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THE CRAFTSMAN

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NO 9.

HISTORY OF MASONRY IN CANADA.—No. 2.

BY H. W. BRO. S. D. FOWLER, P. G. S. W.

(Continued.)

For several years prior to 1817, Masonry was at a very low ebb indeed in Upper Canada; there were but few Lodges working, and those irregularly. The war with the United States was perhaps the principal cause of this, and another was the continued indifference to the interests of the Craft shown by the Provincial G. Master.

I have not learned whether the so-called Prov. G. Lodge, at Niagara, continued to meet while the war lasted; most probably it did not. I believe, however, most, if not all, of its records and other property were lost during that time.

With the return of peace, many of the Lodges re-assembled, but the old causes of dissatisfaction again shewed themselves. The Prov. G. Master did nothing, and the Brethren of Niagara were once more claiming to be the Prov. G. Lodge of Upper Canada.

R. W. Bro. Jervis died early in 1817, and on the 17th of May in that year, Addington Lodge, No. 13, Bath, took the initiative in a very important movement by issuing a circular to all the Lodges in the Province, inviting them to meet in convention at Kingston on the 27th August.

This invitation was very generally accepted, and on the day of meeting, representatives from eleven Lodges presented themselves, namely:

- No. 3, Brockville.
- " 6, Kingston.
- " 7, Fredericksburgh.
- " 8, York.
- " 13, Bath.
- " 15, Grimsby.
- " 16, York.
- " 19, Haldimand.
- " 25, Richmond.
- " 26, Augusta.
- " Rideau.

A larger representation than at any previous Prov. G. Lodge of which we have any record. The minutes of this convention are prefaced by the following preamble:

"Whereas there is not at this time any Grand Lodge existing in this Province, nor any Board or Order vested with authority to perform the important function legitimately pertaining to the office of Grand Master or Grand Secretary, and consequently no head to make or receive communications in the name or behalf of the Craft, the distressed situation of Masonry in this Province has stimulated Lodge No. 13 ("Addington, Bath") to address

"circular letters to their sister Lodges, wishing them, if they concur in their opinion, that delegates be appointed from their Lodges to meet other delegates at the Lodge Room, at Kingston, on the fourth Wednesday of August, A. L. 5817, to take into consideration the importance of moving an address to the Grand Lodge of England, praying them to take into consideration their cause, and sanction their nomination of a Provincial Grand Master, according to the ancient usages of Masonry."

Ziba Marcus Phillips was called to the chair as President of the Convention.

Wm. Cottier was appointed Vice-President, and John W. Ferguson, Secretary.

Bro. Roderic Mackay, (who does not appear to have been present,) was nominated for Prov. Grand Master, and a Committee appointed to send him a written notice of his nomination, to which he returned the following answer:

"KINGSTON, 28th Aug., 1817.

"In reply to your letter of yesterday, acquainting me with my nomination as Provincial G. Master of Masons and Masonic jurisdiction by the Grand Masonic Convention of Upper Canada, I beg leave to say that I cannot find language sufficiently strong to express how sensible I am of the distinguished honor conferred on me by the gentlemen, my Brethren, who have so highly valued my humble abilities."

"I request you, be pleased to express to the President, Assistant, and Moderator of the Convention, the respectful assurance of my gratitude, and I will endeavor, should His Royal Highness see fit to confirm the appointment, by my conduct and the discharge of my duties, to prove myself worthy of the esteem and confidence of my Masonic Brethren."

"In the manner of your communication, I take the opportunity of presenting my thanks, and with great consideration, I am, &c."

The following petition was adopted and ordered to be sent to the Grand Master of England.

"To His Royal Highness, Prince Augustus, Frederick Duke of Sussex, Earl of Inverness, in Scotland, Baron of Arklow, in Ireland, Knight of the Garter, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons and Masonic jurisdiction in that part of Great Britain called England, &c., &c."

"The petition of the undersigned representatives of a number of reputable Lodges in the Province of Upper Canada, and in general convention assembled."

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

"That Your Royal Highness' petitioning Brethren are under the painful necessity of announcing to Your Royal Highness the death of Wm. Jervis,

"Esq., late Provincial Grand Master of this portion of His Majesty's dominions. That in consequence thereof, Your Royal Highness' petitioners pray that you will be pleased to take into consideration the good of the Craft, and issue a new warrant for a Grand Provincial Lodge in the Province of Upper Canada; and should the prayer of Your Royal Highness' petitioners be granted, they humbly recommend Roderic Mackay, Esquire, for their Provincial Grand Master, he having the unanimous suffrages of this Convention, they trusting, from his respectability and good conduct as a Brother, that he will meet Your Royal Highness' approbation."

"That Your Royal Highness will be pleased to nominate our well-instructed Brother, John Hamilton Hudson to perform the ceremony of installation."

"That Your Royal Highness' petitioners are urged from necessity to represent, that at this time no regular Grand Lodge exists in the Province, nor is there any Body or Order vested or delegated with authority to perform the important and necessary functions legitimately appertaining to the office of Grand Master or Grand Secretary, and consequently no official character to make or receive communications in the name or in behalf of the Craft."

"That Your Royal Highness' petitioners, like good Masons, considering their rational internal government peculiarly calculated to strengthen as well as adorn society, and persuaded that the sentiments of Your Royal Highness are similar to theirs, they cannot refrain from taking the opportunity of representing to Your Royal Highness that a Lodge exists in this Province assuming to itself the name of the Grand Lodge, and acting under the control of Robert Kerr, Esq. That Your Royal Highness' petitioners, as free and accepted Masons, cannot concur with this Lodge in the measures they may or have adopted, by reason of their irregularities, and therefore Your Royal Highness' petitioners beg that you will take their request into your serious consideration, and grant their petition."

"And as in duty bound will ever pray, &c."

This petition was forwarded by John W. Ferguson, Secretary to the Convention, through the Grand Secretary, on the 4th Sept., 1817.

To this petition no answer was vouchsafed, and the petitioners waited for nearly two years without taking any further step; meanwhile, Roderic Mackay, who had been recommended for the office of Provincial Grand Master, was unfortunately drowned while crossing in a sail boat from Amherst Island to Bratt, on the 9th September, 1818.

The Grand Convention re-assembled at Kingston on the 10th Feb., 1819, when the following Lodges were represented, viz:

- No. 3, Brockville.
- " 6, Kingston.
- " 13, Earnestown.
- " 16, York.
- " 25, Richmond.
- Rideau Lodge.
- " 26, Augusta.
- " 17, Belleville.
- Hallowell.
- " 19, Haldimand.
- Western Light, Newmarket.

In all, eleven Lodges.

The following officers were appointed:

Ziba M. Phillips,	<i>President.</i>
John M. Balfour,	} <i>Vice-Presidents.</i>
Samuel Shaw,	
Wm. Cottier,	<i>Assistant.</i>
Benj. McAlister,	<i>Modcrator.</i>
Robert Walker,	<i>Treasurer.</i>
John W. Ferguson,	<i>Secretary.</i>
Charles Zimms,	<i>Tyler.</i>

Benjamin McAlister was appointed Grand Visitor and Lecturer at a salary of £100 for a year. He was to "visit the several Lodges at least twice in each year, to lecture on the different degrees of Masonry agreeably to the Constitution, and to establish one uniform mode of working throughout the Province."

The Convention also adopted a preamble and fourteen articles of association, which we learn by the following extract from the Minutes of the Addington Lodge, No. 13, Bath, of 3rd February, were mainly the work of Bro. John Dean, at that time a schoolmaster in Bath, but subsequently an official in the Prov. Secretary's office.

"Bro. Dean presented for the consideration of the Lodge, a paper containing an exposition of the views and wishes of the Lodge, and also 'fourteen articles of association,' to be laid before the Convention for their consideration, and upon being motioned and put to vote, it was unanimously agreed that the said paper meets our approbation."

The preamble, from its importance, we give in full.

"We, the undersigned delegates from the several Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons hereafter mentioned, having met in General Grand Convention for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of the Craft in this Province, hereby make the following exposition of the motives which at this critical junction actuate us."

"Upon the death of our late Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada expired, and for several years previous, the operations of said Grand Lodge, by unforeseen difficulties, were suspended, its concerns were neglected, and Masonry was fast sinking into anarchy and confusion. The consequence of this state of things was seen by many of the members of this Convention, but it was out of their power to remedy the evil. The death of our Grand Master left us a disjointed body, and from want of subordination, the subordinate Lodges which continued working without any restraint were rapidly declining. As is too frequently the case where no power exists or is exercised to enforce adherence to the genuine principles of the Order, bad members had gained admission into their Lodges, and the pure principles of Masonry were so far profaned by their conduct that worthy men stood aloof, in many instances, perhaps thinking Masonry the cause of such conduct, or at least that it did not prohibit it. Irregularities in working had crept into the Lodge from want of proper correspondence, and from having no official head to which they could apply for the lectures."

"The effect of such proceedings, of which this is but a faint picture, was perceived by the Lodges, and several being sensible of our rapidly declining state, did choose delegates to meet in Grand Convention to deliberate upon proper measures

“for the correction of existing evils, and said delegates did, on the twenty-seventh day of August, 1817, assemble at Kingston, and after mature deliberation adopted the only remedy in their power, and nominated Roderic Mackay, Esq., for the office of Provincial Grand Master, and immediately advised the Grand Lodge of England of the nomination, praying that our situation might be taken into consideration, and if the nomination was approved, that a warrant might be forwarded us, that a Provincial Grand Lodge might be organized. To this communication no reply has been received, and to add to our misfortunes, our Grand Master elect was suddenly snatched from us by an untimely death.”

“We, the undersigned delegates, impressed with a deep sense of our depressed state, and fully sensible that our situation requires immediate attention, and having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, and being desirous that the genuine principles of Masonry may become extensively diffused and preserved in their ancient purity, do hereby voluntarily enter into the following articles of association, in order to lay a foundation for a regular organization of the Craft in this Province, ever holding ourselves amenable for our conduct to the United Grand Lodge of England, whose supremacy we acknowledge, and whose protection we court, and which Ancient and Honorable Body we hope will listen favorably to the prayer of the petition which we forward, with a copy of the proceedings of the Convention for their approval or disavowal.”

The following is an abstract of the 14 articles of association :

No. 1.—Declares the Convention to consist of a President, 2 Vice-Presidents, Moderator, Secretary, Treasurer, Tyler, and delegates from each Lodge.

2.—Convention to meet annually at Kingston on the 2nd Monday of February.

3.—From its importance we give in full :

“That the Convention assumes power of granting dispensations endorsed on the original warrant received by the respective Lodges from the late Grand Lodge, which dispensation is intended to sanction the authority of subordinate Lodges to work, who acknowledge the supremacy of this Convention until such time as a Provincial Grand Lodge may be organized ; and also assumes the power of granting dispensations generally in such cases as may promote the general welfare of the Craft.”

4.—Lodges to reform abuses and exercise a strict control over their members ; they shall appoint a committee to take cognizance of unmasonic conduct.

5.—On the proposal of candidates for initiation.

6.—Respecting Emergencies.

7.—Entrance fees.

8.—Forbids Lodges to recognize or receive as visitors, Masons who do not belong to the Convention. (Expunged 1820.)

9.—Defines the duties of the Grand Visitor.

10.—Lodges to be represented in Convention by three delegates, each having a vote.

11.—Past Masters may sit in Convention, but not vote unless they are delegates.

12.—Lodges required to furnish correct lists of members, and forward quarterly returns.

13.—One-third of all Lodge receipts to be paid over to the Convention.

14.—President or Vice-President may grant dispensations for new Lodges to seven Master Masons, to have force not over twelve months.

We also subjoin a copy of the petition forwarded to the Grand Master of England.

“To His Royal Highness, Prince Augustus, Frederick Duke of Sussex, Earl of Inverness in Scotland, Baron of Arklow in Ireland, Knight of the Garter, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons and Masonic Jurisdiction in that part of Great Britain called England, &c., &c.

“The petition of the undersigned representatives of a number of respectable Lodges in the Province of Upper Canada, and in general convention assembled,”

HUMBLY SHEWETH :

“That Your Royal Highness’ petitioning Brethren beg leave to mention, for the information of Your Royal Highness, that on the 27th day of August, 1817, a Convention was held at Kingston, in the Province of Upper Canada, to take into consideration the distressed situation of the Craft in consequence of the death of William Jervis, Esq., late Provincial Grand Master. That your petitioning Brethren did address Your Royal Highness on the 28th day of August, 1817, stating our situation, of which a copy is herewith annexed, and recommended Roderic Mackay, Esq., for our Provincial Grand Master. From some cause unknown to your petitioners, no answer has been received to this communication, and unfortunately our Grand Master elect has been suddenly snatched from us by an untimely death.”

“That in consequence thereof we beg leave to approach your Royal Highness again, praying that you will be pleased to grant a patent for the establishment of a Provincial Grand Lodge in this Province of Upper Canada upon the same footing that it has been granted to our sister Province of Lower Canada, provided it meets Your Royal Highness’ approbation.

“That Your Royal Highness’ petitioners were urged from the present state of Masonry in this remote part of the world, to establish an association in this Province for the purpose of keeping in due order the several Lodges throughout the same, of which a copy is herewith transmitted, and this association is to continue no longer than that Your Royal Highness may take our situation into consideration, and listen to the prayer of our petition, feeling a confidence that this measure will be approved when our distressed condition is considered, and the ultimate object at which we aim, is to be acknowledged and protected by the authority vested in the person of Your Royal Highness.”

“That your petitioning Brethren beg leave to inform Your Royal Highness that this association was considered the more necessary as from the present system of Masonry in this part of the world, it is sinking fast into a state of anarchy and confusion ; so much so we fear, that unless the evil is speedily removed, the institution in this Province will eventually become a subject of public derision, which your Royal Highness’ petitioners most sincerely regret and deplore, and therefore your Royal Highness’ petitioners beg

"that you will take their request into your serious consideration and grant the same.

"And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, &c."

KINGSTON, 10th February, 1819.

Signed by the officers and representatives of the Lodges present.

This petition with a copy of the proceedings of the convention was forwarded by the secretary Bro. John W. Ferguson, who thus writes—"lest any obstacle should arise out of pecuniary matters, I am directed to hand you the accompanying draft for £30, and should the Grand Lodge of England be pleased to attend to the petition of their brethren in this remote corner of the Globe, you will be pleased to acquaint me what further sum will be necessary, if any, and it shall be immediately remitted."

The Grand Convention met again on the 15th February, 1820, 15 Lodges being represented, viz.:-

- No. 3, Brockville.
- " 5, Royal Edward, Johnstown.
- " 6, St. John, Kingston.
- " 13, Addington, Bath, (Earnestown.)
- " 16, St. John's, York.
- " 17, Belleville.
- " 19, St. John's Haldimand.
- " 24, Harmony, Johnstown.
- " 26, Jarvis, Augusta.
- Rideau Lodge.
- Prince Edward, Hallowell.
- Western Light, Newmarket.
- North Star, Hamilton.
- Union, South Gower.
- McKay, Wolford, (Upper Rideau.)

A very interesting report was received from the Grand Visitor. After enumerating every Lodge he visited, and freely and apparently very impartially praising or censuring each, according to their merits or demerits, he thus proceeds:

"With a very few exceptions he has visited all the Lodges composing this convention twice, and has endeavoured to establish uniformity in the manner of working and lecturing; and considering the length of his route and the disadvantages under which he has labored, and although much yet remains to be done, his success has met his most sanguine expectations, and he hopes will be found to merit the approbation of the convention. From his experience the year past, he is thoroughly convinced that a strict adherence to the plan adopted, will ultimately raise the craft in this province to its proper level.

"The want of correspondence among the Lodges for some time past has been productive of many evils which can only be remedied by strictly adhering to and strenuously supporting the measures already taken for that purpose by the convention. He conceives it his duty here to remark, (although far from his intention in any instance to censure,) that many evils arise from a remission in discipline, too prevalent in many Lodges, not from any defect in the By-Laws or other regulations, but from a want of energy in executing them. The source of this evil may be found in the general want of correspondence above mentioned, and of responsibility to an acknowledged head, and he feels convinced that its extermination will be the

"consequence of perseverance on the part of the convention in enforcing its regulations."

Notwithstanding the careful manner in which Bro. McAlister evidently went through his work, and the great necessity he shewed for the continuance of a Grand Visitor, the office for economical reasons was not continued.

Returns with payment of fees to the convention were made by eleven Lodges.

Bro. Z. M. Philips was re-elected President, and John W. Ferguson, Secretary.

The draft for £30, ordered at the last meeting, to be sent to England, was reported to have been paid.

By order of the convention, the Secretary was directed to write to the Secretary of England, enclosing the proceedings, which he did as follows:

KINGSTON, 1st May, 1820.

R. W. SIR & Bro.,

"Referring you to my letters of the 4th September, 1817, and 10th February, 1819, the latter covering a draft for £30 sterling (the drawer of which informs me of its having been honored), to neither of these communications have I had any reply.

"The President and members of the Grand Convention of Free and accepted Masons of this Province, have again called on me to address you on the subject, being anxious to receive a legal authority from the Grand Lodge of England, to hold a Grand Lodge in this Province, conformable to the rules to be laid down to us from your Right Worshipful Grand Lodge.

"I now claim your attention on this subject. Should my former correspondence have been misplaced, I should be glad to be informed that I might furnish you with a copy of their contents. For such information as you may be pleased to render on the subject, please accept my thanks.

With fraternal regard, &c.,

(Signed,) J. W. FERGUSON,
Sec'y.

Ed. HARPER, Esq., G. Sec'y G. Lodge,
F. Mason's Hall,
Great Queen Street, London.

The Grand Convention met for the fourth time, at Kingston, on 12th February 1821, when the following fifteen Lodges were represented, viz:

- No. 3, Brockville.
- " 6, Kingston.
- " 13, Bath.
- " 16, York.
- " 17, Belleville.
- " 19, Haldimand.
- " 25, Rideau.
- Richmond.
- Jarvis, Augusta.
- North Star, Hamilton.
- Western Light, Newmarket.
- Union, Dundas.
- Mount Moriah, Westminster.
- United, Murray.
- Prince Edward, Hallowell.

We extract a portion of the proceedings:

Resolved—"That a committee be appointed to collect such information as can conveniently be obtained respecting the Draft of £30 sterling, remitted to the Grand Secretary, of the Grand

"Lodge of England. To ascertain by whom the said Draft was drawn,—to whom payable,—what advices the drawer has received respecting the payment, and such other information as said committee can obtain and report to the convention as soon as such information can be collected."

This committee reported—"That they had applied to Bro. Miskin, the drawer of the draft, which was in favor of Bro. Ferguson, and examined the advices he had received of the payment thereof, which merely stated that the amount had been paid, without stating to whom, or how endorsed and that they had made arrangements with Bro. Miskin, to obtain the information to whom it was paid and how endorsed."

Resolved—"That a committee be appointed to consult upon the propriety of taking further steps to procure a Grand Warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, and to recommend such measures as they may deem expedient, and to report to the Convention as soon as convenient."

Bro. Z. M. Phillips was re-elected President of the Convention, and Bro. John Dean elected Secretary. Bro. John W. Ferguson received the thanks of the Body for his past services as Secretary.

Resolved—"That five District Visitors be appointed, to be employed discretionally by the Lodges of the District, and that said Visitors shall be paid 5s. per day, together with their reasonable expenses, by the Lodges which they visit. Their duties defined in the 9th article of association."

"The following brethren were appointed :

- WILLIAM CAMPBELL, for the District of Johnstown.
- CHRISTIAN FRY, Midland District.
- ELISHA RUGG, Newcastle District.
- JOSIAH CUSHMAN, Home District.
- ABNER EVERETT, Gore, London, and Niagara Dist.

"The Committee appointed to take into consideration what further steps may be necessary to procure a warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, reported :

"That considering the present flourishing state of the Convention, they deem it inexpedient to take any further steps to procure a Grand Warrant until advices are received as to the success of the measures already adopted."

The members of the Grand Convention were evidently losing expectation of procuring a warrant from England, and fast verging towards an indifference to the subject ; and by a natural consequence, the Convention assumed more and more the functions of a Grand Lodge.

The failure of receiving any reply to their several petitions and appeals to the Grand Master, and more especially the want of common courtesy shewn by the Grand Secretary in not even acknowledging the receipt of the £30 sent for the purpose of defraying any expenses that might be incurred in complying with their wishes, must have been strongly felt by the brethren ; some light, however, began to break upon them, which caused another letter to be addressed to the Grand Secretary of England by Bro. Dean, Secretary to the Convention. The letter is long, but as it states the whole case so clearly, and is written in such a manly, independent spirit, but withal so courteously, we do not venture to abridge it.

BATH, U. C., 20th Nov., 1821.

R. W. SIR & BROTHER,

"In consequence of information from T. Laughton, the bearer of my former letter to you," (Bro. Dean here makes a marginal note that the letter referred to was a private communication.) "I am induced once more to address you on behalf of the Convention on the subject of the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge in this Province."

"It appears by Bro. Laughton's letter, that the reason of our petition not being attended to arises from the neglect of the Grand Officers of the former Provincial Grand Lodge, in not making proper returns to the Grand Lodge of England, and from there being no copy of the Grand Warrant granted to our late Brother Jervis, to be found ; in consequence of which, proof is wanted of our being a regular Body of Masons."

"For your satisfaction, I enclose you such a copy of that instrument as I have been able to obtain, which, from information, I believe is deficient in nothing but the titles of the R. W. Grand Officers, which were unfortunately omitted in copying, as at the time it was copied, it was intended only to satisfy the minds of such Brethren as were desirous of ascertaining what power was granted to our late Bro. Jervis by that instrument. You will perceive this warrant was granted by the Duke of Athol, 7th March, 1792, at which time, I believe, there were two or three Grand Lodges existing in England acting entirely independent of each other, since which, an union has been effected between the said Grand Lodges, and all Masons in England are now united under the government of the "United Grand Lodge of England."

"Having never received a communication from the Grand Lodge of England since the union, what information we have received on the subject is unofficial, yet we have reason to suppose that the Grand Lodge under whose authority this Grand Warrant was granted was included in the "Union," and of course that such power as was granted in that instrument will be recognized."

"It appears that our late Provincial Grand Master was empowered to grant dispensations for the holding of Lodges, &c., to continue in force for the space of twelve calendar months, "and no longer." Whether that power has been exceeded must be left to the decision of the present Grand Lodge of England."

"When the Convention was first called, we were not aware of this circumstance, or of the degree of power vested in our late Provincial Grand Master, but upon obtaining a copy, we were convinced that whatever power was granted died with our Grand Master, and our attention was immediately turned to the most proper means to be used for obtaining legal power to hold a Grand Lodge, and the result of our deliberations at our several meetings has been communicated to you, not doubting that our communications would be attended to, and that we should, if irregular in our proceedings, be informed of our errors and corrected. But until the receipt of Bro. Laughton's letter, we were utterly in the dark respecting the fate of our communications."

"As to our Lodges continuing working under the assumed power of the Convention, we can only say that such a course was deemed essential, as at

"its commencement, Masonry was at an extremely low ebb, and it was deemed, from the peculiar situation of the Craft, expedient to continue working, in order to raise our Lodges to a respectable position, not only by the admission of worthy members, but by excluding unworthy, and trusting that the Grand Lodge of England would sanction our proceedings."

"And our exertions have thus far been successful, our Lodges are rapidly rising in respectability and Masonry is beginning here to assume that rank which its pure principles merit. And this change we must attribute to the exertions of the convention although under such embarrassing circumstances in relation to our communications directed to you as grand secretary of the United G. Lodge of England."

"We have constant and regular communications with several Grand Lodges and Chapters, and with the exception of not gaining the object of our application to the Grand Lodge of England, all our measures have the desired effect."

"It may be necessary to observe, that for many years an unfortunate schism has prevailed between the brethren of York and Niagara, the details of which I do not deem necessary to relate. I will merely state that since some time previous to the death of our late Provincial Grand Master, this schism has continued, and I am informed that the brethren of Niagara have pretended to hold a Grand Lodge without any authority whatever. The grand warrant (which we humbly conceive gave power to our late Provincial Grand Master Jervis only, and could not be transferred,) being in possession of our late Provincial Grand Master or his heirs."

"But recently the Grand Warrant was obtained from one of his heirs, and upon getting that into their possession, they have proceeded to elect grand officers and hold a Grand Lodge, founding their authority, it is presumed, upon the old Grand Warrant. Although, I understand, that subsequently they have sent a delegate to the Grand Lodge of England, for what purpose I know not."

"We have not the least wish to impute their proceedings to improper motives, but we must think they have no legal power to hold a Grand Lodge under the old Grand Warrant, as we conceive the power granted in that instrument, died with our late Provincial Grand Master."

"Lodges belonging to the convention have been summoned to attend their communications, and we presume those Lodges not falling in with their views, is the cause of their sending a delegate to the Grand Lodge of England, we presume, for the purpose of obtaining a new Grand Warrant, and if that is their object, it is the same as we have been laboring to obtain since the first calling a convention."

"This dissension is very unpleasant, but we could not conscientiously join them in holding a Grand Lodge, under what we could not consider proper authority. But should the Grand Lodge of England, think proper to establish a Provincial Grand Lodge in this Province, we fervently hope that their measures may be such as will obviate all difficulties, and heal all differences, and we await their decision, confident that it will be

"dictated by wisdom and calculated to promote the true interests of the craft."

"It is our sincere wish that the proceedings of the convention may be fully investigated, and if any improper steps are discovered, that we may be informed."

"Our proceedings have been forwarded to you and we think it of the highest importance to the welfare to the craft in this Province, that our situation may be taken into consideration."

"You must be sensible that our situation is extremely unpleasant, and perhaps unprecedented. We have made such representations to you, as the proper organ through which to address the M. W. Grand Master, as we deemed it our duty to do, and adopted such measures as we thought the exigencies of our case required; we have repeatedly solicited that our case might be taken into consideration, and while we are assured, by reference to the former proceedings of your ancient and honorable body, that the communication from Brethren in foreign countries have never been promptly attended to, we have the mortification of finding that our solicitations, although we have looked for counsel and assistance as a child to a parent, have failed of procuring even a reply. Had our masonic characters been doubted, would it have been improper to have intimated it to us? If upon investigation of the subject we had been found to have been worthy, ought we not to have been gratified in having our requests acted upon, and our petitions attended to?"

"If any of our measures are deemed improper, we can only plead error of judgment,—our intentions have been good—and here Sir, permit me to say, that as conjecture has been our sole guide in judging of the reason of our getting no reply to our communications, we have never known on what point to touch in addressing you, and until the receipt of Bro. Laughton's letter, were entirely ignorant upon the subject."

"But had that information been at first communicated, we could long since have shewn to you our standing. We could, if necessary, in addition to shewing the authority of our late Grand Master, (had that authority, or the legality of masons made under it been doubted,) have selected from the members of the convention, respectable masons, resident in the Province, of good standing and reputation, who were made masons under the authority of other Grand Lodges, whose authority is acknowledged by masons in all parts of the world, and if I mistake not, many whose names are on the registry of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland."

"Respecting the appointment of a Provincial Grand Master, we know the prerogative is vested in the M. W. Grand Master of England, but in exercising that prerogative in the appointment of a Provincial Grand Master of this Province, we concluded that our wishes might be complied with, and therefore in our petition of 28th August, 1817, took the liberty of nominating Roderick McKay, Esq., considering him a proper person to fill that office, and after his death, in our petition of 10th February, 1819, prayed for the establishment of a Provincial Grand Lodge upon the same footing as in Lower Canada, where we had been informed they elected their officers annually by

"patent; and in the letter of John W Ferguson, then secretary of the convention, requested that in the event of the patent being granted, the names of the presiding officers might be inserted, and we now request that if such power can consistently, with the Rules and Regulations of the United Grand Lodge of England be granted, that power may be given us to elect our successors, subject to the approval or disapproval of the M. W. Grand Master of England, in which case, we should conceive the power granted rather to the body of Masons collectively; than to any individual, still holding ourselves amenable to the authority from which we receive that power, for the proper exercise of it. Our distance from England renders it difficult for the M. W. Grand Master of Masons in England, to know who in this country would be the most suitable person to fill the important office of Provincial Grand Master. A knowledge of this induced us to recommend, in our former petitions, such persons as we deemed suitable, and such as we considered would give general satisfaction to the craft, and for the same reasons we now take the liberty of recommending our worthy brother James Fitzgibbon, Esq., for the office of Provincial Grand Master, formerly a member of the Grand Lodge of Lower Canada. We conceive him to be a very proper person for the office, and well qualified to execute the duties pertaining thereto, and from his correct moral deportment, and the high rank he holds in the esteem of the Provincial Government at York, from the zeal which he manifests in the interests of the craft, and his general perseverance in any cause which he undertakes, we consider him peculiarly qualified to fill the office to the satisfaction of the M. W. Grand Master of England, and with honor to himself; and we think his appointment would perfectly accord with the feelings of every member of the convention, and from his station in life and general character, no person in our knowledge is better qualified to conciliate the feelings of our Niagara Brethren. Under these impressions we hope, that in the event of our petitions being granted, his name may be inserted as first Provincial Grand Master.

"We believe that generally on the appointment of Provincial Grand Masters, power has not been given to the body of Masons over which they preside, to elect their successors, but when our distance is taken into consideration, the complete disorganization of the Provincial Grand Lodge upon the death of the Provincial Grand Master, the possibility of his neglecting his duty and giving dissatisfaction to the Craft here, and the delicacy and difficulty of laying his conduct before the Grand Lodge of England, when our present embarrassed situation is taken into consideration, in a great measure perhaps, arising from causes above hinted at, we flatter ourselves that the Grand Lodge of England will view the subject as we do, and will in the establishment of a second Provincial Grand Lodge in this Province, guard against these evils. We do not feel a desire to trespass upon established usages, or in the least to infringe upon the rights or prerogatives of the M. W. Grand Master of England, but we conceive that many arguments might be urged to illustrate the policy of establishing such a precedent in cases similar to ours.

"And now, Sir, permit us, through you, to draw the attention of the Grand Lodge of England, to another subject connected with the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge here, which although it may be an extremely delicate subject on which to touch, yet we hope it may not be deemed improper to notice. We allude to the fees required by the Grand Lodge of England from Provincial Grand Lodges. If I mistake not, 10s. 6d. stg. is required for every initiation, 2s. 6d. register fees, and 2s. annually from each member.

"Permit me, sir, to state the peculiar situation of the Brethren in this Province. Emigration from the mother countries is rapidly pouring in here, and we have hitherto found among the emigrants, many Brethren and their families in distress, in a land of strangers and friendless, could they not find the fraternal pressure of a brother's hand; but his they have found, and their appeal has not been made in vain; we have relieved their necessities, and as far as we could, consistently with our duties to ourselves and families, have administered to the relief of Brethren made under an authority whose countenance we have long been soliciting. In proportion as we contribute to the support of the benevolent fund in England, ours will be lessened. We do not wish to be released from the payment of the above fees, but if it can be consistent with the policy pursued by the United Grand Lodge of England, to appoint an agent in this Province, into whose hands we can pay such amounts as are destined for the benevolent fund of England, for the sole purpose of relieving distressed brethren, emigrating from the mother countries, and exhibiting credentials from their respecting Grand Lodges, we should humbly conceive it as peculiarly adapted to the relative situation of the craft in the two countries, which we must consider as branches of one common family, and should esteem it a great pleasure in thus being enabled more effectually to relieve the distresses of our European Brethren, who may emigrate to this country.

"Permit us, sir, to enquire of you whether our communications have ever been laid before the United Grand Lodge of England, or whether our petitions have ever been presented to the M. W. Grand Master, and also to enquire of you, to what account the amount of a draft remitted to you by Brother J. W. Ferguson, while Secretary of the convention, (which was intended to have been applied to the purpose of defraying the expenses of procuring a Grand Warrant or Patent,) for £30 stg., has been placed. The draft alluded to was dated at Kingston, 14 June, 1819, drawn by Richard Miskin on Lewis Barnaby, Cross street, Chatham, Kent, was endorsed by Brother Ferguson, (in whose favor it was drawn,) payable to your order, and on the 30th Aug., 1819, was paid by Richard Thompson, Esq., and the amount received by him.

"We have now to request of you that no time may be lost in laying our wishes before the Grand Lodge of England or its presiding officers, together with our former communications, for final determination. By application to Bro. Laughten, all the information in his power, in illustrating our views and intentions, will be given. We think it of the utmost importance to the welfare and honor of the craft in this country, that our case should

"speedily be taken into consideration, as the result of this application will probably determine our future proceedings

"The great object in view in calling the convention was the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge under the authority of the United Grand Lodge of England, and we have steadily persevered in our efforts to obtain our object; although we have been peculiarly unfortunate, yet we are sanguine in the hope that the copy of the former Grand Warrant, now enclosed, will do away all doubt of our Masonic character, and that in consequence the prayer of our petition will be granted, and we hope by adhering to the conditions of our Warrant and strictly performing the requirements of the United Grand Lodge of England, to demonstrate the purity of our intentions, and prove that the confidence reposed in us is not misplaced. With a thorough conviction of the purity of the principles of Masonry, and a sincere desire to extend their good effects as far as in our power, and not to trespass upon, but to keep within the ancient landmarks of the order, our efforts to place ourselves upon a firm footing have hitherto proved fruitless, yet we persevere in what we consider the path of our duty—and although it has been to us peculiarly "rugged," yet we have faith to believe that the edifice, to lay the foundation of which we have so long been toiling, will yet be erected under the patronage of the United Grand Lodge of England, and we pray, that favored with the blessing of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, it may never be profaned by unhallowed footsteps, and that it may prove a shelter to the distressed members of our Order, and shield them from the merciless blasts of misfortune and adversity.

"I enclose you a copy of our proceedings at the last Annual Communication of the Convention; I think copies of all our former proceedings have been forwarded to you, and I presume have been received.

"Should the expense of the Warrant exceed the £30 stg. remitted to you, upon the receipt of the Warrant it will be forwarded to you.

"Brother Laughten, I believe, returns in the spring, and will take charge of any communications you may think proper to make, or of the Warrant if granted; but should he not return so soon, I must earnestly beg of you to give us such information as is requested above, together with the result of our application, as soon as convenient. The most expeditious mode of conveyance is by way of New York.

"A great number of Brethren are anxiously awaiting the effect of our several communications and petitions. I am therefore confident, that in order to relieve their anxiety, you will not delay a moment in laying our case before the proper officers.

"I have the honor of subscribing myself, R. W. Sir,
Yours fraternally, (Signed), JOHN DEAN,
Sec. of Convention.

"P. S.—We have written Brother Laughten requesting him to render any assistance in his power in the above business.

"You will consider him the authorized agent of the convention, as whatever he may do in our behalf, as to expenses or other business relative to obtaining the Warrant, will be acknowledged by the convention. (Signed), JOHN DEAN,
Sec. of Convention.

The Craftsman, AND BRITISH AMERICAN MASONIC RECORD.

"THE QUEEN AND THE CRAFT."

HAMILTON,..... JUNE 15, 1867.

REFLECTIONS ON LIGHT.

THE word Light is susceptible of numerous significations, but in the present Essay those significations may be divided into two chief heads—*physical light* and *moral light*. By *physical light* is meant the light which burst upon the world when, "in the beginning," on the morning of Creation, "God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Not, however, that *that first light* was the glorious light which we enjoy when the sun sheds its dazzling brilliancy athwart the skies, and displays in all their beauty the trees of the forest, the flowers of the field, the birds, the beasts, the insects, and all that renders this fair earth so charming to the eye of man; for at that period, on that *first* day, neither sun, nor moon, nor stars had been summoned "to divide the day from the night," and to "be for lights in the firmament of heaven to give light upon earth." The *first* light of which mention is made by Moses, in the Book of Genesis, was a common brightness only—brightness as distinguished from the chaotic darkness that had previously obtained. Still, physical light includes the light imparted by all the luminous bodies. And how glorious are those lights! Imagine, for a moment, our condition were they, for any lengthened period, removed.

To some extent so grievous a deprivation may be realized by an examination of the record of the ninth of the "plagues" inflicted upon Pharaoh by the agency of Moses, the plague of darkness—darkness caused by mists so dense that they were "*felt*," were *perceptible* by contact with the skin. "And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: they saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days." What a state of terror, of confusion must have prevailed!—enhanced, in the case of the Egyptians, by *superstitious* dread; for, learned as they were, exceeding in scientific attainments all the other nations of the globe in those days, they, like some unhappily in our generation, carried away by the pride engendered by such knowledge, refused to believe what was not evident to their gross senses, and transferred their allegiance and their worship from Him whose throne is Heaven, whose footstool is Earth, whose temple is the Universe—the Lord God invisible—to one of that God's creatures, (all glorious, but still a creature) the Sun: two of their most revered deities having been Osiris and Isis, personifications of the "greater" and the "lesser

light" hung by the Great Architect of the Universe "in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness."

Still, although the horrible dread undergone by the Egyptians must have been intensified by the withdrawal—they might well have feared forever—of the presence of the great object of their idolatrous worship, our own feelings would be such as we scarcely dare to contemplate, if it pleased God, as a punishment for our national sins—and great and numberless they are—to withdraw from us the brilliant source of light and heat for even a shorter interval than that experienced by them.

Such must suffice at present as a brief and very imperfect notice of physical light, the light derived from the heavenly luminaries, more especially from the Sun. We could scarcely, constituted as we are, live without that light. Vegetation could not survive its total withdrawal, and imperfectly as we, with our finite powers, can understand the mechanism of the Universe, we cannot but gratefully acknowledge that Light was designed for the eye of man, and that the eye of man was adapted to the Light.

Hereafter as one of the great Patrons of the Masonic Order, St. John the Divine, tells us in the account of his Apostolic vision, those to whom is given an entrance into the "new Jerusalem" shall need no "light of the sun," "for the Lord God, Himself, shall give them light;" the glory of God "shall lighten" that heavenly abode, "and the Lamb is the light thereof."

Moral Light is the light imparted by Religion, and is a light which also has its source in God. It is of moral light that Members of the Masonic Body are, or ever ought to be, in search—of greater manifestations of that light, of a clearer insight into the mind and will of Him who is Light itself. And it should never be forgotten that this metaphoric identification of light with the great Fountain of Light, is used constantly by the Author of that Holy Book, without the exhibition of whose open page in our Lodges no Masonic business can be transacted.—David, "the man after" God's "own heart," beseeches Jehovah thus: "Lift up the *Light* of Thy countenance upon us." And again he exclaims: "The Lord is my *light* and my salvation." And, once more: "Thy Word is a lamp and a *light* to my paths." And King Solomon, our great Patron and Exemplar under the elder dispensation, declares that "the path of the just is as a shining *light*;" and again: "The law," that is, the law of God, "is *light*." And so quotations might be multiplied from the writings of the Prophets, and from almost every book within the compass of the Old Testament, to an extent that would well nigh weary with reiteration.

Nor is the New Testament less abounding in similar illustrations. The beloved Apostle affirms that "God is *Light*." St. Paul exhorts the Roman Christians to "put on the armour of *light*;" and to the Corinthians speaks of "the *light* of the Gospel," and he beseeches the Ephesians to "walk as children of *light*."

So then as "God is light," as he is the source of all light, moral as well as physical, and as the light we seek to enable us to see our way through the sin-engendered darkness and intricacies of this world, and to trace the path which leads to His immediate Presence in the world to come, as *that* light is displayed in God's Word alone, that Word should be studied unceasingly, prayerfully, faithfully, humbly and it will be to us what the pillar of fire was to the Israelites of old; a *light* unfailing, guiding our footsteps through the wilderness of this world, nor leaving us until it has fulfilled its heavenly mission, by displaying before our enraptured vision the gate, the open gate, of access to the celestial land of promise, the Canaan above.

Let us, as Masons, take heed that our "light so shine before" the world "that they may see" our "good works" and be induced, by seeing them, to disbelieve the slur that is sometimes attempted, though without any foundation in truth, to be cast upon the Craft by those unacquainted with its mystery—that the observance of those mysteries is inconsistent with the principles of Christianity. The charge is false: be it ours to *prove* its falsity. We are taught by Christianity our two chief duties, and those duties are of universal inculcation in our Lodges—Love to Almighty God, and love to our brethren for God's sake.

VINCENT CLEMENTI, G. C.
Incumbent of North Douro, C. W.

GRAND LODGE.

The twelfth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada will be held at the City of Kingston, commencing at High Twelve, on Wednesday, 10th July prox. This meeting is likely to be an important and interesting one, and we hope to see all the Lodges represented at it. By the usual circular issued by the Grand Secretary, it will have been noticed that part of the second day of the session will be specially devoted to the exemplification of the Ritual of the first, second and third degrees of symbolic Masonry; and the hope is expressed that every Lodge will feel itself bound to be represented, for the purpose of acquiring the correct work. The suggestion, we feel sure, will have its effect. Nothing can be more important than uniformity in work. The effort should be to determine upon a correct and philosophical ritual, and this being done,

all Lodges, without exception, should be required to conform to it.

Another subject which will probably come up for consideration, is the altered position of the Grand Lodge in consequence of the confederation of the Provinces. The term, "Canada," now bears a much larger signification than it possessed under the old union, and, as applied to the present Province of Canada, hereafter to be known as the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, it has no proper significance. The "Grand Lodge of Canada," therefore, as applied simply to two Provinces of the Dominion, is a misnomer. We cannot very well avoid the consideration of this subject at the approaching meeting at Kingston, and we suggest it here, as one of the probable topics for discussion, and as certainly the most important, rather with the view of directing the attention of Masons to it, that they may come prepared intelligently to consider the question, than with any intention of expressing any opinion of our own. It is not likely that any final decision will be come to, but some action will be taken, either by the appointment of a Committee or in some other way, to prepare a well digested system of Masonic government for the country, to be submitted at the Annual Communication of 1868.

The Grand Secretary calls the attention of Lodges to the resolution of Grand Lodge, to the effect that at future Annual Communications, the Grand Secretary be required to furnish the Committee on Credentials with a list of the Lodges over twelve months in arrear, in order that the regular Representatives, or a Delegate from any such Lodge, may be debarred from entering Grand Lodge and taking part in its proceedings until such arrearages are paid up. And he urges, in view of this resolution, that all dues payable to Grand Lodge should be paid at once. We hope his suggestion will be met in a prompt spirit. The punctual payment of Grand Lodge dues, even as a matter of economy and convenience, should be observed by every Lodge.

We hope in our next to be able to publish the Address of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, and a short summary of the proceedings of Grand Lodge.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Grand Lodge of the State of New York, the leading Grand Lodge of the American Union, during its session last week, passed a resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and welcoming it into the fraternity of Grand Lodges. This act on the part of the largest and most influential Masonic body on the continent, settles, we take it, beyond dispute the status of our Nova Scotian brethren; and we can only hope that the Mother Grand Lodges of Great Britain will not any longer withhold their friendly recognition.

DEATH OF BRO. SIR ARCH. ALISON, BART.

We have this month to record the death of another great man and eminent Mason. Right W. Bro. Sir Archibald Alison, Bart, Prov. G. M., of Glasgow, is no more. About the middle of May, the worthy Baronet was seized with a serious illness, which, at his advanced age—seventy-five—proved fatal. On the 10th May he was at the County Buildings, attending to his official duties as Sheriff of Glasgow, apparently in his usual state of health; on the following day he remained at home, being afraid to risk the recurrence of a bronchial affection to which he has been for some time subject. During the following Sunday and Monday, though not seriously indisposed, he still thought it prudent to remain within doors; and on the Tuesday, a sharp attack of his old complaint obliged him to keep his room. He was attended by Dr. S. A. Simpson and Dr. Gairdner, and on the following day, the malady showing no signs of abatement, Dr. Christison, of Edinburg, was sent for. It appears that a tumor was formed in the windpipe, occasioning great difficulty of breathing, and the distinguished patient remained in a very precarious condition until the 24th ult., when he breathed his last.

Brother Sir Archibald Alison was born of Scotch parentage, at the Parsonage House of Kenley, in Shropshire, in 1792. His father was an Episcopal Clergyman in Edinburg, holding various livings in England; and his mother belonged to the remarkable family of the Gregorys, famous for their genius as Mathematicians. He was educated at the University of Edinburg, where he carried off the highest honours in Greek and Mathematics, and in 1814 was called to the Scotch bar. He was, in 1823, appointed an Advocate-depute, an office which he held until 1830. At that time he wrote a work on Criminal Law, which is now one of the standard authorities on that subject. Subsequently he was appointed Sheriff of Lanarkshire, an office corresponding closely to that of County Judge in England, except that the jurisdiction is more extended, and he retained the position of Sheriff down to the time of his death. In 1845 he was elected Lord Rector of Mareschal College, Aberdeen; and in 1851 Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow. In the following year he was created a Baronet, and in 1853 a D. C. L. of Oxford. As a writer he was both eloquent and voluminous, his History of Europe being his most important production. He became a Freemason early in life, and took a deep and intelligent interest in the progress of the Craft, occupying at the time of his death the honorable position of Prov. Grand Master of Glasgow. His death will leave a blank in Scottish Masonry that will not easily be filled up.

MASONIC ASYLUM.

We directed attention some time ago to the action of the Board of General Purposes on the subject of a Masonic Asylum, and to the circular of the Grand Secretary, issued in accordance with instructions of the Board. That circular requested from the different Lodges answers to certain questions relating to the action already taken by the Lodge, if any, on the subject of an Asylum, the disposition of the Lodge to grant further assistance, and the private opinion entertained by the brethren on the subject of a Masonic Asylum. We are sorry to learn that, as yet, very few of the Lodges have sent in any answer to this circular.

In view of the meeting of Grand Lodge, and the desirability of some action being taken on the subject, we sincerely hope that every Lodge will feel it to be a duty to reply to the Grand Secretary's circular. Whatever opinions may obtain on the subject itself—and of the importance of such an institution as is contemplated—if it be within our means, there can be no doubt, every Lodge should feel itself called upon to candidly state the opinion of its members. We hope, therefore, that Lodges will return replies to the circular before the 6th of July next, in order that they may be submitted to Grand Lodge.

UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

A correspondent writes:—"You would confer a great favor on me by giving some remarks in your next issue of the proper course for a Brother to pursue towards a Brother who has become totally depraved, in fact, a confirmed drunkard, and abuses his family when in liquor. He called upon me lately when in one of his drunken fits in a crowd in such a manner, that I was made to blush for the Order. I should like some guide to go by. I do not know how I ought to treat him. Please say something on the subject." There is but one course for our Brother to pursue in this case, to charge the offender with unmasonic conduct or gross immorality before the Lodge, and have the facts investigated by a Committee. The antient charges are most emphatic on the subject of such offences as those described. On the subject of behaviour, the charges say:—"you are to act as becomes a moral and wise man; particularly not to let your family, friends and neighbours know the concerns of the Lodge, &c., but wisely to consult your own honor, and that of your antient brotherhood, for reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your health by not continuing together too late or too long from home after Lodge hours are past; and by avoiding of glutony or drunkenness, that your families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working." The observance of these antient charges

is enjoined upon Masons as part of their most solemn obligations; and the interests of the Craft, and the influence and character of Freemasonry throughout the world, demand that they should be strictly enforced. We are inclined to fear that sometimes too little attention is paid to these charges, that they are not sufficiently often brought under the notice of brethren, and that some even scarcely know of their existence. Nothing could be more unfortunate than this. If Masonry is, in reality, what it is represented to be, "a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," it is of the utmost importance that its morality should be unimpeached and unimpeachable. And this can only be secured by a kindly and fraternal, and at the same time strict enforcement of the requirements of the antient charges. Our correspondent will see, therefore, that his duty is simply to bring a formal charge against the brother of whom he complains, and have him dealt with according to the interests of the Craft, and the preservation of its pure and unsullied character.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE.

At the recent May meeting of the Royal Freemason's School for female children, being the seventy-ninth anniversary festival, which was held at the new Hall, Great Queen Street, no less than a hundred and thirty stewards were present, the largest number ever got together on a similar occasion. The festival of this institution, although the latest in the series, is always looked forward to with great interest, being the oldest institution founded by the Craft. The Chair was occupied by Bro. the Earl of Limerick, Prov. G. Master for Bristol, in the absence of Earl de Grey and Ripon, Dep. G. Master, who was prevented by domestic affliction from attending. The chairman in proposing the toast of the evening, after the scholars of the school had entered in procession, accompanied by the Stewards and lady officers of the institution, referred in eloquent terms to the work which it was accomplishing. It was founded in 1788, and although it commenced with comparatively few in number, it has gone on increasing until it has reached its present number of 105. During that time, 868 children, the daughters of deceased brethren, have been admitted to the School, and 763 have left it, and in no single instance have one of those girls disgraced the school by their after conduct. In 1865 the London lodges contributed £2844 to the funds, and the Provinces £1213. In 1866, London contributed £3281, and the Provinces £1499. This year, the subscriptions announced at the festival amounted to £5812.3.6, with ten lists to come in. That is the largest amount received by any of the Masonic institutions this year; and it marks the pure spirit of benevolence by which our English brethren are animated.

OPENING OF ASCOT LODGE.

The ceremony of opening a new Masonic Lodge, U. D., to be called the "Ascot," took place under the most auspicious circumstances, at Lennoxville, C. E., on Monday evening, 13th May. The zealous spirit of Masonry displayed by our brethren in the Eastern Townships must be a matter of the highest congratulation to all true lovers of the "Craft," for, we believe, in no other section of the Province has there been a steadier and healthier growth of Lodges than in the district to which we have alluded. The following are the officers named in the dispensation: R. W. Bro. I. H. Stearns, (G. J. W.,) Worshipful Master; James Addie, S. W.; Geo. B. Capel, J. W., appointed pro tem; O. T. Stanley, Treasurer; Frs. Bennett, Secretary; J. B. Hyndman, S. D.; T. B. Harris, J. D.; Stephen Clark and James Reid, Stewards; Hiram Mills, D. C.; Charles R. Dearnaly, I. G.; Jas. W. Leslie, Tyler. Brethren from the neighboring Lodges, as well as others at a distance, were present, so that a goodly assemblage of visitors added to the pleasure of the occasion. At half-past seven o'clock, p. m., the brethren having been called to order, the Worshipful Master assumed the Chair, when the Lodge was formally opened. A pleasant feature in the proceedings of the evening was the presentation of a volume of the Sacred Law by the W. M. of Victoria Lodge, No. 71, Sherbrooke, in behalf of the officers and brethren of that Lodge. W. Bro. Thomas, in presenting the volume, made a few appropriate remarks expressive of the pleasure he, in concert with his brethren, felt in offering this proof of their brotherly love and regard and wishing the Ascot Lodge prosperity. To which, the Worshipful Master made a suitable and feeling reply. Victoria, No. 71, may be called the Mother Lodge of the Ascot, which accounts for the happy presentation alluded to and shows the good feeling existing between the two Lodges. R. W. Brother J. H. Graham, D. D. G. M., E. T. District, arrived by the late train, and having visited the Lodge duly installed the Worshipful Master. The R. W. Bro. addressed the brethren for a few minutes, speaking in the highest terms of R. W. Bro. Stearns, and congratulating them on the worthy choice they had made. He also complimented them on the beauty and taste displayed within the Lodge, but more especially the perfect arrangement of the room and the anti-rooms. At a later hour in the evening, the Brethren partook of a sumptuous entertainment provided at Bro. Stephen Clarke's Hotel, which was in every respect worthy of commendation. The usual loyal toast having been given, others followed and were responded to, songs enlivened the scene, suitable addresses were made, including an interesting account of Masonry in the Eastern Townships, by R. W. Bro. Graham, and after an evening spent in profit and pleasure the brethren were forced to part, hoping to meet again.

Amongst the visitors were W. Bro. T. Milton, P. M., St. Lawrence Lodge; W. Bro. C. Rawson, P. M., Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, E. R.; W. Bros. D. Thomas, S. J. Foss, and J. Hollowell, Victoria Lodge, No. 71, together with several other Brethren from a distance.

EVERY duty is great; great because it tries principle; great, because for the time being it promotes our loyalty to conscience, and our energy.

CHARITY.—A MASONIC INCIDENT.

BY MISS J. M. JACKSON.

"The object of true charity," says a writer in *Sherbourne Journal*, "among Masons, are merit and virtue in distress; persons who are incapable of extricating themselves from misfortunes in their journey through life; industrious men, who, from inevitable accidents, have fallen into ruin; widows left survivors of their husbands, by whose labors they subsisted; orphans, in tender years, left helpless in the world, and the aged, whose spirits are exhausted, unable to procure for themselves sustenance." These sayings indicate that the real object of Masonry is to incite its members to the performance of virtuous deeds, to labors of charity, benevolence, chastity and brotherly love.

In the year 1862, there lived in the State of New York, a man, by trade a stone cutter. Harry Moore whether his business suggested to him the idea of a Mason, we know not, but he resolved to become a Free Mason. When he announced his determination to his maiden sister, who kept house for him, she bitterly opposed it, not wishing him to have a secret beyond her investigation. She dreaded the influence of a powerful Fraternity, learning that his evenings would be spent at the Lodge. But opposition and entreaties were vain. The golden rule, and their sympathy for the unfortunate, all that he had heard of the society, penetrated his soul with their wonderful beauty, and Moore joined the Masons. Each evening that Harry spent at the Lodge, occasioned a bit of coolness on the part of the once smiling sister, and her brother's home became any thing but a paradise to him. At this time it began to be expedient for all loyal men to go forth in defence of the liberty of their country, and Moore was soon ready for military service. The old love returned to the affectionate heart of his sister. She procured all that was needed for the comfort of her soldier brother, and her tears flowed freely as she saw him join his regiment. The horrors of war are too recent to need description. Moore, after enduring many hardships and privations, forced marches and inclement weather, fell a victim to the accidents of the battle field. Besides being wounded, fever ensued, of a typhoid character, and he must have died in that crowded hospital if his brother Masons had not sought him out. As soon as he became convalescent, an exchange of prisoners was effected, and by their kindness he was conveyed home, but a shadow of his former self. Miss Moore received him as one raised from the dead, and she nursed him with all her old love and tenderness. She listened to his praises of the Fraternity, the kindness of the brethren, how they never wearied of their charge, but sat night after night in turn by his sick bed, of comforts procured, regardless of time or price, guarding his life, as though their own depended upon his recovery, arranging every thing for his discharge, and now assisted him to support his household, until he was able to return to his work. Amid tears of joy and gratitude, his sister called upon God to bless the brotherhood of Masons. "Bless them," she said, "I do not know what secrets they have; I know that they are good, for they practice what they preach. Bless them for their kindness to my brother, for their charitable deeds, their brotherly love, for it has its

foundation in God. May every moral and social duty cement them to constitute links in the chain that binds man to his brother. May the All-seeing Eye look down upon them in love, as they perform labors which purify the heart and elevate the soul, to prepare it for a more exalted employment in the Grand Lodge above.

PERSECUTION.

Bro. Hughan, in his History of Freemasonry, relates the following :

"A Lodge of Emergency was held April 28th, 1820 (in Cornwall, England.) to initiate two gentlemen, whose stay was very uncertain, being seafaring men. The visitors were Bros. Corfield, Hyslop, and Wynterbottom. C. Suarez being a Spaniard, and unacquainted with the English language, Bros. Hyslop and Wynterbottom kindly acted as interpreters. These three had just arrived from Carthagena, South America, where Bro. Hyslop was thrown into prison at the instance of Morilla, the Spanish General, for refusing to declare the names of the Masons in the province. On his persisting in his refusal, he was, amidst increased sufferings and privations, thrice bound and led out for execution, but was each time saved by the interposition of Colonel Torey, who had secretly visited him in prison, encouraged him to persevere in his fidelity, and on one or two occasions had watched over him whilst he slept.

"Morilla at length left Carthagena, and Hyslop was set at liberty. A meeting was held as early as possible after his release, and it was not until then that Hyslop knew that Torey was a brother. They embraced each other most ardently, the former telling the Colonel he had thrice saved his life, and amidst much joy and gratitude, the remaining brethren hailed Hyslop as the man who had, in all probability, by his fidelity and courage, saved the lives of many who had become members of the Craft."

SYMBOLISM OF THE APRON.

BY ROB MORRIS.

Among the undefined ghosts of Masonic tradition floating through the brains of the older writers and historians of the Craft, and of which Dr. George Oliver made so extensive a use in his life-time, there is one upon which a very pretty ceremony has been founded, entitled *The Perfect Square*. The avowment is made that at the Dedication of King Solomon's Temple the Freemasons were honored with a position enabling them both to see and hear the proceedings in their entirety. They arranged themselves in the form of a *Perfect Square*, of which the Sacred Fane was the centre, and standing thus heard all that sublime Dedication Prayer which echoed back from the surrounding hills, and saw those evidences of Divine Presence and approval, the descent of the Fire and Cloud upon the Temple.

Upon their return to Phœnicia, thus runneth the mythical story, they agreed to perpetuate the remembrance of these wondrous events by commencing and terminating each day's Masonic proceeding by forming the *Perfect Square* with mystical ceremonies. This has been continued in some form or other to the present day. In our

own country a very pretty ceremony is practiced entitled "*The Perfect Square*," for which the "*Gavel Song*," published in the *Masonic Monthly* recently, was written. It is particularly popular in the Western States. It embodies leading ideas, viz : 1. The one above-named ; 2. The Pilgrimage of Israel through the Desert ; 3. The Symbolism of the Apron ; 4. Crossing the River of Death. The following lines suggest the third of these thoughts.

This fair and stainless thing I take
To be my badge for virtue's sake ;
Its ample strings that gird me round
My constant cabel-tow are found ;
And as securely they are tied
So may true faith with me abide ;
And as I face the sunny South,
I pledge to God my Mason's truth,
That while on earth I do remain
My Apron shall not have a stain !

This fair and stainless thing I raise,
In memory of Apprentice days ;
When on the checkered pavement wide,
With guage and gavel well supplied,
I kept my garments free from soil,
Though labouring in a menial toil ;
And as I face the golden West,
I call my Master to attest,
That while on earth I do remain,
My Apron shall not have a stain !

This fair and stainless thing I lower,—
Its Prentice aid I need no more ;
For laws and principles are given
The Fellow-craft direct from heaven ;
To help the needy,—keep his trust,—
Observe the precepts of the just ;
And as I face the darkened North
I send this solemn promise forth,
That while on earth I do remain
My Apron shall not have a stain !

This fair and stainless thing I fold,
A Master Mason now behold !
A welcome guest in every land,
With princes and with kings to stand ;
Close-tyled within my heart of hearts,
I keep all secret arts and parts,
And try to walk the heavenly road,
In daily intercourse with God ;
And as I face the mystic East
I vow by Him I love the best
That while on earth I do remain,
My Apron shall not have a stain !

This fair and stainless thing I doff ;
But though I take my Apron off,
And lay the stainless thing aside,
Its teachings always shall abide ;
That God has given Light Divine
That we may walk opposed to sin,—
That sympathy and brotherly love
Are emanations from above ;—
That life itself is only given
To square and shape our souls for heaven,—
The glorious Temple in the sky,
The grand Celestial Lodge on high.

The recitation of these lines, associated with appropriate ceremonies, enkindles a fine glow of fraternal sentiment ; while the subsequent ceremonial reference to the "higher shore and the dark flowing waters beyond" impress the mind with truths which cannot be too frequently inculcated upon us, viz, the certainty of our end and the probable brevity of our stay in the house made with hands !"

The Grand Secretary has made arrangements with the Grand Trunk Railway and its connections, to convey brethren to Kingston and back for one fare.

THE SECRETS OF MASONRY.

The public sometimes ask of us, "What are those signs, grips, passes and ceremonies which Freemasons prize so greatly and preserve so sacredly among themselves?" We reply, "These would be of no use to you even if we could communicate them, partly because you are not first prepared in heart understandingly to receive them, and partly because you would be under no pledges to answer or even preserve them. They have a special meaning to those who are *first prepared in heart*. The cry of the little one in its cradle, which to you, its mother, is so fraught with meaning, has little meaning to others. The love-look of the maiden, which to her lover is expressive of such a world of tenderness, conveys but little meaning to me. And so it is with these signs and other methods of Masonic recognition; they only serve a purpose to those who are prepared to *understand* and to *respond* to them, but would convey no meaning to you.

"Yet we will communicate to you some signs and passwords and a ceremonial form *full of Freemasonry*, and equally as binding upon *you* as they are upon *us*.

"1st. When from the lips of parent or Christian friend you hear the words of solemn counsel, warning, rebuke or exhortation, *answer those words*, we charge you in the name of God, by refraining from evil practices and drawing nearer to the cross of Him whose spirit has put it into the hearts of loving friends thus to do you good. Those words of counsel are the 'true words of Freemasonry,' ancient as the warning words which God addressed to our erring parents in Eden.

"2d. When upon the convulsed face of suffering humanity you perceive the tears slowly trickling down—when you see the hands painfully clenched under the agonizings of human sorrow, and hear the choking sob and heavy sigh, answer those signs, we charge you in the name of God, answer them quickly and give such sympathy and aid as it may be in your power to afford. These are the 'grand hailing signs of Masonry,' ancient as the day that Rachel sorrowed in her death-pangs and universally binding upon Masons and anti-masons, man and woman, to the last syllable of recorded time."

THE MASTER'S DEGREE OF CORNWALL.

Bro. William James Hughan, in his History of Freemasonry in Cornwall, says:

It is supposed, on good evidence, that the degree of Master Mason, as a *secret and distinct degree*, was instituted about 1720, and that its ritual then was vastly different to what it is now, as at that period the Royal Arch degree was unknown, and its mysteries formed part of the third degree from that year to about 1740, when an alteration was made. These alterations, we believe, continued for some years, and then another change was made, as also in the two previous degrees, and at the "Union in 1813" the final and unalterable forms were decided upon and established. Before 1717, Freemasonry, as a secret institution, was represented by the "Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees," since by the third degree, and now by the three Craft degrees combined, including the "Holy Royal Arch," of the Grand Lodge of England.

ORDER OF THE PALLADIUM.

The date of the origin of this society is unknown. It first appeared at Douay, France. Its ritual and statutes are ascribed to Fenelon; the rules admitted both sexes to membership; its professed objects were spiritual and moral improvement. The male members were called the "Companions of Ulysses," and the female the "Sisters of Penelope." The seal of the Order was a heart, crowned with flowers, upon an altar, ornamented with a garland, with a branch of laurel at the right, and another of palm, at the left. Upon the heart was the inscription: "*Je sais aimer*," I know how to love. This device and the intimacy which prevailed between the Companions of Ulysses and the Sisters of Penelope indicate with sufficient plainness the certain end and principal object of the Order of the Palladium. Its existence was of short duration.

A GENUINE LETTER OF THE OLDEN TIME.—The following is a copy of a letter sent along with a watch which required repairing: "Friend JOHN—I have sent thee my clock, which strongly standeth in need of thy friendly care and correction. The last time he was at thy school he was no ways reformed by thy discipline, nor the least benefited thereby. I perceive by the index of his mind that he is a liar, that his motions are wavering and irregular. In the night watch, when he should be on duty, I generally catch him napping; purge him, therefore, I beseech thee, with thy cleansing stick, that he may circulate and vibrate, according to the motion that is in thee; and draw out thy bill in the spirit of moderation, and it shall be faithfully remitted to thee, by thy true friend,

MANASSAH SMITH.

"On the second day of the week, commonly called Monday."

SOLOMON, who in Masonic tradition is said to have been the first of the three Grand Masters concerned in the building of the temple at Jerusalem, was anointed King of Israel about two years before the death of his father DAVID, B. C. 1020. The young king, for he was but nineteen years of age, ascended the throne of Israel at a peculiarly auspicious period. The kingdom was established on a firm basis; the surrounding nations were either subject to the payment of tribute, or there existed treaties of amity and concord between them and the Israelites. They were at peace with all the world and among themselves. Hence SOLOMON was at leisure to pursue those plans which elevated the Hebrew nation to a position of wealth, grandeur and power never before attained.

The mission of Freemasonry is one of mildness and peace. It carries with it no panoply of power, but its own purity of purpose; its own intrinsic excellence and value.

SOME MASTERS injure the Lodge by their want of punctuality in opening—waiting until the room is full. With the requisite number there should not be delay of one minute.

§ A new Commandery of Knights Templars was organized in Louisville, Kentucky, on the evening of the 14th ult., at the Masonic Temple.

CANADIAN MASONIC ITEMS.

☞ Most Worshipful Brother T. D. Harington P. G. M., has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia at the Grand Lodge of Canada.

☞ The McCallum Chapter held its first regular convocation on Friday, April 19th. Five candidates for exaltation were in attendance, and were duly exalted to the supreme degree of the Holy R. A. Most Excellent Companion Jas Seymour, of St. Catharines, was present, and assisted in the work of exaltation. This Chapter we are glad to learn, bids fair to be ere long in a most flourishing condition.

UNITED STATES MASONIC ITEMS.

☞ The Grand Lodge of Louisiana at its last meeting passed a resolution, reaffirming and passed in 1861, to the effect "that electioneering for Masonic Offices is unmasonic, and is reprobated by this Grand Lodge."

☞ The corner-stone of the Michigan Soldiers' Monument will be laid by the Masonic authorities of Michigan, at Detroit, on July 4. The Lodges of the jurisdiction are promptly responding.

☞ A Commandery of Knights Templar, named in honor of Baldwin, the first Crusade King of Jerusalem, was instituted a few days ago at Cedar Falls, Iowa. Siloam Commandery of Dubuque, headed by the V. E. Dep. G. Com. of Iowa, assisted.

☞ There were 334 Lodges in the State of Alabama at the last session of the Grand Lodge. There were over a thousand initiated during the last year, and the entire membership numbers nearly eleven thousand. The Order seems to grow there even under the adverse circumstances of the late events.

☞ Bro. H. H. Poe, a cousin of Edgar Allen Poe, of Napoleon, Ohio, died a few days ago, at the Spotswood Hotel, Richmond, of consumption. He was on his way home from the South, whither he had gone for his health. So soon as the Masons learned that he was a brother they went to his relief, and remained with him until his death. They procured a handsome metallic coffin, and inclosed his remains. Metropolitan Lodge, No. 11, and Richmond Randolph Lodge, No. 19, escorted them to the depot on their way to Ohio.

FOREIGN MASONIC ITEMS.

☞ R. W. Bro. Sir H. L. Bulwer, G. C. B., has resigned the D. Grand Mastership of Turkey, as he is leaving the country, and Bro. John Porter Brown, of Constantinople, the eminent Oriental scholar and able Mason, is appointed his successor.

☞ The Grand Master, the Right Honorable the Earl of Zetland, it has been beautifully said, will shortly celebrate his silver marriage to the craft, having been Grand Master of Masons nearly twenty-five years.

☞ The English Freemasons are discussing the propriety of extending to the Belgian brethren a cordial welcome during their stay at Wimbleton, as a return for the truly fraternal greeting the English Masons received at their hands in October last.

☞ A Masonic Authors' Society is forming in Germany, to embrace the Masonic Authors of the world. If successful, this scheme will produce results of great benefit to the craft.

☞ Lodge *Themis*, at Caen, has for 20 years distributed to the poor no money, but 300 rations of soup per day, during three winter months, by subscriptions of members of the Lodge, and tickets from theatrical representations.

☞ Some Lodges think the arrangements of the Grand Orient for receiving the foreign visitors at the Exposition are not sufficiently democratic, such as specifying the mode of dress, and twenty francs for the fraternal feast. Many Lodges have appointed commissioners to devise ways and means to receive becomingly the visitors to the Exposition.

☞ Twenty-five Masters of the Scottish Rite of the Orient of Paris, adopted resolutions at their late convention that the Lodges of this Rite will hold a Masonic Session for seven consecutive days, when they will formally receive the Masons present at Paris, from July 22 to July 28; that during the entire duration of the Exposition a permanent committee will be at the disposition of foreign brethren for two hours daily, and each Lodge will contribute, for hospitable purposes, from 100 to 200 francs.

☞ The chief corner-stone of the new Presidency College, at Madras, was laid with Masonic honors, in presence of Lord and Lady Napier, and the Maharjah of Travancere. The District Grand Master referred to the foundation stone of the University of Edinburgh having been laid November 16, 1789, by Francis Napier, Baron Napier, then Grand Master Mason of Scotland. He also noticed Napier's devotion to the poor and the suffering. Lord Napier, in reply, referred to the institution as educating 300 youths from the provinces, of different races and religions, and the softening of their jealousies and local prejudices, and developing public virtue. He referred to the cherished pride for his grandfather's connection with Freemasonry.

☞ The Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children closed its 79th anniversary May 5th, with 130 stewards present. The committee of the institution in their address say:

"This establishment consists of a matron, a governess, and four assistants; a gardener, whose wife assists in the household duties, and three female servants. An enlarged system of education has for some time past been in operation; and by a recent enactment children remain in the establishment till sixteen years of age. The number in the school hitherto limited to eighty, has within the last two years been increased to one hundred, and an additional wing has been erected for that purpose. This, together with the maintenance of the number of children thus brought together, involved at the time a serious outlay. Nevertheless, in order that the institution should be as perfect as possible in every respect, new dormitories, by which increased space for sleeping room will be afforded; an infirmary, shut off from the general building, and approached by a separate staircase; a convalescent room, additional baths and lavatories, &c., are at present in course of construction; and the covered play ground, now merely a wooden erection, will be permanently walled in, and form the basement of

the new apartments. The contract for this work amounts to £2,889.

"The children are employed by turns in all the domestic duties of the house, and great care is taken to make them expert in needle work, so that whilst cultivating the most purely educational branches, they shall not lose sight of the humbler but equally useful qualifications so necessary to fit them for their several stations in life."

Bro. Lord Eliot has been appointed Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England. He was initiated in Dublin, Lodge No. 12, under the Irish Constitution. He is S. W. of Sincerity Lodge, No. 189, at Plymouth, and Master Designate of Eliot Lodge, St. Germans', Cornwall.

The Grand Lodge of Kansas, in its proceedings, inquired if the Grand Orient of France sanctioned the circulars for aid from individual brethren and Lodges of France. The Grand Orient officially replies that authorization for a constituent Lodge to address a circular to other Lodges, cannot be construed as a permission to send these circulars to foreign jurisdictions, and that the Grand Orient of France has never granted said permission.

MONTHLY RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

- Gold has been discovered near the village of Renfrew, C. W.
- The Sultan has granted the title of King to the Viceroy of Egypt.
- The Spanish Government is considering the question of the abolition of slavery in all the colonies of Spain.
- The death sentence on the Fenian conspirators recently tried in Ireland has been commuted to imprisonment.
- Mobile is placed under martial law. Some very serious riots occurred on the 13th ult., at Brownsville, Tenn.
- The steamer Grecian, which was sunk in the Lachine Rapids, has been raised fortunately not much injured, and will soon resume her trips.
- Mr. Jefferson Davis, late President of the Confederate States, after an imprisonment of over two years has been released on bail, and is now residing in Canada.
- The steam-ram Dunderberg, the most powerful vessel in the American Navy, has been sold to the French Government for \$3,000,000.
- Lord Lyons, formerly minister at Washington, has been appointed to succeed Earl Cowley as Ambassador of Great Britain at Paris.
- The Danish Government, it is said, has informed the Foreign Powers that the Prussian Government continues to disregard the obligations of the Treaty of 1865, in regard to Schleswig.
- It is stated the Russian Government will receive from the United States Government a fleet of iron-clads instead of the stipulated sum of money in payment for the Russian possession.
- Orders have been issued by the British Ministry for the prevention or restriction of rinderpest, which has again appeared, and prevails in some of the counties of England.
- It is semi-officially reported that the Prussian Government has refused to comply with the expressed desire of the Emperor Napoleon that it would pledge itself against any future arming of the fortress of Ratstadt.
- Spain promises to give England full satisfaction and indemnity for the seizure of the Victoria, but her replies to the demands in the case of the Tornado, still continue to be evasive and unsatisfactory.

—The new Franco-American Telegraph Company, which proposes to lay an electric cable between Brest and Halifax, has, it is said, been promised the support and assistance of the Imperial Government.

—It is said that Count Von Bismarck has asked to be relieved of the cares of office immediately after the adoption of the Federal Constitution by the North German States, and that the king has given his assent to the proposal.

—M. Kossuth has written a letter on the state of political affairs in Hungary. He condemns the action which M. Deak, the leader of the popular party, has seen fit to adopt in the Hungarian Diet and in his dealings with Austria, and blames him for swerving from the true path which a Hungarian patriot should follow.

—Some interesting experiments with Palliser shot and shell have lately been made at Shoeburyness in the presence of several foreign officers. The strongest and thickest armour which could possibly be made was pierced with ease, and it was proved beyond a doubt that any iron-clad ship now afloat must yield before Palliser shells.

—Dispatches have been received in England from Constantinople, which state that the Sublime Porte has replied to the proposition of the great Powers of Europe, relative to the cession of Candia to the Greek Government. He assures the Powers of his ability to suppress the existing rebellion, and firmly declines to cede the island to any foreign State.

—A horrible plot has just been discovered in Hanover, having for its chief purpose the assassination of King William and Count Von Bismarck. Several notable personages in Berlin are involved in the plot. Numerous arrests both there and at Hanover have been made of persons believed to be implicated, and it is thought that, by these timely proceedings, the scheme has been frustrated.

—The British Consul at Jerusalem reports that the population of that city in 1866 was 18,000, of whom about 5,000 were Mohammedans, 9,000 Jews, and the remainder Christians of various denominations. Two lines of telegraph connect Jerusalem with Europe. The chief native industry is the manufacture of soap and what is called Jerusalem ware, consisting of chaplets, crucifixes, beads, crosses, and the like.

—The Queen's proclamation declaring the Union of the Provinces, has been issued, and the union takes effect on the 1st July, which is proclaimed a public holiday. The following appear in the proclamation as the names of the first senators:—

For the Province of Ontario—John Hamilton, Roderick Matheson, John Ross, Samuel Mills, Benjamin Seymour, Walter Hamilton Dickson, James Shaw, Adam Johnson Ferguson Blair, Alexander Campbell, David Christie, James Cox Aikins, David Reesor, Elijah Leonard, William McMaster, Asa Allworth Burnham, John Simpson, James Skend, David Lewis Macpherson, George Crawford, Donald Macdonald, Oliver Blake, Billa Flint, Walter McCrea, and George William Allen.

For the Province of Quebec,—James Leslie, Asa Belnap Foster, Joseph Noel Basse, Louis A. Olivier, Jacques Olivier Bureau, Charles Malhot, Louis Renaud, Luc Letillier de St. Just, Ulric Joseph Tessier, John Hamilton, Charles Cormier, Antoine Taschereau Duchesnay, David Edward Price, Elzear H. J. Duchesnay, Leandro Dumolchel, Louis Lacoste, Joseph F. Armand, Charles Willson, William Henry Chaffers, Jean Baptiste Guevremont, James Ferricr, Sir Narcisse Fortunat Belleau, Thomas Ryan, and John Sewell Sanborn.

For the Province of Nova Scotia,—Edward Kenny, Jonathan Cully, Thomas D. Archibald, Robert B. Dickey, John H. Anderson, John Holmes, John W. Ritchie, Benjamin Weir, John Locke, Caleb R. Hill, John Bourinot and William Miller.

For the Province of New Brunswick.—Amos Edwin Botsford, Edward Barron Chandler, John Robertson, Robert Leonard Hazen, William Hunter Odell, David Wark, William Henry Steeves, Wm. Todd, John Ferguson, Robert Duncan Wilmot, Abner Reid McClelan, and Peter Mitchell.

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