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# THE CRAFTSMAN

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### THE LITTLE RIFT WITHIN THE LUTE.

By Ella F. Clyde.

THE room was a model of comfort, and the breakfast as perfect as it could be. Mrs. Winter looked very pretty in her tasteful attire and coquettish little breakfast cap. And yet, there was a slight frown upon her brow; while her liege lord steadily read the morning papers between his sips of coffee. This couple had been married but little more than a year.

"It was such a foolish thing to do, George," said the lady, breaking a silence of some duration, "it was not as though time hung heavily on your hands, but that, with your business, and social duties, there was no necessity for your becoming a Mason."

Mr. Winter preserved a diligent silence. Probably he thought the subject already exhaustive.

"And then, you know," she went on, "that I greatly disapprove of it."

"Mary," he said, "I can only repeat what I have already told you; you are giving way to a foolish prejudice. You will think differently some time. Now let me hear no more about it."

The lady drew a long sigh; her face assumed a look of injured innocence, and the breakfast was continued in silence.

George Winter was a kind-hearted, but a thoroughly unyielding man. Once impressed with the idea of right, everything, even his own interests, went down before it. Not so with Mrs. Winter. Wilful and impulsive, if she was slightly selfish, it was the fault of circumstances. She had been spoiled as much as the only child of wealthy parents could be. With no careful, training hand, what wonder if the weeds grew thick among the flowers of her nature?

She sat, this morning, long after her husband had gone, in the cosy sitting-room, looking with wide-open eyes, out upon the street. She was but vaguely conscious of the passers-by, her mind being deeply absorbed. She *could not* understand why she should be crossed, *nor* comprehend her husband's absurd persistency. All day long she was vexed and out of humor, but in the afternoon she dressed herself with unusual care, and received Mr. Winter with her sweetest smiles.

She kept up a graceful flow of conversation all through dinner; but, in the evening, after he had donned his dressing-gown and slippers, and comfortably cocooned himself in the easy chair before the fire, she drew a low stool to his side, and said:

"George?"

"Well, Mary."

"Tell me the secret."

"What secret?"

"The Masonic secret."

He laughed out, and replied:

"You absurd woman."

"No, but George, I'm in earnest."

"Mary, do be reasonable," he said.

"I am reasonable; you should not know anything you cannot tell your wife."

He leaned back, humming a low tune.

"George, tell me, I won't tell."

"I have *nothing* to tell you."

There was a long pause, Mr. Winter looked into the fire. Presently the stillness was broken by a sob. He threw his arms around her, and said: "Why, Mary, you are not crying? How foolish!"

"I am not foolish, you won't do anything I want you to, and you are a Mason, and I hate it."

"But it is a noble Order, my dear, and it does a world of good. It may save my life sometime; it has done such things scores of times. Just think, away back in the Indian warfare of our country, during a battle in which was the celebrated chief Brant, an officer in distress threw up his arm, and accidentally made the Masonic sign of danger. He was not a Mason, but Brant took him for one, and spared him, though an enemy. So, you see, that is one instance."

"Oh, yes, I know, you have told me all that before, but you will never need their help,—and besides, that man was not saved by being a Mason," she said triumphantly.

"He became one afterwards, though."

"I do not care whether he did or not. I want to know the secret. George, you ought to tell me; you know I would keep it."

"Mary, there is no reasoning with you." He withdrew his arm from around her and leaned back impatiently.

She arose, stood by the fire, and petulantly said: "You refuse me then?"

"I told you before I had nothing to tell; now, for goodness sake, let the subject drop."

"Very well," was all she said, but her eyes were unusually bright, and two red spots burned on her cheeks. She was thinking, as she stood there, "I have made his home bright and pleasant. I have lived only for him; and he cares nothing at all for my wishes. For the future, it shall be the world. I shall give myself up to society; *there* at least, I can be appreciated."

\* \* \*

"It is the little rift within the lute,  
That by and by will make the music mute,"

sang Clarice Grantly. Mr. Winter, turning over her music, gave a slight sigh. Miss Grantly would have been pleased to attribute it to her own fascinations, but, casting her dark eyes up at him, at the words,—

"Trust me all in all, or not at all,"

he saw an absent, wistful look on his face. Clarice Grantly was an unconscionable flirt, and Mr. Winter was fair game, especially when his wife was by to follow them with her eyes. But the young lady had sense enough to perceive that the zest was all on her side. Mr. Winter was but a passive participant in this flirtation. Her song finished, she let her fingers wander carelessly over the keys of the instrument, striking light chords and bringing out touches of harmony. It was an excuse to watch him furtively. His thoughts were far enough from her. They had gone back over the months in which "the little rift within the lute" of his domestic life had been slowly widening. He could trace it clearly to the night of their conversation about Masonry. Since then, neither had ever alluded to the subject. He had trusted, at first, that the iciness of his wife's demeanor would wear off; but, as the weeks went on, and it seemed to become a part of her nature, he gradually resigned himself to it. He never told her how he missed her little caressing ways, or how her scrupulous politeness wounded him, he simply accepted the situation as fate. He failed to understand her unconquerable thirst for society, but always accompanied her. This summer he inwardly pronounced Newport a bore, although in his outward demeanor he was as great an idler as any there.

"Mr. Winter," said Miss Grantly, and her voice aroused him; "You are in a brown study."

"Not at all Miss Grantly, your music set me thinking."

"Then I'll not sing to you any more; you completely forgot me."

"Do let me retrieve my error."

"Yes, take me out on the balcony," she said, rising, "it is so warm in here."

There was a half-veiled triumph in her magnificent eyes, as she placed her hand on his arm, and allowed him to lead her from the room.

Mrs. Winter barely glanced at them as they passed, but her companion lowered his brows. Clifton Stanley was too high-toned a man to tolerate such a flirtation. He had come to Newport because Clarice Grantly came, and he had watched her actions with surprised pain. He felt a sincere sympathy with Mrs. Winter, and, although to-night they were not very good company for each other, they were perhaps better than they would have been for any one else.

"I would not sit so calmly," said a young married lad, "and see Clarice Grantly carry off my husband by storm."

"Pooh!" said another, "Mrs. Winter is very well entertained, don't be a goose, my dear, they are a sensible couple."

If they were a sensible couple, Mr. Clifton Stanley's opinion was at fault. He sought out Clarice later in the evening, and remarked:

"I want to say something to you."

She flashed an inquiring look from under her long lashes.

"It is for the peace of two people. You are certainly thoughtless; you can never intend to monopolize so much of Mr. Winter's attention."

"Has she been telling you her woes?" asked Clarice, laughing.

"Of course not. I speak from my own observation."

"Then your observation should show you that I am not the cause of any want of peace between them, besides," shrugging her shoulders, "how can I help it if a man is attentive?"

With her laughing face, she looked like some sprite, in her dusky beauty; but Clifton Stanley knew her to-night, as he had never known her before. He turned away with a distant bow to Mr. Winter, who just then approached.

That night, Clarice Grantly taking down her hair before her glass, laughingly said to the image of herself: "He would like me to stop flirting. I might as well try to stop breathing. I will flirt; and I'll bring Clinton Stanley to my feet, too."

The days rolled on, and brought little change. The sea air hardly seemed beneficial to Mrs. Winter; she was losing her fresh color, and her taste for society was waning. Clifton Stanley was growing morbid and gloomy, too. When he conveniently could he cut Mr. Winter direct. On one such occasion, the latter remarked to a friend: "What's the matter with Stanley? I never can make him out."

"Flirtation with Miss Grantly!" Mr. Winter's eyes were opened. Stanley was a man for whom he had the highest respect. Not for the world would he have injured him.

Mr. Winter walked down to the beach alone. "Flirtation with Miss Grantly!" It had been marked then, and his wife was utterly indifferent. He wondered, bitterly, if this life was always to last.

\* \* \* \*

"Let us hurry down to the beach. There's a storm coming up, and they say there's a boat out, with a man in it."

The words startled a number of loungers in the parlor and balcony. Eager for novelty, ladies and gentlemen hurriedly attired themselves, and hastened down to the beach.

The low, moaning noise of the sea had increased to a roar; great, black clouds were fast gathering, and the waves came dashing and foaming, far up on the beach. They could see the boat, tossed and buffeted about by the waters.

"The wind is blowing inland," said one, "she ought to drift ashore."

"She will capsize in a moment," said another, "what madness to venture out to-day!"

"Does any one know who it is?" asked Clifton Stanley.

"Winter," they say, "he was the only one who went out."

A sudden cry rang out, "Did you say it was my husband?"

"I think we can save him," said Stanley. "I am going to take a boat. Who will go with me?"

"Oh, it's foolhardy, Stanley; we can do nothing. See, over she goes, at last."

"Are you men?" exclaimed Clifton Stanley. "Come, my friends, this is wasting time. Who'll go with me?"

Seeing him determined, one or two others volunteered, and the anxious crowd on shore watched them put off.

Straining every effort; now riding on the crest of a wave, now sinking, while the mass of water threatened to overpower them, the little crew bravely made their way.

Among the spectators on shore were two conscience-stricken women; Mrs. Winter, pacing wildly up and down, and Clarice Grantly, standing with livid face and clasped hands.

"They've got him! they've got him! hurrah! they're coming back!"

There were moments that seemed hours of anxious waiting; some moments of terrible despair, before the brave deliverers landed, and lifted their unconscious burden from the boat.

They found themselves suddenly exalted into heroes,—they were courageous young men.

Late in the afternoon, Clarice Grantly, standing in the reception room, saw Mrs. Winter pass. She called to her, "How is your husband now?"

Mrs. Winter's heart was too full for bitterness.

"He is recovering rapidly, Miss Grantly. Oh, I can never be thankful enough."

"I want to know—can you forgive me?"

"Forgive you? Oh, hush! I have only myself to forgive, if I ever can——"

"Oh, Mr. Stanley, will you step in here—I have had no chance to thank you," she said, as he complied with her request. "My husband and I must ever regard you as one of our dearest and best friends."

"Excuse me, Mrs. Winter," he said, his lip curling a trifle as he saw her companion, "I never was an intimate friend of your husband. I fear I never can be."

"And yet you risked your life to save him."

"Yes, he was a human being. A still greater reason, he was a Masonic brother."

Mrs. Winter left the room with bowed head. Entering her own, she knelt by her husband's side, weeping passionately, and exclaimed:

"Oh, George, forgive me, forgive me!"

He drew her to him, and replied:

"We have both something to forgive. Never mind, Mary, in the future we'll do better, and try to forget all this sad time."

Miss Grantly, in the reception room, recalled Clifton Stanley, as he turned to leave. "One moment," she said, "I am not so bad as you think me. I was nearly wild with fear for you this afternoon. You liked me once—can't you do so again?"

Her face was gloriously beautiful in its soft penitence, but he leaned calmly on the back of a chair, and coldly answered, "Miss Grantly, I loved you when I came here, and you knew it. But never mind that now. My wife must be a woman of high principle, of pure, noble nature—good evening."

And he left her, standing there alone, with her bitter disappointment. And yet, her fate was as she made it. The shadows of twilight gathered thicker and thicker. A song floated out from the parlor; a song she knew,

"It is the little rift within the lute,

That by and by will make the music mute."—*Voice of Masonry.*

## STEALING THE SECRETS.

"SECRET LODGE" of Freemasons had just been organized at Steadytown, and, of course, it was the subject of conversation everywhere, on the street corners, at the sewing society, and at the innumerable tea-sippings which the elder portion of the feminine inhabitants enjoyed so much. Some condemned and others extolled it, while many sought the good old pastor's advice in regard to joining it; it was soon found that he, in the days of his youth, had joined the Mystic Brotherhood; after which there were found few who had aught to say against it.

It so happened that the "Daughters of Eve" were over anxious to learn what transpired in the Lodge-room, and one evening, three of them—May Eavesdrop, Belle Catchnote, and Emma Curious—met to consider the best method of finding out the Masonic secrets. After due deliberation they decided that they would go to the door and listen; and in order to better accomplish this, they would adopt the male attire. The next day they found out the next meeting night and matured their plans to secure the proper apparel for the undertaking.

On the night in question, they met at the appointed time and arrayed themselves in suitable apparel, "borrowed" from their brothers. But, before starting out, Emma Curious thought it would be well to see if the "coast was clear." So she commissioned her brother Tom, a rolicking boy of fifteen, who was unmindful of her object, to go over to the hall and see if he could find out the secrets; his instructions were to come back in half an hour and report. He went, but came back sooner than was expected, saying that Samuel Gallant had chased him down stairs, and threatened him with a worse fate if he should appear there again.

Here was a dilemma. It was now evident that they could not find out the secrets by listening at the door, so the girls sat down to meditate.

While the ladies are meditating, let us describe Samuel Gallant, whose unexpected appearance had put Tom Curious to such a precipitate flight and destroyed his sister's well-laid plans. He was a man of medium size, dark skinned and unpleasant to look upon, although he frequently made the assertion that he was *the* favorite of all the young ladies in Steadytown. His age was something over forty notwithstanding his repeated affirmation that he should soon be twenty-six. At first it was a matter of wonderment to the villagers, how he became a Mason; but the fact was finally elicited that when he was young he had been admitted, before he had experienced that fall which had turned the remainder of his days into a "night of years."

The girls sat thinking a long time, after having their air-castles demolished in the

"twinkling of an eye," as it were. Finally May Eavesdrop, who was always first to suggest a new idea, looked up, and said, "I have it; you know that Samuel Gallant thinks we admire him. Now we must get him to let us in. He will do it if Belle asks him, I know."

After debating the question somewhat, it was decided that that was the best plan, and the next day Belle started out on her errand. She found him and made known her mission; after a great deal of coaxing and teasing, such as only a woman can do, she got his reluctant consent to be admitted on the following conditions:

1. That they should all dress in male attire, to appear as visiting brethren.
2. That they should not come until twelve o'clock at night, and then unattended. He being authority for the statement that they did not initiate any one until that hour, the time previous to that being occupied by social amusements in which they would surely be detected.
3. That they would strictly obey his instructions.
4. That Belle should marry him immediately after the Lodge adjourned. This latter Belle promised, fully determined to run away from him at that time.

You may imagine the party were very hopeful when they met again and heard Belle's report. They were warm in their praises of her skill, and confident of final success, for what was to hinder them from obtaining the secrets, while they had such a powerful ally as the Tyler of the Lodge.

Before proceeding further let us become acquainted with some of the officers of the Lodge. The W. M. is Horatio Stillman, a bachelor of considerable wealth, whom the matrons of Steadytown had made every effort to secure as son-in-law without success. He was the physician of the place and a man highly esteemed by all.

William Shingle was the Treasurer—a man eloquent of speech, but whose size was mean and contemptible. He was the curiosity of the town—an honest lawyer.

In the Senior Steward's seat sat Hezekiah Cotton, the village merchant, whose reputation for coquetry and honesty was equally good. He often remarked he should lose half his trade were he to marry.

The other officers of the Lodge were men esteemed in the various walks and callings of life, but as they do not take an active part in the remainder of the story we will forbear making their acquaintance.

The night arrived, but a new obstacle presented itself—that of fear. The girls had never been out at that late hour without attendants. But May was not to be put back in that manner, and she at last hit upon a plan. Biddy Mulcadey was in the kitchen, and she was just as full of sport as any of them, and as fearless as one could well be. With her for a protector they need fear no evil, so it was decided to take her, regardless of Gallant's positive instructions to the contrary. After being informed she readily acceded to the plan; thus every objection seemed to be removed and they started for the hall.

Very cautiously was the signal given, and answered by Gallant as agreed upon. After repeated instructions to keep quiet, he left them in the ante-room, while he went in to announce the visitors. They were standing thus, half frightened, half amused, when suddenly the lights were extinguished, and there was a cold gust of air passed by, that made them shiver. They looked about them and trembled, for, in letters of ghastly hue, they read:

" 'Tis now the very witching time of night,  
When church-yards yawn and spectres stalk abroad."

Another instant all was light again and everything was the same as when Samuel Gallant left them a moment before. Could they be dreaming? they dare not speak lest the scene would be repeated with awful intensity. For full five minutes did they wait in fearful suspense.

At last Gallant returned, and told them to advance one by one, and conductors inside the door would attend to it that they were properly seated and cared for. They advanced single file, into impenetrable darkness, but no guides appeared. The door was closed upon them, so they, like the original conquerors of Mexico, who burned their ships behind them, had only the courage of desperation. At last, after sundry gropings in the darkness, during which Belle suddenly found herself in a kneeling position, they found four chairs, and sat down to rest. But immediately the chairs began to sink down, down, while in the distance was heard a sepulchral voice: "And thou shalt go down to the bottomless pit, there to be bound a thousand years."

All was silent, save ever and anon was heard a deep drawn sigh from the inquisitive females, who seemed to be paying the penalty of their inquisitiveness, but the end was not yet. Gurgling noises were heard, and they found themselves slowly sinking deeper and deeper, into the domains of Neptune; while afar off they could hear sounds of the "merry, merry dance." Just as despair was lifting his hideous face and they were preparing to bid farewell to this life, strong arms seized them and stalwart men

soon placed them on a more substantial resting place; while familiar voices whispered words of encouragement.

They were then led to the ante-room, where, to their surprise, they found their proper apparel in readiness for them. They were left alone in the room and the doors locked upon them, with instructions to notify the Tyler when they were ready to take the solemn oath never to reveal the scenes which they had that night witnessed. After being left alone they seriously contemplated jumping from the window, but at Belle's suggestion, that they had probably seen the worst of it, they desisted, and in due time announced themselves ready for the obligation.

Emma Curious was called, and she entered the darkened room alone. She was scarcely within the door when "Fear not, it is I," was whispered in her ear in such a manner that she felt confident that Horatio Stillman was her guide. Previous to entering the room this time, Gallant had instructed her to answer "yea" to every question propounded. She did so, hardly recovering her senses until she heard "I pronounce you man and wife, what God has joined together let no man put asunder."

She was then seated with Horatio Stillman, her newly-acquired husband, who had been her choice for years, although nothing definite had been said on the subject.

While sitting there she witnessed the marriage of Belle to Mr. Shingle, who, as he afterwards expressed it, obtained her from the Tyler by a "trick of the law." Samuel Gallant avenged himself by marrying Bidley Mulcadey, in the same manner.

Hezekiah Cotton acted as May's guide, and at the conclusion of the services, she made manifest her determination to be *Eavesdrop* no more.

Next was heard a voice saying, "If any person has reason to show why these nuptials be not confirmed let them here make it manifest or for ever after hold their peace." Not one of the young ladies offered any objection, so it was considered that they were well pleased—a conjecture which subsequent events proved to be correct.

This was thought by the victims to be the last but not least part of the mysteries; but the end was not yet.

The folding-doors were thrown open, and there were assembled the parents and friends of the newly-wedded parties, ready with their congratulations. A bountiful repast was spread, of which all partook with a hearty relish, while music and merriment made the remainder of the night pass as

"Merry as a marriage bell."

The next day Steadytown was electrified with the news, and Madam Rumor got things strangely mixed up, first avering that Belle Catchnote was drowned in the cistern at the Lodge, and then that Bidley Mulcadey had died of fright, while listening to the horrible mysteries of the Masons. But all agreed that there was no more May Eavesdrop, Belle Catchnote, Emma Curious, or Bidley Mulcadey.

Years have passed since the instances narrated above occurred, but we think the Lodge never had occasion to repent the "work" done on that night, nor the candidates the obligations there taken.

The Brother that goes to Steadytown now finds Secret Lodge in a flourishing condition, and should he ask either of the old members, if they believe there ever was a woman made a Mason, he will receive the reply, "I saw four initiated once, and to that night's work this Lodge owes its great prosperity."—*Freemason's Repository.*

## THE RESIGNATION OF THE ENGLISH GRAND MASTER,

From the London Times.

SOME singular proceedings, which we reported on Thursday, at the Grand Lodge of Freemasons will have prepared our readers for a strange announcement. The Marquis of Ripon was, till Wednesday, Grand Master of the Freemasons of England. The offices of the Brotherhood are fanciful, but they are none the less positions of honor and of some social importance. That of Grand Master is, of course, the highest of all, and Lord Ripon had held it for three years with great satisfaction to the Craft and credit to himself. The Lodge met on Wednesday for the transaction of current business, when they were startled by the announcement that the Grand Master had resigned. In a brief letter, which states no reasons, Lord Ripon says that he finds himself unable any longer to discharge the duties of Grand Master, and that he is consequently compelled to resign. The Craft are reported to have received the announcement with dismay, and it may well have perplexed them. What should have induced the Marquis of Ripon thus to withdraw, without apparent reason, from a position of dignity and influence, if not of real importance? How many of our readers can have surmised the strange answer? Lord Ripon has become a Roman Catholic! It is notorious that the Freemasons are under the especial ban of the

Church of Rome. That Church tolerates no secret society, except that of the Jesuits, and the first sacrifice which would be demanded of a convert like Lord Ripon would be his withdrawal from the Craft. As the first pledge of his new obedience he has to abandon his honorable position in the Brotherhood, and to renounce a harmless and kindly association in which he might for years have held the foremost place. It was justly said that the reasons must have been overwhelming which could induce him to take so unwelcome a step, and they arise from nothing less than the important change in his religious convictions which we have stated.

Lord Ripon, it must be owned, is no ordinary convert. He has held high office in the State, and he was at one time deemed capable of the highest positions in public life. He is in the prime of life—in his forty-seventh year—and though he had in some respects disappointed expectation, a considerable career might have been before him. As Viscount Goderich he entered Parliament more than twenty years ago as a pronounced Radical, and then cherished that tendency to a speculative Socialism which seems sometimes attractive to the unquestioned possessors of great wealth. It is such a pleasant romance for a man who knows that in the ordinary course of things he will be the undisputed possessor of fifty thousand a year to imagine himself on a level with ordinary mortals! A little experience of life, however, dissipates this romantic tendency, and Lord Ripon soon settled down into a sober liberal, exemplary in his submission to the control of his successive leaders. After serving as Under-Secretary for the War Department and for India under the late Lord Herbert and Sir George Lewis, he was in 1863, as Lord De Grey, appointed Secretary of State for War. He held the office nearly three years, and in 1866, on the retirement of Lord Halifax, became Secretary of State for India. In Mr. Gladstone's Ministry of 1868 he held the dignified office of Lord President of the Council. Mr. Forster, who served as Vice-President, has often spoken handsomely of the work of his official chief; but the Lord President was chiefly conspicuous as head of the Joint High Commission by whom the Treaty of Washington was negotiated, and who arranged the terms under which the dispute respecting the Alabama was submitted to Arbitration. There is much to which exception must be taken in those negotiations; but the selection of Lord De Grey for so important a duty sufficiently indicates the favorable opinion which his colleagues were disposed to entertain of his capacity. His services in this character were, at all events, deemed worthy of some special recognition, and he was advanced to the dignity of a Marquis. His selection to preside over the Freemasons is an evidence of the social consideration which he commands, and his great wealth renders him an important member of the party to which he belongs, and of any association to which he may attach himself. He is, in short, one of the leading noblemen of England, who has discharged high political functions, and might have been called on to discharge them again. His sympathies have, at least in action, been given to the party of progress and enlightenment, and he would have been regarded until yesterday as a valuable member of the Liberal Party. This is the man who, in the full strength of his powers, has renounced his mental and moral freedom, and has submitted himself to the guidance of the Roman Catholic Priesthood. The first impression which will be produced on his friends and the public will be one of profound regret that such a career should have been thwarted, and that so much valuable influence is henceforth to be misused. Lord Ripon, we dare say, will still adhere to the party in whose service he has won his honors and his Marquisate. But a statesman who becomes a convert to Roman Catholicism forfeits at once the confidence of the English people. Such a step involves a complete abandonment of any claim to political or even social influence in the nation at large, and can only be regarded as betraying an irreparable weakness of character. To become a Roman Catholic and remain a thorough Englishman are—it cannot be disguised—almost incompatible conditions. We do not for a moment doubt that men who have been born and brought up in the Roman Catholic faith may retain their creed as a harmless and colourless element in their opinions. But when a man in the prime of life abandons the Faith of Protestantism for that of Rome his mind must necessarily have undergone what to Englishmen can only seem a fatal demoralization. We submit to many things if we are born to them, which we would never endure if they were imposed on us for the first time. But that a statesman, a man who has had twenty years' experience of the world, who has held high official posts in England, and been a prominent diplomatist, should submit himself to the yoke of the Roman Catholic Priesthood can only be due to some fatal obliquity of temperament. The principles of English life and of Roman Catholic religion are very difficult to reconcile, and when a man deliberately becomes a Roman Catholic he must be held to accept distinctly the principles of his new creed.

What, it will be asked, can be the causes which have been sufficiently powerful to induce a man of such experience and ability thus to abandon his moral independence? Lord Ripon has made no statement of his reasons, and it is impossible to be sure of



the influences which have finally misled him. But it is, no doubt, the most conspicuous illustration yet furnished of the force of some temptations which at the present day Roman Catholicism holds out even to intelligent minds. There are men who enter with enthusiasm at the outset of life into the speculations and visions of modern discovery, who are intoxicated by their novelty and attracted by their promises. But they discover after a while that they are being led into regions they had never contemplated, and they are startled to find that they must be content with many tentative conclusions. They were laudably ambitious to undertake the mountainous ascent which was proposed to them, but they become alarmed when they suddenly find themselves in mid air on the face of some difficult slope. In this perplexity a guide appears, who offers, not indeed, to gratify their original ambition, but to assure them of the safety they fear they have forfeited; and to commit themselves to his hands appears, at all events, the least of the risks open to them. They close their eyes, abandon all individual enterprise, and submit to be led, on the sole condition that they shall be guaranteed ultimate security. It is not a dignified or lofty type of mind, but it is too common a one. Minds may, in fact, be divided into those which can and those which cannot stand alone, and there are a large class who are born to be governed, mentally and morally. If they happen to fall under healthy government, all is well; but, if not, if they get loosed from their old moorings and find themselves drifting; they are at the mercy of the first pilot who will jump on board and seize the helm. It is the strength of the Roman Catholic Clergy that they are always ready to undertake this responsibility, but it is not every day that they find so good a ship drifting as the Marquis of Ripon. It is a melancholy spectacle; but it indicates a weakness which is not an English characteristic, and, though we may grudge to the Roman Catholic Clergy Lord Ripon's wealth and such social influence as he may retain, we may be sure that the material advantages he may bring to them will be their only acquisition. Fountains Abbey passes once more into Roman Catholic hands, but it is not the defection of a stray peer which will undermine the steady devotion of the English mind to a free and independent career of religious and political development.

The London *Freemason*, quoting from the above, says:

"It is notorious that the Freemasons are under the especial ban of the Church of Rome. That Church tolerates no secret society, except that of the Jesuits; and the first sacrifice which would be demanded of a convert like Lord Ripon would be his withdrawal from the Craft. As the first pledge of his new obedience he has to abandon his honorable position in the brotherhood, and to renounce a harmless and kindly association, in which he might for years have held the foremost place. It was justly said that the reasons must have been overwhelming which could induce him to take so unwelcome a step, and they arise from nothing less than the important change in his religious convictions which we have stated." \* \* \* \* \* The government of our exalted brother was indeed a purely constitutional government of Freemasonry, alike "de facto" and "de jure." And yet to-day we have only sorrowfully to record the premature and unforeseen close of his administration of the Grand Master's office, and the abrupt termination of so much good promise and such admitted efficiency. Despite much regret, both on personal and public grounds, that such a step should have been deemed needful, and that such a sacrifice should be required, we yet feel bound to record in the pages of *The Freemason* alike our fraternal grief, and our fraternal gratitude. For the memories of Lord Ripon's Grand Mastership, and of our exalted brother personally, will long linger, we do not hesitate to say, among the happiest traditions of our Order. We shall recall in years to come, what an example he set to all Freemasons amongst us, old and young, by his zeal and love for Freemasonry, and though, alas! he now has left our Order, apparently under the claims of imperious proscription, yet amid obloquies very many, and assailants not a few, even too, amid the childish and shameless persecution of the Church of Rome, some of us may gladly recollect, that Freemasonry has had in our generation no truer advocate, no warmer admirer, and no more zealous friend, than our distinguished brother and late Grand Master, the Marquis of Ripon.

## MARK MASTER MASONRY.

By Bro. William James Hughan,

The earliest minute which chronicles the work of a Mark Master's Lodge in America is dated "Halifax, 16th Nov., 1784." At least it is the earliest so far made public.

In England we have not yet seen any of so early a date, and if any such exist, it would be well for their character to be certified for the information of the Craft universal.

In Scotland there is a Record of 1778 which we have already announced, and so far as we know, it is the first yet discovered in point of antiquity.

All these minutes unite to prove that the *Mark Master's degree* was conferred non

Master Masons *only*, the "Mark man" being given-- if at all-- to Fellow Crafts. That this was the custom during the last century we think is proved beyond a doubt, and therefore it is for those who say otherwise to produce evidence of their statements.

The record in question reads thus:

"Upon application to the Worshipful Master FIFE, he was pleased to open a Master Mark Mason's Lodge. . . . The following brethren received the degree of Master Mark Mason, and made choice of the following marks:--(Six names.) The marks selected were a Bible, Level, Compass, Keys, Five Points and Plumb Rule. These brethren having justly paid the demands for such marks, hath received the same with proper instructions. The business of the night being finished, the lodge was closed in due form."

Another minute is dated Halifax, Dec. 9th, 1785, and states that:

"A Master Mark Mason's Lodge was opened at the house of Bro. Andrew Gray, under the artillery warrant No. 2, (local register.) It was constituted 18th day of February, 1782. The following brethren, upon application, were found worthy, and initiated, and paid for their marks as usual:"

It was customary for Craft Lodges to loan their warrants whenever the Mark or Arch degrees were to be worked, so as to lend a semi-Craft countenance to the proceedings. No Craft warrant, however, issued by any regular Grand Lodge has ever given permission to work the *Mark* degree, although we have several times seen it so stated, but the proof has not yet appeared!

It would appear that a goodly number of brethren belonging to other lodges were advanced under the wing of the Artillery Lodge No. 2, and subsequently one section of such members decided to hold their Mark Lodge under the sanction of their own warrant, (viz., No. 155.) These brethren also requested that the names of their members desirous of being transferr'd, be officially sent them, "together with their marks," which was duly attended to by resolution of 10th February, 1786.

A similar request was made by the Mark Master Masons belonging to Lodge No. 210, at the Mark Lodge held 21st February, 1786, and granted, provided that a *written* application be made.

It seems to have been usual to open the Lodge in the "Third degree," and then advance the candidates who presented themselves for that honor.

The *Marks* chosen were not, as far as we can judge, of an *odd number of points* always, and no regulation was in force as to their being simply geometrical figures. We have never been able to see why brethren should be restricted to the choice of marks having an *odd* number of points, for those on ancient buildings still preserved are certainly *even*, as much as *odd*, in the number of points.—*Voice of Masonry*.

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## THE FIRST QUESTION.

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WHEN the advocates of Freemasonry are presenting its claims to the respect of the world and the attachment of its disciples, too much stress, I think, is generally placed upon its antiquity and too little upon its mission. The first question to be discussed and to be answered is not, Where did it arise? When was it founded? Who were its inventors? but rather, What is it doing? Are its designs good or bad, important or trivial? Is it capable of adding anything to the sum of human knowledge or of human happiness.

On the subject of the history of its rise and progress, there has always been, among Masonic scholars, and there always will be, a friendly diversity of opinion. Some will endeavor to trace it to the earliest ages of the world, and will find what they have called "Primitive Freemasonry" in the most ancient religious and mystical associations of men. Others, beginning at a later period, seek for its prototype in the secret societies of the Middle Ages. And others again, still more moderate in their views, limit its existence to the first decades of the eighteenth century, and find its birth in the creative genius of a few modern philosophers. Now, all of these theories may be wrong, or any one of them right, and the true character of Masonry will not be effected in its most important aspect by the admission or the denial of any of them.

This important aspect in which we are to view Freemasonry is its character and not its origin. What the logicians call the efficient cause is not of so much value practically as the formal and the final. When we first see any object in nature or art, we are apt to first ask what is its use and design? Afterwards only our curiosity stimulates us to inquire whence or how it came.

As the traveller passes slowly up the Nile, battling with its strong current, and thoughtfully gazing into its discolored waters, his eye wandering over the vast expanse of sandy desert, through which the ancient river threads its dark and solitary way, is suddenly attracted by the uprising in the landscape of those ancient monuments of

Egyptian labor, which spread from Gizeh to the South. And while the sun, descending to his western bed, robs the pointed summit of each pyramid with a golden fringe of light, the spectator asks not first who built these wonderful monuments of an ancient race, but only why they were erected. With what design was all this muscle and mind of man, this skill of architects and wealth of kings, expended on these massive structures? What was the object of their construction?

And here, too, as we journey down the stream of life, stands forth to our view a moral structure as much more mighty, strange and impressive than any pyramid that the Pharaoh's built as intellect is above and beyond matter—a monument of thoughts and passions, of mind and heart, whose massive structure knows no change of form; whose strength endures no weakness; whose beauty suffers no decay amid the revolutions which have wrought death and desolation to some empires, and given birth and vigor to others; and which is now more vigorous with elasticity and stronger in its power than in the days, whenever these were, of its primal existence.

This intellectual monument is Freemasonry; and of it we should inquire first, as the traveller asks of the pyramids, not of its birth, not of its history, not whence it came, nor where it sprung into existence, but why was it ever brought forth into that life whose functions it has been so well performing; what was the object of its institution; and what is the fruit now born by this old but vigorous tree, whose roots were planted, we know not by whom, and for the time will care not when nor where, but whose branches have covered with their shadow the whole extent of the civilized world.

Whenever, therefore, we begin an investigation of the system of Speculative Masonry, whether it be to enlarge our own knowledge, to recommend it to others, or to defend it from the attacks of its adversaries, the first question we should discuss is, *What is it?* When we have discovered for ourselves, and have shown to others, the good that it has done and the good that it is still seeking to do, and are satisfied that it is an institution or rather a confraternity founded on the divine principle of love and on the law that man was made for man, then we may take up what before had been an idle discussion, the theory of its origin and the date of its birth.

The first question is, what is its character? Its history is but secondary.—*A. G. Mackey.*

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## THE TRUE MISSION OF FREEMASONRY.

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It is very remarkable how of late years the popular estimation of Freemasonry has been clearly rising in the great open market of English thought and opinion. As long as our useful and excellent Order took the form, to a great extent, of a secret and social assembly—as long as it bore among men in general the reputation of a harmless but mainly convivial fraternity—so long, for the most part, with the exception of those who had the courage to lift the veil of our Masonic Isis—the greater part of society took the easy but general explanation of what it was, and what it professed both to be and to do. In short, they accepted our own valuation of ourselves. But when, gradually, Freemasonry, so to say, detached itself from its social character, the merely convivial aspect (though sociality must always be a great characteristic of our Order, and, we will add, innocent conviviality), from the hour that Freemasonry exhibited clearly to the world that its profession and practice went hand in hand, immediately many saw good in Freemasonry who had never seen it before, and the world, which is generally guided, as is society, to a great extent, by the opinions of the many rather than the few, chimed in at once with expressions of admiration and of praise. And hence, as we are inclined to think that the world is sometimes right—that is, that it is not always wrong—in the views it entertains of things and persons and events, we wish to impress upon our readers that this active manifestation of our great principles, which has so struck men and society, is, after all, the true mission of Freemasonry. We have nothing to do with politics, that is quite clear; we have no concern with the polemics of denominationalism, or that “odious theologium” which some writers tell us is the bitterest of all hatreds. We have little interest in the passing frivolities of the hour, and less in the outward exhibitions of folly or fashion; but, as Freemasons, we profess to be tolerant and kindly, large-hearted and fraternal, looking beyond the narrow limits of local, or national, or sectarian divisions, and regarding with sympathy and interest every “brother of the dust.” Yet, as we also know that true charity begins at home, we equally believe that that is falsely called true charity which, indulging in high-flown sentimentality or unreal emotions, neglects those who have the first claim upon its heart and means, and leaves them to suffering or privation, while it relieves with an overstrained zeal those who are far away, and who might fairly look to their own friends for succor and support. So Freemasonry first of all cares for her own. And we in England have of late years shown how fully we value the privileges

of Freemasonry, and enter into the spirit of our teaching, as loyal members of our beneficent Order, that we have munificently aided every form of Masonic benevolence and utility, which seemed to have a fair claim on liberality, to call for our assistance, or to invoke our cheerful support. Thus we have, both in the metropolis and by our provincial grants, by large sums from our benevolent funds, by constant donations from our lodge pedestals, alike assisted increasing indigence or failing old age, relieved the widow and the unfortunate, and educated with an unsparing liberality the orphan daughters and sons of our deceased or less prosperous brethren. Whatever opinions some may still entertain of Freemasonry, however some foolish prejudices may still linger, however unfounded impressions may still survive, however the mistaken views of earnest religionists may question the propriety of our broad platform, or the expansiveness of our unsectarian teaching, none will venture to assert that our works of charity and utility are not alike deeds of mercy and labors of love. Above the din of human controversy, over the strife of tongues surmounting the Babel of wild struggles and confusion, there arises, again so to say, as once, angelic voices sweetly singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will towards man." This is ever the true motto of Freemasonry; for in relieving distress, in succoring old age, in providing for weakness, in mitigating misfortune, in training up the young orphan children of our brotherhood, and fitting them as well as we can for the sterner battle of life, we are indeed showing that we love our neighbors as ourselves, that we are alive to the true mission of Freemasonry, that we are intent in practising its unchanging precepts, and that we have indeed realized how true it is that "Charity, like its divine sister Mercy, is twice blessed, in that it blesses him who gives, as well as him who receives." How beautiful is the picture thus represented to the mind's eye of the reflecting Freemason. Freemasonry is endeared to us by many warm and active memories of the past. It recalls happy hours and faithful friends, summons up even now, amid prevailing sorrow or depressing care, a vision of "cari luoghi" of days of yore, when we found in the select circle of a genial friendship, many a pleasant and refreshing season amid the trying calls of duty or the continuous exertions of business and of toil. But beyond this, and above this, Freemasonry is invested for us with still more radiant lures of beauty and of grace, when it comes to us in the garb of charity. Then we feel how great and good a thing Freemasonry really is, how admirable the Institution, how wise its aims, how noble its end. Thus raised above the passing interests of the day, we see at once how real, after all, is the true mission of Freemasonry and in what it indeed consists. Not in angry strife or uncharitable debate, not in the prolix utterances or mournful "outcome" of censoriousness or detraction, not in the perpetuation of angry feelings or hostile camps, but in the peaceful avowal of a universal sympathy, and the glad belief of a universal brotherhood. Here, then, we venture to think, is the true mission of Freemasonry, and those who, like us, thus make Freemasonry mean both the practical development of charity and mercy and sympathy, who believe that otherwise Freemasonry sinks into an aggregation of useless ornamentation or garish show, they will ever hail that happy and onward movement in our honored English Craft, which has of late years placed Freemasonry in its true position before our fellow-citizens, has promoted so greatly the true cause of Masonic liberality and benevolence, has conferred countless blessings on young and old, the happy recipients of the generous and sympathetic aims of our fraternity, and is a lasting proof, if proof be needed, that we are in England, at any rate, faithful brethren of our good old Order, and thoroughly understand and faithfully carry out the true mission of Freemasonry in the world.—*London Freemason.*

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## GRAND MASTER THORNE, OF NEW YORK.

BRO. ELLWOOD E. THORNE, Grand Master of Masons in New York, was born in the Mother City of Freemasonry in America—Philadelphia. A late number of the *New York Graphic* gives a portrait of our distinguished Brother, together with a brief biography, from which we take the following:

"Ellwood E. Thorne, recently elected Grand Master of Freemasons of the State of New York, was born in Philadelphia in 1831. He went to the west in early life, and was initiated and raised in Lafayette Lodge, No. 81, at Cincinnati, in Dec. 1854. He came to live in New York in 1857, and affiliated with Holland Lodge, No. 8, December 17th, of the same year. This Lodge was afterwards changed to Prince of Orange Lodge, No. 16. After passing through several of the subordinate offices, Brother Thorne was elected W. M. in 1861, and served in that capacity during the succeeding eleven years. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1870 and 1871, and was chairman of the Committee of Warrants in 1871. He was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1873, and finally received the highest honor in the gift of the Craft on the 4th of June last."

## GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

THE Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec was held last month. There was a good attendance of representatives from the Province. M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham occupied the chair. After ordinary routine business, connected with perfecting the credentials of representatives, the members from the Lodges recently under Canada and now affiliating with the Grand Lodge of Quebec, were introduced by the Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Dunbar, and cordially welcomed. The Grand Master then read his annual address as follows :—

## ADDRESS.

BRETHREN,—This day becomes memorable in the annals of Freemasonry in the Province of Quebec.

Seven years' discussion of constitutional principles is ended.

All differences hitherto existing between the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Canada and this Grand Body have been happily adjusted.

Jurisdiction within our territory has been formally withdrawn,—due recognition has been most fraternally extended to us;—our Grand Representative, M. W. Bro. T. D. Harrington, has been most honorably and heartily received,—the consummation of all which this day, and the honorable and perfect union now most harmoniously effected between the daughter Lodges of "Canada" in this jurisdiction, and this Grand Lodge is, I am sure, a source of profound satisfaction and deep heart-felt joy to every one of you; and to every true Mason of what ever Registry he may, hitherto, have been;—and I am confident that this will prove to be the beginning of a new era of prosperity to the Craft throughout the entire Province, and will be a cause of unusual rejoicing throughout the Masonic world.

All thanks are due to the able and prudent brethren in both the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec, who officially or otherwise have so earnestly and efficiently labored to bring about this most desirable end. May they long live to see the blessed fruits of their good work. May one and all put out of sight and out of mind all past differences;—and each strive to excel in that noblest of emulation of who can best work and best agree, so that our symbolic temple may be erected harmoniously and successfully and in the perfection of beauty, to the honor and glory of the Great Architect of the Universe.

## VISIT TO ENGLAND.

Circumstances required me to visit England during the early part of the year. A favoring providence afforded me the unanticipated pleasure of reaching London, (that great metropolis of the world,) on the seventy-sixth anniversary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys,—one of the oldest and most noteworthy of the great Masonic charities of England, and under the patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, (than whom no better Sovereign ever graced a throne.) I accepted a most courteous invitation which was immediately extended to me, to attend the anniversary banquet in the evening, at which the Grand Master, the Most Honorable the Marquis of Ripon presided. Some four or five hundred representative brethren from London and all parts of England were present on the occasion. Nothing could exceed the fraternal heartiness of my reception as your representative, by his Lordship and many other leading officers and brethren of the Grand Lodge, for which, personally and in your behalf, I improve this opportunity to return most grateful thanks. A noteworthy feature of the occasion was the presence of several hundred ladies at a magnificent entertainment given in the grand hall after the banquet. From this our brethren may be reminded of their own remissness in not having the ladies share in some of our annual festivities.

It was indeed pleasant and instructive to learn from actual observation of the interior working of the great Masonic beneficences of the mother land, which we may well strive to imitate, but cannot hope to equal. At this anniversary upwards of ten thousand pounds sterling were reported as having been contributed for the support of this institution during the current year, which large sum was, I learn, very considerably increased before closing the annual accounts.

When it is remembered that it is but one of the Masonic charities of England,—another most notable being the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls,—it will be seen how extensive and substantial is the practical charity of our British brethren. Being, moreover, on this visit to England and also to Scotland, the land of my birth and early nurture (and where I received a like hearty welcome) the bearer of the "good news" of the actual adjustment of the long-standing differences with the Grand Lodge of Canada—the interest in which had become world-wide, and nowhere more deep or in Great Britain—it was most gratifying to receive letters of congratulation from our Most Worshipful Brother, His Royal Highness the Prince of

Wales, His Lordship the Marquis of Ripon, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Rosslyn, White-Mellville, the Duke of Leinster, and others—all which most clearly indicates the anxious solicitude of our noble and worthy Brethren of the Imperial Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland, for the welfare, unity and progress of the Royal Craft in this far-off land of the setting sun.

## THE LATE DUKE OF KENT.

You will doubtless be pleased in this connection, to have me allude to certain historic reminiscences and associations brought to mind during my recent sojourn in the Mother Country—as relating to the Masonic History of this Grand old Province of Quebec. It appears that no other actual Grand Master from either division of old Canada has hitherto visited the Mother Country.

This incident while not wholly devoid of interest in itself, but served to call to mind an event of far greater historical importance to the Craft in this Province, namely, the departure from Quebec after a residence of about two and a half years,—just fourscore years previous—of the first Grand Master of the Provincial Lodge of Lower Canada, His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, the illustrious father of our beloved Queen. Those of you who, in 1869, aided in the formation of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Quebec, will, I am sure, be delighted ever to remember that you were but reviving the far-seeing Masonic policy of the Mother Grand Lodge of England, when, in 1792, she established the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lower Canada; and he is indeed highly honored to whose lot it falls to be a humble successor in the Masonic Government of the same territory, of its first royal and illustrious chief.

To indicate to you the deservedly high esteem in which our noble brother was held, I cannot do better than quote the dedication from the "Mason's Manual, comprising Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons in Lower Canada," and published in the early part of the present century:—

"To His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Duke of Kent and Strathern, Earl of Dublin. Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter; and the Most Illustrious Order of St. Patrick, a Field Marshal, and Colonel of the First, or Royal Scots Regiment of Foot, Past Provincial Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons in Lower Canada, &c., &c., &c."

"Most Worshipful and Illustrious Sir and Brother :

"Our intention is not in this dedication to resort to the usual mode of complimentary address; because it is entirely unnecessary. Your Royal Highness despises such adulation, and the public do not require to be informed of your exalted character: it lives at present in the memories of all your Brethren in Lower Canada, and posterity will find it in the annals of Masonry.

"Our design is merely to express the grateful sense the Brethren in this Province entertain in the fostering care and valuable patronage which your Royal Highness was pleased to extend towards the Masonic Institution during your residence in this part of her Majesty's Dominions."

"Without these exertions, we should never have had occasion to compile the little work to which we prefix this sincere and just acknowledgment to your Royal Highness; that whatever good effect the Mason's Manual may ultimately produce, is primarily attributed to your Royal Highness' zeal and active perseverance during the year 1792.

"Your Royal Highness' most faithful Brethren, and most humble devoted servants,

(Signed.)

"The Committee of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lower Canada."

The truth of this interesting dedication is fully verified by the history of the craft in this Province, nor can I forbear calling to your mind a memorable incident which well illustrates the excellent spirit and prudence of our Royal Provincial Grand Master, while here at that time in command of his Regiment. When in 1792, a "member" was being chosen for the county of Quebec,—and there was almost a riot,—His Royal Highness delivered a noble speech to the people,—in which occurs, among others, this truly Masonic sentiment,—“Let me no longer hear the hateful talk about French and English. You are all of you the equally beloved subjects of the King.”

It is, moreover, a matter of very deep interest to the craft, that the illustrious grandson of our noble Brother, the Most Worshipful, the Prince of Wales, is now the distinguished Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, and a zealous patron of our order, and also the illustrious chief of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, &c. It is indeed a happy omen, that now, as of old, Kings and Princes are promoters of the Art,—that they do not think it derogatory to their dignity to exchange the sceptre for the gavel,—to patronize our mysteries and join our assemblies.

## HISTORY OF THE CRAFT.

I desire to call the attention of Grand Lodge to what I deem a matter of singular importance ere the fathers of the Craft have passed away, or the records now accessible shall have gone into oblivion. The written History of Freemasonry in this Province would be of profound interest and of great importance. Every zealous Brother earnestly desires to know more of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Lower Canada, of Quebec and Three Rivers, of Montreal and William Henry, and of some of the oldest "daughter" Lodges on the American continent. I would, therefore, recommend Grand Lodge to take into consideration the advisability of appointing a Historical Committee composed of at least one eminent and devoted Brother from each District, and that Grand Lodge defray the incidental expenses connected therewith.

I improve the present memorable occasion, to communicate to Grand Lodge one or two additional extracts from ancient documents, of no little interest to the Craft in this Province. They will explain themselves:—

"In the year of Masonry 580. The most noble Prince John, Duke and Marquis of Athol, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Stratblay, Stratbardle, Viscount of Ballquider, Glenalmond and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belveny and Gask, heritable Captain and Constable of the Castle and Constabulary of Kinclaven, Earl Strange and Baron Murray of Stanley, in the County of Gloucester, &c., &c., Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, &c., &c.

"These Bye-Laws printed by order of the Grand Lodge.

"Rules and orders which are to be punctually observed and kept by the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, according to the old constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince EDWIN, at YORK, in the year of Our Lord, Nine Hundred Twenty and Six, and in the year of Masonry, Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and Six.

"In order to prevent all feuds, controversies, illegal arguments, or debates, which might in any sort disturb or make void the true intent and meaning of this our unanimous conjunction.—We, the Master, Wardens, Deacons and Secretary, together with the rest of the members of our Lodge, No. 18, (by and with the approbation and consent of the Grand Lodge,) have thought proper to subscribe and establish the following Rules:—

"1. That a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, aforesaid, shall be held at the Township of Eaton, to sit the Thursday preceding the Full Moon, of each Calendar month, &c., &c."

In the Minutes of this Lodge I find the names of twenty-seven members recorded.

The above will probably give an unexpected intimation to many Brethren of the existence and progress of our Fraternity, even in the remote parts of the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada, in the early part of the present century, and serve to point out the propriety of rescuing from oblivion as far as possible, so interesting a history.

## ADJUSTMENT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

Now that our relations with the Grand Lodge of Canada are so happily and harmoniously adjusted, it is reasonably to be anticipated that our relations to the Imperial Mother Grand Lodges of England and Scotland will in like manner, be most satisfactorily arranged at a very early day, by the affiliation with this Grand Lodge of the few remaining Lodges in this jurisdiction still holding warrants from England and Scotland, and by full and complete recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as the only Sovereign Masonic authority in and for this Province, and by the establishment of fraternal communication and correspondence, and the interchange of Grand Representatives.

England, after having for more than a century aided in establishing and upbuilding our beloved Order on the continent of North America, will equally honor herself in this last great act in the historical drama, in the withdrawing of the last vestige of her Masonic jurisdiction, feeling assured that, in accordance with our ancient constitutions so clearly evolved in the entire Masonic history of Grand Lodge organization and jurisdiction on this continent, she is lawfully and fraternally committing the supreme government of the craft here, to those who as Masons or as men will not prove themselves unworthy of their origin or their destiny. So mote it be.

## G. L. OF Q. MOVEMENT.

I deem it an example of simple justice to several eminent Brethren in other jurisdictions, who have been spoken of as inciting the Grand Lodge of Quebec movement, or by adverse advice regarding the settlement of our differences with the Grand Lodge of Canada, to state once for all that the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec was a movement having its origin completely amongst ourselves, and to us alone belongs the

praise or blame. The first intimation known by me to have been given to any brethren not of our jurisdiction, was a fraternal invitation to two Past Grand Masters to instal the first Grand Officers of this Grand Body. Nor am I aware that any such Brethren ever expressed a desire other than that they would be rejoiced at an early, constitutional settlement of all our differences.

We are indeed greatly indebted to many eminent Brethren abroad for their able advocacy of our cause, and for their kindly, fraternal support extended to this Grand Lodge, which we deem it a pleasure thus formally and gratefully to acknowledge.

## GONE BEFORE.

It was, I am sure, with deep sorrow and heart-felt grief that every member of this Grand Lodge learned of the death of R.W. Brother Thomas Bird Harris, of Hamilton, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada. That Grand Body by his death, has lost a most faithful and efficient officer, and each one of us has lost an excellent Brother of a warm heart, bright intellect, and generous impulses.

St. Francis District also mourns the loss of its late Deputy Grand Master. R. W. Brother Wiswell was one of the excellent among our Brethren, devoted, faithful and true.

I have also received official notice of the death of Past Grand Master John H. Lynde, of the state of Maine. Many of you will remember with great pleasure his fraternal visit to this Grand Lodge at its annual communication three years ago. He was a Brother of marked ability, of genial spirit, and deservedly held in high esteem.

## WORK.

I deem it important that from time to time, some portions of the work in the private Lodges should be exemplified in Grand Lodge, so that as far as possible a uniformity of ritual may be practised throughout the Province. I would therefore recommend that arrangements be made therefor by the next annual communication of Grand Lodge.

## AFFAIRS OF THE CRAFT.

The special condition of the Fraternity and its general affairs will be fully laid before Grand Lodge by the respective Grand Officers and the Board of General Purposes, and I have no doubt that you will all devote yourselves to the important work of the session faithfully, zealously and harmoniously.

As most of you are aware, our venerable and efficient Grand Secretary has been absent for some time on a visit to England. He had expected to return before this communication of the Grand Lodge, but he has been disappointed. I am confident that you will cheerfully overlook any incompleteness in the reports from his office, which will be speedily perfected after his arrival. You all doubtless wish him a most pleasant sojourn in his native land, and a safe return to his family and to his host of friends here.

## NEW LODGES.

During the year I have granted dispensations for two new Lodges, the Ionic, in Montreal, and Magog, in the village of Magog. I have reason to believe that they have made such excellent progress that Grand Lodge will be pleased to grant them Warrants of Constitution.

There are a few additional subjects to which I had proposed to call the attention of Grand Lodge, but their present consideration must be omitted.

I now beg to express my hearty regrets that I have been quite unable during the year to accept the many kind invitations which I have received from brethren to visit Lodges, attend festivals and the like, and I trust that they and all the members of Grand Lodge will bear with my short-comings when informed that various circumstances have engrossed an unusual amount of my time and attention, and I close my very imperfect address to you on this occasion, by uniting with you in the prayer that the Great Architect of the Universe may still continue to vouchsafe His blessing to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and to our beloved Order everywhere throughout the World. So mote it be.

J. H. GRAHAM,  
Grand Master.

Montreal, Sept. 23. 1874.

## A SINGULAR INCIDENT.

A SHORT time since, in the City of Washington, a Fellow-Craft, who had been regularly passed in one of the Lodges, anxious for proficiency to enable him to advance, was advised to go to a Lodge of Instruction. He applied for admission, and by a mistake of the Tyler, was vouched for and passed in, while the Lodge was engaged in exemplifying the third degree, and witnessed the entire exemplification before his real



Masonic rank was discovered. M. W. Bro. C. F. Stansbury, the Grand Master of the District was immediately sent for; and upon learning the facts, convened the brethren who were present into a Lodge of Emergency, and had the third degree conferred forthwith upon the involuntary intruder—two weeks in advance of the time when the degree would have been regularly due. The record of the proceedings of the Emergent Lodge was certified to the Lodge in which the Fellow-Craft had received the first and second degrees; and the Grand Master authorized that Lodge to receive the fee, and to take the so-made Master Mason as a member, as if he had been regularly received in the Lodge. But the Lodge, upon ballot, refused to receive him. He is now, in the opinion of the Grand Master, in which we concur, to be recognized as a Master Mason in good standing, but unaffiliated, with the privilege of applying to any Lodge for membership.—*National Freemason.*

## FUNERAL LODGE SERVICE.

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 LODGE CALEDONIAN, NO. 489.

ON the evening of Thursday, the 13th August, this Lodge held Funeral Service in fraternal remembrance of Brother Fox Maule Ramsay, Earl Dalhousie, P.G.M., G.L.S., and Brother Thomas Wakeling, No. 489, who died at sea. The attendance was good; a number of visitors from sister lodges in the district were present. Canopies, pedestals, and altar, with the jewels and tools, were all in sombre covering. Worshipful Brother William Dorrell having taken his position on the dais, the procession, which was formed in the outer porch of the temple, marched into the lodge—the organ playing the “dead March in Saul.” A circuit of the Hall was several times made; and, the music having ceased, the procession halted—turning to the emblems of mortality, which were arranged on a table in front of the altar—when, in a few succinct, but appropriate sentences, Brother D. Frazer referred to the inflexible law which levels peer and peasant alike. He then broke his staff, figurative of the brittle hold mankind has with time, depositing the fragments cross-ways beside the hour glass, scythe, and twain sprigs of cassia. The Lodge was then formally opened in the A. D. Brother G. Pollock, Chaplain, then offered up solemn prayer, and as the response “Amen” was repeated by the brethren, the rich tones of the organ began sounding Beethoven’s beautiful “Funeral March.” “Grand Honors” in silence followed, and the brethren then sang in unison Cowper’s fine hymn (Tune Old Hundred)—

“The billows swell, the winds are high.”

Brother Pollock then addressed the brethren—giving a concise and historic account of the birth-place, scholastic attainments, and services rendered by the deceased Master to his country and the Craft—services acknowledged from the Throne, the Church, the Craft, and his countrymen generally—fraternally alluding to Brother Wakeling, the protracted, wearing illness meekly born, the strong desire to be laid beside kindred in the “Dear Old Land”—Home; how Providence had overruled the wish; and how, when nearing the “Giant Rock,” he contentedly fell asleep and passed to the “better Lodge,” consigned to the deep, no stone marking his grave. Yet the sure hope that He who rules and commands the waves cared as much for the dead in the great waters as those who were “sleeping” quietly beneath storied urn or marble slab. Brother Thomas Tucker presided at the organ with taste and ability, and, in concert with Brothers Mainwaring, Till, and Rand, sang two or three anthems suitable to the occasion.

The solemn and interesting ceremonies were brought to a close by an address from Worshipful Brother Dorrell, graphically illustrating the nature and intention of their meeting. “On the one hand, met to do fraternal homage to the memory of one exalted high in worldly honors, yet simple and kind in acts of benevolence and charity; on the other hand, assembled to show respect and esteem to the memory of a brother, humble, and unused to toil, was able to fulfil his vow—‘able and willing to labor for bread;’ aye! and did so when health and strength were granted.” The Worshipful Master, after expiscating the beauties of love and charity, concluded a well-thought address by an appeal to the brethren not to forget the widow and orphan of their departed brother in their dark hour of sorrow and bereavement.

The arrangements were very complete, the addresses apt and pointed, and the proceedings from first to last solemn and impressive—the whole stirring one’s mind to be “ready,” for everything on sea and land was reminding the human race that—

“All walk side by side,  
 In the slow death column,  
 To the sound of the Grave March,  
 Mournfully, solemn.”

The Lodge being closed masonically, the brethren separated in concord and harmony.—*Masonic News.*

## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

## WHAT IS MASONRY?

MASONRY, so far from being the worthless, indefinable thing that some represent it to be, has conferred immense benefits upon communities and the world at large. It may seem selfish and exclusive for men to band themselves together with a common object in view, but it is really nothing of the kind, for, although no one is asked to join the brotherhood, all who bear an irreproachable character are admissible, and receive a cordial welcome. The exclusiveness, if such it can be called, simply amounts to this, that none but those who are true men can be admitted to the privileges of Masons, and, in order to protect themselves against imposition, certain signs and tokens are used. This, we are told, destroys the usefulness of the Order, and renders it objectionable as an institution. When, however, any person takes the trouble to examine for himself, he finds that there can be nothing wrong in the use of secret signs, inasmuch as they are the only safeguards Masons have; besides, even some strictly benevolent societies use pass-words, and are not regarded with suspicion on that account. Then why should Freemasonry be subjected to any such objections as are sometimes urged against it? There is nothing in connection with Masonry that should prevent it being acknowledged as a valuable and beneficent Order; hence all the objections that are raised are of no account, as they do not affect its true character, nor invalidate the standing of those who devote their energies and zeal to its promotion.

We may be, and very often have been told, that Masons are banded together with the sole design of screening and protecting one another from the consequences of their misdeeds. Nothing could be further from the truth, yet it is a popular notion. The very obligation of a Mason binds him to be a true, loyal and obedient subject, at the same time that he holds himself amenable if he transgresses the law. There is no person more thoroughly under the law, yet we have it dinned into our ears that he cannot be a law-abiding subject, as his brethren consider it their bounden duty to screen him from punishment. How such a fallacious, not to say monstrous idea, ever came to be entertained surprises us, for we have never known an instance of misdirected zeal in behalf of a Masonic brother when justice had to be meted out to him. In nothing are Masons more exacting than the punishment of erring and guilty brethren. So long as they are right, or rather so long as it does not appear by irrefragible evidence that they are guilty of crime, Masons will have the aid and support of the brethren to the fullest extent; but let it be made clear that it is otherwise, then no leniency will be shown. On the contrary, proof of guilt brings speedy expulsion, and they are no longer permitted to retain their membership. If, however, persecution or unjust dealing should be made manifest, then a Mason so situated may depend upon the support of the brethren, who will not willingly see him subjected to contumely and wrong. Surely there can

be nothing to object to in this, and it is surprising that persons are found holding the belief that there is anything objectionable in Masonry, because its members stand by one another in times of danger, difficulty and adversity.

An institution that has withstood the mutations of time, and flourished amid the shock of nations and the crash of thrones, can need no defence, still it may not be out of place to advert to what the enemy is doing in misrepresenting and traducing an Order which above all others has a history that goes back to past ages. There is no fear of harm resulting from the machinations of those who make it their purpose to decry Masonry, for the progress it has made and continues to make is sufficient proof that it cannot suffer much beyond the annoyance and personal injury members of the Craft occasionally sustain at the hands of ignorant and presumptuous persons in the garb of religion. Masonry has made many a one a good citizen and a better man, for those who strictly follow what it teaches are unquestionably raised above the common level. Its teachings are such that all who give heed and listen attentively to the great moral truths it inculcates must be better and wiser for the instruction they receive. The secrecy of the Order makes it more sought after than it would be, for to know true Masonry is the desire of most men who seek after what is good, and when once they are made acquainted with it, they feel no regret at having penetrated the arcana, and mastered the knowledge for which they thirsted. What can be grander, what can be more ennobling than the knowledge acquired by a constant attendance at a Masonic Lodge? There, nothing but what is good, true and soul-elevating is heard; and to know the beautiful ritual of the Order is the ambition of every Mason who aspires to become thoroughly *au fait*. The only strife tolerated is that of rivalry in the endeavor to master the teachings of the Order, and we can point with just pride to the high attainments of many even in our midst, who, having devoted their energies to Masonic literature and law, now stand in the front ranks of educated Masons. Were Masonry useless and unnecessary, its ranks could not have been graced by the presence of the leading men of all nations, as it has been; for to day it can boast of having within its pale the best and noblest among the master spirits of the age. Both in Europe and America the first men of the day are not ashamed to hail the humblest member of the fraternity as a brother, and royalty itself claims kinship with the peasant who happens to be enrolled under the banner of Freemasonry. Three of the English princes are Masons, and the Earl of Carnarvon, who manages the affairs of the colonies as Colonial Minister, is the Deputy Grand Master of England. Most of the literary men of Great Britain are Masons, and the House of Lords and House of Commons contain many members who are either members of lodges or hold official rank in the Grand Lodges. Surely if there were anything inimical to society in Masonry we should not have the best men of England and America connected with it. The aspersers of the Order have been principally ministers of religion and connected with various denominations, but chiefly with the Church of Rome. As regards Protestant ministers, it is not a little singular that some of the most ardent teachers of Masonry are clergymen of high standing in their respective churches. How strange then, that a Presbyterian minister in Scotland should have undertaken to malign an institution which finds some of its ablest expounders in popular preachers.

## MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS OF GRAND BODIES.

THE Report on Correspondence of the Missouri Grand Lodge has been published separately, a copy of it having reached us early last month. It occupies over one hundred and fifty pages, and embraces the correspondence of forty-seven Grand Lodges, prominent among them the Grand Lodge of Canada, but an error is made in the date of the last annual communication, which is doubtless typographical, it being set down in July 9th, 1873, instead of 1874. A postscript is added, in which it is stated that since the report was prepared the death of the Grand Secretary of Canada had been announced, and Bro. Gouley says, "The Grand Lodge of Canada has our sincere sympathies."

THE Grand Lodge of New Brunswick held its annual Communication at St. John, on the 23rd, 24th and 25th September, when the following Grand Officers were elected: M. W. Bro. John E. Ellis, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Robert Marshall, Deputy Grand Master; R. W. Bro. David Brown, Senior Grand Warden; R. W. Bro. Alfred F. Street, Junior Grand Warden; V. W. Bro. Rev. F. Partridge, Grand Chaplain; V. W. Bro. W. H. Akeans, Grand Treasurer; V. W. Bro. W. F. Bunting, Grand Secretary; W. Bro. A. Burchill, Senior Grand Deacon; W. Bro. David Wetmore, Junior Grand Deacon; W. Bro. G. E. Elliot, Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The following regulation was adopted:—

"Any brother hailing from a lodge beyond the jurisdiction of New Brunswick, desiring to be received as a visitor in a lodge within the Province, and who cannot be vouched for, shall, previous to undergoing an examination, be required to produce a certificate from the Grand Lodge to which he belongs; and if he cannot produce such certificate, no examination shall take place, and he shall be refused admission."

The St. John *Globe* says:

"The members of Grand Lodge, many of the city members of the Craft, and visiting brethren from distant parts of the Province, and other places, numbering about seventy in all, sat down to dinner at the Victoria Hotel, at 8.30 o'clock. The bill of fare was the best the Victoria could provide, and embraced the usual solids and substantial, and every delicacy in game, fruits, etc., that our own or neighboring countries could supply. Cold water was provided for the toast drinkers. The scene presented in the dining room was a very brilliant one. Music was furnished by the 62nd Band, led by Mr. Dixon.

THE Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, held its half-yearly meeting in London, England, on the 2nd June, and we have to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the printed proceedings, which also embrace a statement of accounts, the Roll of Lodges, and Benevolent Fund Festivals. An interesting history of the origin of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons is given, concluding with a list of the Grand Masters from the date of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

THE forty-fourth annual Grand Communication of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Ohio, was held at Dayton, on September 9th and 10th. A copy of the Proceedings has reached us, in connection with which are given lists of the Grand and Past Grand Officers and Representatives of subordinate Councils present; also the Grand Councils and Recorders in the different States. The report on Foreign Communications is interesting, and the proceedings throughout may be read with profit by Masons generally.

THE ninth annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia was held on the 3rd and 4th of June, and we have received a copy of the proceedings, a bulky Blue Book of more than three hundred

pages, which also contains a report of an Emergent Communication held on January 13th. The latter meeting was held on account of the death of the late Grand Master, the Hon. Alexander Keith, when Past Grand Master Sircom was chosen to fill the vacancy until the annual election. At the annual election the following were selected as the principal officers: M. W. Bro. J. W. Laurie, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Allan H. Crowe, Deputy Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Rev. R. Avery, Senior Grand Warden; R. W. Bro. Rev. J. B. Richardson, Junior Grand Warden; R. W. Bro. A. K. MacKinlay, Grand Treasurer; R. W. Bro. Benjamin Curren, Grand Secretary; R. W. Bro. Rev. G. Townsend, P. R. W. Bro. Rev. H. P. Almon, R. W. Bros. Rev. H. D. DeBlois, Rev. Theophilus Richey, Rev. Alexander Nicholson, Rev. C. Bowman, Grand Chaplains.

THE Proceedings of the twentieth annual meeting of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California are printed in handsome form, and make up a large volume. We have seldom met with so much interesting matter as is contained in the closely printed pages of the book.

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## GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

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WE publish elsewhere the Address of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, a document breathing the true Masonic spirit, and fraught throughout with feelings of harmony and good will. It is gratifying to find the brethren in the sister Provinces so well pleased with the arrangement of the long pending difficulties between the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec, and it is evident from the indications in M. W. Grand Master Graham's address, that there is a desire to cultivate the closest acquaintance with the brethren with whom they no longer have any dispute. Since the address was in type, an esteemed correspondent at Montreal has sent us the following extended report of the proceedings:

### GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC A. F. AND A. M.

THE fifth annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of Montreal, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 23rd and 24th days of September last.

M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, LL. D., Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. Alex. Murray, P. D. D. G. M., acting as Grand Secretary in the absence of R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, who was reported on a visit to England.

A very large attendance of representatives were present as well as a number of distinguished visitors.

After routine business it was announced that the delegates representing Lodges lately under the registry of the Grand Lodge of Canada were in waiting, and desired to be received into affiliation, in accordance with the terms of agreement arranged by the Joint Conference Committee. The Grand Master appointed R. W. Bro. Dunbar, D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. Murray, acting Grand Secretary, a committee, whose duty it would be to introduce the brethren to Grand Lodge, and the committee on Credentials retired to receive the proper registration of said delegates. On their return to Grand Lodge, R. W. Bro. Dunbar introduced M. W. Bro. Thomas White, Jr., P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and a large delegation from those lodges now for the first time affiliating with this Grand Lodge.

The acting Grand Secretary called the roll and the M. W. the Grand Master formally received and welcomed into the Grand Lodge of Quebec the several lodges lately under the Grand Lodge of Canada, and congratulated the brethren on the happy termination of all differences and disputes among the Craft in this jurisdiction. The several delegates were duly seated according to their respective ranks in the East, West and South, amidst the applause of the assembled brethren.

R. W. Bro. Alexander Murray then presented his credentials as representative of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Canada near the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and was received with all the honors and much enthusiasm by Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master then proceeded to deliver his annual address.

The address was referred on the usual motion to the Board of General Purposes.

The report of the Board on "Finance" was received and adopted. It exhibited a most satisfactory state of affairs as far as have been made up, but explained that owing to the unexpected prolonged absence of the Grand Secretary, the returns of subordinate lodges for the last past half year were not included in the report, which would leave a still larger surplus in the hands of the Treasurer. All outstanding debts had been paid including the balance on the certificate plate; and exclusive of returns for the last past half year, there was now at credit of Grand Lodge fully three hundred dollars. The report was received with much satisfaction by Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master here announced the appointment of R. W. Bro. Dunbar, D. G. M., to act on behalf of this Grand Lodge, in concert with M. W. Bro. White on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada, as arbitrators in the settlement of all questions in dispute as to property and funds, between subordinate lodges, as provided for by Article 5 of the agreement by the Joint Conference Committee.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was tabled by Bro. acting Grand Secretary as Chairman of that Committee, which, on motion was ordered to be printed as an addenda to the proceedings.

Quite an array of notices of motions for the amendment of the Book of Constitution were tabled, some of them, if not most of them destined to be never more heard of, as too frequently these notices are given on the spur of the moment to meet some particular case, and brethren are too apt to forget that when a doubt arises as to the interpretation of a clause in the Constitution, it is often the best policy to accept the ruling of the Grand Master for the time being, than to attempt to legislate for every possible case that may arise.

The reports of the D. D. G. M's. showed a very healthy condition of the Order in the several districts.

The Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. Rev. H. W. Nye, of Iron Hill, delivered a very interesting address.

The thanks of Grand Lodge were voted to the Grand Chaplains and the address ordered to be printed in the proceedings.

Pending reports from the Board of General Purposes, Grand Master Graham addressed Grand Lodge and announced his intended retirement from the Grand East.

R. W. Bro. Rev. H. Montgomery, P. G. C., Grand Lodge of Canada, and R. W. Bro. Rev. M. Meyers, P. Pro. G. M., Grand Lodge of Scotland, also briefly addressed Grand Lodge.

The Board of General Purposes presented their report on

#### WARRANTS.

recommending the granting of warrants of constitution to the following lodges, viz: Ionic Lodge, Montreal; Lake Magog Lodge, Magog, which on motion was received and adopted.

#### GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Board also presented a report on the appeal of a Brother of St. Andrew's Lodge, Montreal, from the ruling of the W. M. and the decision of the D. D. G. M. in declaring a candidate for the S. W's. chair not elected on the following vote, viz: 32 brethren present eligible to vote; 32 ballots distributed; 32 ballots cast as follows: Bro. A. 16, Brother B. 15, Blank 1. The Board sustained the appeal in this report and declared Bro. A. duly elected. This report brought on a very lively discussion in Grand Lodge, during which some constitutional principles were eloquently and forcibly argued, but the report of the Board was finally carried on a division of 24 to 25, which, being pressed to a ballot, was again sustained by a vote of 58 to 40.

R. W. Bro. Samuel Johnson presented his credentials as representative near this Grand Lodge of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and was received with the Grand honors.

The M. W. Grand Master then alluded in a happy strain to the settlement of all disputes between Canada and Quebec, and announced that as an earnest desire had been expressed to hear from some of the distinguished brethren who for the first time were now amongst us and of us, he introduced M. W. Bro. Thomas White, Jr., P. G. M., who proceeded to address Grand Lodge on the restoration of amicable relations among the Craft in this jurisdiction. The remarks of Bro. White were received with much gratification by the brethren, after which R. W. Bro. James O'Halloran and others also briefly addressed Grand Lodge.

The election of Officers for the year was then proceeded with and resulted as follows:

M. W. Bro. James Dunbar, Quebec, G. M.; R. W. Bro. Jas. O'Halloran, Cowansville, D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Geo. O. Tyler, Three Rivers, D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Thomas Milton, Montreal, D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Lynch, Knowlton, D. D. G. M.;

R. W. Bro. Sleeper, Coaticooke, D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. D. Thomas, Sherbrooke, G. S. W.; R. W. Bro. S. Johnson, Montreal, G. J. W.; R. W. Bro. Rev. H. W. Nye, Iron Hill, G. Chaplain; R. W. Bro. H. M. Alexander, Montreal, G. Treasurer; R. W. Bro. John McLean, Montreal, G. Registrar; R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, Montreal, G. Secretary; Bro. Strothers, Montreal, G. Tyler.

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

M. W. Bros. Graham and White, and R. W. Bros. Charleston and Whitman.

M. W. Bro. White then announced to Grand Lodge that he had a most pleasing duty to perform, viz: On behalf of the lodges lately under the registry of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to present to this Grand Lodge the sum of Four Thousand Dollars donated to them by their parent Grand Lodge, on the severance of their allegiance, according to the articles of agreement. This sum they desired the Grand Lodge of Quebec to accept as a nucleus of a Fund of Benevolence. The announcement was received with great cheering, and a resolution accepting the same with gratitude unanimously passed.

The installation of the officers elect was then proceeded with, and, after the usual votes of thanks were passed to the several Railway Companies, &c., Grand Lodge was closed in due and ample Form and the brethren departed in peace and harmony.

MASONIC JOURNALS.

WILL the publishers of the *Canadian Freemason* favor us with the September and October numbers of their Magazine, neither of which has reached us, although we commenced an exchange previous to the appearance of the Magazine?

AMONG the best Masonic Magazines in the United States is the *Masonic Jewel*, of Memphis, the last number of which was graced with a likeness of Bro. McCallum, Past Grand Master of Tennessee.

THE *Freemason's Repository* of Providence, Rhode Island, commenced its fourth volume with the October number. It is really a most desirable periodical, and an able exponent of the principles of the Order.

THE handsomest magazine we receive is *Loomis' Musical and Masonic Journal*, published in New Haven, Connecticut. Each number gives two or more pieces of music by celebrated composers, a portrait, and reading matter devoted to musical subjects. The Masonic department is now edited by the Rev. Almos G. Shears, who proves himself to be an able writer and a true Mason.

THE *Weekly Courant*, of Columbia, Pennsylvania, is a lively and interesting sheet, a portion of which is devoted to Masonry. We should judge it to be a great favorite with the fair sex, for it contains much that is of value to them.

GRAND CHAPTER.

THE seventeenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was held in the city of Ottawa, on the 14th October last.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp. C. D. Macdonnell, Grand Z., R. E. Comp. W. H. Weller, Grand H., R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, as Grand J., Grand Council, on the Throne; Grand Officers, members, and about 75 Representatives; and also, as a distinguished visitor, M. E. Comp. the Hon. Albert Pike, of Washington, D. C. After routine business the Grand Z. delivered the following

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, Greeting:

COMPANIONS,—On assembling at this time, it is necessary that I should explain the cause for so doing.

Shortly, in fact almost immediately after the close of the last session of the Grand Lodge of Canada, our late R. E. Companion, Thomas B. Harris, Grand Scribe E. of this Grand Chapter, was prostrated by serious illness, and his life despaired of. While in this dangerous state, it was intimated to me by many members of this Grand Chapter

that the approaching meeting in August was causing him great uneasiness of mind, and by postponing the same it might be the means—by removing the anxiety—accelerating his restoration to health. Out of consideration for the eminent services rendered the Royal Craft by our lamented Companion, and of my own high personal esteem for him, I decided to postpone the meeting of the Grand Chapter until the second Wednesday in October, well aware that in so departing from the constitutional period of assembling for so desirable a cause, it would not only meet with the unanimous approval of the Grand Chapter, but also be deemed a well merited tribute of consideration towards the suffering companion, and the distress thereby entailed upon his afflicted family.

Having thus explained the reason for not meeting in August, my first duty will be to read the loss the Royal Craft has sustained by the death of our late Grand Scribe E., R. E. Companion Thomas B. Harris, who died on the 18th day of August last, and was buried with Masonic honors on the 21st of the same month, the Grand Lodge of Canada having been summoned for that special purpose, the M. W. the Grand Master, W. M. Wilson, conducting the ceremonies attendant on the solemn occasion. I availed myself of the mournful privilege of being present in my official capacity, and assisted in paying the last sad tribute of respect to departed merit.

In recounting the valuable services of the deceased R. E. Companion to this Grand Chapter, I feel that no language I can use will adequately convey a just sense of the loss it has sustained by his melancholy decease. Elected to the responsible position of Grand Scribe E. at its formation in 1857, each successive year witnessed a renewal of his term of office, with the warmest cordiality, until death deprived us of the privilege of again tendering him a fresh mark of the confidence felt in his painstaking energy, and unselfish devotion to the interests confided to his trust. Ever prompt and attentive in the discharge of his duties, it was also a distinguished trait of his character to be affable and courteous to all with whom he had business relations; and whether in official or private correspondence with his Companions, his views and opinions always breathed that true spirit of Freemasonry which showed how thoroughly his head and heart were imbued with its exalted teachings. His unassuming disposition, his generosity of nature, his cheerful readiness at all times and frequently under trying circumstances, to perform acts of substantial kindness towards those requiring such offices at his hands, deservedly won for him from the Royal Craft its highest measure of regard; and now that his period of usefulness on earth has terminated, I doubt not that this Grand Chapter will heartily unite with the other Orders of Masonry—in whose service his best days and energies were spent—in erecting an enduring monument to perpetuate his memory to succeeding generations.

The reports of District Superintendents will doubtless supply you with the obituary record of the past year. I cannot, however, pass over without some notice the loss which the Grand Chapter has sustained in the demise of R. E. Comp. J. V. Noel, Past Grand Treasurer and Past Grand Superintendent for Manitoba, and R. E. Companion Thomas Duggan, P. G. H., and P. G. Supt. Hamilton District. Both of these Companions were zealous Masons, and upright and honorable men, and Grand Chapter will willingly extend its tribute of respect to the memory of these Companions who have done so much to advance the interests and promulgate the genuine tenets of R. A. Masonry.

Once more we are permitted to assemble in annual convocation to consult together, and endeavor to promote the best interests of the Royal Craft.

Grand Chapter now meets for the seventeenth time, and I am sure we have good reason to congratulate ourselves on the sure and steady progress of the Order.

It affords me a great deal of pleasure in being able to state that during my term of office no complaint for unmasonic conduct has been laid before me, and I am led to believe that peace and harmony prevail within our borders.

#### DISPENSATIONS.

I have signed Dispensations for the following new Chapters, viz :

“King Hiram,” Port Colborne, Ontario; “Pembroke,” Pembroke, Ontario; “Sussex,” Brockville, Ontario; “Doric,” Newmarket, Ontario; “Granite,” Perth, Ontario; “York,” Eglinton, Ontario; “Havelock,” Lucknow, Ontario.

I believe that they have all been properly organized, and as the several petitions came before me duly recommended, I advise their confirmation by warrant. I also received applications for new Chapters at Rondeau and Guelph, Ontario. The one from Rondeau lacking the recommendation of the Grand Superintendent of the District, I declined to grant the Dispensation asked for. In the case of the application for another Chapter at Guelph, it reached me so near the meeting of this Convocation that I deemed it inadvisable to issue my Dispensation. The acting Grand Scribe E. will present this latter petition to Grand Chapter, and if approved, of course a warrant can issue at once. I have granted several Dispensations authorizing the installation



of Companions who were elected first or second Principals, but were not constitutionally eligible, all in my opinion being necessary for the welfare of the several Chapters interested.

EXCHANGE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

During the last year I have been advised of the appointment of Excellent Companion Henry Macpherson as representative of the Grand Chapter of California, and R. E. Companion Daniel Spry, as representative of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, near this Grand Chapter.

I have appointed representatives of the Grand Chapter of Canada R. E. Companion Louis Wiggin, near the Grand Chapter of California; M. E. Companion William H. McIlharmey, near the Grand Chapter of Scotland. In the credentials appointing R. E. Companion Lawrie, I conferred on him the rank of a Past Grand J. of this Chapter, and caused to be forwarded to him the insignia of his office. These appointments have been made, subject, of course, to your approval.

Early in December last I received the following communications from M. E. Companion Noble D. Larned, the M. E. Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia.

*Office of the Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the District of Columbia.*

WASHINGTON, November 26th, 1873.

COMPANION S. B. HARMAN, M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Canada, M. E. Companion.

The personal relations existing between your Representative near the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia and myself, being of such a character as to prohibit intercourse between him and myself, I am, therefore, much to my regret, compelled to request that his commission as your representative be revoked, and that some other Companion, whose standing and position in this fraternity will command the respect which a Grand Representative is entitled to, be appointed in his stead. Companion Mason is not a member of our Grand Chapter, and, therefore, only visits the same through courtesy. He has never filled a higher position in a Chapter than that of Secretary, and his interference lately in matters belonging exclusively to members of our Grand Chapter, and other circumstances, not necessary to mention, has made him very obnoxious, not only to myself, but to a very large number of the members of our Grand Chapter. For these and other reasons which I might mention, I have, after consultation with our Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, and other Companions, concluded to make this official request of you for the revocation of his Commission as your Grand Representative.

With the hope that the fraternal relations at present existing between our two Grand Chapters may continue,

I remain yours truly and fraternally,

(Signed),

NOBLE D. LARNED,

Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia.

P. S.—I would recommend M. E. Companion Joseph Daniels, Past Grand High Priest of our Grand Chapter, as one in every way qualified for the position of your Representative.

(Signed),

N. D. L.

G. H. P.

After carefully considering the request contained to the above, I directed the Grand Scribe E. to write the M. E. Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia informing him of my decision. Accordingly on the 4th day of March last he addressed to him the following communication.

*Grand Chapter of Canada, Office of the Grand Scribe E.*

HAMILTON, Ontario, 4th March, 1874.

NOBLE D. LARNED, Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter District of Columbia.

DEAR SIR AND M. E. COMPANION,—Circumstances beyond my control have occurred, which have of necessity caused me to put off addressing to you a communication as directed by our M. E. Grand Z. on the 17th January last, on the subject of our representative at the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, which has, I am given to understand, been the subject of some correspondence between yourself and the past and present Grand First Principals' Z. of this Grand Chapter.

I have now the honor, under instructions of the M. E. Grand Z., to state, in regard to your desire for the cancelment of the credentials of our representative, R. E. Comp. J. E. Mason, at the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, that under ordinary circumstances he would feel himself warranted in exercising the prerogatives of his

office, by at once cancelling the commission of our representative, but after mature consideration, and in the absence of any charge of irregularity or misconduct, the M. E. Grand Z. does not see his course clear to evoke the deliberate act of one of his predecessors, performed on the best recommendation, and subsequently certified and confirmed by our Grand Chapter in Annual Convocation and our said representative was received and acknowledged by your Grand Chapter.

The M. E. Grand Z. has therefore arrived at the determination of referring the whole matter to Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation, to deal with the subject in such a manner as in its wisdom it may deem proper.

I have the honor to remain,

Dear Sir and M. E. Companion,

Yours truly and fraternally,

THOMAS B. HARRIS, G. S. E.

I now leave the matter in your hands to take such action in the premises as to you may seem meet.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

I would here direct your attention to notices of motion, which will claim your attention at this Convocation.

R. E. Companion W. H. Weller, gave notice at the last annual Convocation, that he would move that the last part of clause 10 of the Constitution, under the head of "Regalia," be amended, by striking out the words "Royal Arch."

R. E. Companion H. Robertson at the same time gave notice that he would move an amendment to the Constitution, altering the time of meeting of Grand Chapter, as follows:—

That article IX of the Constitution of Grand Chapter be amended by striking out the words "Wednesday, in August," and inserting therefor the words, "Thursday in February,"

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Foreign Correspondence will be presented by R. E. Companion H. Robertson, the talented chairman of that committee, and as usual, I have no doubt, will be found replete with useful information.

#### GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

The reports from the several Grand Superintendents will be laid before you, which I have no doubt will prove of much interest to Grand Chapter, and give full information as to the welfare of the order throughout our jurisdiction.

#### OFFICE OF THE GRAND SCRIBE E.

Soon after the death of our lamented Grand Scribe E., I was in receipt of a communication from R. E. Companion J. Stephenson, Grand Scribe N., saying:—that it would be impossible for him to attend to the duties of the office, and suggest that some competent Companion in Hamilton be requested to take charge of the same until the meeting of the Grand Chapter. I accordingly requested R. E. John W. Murton to take charge, which he very kindly consented to do, and has conducted the affairs of the office to my entire satisfaction; and I am sure Grand Chapter will join me in acknowledging the valuable services so rendered by that R. E. Companion. I also beg to thank E. Companion J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary *pro tem.* of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for assistance rendered in conducting the affairs of Grand Chapter.

#### GRAND TREASURER.

In the report of that efficient officer, the Grand Treasurer, R. E. Companion David McLellan, you will be informed of the financial condition of the Subordinate Chapters, and the general funds of Grand Chapter. I am happy to inform you in advance, that the funds of Grand Chapter have steadily increased, and the amount to your credit, and available for any purpose sanctioned by you, amounts to a considerable sum.

I desire to acknowledge the many kindnesses that I have received at the hands of M. E. Companion T. Douglas Harington, Past Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter, during my term of office. On every occasion that I had applied to him for advice, and it has been often, it has been cheerfully and promptly given.

Companions, in conclusion, I now return the sceptre of office entrusted to my care, at the last Annual Convocation, and if, in my endeavors to promote the best interests of the Royal Craft, I have met with your approbation, I am well repaid indeed.

CHARLES D. MACDONNELL,  
Grand Z.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from R. E. Comps. James Henderson, John Parry, H. W. Wood, J. K. Kerr, R. Hendry, Jr., N. G. Bigelow and

E. Comp. Hy. Macpherson. Communications were received and read from R. E. Comps. C. L. Wiggin and J. Laurie, and M. E. Comp. W. H. McIlharmey, accepting respectively the positions of representatives at the Grand Chapters of California, Scotland, and New Jersey; and also from R. E. Comp. McCoy, of Lafayette Chapter. No. 5, Washington, D. C., acknowledging the receipt of the engrossed copy of the resolution and report adopted at the last annual Convocation respecting that Chapter.

R. E. Comps. W. J. B. McLeod Moore, E. M. Copeland, and Daniel Spry presented their credentials as the representatives, respectively, of the Grand Chapters of Missouri, Texas, and New Jersey.

Reports were received from the Superintendents of all the Districts except the Quebec District, and were referred to the Executive Committee.

The acting Grand Scribe E. submitted a statement showing that the receipts during the past year had amounted to \$1788 88, all of which had been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan presented the following statement of Receipts and Disbursements.

| 1873. |     | RECEIPTS.   |            |
|-------|-----|---|------------|
| Aug.  | 9.  | To Balance on hand.....                           | \$1899 04  |
| "     | 26. | " Grand Scribe E.....                             | 300 00     |
| "     | 30. | " Interest on Deposits to 31st May, 1873.....     | 37 18      |
| Nov.  | 7.  | " " Dom. Stock to 31st Oct., 1873.....            | 50 00      |
| "     | 29. | " " Deposits to 30th Nov. 1873.....               | 32 49      |
| 1874. |     |   |            |
| April | 23. | " Grand Scribe E.....                             | 350 00     |
| May   | 6.  | " Interest on Dom. Stock to 30th April, 1874..... | 50 00      |
| "     | 31. | " " Deposits to 31st May, 1874.....               | 15 46      |
| June  | 29. | " Grand Scribe E.....                             | 300 00     |
| July  | 31. | " " ".....  | 838 88     |
|       |     |   | \$3,873 05 |

| 1873. |     | DISBURSEMENTS.                                   |          |
|-------|-----|--|----------|
| Aug.  | 26. | By H. E. Swales & Co., Banquet and Band....      | \$325 00 |
| "     | 26. | " Grand S. E., Expenses meeting at Kingston..... | 22 00    |
| "     | 26. | " Copp, Clark & Co., Warrants.....               | 75 00    |
| "     | 26. | " Rowsell & Hutchison, Printing.....             | 14 00    |
| "     | 26. | " J. T. Rolph, Certificates.....                 | 150 00   |
| "     | 26. | " W. C. Morrison, Collar and Jewel.....          | 20 00    |
| "     | 26. | " H. Robertson, Foreign Correspondence.....      | 50 00    |
| "     | 26. | " Wm. Bruce, Engrossing Warrants.....            | 18 00    |
| "     | 26. | " Lawson, McCulloch & Co., Printing.....         | 123 00   |
| "     | 26. | " Grand Scribe E., Salary.....                   | 500 00   |
| "     | 26. | " " " Contingent Expenses.....                   | 46 55    |
| "     | 26. | " Grand Z., Travelling Expenses.....             | 24 40    |
| "     | 26. | " " Postage.....                                 | 7 00     |
| Dec.  | 22. | " Wm. Bruce Engrossing, &c.....                  | 27 80    |
| "     | 30. | " Lawson, McCulloch & Co., Printing.....         | 147 75   |
| 1874. |     |  |          |
| Feb.  | 20. | " Lash & Co., Regalia for G. Representative..    | 57 50    |
| "     | 20. | " Rolph, Smith & Co., Certificates, &c.....      | 154 00   |
|       |     |  | 1,752 30 |

Balance on deposit in R. C. B., Hamilton..... \$2,110 75

| ASSETS.             |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Cash on hand.....   | \$2,110 75 |
| Dominion Stock..... | 2,000 00   |
| Total.....          | \$4,110 75 |

#### WARRANTS.

Warrants were granted to the following Chapters: King Hiram, Port Colborne, Ontario; Pembroke, Pembroke, Ontario; Sussex, Brockville, Ontario; Doric, Newmarket, Ontario; Granite, Perth, Ontario; York, Eglinton, Ontario; Havelock, Lucknow, Ontario.

With reference to the petition for a new Chapter at Guelph, the committee were of opinion that it was undesirable at present to grant a warrant, not one of the petitioners having appeared before the committee to sustain the application.

## CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

The Executive Committee reported that they were gratified to find that no complaint had been preferred during the past year, and that the state of capítular Masonry within the jurisdiction was, generally speaking, in a very healthy and prosperous condition.

## AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The Executive Committee reported that they had examined the Books and Vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, the late Grand Scribe E., and the acting Grand Scribe L., to 1st August, 1874, and found the same to be correct.

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| The receipts during the past year were.....    | 21974 01 |
| The payments during the same period were ..... | 1762 30  |
|  | <hr/>    |
| Excess of receipts over payments.....          | 2117 71  |
| Balance from last year .....                   | 1899 04  |
|  | <hr/>    |
| Cash now on hand 1st August, 1874.....         | 2110 75  |
| To which add Dominion 5 per cent. Stock.....   | 2000 00  |
|  | <hr/>    |
|  | 24110 75 |

The Committee recommended payment of accounts amounting in the aggregate to \$660 76, and recommended also that a further sum of \$1000 be invested in Dominion Stock.

R. E. Comp. Hy. Robertson submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence, which was ordered to be printed as an appendix to the proceedings.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, St. Catharines, Grand Z.; R. E. Comp. W. H. Weller, Cobourg, Grand H.; R. E. Comp. R. Kincaid, Peterboro', Grand J.; R. E. Comp. R. P. Stephens, Toronto, Grand Scribe E.; R. Comp. J. B. Nixon, Toronto, Grand Scribe N.; R. E. Comp. R. Brierley, Hamilton, Grand Prin. Soj.; R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer; R. E. Comp. John Satchell, Prescott, Grand Registrar; by an open vote of Grand Chapter, Comp. R. Ratcliff, St. Catharines, Grand Janitor.

## GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. James O'Connor, London, London District; R. E. Comp. John Wilson M. D., Simcoe, Wilson District; R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, Goderich, Huron District; R. E. Comp. Henry Carlisle, St. Catharines, Hamilton District; R. E. Comp. W. H. Porter, Bradford, Toronto District; R. E. Comp. Peter Begg, Brighton, Ontario District; R. E. Comp. David Denoon, Picton, Prince Edward District; R. E. Comp. James Stephenson, Iroquois, Central District; R. E. Comp. E. M. Copeland, Montreal, Montreal District; R. E. Comp. W. G. Paramelee, Waterloo, Eastern Tp. District;

## GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Executive Committee submitted a report recommending that the petition of Corinthian Lodge, No. 36 Peterboro', praying for the expulsion of Comp. Maurice Dunsford, for gross unmasonic conduct, be granted.

The report on motion was adopted.

The Executive Committee submitted the following reply to the Address:

## REPORT ON ADDRESS OF GRAND Z.

The Executive Committee beg to report that they have had under consideration the address of the M. Ex. the Grand Z., and they feel assured that Grand Chapter will heartily approve of his action in postponing the R. C. until the present, owing to the very serious illness, which resulted in the death of our late Grand S. E. With reference to that lamented officer, they cordially concur with the G. Z. in his estimate of the great loss which Grand Chapter has sustained in losing the services of one who devoted so many years to the advancement of Masonry in all its branches, as our R. E. Comp. Harris, whose death leaves a vacancy that will not be easily filled, not only in the office which he held, but also in the affections of the many Companions to whom he was warmly attached.

They also unite with him in giving expression to the feelings of Grand Chapter in the great loss we have sustained by the death of those able Companions who have, during the past year been summoned to the presence of the G. A. O. T. U.

They concur with him in rejoicing that no subject of difference has occurred among the members of this Grand Chapter; and view with pleasure the increasing attention given to Capítular Masonry by the large number of applications made for warrants for new Charters.

Your committee regret to learn that difficulties of a personal nature have arisen

between our representative, near the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and the M. E. the H. P. of that jurisdiction, and as the M. E. the G. H. P. has requested the withdrawal of the appointment of R. E. Comp. J. E. Mason, your committee beg to recommend that although we have no cause of dissatisfaction with Comp. Mason, the Grand Z. be requested, if it shall become necessary, to withdraw his credentials, as we cannot desire to have a representative at any Grand Chapter who is not agreeable to those with whom they come in contact, and whose presence might impair those kindly feelings which should at all times exist between sister Grand bodies.

Your committee desire to express the high sense they entertain of the valuable services rendered to Grand Chapter by R. E. Comp. Murton, since the lamented decease of the late Grand S. E. and they recommend that some suitable recognition be made to him by Grand Chapter. All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES SEYMOUR,

Chairman.

Committee Room, Ottawa, Oct. 14th, 1874.

#### ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

M. E. Comp C. D. Macdonnell, Peterboro'; R. E. Comp. D. Spry, Toronto; R. E. Comp. J. W. Murton, Hamilton; E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound; E. Comp. James Moffat, London.

#### MISCELEANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

1. That E. Comp. J. J. Mason be instructed to write up the books of Grand Chapter to date, and that he be remunerated for his services.

2. That the Grand Z be authorized to defray sundry expenses and charges.

3. That the thanks of Grand Chapter be tendered to various Railway and Steamboat Companies for reduction in fares to delegates.

3. That the thanks of Grand Chapter be tendered to E. Comp. Somerville and the members of Carleton Chapter No. 16 for the excellent arrangements for the holding of this Annual Convocation, and for the generous hospitalities extended to the representatives and visitors.

5. That the M. E. the Grand Z. be requested to name a committee to prepare forms and instructions for keeping the minutes of subordinate chapters.

5. That the sum of \$100 be paid Bro. J. P. Muir, the assistant of the late Grand Scribe E.

6. That the sum of \$200 annually, be paid in quarterly payments, during her lifetime, to the widow of the late Grand Scribe E.

8. That permission be given to the Chapters in Quebec to meet for the purpose of considering what action, if any, they may deem it desirable to take towards securing the formation of a Grand Chapter for that Province, and that the M. E. the Grand Z. be authorized to act in the matter, as he may consider for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

The following notices of motion for next Annual Convocation were given, viz :

By R. E. Comp. Fred J. Menet,

That Article III of the Constitution of Grand Chapter, be amended by striking out all after the words "shall be" and inserting in lieu thereof, the words "elected by ballot."

By R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms,

That a new District be formed out of the Huron District to be called the Wellington District, to be composed of the counties of Wellington and Waterloo and Saugeen Chapter No. 50, in the County of Bruce.

By R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson,

That with a view to increasing the efficiency of the Executive Committee, in adding to its membership the most matured experience, that henceforth all Past Grand Z's be ex-officio members of such committee.

By R. E. Comp. W. H. Weiler,

That the last part of Article X of the Constitution of Grand Chapter, under the head of "Regalia" be amended by striking out the words after "Royal Arch."

The M. E. Grand Z. directed that each Companion elected and appointed to office, not having presented himself for installation or investiture, is to be installed or invested in the Chapter of which he is a member.

It was decided to hold the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter at the town of St. Catharines.

The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in ample form at 10 o'clock p. m.

THE dome of the Masonic Temple in New York city is 164 feet above the level of the street. The battlement is 23 feet square.

## PAST AND PRESENT MASONRY.

WRITTEN FOR THE CRAFTSMAN.

By Brother Leon Hyneman.

THE Masonic fraternity in the United States have departed widely from the teachings of their Mother Grand Lodge of England, from whom they received their Masonry. The independence of the Grand Lodges from the Mother Grand Lodge, in the past centuries, had hardly been established, when departures from the universality of Masonry were introduced and sectarian illustrations of Masonic symbols engrained in the ritual work. A few years later, Thomas Smith Webb published his *Monitors*, commencing 1797, then 1802, 1805, 1808, 1812, 1816, 1818, and 1821, interpolating and adding to the sectarian teachings already introduced, and in every succeeding edition down to the last, adding to each some dogma or religious interpretation of his own fabrication. Towards the close of Webb's life, who died 1819, Henry Parmele, of Philadelphia, and Jeremy L. Cross came. The former published, in 1819, a small book of the first seven degrees, entitled "Key to the first Chart of the *Masonic Mirror*." Parmele interpolated some of Webb's innovations; but Cross, who commenced in 1821, and continued through many editions, continually adding to Webb's interpretations and sectarian innovations. He illustrated the Masonic symbols and emblems and increased the number greatly, giving to each denominational sectarian explanation. These two, Webb and Cross, with the aid of sectarian bigots, who used every opportunity to introduce their *Monitors* and *Charts* throughout the States, effected a complete revolution in cosmopolitan Masonry. Notwithstanding the great change in the symbolic and ritual teachings of the lodges, in contravention of the basic principles of Masonry, the original fundamental declaration is retained, and every candidate is solemnly told that Masonry teaches nothing that conflicts with his religious opinions. The Grand Lodges instituted within the present century have in the main the corruptions we have adverted to in the ritual work, as well as the deceptive declaration to the candidate, as just remarked. The same statement is true with regard to the Grand Lodges of the past century, who had their Masonry from England. The influence of the two authors, Webb and Cross, in corrupting the ritual work, has been maintained to the present time by prominent authors and journalists, who, pandering to the religious (so-called) sentiment of the Craft, as well as the outside world, to gain popularity and applause, and to be looked up to as men of superior learning and to be taken as high authority on all Masonic questions. Thus the corruptions of the past have been perpetuated by these later writers and improved upon in more fully elaborating the corrupting dogmas of the former. It needs no seer to inform us of the objects and motives of these sectarian corruptionists in their unholy efforts to destroy the only institution in the world in which all men can meet on a common platform, and on which all do agree.

The ritual work of Masonic Lodges in England, as we understand, is entirely free from sectarian interpolations, and is the same to-day that it was at the union in 1813, that is, truly cosmopolitan, universal, unobjectional to men of every creed, of every system of religion. We are not aware that any changes have been made in the ritual work of Provincial Governments established under authority of the Grand Lodge of England, except in the United States, and if this be so, it is a sad commentary upon our republican government, a painful reflection upon the Masonic institution in this land of liberty, where free speech and freedom of conscience are by the Constitution guaranteed, and yet religious intolerance is exhibited even by the Masonic fraternity. In a recent published *Shirman Rezon*, the Book of Constitution of a Grand Lodge printed by its authority, lying before us, we copy the following: "The world's great Architect is our *Supreme Master*; and the unerring rule he has given us is that by which we work; religious disputes are never suffered within the lodge; for as Masons, we only pursue the *universal religion, or the religion of nature*." These and many similar sentiments of the universal feature and character of Masonry are very frequently mentioned in each and every Masonic book published, whether by authority or private enterprise; and yet there is not a single book of all of them, notwithstanding, published as asserted, for the use and instruction of Masons, that is not, whether monitorial, lodge ritual, jurisprudence, history, cyclopaedia, lexicon, &c., more or less sectarian. These books, as we published long years ago, have been the means to corrupt Masonry and change it from its universal character, as many of the authors travelled from place to place, visited the lodges, and in lecturing therein, infused the poison of narrow creedal sectarianism in the ritual. Our strictures apply strictly to the fraternity in the United States. There is not a single book to be found in all the Grand Lodge Libraries neither in any private collection, Masonic, of course we refer to, that is not deeply tinged with sectarian illusions, with false and forced constructions of the symbols.

and mythic traditions. Many of the Grand Lodges have not only adopted some of these corrupt publications as the standard ritual within their jurisdiction, and those who refused to adopt them, have, without any exception, suffered their subordinates to interpolate the corrupt matter in the lodge work, so that no jurisdiction in the United States is entirely free from the polluting influences of said charlatan writers. The periodical literature of Masonry, although greatly tinctured with sectarian myths, they are not of authority, and may or may not be accepted by the readers, therefore do much less harm in misleading the Craft, and, besides, a few of them who are not bigoted in Christianising Masonry, open their columns to criticisms, controverting and refuting the fallacies of religious dogmas, and to prove the inconsistency of introducing them into the Masonic ritual during the ceremonies of conferring degrees on candidates. This enlightened policy has been very beneficial and productive of much good in spreading correct information. Those Masonic journals whose columns are not open to discuss questions of propriety and consistency, in regard to errors incorporated in the Masonic ritual, show a narrow, bigoted mind, and are untrue to their vocation. But Grand Lodges who have adopted the corrupted rituals are most to be censured, for introducing sectarian falsities in contravention of the universality of Masonry, and compelling their subordinates to instruct their candidates with false information, as to a fundamental principle of Masonry.

“ Truth will ever come uppermost,  
And Justice will ever be done.”

The inspiration of the poet will not only be accepted in all future times, but will be realised as years pass on, as it has throughout the past as a divine truth. And Masonry will not go *Scot free* much longer for the errors its disciples have adopted. We hear the mutterings in the air, the voices significant in the storm winds, as winter approaches, who can arrest events as they follow each other. Error has had its day, a long, long day on the subject we are writing, and the poet's inspiring lines will most surely be realised in some effective way. But leaving the home of our birth and the home of our Masonic induction, we turn to Masonry in Canada, having its origin from the Mother of all Grand Lodges existing in the past century, and, indeed, the Mother of all Masons in civilized lands. During many years it was under Provincial Government, and in 1855 the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed. We have had a large acquaintance with the Masons of Canada, and always found them intelligent, cultured men, and gentlemen in the highest sense the term expresses; and in our dealings true to their Masonic obligations. How far Masonry has adhered to its original teachings we have no definite knowledge, but always believed it did not vary from that they originally received. The contiguity and ready intercourse between large portions of each country, no doubt gave frequent occasion to craftsmen on both sides to visit lodges and interchange views in regard to the work, and may have been the means of infusing some of the sectarian corruptions on this side into the minds of the Canada Masons, and possibly into the ritual in conferring degrees. We would not be surprised if such was the case. We, however, earnestly and sincerely hope no innovations have been made, that the principles of Masonry have been preserved in their original purity throughout the whole of Canada, and that within the bounds of the Dominion a place may be found where men of every religion, clime or nationality can meet upon the universal basis on which all agree.

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## MASONIC CHIT-CHAT.

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THREE sons of Queen Victoria are Freemasons. The Duke of Edinburgh is not.

THE following deceased Bishops were Freemasons: Scabury, White, Griswold, Hobart, Chase, Brownell, Wainwright, and Randall, all of the United States.

THE Prince of Wales, the present Grand Master of England, was made a Mason in December, 1868, by the King of Sweden, while on a visit to Stockholm.

THE three tenets of a Freemason's profession are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Truth has been denominated the column of Wisdom, Brotherly Love the column of Strength, and Relief the column of Beauty.

THE present Grand Master of Scotland, Sir Michael R. S. Stewart, Baronet, is the 17th in direct male descent from Sir John Stewart, son of Robert III., King of Scotland.

THE Philadelphia Masonic Temple is very much larger than Solomon's Temple was. The latter was 75 feet front by 150 feet deep, while the former is 150 feet front by 250 feet deep.

SIR JAMES SIMPSON, Bart., M. D., the discoverer of Chloroform, was a member of our Ancient Craft, as was also Sir William Hamilton, Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh.

LET it be understood that a Mason is but another name for an upright, honest, virtuous individual. No increase of members can be a blessing to our institution, unless the rule is adhered to. Our emblems, ceremonies, and instructions, all say as much; why then should we be false to ourselves?

THERE is a soul and spirit in Masonry beyond forms, ceremonies, or ritual; a soul which enjoins the practise out of the Lodge of the virtues enjoined within it; and the Mason endeavors to realize in his own actions the conviction which that understanding of the subject naturally creates.

WE have to thank Brother Wheeler, of the Memphis *Journal* for the following complimentary notice of the publisher of this Magazine: "Brother J. J. Mason, of Hamilton, Ontario, has been appointed Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in place of Brother Thomas Bird Harris, deceased. The appointment is an excellent one. We trust, however, it will not cause Brother Mason to withdraw from the publication of the CRAFTSMAN, but be the means of giving that periodical additional interest and support."

ON the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the New Grammar School at Reading, with Masonic honors, by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in 1870, a single grain of wheat which fell from his hands was picked up by Bro. Thomas Deller, P. M., of Newbury, who was the bearer of the cornucopia. This he planted. In 1871 the result was 157 grains, which was increased again in 1872 to about one and a half pmts. This sown in 1873, yielded seven and a half gallons. In October of that year, Bro. Deller wrote, placing this at the disposal of the Prince and in reply received a letter from Sir William Knollys, conveying his Royal Highness' gracious acceptance, and a request that it be forwarded to Marlborough House. In November he received a further communication to the effect that it had been taken down to Sandringham and sown in a favorable spot, and that His Royal Highness' agent at Sandringham should, at the proper time, inform him (Bro. Deller) of the result. Several communications passed as to the progress the wheat was making, and before its being cut, an invitation, of which he availed himself, was received to go over and see the crop. It was about an acre of really very fine corn, the probable yield being some five quarters, the intention being to sow this next year, in which case, we shall see about forty acres of corn from a single grain in five years. It is highly gratifying to see the interest taken in the matter by his Royal Highness, which alone is sufficient reward to Bro. Deller for his trouble and care in the matter, at the same time his thoughtfulness has supplied what has hitherto been wanting, viz:— a pedigree wheat for use for all Masonic purposes. Any brother wishing to keep up the "breed." may have a few grains on application.—*London Freemason.*

## MASONIC RECORD.

### ABROAD.

IT seems that the Grand Lodge of Washington Territory chartered a subordinate lodge in Alaska, which became "troublesome," and lately had its warrant revoked.

THE Gr. Orient of Hungary lately asked the Gr. Lodge of Utah to recognize it, but the brethren in Gr. Lodge voted it "not expedient."

THE six Masonic bodies at Helena, Montana Territory, have a new Masonic Temple, which the Gr. Lodge of Montana recently dedicated.

BRO. R. WOOF, F. S. A., of Malvern, Worcester-shire, has received the French decoration of the Bronze Cross, for honorary services in the cause of the sick and wounded during the Franco-Prussian War:

GERMANY possesses, at present, 325 Masonic Lodges, with, altogether, about 30,000 members, under eight Grand Lodges of different rites, of which three are at Berlin, and the others are those of Saxony, Hamburg, (the oldest in Germany), Frankfort-on-the-Main, Baireuth, and Hessen.

THE Earl of Shrewsbury presided yesterday at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Staffordshire, held at Alton Towers, Mr. Staveley Hill, M. P., being among those present at the banquet. Lord Shrewsbury proposed the health of the Prince of Wales, and deeply regretted the retirement of the Marquis of Ripon, and believed, that had he more closely studied the teachings of the English church and the craft, he would still have been a protestant and a Freemason. Nevertheless, it was great con-



solution to know that his place would be occupied by the Prince of Wales, whose health was drank enthusiastically. —*Liverpool Post, Sept. 27.*

### AT HOME.

BRO. T. D. HARRINGTON, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Master Freemasons of Canada, received the warrant from the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree, authorizing him to establish that degree in Canada. It is signed by the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, by the Earl of Carnarvon, and a host of other dignitaries of the Order in Great Britain.

THE Masonic brethren at Port Stanley have resolved to proceed immediately with the erection of a brick building in place of the one lately destroyed by fire. The plans have been prepared and the contract given out for the erection this fall of a Masonic building that will be a credit to the society and an ornament to the village. It will occupy the same site as the former one.

### EDWIN TO ATHLESTAN.

By Rev. Robert Ryall.

The days were dark in Albion's Isle,  
And dimmed religious rays,  
Nor could mortality's fair smile  
Illume those gloomy days.

The prince had scarce an honor,  
The noble knew no care,  
The peasant roamed the manor  
In serfdom evermore.

Wild storms had swept the nation—  
And wilder storms were near,  
Corruption's desolations,  
The vengeance and the fear.

'Twas well that in such ages  
Some conscience yet remained,  
That prompted knights and pages  
To keep the light that waned.

What will be in the coming  
Thought: reason, if as now,

Our very nature numbing,  
We must in darkness bow.

Then Edwin said to Athelstan,  
His brother and the king,  
Give strength to that eternal plan  
Which still to truth doth cling.

That band you know of good and true  
With Royal favor hail,  
And then at last a faithful few  
Shall save what may not fail.

Then shall a temple rise, whose light  
Shall claim our longing eyes,  
Whose path tho' chequered to our sight  
Shall yet reflect the skies.

The rocks shall speak, the forest ring,  
And shrines shall be to God.  
And Treason droop her crippled wing  
For virtue is abroad.

LAST year the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada laid the corner-stone of a Methodist, a Presbyterian, and an Episcopal Church, and a Protestant Hospital—all of course by invitation.

The Knight's of Detroit, Toledo, and Oriental (Cleveland) Commanderies, Ohio, with their ladies, on August 25th ult., proceeded up Lake Erie on the steamer *Gazelle*, to Put-in-Bay, where they spent three days in camp, and at the hotels at that fine summer resort, in the enjoyment of the most delightful social and Masonic reunion. Rt. Em. Sir L. I. Garfield, Past Grand Commander of Michigan, was placed in supreme command, and several reviews and dress parades were performed in the most creditable manner. About 150 Knights participated, under Eminent Commanders Sirs J. D. Fisk, L. F. Lyttle, and B. D. Babcock.

### AT REST.

WE learn with regret, of the death of Bro. W. M. Perkins, Past Grand Master of Masons of Louisiana. The sad event occurred at Chicago, Ill., on Sept. 14th, ult. Our Brother was much beloved in Masonic circles, and was a prominent merchant of New Orleans.

M. W. BRO. AUGUSTUS FREDERICK FITZGERALD, Duke of Leinster, is dead, at the ripe age of eighty-three years. The noble brother was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, Supreme Grand Master of the Grand Conclave of High Knight's Templar, President of the Grand Chapter of Prince Masons, and Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Ireland, 33rd degree.