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THE CRAFTSMAN,

AND

CANADIAN MASONIC RECORD.

Bro. J. J. MASON,
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No. 11.

A BROKEN BRIDGE.

I reached the little Welsh town of Abermaw one boisterous afternoon in autumn at about four o'clock, after a long tramp over the mountains. Abermaw, as its name implies, is situated at the mouth of the river Maw, which here forms an estuary about a mile broad. The town itself faces the open sea; the harbour lies about half a mile up the estuary; whilst between the town and the harbour was the outline of a huge bridge then in course of construction. Abermaw is a little bit of a place, consisting of an hotel, a few shops, a church, a chapel of ease, and half-a-dozen lodging houses, which are built on a platform of sand, the work of the sea and river in concert or in conflict. The old fishing village is perched upon the rocks above, tier upon tier, the lintel-stone of one house looking down the chimney of the house below, and is reached by rude rocky steps, where the children of the village swarm up and down, and yet rarely contrive to break their necks.

The further shore of the estuary was a triangular spit of sand, across which was a track that joined the high road at a point where it commenced to mount the shoulder of a wave-beaten cliff on the face of which it was terraced; for on the further or southern side of the estuary the sea washed up to the very base of the rocks that formed the rugged fringe of this iron-bound coast. There was a ferry from the Abermaw side to the spit of sand, and thence, by a detour of several miles, you could make your way along the southern bank of the river to the town of Dolbadarn. As the crow flies, Dolbadarn was not more than seven miles distant from Abermaw, but it could not be reached by any practicable track in less than from ten to eleven miles; for the river took a wide sweep to the north, and in addition to the detour thus caused, the first bridge where the road crossed the river was at a point a good way wide of Dolbadarn, so that, altogether, the distance was lengthened to that above mentioned. On the other hand, if you crossed the ferry, and made your way across the sand to the highway, the distance was much the same, and this latter route was of course only practicable to foot passengers.

Although I had reached Abermaw in the guise of a free and independent pedestrian, yet my liberty was of a restricted nature. My wife and

children had gone by the regular coach-route to Dolbadarn, and I had crossed the mountain by a wild foot-track, promising to join them that night at Dolbadarn in time for dinner; for I had intended to take the coach at Abermaw, which would have brought me to the end of my journey in good time. This coach, however, I had missed by just five minutes. My walk that day had been a long one, and I was rather fagged, and should probably have hired a conveyance for the remainder of the distance: but the manner of the landlord of the hotel was so abrupt, and, as I thought, offensive, in answer to my inquiries, that I resolved, come what might, he should not be a sixpence the richer for me.

I walked on till I came to a little public-house at the further end of the town, close to the rough quay that bordered the estuary, and turned in there for a glass of beer and a crust of bread and cheese, as well as for the purpose of making a few inquiries as to my route.

'Well, indeed,' said Evan Rowlands the landlord, 'there's no possible way to get to Dolbadarn to-night, not unless you take a car from Mr. Chone.'

'I shan't have a car from Mr. Jones,' I said. 'Can't I hire one anywhere else.'

Evan shook his head; there was no horse or car in Abermaw except the horses and cars owned by Mr. Jones.

'Very well then,' I said I would walk.

'Not possible,' said Evan, 'it's more than ten miles.'

'I wouldn't mind the distance, only I've walked five-and-twenty miles already.

'Dear me!' said Evan; 'you're very strong.'

'Can't I get a boat part of the way?' I suggested. Evan put his head out at the door. 'No!' he cried; 'the tide has just turned; it is running down very strong.'

'Then there is nothing for it but walking,' I said; 'I must go round by Llanfair Bridge.' But I didn't like the idea of this ten miles walk through the mist and gathering gloom.

'Stop!' said Evan. 'Why shouldn't you go over the bridge—the railway bridge?'

'Is the bridge passable then? Can you get across?'

'O dear, yes. The gentlemen from the railway come over very often, and to-day Hugh Pugh and David Morris did come over from the Dolbrith Quarry.'

'And what distance will that save me?'

'Four or five miles; yes, sure.'

'And the bridge is quite safe?'

'Oh, it is very strong and safe indeed; or how should Hugh Pugh and David Morris come over, and the railway gentlemen too; yes sure.'

'And the railway people won't object to my going over?'

'They've all knocked off work for the day, and there won't be a soul near the bridge but yourself.'

'Then of course I'll go over it.'

But I found that there were certain difficulties in the way. The railway bridge crossed the estuary at a point about a quarter of a mile from the little inn that formed the extremity of the town, at a spot where its channel was narrowed to a distance of about three quarters of a mile. The unfinished bridge was constructed of piles firmly driven into the bed of the river, from which rose high piers of timber to the height of about forty feet. Along these were massive balks, destined to

support the platform of the bridge, whilst each pier was strengthened and supported, and strengthened and supported its neighbour, by an arrangement of cross-beams and ties.

When I reached the bank of the river with my guide, Evan Rowlands, I found that there was a considerable hiatus between the shore and the nearest pier—about a hundred yards. Evan, however, was prepared with a plan for reaching it. A friend of his was the master of the little sloop, the *Ann Jones*, which was lying in the tiny creek above. He and his mate were now on board her, and they had got their little dingy with them. Evan would borrow the boat, and drop down with the stream, and deposit me at the foot of the nearest pier.

‘But why not ferry me right over the river?’ I asked.

‘Not possible,’ said Evan. There were shallows and quicksands at the other side which at this time of the tide were very dangerous.

So we made our way along the road which overlooks the estuary, till we came to the little harbour. Evan had no difficulty in borrowing the dingy, and we were soon afloat, shooting quickly down the stream.

It was almost dark now, for although the sun was not yet down, the storm that was gathering up on the horizon obscured his light. Great volumes of clouds and vapor were driving up before the wind, which howled and moaned intermittently, as blast succeeded blast, and died away again. The wind and the tide in opposition made the water pretty rough, and our boat danced up and down in a very lively way. Presently the black skeleton of the bridge loomed upon us through the mist, and Evan dexterously brought up his boat in the little eddy that was formed by the abutments of the pier, and then he called to me to jump from the stern of the dingy on to a cross-piece that formed a sort of platform a foot or so from the water’s edge.

I jumped, and landed safely on the balk, and then I found that my way upwards was by climbing the nearest pier, across which were nailed rough, irregular staves, which constituted what is called a workman’s ladder. I had no intention of undertaking any acrobatic feats, and the idea of climbing up to that giddy height by such rough, unreliable supports, was distasteful enough. I wouldn’t try it. I would go back in the boat to dry land once more. But the boat had spun away on the tide, and was now far out of carshot, or indeed eyeshot either. There I stood, then, in the midst of a rushing, raging sea, upon a balk of timber, embracing a huge black pier, the head of which was lost in the gloom and mist overhead. I couldn’t stay here; I must get across the bridge at all hazards, and my only way was upwards.

Up I went slowly, step by step, testing each frail splintered stave ere I trusted my weight to it. More than one broke away in my hands, and fell into the sea below. But when I reached the top, I thought, then all this danger would be over. I should find a firm, secure platform—a rail, or, at least, a rope for the hand.

When I came to the top of the pier, I saw stretched out before me a beam, suspended, as it seemed, in mid air, a narrow beam—more like a rope, it seemed to me—stretched over this wild abyss of raging waves—that, and nothing else. There were footprints in the narrow ridge of timber—it was not more than two feet wide at the broadest—and the sight of them gave me courage. Men had passed over here before me; I would pass too. And so, without giving myself a moment more to think, I stepped, and the moment when letting go with my hands, I stood upon that topmost round of the ladder, and balanced myself for an instant, as I placed my foot upon the plank—that moment in which

I seemed to quiver, and sway to and fro, high up on this giddy perch, beyond the ken of any human eye—that moment of dizzy terror, of strange whirling thoughts, of instincts to cast myself headlong into the sea, was in sensation as any ordinary week of placid being; and yet it came and went like any other moment, and I stood erect upon the beam, and began my perilous way.

I heard the wind far off, bellowing among the breakers on the bar; I heard it screeching and howling over the flats. I felt a moment's calm, the strange unnatural hush, and then the rush and leap of the storm, as it hurtled by me. Dashing the salt spray into my eyes, it came, seizing all the loose corners of my apparel and cracking them like whip-lashes, carrying away my feeble breath in its wild course, but leaving me—yes, thank God—leaving me still balanced on my plank.

The gust had cleared the mists for a space, and I could now see before me, though indistinctly enough, but I could see that there was only another length of unprotected balk; beyond that was a broad, safe platform of timber, stretched from pier to pier. Oh, to feel that platform safe under my feet! I traversed the balk almost at a run. I must reach safety before there came another gust of that fierce wind.

I heard it coming now, but I was almost home—yes home, for that rough, unsheltered platform, on this rude night, seemed like a home to me. I was stepping firmly and quickly along. Suddenly a chasm seemed to open under my feet—a horrible chasm. The beam on which I stood came suddenly to an end. For some eight feet it had been cut away, and there was nothing to help me over this dreadful gap. Without wings it were impossible to pass.

All hope left me. I knew that to retrace my steps was impossible to me. Even if I reached the end from which I started, I should be no better off than here, and the hopelessness of the position weakened my every nerve. Once more I heard the wind rising, and hurtling along towards me. I would cling to life as long as I could. I knelt down on the wet, slippery balk, clasped it with my arms, sat astride it. The gust came up fierce and strong, passed over me once more—once more spared me.

But I felt I could not survive another such attack; I should be blown away like a leaf. And yet there was no hope of escape—none. It was only a question of moments how long, with stiffening limbs, I could cling to this rough beam; then a plunge into darkness.

Still I had time to think. What were my thoughts! A helpless sense of cruelty, of the horrible unfeelingness and indignity of this hurtling wind, of those raging waters. A sad mortification, too, and sense of injustice, that I should lose my life for nothing; a pleasant ramble turned to such an evil end. Of the past I thought nothing; it was nothing to me now—a tale that was told; that was all. Of the future, nothing either, except a dim and awful wonder. But plainly, vividly before my eyes I saw the figure of my wife, sitting at work by the fire, waiting and watching for me—for me, who never should come. That was the bitterness of it.

And yet withal I was not unconscious of a vague sense of the ludicrous—of scorn of myself, that I should be thus stuck astride a beam, like some lad at play, a sport for the buffetings of the elements. With this, too, an unspeakable rage; a kind of crushed defiance, a revolt against the doom which was imminent, a revolt which felt itself hopeless and useless from its beginning.

Whilst all this storm of conflicting thoughts was whirling through my brain, the turmoil outside was diminishing. The wind had hushed for a while, and across my face there came for a moment a sort of ruddy glow, the last beams of the sun setting rapidly into the sea. The vapors divided for a moment, the huge dark mass of a mountain frowned down upon me—for a moment only—then the clouds encompassed me once more—the glow died away—the awful gloomy gray of night began to gather in upon me like a net.

Should I drop into the sea and end it all? To die in the dark would be more horrible than anything else. Even on the quietest, most resigned death-bed, the loss of light is the most disquieting trouble to the departing soul. Light! more light! is the last cry of the spirit in extremity. And now it seemed as though nature had determined to spare me no pang of all the gathering horrors of my doom. Darkness and despair were settling down upon my soul.

Then came the storm once more with a rush of gathered rain, a howl a shout, a roar of triumph, as the shrill wind trumpeted past, precursor of more furious blast. I could bear no more. A sapless, nerveless form I was, swept from the beam like a withered leaf from a branch, and I fell—catching at some cross-beams as I fell, but losing my hold in a moment, and dropping helplessly down.

Once more consciousness returned. A vague silvery light was diffused about me, above were stars shining, huge balks of timber glimmered overhead. I was stretched upon a bed of wet sand, lying on my back, looking up into the sky.

I was not dead, then. No! Was I maimed, crushed? I drew up one limb after another, fearing lest a sudden shout of agony should betray some greivous hurt. But no! I was sound in limb; and as I raised myself and looked about, I felt that, except for dizziness and a wonderful ringing that was ceaselessly going on in my head, I was unhurt. And I was saved? That was as might happen.

When I rose and stood upon my feet, I looked around me, and saw that I had fallen upon a little island, a narrow spit of sand that had formed in the eddy caused by the pile of the bridge. On each side of it ran a strong and rapid current. All this I saw by the light of the moon, sometimes bright, sometimes obscured, as she parted her way among the fast driving clouds.

Distantly across the waters shone the lights of the little town. It had its gas lamps, which sparkled brilliantly in the night; and from out of the black rocks which shewed against the sky-line, here and there the soft light of a candle in a cottage window gleamed like a fairy lamp.

On the other side of the estuary there were no lights; but the straining eye might discern the gloom of high hills, that seemed, indeed, only like darksome chasms in the sky; but as I watched, I saw a tiny star that was gliding among the rocks. Now seen, now lost, I followed it with longing eyes; and listening intently, I heard the clatter of horses' hoofs, and the murmur of wheels rising and falling, as the road wound in and out among the rocks further or nearer. It was some carriage rolling rapidly towards home—towards *my* home, and here was I a castaway.

I shouted, but my voice seemed lost in the great space. The wind carried it up the river, blew it away into stifled fragments. It was useless to cry. No one would hear me. How long should I have to live? Was there any chance that I might yet escape? I could not

swim ; the channel on either side was, therefore, an unpassable barrier. Even had I been an excellent swimmer, I doubt if in my enfeebled state I could have won the further bank of the channel, where the current was running the least swiftly. How long would my island remain uncovered by the sea ?

Six or eight feet above my head, tangled masses of sea-weed hanging in the interstices of the wood-work shewed the highest reach of the tide. The ebb had commenced an hour before I had started from Abermaw. Allowing an hour for my subsequent adventures, the ebb would still have three hours to run ; then another three hours' flood would elapse before the tide would once more reach me. I remembered that I had a flask of metal in my pocket which still contained a dram of brandy, and that I had a few fragments of biscuit in my pocket, remaining of some that my wife had packed up for my use a couple of days before. I drank the brandy and munched the biscuits, and felt again hopeful. Six hours ! Why, in that time help might come. Death was no longer imminent.

But I was entirely wrong. The strong south-westerly gales had piled up the waters about the mouth of the estuary, so that the ebb was checked, and the flood increased, and the tide ran out only some three hours. I must have been longer lying on the sand, too, than I had calculated, for, as I watched the waters hurrying down on each side of me, I noticed that the current seemed to slacken all of a sudden ; then it stopped, so that a fragment of bleached wood that was floating downward came to a rest, then moved slowly once more upwards. The tide had turned.

In a very short time the expanse of waters before me, that had just now seemed a broad river outlet, scored and marked with sand-banks, assumed the appearance of an agitated sea. Short waves hurried along, their white crests gleaming in the moonlight ; they came in serried lines, tier over tier ; the hoarse roar of the advancing tide reverberated in the air, mingling in my brain with the strange rattle as of bells that never ceased to jangle therein.

How remorseless they seemed those waves hurrying up, like hounds who view their prey ! And yet it was a solemn scene ; and what there was of dignity and grandeur in the sight, half reconciled me to the thought that my life would be swallowed up ere long in these advancing battalions of serried waves ; for now the bitterness of death was past ; its terrors had vanished ; I felt a profound sadness—that was all.

How far could I climb up these slimy, slippery posts and buttresses, that seemed to mock me with their lying proffers of safety ? A couple of cross-beams or ties which bound together the lower ends of the piers afforded at their intersection a sort of angular resting-place, where I could, for a time perhaps, find a refuge from the waves. This was far below high-water mark, so that to reach it would only give me a short respite from my final agony ; but, for all that I determined to attempt it. As soon as the water covered the little island on which I stood, I would try to climb this slippery beam, that rose from the sand, in which it was partly buried, at an angle of about forty-five degrees.

With the tide rose the wind ; with the wind came rain and fog. The moon, blurred and indistinct, shone faintly for a while, and then vanished altogether, although her diffused light still made everything darkly visible. Soon the waves were dashing at my feet, the sand a pulp beneath them. Now was the time to make my last effort for a little more life. But I found that I had overrated my own powers. I crawl-

ed a few feet up the slippery timber; then I fell back. Again I tried, and again; but it was of no use. Strength does not come of eager desire to be strong. All that I could do was to clasp my arms round the beam, and stand upright, awaiting the coming of the waters.

The water rose, not gradually, but in pulses. Smaller waves came and went, and left no change of level; but every now and then some heavier, fiercer billow would come in with a devouring sweep, covering me with its foam and spray, receding again, but at each recession leaving a greater depth of swaying, life-like water. These attacks, like buffets from the hand of some skilled boxer, left me weaker and weaker at every blow. And it was so treacherous too, the water. It would draw away for a time, leaving me free, almost to my knees; and then as if driven by some sudden impulse, it would gather itself up, and return in a great seething swathe of water that would swallow me up from head to foot.

The end was fast coming now. I had ceased to feel anything. Only a dogged determination to stick to life to the last, kept me clinging to my beam.

But, what was that sound? A long and piercing scream, a roar, and a rumble, and a rattle—it was an engine!

An engine coming along the completed part of the bridge, shrieking and screaming, and dashing out great wafts of white steam into the stormy air. The sound gave me fresh life and vigour. Human creatures were within reach, at all events. If I could make them hear me, I might yet be saved.

The engine came slowly along, and I heard the voices of men shouting to one another. Why, then should they not hear me? I tried, too, to shout, but my voice stuck in my throat. I couldn't make a sound louder than a whisper, no, not with all the good-will I had to shout like an archangel.

The engine came so near at last that I could see the glow of her fires through the interstices of the flooring of the bridge. And now there were men standing with lanterns at the very extremity of the bridge; and still I could not make them hear.

For an instant the glad thought had struck me that I had been missed and that these men had come to look for me; but the next moment I saw the folly of the idea. Days might elapse before my fate was known. I was not even yet beyond the time I had fixed for reaching home. No; the men were railway workmen, perhaps going to do a night's shift of work on the bridge: and I couldn't make them hear.

Suddenly, I heard a sharp quick bark, and then a growl as of anger or inquiry, and I was conscious that there was a dog with the men above. The dog's faculties were keener than the men's; perhaps it was possible I might make *him* hear; so I barked, a shrill snapping bark, with which I had often deceived my own terrier Jock. The dog acknowledged the challenge, and replied furiously. Then I heard the voice of a man shouting to the dog to be quiet; but the dog barked still more furiously, standing at the very verge of the platform, as though it would throw itself over. Then some men came to the edge of the platform too, and peered over, and then in my extremity I gave a cry—a wild, despairing cry. Then a huge hoarse wave dashed over me.

If it had not been for the consciousness that help was near, I could not have held on against that furious rush of waters; but I did hold on, at least I think so; and when the wave receded, a bright dazzling light shone into my eyes, a light from the bridge, where some one was hold-

what seemed to be a portable sun, but that was actually a piece of burning magnesium wire. Then everything appeared in the blackest darkness.

"Did you see anything?" cried a voice.

"I'm not sure: I thought I saw something move."

A couple of lamps from the engine were now brought, and placed at the edge of the platform: they lit up the beams and ratters of the bridge, but the light seemed to be lost in the dark waters. Ah! they would never see me!

Once more I had strength to cry.

"Ah! it's a man down there," I heard somebody shout.

A long plank was run over the gap in the bridge, then another; along the two, a portable windlass was quickly wheeled; a bucket descended, in it a man with a lantern.

"Hollo, mate!" he cried as he caught sight of my white face in the focus of his lamp, "what the deuce are you doing here?"

In another moment I was standing in safety on the further side of the bridge. I owed my rescue to the unexpected visit of the chief-engineer of the line, who had come down to see with his own eyes the manner in which the bridge behaved in a heavy gale, and had driven with the engine to the farthest accessible point of the platform.

What a comforting glass of hot brandy-and-water that was of which I partook by the warmth of the engine furnace, and how exhilarating the run home-wards on the swift shrieking engine!

I was at Dolbadarn in time for dinner, after all. As I sat down to the cheerful meal with friends who were discussing the light ordinary topics of the day, I looked about me, wondering if I were really here in actual corporeal presence, or if my life had ended in that last rush of water, and I were only dreaming, "for in that sleep of death what dreams may come!"

GRAND PRIORY OF CANADA.

The following address of the V. E. the Grand Prior of Canada was delivered to the Sir Knights assembled at the Masonic Temple, Kingston, at its annual assembly held on the 14th August, A. D., 1873:

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND PRIOR, DOMINION OF CANADA.

Officers and Members of the Grand Priory:

Some twenty years ago when on an official military visit to this city, I had the pleasure of forming the acquaintance of a Masonic Brother well known to you all, the present Preceptor of the Premier Knights Templar Encampment in Canada, the "Hugh de Payens" of Kingston, who on learning that I was one of the Grand Officers of the "Grand Conclave of England" suggested to me the idea of establishing the order here on a constitutional basis. To Sir Knight Jas. Alexander Henderson, D. C. L. Q. C. &c., the first Templar Installed by me in Canada, and now the Senior Past Prov'l Deputy Grand Commander of the former Prov'l Grand Conclave all honor is due as your earliest pioneer. It is both a pleasing and curious coincidence that here in the good city of Kingston, where the order was first founded in Canada, we should again meet to mark a new era in our history, one which prognosticates a great and brilliant future. To me it is a gratifying reminiscence to look back to our early history, at the same time a painful one when I

think how many of the old familiar forms who then assisted me have passed from amongst us, never to return. The memory of two of them will long be remembered with kindly and fraternal feelings, Sir Knights Col. Alex. Gordon, Royal Engineers, and Doctor Richard Dowse, Inspector Gen'l of Army Hospitals. The former has left behind him a lasting memento to the Templars of Kingston in having instituted the "Gordon Order of Merit" for members of the "Hugh de Payens" to commemorate the revival of the order upon an old Templar organization which was formerly attached to the St. John's Craft Lodge of the city. To this circumstance the motto "Resurgam" on the Gordon Cross alludes, and the ante dating of the warrant to 12th Feb., 1824. Our old and esteemed Frater Doctor Dowse who I had known intimately years before in one of the garrisons of the West Indies, died lately in Plymouth, England, honored and respected, at the good old age of 83. And now another true Templar has gone to his final rest full of years and honor. Sir Knight Captain Thompson Wilson, of London, Ont. is no longer here to assist in our Councils and cheer us with his kind and genial greeting. The Queen has lost a stout old soldier, the Craft a zealous and warmhearted brother, who with open hand and generous heart was ever ready to assist the unfortunate and distressed. Captain Wilson died at London, Ont., on the 20th October last, was born at Penrith, Cumberland, 12th April, 1791, descended from a family long known in the Parish of New Abbey near Dumfries, Scotland. His Great Uncle being the noted William Patterson who conducted the Darien Expedition in 1700, and who on his return to England, projected the first plan of the Bank of England. Our late Brother Knight served in the Royal Artillery throughout the old Peninsular War, was present at the ever memorable battle of Waterloo and was stationed some years in the West Indies. On leaving the Army in 1837, he settled near London, Western Canada, when he rendered, during the troubles of that period from his old military experience, valuable services and assistance to the government.

He was a Past Deputy Grand Commander of this Grand Priory, and the first Eminent Commander of the Richard "Cœur de Lion" Encampment of London. Initiated into Free Masonry in a Lodge attached to the 5th Regiment of Foot in the year 1816, raised to Master Mason in Lodge 406, 91st Regiment in 1817, exalted to the Royal Arch Degree in Argyle Chapter of same Regiment, Sept. 1818, Installed a Knight Templar, 20th May, 1821, in Social Encampment No. 85, Manchester, now extinct; attained the 18° or Rose Croix degree at Woolwich, Kent, in 1861, and the 33° of A. and A. Rite, April, 1870. He held also the rank in Canada of a P.D.D. Grand Master and Past Grand 1st Principal of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter. It can be truly said of him that he was a just man, a valued and tried friend, an honor to our Order, a brave and gallant old soldier whose name will be always fresh in the memories of those who were proud to claim him as a brother Knight, as well as cherished by me, as that of a personal and kind friend, one who warmly supported and consistently carried out my views for the advancement of the Templar Order in Canada.

The re-organization of the Order so long contemplated, having now taken place in England, has given rise to much controversy, severe censures and misapprehension amongst some of its members, as regards the motives and intentions of the supreme authorities, who devised and are now carrying out the scheme of revision, requires that I should endeavour to point out to you, as far as my experience and knowledge

will permit the object of the recent changes in an Order so highly honored as to be under the patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and presided over by our future Sovereign. The circular I lately issued [appended to the proceedings marked A], was intended firstly, to draw your attention to the subject, which I now propose fully entering upon and will have to crave your patience and attention for a short time. The fact cannot be disputed that no matter how correct and praise worthy may be their motives, yet all who undertake the difficult and unthankful office of *Reformers*, must make up their minds to opposition and censure from the prejudice and ignorance of those who wedded to their own long preconceived ideas, cannot and will not allow themselves to be convinced to the contrary; no matter how clearly the eligibility of the contemplated reform may be pointed out.

You are aware that for some years past, a movement has been on foot to endeavour to restore The Order of The Temple [as far as the customs of the age will permit], and assimilate it as nearly as possible to its former position and character; for this purpose a committee was formed from our three national Templar bodies in the Empire, and the recent regulations issued by the "Convent General," [a body emanating from and depending upon them,] are the result of these deliberations. It is to be regretted that Scotland, although agreeing to the convention, should, at the last moment, have failed to take part in the negotiations; from, it would appear, a morbid dread that her independence would be absorbed by England, under the name of union; this certainly never could have been contemplated, the terms of the treaty giving Scotland equal power with England and Ireland. Unity would have created uniformity of Laws and Ritual, thus, giving the Order greater dignity and standing; it is however, to be hoped and earnestly desired, that Scotland will re-consider her decision and join the "Convent General." Careful investigation has shown that the Scotch Order cannot establish any other claim to the title of Templar, which it does not derive from the same source as that of England and Ireland. The long established and well known enthusiastic loyalty of her Knights, does not admit for a moment, the supposition that they intended to offer even the semblance of a slight, to the jurisdiction of our Royal Grand Master, or throw any obstacle in the way of again restoring the cosmopolitan character of the Order, and amalgamating the different nationalities under one governing head.

It is acknowledged generally by members of the Order who have interested themselves in its history, that many irregularities, both in government and practice, have crept in. Connected as it is with the masonic fraternity, much of masonic like matter has been introduced which did not exist in the constitutions and rituals, &c., &c., of the ancient Order, and to get rid of these it was necessary to look back and revert as much as possible to the ancient statutes and constitutions, and assimilate the old forms, ceremonies and nomenclature to our present system. Assuming as we do the title, and asserting a claim to be considered as the representatives of the old Order of the Temple, it is surely incumbent upon us to adopt and adhere in every respect as nearly as possible to the original regulations and customs. I have myself always looked upon it, *not* as a degree of Masonry properly speaking, but a revival of the Chivalric Order, preserved by its connection (for convenience and security sake) with Freemasonry, and have long advocated the revision that has now taken place, and hope to

see shortly much that is unsuitable struck out of the ritual, and a return to the ancient form of a reception.

A great deal of unnecessary discussion, and in my opinion futile arguments, have been advanced against the omission of the word "masonic" from the Templar nomenclature, it being asserted that by so doing the Order has completely disconnected itself with Freemasonry, and is now an illegal secret society. To me it appears absurd to say that the mere dropping of the name "masonic" makes us a different Order; for if this argument holds good, then the Templars of Scotland have for many years been illegal, having long abolished the prefix "masonic." But there does not appear to be the slightest intention to repudiate the masonic connection, or to separate from the ancient and noble institution of Freemasonry; on the contrary, the masonic qualification has been increased, and in this sense we are still Masonic Knights Templar. The attempt made some years ago in Scotland to sever the connection was a signal failure, and so unwise and impolitic a measure is not likely again to be brought forward.

Neither can I clearly see in what way the Order will now become amenable to the civil law in England against secret societies other than masonic, more than it has ever been. The constitutions of English Craft Masonry say that it consists of three degrees and *no more*, including the Royal Arch, so that we must have always been under the ban of the law! but if I am not much mistaken, "Encampments" were returned in the declaration required by law as a body of "Master Masons" practising a Christian masonic rite.

Constituted as we are, we are not a *secret* society in the common acceptance of the word, but an honorable and loyal Christian Order whose principles are fully and publicly known, although the ceremonies of admission were not, or are they now, published to the world at large.

Traditionally, our Order of the Temple represents the glorious old military and religious brotherhood of that name; the masonic tradition being, that at the suppression of the Templars in the early part of the 14th century, some of their number sought and found refuge and held conclaves in the society of Freemasons, and that their meetings are represented in our present institution, although some writers repudiate this assertion and treat it as a mere fiction, on the dictum "That every thing is more than doubtful that cannot be conclusively proved." I can hardly agree to this argument as regards the connection of Templarism and Freemasonry; for as far as anyone can show to the contrary, the two bodies have been long and intimately connected, but from the lapse of time, destruction of records, and the necessary secret nature of the fraternity, no documentary evidence can be produced as to when the masonic body first assumed (if it was an assumption) the right of creating Knights Templar; consequently it is incumbent upon anyone denying the legitimacy of our claim to bring proofs of it, and show conclusively that the attaching a Templar organization to the Masonic institution is of late date, and long subsequent to the outward suppression of the Templars by the princes of Europe. The mere fact that Grand Bodies of Masonic Templars were only formed at the close of the last century, is no proof that the Templars had not been long previously connected with Freemasonry. My own conviction leans to the correctness of our tradition, as there does not appear any other way of accounting for the existence of small bodies of the Order being attached for so long a period to masonic lodges, except by believing that some of the Knights and their followers sought at the time of their persecu-

tion the protection of the masonic fraternity; and from this circumstance it may be assumed we derive our existence as representatives of the Ancient Chivalry of the Temple.

Objections have been raised to the new titles of "Grand Crosses" and "Commanders," as an innovation upon the simplicity of the Ancient Order, there being no such titles formerly. They have, however, the precedent belonging to the State Orders of Knighthood, and have been long used by the Scottish Templars, and were honorable distinctions amongst the Knights of Malta. These honors are to be limited and substituted for Past rank, only to be conferred by H. R. Highness the Grand Master, as special marks of his approbation for services rendered the Order.

At his installation he was pleased to add my name to that of the Royal personages and the few members of distinguished rank on whom he first conferred the title of Grand Cross. The honor I fully appreciate, not alone as such to myself, but as the highest compliment H. R. Highness could pay to the Templars of Canada through their Grand Prior.

The apron, in my opinion a most ridiculous badge for the representatives of a Military Body, is at last abolished. So far back as 1852, when I attended the Sup. G. Conclave in London, the subject was then discussed of substituting a sash round the waist, in imitation of the mystic *ceinture* or *white linen girdle* worn by the knights of old, and if I mistake not the motion was actually carried, but by some unaccountable misunderstanding, was not acted upon. The only advocates for retaining the masonic badge of the apron, were those who merely looked upon the order as a high degree of masonry, neither knowing or at all caring for its origin or history, and who considered the putting off the apron and dropping the prefix masonic as actually shutting them out from the pale of masonry.

Substituting the titles of "Marshal" and "Constable" for the modern military rank of Captain (1st and 2nd,) and 'Chaplain' for 'Prelate' is only reverting to the old nomenclature in the order. The Templars never had amongst their members devoted to the sacred offices any higher title than Chaplain, and those amongst them advanced to the rank of Bishop did not assume the title of Grand Prelate of the order of the Temple.

As we are now known under the name of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta, it becomes necessary for each Preceptory to hold a Priory of Malta. The introduction of the Malta order into that of the Templar is comparatively very modern (irrespective of the legendary amalgamation) and many errors have been disseminated with respect to it by visionary and enthusiastic masonic writers, asserting as facts, wild theories of their own relating to the supposed common origin of Freemasonry, and the old military orders of knighthood. It has been stated that our Maltese ritual was brought from the Island of Malta; this I can positively say is not the case, for in 1849 I was the first to introduce the Temple order there, and we did not work any degree of Malta. I have had for a long time in my possession, Malta Rituals said to have been used by the Templar Encampments in the last century, but I could find no trace whatever in Malta that any such rituals had belonged to the old knights or that they knew anything about our Encampments. It is from the Scottish Knights of Malta, masonic degree, our present ritual has been principally compiled.

The historical lecture introduced in the ritual is interesting and instructive, showing the origin in Palestine of the great rival Military Sister Order to the Temple, the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of

Jerusalem, their migration to the Island of Rhodes, and subsequent retirement to the Island of Malta. This order gave the first idea of Hospitals in England where they were called Stranger Houses, and afforded shelter to the weary traveller, as well as to the sick. The original noble and praiseworthy object of ministering to the wants of the destitute for which the order was founded, (although they afterwards became a Military and Canonical order like the Templars) is literally carried out at the present time in London by the sixth or English Langue of the legitimate branch of the old order of St. John of Jerusalem. I may mention the name of one of its members a Knight of Justice, who is an honorary Grand Officer of this Grand Priory, Sir Knight Richard Woolf, of St. Amand Preceptory, in the ancient city of Worcester, of which Preceptory I have lately been highly gratified by being elected an honorary member.

I announced to you in my circular, that the committee appointed by me at the meeting of Grand Priory in 1870, "to deliberate upon such questions and proposals as may tend to promote the interests of the order in Canada, and that the result of these deliberations be embodied in a respectful memorial, to be submitted to the Supreme Grand Conclave" had forwarded their memorial (marked B in appendix) already communicated to our different Preceptories, which I duly enclosed without comment or alteration to the Arch Chancellor in England, and received an official reply (also attached, marked C) assuring me that the claims put forward will be taken into favorable consideration at the next meeting of the Convent General, this I consider most satisfactory.

The re-organization of the order, at once pointed out the way to gratify the long expressed wish of the majority of Canadian Templars for self government without severing the connection with the parent body (which I could not have assented to.) The time appears to have arrived when we ought to have our own affairs more immediately under our own control. We understand our wants and wishes much better than can be done at a distance, and on many matters it is necessary to legislate differently. Edicts and Regulations which are neither approved of or necessary here are viewed in the mother land by a very different light; with her old associations, her aristocracy, and her great social distinctions, a more marked impetus is given and required.

The Dominion of Canada forming a portion of the great British Empire, should not be called a dependency, it is just as much an integral part of the Queen's sovereignty as England, Scotland and Ireland, and which have much the same privileges. Canada is no longer a colony in the common sense of the word, and her influence is on the daily increase.

With the Templars in the neighbouring enlightened and great republic, the fraternal feeling existing between us, continues to increase, and a convention is now under treaty with them and England similar to that effected by the latter with Scotland and Ireland. H. R. Highness the Grand Master, to mark his approbation of these amicable and harmonious relations, has paid a graceful compliment to the General Grand Encampment, by creating their Grand Master Sir Knight John Q. Adams Fellows, a Grand Cross of the order of England.

The Templars in Sweden, of whom His Majesty the King is Grand Master, show the same anxiety to reciprocate fraternal relations. This Order, which is based similarly to our own on the Masonic system, is recognized by the State and Court. The Emperor of Germany and other Continental Royal Personages are members of the order and

have joined heartily in doing honor to the jurisdiction of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

The first step having been so auspiciously taken to purify our order it is hoped will lead to carrying out a scheme which, by amalgamating other jurisdictions, would form a most powerful and useful body, bringing under one head different nationalities, as in the ancient times, without interfering with their individual political allegiance.

I am happy to announce that the order in the Dominion continues prosperous and satisfactory. I visited in Toronto lately the "Geoffrey de St. Aldemar," and "Odo de St. Amand" Preceptories and was gratified to find so many members in attendance who received me with characteristic kindness and hospitality. I also, in company with the Deputy Grand Prior and Sub-Prior, E. Sir Knight S. B. Harman, visited the new Preceptory of "St. John the Almoner," Whitby, Ontario, and in justice to the Preceptor Sir Knight Geo. Dartnell, wish to express my great satisfaction at the manner in which the Preceptory is fitted up, and the correct way all the duties of the officers were performed.

From the village of Petrolia I received an application from several R. Arch Masons residing there, requesting a dispensation to be allowed to join the order in one of the United States Commanderies. I did not feel justified in granting this permission in consequence of one of our Preceptories being at an easy distance from Petrolia—the "Richard Cœur de Lion" of London. I therefore informed them that as all members of the order installed in Canada were eligible to join Commanderies in the United States and vice versa, it would be better for them to apply to the Preceptory at London where no difficulty would be thrown in the way of their admission.

I subjoin an extract [D] from proceedings of the last Grand Encampment U. S. acknowledging our authority to communicate their Red Cross Degree.

The question as to whether "Knights Templar" or "Knight Templars" is the most correct, has been asked me, I can only refer all interested, to the long and able discussions in the Proceedings of U. States Commanderies. Our usage is "Knights Templar." But I have been surprised to see in numerous instances the plural of the latin word "Frater" spelt *fraters* instead of *Fratres*.

Since our last annual assembly the "William de la More the Martyr" Encampment has been struck off the roll. This body having ceased to meet for sometime, V. Et. Sir Knight T. D. Harington returned to my custody the warrant, which I subsequently surrendered to the Mother Grand Conclave of England.

It is much to be deprecated that the practice has of late years become so common of rushing into *print* on almost every occasion. The proceedings of our private meetings, and correspondence now frequently find their way into newspapers, and are thus exposed to the impertinent criticism and satirical remarks of those who neither know nor care about our customs, motives or antecedents. The recent meeting and satirical articles which appeared in some of the English papers on the installation of H. R. Highness ought to be a warning to avoid such publicity. The correspondence also in the Masonic press indulges *too much* in the controversial and *too little* in the true Masonic element.

Sir Knights your patience must be nearly exhausted, I will conclude then by assuring you how much the re-union here to-day in Kingsto^o has gratified me and brought back pleasing recollections of the timⁿ

when we first established the Order in Canada. May I hope that my frequent admonitions to be careful whom you admit into your ranks has not been in vain.

The regulations for the admission of Candidates are clearly and distinctly laid down in the new statutes, and sufficiently stringent to keep out the unworthy Preceptories have the remedy in their own hands and on them must rest the onus should an ineligible member be admitted amongst us. In the discharge of our Knightly profession let us be governed by the old principles of honor and chivalry, justice and truth, and may we the Temples of the present day, the *Fratres* representing the old religious and military order, stand forth as champions to espouse and maintain the Holy Christian Faith, and be the ready and faithful protectors of the "innocent" the "destitute" and "helpless" ever remembering in our respective avocations through life the solemn vows that bind us to the Order of the Temple.

Fratres, I am always, V. D. † S. A.

† W. J. B. McLEOD MOOR,

Grand Prior (Grand Master of the Temple.)

THE POWER OF MEMORY.—Dr. Johnson, it is said, never forgot anything he had seen, heard, or read. Burke, Clarendon, Gibbon, Locke, Tiltonson, were all distinguished for strength of memory. When alluding to this subject, Sir William Hamilton observes: For intellectual power of the highest order, none were distinguished above Grotius and Pascal; and Grotius and Pascal forgot nothing they had ever read or thought. Leibnitz and Euler were not less celebrated for their intelligence than for their memory; and both could repeat the whole of the "Æneid." Donnollus knew the "Corpus Juris" by heart; and yet he was one of the profoundest and most original speculators in jurisprudence. Ben Johnson tells us that he could repeat all that he had ever written, and whole books that he had ever read. Themistocles could call by name the twenty thousand citizens of Athens. Cyrus is reported to have known the name of every soldier in his army. Hortensius (after Cicero, the greatest orator at Rome), after sitting a whole day at a public sale, correctly enunciated from memory, all the things sold, their prices, and the names of their purchasers. Niebuhr, the historian, was no less distinguished for his memory than for his acuteness. In his youth he was employed in Denmark. Part of a book of accounts having, been destroyed, he restored it by an effort of memory.

DOUBLE SURPRISE.—A wife of nearly ten years, having given her servant a holiday, was attending to culinary matters herself, and hearing her husband coming in the kitchen, thought she would surprise him as soon as he entered the kitchen, by throwing her hands over his eye, and imprinting a kiss on his brow, as in the days of the honeymoon. The husband returned the salute with interest, and asked, as he disengaged her hands: "Mary, darling, where is your mistress?" The wife discharged "Mary, darling," the next day, and has adopted a new plan of "surprising her husband."

The man who produces the largest yield to the area cultivated, with the least expense, and increases the fertility of the soil, is the most scientific farmer, however ignorant he may be of the fact.

TOBACCO AND LIQUOR.—Our countrymen spend more money for the luxuries than the necessaries of life. It is no wonder that many people are poor when their hard earnings are wasted on indulgencies which do harm instead of good. Bread is the great staple of food, and \$200,000,000 were spent last year for flour to feed our people. But the tobacco sold in the country, for chewing and smoking, and snuff, costs \$250,000,000; about \$7 for every man, woman and child.

This is bad enough, but the cost of intoxicating liquors consumed in 1870 was \$600,000,000, averaging \$20 for every man, woman and child. A large amount of this is used in poor families, and reduces them to want and wretchedness.

If the young people of the land would refuse to touch tobacco or liquor, this fearful extravagance would soon cease, and the wealth of the country increase with marvelous rapidity.—*Farmer's and Mechanics' Journal.*

IMMORTALITY.—If there were no immortality; if our whole life here is only an evening twilight preceding the night, not a morning twilight; if the lofty mind is also let down after the body by coffin ropes into the pit, then I know not why we should not, at the grave of great men, do from despair what the ancient savage nations did from hope, that is throw themselves after them into the pit. As these people did unto the tombs of their princes, so that the foolish, violent heart that will beat for something divine and eternal, may be choked at once.

BE SENSIBLE.—Do not be above your business. He who turns up his nose at his work, quarrels with bread and butter. He is a poor smith who is afraid of his own sparks; there is some discomfort in all trades except chimney sweeping. If sailors give up going to sea because of wet, if bakers left off baking bread because it is hot work; if plowmen would not plow because of cold and heat; if tailors would not make our clothes for fear of pricking their fingers, what would we come to? Nonsense, my fine fellow, there's no shame about an honest calling; don't be afraid of soiling your hands, there's plenty of soap to be had.

You must not be afraid of work if you wish health and wealth.

You cannot get honey if you are frightened at bees, nor plant corn if you are afraid of getting mud on your boots. When bars of iron melt under the south wind; when you can dig the field with a toothpick; blow ships along with fans; manure the crops with lavender water, and grow plum cakes in flower-pots, there will be fine times for dandies; but until the millennium comes we shall all have a deal to put up with.

FREEMASONRY.—It is not a religion, yet upon the heart of every true Mason the fires of faith are ever glowing; it has no creed, yet the Mason's belief in Deity and immortality is never shaken; it knows no political party, yet the Mason has an unfaltering patriotism; it seeks not numerical strength, yet its numbers are daily increasing; it asks no kingly prerogatives, still its power is beyond comparison; it presses no claims on account of its charities, yet its benevolence is the ideal which large souls are everywhere holding up for emulation; it demands no honor on account of its antiquity, and yet its age has secured for it the respect and the searching and purifying power of the crucible of time.

ROYAL ARCH.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held its Annual Convocation at Kingston, commencing on Wednesday, the 13th inst., the representatives from fifty Chapters being present.

ADDRESS

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

GREETING :

COMPANIONS :—

Excuse me, I pray you, for commencing this address on the anniversary of my election to the office of your Grand Z., by an allusion to that election. Conscientiously, can I say, that during a masonic career extending now over thirty years, my truest masonic pleasure has been derived from listening to instruction imparted, and in the course of time endeavoring to impart the same in the quiet and familiar haunts of lodge and chapter, apart from any seeking to attain those higher honors in the craft which combine the responsibility of official administration with the distinction of official position. Under these circumstances, and having generally and openly enunciated such sentiments on leaving Grand Chapter for a time on urgent business at its last annual convocation, my election, during my absence, to fill the chair, from which I now address you, while inspiring in the first instance, an inclination of grateful withdrawal, I felt, on reflection, implied an expression of confidence so exceptional, as to leave me no option, no right to allow private considerations to interfere with my placing my services, so kindly regarded and so generously required, entirely at your disposal; and I trust the year that has passed has witnessed no diminution, at all events, in the zeal that has characterized the previous occupants of the chair, and to whose eminent services the Grand Chapter of Canada is so largely and lastingly indebted.

ADDRESS AND TESTIMONIAL TO M. E. COMP. HARRINGTON, P. G. Z.

I turn, in almost necessary connection with the foregoing remarks, to the distinguished Companion whose voluntary retirement, after an incumbency of eleven years, alone created the opening for a change in the presidency of Grand Chapter.—In carrying out the trust enjoined by the resolution of Grand Chapter, of preparing and tendering to M. E. Comp. Thomas Douglas Harrington, P. G. Z., “an address, accompanied by an appropriate testimonial,” it has been the pleasure of the Grand Council to endeavour to indicate “the high regard entertained for our M. E. Companion, and the eminent services he has rendered to capitular masonry,” and I now embody herein copies of the address, the inscription on the testimonial, and the reply of the esteemed recipient, which I feel sure will be carefully cherished as valued memorials in the archives of Grand Chapter.

(ADDRESS.)

“*To M. E. Companion*

THOMAS DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, P. G. Z., &c., &c., &c.

Most Excellent Sir and Companion,—

The Grand Chapter of Canada desire, on your voluntary relinquishment of the Sceptre of Grand Z., to present you with an expression, however inadequate, of the sentiments with which your retirement, after the administration, for the extended term of eleven years, of the highest office in their gift, is universally regarded.

They are sentiments of the highest personal esteem, the result of personal intercourse and communication, which has been characterized by the kindest freedom from all unnecessary reserve, the most genuine courtesy, and the truest friendship.

They are sentiments, at the same time, of the fullest recognition of the dignity which the public administration of so high an office demands, and has always received at your hands, in your presidency over their deliberations, and your official intercourse with Grand Bodies and their rulers.

They are sentiments of further recognition of the most unwearied care in considering, and a mature judgment never questioned by Grand Chapter in ruling, on the numerous questions and matters submitted to you in the interest of capitular masonry.

They are sentiments of congratulation to yourself on having fulfilled so high a trust with such marked honor.

They are sentiments of regret that even honor is accompanied by an official burden, which having been long sustained, must inevitably be relinquished.

They are sentiments offered in no ordinary or formal compliance with custom, but they come direct from the heart of the large section of the masonic body who have been proud to acknowledge you as their head and leader.

And they are sentiments of fraternal regard which it is desired may be entered on their records as they are engrafted on their hearts.

They are accompanied with a full copy of the proceedings of Grand Chapter, which they trust may prove a source of pleasurable reference, and a further slight memorial, which, as you regard it to mark time present, may serve to remind you of time past among your sincere and grateful companions.

Nor can this address properly conclude without an allusion, they trust not out of place, to your past administration, with no less honor, of the dignity of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, while your present high station of Sovereign Grand Inspector General and Representative of the Supreme Grand Council of England and Wales, A. and A. Rite, still leaves a link unsevered in the chain of administrative ability and influence, to which Canadian masonry is so much indebted at your hands.

SEAL OF GRAND CHAPTER. Done in Grand Chapter, at the Annual Convocation, held in the City of Toronto, this 14th day of August, A.D. 1872, A.L. 5876.

THOS. B. HARRIS,
G. S. E.

SAMUEL B. HARMAN, G. Z. }
L. H. HENDERSON, G. H. } *Grand*
JAMES DUNBAR, G. J. } *Council.*

INSCRIPTION ON TESTIMONIAL.

The amorial bearings of the M. E. P. G. Z. were engraved on the outer case of the testimonial, a massive gold chronometer watch, with chain, &c., and on the inner case the following inscription:—

THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA.

TO

M. E. COMPANION

T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, P. G. Z.,

As a token of personal esteem and in recognition of his untiring zeal and most able administration of the highest office in the gift of Grand Chapter for the term of eleven years.

PRESENTED

On his retirement, 14th August, A.D. 1872.

There was also presented a full copy of the proceedings of Grand Chapter, from its organization, handsomely bound in crimson morocco, and lettered with words of presentation.

(REPLY.)

OFFICE OF THE PAST GRAND FIRST PRINCIPAL

OTTAWA, 31st May, 1873.

To M. E. Companion,

S. B. HARMAN, Grand First Principal, Grand Chapter of Canada.

My Dear and Most Excellent Companion,—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, accompanied by an address, and a testimonial, adopted and granted by the Most Excellent "The Grand Chapter of Canada," at the last Annual Convocation, consequent upon my ceasing to hold the high office, now so worthily filled by yourself.

I request you to convey to that Most Excellent Assembly my grateful appreciation of and heartfelt thanks for these most valuable marks of kindness; which are peculiarly gratifying to me, though I fear that my services have been placed at too high a standard. I can only hope that they have been as useful as the address represents.

All I can say is, that my work has been one of love, that I have tried to do my best, and that the highest office of Grand Chapter, so often conferred upon me, has always been looked upon by me as a distinguished Honor, one not to be looked upon lightly, or trifled with, or to be forgotten, upon my return into the rank of an individual member. As long as I retain life and intellect Grand Chapter has a right to my services, a right freely and fully subscribed to by me.

The testimonial I shall wear constantly with pride and pleasure. It is very beautiful! The copy of the proceedings, during the eleven years that I held the highest

office in the gift of my Royal Arch Companions, is just what I desired, and the address is so different from the usual run of such documents, its language has so much heart, that I would be the veriest churl, if my own heart did not respond to its kind, but too flattering words!

I know, Most Excellent Companion, that I have to thank you personally for your own handiwork, and the Committee for the (to me) gratifying way, in which they have carried out the resolution of Grand Chapter. I do so heartily, and remain in all sincerity, my Dear and Most Excellent Companion,

Yours truly and fraternally,

T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON,

Past Grand First Principal, Grand Chapter of Canada.

IN MEMORIAM.

I next refer to a topic which will no less inspire feelings of genuine sorrow and sadness in the mind of Grand Chapter than it truly does in my own, I allude to the removal by death of M. E. Comp. Thompson Wilson, who held the sceptre of G. Z. in 1858-9, and in the unavoidable absence of M. E. Comp. Harrington presided over the deliberations of Grand Chapter at its annual convocation last year. For a long series of years I have had the pleasure of enjoying the fellowship and acquaintance of this truly good man and zealous mason, and the reflection that his last public masonic act was that of installing me as G. Z. naturally evoked a feeling of unusual emotion, when not two months later I heard of his unexpected demise, for although our departed M. E. companion was one of those who, in the words of the Psalmist, "was so strong that he reached fourscore years" his vigorous age was spared "from being that of labor and sorrow," or such as to give expectation that "so soon was he to pass away and be gone." The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, M. W. Bro. W. Mercer Wilson (first G. M. as he was also first G. Z. of this Grand Chapter) has in his able address to Grand Lodge last month so fittingly and feelingly referred to the career of our departed companion that I cannot better conclude this reference than by quoting his well chosen sentences as follows:—

"Our venerable brother, who had passed the ripe old age of four score years, had served his country for upwards of twenty-seven years in the Royal Artillery, sharing in all the dangers and glories of the Peninsular war. He was present and took part in the great battle of Waterloo, and subsequently served for three years in the West Indies. On retiring from active service he settled in London, Ontario, in the year 1837: but again, at the call of his country, he rendered valuable service during the rebellion which broke out in this country at the close of that year. He was afterward-appointed barrack master on the eastern frontier, at Prescott and Cornwall, subsequently retiring on half pay, after an additional service of sixteen years as barrack master. He then returned to London, where he resided, esteemed and respected by all who knew him, until his decease on the 20th of October last.

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

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

Another Companion of illustrious note has also passed away, one who for a quarter of a century was at one and the same time G. M. and G. Z. of the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, one in connection with whose name as a British nobleman ought but that which was honorable and dignified was ever associated, and whose zeal and interest to the cause of masonry will ever cause a reverence to be felt at the mention of the name of the good Thomas Dundas, Earl of Aetland.

Among other valued Companions whose loss we mourn, the late E. Comp. Alfio

DeGrassi, owing to his affiliation with St John's Chapter, No. 75 S. R. which up to 1870 adhered to its allegiance to the G. Chapter of Scotland was not a participant in the proceedings of G. Chapter, or so well known there as he was in G. Lodge, where his high masonic merit and ability caused his selection to fill for four years the distinguished rank of D. D. G. M. of the Toronto District. I am nevertheless prompted especially to refer to the demise of this worthy Comp. in the hope that others may follow him in what I may term his specialty, namely, the collection and investigation of the early records of Canadian freemasonry. A reference to the proceedings of G. Lodge in 1862 names the appointment of a Committee of G. L. to collect masonic documents, with a view to the compilation of a history of masonry in Canada; and in 1863 and 1866 reports by E. Comp. DeGrassi and the late E. Comp. Fowler, of Kingston, were presented on this most interesting subject. In 1867, my respected predecessor in his annual address, called the attention of Grand Chapters to this matter as one "fraught with interest to us all," (see proceedings, pp. 100 and 25), and as we are aware, that in the earlier times, many lodges were known as R. A. lodges, which were by their charters enabled also to open and work chapters, it will be seen that as much valuable data may be gleaned from the archives of our chapters many of which hail from the earliest period of the settlement of Canada, as may be obtained from lodges. E. Companions DeGrassi and Fowler were kindred spirits in the love of such research, and in their Reports to Grand Lodge and their writings on the Ancient Frontenac Chapter of Kingston, and the old St. John's of Toronto, have left works that will follow them, though it has pleased T. G. A. O. T. U. that they should have ceased from their labors. I have almost necessarily been led in this connection to allude to the late Comp. Fowler; and it is with pleasing though melancholy recollections, that I add this passing tribute to that offered to his memory last year, in recording the more recent removal of my equally valued friend and Comp. Alric DeGrassi.

NEW CHAPTERS.

During the year I have had the pleasure of issuing Dispensations, subject to the confirmation of Grand Chapter, for opening three new Chapters styled and located as follows:—

THE DEWARRENE,.....	ST. THOMAS, ONT
THE NIAGARA,.....	NIAGARA, ONT.
THE GEORGIAN,.....	OWEN SOUND, ONT.

While all are well and worthily recommended, and are opened under the auspices and guidance of companions of zeal and ability, I may especially refer to the last named, which testifies in its organization to the unrelaxing efforts of that true mason and respected judge, R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, whose energy, long the life spring of Masonry in his district, has found in this chapter but another field where, surrounded by faithful companions, he may disseminate with his wonted fidelity the principles of capitular masonry.

AFFILIATION OF ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, NO. 209, I. R. LONDON.

I have also, in this connection, to refer to a somewhat exceptional case, namely, St. John's Chapter, No. 209, I. R., which has finally surrendered its warrant to the Grand Chapter of Ireland, and received a dispensation of affiliation with the Grand Chapter of Canada; I say, finally, for this chapter was one of those which took part in the organization of Grand Chapter, and received a warrant, afterwards numbered 3, on our roll; subsequently, for causes to which it is not necessary now to revert, a number of the Companions withdrew and reorganized as No. 209, I. R. (the warrant not having been returned), and the residue, after working as No. 3, until 1863, surrendered that warrant and amalgamated with St. George's Chapter No. 5. While it has ever been one of the pillars in the platform of the Grand Chapter of Canada, since her organization, to respect the conscientious desire of the companions of any chapter to adhere to their old allegiance until such good time as they might desire themselves to leave it, it cannot but be an occasion for cordial welcome when, feeling no longer prepared to continue an allegiance which isolates them from the now important Canadian governing body in capitular masonry, they enter our portals, and are enabled to participate in our deliberations and strengthen our councils. In this spirit I have had the pleasure of welcoming the enrollment, or re-enrollment of St. John's, and by a generous abnegation of any right of priority or precedence on the part of the only chapter which might have made claim thereto, namely, the chapter of St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4, Toronto, which has recently established the trace of its original organization to the early date of 1800, I have had the further pleasure of acceding to their desire, and awarding to the chapter under mention the sometime dormant number three.

I now invite Grand Chapter to confirm the dispensations enumerated by regular warrants.

CONSTITUTIONS.

There have been a few cases of constitutional reference on which I have had to rule, and which a public charge of this character is a fitting medium to make use of for their general dissemination.

In the first place, I feel I shall be doing a service to the Order, as well as saving much future trouble, correspondence, and possible disappointment, by calling special attention to the specific regulation as to the qualifications for the office of First and Second Principals laid down in the constitution on "Subordinate Chapters, article 6," as follows.

"No Companion shall be eligible for the First Principal's Chair, unless he be an Installed Master or Past Master of a regular Lodge, nor until he has served in the Second Principal's Chair for twelve months, nor to the Second until he has served in the Third Principal's Chair for twelve months, unless by special dispensation from the Grand First Principal."

The dispensing power or authority herein vested in the Grand First Principal to allow a deviation from the express letter of the constitution as above laid down, I feel bound, as I know my predecessors have done, to regard, in view of the solemnity attending the induction into office of the G. Z., as one to be only exercised in extreme cases, and on good and sufficient cause being shewn of an absolute and indispensable necessity. During the past year applications were received from the large proportion of nearly one-fourth of the chapters on our roll for dispensations for the installation of first or second principals not thus constitutionally eligible, and for the most part by simple request, almost as if it were matter of course, without any cause assigned, or cause, if it can be so called, of the most general character. I am happy to add that I believe in all these numerous cases the applicants were satisfied that in the rigid requirement of good and sufficient cause, I felt bound to insist upon before granting, and in the absence of which I had to refuse the application, I was laying down a wholesome rule with regard to a prerogative, which should be neither lightly evoked nor lightly granted, and more especially, and on this I particularly desire to dwell, in the case of propositions to dispense with the requirement that the first principal should be an installed master or past master of a craft lodge, a wise regulation I deem almost insurmountable, and to dispense with which involves the anomaly of placing a companion in a position to "perfect a degree" he is not able to confer.

The second matter of constitutional reference relates to the article on "Honorary members," as follows:—

"I. Chapters may elect any companion an honorary member by an open vote of the Chapter. Due notice must be given at one Convocation, and the name be inserted in the summons for the next regular Convocation. The chapter must include all honorary members, in its returns to the Grand Chapter, and pay similar dues for them as for ordinary members.

"II. Honorary membership does not confer the right of voting, except it is so declared at the time of election, and then it can be conferred only on those who were ordinary members when so elected.

"III. Should such honorary members, as at the time of their election were ordinary members, accept office in the Chapter, their honorary membership ceases. Honorary members, who were not ordinary members, cannot hold office in the Chapter."

The case in question applied to two companions who have not only presided with distinction in private chapters, but have filled the second highest chair, that of G. H., in Grand Chapter, and who, on the second meeting of Montreal Chapter, No. 43, (one of these distinguished Companions having organized the chapter and installed the officers, in the preceding month, as Grand Superintendent of the District) were proposed as honorary members, and on the third meeting unanimously elected as such, with full privileges of ordinary members. At the close of the year it was desired to elect one of these companions to fill the chair of first principal, and it was referred to me to rule on their eligibility, and, if ineligible, the steps they should take to become eligible. As to the first point there could be no question, as honorary members, who had never been ordinary members, they were ineligible, and the resolution investing them with the full privileges of ordinary members, was *ultra vires* and inoperative. And as to the second, the only apparent way of getting rid of their ineligibility, would be the resignation of their honorary membership and re-entry into the chapter as ordinary members, by proposal, ballot, and the regular formalities connected therewith. I name this case, not that there is any masonic ruling of consequence in connection therewith, but rather by way of suggestion as to the somewhat

doubtful compliment of electing companions, and especially local companions, honorary members, who had not first been ordinary members, and who are therefore ineligible to accept office, and make the talents which marked them out for honor available, if subsequently desired for the advancement of the chapter.

A third matter of constitutional reference has arisen in the course of examination of by-laws of chapters referred for approval. It relates to the question of fees to be charged on conferring chapter degrees. I place in parallel columns the article of the Constitution and the By-law that has given cause for question as to its interpretation

CONSTITUTION.

ON SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

XVIII. No Chapter shall confer the degree of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch upon any brother for a less sum than \$20, which sum must be paid before any of the degrees are conferred, and may include the fees to the Grand Chapter for registry and certificate. The Companion who proposes a Candidate is responsible to the Chapter for all fees payable by him, payment of which must not on any pretence be deferred, nor any part of them.

XIX. When any Companion from without the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada, presents himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produces satisfactory proof of his having been exalted to that degree, each and every Chapter shall have liberty and may confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master on such Companions who have not heretofore received them, free of charge, except a fee to Grand Chapter for registry and certificate.

PRIVATE CHAPTER.

BY-LAW ON FEES AND DUES.

1st. The Fee for Exaltation and the subordinate degrees, shall be twenty dollars, payable in advance, which shall include the cost of registration and Grand Chapter certificate.

2nd. A Candidate who has taken one or more of the subordinate degrees in another chapter shall be entitled to a reduction of two dollars and fifty cents for each subordinate degree so taken.

The question that has presented itself is whether the the words of the Constitution "which sum of \$20 must be paid before any of the degrees are conferred," does not prohibit its being applied distributively as proposed by the By-law. At the same time the latter is based on the supposition that the \$20 having been paid in one chapter, and the candidate after taking one or more of the subordinate degrees therein having had unexpectedly to remove his domicile to another, perhaps distant part of the jurisdiction, where he desires to obtain the remainder in another chapter there situate the latter chapter should, as an act of justice, make some reduction, in the absence of which the companion suffers a hardship from a contingency beyond his control, while *the Order gets a full duplicate payment*. It may be also argued that the first chapter should be as liable on the ground of justice to make a refund, as the latter to make a reduction. In the charge or address of my worthy predecessor in 1869 (see page 293) he alluded to the subject in the following manner:

"I would bring likewise to your notice the fact, that although the Constitutions fix a minimum fee for the conferring the intermediate degrees and exaltation to the Royal Arch, and provides for the case of a Royal Arch Mason presenting himself from without the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and not in possession of these intermediate degrees, yet it is silent as to a brother who has paid for and is in possession of some or all of them, and who, from good cause shown, may be under the necessity of seeking exaltation in some other Chapter. A supplementary clause might be introduced covering this defect, and determining the fee to be paid in every such instance. My opinion has been asked in this matter."

To which charge the Executive Committee (see page 368) replied as follows:—

"The remarks of the M. E. G. Z. regarding brothers who have taken part only of the intermediate degrees, as to the necessity of legislation calculated to remove the grievance in question, are well "worthy of the attention of Grand Chapter."

It does not appear, however, that beyond these references the matter has been considered, and having in the case of a set of By-Laws submitted to me, reserved the point for the opinion of Grand Chapter, I ask attention to the same, merely adding, that unless Grand Chapter is prepared to pronounce a definite interpretation by way of ruling in the premises, any recommendation of change or amendment, if such be deemed expedient, will have to be given in the shape of a notice to be dealt with at the ensuing session.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The thanks of Grand Chapter are due to the Sister Grand Chapters who have favoured us with copies of their valued and interesting proceedings, and to R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, (Representative of the Grand Chapters of New York and the District of Columbia,) is she again indebted for his almost invaluable synopsis of their varied contents, a task involving labor and discrimination, which can only be appreciated after a careful examination and perusal, which I earnestly commend to Chapters and Companions, both in justice to the compiler and from its intrinsic merits.

GRAND DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS.

The Reports of the Grand District Superintendents on the details of work in their several Districts leave me little to add on that head. I cannot however refrain from remarking that so smoothly does the machinery of our Order appear to work that during the year, beyond the applications for dispensations to which I have had occasion to refer in another place, but one case was referred to me by way of appeal from the judgment of a Chapter, (No. 42, Montreal,) in dealing with a matter of difference between two Companions. I at once transmitted this to the Grand Superintendent of the District, whose return, as well as all papers connected therewith, will be laid before Grand Chapter.

GENERAL INFORMATION IN CHAPTERS.

It occurs to me to urge on all chapters a literal compliance with the regulations printed prominently on the title page and cover of the Annual Proceedings, namely, that they are "ordered to be read in chapters, and preserved." While Grand Chapter is composed, from a necessary limitation of numbers, of the principals and past principals of chapters, they are present in the light of representatives of constituencies, to whom on their receipt of the proceedings they are thus enjoined to impart their contents, thus keeping the entire body informed of the general working of the order, and inciting an interest therein, which is apt to flag when companions have little to promote it beyond the repetition of the ritual, however ably exemplified. I feel confident that compliance with this regulation would be well received. It need not entail tedium by being over lengthily carried out; but, on the contrary, by a judicious introduction, as opportunity served, many an hour of tedium might be profitably relieved. And while these remarks relate primarily to an enlargement of ideas arising from enlarged information respecting our own Grand Chapter that enlargement might be still further promoted by reference to the synopsis to which I have already alluded, of the returns from sister Grand Chapters, a compilation, I say advisedly, teeming with interest of the most varied and useful character.

EXCHANGE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

NOVA SCOTIA.

In the month of March I was in receipt of a courteous intimation from the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia of their desire to appoint as their representative in Canada, M. E. Comp. T. Douglas Harington 33°, our esteemed P. G. Z., and offering the name E. Comp. Arthur Fletcher 32°, to be your representative in Nova Scotia. Comp. Fletcher was formerly a resident of Quebec, P. Z. of Carnarvon chapter, Montreal, and of the local chapter since its removal to Halifax. Pursuant to the provision of the Constitution "on Grand Officers, Article 3," I felt pleasure in at once announcing in your name, that the appointment of M. E. Comp. Harington would be enrolled with honor, and in desiring that the usual credentials be issued to E. Comp. Fletcher, from whom I have received letters of cordial acknowledgment, announcing his warm reception at the recent convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and "that he was desired to communicate how welcome and how warmly reciprocated were the expressions of good feeling" with which I charged our G. S. E. to accompany his credentials.

CALIFORNIA.

I have also recently received an intimation of a like desire to exchange representatives from the Grand Chapter of California, and proposing to nominate as their representative in Canada, R. E. Comp. Robert Ramsay, and E. Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin 32°, Gr. Recorder, R. & S. Masons, San Francisco, to be your representative in California; but as Grand Chapter was so soon to meet, I have asked G. S. E. to lay these last on the table for the direct action of Grand Chapter.

RECOGNITION OF THE HIGHER MASONIC GRADES.

Referring to the Constitutions (on regalia, page 46), of the many higher grades of masonry, the orders of Knights Templar and Knights of Malta appear alone to have received the formal recognition of Grand Chapter. At the last annual convocation

it was moved on notice given at the session of 1871 to "extend such recognition so as to include the degrees of the A. and A. Rite, Royal order of Scotland, Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, Royal Ark Mariner, and also the degrees of Cryptic Masonry; but it was deemed expedient to "refer the propriety of such recognition of all or any of the degrees as recited to the executive committee," who from want of time were unable to report. I have been requested to ask Grand Chapter to keep the matter in view. The possession of many of these grades, especially that of the A. & A. Rite, on the continent of Europe, is deemed almost indispensable to the travelling mason, and the fact that my worthy predecessor, so zealous a guardian of the purity of masonry, is the Grand Representative of this rite, will have weight in the consideration. The degree of Royal Ark Mariner is an appendant degree to the Royal Arch in Scotland, and in England its government has been recently amalgamated in that of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, R. E. Comp. Col. McLeod Moore, the Grand Prior of the Temple in Canada, is at the head of this order as introduced into Canada, as well as of the knightly order of Rome and Constantine, which is highly thought of in England and the United States. The Cryptic degrees were for a time presided over by M. E. Comp. Harrington, P. G. Z., and now by R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, the present Grand Superintendent of Toronto District, as G. M. The question of the Royal Arch forming a prerequisite for admission into all or any of these orders should perhaps be considered in viewing the question of recognition.

MEETING OF GRAND CHAPTER.

I would offer the suggestion to Grand Chapter whether a change might not be made in the interest of the order as to the time of holding our annual convocation. Held, as it is at present, at the interval of hardly a month from the annual communication of Grand Lodge, it is perhaps almost too much to expect that many who, being members of both Grand Bodies, have barely returned from a Grand Lodge meeting, may be able to find time, and it may be inclination, for a second journey and absence during the heat of midsummer, to attend Grand Chapter. It occurs to my mind, that a return to the month of February, when our annual convocations were originally held, would better and far more conveniently equalize the appropriation of time, while its being the occasion of the semi-annual meeting of the Board of General Purposes of Grand Lodge, offers another inducement, not formerly existing, in its favor; the majority of those attending the conference of that important board are members of Grand Chapter, and in addition to the question of personal convenience in attending, to which I have already alluded, there would be, so to speak, a freshness of thought wherewith to enter on our deliberations, if they were not so soon to follow, as they do at present, those of Grand Lodge. I would invite Grand Chapter to give the subject consideration, again reminding you that any change can only become law on being introduced at next session, after notice now given. To place the matter fairly before Grand Chapter, I have collated and add a summary of the previous action on this head, and the changes that have been made and proposed from time to time. See annual proceedings, as follows:

1857..	Grand Chapter organized,			
1859..	Page 21..	Constitutions, Art. X.....	Third Wednesday in February.....	Adopted.
1861..	" 106..	Notice by R. E. Comp. W. B. Simpson.....	To alter the time of Meeting.....	Proposed.
1862..	" 164..	Motion do do.....	Tuesday preceding second Wednesday in July.....	Negated.
" "	" "	Amendment, R. E. Comp. J. Seymour.....	Second Tuesday in August.....	Adopted.
1865..	" 320..	Constitutions revised, Art. IX.....	do do do.....	Adopted.
1867..	" 116..	Notice, R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson.....	Monday preceding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in July.....	Proposed.
1868..	" 254..	Motion, do do.....	Do do do.....	Negated.
" "	" 255..	Amendment, R. E. Comp. H. Robertson.....	Second Wednesday for Second Tuesday in August.....	Negated.
" "	" "	Notice, R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson.....	Second Wednesday in Sept.....	Proposed.
" "	" "	Notice, R. E. Comp. F. Mudge.....	Second Wednesday for Second Tuesday in August.....	Proposed.
1869..	" 366..	Motion, do do.....	Do do do.....	Adopted.
" "	" 12..	Constitution reprinted, Art. IX.....	Second Wednesday in August.....	Adopted.

CONCLUSION.

Companions, I linger to pen this final clause, and convey to you the regretted resolution I have had to come to, that I cannot be a candidate for re-appointment. In justice to so high an office, and in justice to himself, the occupant has fairly to consider whether he can give that time which is requisite to its honorable discharge, in the way of personal intercourse, visitation, and communication, as well as of official administration; and having, in my case, other official demands on my time, which are as imperative as they are arduous, I feel I am not left a choice in the matter of a further endeavor to sever the portion required to be devoted in justice, as I have said

to the office of G. Z. With a warm expression of thanks, I therefore resign the high trust, assuring you from my heart that I both do so with regret, and that I shall ever revert with a feeling of just pride, to the honor, the high honor conferred upon me when I was elected Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada, which may T. G. A. O. T. U. ever preserve and prosper! So mote it be.

SAMUEL B. HARMAN,

Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. E. J. Mason and about Twenty-five Royal Arch Masons from Lafayette Chapter, No. 5, Washington, being on a special visit to Grand Chapter, who, on being admitted and welcomed, asked and obtained permission to sing an *ode* which had been specially prepared for their visit to Canada, as follows:—

ODE.

BY COMPANION C. W. COX, M. D., LL.D.

AIR—"God save the Queen."

Respectfully dedicated to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada by
Lafayette R. A. Chapter, No. 5, of Washington, D. C.

All hail, the mystic tie!
Where'er beneath the sky
Life's course be run,
There ranks on ranks unite
To guard our holy rite—
Tho' strangers here to night,
Our aims are one.

Now let our songs arise
As incense to the skies—
In love we come!
Not from the battle's bed,
With banners gory red,
Not by the trumpet led,
Nor martial drum.

Where darkness wars with light,
And violence with right,
We seek the fray;
'Gainst darkness we contend,
Ever the right defend,
The helpless poor befriend—
Our care away.

Let each the other greet,
Fraternally we meet
On British sod!
We bear one honored name,
Our language is the same,
Ours too a common fame,
A common God!

A noble brotherhood,
Undaunted we have stood
For liberty:
Thank God! on land and wave
There breathes no human slave—
From sea to mountain cave
All, all are free!

When mutterings rose of war,
A gentler conqueror
Suppress'd the cry!
IMMORTAL COVENANT!
VICTORIA AND GRANT!
Their praise all tongues shall chant,
No more to die!

Then let the rays unite
In one vast stream of light
That wraps the world!
Till strife and blood decrease,
Wars everywhere shall cease,
While floats the flag of peace
O'er earth unful'd!

GOD BLESS OLD ENGLAND'S QUEEN!
Make her broad sway serene,
Prosper her reign!
Not by the power of might,
But by the PEOPLE'S RIGHT,
May she all hearts unite
On earth and main!

Monarch of every land,
Stretch forth Thy mighty hand—
Guide and control!
Make our foundations sure,
Our rulers wise and pure,
And Thou, as years endure,
RULE O'ER THE WHOLE!

Report on address of the M. E. the G. Z., to the M. E. the G. C. of
Canada.

The executive committee would respectfully submit for approval, the following report on the address of the M. E. the 1st Grand Principal :

Your committee appreciate the circumstances under which the M. E. G. Z. was chosen to preside over the deliberations of Grand Chapter, and cordially bear testimony to the distinguished ability that has marked the conduct of its affairs under his zealous and judicious guidance ; well aware, that in entering upon the duties of his high office, the task assumed was one that called for the exercise of a wise discrimination, and sound judgment, to preserve the honor and dignity of the exalted position so worthily filled by his illustrious predecessors.

Your committee learn with sincere pleasure, that the Grand Council have carried out the resolution passed at the last Annual Convocation with such cordial unanimity, enjoining upon them the duty of preparing a suitable address, accompanied by an appropriate testimonial to M. E. Comp. T. D. Harington, whose fervency and zeal in advancing the interest of Royal Arch Masonry, deservedly call for substantial recognition and lasting gratitude at our hands. Long may that eminent and highly esteemed Most Excellent Companion live to use this time-piece so worthily worn, and may he continue for many years to come to see in the proceedings of Grand Chapter presented to him a grateful souvenir of his past associations with this Grand Chapter.

Your committee appreciate the well merited eulogy pronounced by the M. E. G. Z. upon the late M. E. Comp. T. Wilson and R. Ex. Companion Alfio DeGrassi, and feel that this Grand Chapter has sustained a serious loss in the death of these eminent and faithful companions. They would recommend that a memorial page be prepared for our renowned P. G. Z. and printed in the published report of the proceedings.

Your committee rejoice at the affiliation of St. John's Chapter, No. 209, I. R., with this Grand Chapter, and cordially extend the right hand of fellowship to this latest addition to our numbers.

Your committee notice with much satisfaction, the position assumed by the M. E. G. Z., with reference to the exercise of the dispensing power as to the offices of 1st and 2nd principals conferred by clause 6 of the constitution, and they agree with him that it is a power which should be very sparingly exercised, and only then on the fullest assurance that the exceptional position of the Chapter concerned positively requires it.

Your committee having considered the reference made by the M. E. G. Z., to the question of fees to be charged for conferring Chapter degrees, article 18 of the constitution, are of opinion that the minimum fee for the Royal Arch degree is \$20, and that no reduction from that amount can be permitted, although the intermediate degrees may have been conferred on such candidate by a Lodge under another jurisdiction, but in case of a candidate whose full fee has been paid to a subordinate Chapter of this Grand Body, and who may remove to another part of this jurisdiction before having received all the degrees, and who may find it inconvenient to return for the completion thereof, it would be but courteous on the part of the Chapter in which the remaining degrees are sought, to confer them gratuitously at the request of the Chapter wherein the candidate first presented himself for exaltation ; and your committee would recommend that this should be made a general regulation.

Your committee learn with satisfaction that harmonious co-operation prevails throughout our lands ; thus exemplifying the peaceful teachings of the order, and showing that with but one exception no discord has marred the onward progress of the royal craft.

Your committee heartily approve of the remarks of the G. Z. relating to the dissemination of general information in our Chapters, and would strongly urge the reading of the proceedings of Grand Chapter, and the report on foreign correspondence by every Companion.

Your committee observe with pleasure, the exchange of representatives effected with the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and rejoice that the choice made, should so happily accord with the best interests of both Grand Bodies.

With reference to the reciprocation proposed by California, your committee would recommend that credentials be prepared and transmitted to the distinguished Companions named to represent this body near that Grand Chapter ; but with reference to the R. E. Companion invited to act near this Grand Chapter, that the G. S. E. be authorized to inform the M. E. G. H. P. of that jurisdiction, that another nomination will be more acceptable in Canada.

In regard to the recognition by this Grand Chapter, of authorities which were the subject of a memorial to, and motion at last Grand Convocation, on which (with the consent of the parties presenting it,) no report of the executive committee was brought in, and which is again mentioned in the address of the M. E. G. Z., the com-

mittee is of opinion that it is not advisable to extend recognition to any other Bodies than those at present recognized by this Grand Chapter.

Your committee notice the remarks of the M. E. G. Z. as to the desirability of changing the time of holding our Annual Convocations; and while admitting that another period of the year might be more suitable, they see so much difficulty surrounding the change, that they prefer leaving the matter to be dealt with by Grand Chapter, rather than make suggestions that would only tend to embarrass future actions in dealing with the question.

In concluding, your committee regret that the arduous private avocations of the M. E. G. Z. should compel him to cease active participation in the management of Grand Chapter affairs; but trust that they may not prove of such a nature as to actually deprive it of that prudent counsel and advice which his abilities so well qualify him to impart.

The whole respectfully submitted.

REPORT ON THE CONDITION OF MASONRY.

The Executive Committee beg leave to present the following report on the condition of Capitular Masonry within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

Reports have been received from the District Superintendents of all the Districts.

Capitular Masonry continues to prosper, the Chapters are all working harmoniously, and no complaints to District Superintendents are reported.

Three Dispensations to open new Chapters were granted during the year by the M. E. G. Z. which are reported as having been duly opened and are under the direction of efficient officers.

Several Dispensations were also granted to install Companions as 1st. Principals who had not filled the 2nd Chair, not presided as Masters of Lodges, but, we are glad to notice, only in cases where the special circumstances of the respective Chapters seemed to require the exercise of this important prerogative of the M. E. Z.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

REPORT ON WARRANTS.

The Executive Committee beg to report that they have examined the several petitions for Warrants presented to the Grand Chapter at this Convocation, as follows:

De Warrene Chapter, St. Thomas, Ontario.

Niagara Chapter, Niagara, Ontario.

Georgian Chapter, Owen Sound, Ontario.

They beg to recommend that Warrants be granted by this Grand Chapter to the above chapters as prayed for.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

REPORT ON GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Executive Committee beg leave to report on the appeal of Ex. Comp. Chisholm from the decision of Montreal Chapter, No. 42.

That they are of opinion, after having examined the proceedings and evidence and heard the Companion aggrieved, that the decision appealed against should not be disturbed; but considering that the offense established by the evidence has been sufficiently visited by the suspension which Companion Chisholm has already undergone, they recommend that his suspension be removed, and that he be now restored to full privileges as a Royal Arch Mason.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the M. E. Grand Council.

The Executive Committee beg to report that they have examined the books statements and vouchers of the Grand Scribe E. and the Grand Treasurer, and find the same correct as presented.

The receipts for the past year were.....	\$1,809 40
Payments for same period.....	1,005 58
	<hr/>
Excess of receipts over payments... ..	\$803 82
Added to former balance	1,095 22
	<hr/>
Leaving Cash now on hand.....	\$1,899 04
Amount invested in Dominion Stock.....	2,000 00
	<hr/>
TOTAL.....	\$3,899 04

Your Committee have also examined a number of accounts and find them correct and recommend payment of the same.

All which is fraternally submitted.

Grand Officers for the current year are as follows.

M. E. Comp.,	C. D. Macdonnell,	Peterboro',	Grand Z.
R. " "	Wm. H. Weller,	Cobourg	" H.
" " "	N. G. Bigelow,	Toronto,	" J.
" " "	Thos. B. Harris,	Hamilton, re-elected	" S. E.
" " "	Jas. Stephenson,	Iroquois,	" S. N.
" " "	Wm. Reid,	Hamilton,	" P. S.
" " "	D. McLellan,	Hamilton, re-elected	" Treas.
" " "	E. Servos,	Niagara,	" Reg'r.
" " "	John Sweetman,	Ottawa,	" Jan.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R. E. Comp.	C. C. Macnabb,	London	District
" " "	C. L. Beard,	Wilson	"
" " "	I. F. Toms,	Huron	"
" " "	J. Parry,	Hamilton	"
" " "	Daniel Spry,	Toronto	"
" " "	Peter Begg,	Ontario	"
" " "	H. L. Geddes,	P. Edward	"
" " "	Robert Hendry,	Central	"
" " "	E. M. Copeland,	Montreal	"
" " "	H. J. Pratten,	Quebec	"
" " "	H. W. Wood,	E. Township	"
" " "	J. C. Hatheway,	N. Brunswick	"
" " "	James Henderson,	Manitoba	"

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. E. Comps. D. Pitcaithly, Belleville, G. 1st Asst. Sojr.; A. H. Chandler, Moncton, G. 2nd Asst. Sojr.; John Satchell, Prescott, G. Sword Bearer; J. Erskine, Waterloo, G. Standard Bearer; H. G. Summers, Orillia, G. Dir. of Ceremonies; Wm. Nivin, Montreal, G. Organist; Walter Chatfield, St. Catharines, G. Pursuivant; W. Habbick, Galt, Alex. M. Brown, Winnipeg, James B. Nixon, Toronto, John E. Brooke, Chatham, G. Stewards.

The next Annual Convocation will be held in the city of Ottawa, in August, 1874.

CRYPTIC MASONRY.

GRAND COUNCIL OF R. & S. MASTERS OF ONTARIO.

The annual assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, met in pursuance of summons at the Masonic Hall, Toronto, on Monday evening, the 18th August, a good representation of the various councils being present and exhibiting a great interest for the advancement and progress of the Order.

The Grand Master delivered his annual

ADDRESS

To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario.

ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANIONS:—

We are again permitted by the loving kindness of the H. O. O. I. to meet together in the S. V. and to open our second Annual Assembly; to renew our faith in the work in which we are engaged; and to devise plans for the extension and improvement of Cryptic Masonry within our jurisdiction.

We meet in these Annual Assemblies to strengthen and encourage those who in S. and D. exemplify those great moral duties which we owe to God, our neighbours and ourselves, and let us earnestly pray the G. A. O. T. U. to bless and preserve us and all those who have passed the circle of perfection.

While Cryptic Masonry has not made any rapid strides in Ontario during the past year, I am quite satisfied with its steady progress. We do not desire to confer these Degrees upon any but those who can fully appreciate the honor bestowed upon them in being admitted among the "select and happy few" who, in their search for Masonic knowledge, have penetrated the secrets of the Ninth Arch. It is our desire to advance the Cryptic rite in such a manner as will reflect credit upon all who are admitted to these degrees, and I am glad to know that our Councils have kept this very important point steadily in view and have guarded well the portals against all unworthy intruders.

During the year I have granted Dispensations to open new Councils as follows:— In September last I received a petition from Ex. Comp. Wm. Hay, and a number of Companions residing in the City of Ottawa, for a Dispensation to constitute a Council in that city, to be named "Gedaliah" Council. I issued a Dispensation to V. Ill. Companion Wm. J. Morris, Inspector General, authorizing him to constitute said Council, which he did on 24th October, 1872, ably assisted by Illustrious Companion Joseph Purvis, of Adoniram Council, Toronto.

Application was made to me by Companions Wm. Gibson, Richard Brierley, and the requisite number of petitioners, resident of the City of Hamilton, for a Dispensation to open a Council in that city, to be called "Salem" Council. In compliance with the prayer of the petitioners, I issued my Dispensation, proceeded to that City accompanied by R. Ill. Comp. N. G. Bigelow, R. P. D. G. M., and kindly assisted by R. Ill. Comp. Thos. Bird Harris, Past R. P. D. G. M., and David McLellan, Grand Treas., duly opened the Council on the 7th August, 1873. I beg to recommend that Warrants be granted to these Councils during the present session.

A letter in reference to the formation of the Grand Council of R. S. and S. E. M. of Nebraska, has been received by me, and I now submit the same for your consideration and would strongly recommend that immediate and hearty recognition be extended to our young sister.

At last Annual Assembly, the Grand Council confirmed the appointment of several representatives; since then I have appointed:

R. Ill. Comp. Jno. C. Batchelor, near the Grand Council of Louisiana.
R. " " John R. Proctor, " " " of Nebraska.

And the following Representatives have been appointed near this Grand Council:

Grand Council of Maine,	M. Ill. Comp. T. D. Harington.
" " New York,	" " " Daniel Spry.
" " Pennsylvania,	R. " " N. Gordon Bigelow.
" " Nebraska,	" " " Thomas Sargent.

When these Ill. Companions present their credentials, we will extend to them a hearty welcome.

Immediately after the formation of the Grand Council in 1871, the following communication was addressed to the Grand Council of New Brunswick, and from the action taken thereon, I consider it my duty to bring the matter under your notice:—

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, sitting at their Grand East in Toronto.

Office of the Grand Recorder, ORILLA, ONT., Oct. 16, 1871.

To M. Ill. Comp. J. C. MATHEWAY,

M. P. G. M. of the Grand Council of New Brunswick.

MOST PUSSANT SIR:—

I am instructed by the M. P. G. M. of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario to inform you that on the eighth day of August, 1871, duly appointed delegates from Shekinah Council, No. 5, G. R., N. B., Adoniram Council, No. 6, G. R. B. B., Harington Council, No. 8, G. R., N. B.; and Zabud Council, No. 9, G. R., N. B., did meet in convention in the Masnic Hall, Toronto, and after mature deliberation, did organize "The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario" and duly elected Rt. Ill. Comp. T. D. Harington, 33^d, M. P. G. M., Ill. Comp. Daniel Spry, 18^d, R. P. D. G. M., and other officers (Vide enclosed report of proceedings).

I am also directed to say that this action on the part of those Councils holding allegiance to your Grand Council was not intended as a slight to our Mother Grand Council, from whose officers we have always received the greatest courtesy and kindness. It was done however, believing that by having a Grand Body in our midst, we

could better serve the interests of Cryptic Masonry (Vide enclosed report of proceedings).

Such being the case, the Most Puissant Grand Master of Ontario desires that Our Mother Grand Council of New Brunswick should at once extend recognition to us by exchanging Representatives and issuing such an encyclical letter to the Grand Councils of the world, as will prove to them that you concur in our recent movement, and that we in the Dominion of Canada, who belong to the Cryptic Rite, are on the most amicable and friendly terms.

By Command of the M. P. G. M., I have the honor to remain,
Most Puissant Sir,

Fraternally yours in the Mysteries of the Secret Vault,

ROBERT RAMSAY,

Grand Recorder of Ontario.

In answer to our request, we were officially notified of recognition in the following friendly terms:—

Ill. Bro. ROBERT RAMSAY, Esq.,

Grand Recorder of the Grand Council
Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, Orillia, Ont. }

Ill. Bro. AND DEAR SIR :

At our Annual Assembly held in the Masonic Hall in this City, 31st Oct. 1871, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz.—

Resolved, That the Grand Council hereby extend a cordial welcome to our Sister Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, and appoint M. P. Grand Master Illustrious Bro. T. D. Harington, 33°, our Representative of this Grand Council near the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario.

In the bonds of the Order,

Fraternally yours,

A. D. GOODWIN,

Grand Recorder.

Although the proceedings of the Grand Council of New Brunswick have not officially reached us, we learn from their published proceedings, which we have received from another source, that the following resolution was passed:—

Whereas, the Councils in the Province of Ontario, heretofore holding Warrants from this Grand Council, have with our full approval, established a Grand Council in that Province, designated the "Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario."

And *Whereas*, Article No. 10 of the Constitution of this Grand Council, page 61, reads as follows, viz: "That this Grand Council shall have the sole government and superintendence of Councils of R. and S. Masters and appendant Orders within the Province of New Brunswick, &c., &c., &c. It shall also have power to constitute, govern and superintend new Councils within the Province of New Brunswick, as well as any portion of the Dominion of Canada, or other of the British Provinces, where there is no Grand Council, and grant charters and dispensations for the same, &c., &c., and

Whereas, Notwithstanding the above provision made by the Grand Council of the Province of New Brunswick, Dominion of Canada, it being the ardent desire of Grand Council to grant our daughter, now sister, Grand Council of Ontario every privilege which the true interests of our Cryptic Rite seem to suggest:

Therefore *Resolved*, that while anxious to work in harmony with the Grand Council of Ontario, *this Grand Council is unable to grant exclusive jurisdiction to the Grand Council of Ontario over Cryptic Masonry in Quebec*, that part of the Dominion being unoccupied masonic territory.

By reference to the printed proceedings of the Convention, page 21, it will be observed that the following resolution was adopted:

"That in the event of *no objection* being made by the Grand Council of New Brunswick, this Grand Council also claims jurisdiction over the Province of Quebec."

It is therefore apparent that we did not desire to deprive our mother Grand Council of any of her rights and privileges; but as there appears to have been some objection to conceding what was asked, it seems to me only proper that I should explain that this resolution was not among those originally prepared for the organization of Grand Council, but was adopted at the earnest request of Royal and Select Masters from Quebec present at the Convention, who desired to extend our beautiful rite with a

view of ultimately forming a Grand Council for that Province, one of whom—our M. Ill. Companion Col. Moore—has since received the honorary rank of Past Grand Master from the Grand Council of New Brunswick.

This is made still more manifest by comparing the resolution already referred to with Art. 2 of our Constitution, which is as follows: "This Grand Council claims *exclusive* jurisdiction, and shall have the sole government and superintendence of Councils of Royal and Select Masters and appendant Orders within the Province of Ontario." The marked difference between the two quotations will be apparent. We claim *exclusive* jurisdiction over Ontario, and concurrent jurisdiction over the Provinces masonically unoccupied by the Cryptic rite, and such was still the intention of Grand Council when at the last annual assembly, held on the 13th August, 1872, it adopted the following resolution: "Resolved, That this Grand Council claims jurisdiction over the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba, &c."

This resolution was passed to enable the Executive to adopt means for the extension of the Cryptic rite in Canada, while the constitution, which properly defines the limits of our claims to exclusive jurisdiction, remains unchanged.

It is quite true we have appointed Inspectors General for these Provinces, but in doing so, we are but following the example of our mother Grand Council in giving power to these officers to "create and install R. A. Masons in good repute, as Select, Royal, and S. Ex. Masters," for the purpose of forming new Councils. We are happy to believe that the course we then adopted, in complying with the request of our Ill. Companions, has been productive of much good, as two Councils have been already established by our Inspector General for the Province of Quebec.

I am certain, therefore, that Grand Council will be willing to acknowledge that Quebec is "unoccupied masonic territory," and that with this explanation our sister Grand Council of New Brunswick will be willing to unite with us in saying that "we in the Dominion of Canada, who belong to the Cryptic rite, are on the most amicable and friendly terms."

Grand Council is aware that Cryptic Masonry, which is gradually becoming of considerable importance on this continent, has been introduced into Great Britain, and with the assistance and under the direction of the Grand Council of New York, the Grand Council of England has been duly formed. This is pleasing information to us, and although no official intimation of the formation of this Grand Body has reached me, I consider the matter of too much importance to pass it over in silence, feeling assured that you will unite with me in heartily wishing the Grand Council of England every prosperity.

Grand Council is also aware that considerable diversity prevails in the ritual, titles of officers, and the order of conferring the degrees, under the jurisdiction of the several Grand Councils of the United States. To remedy this great evil, and to secure perfect uniformity, the Grand Council of Maine, on the 3rd May, 1871, directed M. Ill. Companion J. H. Drummond to call a convention of R. & S. Masters, to meet in New York in June, 1872. This convention met on the 12th June, fourteen Grand Councils being represented; elected permanent officers; appointed various important committees; and transacted considerable business of very great benefit to the Cryptic rite. The principal matter of importance to us, is the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Nomenclature recommend the following for titles of Grand and Subordinate Bodies of the Cryptic Rite:

Most Illustrious Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Principal Conductor of Work, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Captain of the Guards, Grand Conductor of the Council, Grand Steward, Grand Sentinel.

To which may be added Grand Chaplain, and Grand Marshal or Grand Master of Ceremonies.

For Subordinate Councils omit the word "Grand," and in place of the word "Most" for first officer, use the word "Thrice."

They also recommend that meetings of Bodies of this Rite be denominated "Assemblies."

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
THOS. J. CORSON,	
WM. P. ANDERSON,	

The Convention adjourned to meet again at the same place in June, 1873, and your principal officers were invited to be present; but unfortunately the invitations did not reach us until it was too late to make any arrangements for the Grand Council to be represented. A matter of this importance should receive our hearty co-operation, and

I trust that authority will be given the Grand Master to provide for the proper representation of this Grand Council at any future meetings that may be held.

The Committee on Work has not been called together during the past year, nor do I consider it desirable that any change should be made in our ritual at the present time.

Permit me to ask you to consider the advisability of selecting some more convenient time for holding Grand Council, and also whether it would not be well to meet at the same time and place as either the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.

In conclusion, my Illustrious Companions, permit me to thank you for the hearty support I have received in the discharge of the duties of my high office, and to express the hope that the H. O. O. I. may ever guide, protect and bless you in your journeyings through this life, and that finally you may be admitted within that S. V., where the World's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever and ever.

DANIEL SPRY.

M. P. Grand Master.

The Grand Treasurer's and Grand Recorder's annual statements were submitted, and were found satisfactory.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, through its chairman R. Ill. Comp. Begelow, submitted a report which was received and ordered to be printed.

Several other routine matters were disposed of, and the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and the following were declared duly elected, and were subsequently installed :

M. Ill. Com. Daniel Spry, Toronto, Grand Master. R. Ill. Comp. N. G. Bigelow, Toronto, Deputy Grand Master. R. Ill. Com. Geo. C. Longley, Maitland, R. P. G. M. R. Ill. Com. Fred. J. Menet, Toronto, P. G. M. R. Ill. Com. Thos. B. Harris, Hamilton, Inspector Gen., Hamilton Div. R. Ill. Com. W. W. H. Porter Bradford, Inspector Gen., Toronto Div. R. Ill. Com. Wm. Hay, Ottawa, Inspector Gen., Ottawa Div. R. Ill. Com. E. Kemp, Cowansville, Inspector Gen., Quebec Div. R. Ill. Com. W. J. Morris, Toronto, Inspector Gen., Manitoba Div. R. Ill. Com. F. G. Graham, Bradford, Grand Captain General. R. Ill. Com. David McLellan, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer. R. Ill. Com. Thomas Sargant, Toronto, Grand Recorder. V. Ill. Com. Wm. Gibson, Hamilton, Grand Marshal. N. Ill. Com. John L. Dixon, Grand Sentinel. Ill. Com. C. S. Elliot, D. McLellan, J. W. H. Wilson, and Richard Brierley, Executive Committee.

We have not yet learned the names of the appointed officers.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

ADONIRAM COUNCIL.

The following Ill. Companions were elected Officers of the Adoniram Council No. 2, Toronto, at the Regular Assembly, on the 27th August, 1873 :

Thrice Ill. Comp. W. J. Morris, T. I. M. ; R. Ill. Comp. F. J. Menet, P. T. I. M. ; Ill. Comp. J. B. Nixon, R. I. M. ; Ill. Comp. J. G. Burns, I. M. ; M. Ill. Comp. D. Spry, Treas. ; R. Ill. Comp. W. Purvis, Recorder ; Ill. Comp. W. A. Stollery, M. of C. ; Ill. Comp. W. H. Frazer, Conductor ; R. Ill. Comp. T. Sargant, C of Guard ; Ill. Comp. J. Leslie, Steward ; Comp. J. L. Dixon, Sentinel.

Masonry was designed as a strong and indissoluble bond, uniting the members of fraternity in sacred ties to each other. But such a bond would be frail as the gossamer's attenuated thread unless strengthened by moral principles and obligations ; and such obligations between man and man would be powerless and inoperative unless based on paramount obligations to the God of all. And then a just appreciation of the last obligation tends to a spirit of piety whose office is to soften, refine, and elevate the whole.