

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur

Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur

Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée

Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées

Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée

Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées

Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque

Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées

Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur

Pages detached/
Pages détachées

Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)

Showthrough/
Transparence

Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur

Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression

Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents

Continuous pagination/
Pagination continue

Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la marge intérieure

Includes index(es)/
Comprend un (des) index

Title on header taken from:/
Le titre de l'en-tête provient:

Blank leaves added during restoration may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.

Title page of issue/
Page de titre de la livraison

Caption of issue/
Titre de départ de la livraison

Masthead/
Générique (périodiques) de la livraison

Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires:

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 10X | 12X | 14X | 16X | 18X | 20X | 22X | 24X | 26X | 28X | 30X | 32X |
| | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | |

J. Conner
B. Hill
Montreal



“Memor et Fidelis.”

VOL. I.]

MONTREAL, JUNE 2, 1856.

[No. 1.

Introductory Address.

Not without much trouble, some expense, and considerable anxiety of mind we this day issue our first number of “THE CANADIAN MASONIC PIONEER,” the only paper, we believe, ever yet published in this Province whose pages are to be exclusively devoted to Free-masonry.

The want of a fitting organ of the Canadian Freemasons has been for some time past, but more particularly of late, severely felt. Matters of great moment to the fraternity at large have very recently been transpiring in our midst, without the opportunity or possibility of individual members of the craft investigating the merits or demerits of these matters, so amply as their importance demands; and thus it happens that all, or nearly all, the masonic knowledge and law applicable to such subjects have been confined to the few, whilst amongst the many a lamentable ignorance has prevailed. To supply this want, to extend Masonic information, and generally to advance the interest and welfare of Masonry, are the prime objects of the projectors of “*The Canadian Masonic Pioneer*.” We neither expect nor desire to make a remunerative speculation by the issue of our paper: if we benefit the cause of Masonry generally, and at the same time barely cover our actual expenses, we shall be content, satisfied with the knowledge that the honor, glory, and reputation of the institution owe something to our labors, and that our efforts to be of some use have not been altogether unsuccessful.

The *Pioneer* will be conducted on strictly Masonic principles. We shall be slow to take offence, and specially careful to offer none. The old and established landmarks of the fraternity, being dear to us, we shall steadily ad-

here to; the constitution of the order we shall faithfully uphold and maintain—we shall fearlessly and honestly assert our own particular opinions, treating those, however, of others, with deference and respect. Above all, we shall be careful to maintain and support, in their fullest splendor, those truly masonic tenets of our profession, viz., *brotherly love, relief, and truth*. We shall be found zealous supporters of the Grand Lodge of Canada, believing it to be a regularly constituted and established Masonic body, and one calculated to confer immense benefits on the craft throughout the Province. We wish particularly to draw the attention of our readers to a series of articles on the subject of the Grand Lodge of Canada, its formation, and probable utility, which will appear at regular intervals in our paper. If the arguments we may advance on this question should seem unsound, illogical, or not conclusive, we freely offer our columns to any party desirous of controverting them, promising a fair and patient hearing; and we are the more encouraged to do so because we feel that the principles involved in the ultimate success of the Grand Lodge of Canada are of vast importance, and will doubtless hereafter be adduced as precedents whereby similar movements in the fraternity will be governed; we therefore conceive, that so long as a single doubt remains unexplained, we shall be but fulfilling an evident duty in offering every facility to have that doubt carefully and guardedly examined and scrutinized, so that a just and proper conclusion may be finally established in the premises.

With this brief address to the readers of our first number, we appeal to them *without scruple or diffidence*, for co-operation and support, and doubt not but that our appeal will be libe-

rally and cheerfully responded to, promising on our part to relax nothing in our efforts to make “*The Canadian Masonic Pioneer*” a welcome and wished for visitor. *Par sit fortuna labori*.

Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The next regular communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada will take place at Hamilton, on the 9th of July next. Business of the utmost importance to the craft will be transacted at that meeting. It is, therefore, very desirable that the Lodges, generally, should be represented. The Grand Officers will be elected—the Constitution and Regulations revised, the affiliated Lodges numbered and many questions of paramount interest settled. We would respectfully suggest to those Lodges which give the Grand Lodge of Canada their decided and cordial approval, but are not yet affiliated with it, the propriety of at once coming forward, receiving their warrants, and taking part in the proceedings, which must prove of vast and vital importance to the interests of Masonry in Canada.

The members of Zetland and St. George's Lodge of this city, are particularly fortunate in securing the services of Brother R. J. Fowler, as their organist, he being, doubtless, one of the most accomplished musicians in the province. We strongly recommend the introduction of music into the Lodges, because, as Mackey hath it, as “the concord of sweet sounds” elevates the generous sentiments of the soul, so should the concord of good feeling reign among the brethren, that by the union of friendship and brotherly love, the bisterous passions may be lulled, and harmony exist throughout the craft.

Canada to England.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF CANADA, TO THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Officers, and Brethren of the United Grand Lodge, of Free and Accepted Masons of England.

We, the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Officers and Brethren, of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, with sincere respect and Fraternal regard, send Greeting.

The Free Masons of Canada to the number of 41 Lodges, having united in the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada (as you have doubtless already been informed,) we feel it our first duty to lay before you, as the parent to whom the majority of our members owe their Masonic existence, a full explanation of the circumstances which dictated, and the course we pursued in taking a step which, while it determines the rule of the Grand Lodge of England over us, as Lodges, we confidently believe will not sever, and we earnestly trust will not weaken, the Holy Bond of Brotherhood so long existing between us as Masons.

In offering these explanations, we feel assured by the purity of the motives by which we were actuated, and the justice of our cause, that we shall not ask from you in vain that generous and truly Masonic consideration which has ever distinguished the Grand Lodge of England.

The absence in this Province of that progress in our Masonic Art which has invariably attended the existence of duly constituted Lodges in every other country, had long been a source of unfeigned sorrow to all zealous Canadian Freemasons, who observed with deep regret that the advancement of the Order was by no means commensurate with the rapid improvement which marked every other branch of the social and political economy of this noble Province.

The principal influences which retarded the progress of Masonry in Canada cannot be better described than by the following extracts from a circular on the subject, issued by the Lodge of Strict Observance, No. 833, R. E., of the city of Hamilton, in the month of September last.

Adverting to the alleged grievances suffered by the Craft it is there stated:

"The first and most important is, the diversity of interest and the want of harmony in action and in working, resulting from the growth in the Province of Lodges hailing from the Grand Lodges of different countries, thus perpetuating local and national feelings and prejudices, and conflicting interests, and consequent estrangement of affection amongst the brethren of an order that knows no country and is confined to no race.

"The second is, the manifest injustice of Lodges in this Province being required, out of their limited means, to contribute to the accumulated funds of the Grand Lodge of England, in addition to having to support a Provincial Grand Lodge—and especially as the great proportion of claims for Masonic assistance that are daily and hourly occurring in this Province, are made by brethren emigrating from the Mother Country, whilst instances of Masons leaving this for England in a position to require such relief are rare, if they ever occur at all. The Grand Lodge of England thus doubly tax the Fraternity here by transferring to these shores numberless claimants for Masonic benevolence, at the same time that they are receiving from us a portion of our means of affording that assistance.

"The third is, the inconvenience arising from the lengthened periods that must elapse, in consequence of the distance between us and the Grand Lodge of England, before we can receive replies to our communications, sanction to our proceedings, warrants, certificates of membership, etc., even in cases of emergency; and instances have often occurred of brethren being deprived of the privileges of the Craft, by leaving for foreign countries before the arrival of their certificates—for which, it must be borne in mind they had paid

previously to their initiation. This disadvantage is unavoidable even were the correspondence and remittances of our Lodges promptly acknowledged and complied with, but which unhappily is far from being the case; important communications having frequently remained without reply for months, and in some cases for years, greatly to the inconvenience of the Fraternity here, and notwithstanding that complaints of such neglect have been repeatedly represented to the Grand Lodge of England through the regular channel of communication, and also by resolution of the Provincial Grand Lodge through the Grand Registrar of England, they have as yet received no attention nor redress—a neglect highly discourteous towards the Masons of Canada, and seriously injurious to the general interests of the Craft.

"The last, but in our estimation by no means the least of the alleged grievances, is the appointment of our Provincial Grand Master by the Grand Master of England, which virtually leaves the appointment in the hands of the Masons of England—who, at a distance of near 4000 miles, may reasonably be expected to be practically ignorant of the social position and requirements of the Craft in Canada—and inasmuch as the Provincial Grand Officers are nominated by the Provincial Grand Master, the efficiency or inefficiency of the administration of our affairs depends entirely upon the eligible or ineligible selection of a Provincial Grand Master made for us by the Grand Master of England—and this selection is made without reference to the opinions of the Fraternity in Canada, as to the Masonic attainments, zeal or interest in the Craft, and general qualifications of the nominee, although they would naturally be the best informed on the subject, and most deeply interested in the result.

"The Provincial Grand Lodge, thus constituted is placed in the equivocal position of being irresponsible to, and independent of the Craft in Canada, whilst experience has shown that body to be unable to secure from the Grand Lodge of England the attention and respect due to their position as a Provincial Grand Lodge."

The sentiments contained in the foregoing extracts were participated in by the whole of the Masonic Fraternity, with scarcely an individual exception, nor were such feelings and convictions of recent formation, the necessity of establishing a Canadian Grand Lodge, having for many years occupied the serious consideration of the brethren, but hailing as they did from different Grand Lodges, and distributed as they were over a Province extending in length 1,600 miles, and breadth averaging over 220 miles, being three times as large as Great Britain and Ireland—the means of communication, too, being very imperfect—they had but few opportunities of meeting together, and much time, therefore, elapsed before any action was taken in the matter.

The first important step occurred at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Upper Canada, held in October, A. L., 5852, when after expressing the highest respect and esteem for their parent Grand Lodge of England, a resolution was unanimously passed, to the effect that it is absolutely necessary for the welfare of Masonry in the Province, that an independent Grand Lodge should be established, having full power to control the working and operations of the Craft in this quarter of the globe, and that all funds accruing from the same should be retained by the said Grand Lodge, to meet the urgent necessities of the Craft in the Province.

In May, A. L., 5853, the same Grand Body, (the Provincial Grand Lodge,) adopted and forwarded a petition to the Grand Lodge of England, which after briefly narrating the Masonic history of Western Canada, from the year 5792, and stating—that the advancement of Masonry had been of a less cheering nature than the progress of Canada in population, intelligence and wealth, had warranted them in anticipating, and that their funds were drained by the constant demands, from indigent brethren, emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland, until they were unable to carry out the great charitable objects of the institutions,—prayed that they might be allowed to retain all

fees arising from the working of the Craft, and also that the various Lodges under their jurisdiction might be permitted to elect their own Provincial Grand Master—at the same time expressing the belief that if the prayer of their petition were granted, and the Grand Lodge of England would exert its influence to induce the other Grand Lodges of Great Britain not to issue any more warrants to Lodges in Canada, that ere long the whole Craft in the Province would be united in one harmonious body.

These petitions and resolutions having elicited no reply from the Grand Lodge of England, resolutions were passed at subsequent meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge, directing that applications be made to the Grand Lodge of England, first through the Grand Secretary—the regular channel of communication—and afterwards through the Grand Registrar, respectfully calling attention to the petitions, and begging that they might be favored with consideration and some reply. These applications appear to have been alike unavailing in procuring from the Grand Lodge of England any consideration of the claims of the Masons of Canada, for at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge on the 19th of July last, it was officially announced that no reply had been received from the Grand Lodge of England to any of these communications.

Finding that the interest of the Craft in the Province were suffering with increased severity from the causes of which they had complained, feeling deeply the uncourteous neglect the petitions and correspondence of the Provincial Grand Lodge had experienced from the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England—and believing the Provincial Grand Lodge to be incapable of obtaining from the Grand Lodge of England those concessions which the position of the Craft render indispensable—a very large majority of the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge were desirous of calling a meeting of all the Canadian Lodges, for the purpose of deciding on and adopting the correct constitutional course for securing that relief which the circumstances of their case demanded.

Several resolutions having that object in view were proposed, but the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master (presiding) ruled them out of order, and refused to submit them to the meeting, adjourning the Provincial Grand Lodge until the next day.

In consequence of the refusal of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to take the opinion of the Lodge on any of the resolutions proposed, a numerous meeting of members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, including several Provincial Grand Officers, was held after the adjournment, of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and after considering the unsatisfactory position and prospects of the craft, and despairing of ever obtaining redress of their grievances through the intervention of the Provincial Grand Lodge, a resolution was unanimously passed calling a meeting of Delegates from all Canadian Lodges to be held in the city of Hamilton, on the 10th of October, to consider the expediency of establishing a Grand Lodge of Canada.

In conformity with that resolution, and in pursuance of a summons issued to all the Lodges in Canada, the representatives of forty-one Lodges, hailing from the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, assembled at the Masonic Hall in the City of Hamilton on the 10th of October, A. L., 5855.

Very Worshipful Brother the Rev. F. J. Lundy, D. C. L. Provincial Grand Chaplain of Upper Canada, and Worshipful Master of the Union Lodge Grimsby, No. 494, R. E., was called upon to officiate as Chaplain during the session of the Convention.

The Convention having been inaugurated by solemn prayer,

Very Worshipful Brother C. Magill, Past Junior Grand Warden of Upper Canada, and Worshipful Master of the Baiton Lodge Hamilton, No. 733, R. E., and Mayor of the City, was called upon to preside; and,

Very Worshipful Brother, T. B. Harris, Past Master of St. John's Lodge, Hamilton, No. 231, R. E., was requested to act as Secretary.

On the recommendation of a committee ap-

pointed for the purpose, the rules and regulations for conducting public business, contained in the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England, were *mutatis mutandis*, unanimously adopted for the government of the Convention.

The objects for which the Convention was called were introduced with explanatory observations by the Chairman, who invited the brethren present to express their views on the subject before the meeting freely and at length.

The convention was addressed by many of the brethren, and the several points of alleged grievance were very fully considered and discussed.

In the course of the debate it was urged, that, however willing the Grand Lodge of England might be to concede all the points embraced in the petitions of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the serious inconvenience arising from the distance (near 1,000 miles) between Great Britain and this Province, could not thus be avoided, whilst the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, in addition to remedying that inconvenience, would unite as one family the Fraternity of the Province, identify the interests, and assimilate the working of the various Lodges at present belonging to three distinct jurisdictions, and establish harmony throughout the Craft.

It was further urged that having a Grand Lodge in the Province would afford the Lodges a convenience of communication which would greatly facilitate the business of the Craft—that the amount of dues that would be saved by having but one Grand Lodge to support would materially increase their benevolent resources—that a Grand Lodge, with officers annually elective by the Masons of Canada, would secure due attention to the interests of the Fraternity, and elevate Freemasonry in Canada to a position of prosperity, influence, and utility, under any other circumstances far beyond its capabilities.

It was also urged that amongst the numerous and intelligent body of Masons in the Province, the requisite talent and devotion to the welfare of the Craft may at all times be found to conduct an efficient administration of the affairs of Freemasonry in Canada, and that the necessities of the Fraternity required that they should assume a position of self-government.

The feeling of the Convention being manifestly so strongly in favor of the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge, a Committee, composed of those brethren whose Masonic knowledge and general ability had distinguished them as the best qualified for the faithful and efficient performance of so important a duty, was appointed to investigate all available Masonic authorities for precedents applicable to the peculiar circumstances of the case. The result of their researches was a recommendation for the immediate formation of a Grand Lodge of Canada. This recommendation, with the full and explanatory report of the Committee, having received from the Brethren that calm and grave consideration which the serious importance of the subject demanded, it was felt that, however painful it might be to them thus to sever the link which had so long bound them to their parent Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland, and sincerely as they felt, and readily acknowledged, the duty they owed to those parent Grand Lodges, they felt that they owed a still higher duty to Freemasonry, whose interests were at stake, and whose prosperous existence in the Province imperatively required that immediate separation.

It was thereon solemnly resolved—

That in order to apply a remedy to these evils—to form perfect fraternal union, and harmony, establish order, ensure tranquility, provide for, and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity of Canada all the blessings of Masonic privilege, it is expedient, right, and our bounden duty to form a Grand Lodge of Canada.

It was then on motion unanimously resolved.

That the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, be and is hereby formed upon the Ancient Charges and Constitution of Masonry.

A Committee was then appointed to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge of Canada; and a temporary code

having been submitted and approved, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Master and Grand Officers. V. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Past Grand Senior Warden of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, and W. M. of Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe, C. W., No. 500, R. E., was elected Grand Master, and V. W. Bro. A. Bernard, Past Grand Junior Deacon of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal, and William Henry, Lower Canada, and W. M. of St. George's Lodge Montreal, C. E., No. 613, R. E., was elected Deputy Grand Master, and Brethren of Masonic ability were elected and appointed Grand Officers.

Committees were then appointed to conduct the general business of the Grand Lodge, and the Convention was adjourned with solemn prayer—its deliberations having occupied three days.

The requisite arrangements having previously been made, on the 2nd of November, the Grand Lodge was duly consecrated, and the Grand Master elect regularly installed, in due and ancient form by the Most Worshipful the Honorable H. T. Backus, P. G. M. of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of Michigan, assisted by other Brethren of eminence and distinction in the Craft.

The Grand Lodge of Canada was thus regularly formed and inaugurated, in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, in conformity with the custom which has prevailed in the establishment of Grand Lodges, and we confidently believe that the circumstances which called it into existence were as much stronger, as the number of Lodges by whom it was formed was greater than had ever before combined for the creation of a new Grand Lodge. From the time when the Four Lodges of London renounced their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of York, and formed themselves into an independent Grand Lodge, up to the present period, the greatest number on record of Lodges ever associated to erect a new Grand Lodge was seventeen, whilst forty-one Lodges, and holding warrants, too, from three different jurisdictions, were harmoniously united in the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

We have now stated as briefly as their importance would admit, the whole of the circumstances connected with the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and we submit them with all due respect to your august Body, to whom we have always looked up as the fountain of Masonic knowledge, and the brightest example of virtue, dignity, and benevolence, and from whom the great majority of us claim, and ever will proudly boast, our descent.

Having been entrusted with the sacred duty of directing the affairs of the Craft, in this Province, and of representing them and advocating their interests throughout the Universe; and having solemnly undertaken that charge, and to disseminate the grand principles of our Ancient and Honorable Order, and promote to the utmost extent of our ability the general prosperity of the Fraternity it is our earnest desire and intention to follow and maintain, pure and unsullied, the ancient landmarks, laws, and traditions of the Craft as we received them from your hands.

Engaged in one common cause—the good of our fellow-men, by promoting the interest of our time-honored Institution,—and it being our first wish and highest ambition to establish and perpetuate a sincere and intimate alliance with the Grand Lodge of England, we extend to you, in the name of our Divine Art, the right hand of brotherhood, and confidently claim from you a reciprocation of our fraternal regard.

Signed on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Wm. MERRER WILSON, G. M.

(L. S.)

THOS. BIRD HARRIS, G. S.

Hamilton, C. W., 10th Nov., A. L. 5355.

Banquet and Presentation.

The members of the Hiram Chapter of Hamilton, Canada West, met on Friday, the 11th of April, for the purpose of presenting Companion Thomas Duggan with a piece of Silver

Plate, as a testimonial of their appreciation of his worth as a man and a Freemason. The occasion was one of much rejoicing with those who participated. An elegant banquet was provided to refresh the physical man, while the feast of reason and the flow of soul contributed to give a zest and a charm to the good things set before them. The Companions were in full Masonic regalia. Comp. C. McGill presided, Comp. Duggan, the guest of the evening, sitting at his right, Comp. J. Harris at his left.

After the proper attention had been bestowed, in *stowing* away, in the most agreeable manner, the "goodies" of all kinds, and listening to sweet strains of music during the whole of the repast, a number of toasts were drunk. The fifth toast was given by the Chairman, having immediate reference to the object of the evening, in the following words: "Health, long life and happiness to Companion Duggan," at the same time he presented to him the testimonial, and made the following remarks:

"Companion Thomas Duggan, the Companions Royal Arch Masons of the Hiram Chapter, Canada West, being deeply impressed with, and highly appreciating the valuable services which, for many years, you have so ably and willingly rendered the Chapter, both in the exalted position of Most Excellent High Priest, and in other offices, and duly recognizing the zeal you have always displayed for the welfare of the Chapter and its members from the date of its charter in 1849, in which your name appears as First Principal, until the present time, have unanimously determined to present you a piece of Plate, as a testimony of their admiration of your Masonic zeal, and a memento of their individual friendship and regard.

"The testimonial now presented to you, was chosen in preference to any emblem of our ancient and beloved Order, with the view that the amiable partner of your life might, in some degree, participate in the pleasure which must be ever engendered by the contemplation of a token from so many friends and Companions. May the Great I Am long preserve you to each other in the enjoyment of domestic comfort, health, happiness, and peace; and may the bonds of friendship and brotherly love now existing between us continue to cement and strengthen, so that as years roll on, many bright links may be added to the already extended chain of friendship."

The testimonial presented to Comp. Duggan, was an elaborately chased silver jug, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Royal Arch Masons of Hiram Chapter, Hamilton, C.W., to Comp. Thomas Duggan, as a token of their appreciation of the valuable services which he has rendered to the Chapter during the many years of his officiating as Most Excellent High Priest, and as a memento of their fraternal regard and esteem." The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm, and was responded to at some length, in a feeling manner, by Companion Duggan.

Among the Companions named, we find some with whom we have been in fraternal correspondence for a long time. The occasion appears to have been one of great rejoicing, and will, no doubt, be long remembered by those who were present. Companion E. M. Harris, one of the testimonial committee, replied to a toast in language which does him credit, and we cannot refrain from transferring to our columns the excellent Masonic sentiment which he gave, viz.—"May the sight of the miserable and afflicted, and the touch of the poor or distressed, ever cause sympathy

Canada 1641

and compassion to be felt in the hearts, and relief and succor to flow from the pockets of Masons as surely and freely as the water flowed from the rock when touched by the rod of Moses."

Companion Grist was there, who charmed the Companions with the melody of his voice; also Companions Clarke, Thomas, Patton, and others; besides, speeches were made by Companions Burness, Baine, Henwood, Osborne, Rastrick, and Lee, which were replete with interesting information, and were listened to with marked attention. The festivities closed in peace and harmony, and the evening was greatly enjoyed by all present.

We have condensed the above from the *Hamilton Gazette* of the 10th instant.



The Canadian Masonic Pioneer.

MONTREAL, JUNE 2, 1856.

The duty of a pioneer, in military parlance, "is to march with or before the army, to repair the road, or clear it of obstructions, work at the intrenchments, or form mines for the destruction of an enemy, or remove obstructions, or one who prepares the way for another." For this labor sturdy, strong, robust and determined soldiers, though not the most skilful, are always chosen. Having taken our stand as a pioneer in Masonry, we shall endeavor faithfully to perform our duty to the craft with military precision, by boldly marching with them and repairing, or rather smoothing, the roads through which we must all pass before we can be tried by the unerring principles of the square and compasses; to remove all obstructions to the progress and advancement of the true principles of masonry in Canada to work at the intrenchments, until we shall have sapped and countermined the works of those who would lead masons to forget the honored principles of the Level, and to prepare the way for the advance of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to that position which we, the great mass of Canadian masons have as undoubted a right to attain in the nineteenth century, as four Lodges had in the eighteenth. As Pioneer, we have donned the spade, the pick-axe, and the crowbar (quill), and with them we will boldly work until we shall have cleared away every obstacle, which, to a certain extent, here in Canada East, conceals the beauties of our time-honored institution; and we shall not cease from our labors until we shall have brought them out shining and resplendent in their ancient glory. But in doing this our readers must bear with us and recollect our name. We are only a Pioneer, whose instruments of labor are rough tools, which can only do rough

work, but that work shall be performed with a truthfulness of purpose above suspicion; and should certain things jar upon the ear, blame the facts—not us.

Trusting that some more eminent workmen will, by our exertions, be brought out to finish the labour we have began, and if we can but succeed in this last point, we shall consider ourselves fully rewarded for our daring to open a yet untravelled road in the wilds of Canada.

The Grand Lodge of Canada

A STRICTLY LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL BODY OF MASONS.

The writer happened to be present at a Masonic Lodge, not a thousand miles from Montreal, when a distinguished member, high in office, pronounced a Grand Lodge formed in Canada, by a Convention of Delegates, consisting of Masters and Wardens of regularly warranted Lodges, "illegal and unconstitutional." When requested to state, for the information of the brethren, what would be a legal mode of forming a Grand Lodge, he was "not prepared, he said, to give an answer." "He did not know." How, then, did he know that he was not denouncing the *only* legal mode in which a Grand Lodge could be formed? That he *was* doing so, we shall have no difficulty in showing. In a series of articles, which will appear in the *Pioneer*, we hope to be able to demonstrate, to the entire satisfaction of every brother, who will take the trouble to read them, that the Grand Lodge of Canada, is, in every respect, a strictly legal and constitutional body of Masons. As an introduction to these articles, we avail ourselves of a very clear and correct "historical sketch," by Mackey, in his "Principles of Masonic Law."

"Grand Lodges under their present organization, are, in respect to the antiquity of the Order, of a comparatively modern date. We hear of no such bodies in the earlier ages of the institution. Tradition informs us, that originally it was governed by the despotic authority of a few chiefs. At the building of the temple, we have reason to believe that King Solomon exercised an unlimited and irresponsible control over the craft, although a tradition, (not, however, of undoubted authority) says that he was assisted in his government by the counsel of twelve superintendents, selected from the twelve tribes of Israel. But we know too little, from authentic materials, of the precise system adopted at that remote period, to enable us to make any historical deductions on the subject.

The first historical notice that we have of the formation of a supreme controlling body of the fraternity, is in the "Gothic Constitutions" which assert that, in the year 287, St. Alban, the proto-martyr of England, who was a zealous patron of the craft, obtained from Carausius, the British Emperor, "a charter for the Masons to hold a general council, and

* The Gothic Constitutions are that code of laws which was adopted by the General Assembly at York, in the year 926. They are no longer extant, but portions of them have been preserved by Anderson, Preston, and other writers.

gave it the name of assembly." The record further states, that St. Alban attended the meeting and assisted in making masons, giving them "good charges and regulations." We know not, however, whether this assembly ever met again; and if it did, for how many years it continued to exist. The subsequent history of Freemasonry is entirely silent on the subject.

The next general assemblage of the craft, of which the records of Freemasonry inform us, was that convened in 926, at the city of York, in England, by Prince Edwin, the brother of King Atholstane, and the grandson of Alfred the Great. This, we say, was the next general assemblage, because the Ashmole manuscript, which was destroyed at the revival of Freemasonry in 1717, is said to have stated that, at that time, the Prince obtained from his brother, the king, a permission for the craft "to hold a yearly communication and a general assembly." The fact that such a power of meeting was then granted, is conclusive that it did not before exist; and would seem to prove that the assemblies of the craft, authorised by the charter of Carausius, had long since ceased to be held. This yearly communication did not, however, constitute, at least in the sense we now understand it, a Grand Lodge. The name given to it was that of the "General Assembly of Masons." It was not restricted, as now, to the Masters and Wardens of the subordinate lodges, acting in the capacity of delegates or representatives, but was composed, as Preston has observed, of as many of the fraternity at large as, being within a convenient distance, could attend once or twice a year, under the auspices of one general head, who was elected and installed at one of these meetings, and who, for the time being, received homage as the governor of the whole body. Any Brethren who were competent to discharge the duty, were allowed, by the regulations of the Order, to open and hold lodges at their discretion, at such times and places as were most convenient to them, and without the necessity of what we now call a Warrant of Constitution, and then and there to initiate members into the Order.* To the General Assembly, however, all the craft, without distinction, were permitted to repair; each Mason present was entitled to take part in the deliberations, and the rules and regulations enacted were the result of the votes of the whole body. The General Assembly was, in fact, precisely similar to those political congregations which, in our modern phraseology, we term "mass meetings."

These annual mass meetings or General Assemblies continued to be held, for many centuries after their first establishment, at the city of York, and were, during all that period, the supreme judicatory of the fraternity.—There are frequent references to the annual assemblies of Freemasons in public documents. The preamble to an act passed in 1425, during the reign of Henry VI., just five centuries after the meeting at York, states that, "by the yearly congregations and confederacies made by the Masons in their general assemblies, the good course and effect of the statute of laborers were openly violated and broken." This act which forbade such meetings, was, however, never put in force; for an old record, quoted in the book of Constitutions, speaks of the Brotherhood having frequented this "mutual assembly," in 1434, in the reign of the same king. We have another record of the General Assembly, which

*Preston, book iv., sec. 2, p. 132, n. (U.M.L., vol. iii. p. 109.)

was held in York on the 27th December, 1561, when Queen Elizabeth, who was suspicious of their secrecy, sent an armed force to dissolve the meeting. A copy is still preserved of the regulations which were adopted by a similar assembly held in 1663, on the festival of St. John the Evangelist; and in these regulations it is declared that the private lodges shall give an account of all their acceptations made during the year to the General Assembly. Another regulation, however, adopted at the same time, still more explicitly acknowledges the existence of a General Assembly as the governing body of the fraternity. It is there provided, "that for the future, the said fraternity of Freemasons shall be regulated and governed by one Grand Master and as many Wardens as the said society shall think fit to appoint at every Annual General Assembly."

And thus the interests of the institution continued until the beginning of the eighteenth century, or for nearly eight hundred years, to be entrusted to those General Assemblies of the fraternity, who, without distinction of rank or office, annually met at York to legislate for the government of the craft.

But in 1717, a new organization of the governing head was adopted, which gave birth to the establishment of a Grand Lodge, in the form in which these bodies now exist. So important a period in the history of Masonry demands our special attention.

After the death, in 1702, of King William, who was himself a Mason, and a great patron of the craft, the institution began to languish, the lodges decreased in number, and the General Assembly was entirely neglected for many years. A few old lodges continued, it is true, to meet regularly, but they consisted of only a few members.

At length, on the accession of George I., the Masons of London and its vicinity determined to revive the annual communications of the society. There were at that time only four lodges in the south of England, and the members of these, with several old Brethren, met in February, 1717, at the Apple Tree Tavern, in Charles street, Covent Garden, and organized by putting the oldest Master Mason, who was the Master of a lodge, in the chair; they then constituted themselves into what Anderson calls, "a Grand Lodge *pro tempore*;" resolved to hold the annual assembly and feast, and then to choose a Grand Master.

Accordingly, on the 24th of June, 1717, the assembly and feast were held; and the oldest Master of a lodge being in the chair, a list of candidates was presented, out of which Mr. Anthony Sayer was elected Grand Master, and Capt. Joseph Elliott and Mr. Jacob Lamball, Grand Wardens.

The Grand Master then commanded the Masters and Wardens of lodges to meet the Grand Officers every quarter, in communication, at the place he should appoint in his summons sent by the Tiler.

This was, then, undoubtedly, the commencement of that organization of the Masters and Wardens of Lodges into a Grand Lodge, which has ever since continued to exist.

The fraternity at large, however, still continued to claim the right of being present at the Annual Assembly; and, in fact, at that meeting, their punctual attendance at the next Annual Assembly and feast was recommended.

At the same meeting it was resolved "that the privilege of assembling as Masons, which had been hitherto unlimited, should be vested in certain lodges or assemblies of Ma-

sons convened in certain places; and that every Lodge to be hereafter convened, except the four old lodges at this time existing, should be legally authorized to act by a warrant from the Grand Master for the time being, granted to certain individuals by petition, with the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge in communication; and that, without such warrant, no lodge should hereafter be deemed regular or constitutional."

In consequence of this regulation, several new lodges received Warrants of Constitution, and their Masters and Wardens were ordered to attend the communications of the Grand Lodge. The Brethren at large vested all their privileges in the four old lodges, in trust that they would never suffer the old charges and landmarks to be infringed; and the old lodges, in return, agreed that the Masters and Wardens of every new lodge that might be constituted, should be permitted to share with them all the privileges of the Grand Lodge, except precedence of rank. The Brethren, says Preston, considered their further attendance at the meetings of the society unnecessary after these regulations were adopted; and, therefore,

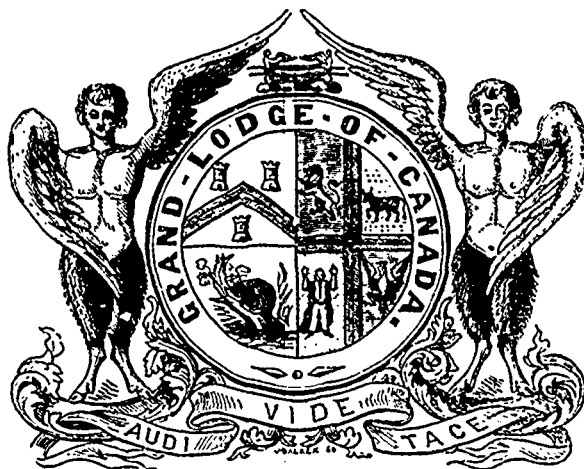
trusted implicitly to their Masters and Wardens for the government of the craft; and thenceforward the Grand Lodge has been composed of all the Masters and Wardens of the subordinate Lodges which constitute the jurisdiction.

The ancient right of the craft, however, to take a part in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge or Annual Assembly, was fully acknowledged by a new regulation, adopted about the same time, in which it is declared that all alterations of the Constitutions must be proposed and agreed to, at the third quarterly communication preceding the annual feast, and "be offered also to the perusal of all the Brethren before dinner, *even of the youngest Entered Apprentice*."

This regulation has, however, become obsolete, and the Annual Assembly of Masons has long since ceased to be held; the Grand Lodges having, since the beginning of the eighteenth century, assumed the form and organization which they still preserve, as strictly representative bodies.

(To be Continued.)

* General Regulations, art. xxxix.



The accompanying illustration is the Official Seal of the Grand Lodge of Canada, which is a very artistic and emblematic design, and reflects great credit on the taste of the executive of the Grand Lodge of Canada. On the dexter side of the shield are the arms of the speculative masons, and on the sinister side the operative, with the Canadian beaver. Each of our future numbers will be illustrated with sketches of masonic antiquities, seals, and other devices, which we trust will prove interesting to our readers.

We have much pleasure in being enabled to inform our readers that two new lodges, both under the Grand Lodge of Canada, have been recently organized in Lower Canada; one in the city of Montreal by our French Canadian brethren, under the designation *La Loge Jacques Cartier*, the other at Melbourne, Eastern Townships, called *St. Francis Lodge*, both have our best wishes for success. We learn that at Melbourne twelve candidates were, by dispensation, admitted members at the first regular communication.

A petition for a dispensation to hold a lodge at Sherbrooke has been received by the D. G. M. of the G. L. of C. We believe that the prayer of the petition has been granted, and that ere our present number will have been issued a regular lodge of Free and Accepted Masons will have been established in the flourishing capital of the Eastern section of the Lower Province.

We shall be at all times happy to exchange with our contemporaries, more especially with such of those as are like ourselves, "Masonic;" and trust that our brethren of the fourth estate will have no cause to complain of any want of courtesy on the part of the *Canadian Masonic Pioneer*.

We shall be glad to make arrangements with any Brothers in Eastern or Western Canada, in the Eastern Provinces, or in the United States, to act as Agents for the *Pioneer*.

We trust our brethren in Upper Canada will encourage us both in a literary and pecuniary point of view, we have mailed copies of this our first number to many on whose support we have reason to reckon and trust they will not disappoint us.

Presentation.

At a stated meeting of St. George's Lodge, No.—, Montreal, Canada, a Past Master's jewel was presented to R. W. Brother A. Bernard. The compliment is one well deserved, and the members of St. George's Lodge have evinced a proper regard for merit and worth in appreciating the service of a faithful member and officer. The jewel is of fine gold, and has engraved on it the following:

"Presented by the members of St. George's Lodge, late 643 E. R., now C. R., to R. W. Bro. A. Bernard, D. G. M. of the G. L. of Canada and Past Master of said Lodge, in testimony of their appreciation of his valuable services in promoting the best interests of this Lodge, and of Freemasonry in Canada.

"Montreal, April 15th, 5856."

The W. M. Bro. P. D. Brown in presenting the jewel, delivered the following address:

R. W. Bro. Bernard—The brethren of St. George's Lodge have requested me to present to you this Past Master's jewel. I feel gratified that so pleasing a duty has fallen to my lot, and yet I regret my inability to do justice to the occasion. It has ever been characteristic of Freemasonry to honour its deserving votaries, to confer its favors upon those who by merit and ability, rather than by rank and fortune, were justly entitled to them.

The services which you have rendered to the cause of Masonry in Canada have already placed your name upon the list of honorary members of this and of several other Lodges in this city, and the St. George's, your mother Lodge, has been proud to bestow upon you as a faithful and dutiful son, her highest offices and honors. By your exertions, as much, if not more than by any other means, Masonry in Canada has been emancipated from the condition in which it was enthralled, and now stands free and unfettered, a brilliant star whose lustre and beauty shall continue, and I trust increase, while Masonry exists. In your zeal and exertions for the interests of Masonry generally, the good of the St. George Lodge in particular has been your study. And when I speak my own, I know I speak the sentiments of every member of the Lodge in saying that to your talents and exertions are we greatly, if not mainly indebted for the present flourishing condition of this Lodge.

The brethren of St. George's Lodge feel that services, such as you have rendered to the Craft, call for something more than a mere verbal expression of gratitude. They desire to tender to you, as Past Master of this Lodge, this Past Master's jewel, as a token of their fraternal regard and esteem. Please accept it, R. W. Brother, with the best wishes of St. George's Lodge for your future happiness and prosperity. Long may you live to wear it, and when you cease to wear it in earthly Lodges, may you wear a brighter jewel in the

Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns forever.

R. W. BRO. BERNARD'S REPLY.

Worshipful Sir and Brethren—I receive with emotions of gratitude and pleasure, which I am unable to express, this rich and beautiful jewel as a token of your approval of my Masonic conduct.

Placed by your fraternal kindness in the chair of this, my *alma mater* Lodge, I felt myself called upon, not only to see that the work of the Lodge should be correct and respectable, its rules and regulations observed and harmony and good fellowship preserved and promoted among its members, but also to exercise the influence my position afforded in assisting to relieve Canadian Masonry from its many disadvantages, and, if possible, render it more efficient in its beneficent purposes. A degree of success has been realized, which could not have been, so early, expected; and circumstances now promise us the peaceful enjoyment of all the blessings of Masonic privileges.

My personal efforts, it is true, have been attended with considerable care and anxiety, with sacrifice of time, and, perhaps, in a few instances of cherished friendship, and at every step I have found my responsibilities increasing. That my abilities and exertions have proved equal to the requirements of my position I have not the vanity to imagine; my services have been greatly over-estimated, and you have honored me more than I have deserved. But this has been and still is my consolation that, however deficient I may have been in the discharge of my duty, no one can boast a heart more sincerely devoted to the true interests of our time-honored Institution and to the prosperity of St. George's Lodge. I shall greatly cherish this memento of your fraternal regard until the latest period of my life, and I hope to have many opportunities of wearing it among you; and when we shall have ceased to meet in earthly Lodges, may we each receive a crown of rejoicing which shall not fade away.

Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

At the semi-annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, held on the 6th inst., the Grand Lodge of Canada was acknowledged and "welcomed into the family of Grand Lodges" by that Grand body. We have been favoured by a kind friend and brother with a copy of the resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and also with a copy of the fraternal communication of the intelligent Grand Secretary R. W. Bro. George C. Whiting, addressed to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in making known to him the action of his Grand Lodge in acknowledging the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The resolution and letter we take great pleasure in laying before our readers.

Office of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, F. & A. Masons of the District of Columbia WASHINGTON, May 8, A.L. 5856

To the Most Worshipful William Mercer Wilson, Grand Master of Masons in the Provinces of Canada.

Worshipful Sir and Brother:—I have the pleasure of informing you that the address of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Canada, which accompanied the letter of R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, its Grand Secretary, dated the 11th of March last, was duly received and laid before the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia at its semi-annual Grand Communication held in this city on the 6th inst., and that the Grand Lodge of Canada was welcomed into the family of Grand Lodges by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia by the unanimous passage of the enclosed resolutions.

In extending, as the organ of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, the right hand of fellowship to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Canada by the transmission of these resolutions, permit me, Most Worshipful Sir, to congratulate you upon the unanimity with which the subordinate Lodges of Canada seem to have so justifiably and wisely adopted the principle of self-government, and to express the sincere and fervent hope that the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe may preside over the destinies of our youngest sister in the family of Grand Lodges—the Grand Lodge of Canada—and that it may be ever truly said, that "Peace is within her halls and Prosperity within her borders."

(Signed) Geo. C. Whiting,
Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do cordially extend to our brethren of the Provinces of Canada a welcome hand as a Grand Lodge; and that while this Grand Lodge holds in peculiar regard the rights and prerogatives of the Grand Lodge of England and the other Grand Lodges under which some of the Canadian Lodges are working, and from which they hold charters, and would not by implication, either directly or indirectly, do ought to impair their powers or functions; yet, that it is regarded as peculiarly appropriate that the Provinces of Canada should have accorded to them the independence they appear to have so properly assumed.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recognizes the Grand Lodge of Canada as an independent Masonic Grand Jurisdiction, and will hold correspondence and fraternity therewith as such.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy, under seal, of these resolutions to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in the Provinces of Canada.

The interchanges of fraternal attention and courtesy is daily becoming more frequent between American and Canadian Freemasons, formerly they were almost unknown to each other, excepting through the formal annual communications of their respective Grand Lodges, now scarcely a week passes but some friendly intercourse is exchanged. Witness the following invitation extended by the members of Aurora Lodge, Montpelier, Vermont, to their brethren of the "Black North."

Montpelier, Vt., April 21, 1856.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

Brethren:—

Aurora Lodge No. 22 having obtained permission of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the R. W. G. Lodge of Vermont, will celebrate the Festival of St. John the Baptist, at Montpelier, on the 24th day of June next.

The officers and members of your Lodge are respectfully invited to join in the procession and participate in the festivities of the occasion.

Please favor us by informing the Secretary, as soon as practicable, as to the probable number who will attend from your Lodge, in order that the Committee of Arrangements may be enabled to make suitable provision for the entertainment.

It is confidently expected that arrangements will be made with the several Railroads to convey those who may attend the Celebration, for half fare.

By order of the Worshipful Master,

DENISON DEWEY, Secretary.

We believe a large party from Canada will be present, at Montpelier, on the occasion alluded to in the above letter; and we trust that Canadians will not be backward in returning the hospitality of their Brethren "across the lines," such a mutual exchange of sociality is very praiseworthy and highly gratifying.

The following Grand Lodges are in affiliation and correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Canada, viz:—

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Ireland. | Vermont. |
| Michigan. | Iowa. |
| South Carolina. | Dist. of Columbia. |
| Louisiana. | Florida. |
| Kentucky. | Maryland. |
| Alabama. | Connecticut. |

SCOTTISH MASONRY IN CANADA.—There are but two Masonic Lodges in Canada chartered by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and both these are in Lower Canada, St. Andrew's at Quebec, and Elgin at Montreal. Yet the Grand Lodge of Scotland has two Provincial Grand Mas-

ters in Canada, both residing in Upper Canada, Brothers Sir A. N. McNab of Hamilton and T. D. Harrington of Toronto. The St. Andrew's Lodge was represented at the convention which formed the Grand Lodge of Canada.

| NAME OF LODGE. | Register and No. | Name of W. M. | DATE OF MEETING. | |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----|
| | | | | |
| St. George's..... | R. C. | W. Bro. P. D. Brown. | Third Tuesday of each Month. | do. |
| Zetland..... | R. C. | V. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson. | Second Thursday | do. |
| Lodge of S. and M. Virtues.. | R. C. | W. Bro. E. Morris. | First do | do. |
| Jacques Cartier..... | R. C. | W. Bro. J. W. Holdmann. | Third do | do. |
| Elgin..... | R. S. | W. Bro. Jas. Boyd. | First Monday | do. |
| St. Paul's..... | R. E. | V. W. Bro. A. H. Campbell. | Second Tuesday | do. |

List of Montreal City Lodges.

Masonic Laws.

Masonic Laws are of two kinds, local and universal. The former are those enacted by Grand and Subordinate Lodges, for the government of their members. The latter, those handed down, by universal consent from time immemorable, and which govern the fraternity throughout the world. The local laws may be altered or repealed at pleasure by the bodies who framed them; but the universal laws constitute a part of the ancient landmarks, and are irrevocable.

Deaths.

In this city, on the 17th ult., Bro. James A. B. McGill, aged 40. Bro. McGill for many years filled the office of City Surveyor for the city of Montreal.

In Montreal, on the 25th ult., aged 51 years, Brother Malcolm. The deceased was for several years the W.M. of the Lodge of Social and Military Virtues. He was deservedly popular with the brethren generally throughout the city, a large number of whom, as a last tribute of respect accompanied his remains to the place of interment.

The Creed of a Mason.

The creed of a Mason is brief, unentangled with scholastic subtleties, or with theological difficulties. It is a creed which demands and receives the universal consent of all men, which admits of no doubt, and defies schism. It is the belief in God, the supreme architect of heaven and earth, the dispenser of all good gifts, and the judge of the quick and dead.

The following letter will no doubt be highly gratifying to our readers. The Grand Lodge of Ireland has taken the right ground; we have no doubt the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland will follow the same course:

At a meeting of the R. W. the Grand Lodge of Ireland, held at Free-Mason's Hall, Dublin, on the 3d day of April, 1856.

The R. W. Brother John Fitzhenry Townsend, Dep. Grand Master on the Throne.

Read the communication from the Grand Lodge of Canada, dated 10th November, 1855, signed, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada, by William Mercer Wilson as G. M. and Thomas B. Harris as G. S.; and addressed to the M. W. the Grand Master, the R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Officers and Brethren of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Ireland—stating that, the requisite arrangements having previously been made, on the 2nd of November, 1855, at Hamilton, C. W., "the Grand Lodge of Canada was duly consecrated, and the Grand Master elect regularly installed in due and ancient form, by the M. W. the Hon. H. J. Backus, P. G. M. of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of the State of Michigan, assisted by other brethren of eminence and distinction in the Craft; and that it is their first wish and highest ambition to establish and perpetuate a sincere and intimate alliance with the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and extend, in the name of the Divine Architect, the right hand of Brotherhood, and consequently claim a reciprocation of fraternal regard.

Resolved, That the Grand Master of Canada be informed that the Grand Lodge of Ireland acknowledges the R. W. the Grand Lodge of Canada as an independent Grand Lodge, and reciprocates the Masonic feelings expressed in the communication."

J. F. TOWNSEND, Dep. Grand Master.
JOHN E. HYNDAM, Gr. Secretary.
L. H. DEERING, Dep. Gr. Secretary.

EXAMPLE is a living and most impressive instructor, which makes its lessons tangible and leaves them before us to enforce their truth. Verbal lessons, though ever so truthful and impressive, are soon forgotten; but a good and useful man's example follows us all along life's weary pathway, and ever and anon repeats its solemn injunctions. If you would make your mark in the world, and be remembered with pleasure when you are in the grave, live right. Whether you say much or not, do a great deal for humanity, and it will not be forgotten.

The history of Freemasonry is a strange and eventful one, full of singular vicissitudes and wonderful achievements. It has flourished through many ages, and grew as luxuriantly under a Monarchy as a Republic. For a long period it was purely an operative science, though involving truths and principles of the very last importance. Then it became entirely a moral work, teaching lessons of goodness, purity, and benevolence; linking man to man in bonds of Fraternity, and binding to God with chords of enduring love. Its history is yet to be written; its character yet to be portrayed.

CANADA STAINED GLASS WORKS,
21 *Notre Dame Street,*
(NEAR DONEGAN'S HOTEL.)
MONTREAL.

J. C. SPENCE,

MANUFACTURER of Stained, Painted, Embossed and Figured Enamel Glass for the windows of Churches, Public Buildings, Steamboats, Hotels, Staircases, Halls, Side and Pannel Lights, &c., &c.

Gilding and writing on Glass, Figures, Coats of Arms, Monograms, and every description of Ecclesiastic, Heraldic and Domestic Stained Glass.

Designs and Estimates furnished on application. Specimens may be seen at the Office.
June, 1856.

C. BRYSON,

ACCOUNT BOOK Manufacturer, General Bookbinder, Paper Ruler and Stationer, Wholesale and Retail, No. 30 St. Francois Xavier Street, Montreal.

Sells for cash only at unusually low rates, and makes no Second Price.
June, 1856.

PAUL MONDOU,

Passenger Agent, Vermont Central R.R.,
No. 65, Commissioners Street,
MONTREAL, C.E.

June, 1856.

R. J. FOWLER,

PROFESSOR OF MUSIC,
9 St. DOMINIQUE STREET,
MONTREAL.

June, 1856.

DR. BERNARD,
SURGEON,

Mechanical Dentist and Manufacturer of Artificial Teeth,

133 CRAIG STREET, MONTREAL,

Agent for the New York Teeth Manufacturing Company.

June, 1856.

ON DRAUGHT,

SALT & Co.'s EAST INDIA PALE ALE,
From Burton on Trent. Also, Guinness & Sons' DOUBLE EXTRA STOUT.

SHAKSPEARE INN,
St. Francois Xavier Street,

GEORGE LULHAM.

June, 1856.

FRANCHERE, TOURVILLE & Co.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

AND

FLOUR, GRAIN AND PORK DEALERS,
No. 8, Common St., Gillespie's Buildings.

All orders and consignments made to them will meet prompt attention and quick returns.
June, 1856.

**COLEMAN'S
MONTREAL HOUSE,**

CUSTOM-HOUSE SQUARE,
MONTREAL,

J. W. COLEMAN.

June, 1856.

PHILLIPS, GRAVELEY, DUFRESNE & Cc.
INSURANCE AGENTS AND BROKERS,
Montreal and Quebec.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 12 GREAT ST. JAMES ST.

Authorized Agents for responsible LIFE, FIRE, OCEAN and MARINE INSURANCE COS. Also prepared to negotiate Life, Fire and Marine Insurance in ENGLISH, CANADIAN and AMERICAN Companies of undoubted responsibility. Life Risks, Ocean and Marine Inland Navigation and transportation Risks, Vessels, Cargoes and Freight Ships Building and in port, Warehouses, Manufactories, Stores and Merchandise, public and private Buildings, Household Furniture, &c., taken on the most favorable terms. Claims for Insurance losses placed in our hands for collection will receive immediate and prompt attention.

J. H. PHILLIPS, } Montreal.

ALEX. DUFRESNE, }

A. L. GRAVELEY, Quebec.

June, 1856.

THE OTTAWA HOTEL,

GREAT ST. JAMES STREET,
MONTREAL,

CONDUCTED IN THE AMERICAN STYLE.

THE OTTAWA HOTEL stands in the very heart of the business part of the City, being in the same street and within two minutes walk of the Post Office and Banks.

The PARLORS and BEDROOMS are light, airy and well ventilated; the TABLE is always supplied with the best to be found in the Markets, and the WINES, LIQUORS and CIGARS are invariably of the choicest brands.

CARRIAGES will be in attendance at the Railroad and Steamboat Depots, on the arrival of Cars and Boats.

A. HOFFNUNG,

170 NOTRE DAME STREET, 170
MONTREAL,

Facing St. Lawrence Main Street.

Importer of Geneva Watches, Fine Gold Jewellery of every description, Electro Silver Spoons, Forks, Cruets, Cake Baskets, &c., Papier Maché Ware, Clocks, Musical Instruments and Fancy Goods, the whole of which will be offered at prices that defy competition.

MASONIC JEWELLERY manufactured to order.

June, 1856.

JOHN MARTIN,

Wholesale Furrier and Importer,

291 St. PAUL STREET, (WEST.)
MONTREAL.

June, 1856.

STERNBERG & HIMES,

MERCHANT TAILORS,

144 *Notre Dame Street, Montreal,*

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, and Manufacturers of Hats, Caps and Furs. Masonic Clothing, Jewels, Working Tools, &c., &c.

June, 1856.

JOHN HELDER ISAACSON,
NOTARY PUBLIC,

No. 24 St. FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET,
MONTREAL.

June, 1856.

British American Friendly Society

OF CANADA,

(Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.)

ESTABLISHED FOR THE ASSURANCE OF LIFE AND HEALTH.

CAPITAL STOCK—£100,000.

OFFICE, 12 GREAT ST. JAMES STREET.

| HEALTH. | | | LIFE. | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| ANNUAL PREMIUMS Insuring £1 in sickness. | | | ANNUAL PREMIUMS Insuring £100 at death. | | |
| Age. | One year. | For life. | Age. | One year. | For life. |
| 20.. | 1 0 0 | 1 7 6 | 20.. | 0 17 3 | 1 11 3 |
| 30.. | 1 5 0 | 1 15 0 | 30.. | 1 0 7 | 2 3 6 |
| 40.. | 1 10 0 | 2 10 0 | 40.. | 1 4 6 | 3 0 0 |
| 50.. | 2 0 0 | 3 10 0 | 50.. | 1 15 2 | 4 4 0 |

Other amounts not exceeding £2 per week may be insured in proportion in the Health department.

Equally favorable and carefully prepared rates throughout the Life department.

Prospectuses, Reports, Forms of Application, and all information will be furnished on application at this Office, personally, or by Mail.

JAMES H. PHILLIPS,
President.

DAVID HUNTER, Secretary.

June, 1856.

British Commercial Life Assurance Co.,
LONDON AND AMERICA.

(Established 1820, empowered by Act of Parliament.)

CAPITAL—£600,000 Sto.,

With a large accumulated surplus.

TRUSTEES.

John Cattley, Esq.
The Rev. William Fallofield, M.A.
Sebastian G. Martinez, Esq.

DIRECTORS.

Sir Robert Alexander, Bart.,
John Cattley, Esq.,
Henry Duffell, Esq.,
J. D. De Vitre, Esq.,
Rev. Wm. Fallofield, M.A.,
Eben. Fernie, Esq., Managing Director,
Sebastian G. Martinez, Esq.,
Thomas Oak, Esq., M.D.,
Major General Wavell, K.F.K.C.S.F.R.S.,
George Sturge, Esq.

PHYSICIAN.

Septimus Wray, M.D.

AUDITORS.

R. S. Warrington, Esq. | W. R. Vickers, Esq.

BANKERS.

Messrs. Glyn, Halifax, Mills, & Co.

Prospectuses and all information can be had at the Canada Office of the Company, No. 12 Great St. James Street, Montreal.

PHILLIPS, GRAVELEY, DUFRESNE & Co.,
Agents for Canada.

COLLEGIATE SCHOOL,

CHARLES NICHOLS,—PRINCIPAL,
12 Great St. James Street,
MONTREAL.

June, 1856.

ALFRED BARTON,

Commission Merchant & General Agent,
BOWMANVILLE, C.W.

June, 1856.

MONTREAL:

Printed for the Proprietors by Brothers OWLER & STEVENSON, and published at their Office, No. 42 St. Francois Xavier Street,