports were submitted by R. W. Bro. Thos. White, Jr., President of the Board of General Purposes.

FINANCE AND AUDIT—ANNUAL REPORT.

The Board of General Purposes have the honor to report.

That the annual meeting was held in the city of Toronto, on the 4th day of February last.

The books of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, together with the accounts, statements and vouchers, for the financial year ending 31st December, 1872, were submitted and carefully examined, and the Board have pleasure in stating that they were found to be in every particular correct. The following is a statement of the finances of Grand Lodge at that date.

The receipts for the past year amount to \$11,698 55, derived from the following sources.

Certificates.....	2,968 00
Dues.....	5,309 99
Fees.....	1,971 50
Dispensations.....	576 00
Warrants.....	230 00
Constitutions.....	596 56
Proceedings.....	46 50
	<hr/>
	\$11,698 55

The amounts at the credit of Grand Lodge, as per the Grand Treasurer's statement are as follows :

General Fund.....	29,988 06
Benevolent Fund, Investment acct.....	12,468 81
" " Current acct.....	1,357 34
Asylum Fund.....	6,002 66
	<hr/>
	\$49,816 87

That the funds belonging to this Grand Lodge are invested as follows :

Dominion Stock, bearing 6 per cent.....	28,800 00
" " " 5 " 	10,000 00
Debentures, County of Middlesex.....	1,600 00
Bank of Toronto, balance 1st July 1872.....	1,058 66
" Interest on Dominion Stock, accrued..	144 00
	<hr/>
Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	8,214 21
	<hr/>
	\$49,816 87

The Expenditure for the year 1872 amounted to \$8,618 29, of which sum \$3,884 66 was for transfers to the Benevolent Fund, (including the sum of \$250 in aid of the sufferers by the Franco-Prussian war.)

A detailed statement of the expenditure has already been submitted to the Board. The Board authorized the payment of the following accounts.

Lawson, McCulloch & Co, Grand Lodge Proceedings &c.....	\$382 88
“ “ “ Constitutions.....	277 00
Copp, Clark & Co., Certificates &c.....	327 00
Assistance in Grand Secretary's Office.....	325 00
W. Bruce, Engrossing.....	43 19
R. Haigh, Blank Books.....	37 00
T. & R. White, G. L. Seal and Electrotyping.....	10 50
Duncan, Stewart & Co., Blank Book.....	2 05
W. W. Summers, Repairs.....	5 25
M. Howles, Tin Cases.....	5 25
Grand Secretary, balance of Postage acct.....	17 77
Grand Master, Postage, Telegrams, &c.....	21 00
Grand Treasurer, Postage.....	3 73
	\$1,457 62

The Board recommend that the Grand Secretary be allowed to draw to cover payments of paper for reprint of proceedings as the same may be required, amounting in gross to \$1,350.

The Board recommend in future that all orders for benevolence be endorsed by the party to whom the grant is made, in addition to the endorsement of the Bro. through whom the payment is made.

The Board have much pleasure in reporting for the information of the Grand Lodge, that the amount contributed towards the relief of our Brethren in Chicago, has been much in excess of the sum required, and the Masonic Board of Relief of that city having returned to this Grand Lodge the sum of \$872 84, to be apportioned among the contributors to the fund. The Board recommend its division as follows:

Grand Lodge, Benevolence Fund.....	485 63
Toronto Lodges, through A. R. Boswell.....	169 64
Wellington District, D. D. G. M.....	182 73
Wilson District, P. J. Brown.....	34 84

\$872 84

(The parties through whom the donations were made.)

The Board have also to recommend that in consideration of the great services rendered to Masonry by R. W. Bro Otto Klotz, especially in connection with the funds of Benevolence, in preparing with great labor and care a record of the various grants made, and an abstract of the particulars in the case of each applicant for relief, a silver mantel ornament with some emblem of benevolence be presented to him, and that the Grand Master be requested to name a committee to procure the same.

BENEVOLENCE.

The Board have had under consideration several applications for relief, and after due consideration made appropriations to the amount of \$1,335 00.

The Board would also strongly recommend to the brethren desirous of making application to the Board upon the Funds of Benevolence, that those applications are always accompanied with sufficient information regarding the party for whom aid is solicited, in order to arrive at an intelligent decision on the subject.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

A charge of partial and improper conduct, against the W. M. of Filius Vidue Lodge, No. 189, was brought before the Board, and referred back to the D. D. G. M. for inquiry and report. Subsequently the Grand Secretary has received the following resolution, carried unanimously in the Lodge, which they assume may be held as disposing of the matter:

Moved by Bro. J. B. Galt, seconded by Bro. J. C. Chamberlin, P. M., and

“Resolved,—That Filius Vidue Lodge, No. 189, G. R. C., after having heard the letter of complaint of Bros. Walson and Murdoch, say that the said brothers have no grounds for complaint, and that this lodge has every confidence in the honour and integrity of R. W. Bro. E. H. Smith, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Grand Secretary,—Carried unanimously.

In relation to the case of R. W. Bro. J. C. Franck, the following resolution was passed after the reading of a letter from Bro. Franck:

"That the communication of R. W. Bro. Franck, having been read and received, the Board are of opinion that there is nothing in the defence put in to alter the decision of Grand Lodge, and recommend therefore that the said Bro. Franck, be expelled from the craft at the next meeting of Grand Lodge."

R. W. Bro. Franck is therefore recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion from the craft.

CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS.

AMITY LODGE, No. 32, DUNNVILLE.—The Board are of opinion that the effect of clause 21, under the head of "Private Lodges" in the book of constitution, is to render it imperative on a lodge to restore a brother who has been suspended for non-payment of dues, on payment of "all arrears owing at the time of his suspension," together with "regular lodge dues for the period he was so suspended," in other words that by the act of payment the brother becomes again a member of a lodge in good standing without any formal action on the part of the lodge, but that this provision does not prevent the lodge from accepting a less sum if it should see fit to do so. The Board therefore hold that though it is a power which should be cautiously exercised, there is nothing in the constitution of Grand Lodge or the usages of masonry to prevent Amity Lodge from remitting the dues accrued during the period of suspension, and restoring a brother to good standing on payment of the arrears due at the date of his suspension. The Board desire it to be distinctly understood, that in all cases of restoration of brethren, the lodge is responsible to Grand Lodge for the Grand Lodge dues which accrue during the period of suspension.

In reference to the petition of a number of Brethren of Orillia, for a dispensation to form a new lodge there the Board are of opinion that they have no power to deal with the case. In the absence of a recommendation from the nearest lodge it must be reserved for the pleasure of Grand Lodge.

DALHOUSIE LODGE, No. 52 Ottawa.—In this case the papers relating to the action of this Lodge, in the matter of the complaint of Bro. St. Hill, against Bro. Smith, which were sent to the Grand Secretary in England, while the Lodge was working under its English Warrant, were merely transmitted to this Grand Lodge, through R. W. Bro. Sir John A. Macdonald, after the Lodge had surrendered its English Warrant. No appeal from the decision of the M. W. the Grand Master of England, appears by the papers received to have been made, and as the term of suspension has expired and no further action in the matter is demanded by either party, the board do not deem it necessary to offer any opinion on the proceedings taken.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 209 a London.—The board find from the statements of brethren and on examination of the minute book of the Lodge, that W. Bro. O'Connor withdrew from the Lodge, and took his dimit on the 19th May 1869, while it was working under the Grand Lodge of Ireland. At its first meeting after joining this Grand Lodge, 21st August, 1872, W. Bro. O'Connor, personally applied in Lodge to be re-instated, when it was moved and seconded that he be admitted a member, and no objection having been made the motion was declared carried. No ballot was passed nor was a formal vote taken, Bro. O'Connor paid the affiliation fee and has since paid his dues up to last St. John's day.

At the next meeting before the minutes were confirmed one of the brethren made some objection to the vote at the previous meeting, but made no formal protest, and there is some difference among the brethren as to the extent to which he pressed his objection—after this Bro. O'Connor, sat and voted in the Lodge without formal objection. On 18th December 1872, he was elected Master, the ballot having been passed twice before a clear majority was obtained.

On the 24th Bro. Merden, made a formal protest to the D. D. G. Master, against the installation of Bro. O'Connor, on the ground that he was not a member of the Lodge, no ballot having been taken and no notice of application having been sent to the members as required by the constitution. The D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. Westlake, at first intended to defer the installation of W. Bro. O'Connor until he could communicate with the Grand Master, but on the 26th he received a telegram sent in answer to a communication from the Secretary of the Lodge, authorizing him (the D. D. G. M.) to proceed, and on the 27th he installed Bro. O'Connor, as Master of the Lodge. On a further representation to the Grand Master, he sent a further telegram to R. W. Bro. Westlake, rescinding the authorization contained in the first telegram, but this was not received until after the ceremony had been performed. Bro. O'Connor, was previously a Past Master, having been Master of the Lodge while working under its Irish Warrant.

Under these circumstances the Board are of opinion that W. Bro. O'Connor has not been regularly elected, and is not now a member of the Lodge. That he was not at

the time of election eligible for office in the Lodge, and consequently that his installation as Master was null and void, and that the fees and dues paid by Bro. O'Connor should be returned to him and a proper application be made, notice to the brethren given, and ballot taken, if he desires membership in the Lodge.

The Board regret to find from the evidence that the Lodge has been exceedingly lax in its mode of admitting members, and has failed to comply with the requirements of its own by-laws, or the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, (under which it formerly worked) or of this Grand Lodge, all of which require the ballot to be passed, and notice of application for membership to be sent to all the members.

KING SOLOMON'S LODGE, No. 22, TORONTO.—In this case Bro. Sargent, while S. W. of the Lodge tendered his resignation and applied for a certificate of withdrawal by letter, of which the following is a copy.

TORONTO, 12th April, 1870.

"D. McLellan, Esq., W. M. King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22.

"DEAR SIR AND VERY W. BRO.

"I will thank you to have the Secretary of the Lodge furnish me with the amount of my dues; also arrange during the coming week to appoint some one in my place as acting Treasurer; and as I cannot by reason of my office, constitutionally ask for my demit till the expiration of my present term of office, I presume it will be necessary for you to place the matter before the Lodge this evening; and if they deem fit grant me my demit at once. *I may mention that I have good and sufficient reasons for acting in the manner I do.* Wishing you will attend to the matter at once,

"I remain,

"fraternally yours,

[Signed]

"THOMAS SARGANT."

The demit was granted at the regular meeting of the Lodge in April, 1870, before the expiration of his term of office, and was issued to Bro. Sargent.

In July, 1870, Bro. Sargent applied for admission as a joining member to St. John's Lodge, and on 9th March and 13th April, 1871, to King Solomon's Lodge, but was on each occasion rejected. In the petition he described himself as "*late a member*" of King Solomon's Lodge. The petitions were in the usual form, and promised obedience, &c. "*if admitted among you.*" On the 14th December, 1871, Bro. Sargent attended the King Solomon's Lodge, claimed membership on the ground that the Lodge could not accept his resignation while S. W. and tendered the amount of his dues. The W. M. ruled that he was still a member of the Lodge and directed the Secretary to receive all arrears of dues from him. W. Bro. Purvis the J. W. appealed from this ruling to the D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. Kerr. After considering the case Bro. Kerr decided against the ruling of the W. M. and held that Bro. Sargent was not a member of King Solomon's Lodge. From this decision the W. M.—R. W. Bro. Spry has appealed to the Grand Master who has referred the matter to this Board for decision.

The Board are of opinion that the action of the lodge viewed in the light of the peculiar wording of Bro. Sargent's letter, may be regarded in effect (though not technically so worded) as a removal for sufficient cause under clause 9 "of Master and Wardens of Lodges." Bro. Sargent says in his letter "I have good and sufficient reasons for acting in the manner I do," and his masonic word contained in an official letter seems to have been taken as a "sufficient cause" without further investigation. The Board are further of opinion, that if the action of the Lodge could not be sustained as a removal from office for cause and a withdrawal from membership conjointly with the removal, Bro. Sargent is by his own acts after his year of office had expired, estopped by every principle of law and equity from claiming membership in the Lodge. His application was to be allowed to retire, either then or as soon as he could legally do so. The Lodge acted upon the application at once. The Board do not at present decide whether the Lodge had the right under the constitution, to accept the resignation of a member while in office as S. W., but the application was made, and the Lodge did in fact accept it. If it did wrong, the Lodge rendered itself liable to censure, but the act was not a nullity, any more than the irregular initiation of a candidate without sending the prescribed notices, &c. would be a nullity, and it may be regarded when combined with the wording of the application and the acts of both Lodge and Bro. Sargent after his year of office had expired as a withdrawal at any rate from the date when it could legally be done. The Lodge had clearly by its action, deprived itself of the power of suspending Bro. Sargent for non-

payment of dues, and he by applying again for membership, describing himself as "late a member of the Lodge," and promising obedience "if admitted," in like manner estopped himself from afterwards claiming the privileges of membership.

For these reasons the Board are of opinion that the ruling of R. W. Bro. Kerr should be sustained.

PLANTAGENET LODGE.

The complaint of Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, against St. John's Lodge, No. 189, I. R., having again come before the Board, R. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in the Grand Lodge of Canada, stated that the Grand Lodge of Ireland had forwarded a reply to our remonstrance through our representative there, R. W. Bro. Mackay, but that he had not received such reply. The Grand Secretary was accordingly directed to write to the Grand Lodge of Ireland through our representative, asking to be furnished with a copy of their decision in the matter.

LODGE AT LEVUKA, FIJI.

In reference to the formation of a Masonic Lodge at Levuka, Fiji, referred to the Board at the last Communication of Grand Lodge, the Board have to report that the Grand Secretary addressed a letter to W. Bro. Paton, which was deemed sufficient and satisfactory, and it was not considered necessary that any further action should be taken on the subject until such time as further information should be received. The substance of the Grand Secretary's letter was that until more satisfactory statements were made in relation to the formation of the Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Canada would not feel warranted in extending recognition to it. No further letter or information has ever been received.

DENVER CITY LODGE.

A letter was received from the W. Master of Denver City Lodge, Colorado, stating that the Lodge had upon authority from Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte, assumed the expenses of the funeral of the late Bro. Northrup, a past Senior Warden, and Treasurer of the latter Lodge, and that the said Lodge at Almonte, had neglected to reimburse Denver Lodge for the expenses thus incurred. The subject was left over, with a view of obtaining full information from Mississippi Lodge, which explanations, with further correspondence from Denver Lodge, have since been received, and will form the subject of action by the Board at the present session.

GRAND LODGE OF NEVADA.

The Grand Secretary submitted a number of letters and documents having reference to a misunderstanding with the Grand Lodge of Nevada, which had resulted from the initiation of one S. E. Craig, by Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, who was claimed to be, at the time of his initiation, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nevada. The Board having examined the documents came to the conclusion of leaving the question in the hands of the President of the Board and the Grand Secretary, and it has pleasure in announcing, that all misunderstanding has been removed, as will appear from the following letter:

OFFICE GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN NEVADA.

VIRGINIA, NEVADA, February, 17th 1873.

R. W. Bro. THOMAS B. HARRIS,

Grand Secretary, G. L. Canada, Hamilton, Ontario.

R. W. SIR AND BROTHER,—Your favor Feb. 6th received, the receipt of the same has given me much pleasure as it removes all cause of controversy or unpleasant feeling between the two Grand Bodies.

I will at once issue a circular letter to the Lodge of this jurisdiction, announcing that by their own limitation both resolutions of 1871, and 1872, have ceased and determined, and that they are not any longer of effect but null and void.

At our next Grand Communication proper action will be taken in reference to the resolution of 1871; as it is impossible to expunge we will have to adopt a receding resolution, which will amount to the same thing in fact.

Yours respectfully and fraternally,

WM. A. M. VAN BOKKELEN,

Grand Master.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

That a Warrant be granted to the following Lodge, not having had a dispensation, Hanover Lodge, Hanover, Ontario.

Subsequently the Board reported that they had had under their consideration applications for warrants for New Lodges, at Morrisburg, and Orillia, Ontario, and they recommend that warrants be not issued.

Again the Board reported recommending the granting of a warrant to Temple Lodge, at St. Catharines, all differences having been adjusted and opposition withdrawn.

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

The B. G. P. beg leave to submit the following report on the condition of Masonry.

The board have examined the reports of the D. D. G. Ms of the London, Wilson, Huron, Hamilton, Niagara, Toronto, Ontario, Prince Edward, St. Lawrence, Ottawa, Montreal, and Manitoba Districts.

It is gratifying to find from these reports that Masonry is in a flourishing condition, that with few exceptions the lodges are prospering, steadily increasing and working harmoniously, and in accordance with the regulations and ritual of G. L.

The D. D. G. M's. report that they have visited nearly every lodge in their respective districts, and find them under the government of efficient and skilled masters, and desirous of making themselves perfect in the work laid down by the G. L.

The complaints during the year have been few, and in general easily disposed of by the D. D. G. M. without requiring to be brought under the notice of G. L. or the G. M.

Lodges of Instruction have been held in Ontario and Huron Districts. In Huron District at Goderich and Stratford, and in Ontario, besides holding a Lodge of Instruction once a week in Port Hope, during the months of January and February, the D. D. G. M. held General Lodges of Instruction in Port Hope, Whitby and Oshawa. All these Lodges of Instruction are reported to have been well attended and to have been interesting and beneficial to the officers and members of the lodges in the respective districts. The D. D. G. M. strongly recommends a Lodge of Instruction to be held in the Niagara District during the coming winter.

A number of Dispensations have been granted by D. D. G. M's for Masons to appear in Masonic clothing at festivals, which are reported to have passed off pleasantly and harmoniously. One D. D. G. M. granted two dispensations to hold balls. The power to grant such dispensations has frequently been declared to be in the M. W. the G. M. only. One D. D. G. M. has deputed a W. Bro. to act for him in constituting a lodge; although the D. D. G. M. has himself the power to constitute a lodge, the M. W. the G. M. alone has power to appoint another brother to perform that duty.

The M. W. the G. M. has visited and constituted several lodges in different districts, where his presence will long be remembered with pleasure.

A number of Dispensations have been granted by the M. W. the G. M. to open New Lodges, which are in nearly all instances reported to be working well, and are recommended for warrants by the D. D. G. M's. of their respective districts.

The D. D. G. M. of the Province of Manitoba, reports that the District has procured suitable clothing for the D. D. G. M. of that District.

The Board have again to regret that several D. D. G. M's. have not complied with the constitution which requires them to send in their reports to the G. Secretary fourteen days prior to the annual communication of G. L.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DENVER LODGE, COLORADO.

The Board of General Purposes beg to recommend the adoption by Grand Lodge of the following resolution:

That the correspondence in relation to the claim of Denver Lodge, No. 5, Colorado, against Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte, having been submitted to the Board, and the following facts appearing, viz:

1. That the late Brother Northrup, formerly a member of Mississippi Lodge, being in the City of Denver, died there.
2. That the widow of the said Bro. Northrup applied for his burial with masonic ceremonies, to the W. M. of Denver Lodge.
3. That the said W. M. applied by telegraph to the W. M. of Mississippi Lodge, inquiring whether the said Bro. Northrup was in good standing.
4. That he received an answer to the effect that the said Bro. Northrup was in good standing.

5. That therefore the said Denver Lodge caused Bro. Northrup to be buried with masonic ceremonies, and sent the following bill to the W. M. of Mississippi Lodge :

For Smith & Doll's Bill for Coffin, Hearse, &c.....	\$69 00
" Denver City Band.....	50 00
" Telegraphing to Almonte.....	6 65

\$125 65

6. That the W. M. of Mississippi Lodge, having given no authority to Denver Lodge to incur any such expense, did not pay the amount, and thereupon complaint was made to the Grand Secretary of such neglect, on the ground that all Masons in good standing are entitled to masonic burial, and that therefore Denver Lodge acted only as the proxy of Mississippi Lodge.

Be it therefore resolved :—

That while this Board recognizes the right of Masons in good standing to have the honors of masonic burial in the event of their decease, it does not consider that any obligation rests upon Lodges to bear the expense of such funeral, except upon distinct resolution to that effect, in cases of necessity ; but that as Denver Lodge evidently acted under a different impression, and in a spirit of brotherly kindness, it be an instruction to the President to issue his order to the W. M. of Denver Lodge, for the amount expended on the funeral of the said late Bro. Northrup.

MASONIC ASYLUM TRUST.

The Trustees of the Masonic Asylum Trust have to report to Grand Lodge a further years' Stewardship.

In the matter of Funds the Balance reported in 1872 amounted to \$5,858 66, which has been augmented by interest on stock \$288 and on Bank Deposits \$47 to \$6193 66 which is thus represented :

Dominion Stock.....	\$4,800 00
Bank Deposit.....	1,393 66

\$6,193 66

For ready future reference the Trustees have extracted and annex an analysis of the Asylum Funds for 10 years from 1863 to 1873 showing the above result.

In the matter of the great object indicated in the original Report of 1860, when the proposal of an Asylum was first enunciated, regret at apparent delay is counterbalanced by the knowledge that among the most valued evidences of benevolence are to be found instances which, cautiously entertained at their first inception, have in time forced their utility to be conceded. In this view the Trustees confidently await the time when the Genius of Masonry will irresistibly assert itself, in requiring evidence to be afforded to the outer world that the great Masonic landmark of "Brotherly Love" needs a warmer illustration than the distribution of casual benevolence, and that while many a private home has been gladdened thereby, it may be both more visibly and more fraternally illustrated in the creation of an Institution where, to quote the words of the original Report, "the indigent and decayed mason, his bereaved "Widow and his helpless Orphan may enter, *not* as into an Institution where the "feeling of dependence almost aggravates distress, *but* as into a *Home* provided by "Masons, who by the goodness of the Great Architect of the Universe have been "blessed with a continuance of means, for those who, from unforeseen and unavoidable "causes, are plunged into the depths of poverty and want, but who are nevertheless "brethren, and brethren whose claim to the appellation are in the true spirit of Masonry enhanced by misfortune."

A recent traveller in England asserted that one of the grandest items of her National greatness was to be found in her munificent Hospitals and Charities, towards which Masonry had not been behind-hand in contributing her quota. The Trustees venture to hope that Canada may speedily follow the lead of the old Mother Land in this, as she has been proud to do in other glorious examples.

It is with feelings of unusual sadness your trustees reflect that during the comparatively brief period since the creation of the trust, the hand of death has twice reduced their number ; in the removal in 1868 of their chairman R. W. Brother The Honorable Robert Spence, and but a few brief months since of R. W. Brother Alfio De Grassi. The survivors are sure Grand Lodge will join them in deploring the loss of brethren whose eminently zealous and benevolent dispositions peculiarly fitted them for participation in the care and nursing of funds set apart for an object, which when consummated cannot fail to reflect their virtues and their memory. In R. W.

Brother Spence's farewell report, (see proceedings 1869) written almost with the finger of death, words of wisdom and encouragement are found which the trustees desire by this reference to save from being forgotten, while in the surviving and venerable father of the late R. W. Brother De Grassi, the oldest Mason in our midst, a visible illustration seems to be presented of the happiness that might be afforded to his declining years could he be secured the companionship and comforts of home in a well regulated Masonic Asylum or Retreat.

From his known energy and interest in every true benevolent work, the Trust venture to recommend the name of R. W. Brother J. K. Kerr, Past D. D. G. M. to fill the vacancy in the Trust, caused by the lamented death of R. W. Brother Alfio De Grassi, and if there is no objection to an increase in their number from four to five, and which in some respects might be desirable, the further addition of the name of the respected R. W. Brother The Reverend Vincent Clementi, Past Grand Chaplain, will they are confident be not only warmly received by the masonic community, but will add weight and influence to their Board.

To return to the matter of funds, a comparative reference to the financial position of Grand Lodge in 1860, when the scheme of an Asylum was first mooted, and that presented by last years accounts, proves that Grand Lodge had good grounds for faith in her resources when in 1860, on the motion of the revered Grand Master who again presides over us she pledged herself to a liberal support of a project which commended itself with an unprecedented enthusiasm to masonic recognition, as evidenced by the series of commendatory resolutions unanimously adopted on the motions of the leaders of the craft from every section of Canada, and the trustees feel convinced that the voice of masonry will pronounce that the scheme should now be matured, the very circumstance of protracted delay in carrying out a benevolent project, the necessity for which has been so long announced, almost inviting reflections injurious to the craft.

By reference to previous reports it will be seen that several liberal propositions from Lodges who were desirous of seeing the Asylum located in their neighborhood lapsed from want of action, one in particular from the town of Niagara of several acres of land, a substantial building, and \$3,000 in money it is to be regretted was not accepted by Grand Lodge though strongly recommended by the Trust, but while the land and building there originally offered have been since appropriated and were gladly availed of for the useful and benevolent objects of "Miss Ryes' Female Emigration Home," your Trustees have pleasure in adding that they have ascertained that the monetary offer of \$3,000 is still held to be binding on the Masons of Niagara should that unrivalled site for salubrity and centrality, as your Trustees are bound after a recent visit of inspection to regard it, be selected—and there is every reason to believe that on due and timely application there might be secured on advantageous terms a most beautifully located plot of Ordnance Land with a substantial building (formerly a military Hospital admirably adapted, with comparatively slight modifications, to be immediately utilized as the nucleus of the proposed institution, which, once opened, will lack neither interest, encouragement nor support to become the cherished monument of the spirit of Masonry.

ANALYSIS ASYLUM FUND 1863-1873.

37 LODGES.	1863-8.	\$ c.
4. Dorchester,.....	St. Johns.....	102 50
8. Nelson,.....	Philipsburg.....	53 90
10. Norfolk,.....	Simcoe.....	60 50
13. Western Light,.....	Bolton.....	23 00
16. St. Andrews,.....	Toronto.....	161 00
17. St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	20 00
42. St. George's,.....	London.....	41 25
49. Harington,.....	Quebec.....	36 00
51. Corinthian,.....	Grahamsville.....	25 00
56. Victoria,.....	Sarnia.....	31 00
57. Harmony,.....	Binbrook.....	20 00
58. Doric,.....	Ottawa.....	80 00
59. Corinthian,.....	Ottawa.....	100 00
60. Hoyle,.....	La Colle.....	25 00
68. St. John's.....	Ingersoll.....	17 00
73. St. James,.....	St. Marys.....	10 00
75. St. John's,.....	Toronto.....	280 56
78. King Hiram.....	Tilsonburg.....	68 50

80. Albion,	Newbury	33 00
83. Beaver,	Strathroy	29 00
84. Clinton,	Clinton	115 00
86. Wilson,	Toronto	50 00
96. Corinthian,	Barrie	82 50
98. True Blue,	Albion	25 00
101. Corinthian,	Peterborough	65 75
113. Wilson,	Waterford	57 00
116. Cassia,	Widder	25 00
117. Stanbridge	Stanbridge	35 00
130. Yamaska,	Granby	26 00
133. Lebanon Forest,	Franceston	55 00
134. Shawanegan,	Three Rivers	73 00
141. Tudor,	Mitchell	13 00
146. Prince of Wales,	Newburgh	30 00
147. Mississippi,	Almonte ..	37 00
151. Grand River,	Berlin	20 00
153. Burns,	Wyoming	20 00
161. Percy,	Warkwerth	20 00

 1965 56

1 CHAPTER.

13. Stadacona,	Quebec	20 00
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 1985 56

(See proceedings 1863, p. 417 ; 1864, p. 560 ; 1865, p. 87 ; 1866, p. 333 ; 1868, p. 619.)

THE GRAND LODGE.

Vote of Grand Lodge, 1866	\$2000 00
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(See proceedings 1866, p. 190.)

BANK INTEREST.

Gore Bank ..	67 84
Bank Upper Canada	45 87
Bank Montreal	235 66
Bank Toronto	97 35

 \$446 72

INTEREST ON PROVINCIAL INVESTMENTS.

On Sundries from Grand Treasurer, proportion to Trust	40 80
On first investment \$3800	523 58
On present investment \$4800	296 00

 \$1860 38

RECAPITULATION.

Subscription—37 Lodges	\$1965 56
1 Chapter	20 00
Grand Lodge	2000 00

 3985 56

Interest—Banks	446 72
Investments	1860 38

 2307 10

 \$6292 66

Less—Commission, &c. 1868-9	99 00
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 \$6193 66

Represented by Dominion Stock	4800 00
Bank Balance	1393 66

 \$6193 66

NOTE.

Promises of subscriptions were made by the following Lodges :

5. Sussex,	Brockville	50 00
6. Barton,	Hamilton	100 00
18. Prince Edward,	Picton	100 00

34. Thistle,.....	Amherstburg	42 00
37. King Hiram,.....	Ingersoll.....	23 00
48. Madoc,.....	Madoc.....	40 00
62. St. Andrew's,.....	Caledonia.....	55 00
108. Blenheim,...	Drumbo.....	25 00
141. Tudor,.....	Mitchell, additional.....	30 00

See proceedings 1863, p. 417. \$465 00

And the munificent offer of \$3000 from Niagara Lodge within referred to, and also in regard to which, see proceedings 1867, p. 371; see proceedings 1868, p. 598.

ANSWER TO AN ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

The following correspondence was read :

TORONTO, August 10th, 1872.

R. W. SIR and Bro.—I beg leave to enclose to you the answer made by The Right Honorable The Secretary of State for the Home Department, to the late Governor General, on the occasion of his presenting the Address of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to Her Majesty The Queen, congratulating Her Majesty on the recovery of the Prince of Wales from his serious illness.

I have the honor to be,
R. W. Sir and Bro.,
Yours fraternally,
JOHN A. MACDONALD.

THOMAS B. HARRIS, Esq.,
Grand Secretary, &c., &c.,
Hamilton.

WHITEHALL, 24th July, 1873.

My LORD.—I have had the honor to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful address of the Brethren of the Honorable Fraternity of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the Grand Lodge of Canada, on the occasion of the illness of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales.

I have to inform Your Lordship that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the Address very graciously.

I have the honor to be, My Lord,
Your Lordship's obedient servant,
H. A. BRUCE.

The Lord Lisgar, G. C. M. G. K. C. B.
St. George's Hotel,
Albermarle Street.

CREDENTIALS.

R. W. Bro. Thos. White, Jr., presented his credentials as representative of the Grand Orient of France.

M. W. Bro. Wilson presented his credentials as representative of the Grand Orient of Costa Rica.

R. W. Bro. Hugh A. Mackay presented his credentials as representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION—LOST.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. McPherson, seconded by R. W. Bro. Urquhart,

That Article 1 of Deputy Grand Master, Book of Constitution, which requires that the Deputy Grand Master shall not be elected from that portion of the Province in which the Grand Master resides, be amended by striking out the following words: "and in order that both sections of the Province may enjoy a proper representation he shall not be elected from that portion of the Province in which the Grand Master resides."

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION—CARRIED.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, seconded by R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, and,

Resolved,—That in Section 1 "of the Board of General Purposes" the following words be struck out, viz., "Not more than one-half of such appointed or elected members are to be Past Masters at the time of such appointment or election."

EVENING SESSION.

July 9th 1873.

R. W. Bro. White presented the following report of the Board of General Purposes on

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Board of General Purposes beg leave to submit the following report upon Grievances and Appeals.

1. Bro. William Hawthorne, a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 209, complains that through the opposition of Bro. W. F. McTaggart, a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 20, he has on more than one occasion been refused admission as a visitor to this latter lodge. It appears that a difficulty arose between these two brethren before Bro. Hawthorne became a mason, the particulars of which need not here be detailed. Any member has no doubt a right to announce his refusal to remain in the lodge if a visitor, to whom he objects, on being announced be admitted, but this right ought to be received with caution and surely for sufficient reasons, and it is certainly no ground of complaint that the W. M. decides in such a way as to keep the member of his own lodge in the room. It is hoped that the Brethren concerned, will be able to settle the difficulty amicably, but if not, Bro. Hawthorne had better, for the present, confine his visits to lodges other than that of which Bro. McTaggart is a member.

2. Bro. Charles C. Baird of Acacia Lodge, No. 61, has been suspended by his lodge for unmasonic conduct and has been summonsed for expulsion. In answer to their summons he complains of insufficiency of the evidence upon which the suspension was ordered, and states his inability to attend the present communication of Grand Lodge. The D. D. G. M. it appears has not been made acquainted with the case, and as the delay will not be of consequence, it is recommended that the whole matter be referred to the D. D. G. M. of the Hamilton District with power to hear further evidence if necessary, and with instructions to report at the next meeting of the Board and that in the mean time the suspension do stand.

3. Bro. Isaac Bell Cornwall, was on the 6th November, 1872, suspended by St George's Lodge, No. 42, for unmasonic conduct. From this suspension he has appealed on two grounds. 1st. Because he was not an affiliated member, and 2nd. because the summons was grossly irregular. Both grounds are untenable. The first, if true in fact is no answer, and the second is not true in fact. The irregularity complained of being that he was at the time a convict in the Penitentiary for felony. On his own showing his appeal cannot be sustained and it is recommended that it be dismissed.

4. The complaint of Bro. Thomas Clark of Ionic Lodge, No. 229, requires careful investigation, but this should take place in the first instance in the Lodge itself or before the D. G. G. M.

5. On the appeal of Bro. John A. Mackie against his suspension for unmasonic conduct by Grand River Lodge, No. 151, it is recommended that all parties be summonsed for the next meeting of the Board, and that the lodge be required to produce there all the evidence taken in the case.

6. It is only necessary to state in connection with the case of Bro. George Smith of Dalhousie Lodge, that he was suspended for 12 months by that Lodge while under the jurisdiction of the G. L. of England, and that the Grand Master of England, on appeal by Bro. Smith, annulled the suspension on the ground that the lodge had no power to suspend and directed him to be at once restored to his Masonic privileges. This decision cannot be reviewed. Grand Secretary Harvey's letter to the W. M. of Dalhousie Lodge of 29th January, 1872, should be entered of record in the Books of that Lodge. From the time of the receipt of that letter Bro. Smith has been in good standing in this lodge.

7. In the matter of the complaint of Bro Taylor against W. Brother Logan and R. W. Bro. Barber, it appears that the parties have not been formally summonsed for this Communication—they have been notified informally but have not all appeared. It is consequently recommended that the case do stand until the next meeting of the Board.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD.

The adoption of the Annual Report of the Board of General Purposes having been moved;

It was moved in amendment by R. W. Bro. Harding, seconded by R. W. Bro. Westlake,

That all that portion of the Report of the Board of General Purposes on Grievances and Appeals relating to the expulsion of R. W. Bro. Franck be struck out.

In amendment, it was moved by R. W. Bro. Kerr, seconded by W. M. Bro. Harington, and

RESOLVED.—That the further consideration of the Report be deferred until to-morrow to be then the first order of the day, and that the W. M. of Antiquity Lodge be requested to produce the minutes of that Lodge and any evidence before that Lodge on the investigation of the charges against R. W. Bro. Franck.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION.—LOST.

It was moved by W. Bro. Meyers, seconded by M. W. Bro. Seymour,

That Clause 1 in the Book of Constitution, "of District Deputy Grand Masters," be amended by adding the following words thereto: "But no brother can be elected a District Deputy Grand Master while holding the office of Worshipful Master of a subordinate Lodge. Nor can a brother be elected to the office of Worshipful Master of a subordinate Lodge while holding the office of District Deputy Grand Master."

NEXT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

On motion it was resolved that the next annual communication of Grand Lodge should be held in the city of Toronto.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence, which, on motion, was ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

MORNING SESSION.

10th July, 1873.

CREDENTIALS.

R. W. Bro. Fraser presented his credentials as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.

GRAND ORIENT OF HUNGARY.

A communication was read from the Grand Orient of Hungary, desiring an interchange of Representatives.

BENEVOLENCE.

The Board of General Purposes reported recommending grants to the amount of \$3,430 00.

The Board also submit the following Resolutions:

Resolved,—That in future all applications for relief out of the funds of Grand Lodge must be in the hands of the Grand Secretary before the opening of the Session of the Board of General Purposes, to entitle the same to consideration; that such applications be accompanied with the particular circumstances of the applicant, and his, her or their relation to the Craft, whether a brother, or a brother's widow or his orphans, and the aid granted by private lodges or otherwise to such applicant. That the applications for relief be on a printed form which is to be furnished by the Grand Secretary on demand; and that the Grand Secretary embody this resolution in his official circular to each lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge semi-annually.

The Board also recommend that the Chairman of the Benevolent Committee be authorized to procure a suitable box for the Analytical Index and papers belonging thereto.

It was then moved by R. W. Bro. Klotz, seconded by R. W. Bro. Brooke, and

Resolved,—That the sum of three thousand dollars be applied from the General Funds of Grand Lodge, and added to the funds of Benevolence.

GRAND ORIENT OF HUNGARY.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Simpson, seconded by M. W. Bro. Harrington, and.

Resolved,—That the correspondence received from the Grand Orient of Hungary be received and printed with the proceedings, and that the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to take such further action in the matter as he may deem prudent.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE GRAND MASTER.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. B. E. Charlton, seconded by R. W. Bro. Westlake, and

Resolved,—That the sum of \$500 be annually placed to the credit of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, to defray his travelling and other official expenses, the year now closing to be included.

ANNUAL REPORT OF B. OF G. P.

A motion having been made for the adoption of the Annual Report of the Board of General Purposes, it was moved in amendment by R. W. Bro. Harding, seconded by R. W. Bro. Westlake

That all that portion of the Report of the Board of General Purposes on grievances and appeals, relating to the expulsion of R. W. Bro. J. C. Franck be struck out.

In amendment to the amendment, it was moved by W. Bro. N. G. Bigelow, seconded by R. W. Bro. D. Spry,

That the Report be referred back to the Board with instructions to report in reference to the case of R. W. Bro. J. C. Franck.

That this Grand Lodge has an undoubted jurisdiction in the case.

That there is no sufficient proof of any masonic offence.

Both amendments were defeated and the original motion was carried by a fair majority.

MOTION TO DIVIDE ONTARIO DISTRICT.—LOST.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves, seconded by V. W. Bro. F. Mudge,

That the District of Ontario be divided as follows:—The counties of Ontario and Victoria, and the west riding of the county of Durham to form the Ontario District; the counties of Northumberland, Peterborough, and the east riding of the county of Durham to form the East Ontario District.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives presented the following report, which was received and adopted:

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives beg to report that at this meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada there are 220 Lodges represented. One hundred and fifty one by the duly qualified Representatives and sixty-nine by proxy. Your Committee regret to report that there are a few Lodges who still neglect to attach the Seal of the Lodge to proxies granted by them, as required by the Constitution, and would urge on those Lodges not in possession of Seals the necessity of at once procuring them.

All respectfully submitted.

CHARLES D. MACDONNELL, *Chairman*.

QUEBEC.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Rev. E. M. Myers, seconded by M. W. Bro. Harrington,

That this Grand Lodge deeply deplores the continuance of the difficulties which so unhappily exist among the brethren of this Dominion, which cannot fail to be injurious to our beloved order, and discreditable to our ancient and honorable institution; and earnestly hopes that the day is not far distant when a restoration of peace shall be effected, and all Masonic disputes be amicably arranged. That this Grand Lodge will at any time hail with satisfaction and delight any advances which may be made

to it, likely to effect such a glorious consummation, and which it can consistently accept with dignity and honor.

The great majority of the members of Grand Lodge deemed it inadvisable that any resolution upon the Quebec difficulty should be introduced at this time, and the mover having refused to withdraw his motion it was put to Grand Lodge and declared lost.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

July 10th, 1873.

R. W. Bro. White presented the following report of the Board upon

THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The Board of General purposes to which was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master beg to submit the following report.

1 The Board desire to express their gratification at the continued and increasing prosperity of the order within this jurisdiction.

2. With reference to the Masonic Asylum, the Board agree that there is much in the condition of Canada and Canadian Masons to render advisable a different mode of applying and distributing their benevolence from that adopted by their brethren in England, and that among us "few would be found willing to accept a home which would separate them from their children and relatives." The successful establishment of such an asylum and the erection of stately buildings in connection therewith, in which aged masons and their wives and widows might find the comforts of a home, would no doubt be gratifying to masonic pride and might be pointed out to the "profane" as conclusive evidence of masonic benevolence and zeal; but to produce an effect on the uninitiated is not the mason's mission, and it may well be questioned whether such a gratification would not be bought too dear. The sole question for Grand Lodge is how best to dispose of its funds available for purposes of benevolence, and there can be no doubt that the establishment of such an institution would be a severe tax for all time on the resources of Grand Lodge, that its benefits would not in the present condition of Canada be availed of to any very large extent, and that little would be left after paying the yearly expenses of maintenance to be distributed amongst equally deserving out door applicants for relief. "The greatest good to the greatest number" should be the object aimed at in the distribution of our benevolence, and there can be little doubt that the present mode of affording relief is at the same time the most economical for the donors, and the most acceptable as well as beneficial for the large majority of the recipients. The Board adopt the suggestion of the M. W. Grand Master that some definite action should be taken at the present session of Grand Lodge and would, therefore, recommend that for the present the scheme be abandoned and the money with its accumulated interest be returned to the donors.

3. The Board cordially endorse the recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master that the rank of P. Grand Registrar be conferred on R. W. Bro. Fraser the representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, and R. W. Bro. Mackay representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, near this Grand Lodge.

4. The Board regret to learn that the friendly relations of this Grand Lodge with the Grand Lodges of Vermont and Illinois have been interrupted in consequence of our exercising masonic jurisdiction within what we conceive to be our own territory but which they think is not. To be consistent they should and probably will extend their "Federal Execution" and suspend further relations with the Grand Lodges of Europe and with such of the Grand Lodges of the United States as agree with us upon the Great question involved. However that may be, to paraphrase the remark of Uncle Toby to the fly "the masonic world is wide enough for them and us." The Board fully approve of the action of the Grand Master in the premises.

5. The Board have also to regret the withdrawal of the representative of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and agree with the M. W. Grand Master that it has arisen from a misapprehension of our action in relation to the Grand Orient of France. This Grand Lodge has never been influenced in its course by the opinions of other Grand Lodges on the difficulties which have arisen in the Province of Quebec, or by their recognition or non-recognition of our seceding brethren there. It has only spoken when those opinions have resulted in action tending to coerce or control this Grand

Lodge in a matter which in so far as its course towards its seceding brethren is concerned, must be decided by this Grand Lodge alone.

The Board hail with pleasure the signs of a better appreciation and a more accurate understanding by many Grand Lodges of the difficulties in which we have been placed and look forward to the time when we sha'l again be in fraternal intercourse with all our sister Grand Lodges of the United States.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A motion having been made to adopt the Report of the Board on the address of the M. W. the Grand Master.

It was moved in amendment by R. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, seconded by R. W. Bro. Jas. Bain,

That that portion of the Report of the Board upon the address of the M. W. the G. M., referring to the Masonic Asylum be struck out.

In amendment to the amendment it was moved by M. W. Bro. Simpson, seconded by Bro. Sippi, and

Resolved,—That the consideration of so much of the report of the Board of General Purposes upon the address of the M. W. Grand Master, referring to the Masonic Asylum, be postponed to the next annual communication.

MASONIC MUTUAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATIONS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. White, seconded by M. W. Bro. Stevenson, and

Resolved,—That the references to Masonic Mutual Benevolent Associations in the address of the M. W. the Grand Master, in the Report of the Board on the same, and in the Report of the District Deputy Grand Master of the London District, be struck out.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

R. W. Bros. J. W. Murton and W. McKenzie, and V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet were appointed scrutineers, and they reported the following elections :

M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, [re-elected].....	Grand Master
R. W. Bro. Thos. White, Jr [re-elected] ..	Deputy Grand Master.
V. W. Bro. B. E. Charlton,.....	Grand Senior Warden.

EVENING SESSION.

July 10th, 1873.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The elections were again proceeded with, resulting as follows :

V. W. Bro. F. Mudge.....	Grand Junior Warden.
Bro. G. M. Innes.....	Grand Chaplain.
R. W. Bro. Hy. Groff, (re-elected)	Grand Treasurer.
V. W. Bro. John Nettleton.....	Grand Registrar.
R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, [re-elected].....	Grand Secretary.
Bro. John L. Dixon.....	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

W. Bro. T. C. McNabb.....	St. Clair District.
W. Bro. D. B. Burch.....	London District.
V. W. Bro. W. S. Martin.....	Wilson District.
R. W. J. E. Harding.....	Huron District.
W. Bro. W. S. Burnett.....	Wellington District.
V. W. Bro. J. J. Mason.....	Hamilton District.
R. W. Bro. R. Kemp.....	Niagara District.
R. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson.....	Toronto District.
R. W. Bro. J. B. Trayes.....	Ontario District.
R. W. Bro. F. Richardson.....	Prince Edward District.
R. W. Bro. Jas. Reynolds.....	St. Lawrence District.
W. Bro. Wm. Mostyn.....	Ottawa District.
V. W. Bro. Wm. Nivin.....	Montreal District.
W. Bro. G. H. Wilkinson.....	Bedford District.
W. Bro. Wm. N. Kennedy.....	Manitoba District.

ELECTED MEMBERS BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, Toronto; R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, Cobourg; R. W. Bro. Jas. Bain, Toronto; R. W. Bro. R. Kincaid, Peterboro'; R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, Toronto.

APPOINTED MEMBERS BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, Toronto; R. W. Bro. J. W. Murton, Hamilton; R. W. Bro. W. R. White, Pembroke; R. W. Bro. F. Westlake, London; R. W. Bro. A. S. Kirkpatrick, Kingston; R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, Chatham.

MASONIC ASYLUM TRUST.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, seconded by M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, and

Resolved.—That so much of the Report of the Masonic Asylum Trust, as refers to the augmentation of their number from four to five, and the appointment of the R. W. Brethren therein named as members of the Trust, be now adopted.

DUES REMITTED.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. F. Westlake, seconded by V. W. Bro. Gibson, and

Resolved.—That in as much as Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor, has suffered a loss by fire of all their effects, therefore be it resolved that their dues to Grand Lodge for the past year be remitted.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Traves, seconded by R. W. Bro. C. D. MacDonnell, and

Resolved.—That the amount of G. L. dues of Prince Edward Lodge, No. 183, for the past year be remitted, said Lodge having lost everything belonging to it by fire.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved.—That the Grand Lodge dues of St. John's and King Hiram Lodges, Ingersoll, for the last year be remitted.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. E. Racicot, seconded by Bro. Stevens, and

Resolved.—That the dues of Sutton Lodge, No. 227, for the last year be remitted, the said Lodge having lost all its furniture and property by fire.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Votes of thanks were unanimously passed to Montreal Committee of Arrangements, various railway and steamboat companies, the Committee on Credentials and the Scrutineers. The newly elected officers were duly installed by the M. W. the Grand Master, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

The following are the appointed officers of Grand Lodge for 1873 '74.

V. W. Bro. Wm. Supple, Pembroke, Grand Senior Deacon; V. W. Bro. A. D. Stevens, Dunham, Grand Junior Deacon; V. W. Bro. Dr. Jas. W. Digby, Brantford, Grand Superintendent of Works; V. W. Bro. N. G. Bigelow, Toronto, Grand Director of Ceremonies; V. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Assistant Grand Secretary; V. W. Bro. John Midgley, St. Thomas, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; V. W. Bro. Colonel John Kennedy, Peterboro, Grand Sword Bearer; V. W. Bro. St. John Hyttenranch, Paris, Grand Organist; V. W. Bro. Dr. C. A. Sippi, London, Assistant Grand Organist; V. W. Bro. Andrew Green, Grimsby, Grand Pursuivant; V. W. Bro. John Cavers, Galt, V. W. Bro. Chas. R. D. Booth, Bowmauville, V. W. Bro. D. M. Malloch, Clinton, V. W. Bro. S. H. McKittrick, Orangeville, V. W. Bro. Robert Douglass, Perth, V. W. Bro. G. B. Reeve, Park Hill, V. W. Bro. W. D. Hepburn, Guelph, V. W. Bro. Dr. Edward Alworth, Kingsville, V. W. Bro. John McLean, Montreal; V. W. Bro. A. R. Boswell, Toronto, V. W. Bro. John Hoshal, Cayuga, V. W. Bro. Samuel L. Bedson, Fort Garry, Grand Stewards.