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THE CRAFTSMAN, HAMILTON, 15th JANUARY, 1869

## EL TORO NEGRO.

FOR THE CRAFTSMAN.

The chapter of history which I open here, has, so far as I know, been left unturned by other hands. It is a black and bloody episode of an evil race and a fierce soil, and, except that it presents fairly the true characteristics of a strange society, carries but little claim to Anglo-Saxon attention. As little, that is, as may be involved in any record of atrocious crime, or any reference to the most wholesale Murder of our age.

I narrate it in these pages, because, in the whole abominable story there is present one single gleam of light—Light such as Craftsmen honour. It tells a forbidding story of profane iniquity and treachery—of itself of interest insufficient to gain for it admittance here. But it tells also how far Masonry was instrumental in alleviating some share of its grim horror, and goes to prove, I think, that the influence we wield is not a wholly selfish one; but may be directed here and there in the broad service of humanity—without as well as within the pale.

So, with no further introduction I write it down as briefly as I am able, and as faithfully as my memory will serve me as to the events of years long gone by.

“Hush! For the love of the blessed Virgin, silence!”

It was in the *patio* of one of the huge dilapidated old houses of the Plaza Santa Anna that I was stooping down to select the covenanted number of francs in payment of his services, by the light of a tallow candle, when I felt his hand heavy on my arm and heard his deep whisper in my ear as the light was noiselessly extinguished.

It was close upon midnight and dark as pitch. The streets were utterly deserted, and the slight shiver of one of the horses standing beside us was the only sound that for some seconds broke upon my perception of the silence. But presently I became aware of marching footsteps in the next street, and my heart began to beat strangely as I felt the column wheeling round the corner of the church, and advancing straight down our side of the square.

All this time his hand was heavy on my arm, and as the men moved down the middle of the street, within twenty feet of us, the gripe tightened into pain. More than half the company had passed when my unlucky horse, pony, mule, or whatever it was, which it had been most difficult to arouse from lethargy along the road, fired with præter-natural energy, struck the marble pavement with a ringing hoof that sent its echoes unmistakably distinct through the sultry calm of the quiet night.

“Halt! Who goes there?” There were some other words of hoarse Castillian command and the muskets dropped with a hollow rattle. It scarcely needed the final turn of the vice upon my shoulder to give point to the hissing words, “Advance and speak to him;” and scarcely knowing what I was about to say or do, I crossed the threshold of the gateway.

I could just make out the figure of the officer who,

standing in some perplexity, sword in hand, was repeating his challenge, and the notion flashed upon me that I recognized him. Trusting to the chance, I accosted him with the first words that came uppermost.

“Ah Senor Bermudez, who should have thought of meeting you here at this hour? Just in the nick of time too, when I have been for ten minutes trying to coax a light for my cigarito out of the matches that are always damp in this charming country of yours”—he had recognized me by this time, and with the grave courtesy of the Spaniard had handed me his fire, but I still spoke nervously—“I had expected to find you at pool or in bed, instead of rambling about at this hour with no better company than your men to talk to.”

“And you, Senor? They told me at the hotel that you had been out all day; but I was not aware upon horseback. You English are perfect Centaurs. But it is scarcely prudent to be quite alone even if one is brave. I can spare you a file as far as home if you like.”

“Thanks, Comandante, I will try to take care of myself without your heroes. But this is late duty, is it not? Nothing unusually wrong in the town to-night, I hope?”

“Senor, you are English, and do not trouble yourself about our little affairs. But the Isthmus is in a very disturbed state, and soldiering is not always the holiday work that you may fancy. You won't have the men then? I will call in and take my revenge when this is over. *Manana*. Forward there! march!” and the dainty little man had disappeared in the blackness before I had recovered from my bewilderment.

It was with an uneasy sense of having indefinitely compromised myself that I turned inwards, and proffered the stipulated remuneration to my guide. The footsteps had quite died out now, but he spoke still only in hushed tones, as he respectfully, but firmly, put aside my hand.

“No money from you, Senor. You have held my life in your hands to-night, and you have saved it. And even we who are not white,” and he seemed to draw himself up half defiantly, “know how to feel grateful to our preservers. Catarina will pray the holy Virgin for your fortune, and I—there is not much that I can do just now, but there may come a day before very long when, even an Englishman may have worse friends in Panama than El Toro Negro.”

I have always believed that it was a tear—the first perhaps that El Toro had ever shed,—that struck upon my hand as he kissed it. I left him there all alone, between the horses, in the centre of his enemies' power, and when the darkness had speedily swallowed him, I had seen him alive for the last time.

I had picked him up eight miles from town in a *ranch* in the centre of the Savannah, in which I had lost my way towards nightfall, in the course of a lonely walk homewards from the ruins of Panama Viejo. Although not unarmed I had entered the hut doubtfully, and only under the pressure of imperious necessity, and the swagger and truculence of the three negroes I found therein had done little to reassure me. But these three were not its only occupants, and with Catarina, whom I surprised, crooning a barbaric lullaby by the grass hammock

that held two of her sleeping children, I was not long in making friends, through my honest admiration of the babies, for I am unwilling to ascribe too much influence to the five franc piece that I slipped into one little hand closing upon it in infantile dream. It was she who explained my wants and wishes to her husband, entering presently, and it was upon her representations, rather than my own, that he consented to provide me with a horse, and himself act as my guide across the unknown and dangerous country. Catarina was a strikingly beautiful woman of scarcely three and twenty, and her manner had impressed me from its frank fearless grace and vivacity, as denoting gentler blood than seemed compatible with its surroundings. Her husband was a handsome muscular man of middle age, of quick and emphatic speech and action, a Hercules in breadth of shoulder, and a gladiator in perfection of training. His first tender was for a safe-conduct only to the railway bridge, but, upon my renewed request, he consented to take me as far as the little Plaza, beyond which no temptation could urge him. Of this little record of adventure, the writer is not the hero, and will not therefore dwell upon the accidents and dangers of the path across the Savannah at the close of the rainy season. The acquaintance of any reader of the CRAFTSMAN with the topography of low latitudes will supply these for himself, and where such acquaintance has no existence, 'tis folly to be wise. It is only necessary to say that my friend did his duty, and earned his money faithfully and well, and like a man as he was, every inch of him.

Next day, over our after-dinner pyramids, Captain Bermudez de Castro let me into the secret of his previous night's expedition. It was quite true, as he had said, that the affairs of the Isthmus were disturbed. The disaffection that pervaded the whole Republic centered most formidably in the Darien district, where the presence of several of the most formidable insurgent chiefs was known or suspected. Of these, one of the most daring was reported to have been actually seen at church on the feast of the Ascension, and to have been hiding since in the vicinity of the town. This man, who had originally been a matador of repute at the Havannah, had, in the course of a professional visit to Quito, succeeded in winning the love of the daughter of a wealthy *haciendero* of Ecuador, who, to the inexpressible wrath and dismay of her family, had been imprudent enough to fly with him to Costa Rica. The influence of her family had been sufficient to exile her husband from the great cities, and, in his enforced abandonment of the excitement of the ring, he had found pleasurable employment for his restless energies in the dangerous game of political intrigue. His presence upon the Isthmus at the present juncture had been construed by the authorities as an indication of impending insurrection, and De Castro's patrol had not been the only one despatched in search of him. "And," added the little commandante laughingly, "it is well for you, *amigo*, that you were not more lucky than myself. If you had fallen in with El Toro, or any of his gang, your purse would have been lighter this morning."

It was nearly two years later when I next set foot on Columbian soil. That day will not be readily forgotten upon the Isthmus. Far down the bay the wildest, the most contradictory, and the most

appalling rumors had reached us. Riot, rapine, sacrilege, and murder, were the burthen of every tale. At Toboga the excitement was intense. We were told, with more or less coherency, that there had been a general outbreak on the previous night, that the city had been fired, the citadel stormed, the foreign consulates plundered, and the United States corvette *Paupukeewis* seized by the rebels, who had turned her guns against the town. That the Aspinwall railroad had been torn up and escape rendered impossible, and that, even at that moment, a general and indiscriminate massacre was going on. I need hardly say that these were enormous falsehoods. As we steamed slowly up within the island, we were greeted with no echo of cannonading, and the Stars and Stripes that dipped in answer to our salute floated as unconcernedly as usual above Uncle Sam's batteries. But when we landed on the pier, it was palpable that *something* extraordinary was in progress. There was no crowd to watch our arrival, and more wonderful still, the Aspinwall House was unrepresented by its otherwise invariable omnibus. Working my way up the street, in light marching order, I was not long in finding that the interest of the population centred about the familiar piazza. The narrow road way was choked with an eager gesticulating swarm of people, of all classes and color, questioning and explaining, with all the emphasis of Southern vivacity, and absorbed utterly in the all-pervading topic of the day. None of them seemed capable of replying intelligibly to a stranger's queries, and I had pushed through into the deserted saloon, and twice helped myself to claret-sangaree that never made appearance on my bill, without the chance of information upon the position of affairs. I was beginning to consider the advisability of going across to Colon, with a view to ascertaining what was occurring under my eyes in Panama, when I caught sight of a familiar uniform outside, and in another moment was greeting my little military friend once more.

"Though I should have been better pleased to meet you at any other time," said he almost gravely. "We have had serious work on hand, and last night has not seen the last of it. You remember how you used to laugh at our soldiering long ago. Well, we are having a real campaign this time, with blood enough to satisfy even a mad Englishman. Come up with me, and have your *cerveza blanco* in my rooms, and I will tell you all about it, *Caramba!* it was a great stroke, and worthy of the *Cid*."

And, as we walked up the hill to the barracks, he told me the whole story, of which his Castilian chivalry was so proud. Such a sickening tale of foul, cold-blooded treachery has, happily, been seldom recounted since the world has begun to call itself Christian. It would scarcely bear accurate reproduction here; but the substance of it is history, and may be repeated briefly. It went to tell how the General commanding-in-chief within the province, harrassed beyond endurance by reiterated alarms of insurrection, had conceived a magnificent scheme for effectually extirpating disaffection. How, in pursuance thereof, he had skilfully opened negotiations with the leaders of the sedition, and represented himself and a majority of his officers as prepared to betray the city into their hands. How it had been agreed that a chosen column of tried men were to concentrate on a given night—that previous—upon the citadel, where they would find the gate

unguarded and the garrison prepared to fraternize. How, in order to obviate suspicion, these should enter the city in staggling parties and unarmed, trusting to the government arsenals for their subsequent equipment. How any of the officers refusing to join the movement were to be bayoneted, and how the chief of the "party of action" was to hold Panama for the new government while the General himself marched on Bogota. How the daring 'ruse' had succeeded to admiration, and with this result: That one hour after midnight two hundred picked men of the rebel party, numbering among them nearly all the chiefs, had stealthily crossed the lowered draw-bridge, and stood uncertain in the deserted yard. There had been hesitation and disappointment, and the death silence had been chilling and terrible; and a wavering impulse to retreat, while retreat was possible, had possessed the stoutest. Then, sudden and awful as the voice of the Last Trumpet rang out the bugle tones, and as the heavy gates swung to with a clash, the enclosure was ablaze with torchlight. Let us who know of these crimes by hearsay, thank God that it was not ours to see the despairing agony of the doomed men there, who glared around upon the pitiless faces hemming them sternly in. Another bugle call and there is a hungry rattle of steel, and the muskets are brought to the present. Another and..... bah! it was a disgusting butcher; it was "a murder grim and great." What the lead spared the steel finished, and in twenty minutes, of all the hopes and plans and scheming ambitions that had animated the stalwart living manhood who stood there, there was left but a mutilated pile of carrion to commemorate the failure of the latest revolution of New Grenada.

The corpses lay there still as we came up. They had been separated and laid out roughly, and Bermudez told me that permission had been granted for their removal by such of their friends as cared to claim them. These, naturally enough, were shy of making such inferential admission of complicity, and, at my first glance, I believed that the square was tenanted only by the Dead. But I had not slowly moved past the first stark row when I was aware of an upright figure at the farther end: the figure of a woman seated with her head bowed upon her hands. I hope that it was something better than curiosity that forced me to splash my boots in the little red pools of that Acedema, and that brought me close to her corner. There were an infant sleeping on her knees, and two little children wailing by her side; and of them and of our approach she was as unmindful as Those Others who lay around her. Standing there above her, the fear suddenly shot across my brain that I might remember those hidden features, and turning their vacancy toward me as I gently raised her unresisting head, I knew that I was speaking to Catarina. Speaking without hope of being understood or answered; speaking as I might have spoken to the corpse at her feet. The corpse, half covered with its saturated and stiffened 'poncho,' with its features slashed and mutilated beyond all recognition, the life-blood still welling purple from a score of wounds, but preserving yet, in the grandeur of its repose, and in the magnificent outline of its superb power, something of the strong manly beauty that the girl had worshipped so devotedly, and that had won for her husband the only name by which I had ever known him—El Toro Negro.

"The ringleader of the lot," said de Castro, contemptuously indicating the body with his foot: "gave the only wounds we received in action. Snatched a musket from a man in my company before the word was given and knocked over three men and a corporal before we got him down. What is that silly woman doing there with him? Is she waiting for him to awake do you suppose?"

I put him aside and drew away the children whom she made no effort to retain. The whole revolting spectacle had been forced upon me with such little preparation, as almost to deprive me of the power to realize it. But De Castro saw that from some cause or other, I was affected beyond utterance, and with the grave courtesy of his race forebore from further levity. He even walked silently at my side as I led the toddling footsteps of the two pitiful little ones over the red slippery pavement, and on into the open street, and suddenly volunteered to fetch for them himself the national refreshment of cake and lemonade. These cheering influences had gone some way towards drying their infantile tears, when the eldest suddenly broke from me with a cry, and in another moment was in the arms of Jose, the youngest, and least rascally of the three men I had met that evening under El Toro's roof-tree. He, poor fellow, trembled exceedingly at sight of the uniform, and it needed all my efforts to make him tell us that his father and two brothers were among the carrion within. It was he who had brought down Catarina on the first whispered news; but his courage had failed him at the gates, and, like hundreds of his fellows, he had stayed lurking round the scene of slaughter, with which he did not dare to identify himself by entering. Catarina, he said, was rich. Her father had died some months before, relenting at the last, and leaving his large property unreservedly to his only daughter. They were to have sailed for Guayaquil, to claim it when all their troubles should be over.

They were all over now for their arch-instigator. For him are human help and human sympathy, for ever unavailing. But his widow was still sitting at his head, and his orphans were still wailing in our ears, and there was none to help them but a foreigner, and what little he might do should be done speedily to make it of avail.

That was simply to try the strength of fraternal regard, as against national and political prejudices. De Castro could help me if he would and I implored him, as my brother, to do so. I told him how the metador had saved me from the risk of robbery and assassination, when two years before I was in the hands of the most evil of his gang. And I prayed him to remember that it was for a woman and her babies that I was pleading, and to consider that the Craft which we both served had its deepest foundation in principles of charity and benevolence. The little man thoroughly hated rebellion, but, fortunately for Catarina, loved masonry more. So he gave way not ungracefully at last, and I knew that I could trust him to do what was in his power for the widow.

Which was this. He gave himself permission for her removal at once of the corpse of the man she had so loved, and employed Jose to see to his orders being executed. Catarina never looked at me once, or never knew me if she did, though that she had not forgotten me, I could tell when I found my five franc piece hanging round the neck of the

child I had given it to Jose drove the wretched mule-cart, and she followed tearlessly and patiently, as leal in that last dread journey to the grave, as in the wild flight from Quito five years before. And, leaving for Aspinwall next morning to meet the Atlantic Steam-er—which would delay for nothing; I carried with me the Commandante's solemn pledge that she should be restored to her kindred and her girl's home, without other delay than her own griefs might interpose, and that she should be as sacredly guarded upon New Grenada soil, as if the Revolution had indeed succeeded, and El Toro himself held the citadel.

A pledge that was honorably redeemed. I shall never again see the lonely *ranch* nestling amid the bright beauty of the Savannah, but I know that in the marvellous city that crowns the cordillern there still lives a sad-eyed lady to make good the promise of her dead husband, and to teach the lisping voices of her little children to murmur the name of an Englishman in their prayers.

### THE THIRD TRIAL.

BY BRO. J. A. WILLIAMS, LL. D., OF KENTUCKY.

The pit, the worm, the darkness, and the clod!  
Thus lies the Mason, as if crushed by God!  
Corruption riots in Acacia bowers,  
And beauty moulders 'neath the fairest flowers!

Is this, indeed, the destiny of man,  
His home the loathsome vault, his life a span?  
Must he whom virtue crowned in life as just,  
Forever sleep, disowned, and in the dust?

Invoke the virtue that adorned him then,  
And seek to raise that form to life again!  
Alas! in vain Apprenticed virtue ties,  
Her touch no warmth imparts, no life supplies!

Yet there's another token, mightier still,  
Which only science knows, and learned skill;  
Will not the brow which love did once illumine  
Feel her inspiring touch within the tomb?

The lettered Craftsman, with his cunning hands,  
Applies the token, but despairing stands!  
Death mocks his learning, and the treacherous grave  
Still binds the victim that his power would save.

Yet man shall live again! A Lion hand  
Will give the token that shall burst each band:  
And he who Virtue, Genius, may not save,  
Through Judah's Lion triumphs o'er the Grave.

THE spirit that dictates slanders and libels, or seeks in an underhand manner to injure a brother's character, professional or otherwise, is not a Masonic one, and should not be tolerated in a lodge, as it directly interferes with its harmony.

As the tree takes in the air, and the elements and particles which float in the air, so the soul drinks in knowledge, and, by a divine alchemy, changes what it learns into its own substance, and from within outwardly develops itself, and grows with an inherent force and power like that which lies hid in the grain of wheat.

## The Craftsman, AND BRITISH AMERICAN MASONIC RECORD.

"THE QUEEN AND THE CRAFT."

HAMILTON, ..... JANUARY 15, 1869.

### ARE WE MAKING TOO MANY MASONS?

BY ILL. BRO. ROBERT RAMSAY, K. T. 3<sup>d</sup>.

We often hear it remarked by members of the Craft, that we are now-a-days making too many masons. Grand Masters in their annual addresses are very apt to enlarge upon the danger arising from the vast increase in our numbers; the warning note has been echoed from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and has become almost a by-word among masonic officials. Let us then ask ourselves for a moment, whether or not we are making too many masons? We admit at once, that we must be careful in the selection of our material, and so the vast majority of our Lodges are. Occasionally a bad man creeps into the fraternity, and thus to the superficial observer, a slur is cast upon our Institution; but such cases are rare, as every brother guards the sanctuary, and by a proper use of the black-ball, is always able to check the efforts of the lawless to profane our sanctuary with their presence. But, the question is, are we making too many masons? For our own part, we do not believe it. What have we to fear from our younger brothers? Are they not bound by the same ties that we are? Is there not everywhere plenty of material fit for the edifice? Are there not in every town and city, Ashlars, that only require to be hewn and trimmed to become ornaments in our Temple? Why, then, feel alarmed at this making too many masons?

Every Lodge of course should feel a justifiable pride in its selection of material, and none but good should ever be received. Every stone, we admit, cannot be part and parcel of the Corinthian Pillar; but it may by its massiveness add strength to the Doric Column. In other words, we should not expect every member of our fraternity to become a shining light in Masonic History or Jurisprudence; nor do we even deem it necessary, that he should acquire a proficiency in the Ritual. The vast majority that unite with us, have not the time to devote to our mysteries that they themselves desire, and hence can only endeavor to show to the world their admiration of the Brotherhood, by at all times upholding its noble principles. This they certainly do, as we have time and again noticed, and here we would ask, Are not our principles the very foundation of our Order?

The ardent student of our mysteries naturally wishes that every brother would thoroughly verse

himself, and become a *working mason*; but it is not absolutely necessary. Fortunately there are thousands of earnest men ever ready to labor for the glorious cause of Freemasonry. Let us then not churlishly refuse to welcome within our fold those worthy friends who daily ask admittance.

Some time ago, we remember hearing a Past Master at a Masonic Gathering, remark, that for his part he would be pleased if there were no more masons made for six years. The idea at once struck us as extremely absurd, and if not absolutely wrong, it was decidedly selfish. There is no necessity for such exclusiveness. Let masons only rigidly guard their doors against those whose characters would blemish our fair name—if such are proposed, black-ball them without fear or favor; if there is the slightest doubt as to the character of the applicant, investigate the matter thoroughly, and here we would suggest that every brother when a name is proposed, should deem it his sacred duty to learn something at least of the former life of the applicant; if such were always done, there would be naught to fear.

The ground we have taken, we are well aware is contrary to the views of a large majority of our brethren, but is it not well to reflect upon this matter? If our tenets are noble, our principles virtuous and good, we should joyfully agree to share them with those who, if found worthy, seek after light. In answer to the assertion that we are making too many masons, we would ask when did the Masonic Fraternity present a more noble front than now? A few years ago the masonic student groped almost in darkness, in anxious search for some reliable history of our society. Now the Masonic Press is weekly, monthly and quarterly supplying pages of useful and important information of the transactions of our companions in all quarters of the Globe, whilst the ablest writers are employed to explain the objects of our mysteries and ceremonies. Again notice what works have been written within the past few years, on every branch of masonry, by men of science and experience. The late lamented Oliver was a tower of strength to our cause in England; Findel in Germany has greatly advanced the interests of the craft in that country by his writings and books; the learned Rebold in France has aroused a spirit of enquiry regarding The History of our Order; in the United States, Mackay, Morris, Macoy, Simons, Pike, Sickels, and others, have devoted their best energies to the advancement of Freemasonry; whilst Bro. Brennan, by his translation of Rebold's History, and bold though caustic writing, has doubtless accomplished much good. In our own country we have made equal progress, though modesty forbids a Canadian to praise Canadian Masons. It is not too much to say that

among us are numbers as earnest in the cause as any, in the world, whilst a very general anxiety for knowledge has been aroused by the circulation of the "Craftsman" among our Masonic students. In addition to all this, two explorations societies have gone within the past two years to the Holy Land—one under the patronage of the G. M. of Scotland, the Earl of Dalhousie, which is engaged principally in excavating and clearing away the rubbish about the site of the Temple—the other by our genial and learned Brother, Rob Morris, L. L. D. who has just returned from the Holy Land with almost a cargo of specimens. We like the idea, as thus we can have these little treasures in our Lodges, and as the neophyte passes through our ceremonies, we can actually show him some of the "Clay ground between Succoth and Zaradotha," and when he is raised he can see the sprig of Acacia, which, in the beautiful lines of Dr. Morris, slightly modified, will teach him to

"So live, that when those Cassia leaves  
Shall blend with his forgotten dust,  
Kind Mother Earth, who all receives,  
Will yield unchanged her sacred trust;  
While angels lead him to the Throne,  
And God the Master, claims his own."

What a vast change, then, has taken place within the past few years regarding the publication of Masonic books, periodicals, etc. ! In addition to all this, we might allude to the Charities, the Orphan-Asylums, the Homes for our aged brethren; but already we have exceeded our allotted space. We have, we hope, proved that we are not making too many masons. Never was our fraternity so prosperous. When before did learned scholars devote more time and study to the mysteries of Freemasonry? Let us then feel no uneasiness at the rapid increase to our members, only we must ever be ready to protect our sacred principles by a careful selection of our Ashlars.

At a meeting of Ontario Lodge, No. 26, A. F. & A. M., held in the Masonic Hall, Port Hope, on Saturday Evening, Dec. 26th, Bro. Robert Nicholl, P. M., was the recipient of an Address, accompanied by a beautiful Pastmaster's Masonic Jewel and Apron, which were presented to him by the members of Ontario Lodge, as a mark of their appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Bro. Nicholl to the Lodge and to the members also. The presentation was made on behalf of the Lodge by Bro. H. V. Sanders, P. M., and in the presence of a large number of the members of Ontario and Hope Lodges. Bro. Nicholl, who was taken completely by surprise, made an appropriate and feeling reply, and appeared to be deeply impressed with the goodwill displayed towards him. The proceedings were very harmonious, and all seemed delighted at being present on so pleasant an occasion.

In answer to several correspondents, we may say that the *Craftsman* can be bound at this office for fifty cents a volume. Brethren can send the numbers and the volume bound, will be returned to them.

## FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

## TIDINGS FROM THE CRAFT.

We take up a large part of the space of the CRAFTSMAN to-day in recording the proceedings of our brethren throughout the Dominion on the great Masonic festival of St. John the Evangelist. The lodges appear everywhere to have celebrated the occasion in a manner fully worthy of them; and an evidence of life and prosperity was manifested, which is in the highest degree gratifying. We subjoin such reports as we have been furnished with, thanking our brethren for their kindness in forwarding reports:—

## TORONTO.

On the recent anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, the Masons of Toronto displayed a return of that spirit which existed among them a few years ago, but which seems to have lain dormant of late. In former times a grand banquet or ball was not uncommon, and with every such affair the names of the first and foremost men of the land were associated. For a few years past the brethren have been satisfied with less display and more work. On each recurring festival they have their own quiet little re-unions, and have been content therewith. On the recent anniversary, however, it was deemed proper to have an old-style banquet, worthy of the occasion and worthy of the Craft. A committee was appointed by each of the five Lodges for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements; but subsequently the Wilson Lodge withdrew, the brethren thereof conceiving it to be the duty of the Lodge to provide a banquet, instead of each individual member paying so much for his ticket. This withdrawal of the Wilson Lodge was regretted by all, yet it occasioned nothing in the shape of ill feeling. The other Lodges went into the matter heartily, and the result was one of the finest banquets ever given in the country. It reflected credit on the Craft as a whole, but particularly on the Lodges more immediately connected with it.

During the afternoon and evening the different Lodges met. Only two of them elect officers in December—Ionic and Wilson—and these officers were installed as follows:—

Ionic.—R P Stephens, W M; J K Kerr, P M; Jas E Day, S W; A R Boswell, J W; Rev M Davies, Chaplain; W L Smart, Treas; Lewis J Gordon, Sec; W R Ross, S D; J Widmer Rolph, J D; John F Lash, D of C; — Williamson, I G; T Willing, Tyler.

Wilson.—Bro R Robinson, W M; V W Bro G Segsworth, P M; Bros F Clarke, S W; Wm Lane, J W; F Hillock, Sec; V W Bro G Segsworth, Treasurer; Bros S Harris, S D; S Patterson, J D; R Segsworth, I G; A Thomson, T Davis, Stewards; Rev W Stephenson, Chaplain; Dr Agnew, M B C; W H Archer, F Pearson, M H B of T. Bros S Bruat, Dr Howson, J Summers, Managing Committee.

After the installation ceremony had been performed in Wilson Lodge, the brethren adjourned to an adjoining room, where a bountiful repast was partaken of. The usual toasts were duly honored; after which an address, accompanied by a Past Master's jewel, was presented to W. Bro. John Segsworth, in acknowledgment of his services as W. Master of the Lodge for the past three years. Bro. Segsworth thanked the members of the Lodge.

Bro. Segsworth was again presented with another address, and a large life-size portrait of himself, by a number of members of the Lodge. To this he also responded; after which toasts and sentiments were proposed, the time passing pleasantly until the gathering broke up at midnight.

## THE BANQUET.

The brethren of St Andrew's, King Solomon's, Ionic and St. John's Lodges, together with many other brethren, attended the Grand Banquet. It took place at the Rossin House, and was attended by nearly 200. The large dining hall was specially fitted up and decorated for the occasion with the Lodge banners, the British, French and American flags, and numerous masonic emblems. The tables were beautifully spread, all of them being decorated with large centre pieces bearing the square, compasses, level, and other such emblems, together with the names of the four Lodges present. In every respect the arrangements were excellent.

The chair was occupied by W. Bro. Stephens, of Ionic Lodge, with his Wardens, Bro. J. E. Day in the west and Bro. J. H. Lash in the south. On the right of the Chairmen there were M. W. Bro. Gray, Grand Master of the State of Texas; W. Bro. Wm. Hamilton, jr., P. M. of St. John's Lodge, Toronto; R. W. Bro. J. Graham, a past officer of the Scotch Grand Lodge; W. Bro. Capt. Clark, and V. W. Bro. C. E. Anderson. On the left of the Chairman were R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, Grand Secretary; R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, P. D. D. G. M., Toronto; V. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr; V. W. Bro. J. W. Bunting; R. W. Bro. D. Spry, G. Reg.; W. Bro. Dr. Adams; and W. Bro. W. Armstrong.

After a blessing had been asked by the Chairman, the viands were attended to, and it is scarcely necessary to add that the brethren showed that the secrets of the Craft do not spoil one's appetite. The banquet was a most sumptuous one, embracing all the delicacies of the season it was possible to procure. After the spread had been done ample justice to, the Chairman read letters of apology from the following brethren:—

M. W. Bros. A. A. Stevenson, G. M.  
 " " " W. M. Wilson, P. G. M.  
 " " " Wm. B. Simpson, P. G. M.  
 " " " T. D. Harrington, P. G. M.  
 R. " " A. Bernard  
 " " " James Scymour, D. G. M.  
 " " " J. W. Murton, G. S. W.  
 " " " The Rev. V. Clementi, G. Chaplain.  
 " " " Henry Groff, G. Treasurer.  
 " " " M. H. Spencer, D. D. G. M. Toronto District.

The presiding Master then proposed the usual round of loyal and patriotic toasts, as follows:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales and rest of the Royal Family," and "The Governor General and Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

Bro. Wm. Howland, in reply to the latter toast, made a neat speech, thanking the brethren in the name of his father for the honor done him.

"The Army, Navy and Volunteers" was next proposed in suitable terms.

Bro. Capt. Clark responded on behalf of the army, which he said was ever ready to do its duty. Bro. Quartermaster-Sergeant Nagie, 13th Hussars, also said a few words in reply to the toast.

Bro. Capt. Bennet responded for the volunteers. The Chairman then said that having duly honored

the rulers of the land, it was now their duty to remember their rulers in the Craft. He therefore gave them "The M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Canada."

R. W. Bro. Spry, Grand Registrar, being called upon to respond, said he could not think of detaining them with a speech when one so much better able to do the toast justice was present. He referred to the Grand Secretary, upon whom he called for a reply.

R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, Grand Secretary, after some jocular remarks respecting the duty thrown upon him by Bro. Spry, expressed the pleasure he felt at being present. On behalf of the Grand Master he thanked them warmly for the manner in which the toast had been honored. The head of the fraternity in Canada was known for his many virtues, and for the deep interest he ever manifested in the welfare of the Craft.

A deputation from Wilson Lodge here entered the room and were warmly received. The Chairman proposed "Prosperity to Wilson Lodge" to which Bro. Pearson responded.

In reply to the toast of "The Past Grand Officers of Canada," R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman made a suitable response. He said that a toast of this kind brought back to his memory many happy reminiscences of the past, and he could look back some six and twenty years to his initiation in one of the most brilliant colonies of England—Barbadoes—where he had the pleasure of being in company with one of England's heroes—Major Forbes, of the 93rd Highlanders. He complimented the Masons, who were the companions of his youth, and traced the growth of the Order from the earliest days until now, when 250 Lodges are shedding the light of Masonry throughout the land. He followed by referring to the proposed Masonic Asylum, a project that will, he said, illustrate what true Masonry is--w' at it is intended to do. They knew what Masonry was; and although their allegories could not be read by all, still it was not forbidden that their deeds of charity should be known. He hoped to show by the erection of the Asylum that Masonry really was an Institution designed to bestow the highest benefits on men.

R. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr proposed "The Grand Lodges of the world," and in doing so alluded to the universality, antiquity and benefits of Masonry, at considerable length.

M. W. Bro. Judge Gray, Grand Master of Texas, was called on to reply, and did so in an able and eloquent speech. He said he had been honored with the call because he happened to occupy the grand chair of one of the Grand Lodges of the world, which Grand Lodge, nevertheless, was perhaps one of the smallest. But it had been truly said that it was born in the midst of wars, for it was when Texas asserted her independence that it was brought into existence. Their Grand Lodge was organized in the midst of the carnage of war by Sam. Huston. Three Lodges assembled at Huston that time, and from that day onward their strength had increased. Born in the midst of war, it took for its motto the burning star on the Mosaic table with the five points of fellowship. In Texas they had experienced difficulties similar to those of Canada. Yet Masonry was stable because universal. He trusted that Masonry would prosper and increase, not only in Canada, but throughout the world, as its benign

influence would do more to settle the discords of nations than all the diplomacy that could be exercised. Though this was his first visit to Canada, he hoped it would not be his last. He admired her men, felt gratified at the kindness of her Masons, and could not fail to admire the bright eyes and rosy cheeks of her fair daughters.

R. W. Bro. Graham also replied to the toast on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

"Our visiting brethren" was responded to by Bro. J. Laidlaw.

M. W. Bro. Gray proposed the health of the Chairman, to which W. Bro. Stephens made a suitable reply.

V. W. Bro. Houel replied on behalf of "The Banquet Committee."

"The Press" was acknowledged by Bro. Cameron and Bro. G. R. Kingsmill. The latter reminded the brethren that they had now an established and recognized organ in Canada in THE CRAFTSMAN, and hoped it would continue to receive that support from the Craft which it was deserving of.

Bro. Kingsmill proposed the last regular toast, "The Ladies."

Several volunteer toasts followed, after which the J. W.'s toast was given and the party separated.

HAMILTON.

The brethren of St. John's, Strict Observance and Acacia Lodges, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, met at the Masonic Hall last evening, when the officers elected and appointed for the ensuing masonic year were duly installed, the board of Masters being composed of V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle, V. W. Bro. Mitchell, V. W. Bro. Edgar, W. Bro. F. C. Bruce, and W. Bro. Reid. The officers installed are as follows:—

STRICT OBSERVANCE, No. 27.—V W Bro W W Pringle, W M; W Bro F C Bruce, P M; Bros J Eastwood, S W; T Lawrence, J W; Rev E Neville, D D, Chaplain; A Turner, Treas; J J Mason, Sec; R Evans, S D; A Hart, J D; J M Gibson, I G; T White, M D, W Lottridge, D B Fisher, Stewards; W Bro Geo James, Bro Jno A Bruce, Aud's.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 40.—R W Bro T B Harris, W M; W Bro George Walker, P M; Bros Wm Turnbull, S W; Thos Hill, J W; W Bro J G McIntyre, Treas; Bros Rev E Neville, D D, Chaplain; Alex. Rutherford, Sec'y; Claudius Lister, S D; Joseph Kneeshaw, J D; Richard Fuller, D of C; C L Thomas, Organist; James Wade I G; W W Summers, Tyler.

ACACIA, No. 61.—V W Bro E Mitchell, W M re-elected, Bros H Burkholder, S W; N Humphrey, J W; W Bro W Reid, Chaplain; Bros N Sharp, Treas; H Murray, Sec; G LeRiche, S D; R Mc N Smith, J D; C Newberry, I G; J Rowe, — Bassett, Stewards; J Lavin, Dir of Cer; W W Summers, Tyler. R W Bro T B Harris, Bro Geo Magill, Auditors

THE BANQUET.

About 9 o'clock the members of the various City Lodges repaired to the Royal Hotel, where between 50 and 60 of the brethren assembled. The chair was occupied by V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle, supported by V. W. Bro. Mitchell, W. M. Acacia Lodge; R. W. Bro. Charles Magill, M.P.; W. Bro. McIntyre; V. W. Bro. Edgar, W. M. Barton Lodge; W. Bro. Walker, &c. The honors of the Vice-chair were committed to the care of Bro. J. J. Mason. The hall was very prettily decorated; the windows nitted up with symbolic transparencies, and the banners of the several Lodges and Chapters, gave the room a very handsome appearance. The spread was a capital one, and Mr. Brunson executed the duty assigned

him with credit to himself and satisfaction to the fraternity.

The usual loyal and patriotic and Masonic toasts were given, drawing forth appropriate and good speeches from the chairman, R. W. Bro. Magill, V. W. Bros. Edgar, Mitchell, and Bros. Gibson, J. Charlton, Mason, Nelles of Grimsby, Phillips of Toronto, Lazier and others. Several good songs were sung, rendered it one of the pleasantest and most enjoyable celebrations that the fraternity have ever enjoyed in Hamilton. During the evening a telegram was received from Bro. C. A. Birge, who was unavoidably absent in Connecticut, expressing his kindest wishes for his Brethren, and for their enjoyment. A little after twelve the junior warden's toast "Happy to meet, sorry to part and happy to meet again," was given, and after singing "Auld Lang Syne" the meeting broke up.

#### KINGSTON.

At the regular communication of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, R. of C., on the festival of St. John the Evangelist held this day, Dec. 28, A. L. 5868, at Kingston, Ont., two candidates having been previously initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, the following brethren were, at high noon, regularly installed and invested as officers of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, for the ensuing masonic year, viz:—

R W Bros G M Wilkinson, W M; S D Fowler, P M; Bros J Geo King, S W; D McCartney, J W; Rev Wm B Moffatt, Chaplain. E B Welch, Treas; V W Bro John M Horsey, Sec; Bros R W Barrow, S D; L Clements, J D; H E Swales, M of C; G W Andrews, Org; W D Antrobus, Wm Couldragge, Stewards; Alfred Sutton, I G; Thos Graham, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the installation ceremonies, the Lodge was, by command of the W. M., called off from labor to meet for refreshment at 7 P. M., when pursuant to ancient and time-honored custom, the brethren of St. John's were again assembled and conducted by their Junior Warden to a room above the Hall of the Lodge for the purpose of there dining together as Masons, and thus in festivity and social intercourse once more to celebrate the anniversary of the ancient Grand Master and Patron of our Order, St. John the Evangelist. Dinner being over, and the good old loyal and masonic toasts, "The Queen and the Craft," "The M. W. the Grand Master," "The G. Masters of England, Ireland, Scotland, and the United States" having been duly honored, with a wassail cup to our R. W. Brother Wilkinson and the chain of Lodges over which he presides as D. D. G. M. of the St. Lawrence District, next followed the toast "The brethren who have this day resigned their jewels," when the regular course of procedure was at this point varied by a most pleasing incident, illustrative of the fraternal regard and esteem entertained by the brethren of St. John's Lodge for their Treasurer, Bro. E. R. Welch, now for the tenth time re-elected to that responsible office.

The W. M., immediately after giving the health of the retiring officers, then, on behalf of the Lodge, presented a large size photographic likeness each of Bro. Welch and wife to said brother, as a mark of their approbation of the able manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of Treasurer, accompanied with an address expressive of their appreciation of the efficient services rendered by him to the Lodge in that capacity during the past nine years, being appropriately and feelingly replied to by Bro. Welch

in a manner tending to raise him, if possible, still more in the estimation of his fellow-craftsmen.

The W. M. next gave the health of the two Senior Past Masters of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, our R. W. Bros. Jas. A. Henderson and S. D. Fowler, names which are honored throughout the Dominion for their untiring zeal in the cause of Masonry, and then the homely Saxon pledge which finds a response in every heart, "Masons' wives and Masons' bairns"; these, the regular toasts of the evening, being again succeeded by various voluntary toasts from the brethren present, pre-eminent among which, from its enthusiastic reception, was that given by Bro. R. M. Horsey, "To the absent brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 3 on the R. of C., wherever they may be dispersed around the globe," coupling with the toast the name of R. W. Bro. G. F. LaSerre, P. M., now residing at Boulogne, France, but still remaining enrolled on our registry as an honorary member, the memory of whose many merits and estimable qualities as a man and a Mason is deeply engraved on the heart of every member of St. John's Lodge.

This being heartily responded to by W. Bro. John Kerr, P. M., on behalf of R. W. Bro. LaSerre, the brethren then separated to return to their respective homes, each and all deeply gratified with the proceedings of the evening, feeling more than ever the truth and force of the beautiful sentiments embodied in the ancient toast of the Junior Warden, as given by that officer prior to the closing of the Lodge, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again," and so eloquently expressed in the words of the masonic song,

"We part upon the Square, for the world must have its due,  
We mingle with the multitude—a cold, unfriendly crew;  
But the influence of our gatherings in memory is green,  
And we long upon the Love; to renew the happy scene."

So mote it be.

#### QUEBEC.

ALBION LODGE, No. 17 E. R.—The 118th annual installation of the officers of the above Lodge for the ensuing year took place this morning, the 28th inst., at 10 o'clock, a. m., at the Lodge rooms, Masonic Hall. The Worshipful Master, Brother W. Miller, installed the following brethren into their respective offices:—

W Bros A Frazer, W Master; W. Miller, P M; Bros J Jon, S W; C Dubé, J W; Rev G M Innes, Chaplain; B Jacobs, Treas; W Miller, Secretary; S Burnstein, S D; J V Dugas, J D; C W Goulding, I G; W Anderson, Tyler. W Bros S J Dawson and W Wilkinson, and Bro J Dawe, Permanent Committee.

LODGE ST. ANDREW, No. 356, R. S.—R W Bro G J Bowles, W M; W Bros J T Lambert, P M; W Wilkinson, D M; J S Bowen, S M; Bros C Judge, S W; F T Thomas, J W; W Bro H J Pratten, Treas; Bros J Bates, Sec; P V Hite, S D; A Talbot, J D; A Bowen, I G; W Dickinson, Organist; G Fitzgerald, D of C; A Thom, J Fraser, Stewards; W Anderson, Tyler. Bros T Hatch, G W Ellison and J Chalmers, Permanent Committee.

HARINGTON LODGE, No. 49.—S B Burnstein, W M; J Twoddell, P M; J Kennedy, S W; T F McCaskell, J W; A McCallum, (P M) Treas, H Hughes, Secretary; J Hunter, S D; J Hinds, J D; P Horan, J G; J G Jameison, Jos Lachance, Stewards; W S Anderson, Tyler. R W Bro A Walker and Bros H Smeaton and R Hudson, Permanent Committee.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 182 E. R.—Charles McKenzie, W M; H P Leggat, P M; W J Paterson, S W; Jno T Hossack, S W; George Veasey, Treas; P J Brady, Sec; G C Bown, S D; Jas Woods, J D; Wm J Lemesurier, D of C, Joshua Coombes, I G; W Anderson, Tyler; William M McLaren, Organist. Permanent Committee—W Bros C Staveley, Jno Shaw, Geo Thompson, Wm Miller.

QUEBEC GARRISON LODGE, No. 160 R. C.—V W Bro W Wilkinson, W M; Bros C Staveley, P M, Honorary; J Dan, S W; J R Jon, J W; T W Payne, Chaplain; J Mead, Sec; J Devlin, Treas; H Johnston, S D; W H Statham, J D; J Baglow, I G; J Jago, J Hopper, Stewards; J. Proctor, Tyler. Permanent Committee—W Bros C Staveley, P S W M Winn, J R Jon.

In the evening the brethren of Harington and Garrison Lodges met at Bro. Carrier's, St. Peter St., and sat down to an excellent supper. V. W. Bro. Wilkinson acting as President, and W. Bro. S. J. Burnstein as Vice-President. After spending a very pleasant and social evening, the party broke up shortly after eleven o'clock, expressing feelings of great satisfaction with the arrangements made by Bro. Carrier for their entertainment.

MONTREAL.

On Monday, the 28th December, the day set for the commemoration of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, the following Masonic Lodges assembled in their different Lodge-rooms, for the installation of officers for the ensuing masonic year:—

LODGE OF ANTIQUITY, A F and A M.—W Bros M Gutman, V M; S Wardlaw, S W; J Urquhart, J W; V W Bro Phillip Henry, Sec; Bros Richard Rowe, Treas; E Townsend, S D; J T Wright, J D; H Grant, Dir of Cer; G H Kendall, I G; W H Grant, J B Gourro, Stewards; B W Bro R Noxon, Tyler.

ST GEORGE'S, No 19, A F and A M.—W Bro A Bernard (PGM), W M; Bros E M Copeland, P M; A R Sowdon, S W, Dr Bessy, J W; R T Routh, Treasurer; F M Sowdon, Secretary; W Bathgate, S D; J T. Jernier, D D; Thos Robinson, D of C; Thos C Stratton, Org; S R Parsons, Dr. Rogers, Stewards; Joseph Sissons, I G; R Noxon, Tyler.

MONTREAL KILWINNING, No 124, A F and A M.—W Bros John P Peavey, W M; J Henry Stearns, P M; John Renshaw, P M; John Boyd, P M; John S Barrie, S W; Jas Gibson, J W; W H Marshall, Chaplain; Wm T Gibson, Treas; W H Hall, Sec; Geo Bridgeman, Organist; Samuel Price, S D; David Wright, J D; Jas Suttie, D C; A H Harris, George Crawford, D L Roy, Stewards; R Noxon, Tyler; John McD Campbell, Member of Room Committee; W Bro John P Peavey, W M, Member Board of Relief.

ROYAL ALBERT, No 167, A F and A M.—W Bro Hy M Alexander, W M; Frank Edgar, P M; Bros Wm Millar, S W; James Joseph Barnard, J W; Henry W Atwater, Treas; Charles Hutchison, Sec; Thomas Parsons, S D; Thos K Alexander, J D; Colin Russel, I G; Albert D Nelson, D C; John J Fergusson, Org; Chas C Claggert, Hugh M Boyd, Stewards; R Noxon, Tyler.

VICTORIA, No 173, A F and A M.—W Bro Henry J Gear, W M; R W Bro Alex Murray (D D G M), P M; Bros J T McMinn, S W; R B Eurray, J W; J H Menzies, Sec; W Moir, Treas; Thos Craig, S D; J F Scriver, J D; V W Bro G A Pearce, Organist; Bros John Hamilton, I G; D Bryson, D C; John Crosbie, J M Kirk, Stewards.

MOUNT ROYAL, No 202, A F and A M.—W Bro Chas Storer, W M; Bros W M Somerville, S W; Alex Watson, J W; J S McLachlan, Treas; P M McTavish, Secy; W T Morice, S D; Jas Leggat, J D; John McTavish, L D; G R Dewar, D of C; George A Pearce, Org; Wm McCoy, Wm Mann, Stewards; Alex Watson, Member Board of Relief; W Bro R Noxon, Tyler.

ST. PAUL'S LODGE, No 374, R.E.—W Bro W H Hutton, W M, J V Morgan, S W; R B Angus, J W, Joseph Walker, Treasurer; John Taylor, Sec, Frank Bond, S D, E S Blackwell, J D; E A Whitehead, I G, Dr. Godfrey, D C; Colquhoun, Tyler; W B Allan, Asst Tyler.

ST GEORGE'S LODGE, E R 440—W Bros W E Coquette, W M; Fred Sandham, I P M; George Nunn, P M; W G Slack, P M; Bros A Sandham, S W; N Vanalstyn, J W; G A Sargison, Secy; Joseph Tees, Treas; John Maw, S D; G F Drury, J D; Rev J S Hunter, Chaplain; Robert Clarke, Organist; H Hayles, 1st Steward; W Brodie, 2nd Steward; J R Middlemiss, 3rd Steward; George Bishop, Dir of Cer; W Winfield, I G; W Bro John Noxon, Tyler.

ST LAWRENCE LODGE, No 640, E R of A F & A M.—Bros R Handsloy, S W; J Moore, Treas, Rev J Fraser, Chaplain; J C Clarke, D C; W J Crowhurst, I G; W Bros F R Clarke, W M; R Edmondson, W P M; W Johnson, W P M; T Milton, W P M; Bros J W Hughes J W; W G Stothem, Secy, W Powell, Organist; J S Moore, S D; W H Dixon, J D; I Elblitt and W Wilson, Stewards; W Berry, Representative Montreal Masonic Board of Relief; W Bro R Noxon, Tyler.

ELGIN LODGE, A F & A M, 348 R S.—R W Bros Thos Alcock, R W M; W McWood, R W P M; C Corner, W D M; C W Bolton, W S M; R Riatoul, W S W, Thos Allan, W J W; Bros W S Walker, Treas; Thos Young, Sec; Rev W B Curran, Chaplain; J C Thurston, Organist; — White, S D; D Rose, J D; P O'Neill, G S; H W Bachlaw, Steward; G Swinburne, Asst Steward, W Corner, I G; W Bro R Noxon, Tyler.

PRESENTATION OF REGALIA TO D. D. G. M., MONTREAL.

The matter of a suitable Regalia for the D. D. G. M. having been brought before the different Lodges, a committee of three, consisting of Bro. Franklin of St. George's, No. 19; Bro. Coultrey of Kilwinning, No. 124, and Bro. Watson of Mount Royal, No. 202; was appointed to carry out the arrangements for procuring the same, and after due investigation, they intrusted Bro. Henry Grant with the order to manufacture a District Deputy's Regalia in first class style, an order which he executed in a manner which has elicited the warmest approbation from all who have seen it. On the evening of the 28th ult., R. W. Bro. Murray, D. D. G. M. for the Montreal District, was waited on by the committee, and presented with the Regalia consisting of apron, collar and gauntlets, on behalf of the Lodges of the District, and for the use of himself and successor in office. The D. D. G. M. afterwards visited the respective Lodges in the city, where he received the general congratulations of the brethren in having the honor to wear for the first time such a magnificent suit of Masonic Clothing. We would only add further, that, when such handsome work can be manufactured in our midst as this proves to be, we trust Lodges and Grand Officers generally, will remember Bro. Henry Grant, and not seek abroad for what can be got equally well at home.

OTTAWA.

Officers of Doric Lodge, No. 58, installed 28th December, 1868, at 12 o'clock noon, (for the year 1869):

W Bros John Sweetland, (M D) W M; Jno J Gemmill, I P M; Bros Thos Birkett, S W; Amos Rowe, J W; Rev C B Pettit, Chaplain; John Graham, (re-elected) Treas; D P Williams, (re-elected) Secy; Henry A Palmer, S D; Wm H Baldwin, J D; John Webster, Geo H Preston, Stewards; James Harris, D of Cer; Samuel Rathwell, A Swallowell, Permanent Committee, Geo A Hawkins, I G; Jno McCarthy, Tyler.

In the evening the members and friends of the Doric Lodge sat down to a supper at the Albion Hotel. The room was appropriately decorated for the occasion with festoons of evergreen, Masonic and loyal emblems, mottoes, and devices. The supper was served in the very best style by Bro. Graham, leaving nothing in the way of good eating and drinking to be wished for. W. Bro. Dr. Sweetland presided, supported on his right by R. W. Bro. Featherston, late D. D. G. M., and on his left by W. Bro. Paynter, present Master of the Builders' Lodge.

The good things under which the table groaned having been duly discussed, the cloth was removed, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were

given and suitably responded to, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

The following are the officers of the Corinthian Lodge, No. 59:

W Bros I B Taylor, W M; H Grist, S W; Bros W Wade, J W; A Burritt, Treas; A H Taylor, re-elected Secy, C A Crosby, S D; G L Orme, J D; J P M Lecourt, I G; W Gardner, J Sleeman, Stewards; M J May, D Millar, Permanent Committee, J Sweetman, Tyler.

The master and officers elect of Civil Service Lodge, No. 148, were duly installed at two p. m. Worshipful Brother I. B. Taylor officiating:

W Bros E P Remon, W M; Thomas Monro, P M; Bros J F Wolff, S W; J B Simpson, J W; J W Harper, Treas; G C Reiffenstein, Sec; P Miller, S D; N W McLean, J D; Rev T B Jones, LL D, Chaplain; H G Garrett, M C; A J Cambie, E C Hayden, Committee for General Purposes; J T McCuaig, A Kerr, Stewards; H J Morgan, I G.

The members of the Civil Service Lodge dined together in the evening at the Rideau Club. The dinner was of the most *recherche* kind, and Mr. Nicholson, the manager of the Club, kept up his good character for attendance, and in supplying all the comforts of the evening.

The M. W. G. Past master, T. D. Harington, occupied the chair, and E. P. Remon, W. M., of the Civil Service Lodge, the vice chair. The chairman was supported on his right by the Hon. A. Campbell, Postmaster-General of Canada, and on his left by Sir John A. Macdonald, Minister of Justice. Amongst other guests present were the Reverends Codd and Bliss; Dr. Grant, M. P.; His Honor Judge Armstrong; Dr. Barron, of Cobourg; G. P. Baker, Esq., Postmaster of Ottawa; E. Spencer, Esq., &c.

As usual, the first toast was "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honored.

Song by Dr. Barron, "God save the Queen."

To the toast of the Governor-General of Canada, the most enthusiastic response was given. The chairman coupled Lady Young's name with the toast, which brought all the honors and "three times three."

The next toast in order was, "The Grand Lodge of Canada," which was duly responded to.

"The Grand Chapter of Canada" was the next toast, coupled with the name of the first principal, Bro Harington, who replied.

Sir John A. Macdonald responded to the toast of "Our Sister Grand Lodges throughout the world."

The next toast given was "Our Sister Lodges in this City." Responded to by Bros. Parsons and Spencer, and Dr. Grant.

Song—"The Island home of an Englishman;" by the chairman.

To the toast of "Our Guests," Hon Mr. Campbell responded in an excellent speech.

Judge Armstrong also replied shortly.

Several songs and speeches were given in response to this toast.

"Masons' Wives and Masons' Bairns" being proposed, Rev. Mr. Bliss responded, referring to the working of the Order in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

The party broke up in harmony at half-past ten, after the toast "Happy to meet, happy to part, and happy to meet again."

#### ST. CATHARINES.

Monday evening at 7 o'clock, the two St. Catharines Lodges met in strong force to do honor to the occasion. Routine business was soon despatched, when the imposing ceremony of installing W. M. elect of Maple Leaf Lodge No. 103 (Br. George Groves) was proceeded with—the Installing Board being, R. W. Bro. Jas. Seymour, D. G. M.; V. W. Bro. H. Carlisle, P. G. O.; V. W. Bro. W. B. Bréton, P. G. S.; W. Bros. J. Dale, J. B. Fowler, and S. Cole. The elective and appointed officers were then installed or invested and proclaimed according to ancient usage, Bro W. Dougan very efficiently discharging the duties of organist during the evening. We append a complete list of the new officers:—

W Br Samuel Cole, I P M; W Br George Groves, W M; Br Robt Struthers, S W; Br W H Andrews, J W; V W Br Edwin Goodman, Treas; Bros Peter McCarthy, Secy; Joseph H Smith, S D; Richard Wood, J D; Nelson Haight, D of C; Geo W Read, Organist; John Ross & Christopher Gannon, Stewards; Thomas Keyes & R J Johnston, A M C G P; Wm H Ette, Inuer Guard, Richard Ratcliffe, Tyler.

At the close of the ceremonies about 50 of the Brethren retired to the Pickwick House, where one of Bro. E. Houghton's usual *recherche* suppers awaited them. Bro. W. Groves presided and was supported on either side by the Past Masters already named. The standard toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "M. W. G. M. and Grand Lodge of Canada," were pledged with great enthusiasm, the D. G. M. replying for the latter. The "Army, Navy and Volunteers," was appropriately acknowledged by V. W. Bro. Capt. Carlisle, Bro. Capt. Yale, Capt. Murray, and Capt. Wynn—the latter specially alluding to the operations of the Naval Brigade at Fort Erie in 1866, with which he then distinguished himself. "Masonry throughout the world," and "Our visiting Brethren," by the S. W. were neatly acknowledged by American brethren present. "The W. M. and officers of Maple Leaf Lodge," by the D. G. M., elicited interesting speeches from the brethren concerned, as did also "The retiring W. M. and officers," from W. Bro. Cole, who was presented at this stage with a handsome meerschaum pipe and case from the Port Dalhousie brethren, for his painstaking in their behalf and general good qualities as a man and mason. "The W. M., officers and Brethren of St. George's Lodge No. 15," by the chair was fraternally responded to by Bro. A. Chatfield, S. W. The "Memory of departed brethren," by V. W. Dr. Beeton, was drank in silence. "Our poor and distressed brethren," by Bro. R. Wynn, was well received. "Masons' wives and Masons' bairns," by the J. W., elicited eloquent responses from Bro. P. McCarthy, A. Mills, and J. McMaugh. After two or three other toasts, the J. W., closed the list by giving "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again," which was followed by all singing Auld Lang Syne, and bidding each other good night.

#### WELLINGTON.

STAR IN THE EAST LODGE.—The officers for this Lodge have been installed for the ensuing year:

W Bros Wm Cleminson, W M; Ira Clinton, P M; Bros David Clinton, S W; G J Chadd, J W; Rev E H M Baker, Chaplain; Wm Harris, Treas; Edward H., Secy; Wm Patterson, S D; W S Hollingsworth, J D; W G Harris, I G; G C Stinson, D of Cer; H McCullough and Thos Jackson, Stewards; Jno Leader, Tyler.

BROCKVILLE.

On Monday evening, the 28th ult., Sussex Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons met in their Lodge Room, for the purpose of installing the officers elect for the ensuing year, viz:—

W M'Kechnie, W M; W H Jackson, S W; and H G Griffin, J W.

After the installation, between forty and fifty of the brethren adjourned to the St. Lawrence Hall, where brother Cole had provided a rich repast.

After the substantials had been disposed of, Worshipful Master M'Kechnie gave the usual standard toasts, were all most enthusiastically responded to.

Brother Jackson, who occupied the Vice-Chair, then gave—"Our Sister Lodges." This toast was replied to by Brother Duncan from New Brunswick. "Our visiting Brethren" followed, replied to by Brothers Blackburn, Hawkes and Booth. "The Press" came next, to which Brother Wylie replied.

Brother Junior Warden Griffin then gave—"Masons Wives and Masons Bairns." Replied to by Brothers Dr. Gordon and H. C. Jones.

Mr. F. Schofield gave "the Government and Legislature of Ontario," which was replied to by the member for Brockville, Mr. W. Fitzsimmons.

The Health of the Worshipful Master was then given by Past Master Wilkinson, and replied to by W. Bro. M'Kechnie, when the happy meeting broke up, after enjoying a couple of hours of most sociable companionship.

BELLEVILLE.

Monday, the 28th ult., being observed as St. John's Day, the Brethren of the mystic tie met in their Lodge Room at high noon, when the following Brethren were duly installed:—

MONA LODGE, No 11.—W Bros A Diamond, W M; N P Falkiner, I P M; Eber C Flint, P M; Bros P. D. Conger, S. W; S. Stephens, J W; John Kerr, Treas; Rev Joseph Wild, Chaplain; James Peard, Secretary; James Mackie, S D; David Price, J D; George C Holton; Mat M Thompson, Samuel S Lazier, Stewards; Bros. J. P. Hayck, I. G; Donald Urquhart, Tyler.

THE BELLEVILLE LODGE, No. 123.—W Bro Donald Bain, W M; E W Bro L H Henderson, I P M; W Bro John Taylor, P M; Bros John Paul, S W; Alex Webster, J W; James Smith, Treas; Rev Bro Wm Hay, Chaplain; Bros Wm L Hamilton, Secy; Joseph Northcott, S D; Wesley Bullen, J D; Donald Graham, John McKeown, Stewards; Bros Uriah Thompson, Dir of G; Daniel Cunningham, I G; D Urquhart, Tyler.

BRIGHTON.

The officers of Golden Rule Lodge of free and accepted Masons were installed on Wednesday evening, the 30th ult., at Campbellford, by the District Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. William McCabe, of Oshawa, assisted by W. Bros. Brown of Hastings, Edwards of Brighton, and Dinwoodie of Brighton. After the ceremony, the Lodge entertained their visitors and a large number of friends at a dinner. Among those present were—Rev. Mr. Baker, Major Wainwright, Captains Tice, Bonnycastle, Dinwoodie and Bedford, the Reeve, Dr. Maclean, of Kingston, Messrs. Ferris, Donald Atkinson, and Dr. Monroe. After dinner the District Master delivered an address upon Masonry. The officers elect are:—

Bros Hugh O'Neil, W M; William Jas Dinwoodie, P M; Stewart Cock, S W; Mahawley, J W; D Kennedy, Treas; Jas Archer, Sec; George Mitchell, I G; H Stanbury, S D; W. Cleugh, J. D. The company broke up about one o'clock.

INGERSOLL.

Monday, the 28th inst., having been kept by the Fraternity in this town, was celebrated in truly Masonic style. After the Installation—which took place at the new Hall—the Brethren met at the "Royal Hotel" in the evening, and partook of an excellent supper, got up in Bro. Hearn's usual good style. A number of Brethren from Woodstock, Brantford, and Norwich were present, and a really happy evening was spent.

The following Brethren were installed by V. W. Bros. Brown and McLean, as officers of their respective Lodges, for the next Masonic year:—

KING HIRAM LODGE, No 37.—W Bro Jas Canfield, re-elected W M; V W Bro P J Brown, P M; Bros Robert Vance, S W; C H Sorley, J W; Robert Agur, Treas; Jas M Willson, Secy; Rev W J Sargent, Chaplain; C H Slawson, S D; R A Janes, J D; S W Wilson, I G; A H Clunn, Tyler.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 68.—W Bros W J Allison, W M; Dr. Thos Bowers, P M; Bros James M Grant, S W; Thos McKindsey, J W; John McDonald, Treas; J B Crawford, Secy; Rev Thos Baldwin, Chaplain; Hugh Kerr, S D; John Haskett, J D; S G Read, I G; A H Clunn, Tyler.

WELLAND.

On Monday evening last, the officers of "Merritt Lodge" of A. F. & A. M. of this place were duly installed, and are composed as follows:—

M. Betts, W M; S Hopkins, S W; W Beatty, J W; H A Rose, Treas; J Vanderburgh, Secy, L D Raymond, Chaplain.

After the closing of the Lodge the brethren proceeded to the City Hotel, and partook of an oyster supper got up in Mr. Garden's usual good style. After supper, the usual Masonic and other toasts followed in succession, interspersed with excellent speeches, and a very pleasant time was passed until a late hour, when the Jr. Warden's toast brought the conviviality to a close, and no doubt the brethren were "happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again." So mote it be.

WELLINGTON SQUARE.

The following officers of Burlington Lodge, No. 165, were duly installed:—

W Bros W J Sincoe Kerr, W M; W Kerns, P M; Bros F Bray, S W; J H Campbell, J W; J Waldie, re-elected Treas; R Halson, re-elected Secy; W J Douglas, re-elected S D; D Henderson, J D; T Graham, J G.

This Lodge is in good working order; out of debt; and has just moved into its new and commodious Hall, completed for the Craft by Brothers Waldie and Kerns.

MILTON.

At the regular meeting of St. Clair Lodge, No. 135, held on Friday the 28th ult., the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

Bros Henry Watson, W M; W H Street, S W; David Robertson J W; Geo Smith, Treas; R Matheson, Secy; Wm Scott, Tyler.

SCOTLAND.

The V. W. M., F. Mudge, Esq., installed the following officers at the last regular meeting on the 28th inst., St. John the Evangelist's Day, in Scotland Lodge, No. 198:—

V W Bro Mudge, W M, Bro John McLein, M D, S W, C F Colbin, J W, W Hay, Chaplain; P I Pilkey, Treasurer; J D Eddy, Sec; H Teeter, S D; E Force, J D; T O Frouse, D of C; Hagerman, I G; Sullivan, Tyler; M Malcolm, P R Malcolm, Stewards.

## KINGSTON.

At the regular communication of Catarqui Lodge, A. F. and A. M., No. 92, the following brethren were installed officers for the ensuing year by V. W. Bro. E. J. Barker:—

W Bro R Hendry, jr, W M, re-elected; Bros R Nancollas, S W; A McMillan, J W; V W Bro H Dumble, C; R W Bro J V Noel, Treas; Bros James Greenfield, Sec, George Arnold, S D; Benjamin Holder, J D; Jas Curran, I G, Thos Graham, Tyler.

In the evening the brethren dined in their own hall. The usual masonic toasts were duly given and responded to, after which a number of volunteer toasts were given; and after spending a very pleasant evening, the brethren separated.

## DUNNVILLE.

The following officers of AMITY LODGE, No. 32, were installed on Monday, the 28th of December, by the Right Worshipful the District Deputy Grand Master of the Hamilton District, R. W. Bro. John Parry:—

Bros Thos L M Tipton, W M; H Penny, S W; J Lindsay, J W; Rev A Becmer, Chaplain; C E S Black, Sec; D Price, Treasurer; F Clark, S D; M Gash, J D; H Root, I G; W Bro A Brown, Org; V W Bro J Amsden, D of C; W Bro W Montague, Tyler.

The Standing Committees appointed by the W. M. are composed of the following brethren:

W P M's A Brownsdon, L McCallum, J R Brown, Charitable Committee. W P M Wm Braund, Bro M Gash, Bro. H C Upper, Finance Committee. W Bro L McCallum, Immediate P M.

After the ceremony of installation, the brethren proceeded to Bro. D. Price's Hotel, where they entertained the R. W. the D. D. G. M., according to ancient usage.

Bro. Price had provided a most excellent banquet in his spacious dining hall, and a large number, together with their wives, daughters, and sisters, sat down on the occasion.

## CHATHAM.

WELLINGTON LODGE, No. 46.—The officers of this Lodge at Chatham were installed and invested on St. John's Day, by R. W. Bro. Jonn E. Brooke, D. D. G. M. of the London District, assisted by R. W. Bro. J. G. Askin, P. D. D. G. M., and V. W. Bro. T. C. MacNabb:—

Bro Wm Carruthers, W M; R W Bro J E Brooke, I P M; Bros Alex R Cochran, S W; Jno H Luscombe, J W; Rufus Stephenson, Chaplain; James Marquand, Treasurer; Allen D Bogart, Sec; J B Jackson, S D; Jno H West, J D; V W Bro Thos C MacNabb, D C; Bros Wm Young, I G; George R Duck, Jno B Stringer, Stewards; Wm Monson, Tyler.

## COLLINGWOOD.

MANITO LODGE, No. 90.—The following officers were installed on Dec. 28th, 1868, by V. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson, assisted by W. Bros. H. M. Cleland and J. Nettleton:—

W Bros E R Carpenter, W M; J Nettleton, P M; Bros P Doherty, S W; J Jardine, J W; H Gillson, Chaplain; J Lindsay, Treasurer; A M Sutherland, Sec; A Moberly, S D. T R Earl, J D; W A Brown, D of C; R B Hannab, J B Fluant, Stewards; E C Florance, I G; J A Caster, Tyler.

## BURFORD.

The following are the installed officers of Burford Lodge, No. 106:—

V W Bro Mudge, W M; Bros Groom, S W; Villas, J W; Townsend, Treasurer; Findley, Sec; Whittaker, S D; Steadman, J D; Chrysler, D of C; Cronklin, J D; Whetmore, Tyler; Perrin and L Tisdale, Stewards.

## MILLBROOK.

The Ceremony of Installation of Officers elect for the ensuing year of the J. B. Hall Lodge, No. 145, Millbrook, was performed in the Lodge Room, on Monday, the 28th instant, as follows:—

Dr H Turner, W Maester; S J Howell, S Warden; J B Collins, J W; J D Ogilvie, Chaplain; Wm Turner, Treas; J H Sootheran, Secy; John Hunter, S D; J W Wallace, J Deacon; Thomas Eyres, D of Cer; Wm Staples, Thos Medd, Stewards; E Kells, Inner Guard; John Gillot, Tyler.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

The following are the officers elect of the several Lodges in the city of St. John and in Carleton and Portland, N. B. who were installed on the festival of St. John the Evangelist:—

ALBION LODGE, No. 1.—Edwin J Everett, W M; Robert R Sneten, S W; Thomas N. Robertson, J W; James Robertson, Treas; Wm S Marven, Sec; J Frederick Ring, S D; W C Perley, J D; George E Fairweather, M of C, John Campbell, S S; Alfred Hatherley, J S Charles D Jordan, I G; John Bowyer, Tyler.

St. JOHN LODGE, No. 2.—Dr Jos C Hatheway, W M; W H Sinnott, S W; S F Matthews, J W; Rev Jas J Caie, Chap; W H A Keans, M P P, Treas; Wm J Davidson, Sec; Henry G Hunt, S W; Dr Canby Hatheway, J W; Charles Estey, S S; Dr Edward L Barteaux, J S; John Sandall, Dir of Cer; Henry Card, Organist; Fred M Berryman, I G; John Bowyer, Tyler.

HIBERNIA LODGE, No. 3.—John Johnston, W M; Wm J Logan, S W; William E Everett, J W; William W McFeters, Treas; David S Stewart, Sec; James Saunders, S D; Chas L Weeks, J D; Gordon G Boyne, S S; Edward H Isreal, J S; Henry Card, Organist; Chas Rodgers, M of C; John Bowyer, Tyler.

LENSTER LODGE, No. 19.—Israel S Gross, W M; George Barteaux, S W; Henry J Thorne, J W; Dr T C Stockton, Treas; A G. Blakslee, Sec; William Tweedale, S D; J W Holder, J D; R E Puddington, M of C; Andrew McVey, S S; — Davis, J S; H Brown, Tyler.

NEW BRUNSWICK LODGE, No. 22.—Wm R Russell, W M; William G McFarlane, S W; John P Jordan, J W; Alex Morrison, Secy; Jas McNichol, jr, Treas; Wm G Matthewson, S D; John Williams, J D; Thos H Hale, S S; Robert H Dunn, J S; Robert McKean, M of C; Henry Card, Organist; John Bower, Tyler.

CARLETON UNION LODGE, No. 8.—B N Knight, W M; Geo H Clark, S W; John N Moore, J W; Jervis Wilson, Treas; Chas Ketchum, (P M) Sec; J Alfred Clark, S D; John Thompson, J D; Henry S Clarke, S S; Daniel Mullen, J S; Henry Card, Organist; William J McCordock, M of C; James H Eagles, Tyler.

UNION LODGE OF PORTLAND, No. 10.—Robert M. Stephens, W M; W C Morrissey, S W; H D McLeod, J W; Robert Shives, Treas; D R Munroe, (P M) S; C U Hanford, S D; H Duffell, J D; Evan Evans, S S; Henry A Whitner, I G; John Bowyer, Tyler; Henry Card, Organist.

On New Year's day W. Bro. David R. Munro, W. M. of Portland "Union" Lodge, was presented by his brethren with a beautiful Gold Watch, one of Thomas Russell & Sons' best quality full plate Levers, jeweled in eight holes, with chronometer balance, purchased from Mr. Page, King Street, and value for about \$140.—This time-peace is one of the handsomest and most useful presents that can possibly be tendered by the hand of friendship. Accompanying the Watch was a massive Gold Chain, furnished from the establishment of Mr. Hutchison. The Watch will bear the inscription: "Presented to Past Master D. R. Munroe, by the Members of the Union Lodge of Portland, No. 10, N. B. R., as a mark of respect and esteem: 1st January, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869." The Watch and Chain (including cost of engraving) are value for \$200. The present was accompanied by an address to which Bro. Munro made an appropable reply.

ROYAL ARCH.

On Thursday, the 10th ult., the following Companions were duly installed into office in the Stadacona Chapter of Quebec of Royal Arch Masons, No. 13, Registry of Canada, by R. E. Comp. Geo. Thompson, Past Z:—

R E Comp Thos J Lambert, Past Z, D G S; V E Comp Christopher Stavelcy, Z; R E Comp H J Pratten, Past Z; E Companions William Wilkinson, H; John Tweddell, J; Henry Smeaton, Treas; Companions Geo C Bown, Scribe E; Joseph Bates, Scribe N; F T Thomas, Princ'l Sojourner; G W Ellison, Sen Asst Sojourner; J F Hossack, Jun Asst Sojourner; Amos Bowen, Standard Bearer; Henry Hughes, O Goldman, Stewards; Jas Chalmers, Dir of Cerem; Wm Clearihue, Organist; John Proctor, Janitor.

Our Ingersoll brethren give a ball under the patronage of the M. W., the Past Grand Master of Canada, at the New Music Hall, Royal Hotel buildings, on Wednesday evening the 27th, inst. The arrangements are such as to insure a successful affair.

Correspondence.

A. & A. S. R.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRAFTSMAN.]  
ROCHESTER, N. Y. Jan. 5th, 1869.

DEAR SIR & BRO.—In reply to Bro. Brennan's note, which appeared in THE CRAFTSMAN last month, I would state that I shall be pleased to accept the fraternal challenge contained in that letter, and in the next number of the CRAFTSMAN will express through its pages my views relative to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

I am yours fraternally,  
ROBERT RAMSAY.

Hon. Mem. Orilla Lodge 192, G. R. C.

COLONEL W. J. B. MCL. MOORE, 33° S. G. I. G., representative in the dominion of Canada of the Supreme Grand Council Ancient and Accepted Rite for England and Wales, and the dependencies of the British Crown, has resigned that position; and Bro Thomas Douglas Harington 33° S. G. I. G., has been appointed in his stead to that high office. The Ancient and Accepted Rite is rapidly increasing in power, influence, and members, both in this country and in the new dominion.

OFFICIAL VISITATION.

COMMUNICATED.

At a regular communication of Mount Royal Lodge, A. F. & A. M. No. 202, C. R., held at Montreal on Tuesday, 13th October, the brethren were honored with the presence of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, who, with the assistance of the R. W. the D. D. G. M., duly constituted the Lodge, and installed and invested the Officers. The Lodge-Room was well filled with visitors and representatives of sister Lodges, who came to witness these beautiful ceremonies. The following are the Officers:—W. Bro. Charles Storer, W. M.; Bro. W. M. Somerville, S. W.; Bro. Alex. Watson, J. W.; Bro. John S. McLaughlan, Treasurer; Bro. P. M. MacTavish, Secretary; Bro. W. T. Morice, S. D.; Bro. James Leggatt, J. D.; V. W. Bro. Geo. A. Pearce, Organist; Bro. John MacTavish, I. G.; V. W. Bro. R. Noxon, Tyler. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren proceeded to the Terrapin for

refreshments, where a sumptuous cold collation was prepared in honor of the visit of the M. W. the Grand Master, and the universal opinion of those present was, that a more pleasant and agreeable evening had not been enjoyed by the Craft for a long time. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and the greatest harmony prevailed, when, at a seasonable hour the Junior Warden's toast was given: "Happy to meet; sorry to part; happy to meet again," and the brethren separated, delighted with the proceedings of the evening.

F. M. M.

MONTREAL, Dec. 1868.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

QUESTION.—It has been the custom in our Lodge, when an application for membership has been read by the Secretary, for a Brother to move that the application be received, and the W. M. puts the resolution. In the same manner when the committee of investigation bring in a report, the Secretary again reads it, and the chairman of the committee moves its adoption. One of our oldest brethren holds that these motions should not be made, believing that the application should go to a committee; and the candidate, after the report of the committee, be balloted for without any formal motions. Will you kindly give us your opinion?

ANSWER.—We refer our correspondent to the Constitution under "of proposing members." When an application for membership is made, it is always followed by a motion "That the application be received, and entered upon the minutes for action at the next regular communication." When the committee report—if the report be favorable—the candidate "must be balloted for," and therefore no motion is made. The W. M. says "the report on Mr.—'s application being favorable, the Deacons will please prepare the ballot box." If the report is unfavorable, the fact is ordered to be endorsed upon the minutes.

W.M.C.D.—We cannot supply the first and second volumes. Two years bound together will not make a very heavy volume.

D. B.—The two volumes bound in one will cost hardly any more than to bind a single volume. Say fifty cents for one volume, sixty-three for two in one.

PORT HOPE.

The Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist falling this year on Sunday, the Brethern of Hope and Ontario Lodges on that day attended church in a body to hear a sermon by the Rev. Dr. O'Meara, and on the evening of Monday held a Festival in the St. Lawrence Hall. the members of the craft attending in regalia and enjoying a social time with each other and a large number of their friends.

Owing to the amount of business to be transacted in connection with the Lodges, the brethren did not leave their rooms till the evening was pretty far advanced, when they marched to the St. Lawrence in line, two deep, and clothed in their honorable regalia. Shortly after, at precisely half-past nine, the whole company sat down to the sumptuous repast provided by Brother T. W. Hastings the host of the evening, and the Rev. Bro. Disboro, Chaplain of both Lodges, having asked a blessing, the attack on the viands commenced.

The chair was occupied by W. Bro. A. T. Williams; supported on the right by Rev. Bro. Disboro and

Rev. Dr O'Meara; on the left by W. Bro. J. B Hall, and W. Bro. James Marshall. The Vice-Chairs were filled by Bros R. Nicholl and H. V. Sanders.

The clearly apparent relish with which every one present engaged in the merry war of knife and fork, showed that the attacking party appreciated the work, and the contest was worthy of their arms.

After every one became satisfied that they had demolished a sufficient quantity of mine host's provisions, and thanks being returned by the Rev. Dr. O'Meara, the usual standard masonic toasts were given and responded to, and one of the most enjoyable evenings ever remembered in Port Hope was spent

#### GUELPH.

The brethren of Speed Lodge, Guelph, celebrated the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist's Day by a grand Festival in the Masonic Hall on Tuesday night the 29th, ult.

The decorations of the Lodge—which was fitted up as a reception room and parlour—were very handsome. In addition to the emblems of the craft, which were profusely scattered throughout the apartment, the walls were decorated with a selection of very fine engravings and paintings. Sofas, settees, and chairs were liberally distributed through the room. The banner of Alma Lodge, Galt, which ornamented one of the windows, attracted great attention during the night and was very much admired. The ground is of beautiful and costly silk, and the wreaths, masonic emblems and decorations—all done with the needle in colored silk and silver and gold tissue—is beautifully wrought, and is an enduring proof of the taste and skill of Miss Klotz, of Preston, who worked it. The large room adjoining the Lodge was fitted up for the concert and ball room. At the side was a raised platform decorated with wreaths and evergreens, and overhead were the words, "The Queen and the Craft." The walls were tastefully festooned with cloths of the brightest colours, while choice and handsomely framed engravings were suspended all around.

The company began to arrive shortly before eight o'clock, and were conducted by the members of the committee to the reception room. When all were assembled there would not be less than 260 ladies and gentlemen. As soon as most of the guests had arrived, the brethren entered the room. Amongst those present we observed the representatives from lodges in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Galt and Irvine Lodge, Elora, the latter being largely represented. On the procession halting, W Bro Charles Sharpe, Master of the Lodge, took his seat on the throne, supported on his right by Rt W Bro T B Harris, G. S.; and V. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, Preston; and on his left by V. W. Bro. J. M Dunn, and W. Bro. A. B. Petrie. The grand honours were then given, after which W. Bro. Sharpe delivered an excellent address:

The company then adjourned to the ball room, where the musical part of the entertainment took place. Mr. Vale's band played an overture in fine style. It was followed by the "Chough and Crow,"—quartette—by Mrs. Cuthbert, Misses Rhemmie and Mr. F. H. Taylor, which was admirably sung. Mr. Breadon gave "The flag of Old England" with excellent effect, and was followed by the Misses Rhemmie in a duett "The Flower Gatherers," which was well and expressively sung.

Miss Rhemmie next gave Bishop's fine song, "Should he upbraid," in a manner which showed great musical ability and thorough cultivation. Russell's "Ship on Fire," was then given by Mr. Taylor, and the fine though ever aying music, as well as the sentiment was most expressively and powerfully rendered by him. A pleasant little duett "The Cousins" was well sung by Mrs. Cuthbert and Miss Rhemmie, after which Mrs. Cuthbert sang with much taste, "Fairy Visions." Mr. Taylor then gave an amusing new comic song, "Hogs by the mile," which closed this part of the entertainment. Mr. J. D. Kerrison, the pianist, played the accompaniments with fine taste. The concert over, the ball room was cleared, when dancing commenced to the inspiring strains of Vale's Quadrille Band. The supper room was also opened and well patronised during the night. Mr. Miller, of the Queen's Hotel, furnished the supper, which included the best of everything which could be procured, and was got up with the greatest taste. For those who relished a quieter mode of enjoyment than dancing, carpet balls, croquet, bagatelle, draughts and many other amusements were provided and freely indulged in during the evening. The entertainment was in every respect first-class, the arrangements were excellent and well carried out; the decorations were perfect, and the whole passed off most successfully, and to the credit of all concerned.

#### MOUNT FOREST.

ST. ALBAN'S LODGE, No. 200, celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist on Monday, the 28th ult., by a dinner and ball. The members and invited Brethren assembled in Masonic costume at eight o'clock, p. m., at Evan's Hotel, where they were joined by the other guests.

The tables were laid in the spacious Hall adjoining and consisted of "The Eastern table" upon a dais, elevated on three steps—in front of which were two tables, running the entire length of the Hall—one on the North, the other on the South side, across which extended a fourth on the West, forming together a quadrangle, with a space in the centre.

The walls were festooned with hangings of scarlet cloth, which encircled the whole from the ceiling. In the East shone forth the "Eastern Star," surmounted by the "Watchful Eye." In the West was a similar frame, containing a "Moon and Stars" brilliantly illuminated; and in the South beamed forth a refulgent "Sun" behind the Jun'r Warden.

On the Eastern wall was displayed the motto, "The Queen and the Craft;" on the Western, "Welcome;" on the Southern, "Faith, Hope, and Charity;" on the Northern, "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty;" and over the entrance door, "Welcome wives and sweet-hearts."

The Eastern table upon the dais, was occupied by the W. M. Bro. Wm. W. Winfield, supported on his right by Bro. the Rev.—Murray, and on his left by Rt. W. Bro. Sir Wm. Colles, Knt P. M., St. Patrick's Lodge, Dublin, (No. 50., G. R. I.)

Bro Hugh Wilson, S. W., presided in the West, and Bro. Joseph Kilgour occupied the J. W. chair in the South.

About one hundred ladies and Brethren took their seats shortly after eight o'clock. The W. Master entered soon afterwards, and was received with Masonic honours and conducted to the East.

Ample justice having been done to the liberal repast provided, the W. M. delivered an address on "the principles of Masonry," which elicited the applause of the Brethren, and pleased and enlightened the uninitiated guests. The W. M. then proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were suitably responded to, and at a reasonable hour gave the concluding toast—"Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

The ceremonies were closed by Bro. Sir Wm. Colles, giving an original Masonic version of the National Anthem; and the company adjourned to the hotel whilst the tables were being removed, and the Hall prepared for "The Ball." The Elora Band (specially engaged for the occasion) performed for dancing, which was kept up to a late hour; when all separated in "Peace, Love, and Harmony, having passed an evening which will be long remembered with pleasure by many who never before witnessed a Masonic festival, and who departed with feelings towards the Craft very different in many instances from those with which they entered.

**NOVA SCOTIA.**

The Quarterly Communication of the new Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia was held at Halifax on Friday the 11th inst., thirteen Lodges being represented. The business transacted was principally of a local nature. Three charters were issued, viz:—

- WESTERN STAR.....Weston, Picton Co.
- PHILADELPHIA .....Barrington, Shelbren Co.
- EASTERN STAR.....Dartmouth.

A communication was read from the M.W. Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, appointing R. W. Bro. Taylor as the representative of that M. W. Grand Lodge, with the rank of a Past Senior Grand Deacon, at this Grand Lodge.

The credentials of R. W. Bro. Taylor were presented, and he was received and welcomed as such with customary honors. This is a fresh tie which will unite the two Grand Lodges in closer and more intimate fraternal relations. A petition was presented from a Mr. John T. Macalpin, a member of the so-called Athole Lodge, No. 361 R. S., praying to be reinstated to his former masonic privileges, the said so-called Athole Lodge, with two others, having been declared illegal and clandestine by the Grand Lodge in June, 1866.

The prayer of the petitioner was granted, and Mr. Macalpin was restored to his former masonic privileges. Although there were three Lodges declared illegal and clandestine at that time, one only is working; yet there are members hailing from the three, and perhaps it would be as well for our brethren in the Dominion and elsewhere to understand. They claim to be the Athole, No. 361 R. S.; Keith, No. 365 R. S.; Scotia, No. 411 R. S.

The reasons which led to their being declared clandestine were, that the above Lodges participated in the formation of the Grand Lodge, and surrendered their charters to the Grand Lodge of Scotland through the Provincial Master; but instead of their being forwarded to Scotland, they were re-issued to a few members of the former Lodges, who commenced working under the former warrants, although masonic law is very clear on the point that the surrender of a warrant is the extinction of a Lodge. I enclose you a copy of the address made

by the R. W. District Grand Master of England on the occasion of the installation of the District Grand Lodge officers on St. John's Day. I make no comments; it speaks for itself.

The District Grand Lodge of Freemasons met at Masonic Hall yesterday at high twelve, the Hon. Alexander Keith, District Grand Master, presiding. The following officers were installed:—

- B Wor Bros James Forman, D D G M; Hon R A McHefey, S G W; George M Johnston, J G W; V W Bros Rev David C Moore, G Chap, John Woodill, G Treas, Henry C D Twining, G Secy; Wor Bros James Gossip, S G D; Thomas R Fraser, J G D; Robert Waters, G Dir of Cer; David Stirling, G Supt of Works; Robert R Morris, G O; Charles Dillon, G Sword Bearer; James McGuire, G Stan Bearur; W Thomas Woods, G Pur; W John M Taylor, G Tyler.

Stewards, Bros N I Herbert, J W K Johnson, W Caldwell, Jr, W J Erby, John McLean, John R Thomas.

Committee of Charity, W. Allan H. Crowe, P. M. St. Andrew's Lodge; W. Henry C. D. Twining, P. M. St. John Lodge; W. Wm. A. Hesson, P. M. Virgin Lodge; W. Thomas Micklowright, P. M. Royal Standard Lodge; W. Philip G. Valot, P. M. Royal Sussex Lodge; W. Robert R. Morris, P. M. Union Lodge.

The District Grand Master then addressed the Lodge as follows:

BRETHREN,—

Circumstances have occurred since last St. John's day, which render it probable that this may be the last occasion on which I shall have the opportunity of addressing you as District Grand Master of Nova Scotia. A resolution, unanimously adopted at the quarterly Communication on the 4th inst., has called for a special meeting of all the English Lodges on the 13th January next, for the purpose of forming an independent Grand Lodge, assurances having been given that such Lodge, when formed, will receive sanction and recognition from the parent Grand Lodge of England. This Independent Grand Lodge, I hope, will not only embrace the Scottish Lodges, but eventually will be the means of uniting under one head the Masonic Fraternity of this Province, and of blotting out all past differences which have hitherto unfortunately divided the Order.

That such may be the case is my sincere wish; and under that impression I have not deemed it advisable to change my present Grand Lodge officers, whose tenure of office will be but brief if my anticipations are realized, and the new Grand Lodge duly formed.

I do not deem it necessary now to refer to the causes which have rendered the contemplative change imperative upon us,—these have been thoroughly canvassed and considered,—and but one opinion appears to prevail amongst the English Lodges as to the advisability of the proposed movement.

I naturally take a very deep interest in the result of the meeting in January, and whatever may be the decision arrived at, you may rest assured that it shall receive my most careful consideration.

I now wish you all a happy New Year, thanking you for your numerous attendance to-day, as also our visiting brethren, this being the twenty-eighth year I have had the honor of presiding over you as your Provincial and District Grand Master.

Notices have been sent to all the Lodges for the 13th January, agreeable to the resolution of Grand Lodge.

On motion of the W. M. of the Senior Lodge, the Grand Honors were given to the Hon. Mr. Keith. The Grand Lodge then closed.

### "FOR LADIES ONLY."

For her happiness in this New Year, the style whereof still seems strange, each reader of this page carries the best wishes of the Craftsman who addresses her. The months of 1869, laden with the joys and sorrows of the whole human family, sail to us slowly out of the Infinite with the tidings of the destinies of our lives. It is well, as they first loom on the horizon, to consider how we are prepared to meet them, and for you, my dear children, to reflect how you can best mould the story of their issue.

We cannot hope to turn the page of the new decade, and once again to write 15th January, without having known many solemn changes of the time. Whether I shall be here to write or you to read, is in the will of the Great Architect alone. And, in what stage of our short Progress—whether in the Valley of the Shadow, or high on the Delectable Mountains looking down upon the pleasant land of Boulah—that day shall dawn for those of us who are left to greet it, we are, this morning, mercifully forbidden to know. It has been mine to talk to you now and then of the dress that has seemed most fitting for you to wear. Thank God that He hides from us the fashion of twelve months to come—whether it be of white or black, of bridal flowers or of widow's weeds!

There is nothing more awful to imagine than the Fate that is silently marching on to surprise the unconsciousness of so many of you. Through what strange scenes, and over what rough roads, and amid what undreamed of companionships, are pressing towards her this moment the footsteps of the man whose name she has never heard and whose face she has never seen, but who is, nevertheless, to make or mar the future of the young lady who carelessly skims these sentences in her peaceful childhood's home! In what armory is being forged the gun, or over what cave of ocean rolls the wave, that shall carry to the blooming bride of January the wild agony of her December's widowhood! And in what foul corner of the great city's squalid misery is even now lurking the pestilence before which shall this year bow the bright laughing curls that make the glory of mamma's young dignity in her pleasant country home! He who has met these lions in his path before most of you were born, and who still bleeds from the wounds of the encounter, shrinks from the apprehensions of your young sufferings in the battle, and refuses to anticipate the chances of the opening year.

Whatever these chances may be, for good or evil, they are most keenly enjoyed or most bravely confronted, in the strength of the memories of some real work preceding. You are told very often that your work lies by your own fireside, which many of you believe, and a great many more are indolent enough to act upon. To me the creed appears utterly unworthy, and indeed insulting, that it is a constant source of wonder how your sex have admitted it so long. It practically confines benevolence and charity and active kindness to men, and assigns selfishness alone as your portion in the world. It goes farther, for it places your lives utterly at the disposal of your lords, who assign to you what "homes" they please, and then announces as a sort of inspired revelation, that your Sphere is there—where they have placed you. Theirs is in the great world, to do what good their opportunity may allow. Theirs are all the nobler virtues of humanity to cultivate, while to you fall the duties of a lower grade. You are to be good mothers and good house-keepers and affectionate companions—that is, you are carefully to take example by the pelican and the ant and the shell-parrot, until the fidelity of your imitation shall have worked out the lofty designs of Providence. While the higher organizations, a little lower than the angels, are to do such noble deeds outside that your respect and veneration may daily grow stronger than before.

To this theory I will never subscribe, though it be demonstrated by every tradition of antiquity. I am quite ready to admit that, at her first creation, woman's sphere was home. But that home was in the murmuring fragrance of Eden, in which, to each of those who walked there, was the voice of God equally audible, and where, we may surely argue, there was no such unequal distribution of honors as to-day. Since then the times are altered, and if the wisest man who ever lived thought that the proper sphere for a thousand gentlewomen was within the walls of his seraglio, I am afraid he made no more enormous mistake than some of us do to-day in our lofty advocacy of the claims of the kitchen and the nursery. By the way the theory is carried out fairly and legitimately by the Indians of our own country. They have thoroughly realized the grand truth that women are weaker than themselves, and may therefore be safely condemned to the ignoble side of existence. But it is scarcely to be asserted that we should know no better.

The sphere of woman is beauty, and her mission the adornment of the world. Happy homes are redolent of beauty, and therefore

her sphere is among them. But homes are not to be made happy on the brute instinct of furnishing all the mouths therein with sufficient food, or even on the more refined principle of keeping the children's faces perpetually washed clean. On the contrary, they are to be made happy by the pervading influence of generous large-hearted womanhood, with sympathy for the whole suffering world, and with love for all within it that is noble and liberal and true.

It is for this reason that I protest against the canon which would close to your sex the more honorable business of our lives. It is for this reason that I find in the Scutari and Crimean hospitals, and in the tents of the Sanitary Commission, some of the most encouraging episodes of our age. And it is for this reason that I derive supreme satisfaction in the sight of a woman's performance of useful worldly labor, whether of head or hand, that may remunerate her sufficiently while tasking her lightly, and, above all and everything, will preclude the contracted selfishness that the "home" theory involves.

There is no country of the world where is shown more chivalrous deference to women than in France. There is no country in the world where women take so large a share in the conduct of affairs. Through every phase of politics, industry, commerce or art, you may, in that pleasant land, mark the traces of a lady's touch. The cabinet intrigues of Parisian salons; the dealings with customers in all sort of shops, the sale of tickets at every depot; the conduct of considerable estates—each managed by Madame with the mathematical precision of her nation—; the guardianship and signal duty of a thousand miles of railway, the accountancy of vast establishments, the design of novel patterns and the execution of delicate pieces of *fantaisie*,—these and an hundred other such avocations are yours on the soil where you have highest honor. I never knew a single Frezza hotel that was not ruled by a woman's brain, and regulated by a woman's care. And I would like to know exceedingly where such houses can be met with except there.

It would then please me not a little to see the limits of your Canadian usefulness enlarged. The year upon which we enter promises to bring with it some progress in the direction in which I am looking. Between the exaggeration of America and the backwardness of England we may hope to take a medium course consistent with the tendencies of the broadening Age. We have some reason in our modest successes hitherto, to find augury of encouragement for such advances as we anticipate. The work to which our ladies of culture mainly apply themselves is that of teaching, and of how well they do it, and of how gracefully it becomes them, we here have evidence around us every day. I know of no prettier sight than is given us occasionally in the examination of some great Central School, where column after column of little ones, (and of large ones sometimes) is being marshalled in its proper station by the gentle order of a lady's command. There is perhaps no "sphere" of our community where it is possible to see your sex—our sisters—to greater advantage. I know that, meeting the other day one of the handsomest faces and most graceful figures which it has been mine to encounter for some time, I could not have chosen for them more appropriate or attractive surroundings than the bright, lappy childish smiles which told of the lady's gentle rule; nor could I have more heartily admired the most elaborate effort of millinery than I did the straight, simple, black *droguet*, relieved only by a narrow green braiding, which spoke to us of the wearer's earnest working purpose, and of her knowledge of that highest practical art by which to make her life as beautiful as is her presence.

Have you read in the newspapers that the Young Queen of Greece walks about Athens every morning, with her baby in her arms, entering upon maternal gossip with casual and equally juvenile mammas? It seems to me that a nursemaid and perambulator would be more sensible. But the Princess Olga is daughter-in-law to that thrifty royal lady whom two American morning visitors found mending her stockings in her reception room at Elsinore. She evidently accepts the "sphere," but I should have thought that there were poor women in Copenhagen to whom employment was of consideration, and should feel a greater fei our of Danish loyalty did the mistress of the country think more of aiding her poor, and less of parading her virtue. G. RAION.

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