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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GRAND LODGE
OF
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF CANADA,
AT ITS ORGANIZATION IN A.L. 5855,
AND
AT SUBSEQUENT GRAND COMMUNICATIONS
FOR THE YEARS 1856-7-8-9 AND '60,
INCLUSIVE.

HAMILTON:
SPECTATOR STEAM PRINTING HOUSE, CORNER JAMES AND MAIN STREETS.

1874.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION

OF

Free and Accepted Masons,

HELD AT

THE CITY OF HAMILTON, C. W.,

On the 10th day of October, 5855.

At a Convention of Delegates from the Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Masonic Hall, Hamilton, on Wednesday, the 10th day of October, 5855, in conformity with a summons issued under the following resolutions passed at a meeting of Masons, held at the Clifton House, Niagara Falls, the 19th day of July, 5855, when it was resolved:

That a Convention of Delegates be held at Hamilton, on the 2nd Wednesday in October next, for the purpose of considering the expediency of establishing an Independent Grand Lodge of Canada, and to proceed with such matters as may be deemed most desirable for the benefit of Masonry in this Province.

It was likewise resolved:

That the Secretary be instructed to address a communication, embodying the foregoing resolution, to every Lodge in the Province, inviting and urging upon them to be properly represented at that Convention.

The following Lodges were duly represented by their properly qualified officers:

| | | |
|--------------|--------|----------------|
| Brockville | Lodge, | Brockville. |
| Niagara | " | Niagara. |
| Union | " | Grimsby. |
| Norfolk | " | Simcoe. |
| Nelson | " | Clarenceville. |
| St. Andrew's | " | St. Andrews. |
| Golden Rule | " | Stanstead. |
| St. George's | " | Montreal. |
| Zetland | " | Montreal. |
| Baron | " | Hamilton. |
| Dorchester | " | St. Johns. |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Prevost | Lodge, | Dunham. |
| St. George's | " | St. Catharines. |
| Strict Observance | " | Hamilton. |
| Amity | " | Dunnville. |
| Composite | " | Whithy. |
| St. George's | " | London. |
| King Solomon | " | Woodstock. |
| St. Lawrence | " | Montreal. |
| Great Western | " | Windsor. |
| Acacia | " | Hamilton. |
| Shefford | " | Waterloo. |
| Hoyle | " | Lacolle. |
| St. John's | " | Hamilton. |
| Independent | " | Quebec. |
| Lodge of Social and Military Virtues | | Montreal. |
| <u>Wellington</u> | Lodge, | Dunnville. |
| Hawkesbury | " | Hawkesbury |
| St. John's | " | London. |
| King Hiram | " | Ingersoll. |
| St. John's | " | Cayuga. |
| St. Thomas | " | St. Thomas. |
| Brant | " | Brantford. |
| Vaughan Lodge | " | Vaughan. |
| <u>Wellington</u> | " | Stratford. |
| Harmony | " | Binbrook. |
| Brighton | " | Brighton. |
| St. Andrew's | " | Quebec. |
| King Solomon's | " | Toronto. |
| Prince Edward's | " | Picton. |
| Thistle | " | Amherstburgh. |

The Convention was opened at half-past 4 o'clock, P. M., with solemn prayer.

V. W. Bro. C. Magill, (Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden,) was called upon to preside.

V. W. Bro. Thomas B. Harris was requested to act as Secretary.

On the recommendation of a Committee appointed to consider rules and regulations for the government of the Convention,—the rules and regulations for conducting public business, contained in the Book of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, were, *mutatis mutandis*, unanimously adopted.

On motion of V. W. Bro. Wm. M. Wilson, it was unanimously agreed that each Lodge represented at the Convention be entitled to three votes.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. Wm. M. Wilson, seconded by W. Bro. Dr. Fenwick, and unanimously adopted:

That the following brethren be a Committee to prepare resolutions for the adoption of this Convention :—Bros. Thos B. Harris, D. Brown, D. Curtis, Wm. M. Wilson, A. Bernard, Dr. Lundy, W. C. Stephens, G. Railton, W. B. Simpson, Richard Bull, and John Osborne.

The Convention adjourned till 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention resumed its sitting at half-past seven P. M., V. W. Bro. C. Magill, presiding.

The Committee appointed to prepare resolutions for the adoption of the Convention, submitted the following preamble :

Whereas, the existence of Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in this Province, hailing from three several Grand Lodges, is a system productive of much evil to the Craft, creating a diversity of interests and allegiance,—an absence of harmony in action and working, perpetuating local and national feelings, and thus estranging the affections of brethren, whose Order knows no country and is confined to no race; and,

Whereas, the Benevolent funds of Canadian Freemasons, small as they are, are constantly taxed to relieve needy brethren from Europe, while our resources are doubly drawn upon by contributions to the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland, and to the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada, thus creating a constant drain upon those funds, from which but little return can ever be expected; and,

Whereas, the distance between Canada and the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland presents a very serious difficulty in regard to the necessary correspondence, as well as the prompt receipt of Warrants and Certificates, which have been delayed for months, and in some cases for years, greatly to the inconvenience of the fraternity in Canada: and,

Whereas, important communications, and even remittances of money, have been suffered to lie for years in the Grand Secretary's office of England, without the least acknowledgment of their having been received in due course, brethren being compelled to leave the Province before they could receive from England the certificates for which they had long previously paid: and,

Whereas, the communications of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada to the Grand Lodge of England,—though respectfully and masonically expressed, especially when in the form of petitions or remonstrances, have been treated with silent contempt, their very receipt remaining unacknowledged: and,

Whereas, the Provincial Grand Masters of Canada and their Deputies are not appointed by, and are entirely irresponsible to the Freemasons of Canada, being the mere nominees of the Grand Lodges of Great Britain,—the members of which can know but little of the state of the Craft, or the masonic position of individuals in this Province: and,

Whereas, whilst the Provincial Grand Lodges are thus rendered irresponsible to and independent of the Craft in Canada, experience has shown that they are unable to secure from the parent Grand Lodges that attention and respect which are due to their position:

Therefore be it resolved :

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

It was moved, in amendment, that the following words be added to the resolution :

And that the same be now organized, but that the working thereof be held in abeyance until the action of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland be made known on the subject.

On a division, the amendment was negatived by 38 Lodges to 3. The original motion was then, after due consideration, carried with one dissentient,—the dissenting brother desiring it to be understood that his dissent was caused from the absence of full instructions from his Lodge; he individually expressing his hearty concurrence in the original resolution.

It was then moved by W. Bro. G. L. Allen, seconded by W. Bro. Wm. Bellhouse, and unanimously adopted :

That we, the representatives of regularly warranted Lodges here in Convention assembled, resolve :

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

On motion of W. Bro. J. Osborne, seconded by Bro. J. H. Isaacson, it was unanimously resolved :

That a Committee be appointed, consisting of W. Bros. W. M. Wilson, W. C. Stephens, R. Bull, Dr. Lundy, A. Bernard, T. B. Harris, and Dr. Duggan—with power to add to their number, to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

On motion, the Convention adjourned till Thursday morning, at 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, 11th Oct. 5855.

The Convention resumed its sitting at half-past 10 o'clock, A. M., V. W. Bro. C. Magill, presiding.

The Committee appointed to prepare rules and regulations presented their report.

It was moved by W. Bro. A. S. Abbott, seconded by Bro. Taylor, and unanimously resolved :

That the draft of Constitution, now read by the Secretary, be and is hereby adopted as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

On motion of W. Bro. A. S. Abbott, seconded by Bro. J. B. Butler, it was unanimously adopted :

That rules and regulations having been adopted, the Convention proceed to the election of Grand Officers, to hold office until the 2nd Wednesday in July, A. L. 5856.

The following officers were declared duly elected :

| | | |
|------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| M. W. Bro. | Wm. Mercer Wilson, | Grand Master. |
| R. " " | A. Bernard, | Deputy Grand Master. |
| " " " | W. C. Stephens, | D. D. G. M. Western District. |
| " " " | W. B. Simpson, | " Central " |
| " " " | W. Eaden, | " Eastern " |
| " " " | Richard Bull, | Grand Senior Warden. |
| " " " | James Daniel, | " Junior Warden. |
| " " " | Rev. Dr. Lundy, | " Chaplain. |
| " " " | William Bellhouse, | " Treasurer. |
| " " " | Thos. B. Harris, | " Secretary. |

The Grand Master elect was pleased to make the following appointments :

| | | |
|------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| V. W. Bro. | Rev. G. Scott, | Asst. Grand Chaplain. |
| " " " | C. Magill, | " Senior Deacon. |
| " " " | George L. Allen, | " Junior Deacon. |
| " " " | J. H. Isaacson, | Asst. " Secretary. |
| " " " | Thomas Duggan, | " Supt. of Works. |
| " " " | J. Osborne, | " Dir. of Ceremonies. |
| " " " | G. E. Fenwick, | Asst. " Dir. of Ceremonies. |
| " " " | J. W. Haldimand, | " Sword Bearer. |
| " " " | William T. Thomas, | " Organist. |
| " " " | Geo. W. Powell, | " Pursuivant. |
| " " " | J. R. Holden, | " Stewards. |
| " " " | J. C. Butler, | |
| " " " | Jno. Morrison, | " Tyler. |

On motion of W. Bro. Taylor, seconded by W. Bro. James Daniel, it was unanimously adopted :

That every Lodge concurring in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, shall have authority granted them for the purpose of continuing their work, and that some reasonable time be mentioned therein to enable them to make out the returns to the parent Grand Lodges ; and should they fail to fulfil this engagement, then all protection from the Grand Lodge of Canada will cease.

On motion of W. Bro. Jas. Daniel, seconded by W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, it was resolved :

That a Committee be appointed to revise and amend the rules and regulations, and to report at the first Annual Communication.

The following were appointed the Committee, viz :

V. W. Bros. W. C. Stephens, R. Bull, Dr. Lundy, C. Magill, Thos. B. Harris, Wm. Bellhouse, and Dr. Duggan.

Moved by W. Bro. Dr. Lundy, seconded by Bro. Taylor, and resolved :

That a Committee be appointed to assist the Grand Secretary on the Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge, and that the purchase of the Grand Lodge regalia, together with the books and all other necessities, be confided to such Committee.

The following Brethren were appointed:

V. W. Bros. W. C. Stephens, Dr. Lundy, R. Bull.

On motion of W. Bro. A. Bernard, seconded by W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, and unanimously adopted:

That the thanks of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and of the Craft in general, are eminently due, and are hereby tendered to the brethren of Hamilton, for the indefatigable zeal and perseverance which they have evinced in devising the best means of establishing the Grand Lodge of Canada, as well as for their generous hospitality to the brethren from a distance.

It was, on motion of W. Bro. Dr. Lundy, seconded by W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, resolved:

That the Seal now produced be used for temporary purposes, and that a new one be procured by the Committee on Correspondence.

On motion of W. Bro. A. Bernard, seconded by W. Bro. Wm. Bellhouse, it was unanimously resolved:

That the Grand Secretary be instructed to request all Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada to forward to him, at an early day, the number of their Warrant and the date of their formation, duly authenticated.

The Convention was adjourned, to meet at 9 o'clock on Friday morning.

FRIDAY, Oct. 12, 5855.

The Convention resumed its sitting at a $\frac{1}{4}$ past 5 o'clock, P. M.

In consequence of V. W. Bro. C. Magill having declined to accept the office of Grand Senior Deacon, the Grand Master elect appointed W. Bro. Geo. L. Allen to be Grand Senior Deacon, and W. Bro. Thos. Perkins to be Grand Junior Deacon.

On motion of W. Bro. Richard Bull, seconded by W. Bro. J. R. Holden, it was unanimously adopted:

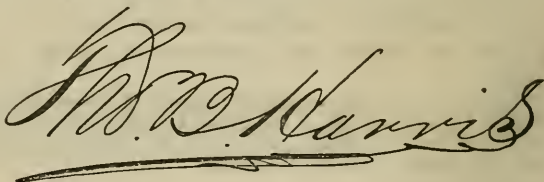
That the Grand Master elect be requested to name three members of the Grand Lodge as a deputation to proceed, with as little delay as possible, to the residences of such Grand Masters or Past Grand Masters as may be most convenient, for the purpose of inviting them to this Grand Lodge, to install the M. W. Grand Master elect.

The Grand Master appointed the following brethren such deputation:

W. Bros. A. Bernard, W. C. Stephens, and Thos. B. Harris.

The Convention was adjourned with solemn prayer.

ATTEST.

A large, flowing handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Thos. B. Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style with long, sweeping strokes.

Grand Secretary.

FRIDAY, November 2, 5855.

The Convention resumed its sitting at 6 o'clock, P. M.

Present :

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| M. W. Bro. Wm. M. Wilson, | Grand Master elect. |
| R. " " W. C. Stephens, | D. D. G. M. " |
| " " " R. Bull, | Grand Senior Warden elect. |
| " " " James Daniel, | " Junior Warden " |
| " " " Rev. Dr. Lundy, | " Chaplain " |
| " " " William Bellhouse, | " Treasurer " |
| " " " Thos. B. Harris, | " Secretary " |
| V. " " Henry Grist, | " Senior Deacon <i>pro. tem.</i> |
| " " " Thomas Perkins, | " Junior Deacon. |
| " " " John Osborne, | " Dir. of Ceremonies. |
| " " " Dr. T. Duggan, | " Supt. of Works. |
| " " " J. R. Holden, | " Steward. |
| " " " John Morrison, | " Tyler. |

BRETHREN.

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Bro. D. Benedict. | Bro. R. Benner. |
| " W. H. Park. | " J. A. Bruce. |
| " J. Rogerson. | " J. E. Dallyn. |
| " J. B. Ellison. | " James Smith. |
| " W. G. Crawford. | " T. C. Brownjohn. |
| " C. Norton. | " L. Rosenband. |
| " William T. Thomas. | " Albert Drey. |
| " C. Magill. | " C. Kelly. |
| " M. Davis. | " A. C. Quimby. |
| " John Austin. | " I. C. Chilman. |
| " J. R. Skinner. | " J. W. Mulloch. |
| " T. T. Roe. | " A. Randall. |
| " G. F. Thomas. | " George Nixon. |
| " George Vandyke. | And other visiting Brethren. |

The deputation appointed to proceed to the residences of such Grand Masters as may be deemed expedient, to invite one or more of them to assist at the installation of the Grand Master of Canada, reported :

That they had proceeded to Detroit, and secured the services of the M. W. the Honorable H. T. Backus, Past Grand Master of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of the State of Michigan, who was in attendance, and ready to proceed at once to the consecration, installation, and investiture of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The M. W. Bro. H. T. Backus was introduced, and took his seat on the Throne.

The M. W. Grand Master and the Grand Officers elect of the Grand Lodge of Canada were then presented.

The M. W. Past Grand Master, H. T. Backus, performed the

ceremonies of consecrating the Grand Lodge of Canada, and installed the Grand Master, and invested and installed the Grand Officers in due and ancient form.

The Grand Marshall declared :

That in the name and by the authority of the Ancient Constitutions of Masonry, and the proceedings of a Convention convened pursuant to the same,

I proclaim this new Grand Lodge, by the name of "The Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada," duly constituted.

On motion of R. W. Grand Senior Warden, seconded by R. W. Grand Junior Warden, it was unanimously resolved :

That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the M. W. Bro. the Honorable H. T. Backus, for his fraternal kindness in consecrating this Grand Lodge, and installing the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the impressive manner in which that important ceremony was performed.

The M. W. Grand Master then closed the Grand Lodge in Ample Form, with solemn prayer.

ATTEST.



H. T. Backus

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At the First Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Hamilton, on Wednesday the 9th day of July, A. L. 5856, A. D. 1856.

Present :

GRAND OFFICERS.

The Most Worshipful Bro. W. Mereer Wilson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

R. W. Bro. A. Bernard, Deputy Grand Master.

| | | | | |
|----|---|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| " | " | " | W. C. Stephens, | D. D. G. M. Western District. |
| " | " | " | W. B. Simpson, | " Central District. |
| V. | " | " | Charles Magill, | as Grand Senior Warden. |
| R. | " | " | James Daniel, | " Junior Warden. |
| " | " | " | Rev. Dr. Lundy, | " Chaplain. |
| " | " | " | Wm. Bellhouse, | " Treasurer. |
| " | " | " | Thomas B. Harris, | " Secretary. |
| V. | " | " | G. L. Allen, | " Senior Deacon. |
| " | " | " | Henry Crouse, | as " Junior Deacon. |
| " | " | " | Dr. Thomas Duggan, | " Supt. of Works. |
| " | " | " | John Osborne, | " Dir. of Ceremonies. |
| " | " | " | J. H. Issacson, | Asst. " Secretary. |
| " | " | " | W. T. Thomas, | as " Organist. |
| " | " | " | J. W. Powell, | " Pursuivant. |
| " | " | " | John Morrison, | " Tyler. |

PAST MASTERS.

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| W. Bro. | Geo. Powell. | W. Bro. | Jno. W. Baine. |
| " | " Hiram Fulford, | V. | " " Charles Magill. |
| R. | " " W. B. Simpson, | R. | " " W. C. Stephens. |
| " | " " James Daniel. | " | " " Thos. B. Harris. |
| " | " " A. S. Abbott. | " | " " Elisha Gustin. |
| " | " " Joseph F. Rolfe. | " | " " David Brown. |
| " | " " Geo. Duncan. | " | " " Rev. F. J. Lundy. |
| " | " " Joseph Cornick. | " | " " Wm. Bellhouse. |
| " | " " Thos. Fletcher. | " | " " H. B. Bull. |
| " | " " A. Bernard. | | |

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, with solemn prayer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following brethren a Committee on Credentials:—R. W. Bros. Simpson, Daniel, and Harris.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following representatives of regularly chartered Lodges present, also the officers of the undermentioned Lodges under Dispensation, whom they recommended to be admitted and allowed to take part in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge:

Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe.

W. Bro. H. Crouse, W.M.; W. Bro. G. W. Powell, P.M.

Sussex Lodge, Brockville.

W. Bro. Samuel Ross, W.M.; W. Bro. H. Fulford, P.M.;

" " W. B. Simson, P.M.

Prince Edward's Lodge, Picton.

W. Bro. David Barker, W.M.

St. John's Lodge, London.

W. Bro. James Moffat, W.M.; Bro. A. S. Abbott, S.W.;

" W. Daniel, J.W.; W. " Joseph F. Rolfe, P.M.;

" " James Daniel, G.J.W., P.M.

Great Western Lodge, Windsor.

W. Bro. George Duncan, P.M.

Thistle Lodge, Amherstburg.

W. Bro. William Bungay, W.M.; Bro. George Gott, J.W.

Wellington Lodge, Dunnville.

W. Bro. D. McIndoe, W.M.; Bro. D. McSwain, S.W.

St. John's Lodge, Cayuga.

Bro. John Robert Carroll, S.W.

St. George's Lodge, St. Catharines.

W. Bro. Thomas Fletcher, P.M.

Harmony Lodge, Binbrook.

W. Bro. Jeremiah Taylor, W.M.; Bro. John Brown, S.W.

St. George's Lodge, Montreal.

W. Bro. A. Bernard, D.G.M., P.M.

Lodge of Military and Social Virtues, Montreal.

W. Bro. A. Bernard, D.G.M., (Proxy for W.M.)

Zetland Lodge, Montreal.

W. Bro. John H. Isaacson, Asst. G. Sec., W.M.;

" John Martin, J.W.

Lodge of Strict Observance, Hamilton.

W. Bro. John Osborne, G. D. of C., W.M.;

" " William Bellhouse, G. Treas., P.M.

St. John's Lodge, Hamilton.

W. Bro. John F. McCuaig, W.M.; W. Bro. John W. Baine, P.M.;
 " W. T. Thomas, G. Organist, J.W.

Barton Lodge, Hamilton.

W. Bro. H. B. Bull, W.M.; W. Bro. Charles Magill, P.M.;
 " Richard W. Thorne, J.W.

Acacia Lodge, Hamilton.

W. Bro. W. C. Stephens, D.D G.M., W.M.;
 " Dr. Duggan, G. S. of W., S.W.;
 " " Thos. B. Harris, G. Sec., J.W.

Golden Rule Lodge, Stanstead.

W. Bro. Elisha Gustin, P.M. (Proxy.)

Provost Lodge, Dunham.

W. Bro. David Brown, P.M. (Proxy.)

Union Lodge, Grimsby.

W. Bro. J. Wesley Lewis, W.M.; Bro. Andrew Randall, S.W.;
 " " Rev. Dr. Lundy, G. Chaplain, P.M.

King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto.

W. Bro. James E. Smith, W.M.; Bro. Joseph A. Fisher, J.W.

Shefford Lodge, Waterloo.

W. Bro. E. Gustin, (Proxy for W. M.)

Vaughan Lodge, Maple.

Bro. James Bowman (Proxy for W.M.)

Brant Lodge, Brantford.

Bro. George W. Malloch, S.W.

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION.

St. Andrew's Lodge, Caledonia.

W. Bro. Dr. Wm. McPherson, W.M.; Bro. William Waugh, S.W.;
 " Wm. A. Spooner, J.W.; W. Bro. Jos. Cornick, P.M.

St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll.

Bro. John Patterson, S.W.

King Lodge, King.

W. Bro. James Bowman, W.M.

Kilwinning Lodge, London.

W. Bro. William Muir, W.M.;
 " Donald McDonald, (Proxy for S.W.)
 " Dougald McInnes, (Proxy for J.W.)

Alma Lodge, Galt.

Bro. Norman Booth, S.W.

Rehoboam Lodge, Toronto.

W. Bro. G. L. Allen, W.M.; Bro. E. R. O'Brien, S.W.

Jacques Cartier Lodge, Montreal.

W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, Asst. G. Sec., (Proxy for W.M.

St. Francis Lodge, Melbourne.

W. Bro. A. Bernard, D.G.M., (Proxy.)

Victoria Lodge, Sherbrooke.

W. Bro. A. Bernard, D.G.M., (Proxy.)

On motion of R. W. Bro. Bernard, the report of the Committee on Credentials was unanimously adopted.

Worshipful Brother David Brown was introduced, and presented his credentials as representative of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont, which the Most Worshipful the Grand Master was pleased to receive and confirm.

The minutes of the Convention held on the 10th day of October, 5855, at which the Grand Lodge was established, and on the 2nd day of November following, when the Grand Lodge was consecrated and the Grand Master and Grand Officers were installed and invested, were read and confirmed.

The Grand Master then read the following

ADDRESS :

WORSHIPFUL BRETHREN AND BRETHREN :

Nine months have passed away since the brethren met in this city in solemn convocation, for the purpose of taking into their most serious consideration the state and requirements of Masonry in this Province; the result of their labours was the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada. It is unnecessary now to refer to the doubts which agitated the minds of the brethren as to the necessity and propriety of the step which was ultimately decided on, after a long and anxious discussion on the various important points the question involved, and when after a careful research into precedents, the light of truth directed us, without violating any of our obligations, but acting in strict conformity with the true spirit of them all, to that great result which will be remembered with gratitude by all future generations of Canadian Freemasons, and looked upon as the dawn of a new era of masonic prosperity in the Province.

Whilst we have much cause for deep gratitude to T. G. A. O. T. U., for the large measure of success that has already rewarded our zealous labours in the cause of masonry, our path has not been free from difficulties and obstacles. In both sections of the Province there are some brethren, who, disregarding the claims of charity and brotherly love, have aspersed the integrity of our motives and sneered at our earnest efforts to advance the interests.

of our common cause, and unmindful alike of justice and truth, have characterized us as traitors to the Order. But actuated by the true spirit of Masonry which has, and I trust ever will, direct the actions of this Grand Lodge, your officers have steadily persevered in the conscientious discharge of the important duties entrusted to them, to remove the unfounded prejudices of the ignorant, and to correct or to defy the opposition of the violent. The manner in which they have performed their arduous duties merits your warmest approval, and I trust that the Lodges will continue to afford them their united and earnest support, to ensure the permanent prosperity and dignified position of the Grand Lodge.

There are many matters of interest and importance to be brought before you at this Communication, and your prudent action thereon will secure the future harmonious working of the Grand Lodge. You are fully alive to the necessity of approaching the discussion of those matters in a proper masonic spirit, keeping prominently in view that the good of the craft is the object to which our efforts are directed; and I feel assured that, however we may individually differ in opinion as to the best method to be adopted in order to secure that great end, we shall never forget that as brethren it is our especial duty to work together in harmony, peace and unity.

The amended Constitution comes before you as first in importance, and I am satisfied that the Grand Lodge will cordially join with me in saying, that we feel deeply indebted to those brethren who have devoted so much time, care and ability to the compilation of that important work. I would here refer in an especial manner to the valuable services of R. W. Bro. Stephens, in that and other matters; his advice and co-operation have been of the greatest importance to our cause, and I have ever found him ready and willing to afford both. At my suggestion, printed copies were forwarded to every Lodge for careful consideration, and that the brethren might offer suggestions of such alterations as they thought desirable. These suggested alterations have now been re-considered, and the document as amended will be submitted for your adoption.

Since the last meeting of the Grand Lodge I have officially visited nearly all the Lodges in this part of the Province, and in every instance my reception was most kind and fraternal. I would take this opportunity of earnestly impressing upon those brethren who may hereafter fill high positions in the Grand Lodge, the necessity and importance of paying frequent visits to the subordinate Lodges, which will not only have the effect of drawing still closer the bonds of brotherhood, but will also satisfy those brethren whose lot has been cast in the more distant and less settled parts of the Province, that we take a deep and lively interest in their masonic

welfare and happiness, and that they are indeed members of that great mystic fraternity which has endured for ages and extends its benefits to the remotest regions of the world.

In the course of my masonic tour, I observed with regret that there existed a great diversity in the working of the various Lodges; and conceiving that one uniform system of work is essential to the well-being of the craft, I would strongly recommend to your serious consideration whether that object would be best secured by first deciding which system of work now in use shall be permanently adopted, and then promulgating it by Lodges of Instruction, or by appointed lecturers, or by any other means you may approve. Before quitting this subject, I would suggest that the Committee which you may appoint to decide on the mode of work to be followed by the craft in Canada, should be requested also to take into consideration and report upon the propriety of adding the "Mark" to the "Fellow Craft's" degree. It has long been my opinion that the "Mark" is not properly a part of the "Arch" degree, but belongs to the second degree; and a similar view of the subject appears now to have been taken by the Grand Lodge of England as well as by several other Grand Lodges.

The subject of numbering our subordinate Lodges will also claim your attention during the present session. This is a matter of some importance; and though not unattended with difficulty, I entertain no doubt but that a careful investigation of the subject by a special Committee will result in a satisfactory conclusion.

I desire warmly to congratulate you upon the prompt and hearty recognition accorded us by the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland. As a large number of the subordinate Lodges now affiliated with this Grand Lodge were formerly working under warrants from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the action of that Grand Body was looked for with much solicitude by us all; and the truly fraternal manner in which the expression of our masonic feelings was reciprocated by them, binds us still closer in that bond of brotherly love which I trust will remain unbroken and unstrained so long as the sun and the moon shall endure.

A number of Grand Lodges in the United States, also, have already, in the most fraternal spirit, acknowledged the correctness of our masonic position, whilst a few others have delayed their recognition out of courtesy to the Grand Lodge of England, waiting until an opinion had been expressed by that Grand Lodge. I am not disposed to condemn the extreme caution exercised by that portion of our sister Grand Lodges in this matter, but will merely say that whilst the Grand Lodge of England is looked up to by Canadian Masons with sentiments of the highest respect and regard, and whilst her approval of the step we have taken will be hailed by

all with delight and satisfaction, we do not for a moment admit that her decision in the matter can in any way affect the legality of our position. The correctness of our course has been clearly demonstrated by many of the most distinguished and best informed of masonic writers and authorities; and although by some parties our proceedings have been condemned, I have neither met with nor heard of a single instance in which any but worthless and specious arguments have been adduced against the correctness of our action, or our present constitutional position.

The present meeting of the Grand Lodge has been deferred beyond the appointed time, in the hope that I should have been able to lay before you the reply of the Grand Lodge of England to our Address. I regret, however, to say that up to this time no communication has been received. We must, therefore, confidently hope that the true spirit of Masonry which has ever prominently distinguished the Grand Lodge of England, will so direct their counsels at their next meeting that they will approve of the action we have taken for the security and benefit of the craft in this Province, reciprocate the sincerely fraternal feelings we entertain towards them, and recognize with cheerful satisfaction their sister Grand Lodge of Canada. I would strongly recommend that until the decision of the Grand Lodge of England shall have been received, the course which has hitherto been pursued towards the members of those Lodges which have not yet affiliated with us should be persevered in, and that we should continue all fraternal offices to those brethren whose conscientious scruples have deterred them from at once joining us in the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge, feeling assured that when the justice of our cause has become fully understood, the Grand Lodge of Canada will unite under its banner the whole masonic fraternity of the Province.

I observe by the report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, in June last, that M. W. Joseph D. Evans, the Grand Master, in his address to the Grand Lodge, stigmatizes us as a spurious Grand Lodge, and pronounces us schismatic and rebellious. He even goes farther than this, and presumes to censure the action of those distinguished Grand Bodies who have acknowledged our masonic existence and position as an independent Grand Lodge.

We have strong reasons for believing that the course taken by Bro. Evans was induced by a circular recently issued by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, wherein it is asserted that the statements contained in our Address to Grand Lodges are not borne out by facts; and this charge, or rather ingeniously arranged misrepresentation, supported by further misrepresentations of parties well known to you to be actuated by personal and interested motives, and to be the agents of the Provincial Grand

Lodge, has doubtless misled the Grand Master of New York. I trust we are warranted in the conclusion that the observations of Bro. Evans were made in ignorance of the principal facts connected with our recent movement; for it would, indeed, be painful to me to adopt the only other alternative, and believe that any statement of a brother holding the high position of Brother Evans amongst the Masons of New York, could have been made with an utter disregard of truth.

The circular of the Provincial Grand Lodge is the first case that has come before me of any one having openly dared to dispute the truth of any statement contained in our Address, which, with a desire that our case should become thoroughly known, was extensively circulated all over this continent. The first I knew of the existence of the circular, which appears to have been carefully concealed from us, was a few days since, when a distinguished brother, a leading member of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, informed me that such a circular had been addressed to them. Since my arrival in this city a copy has been put into my hands, and it will presently be laid before you. Had it not been for this evidence, I would not have believed that the "officers" who still cling to the Provincial Grand Lodge would have descended to calumniate our proceedings, which they well know to have been taken on calm reflection, with strictly conscientious motives, and in perfect accordance with the principles of the Constitution of Freemasonry.

In addition to the 2,000 miles which I have travelled exclusively on masonic business, in the Province, since our last meeting, I returned last week from a visit to Kentucky, which involved a journey of 2,000 miles more. I visited the Kentucky brethren on their *special* invitation, and with a desire to make the acquaintance of the leading members of our Order in the neighbouring Republic, and I cannot find words to express the gratification I experienced from the kind and fraternal welcome with which I was received, and the pleasure and advantage I derived from the intercourse with the brethren with whom it was my good fortune to meet. These honors and attentions I received as your representative, and it gives me great pleasure to communicate the fact to you.

I desire to recommend to your favorable consideration that important undertaking to which our distinguished Brother Robert Morris has devoted so much time, ability, and capital. I allude to the republication of standard masonic works. By the labor and enterprise of Brother Morris in placing within the reach of all a fund of masonic information, not only in the publication referred to, but also in the valuable periodical conducted under his auspices, a flood of masonic light has been bestowed upon the craft, of

inestimable benefit to the Masons of the present day, and which was quite unknown to our masonic progenitors. There are many other masonic periodicals deserving your warmest support, and brethren desirous of becoming intelligent working Masons should avail themselves of the opportunity of acquiring the valuable information thus placed within their reach. I cannot quit this subject without expressing the great pleasure I experienced on the receipt of the first number of an ably conducted masonic sheet, published in Montreal, under the title of *The Canadian Masonic Pioneer*. The spirit and enterprise displayed by our Montreal brethren in originating this periodical, entitle them to the gratitude of the craft; and, well knowing that it is to be conducted by some of the best informed Masons of the Province, we may look forward with confidence to its becoming an invaluable disseminator of masonic light and truth.

Before concluding my Address, I desire to express my high appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Grand Lodge, and to the craft generally, by our esteemed brother the R. W. Dr. Bernard, the Deputy G. Master. His unwearied exertions, his untiring energies, his talents and his time, have been freely and cheerfully devoted to advance the interest of the Grand Lodge, and entitle him to our grateful thanks. In these remarks I feel assured that I express the feelings of the Grand Lodge.

W. M. WILSON,
Grand Master.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Stephens, seconded by R. W. Bro. Bellhouse, the Grand Master appointed the following brethren a Committee to consider and report on the various subjects embraced in his Address.

R. W. Bro. W. C. Stephens, V. W. Bro. J. Osborne, W. Bro. A. S. Abbott, Bro. E. R. O'Brien, and Bro. Martin.

Dispensations granted by the Grand Master for the following Lodges were then confirmed and warrants ordered:—

On motion of R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, seconded by R. W. Bro. James Daniel—

For St. Andrew's Lodge, Caledonia.

W. Bro. Joseph Cornick, W. M. ;
Bro. William McPherson, S. W. ;
Bro. William A. Spooner, J. W.

On motion of R. W. Bro. James Daniell, seconded by V. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson—

For Kilwinning Lodge, London.

W. Bro. William Muir, W. M. ;
Bro. William Gore Chambers, S. W. ;
Bro. F. W. Thomas, J. W.

On motion of W. Bro. J. Rolfe, seconded by W. Bro. A. S. Abbott—

For Rehoboam Lodge, Toronto.

W. Bro. G. L. Allen, W. M. ;
Bro. Edward Roby O'Brien, S. W. ;
Bro. Wm. Henry Pardy, J. W.

On motion of R. W. Bro. A. Bernard, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson—

For St. Francis Lodge, Melbourne.

W. Bro. James Atkinson, W. M. ;
Bro. W. A. Thomson, S. W. ;
Bro. William Montgomery, J. W.

On motion of V. W. Bro. Isaacson, seconded by Bro. Martin—
For Jacques Cartier Lodge, Montreal.

W. Bro. John W. Haldimand, W. M. ;
Bro. Leandre Franchere, Jr., S. W. ;
Bro. Rudolphe Laflamme, J. W.

On motion of V. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, seconded by W. Bro. D. Baker—

For St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll.

W. Bro. John Galliford, W. M. ;
Bro. John Patterson, S. W. ;
Bro. John Fursman, J. W.

On motion of R. W. Bro. James Daniel, seconded by W. Bro. J. Rolfe—

For King Lodge, King.

W. Bro. James Bowman, W. M. ;
Bro. Issac Smelsor, S. W. ;
Bro. William Watson, J. W.

On motion of W. Bro. David Brown, seconded by W. Bro. J. Taylor—

For Alma Lodge, Galt.

W. Bro. Hiram Fulford, W. M. ;
Bro. Norman Booth, S. W. ;
Bro. Æmilius Irving, J. W.

On motion of R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, seconded by W. Bro. Salmoni—

For Victoria Lodge, Sherbrooke.

W. Bro. J. S. Watson, W. M. ;
Bro. Arnold Lindsay, S. W. ;
Bro. John J. Boyd, J. W.

A petition from brethren in Kingston for a warrant to form a Lodge to be called the Cataragui Lodge, was then read, and on motion referred by the Grand Master to a committee consisting of R. W. Bros. Bernard and Stephens, and V. W. Bro. Isaacson.

The Grand Lodge was called from labour to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at 8 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The following report from the committee appointed at the Convention on the 12th of October, 5855, to revise and amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, was then read.

REPORT.

Your committee beg leave to report that, after carefully consulting the various masonic authorities, and well weighing what appeared to them the wants of the fraternity in Canada, they have compiled, and now offer for the consideration of your Grand Lodge the accompanying amended Constitution.

The amended Constitution, as submitted by the committee, was then considered *seriatim*, to page 26.

The Grand Lodge was then called off from labor to refreshment to meet at 10 o'clock the following morning.

THURSDAY, 10th JULY, 1856.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at 10 o'clock.

The M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The consideration, *seriatim*, of the amended Constitution was proceeded with and concluded.

On motion of R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, seconded by W. Bro. H. Fulford,

The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, submitted by the committee, and as amended by the Grand Lodge was unanimously confirmed and adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, and to be printed as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

OF CANADA.

WE, THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF CANADA, in order to form perfect fraternal union, to establish order, to ensure tranquillity, to provide for and promote the general welfare of the craft, and to secure to the fraternity of Canada, all the blessings of masonic privileges, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

OF THE GRAND LODGE.

1. The style and title of the Grand Lodge shall be—

“The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.”

2. The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be respectively elected or appointed, as hereinafter provided, and hold their offices for one year, or until their successors shall have been regularly elected or appointed.

The election and appointment of all officers shall take place at the Annual Communication, when all officers of the Grand Lodge shall be duly installed or invested, and proclaimed in ancient form.

3. The following officers shall be elected, viz:

By ballot of the Grand Lodge,

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master.

“ Right “ Deputy Grand Master.

“ “ “ Grand Senior Warden.

“ “ “ “ Junior Warden.

“ “ “ “ Chaplain.

“ “ “ “ Treasurer.

“ “ “ “ Registrar.

“ “ “ “ Secretary.

By an open vote of the Grand Lodge,

The Grand Tyler.

By the representatives of the Lodges of the respective districts present at the Annual Communication, subject to the confirmation of the Grand Master,

The Right Worshipful the District Deputy Grand Master.

4. The following officers shall be appointed by the Grand Masters, viz :

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| The Very Worshipful Grand | Senior Deacon. |
| " " " " | Junior Deacon. |
| " " " " | Superintendent of Works. |
| " " " " | Director of Ceremonies. |
| " " " Asst. " | Secretary. |
| " " " Asst. " | Director of Ceremonies. |
| " " " " | Sword Bearer. |
| " " " " | Organist. |
| " " " Asst. " | Grand Organist. |
| " " " " | Pursuivant. |
| Eight " " " | Stewards. |

5. The Grand Lodge shall consist of the elective and appointed officers (excepting the Grand Tyler) mentioned in the two preceding articles, with all Past Grand Officers, continuing to subscribe to a Lodge; the Masters and Wardens of all private Lodges (duly returned,) and all Past Masters (duly returned being subscribing members to a private Lodge.

6. Should neither of the representative officers, or Past Masters of a Lodge, attend any Communication of Grand Lodge, such Lodge, by a vote of the Lodge, properly certified by the Worshipful Master and Secretary, and under seal, may delegate any other brother entitled to a seat in Grand Lodge to represent their Lodge, but no brother can represent more than three Lodges.

7. The rank of officers and members of Grand Lodge, shall be as follows :

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-------|---------|-------------------|-----------|
| The Grand Master. | | | | | |
| Past Grand Masters, in seniority. | | | | | |
| The Deputy Grand Master. | | | | | |
| Past Deputy Grand Masters. | | | | | |
| District | Deputy | Grand | Master, | London | District. |
| " | " | " | " | Hamilton | " |
| " | " | " | " | Toronto | " |
| " | " | " | " | Central | " |
| " | " | " | " | Montreal | " |
| " | " | " | " | Eastern Townships | " |
| " | " | " | " | Quebec | " |
| Past District Deputy Grand Masters. | | | | | |
| Grand Senior Warden. | | | | | |
| Past | " | " | " | | |
| Grand Junior Warden. | | | | | |
| Past | " | " | " | | |
| Grand Chaplain. | | | | | |
| Past | " | " | " | | |

Grand Treasurer.

Past " "

Grand Registrar.

Past " "

Grand Secretary.

Past " "

Grand Senior Deacon.

Past " " "

Grand Junior Deacon.

Past " " "

Grand Superintendent of Works.

Past " " "

Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Past " " "

Assistant Grand Secretary.

Past " " "

Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Past " " " "

Grand Sword Bearer.

Past " " "

Grand Organist.

Past " "

Assistant Grand Organist.

Past " " "

Grand Pursuivant.

Past " "

Grand Stewards.

Past " "

The Masters, Past Masters, and Senior and Junior Wardens of private Lodges, in the order of the numbers of their respective Lodge Warrants.

8. The elective officers (except the Tyler) to be chosen by ballot, shall require a majority of all the votes present.

9. No brother shall be eligible to any elective office in the Grand Lodge, unless he has been regularly installed Worshipful Master of a private Lodge.

10. Should a vacancy occur in any office of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall nominate a qualified brother to supply the place, *pro tempore*.

11. Brethren of eminence and ability, who have rendered service to the craft, may, by a vote of the Grand Lodge, be constituted members of the Grand Lodge, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper.

12. No member of the Grand Lodge shall attend therein without his proper jewel and clothing, nor wearing any jewel not recognized by the Grand Lodge.

13. Should any Lodge have neglected to make its returns and payments to the Grand Lodge for the space of one year, the Master, Wardens, and Past Masters of such Lodge shall not be permitted to attend any meeting of the Grand Lodge until such returns and payments shall have been completed.

14. No brother shall be permitted to attend the Grand Lodge as Master, Past Master, or Warden, until his name and appointment shall have been duly returned and transmitted to the Grand Secretary's office.

15. The Annual Communication of Grand Lodge shall be held on the first Wednesday in July, at which the place of holding the next Communication shall be decided. None but members shall be present at these Communications, without permission of the Grand Master. No visitor shall speak to any question, without leave of the Grand Master, nor shall he, on any occasion, be permitted to vote.

16. The Grand Master shall, as soon as convenient after the opening of the Grand Lodge, appoint the following standing committees, to whom shall be referred all such matters as appertain to them respectively :

- 1.—On Credentials.
- 2.—On Correspondence.
- 3.—On the Condition of Masonry.
- 4.—On Constitution and Regulations.
- 5.—On Warrants.
- 6.—On Grievances.
- 7.—On Appeals.
- 8.—On Finance.
- 9.—On Accounts of Representatives.
- 10.—On Charity.
- 11.—On Audit.

17. The committee on credentials shall consist of three Masters or Past Masters, who shall attend within the porch of the Grand Lodge at that Communication, for the purpose of guarding, under the superintendence of the Grand Pursuivant, against the admission of any but those who are qualified, and have their proper clothing and jewels, and have signed their names to the accustomed papers, and are in all respects entitled to admission.

18. The Grand Master, or, in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master, or, in his absence, the Grand Wardens, may summon and hold Grand Lodges of emergency, whenever the good of the craft shall, in their opinion, require it: the particular reason for convening such Lodge of emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon at that meeting.

19. There shall be a masonic festival at the Annual Communication in July, which shall be dedicated to brotherly love and refreshment, and to which all regular Masons shall have access, on providing themselves with tickets from the Grand Stewards.

20. If, at any Grand Lodge, stated or occasional, the Grand Master be absent, the Lodge shall be ruled by the Grand Officer next in rank and seniority who may be present, and if no Grand Officer be present, by the Master of the senior Lodge.

N. B.—The Grand Lodge is declared to be opened in *ample form* when the Grand Master is present, in *due form* when a Past Grand Master or the Deputy presides, at all other times only *in form*, yet with the same authority.

21. All powers and authorities, and rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge, or private Lodges, or committees, respectively, during times of public business, or meetings, or proceedings, shall be used, and exercised, and enforced respectively by the officers or members by any law or constitution authorized to preside or act in the absence of the Grand Master. or any superior officer or member in such Lodges, or committees, or in the general improvement of the craft, as fully, to all intents and purposes, as if such substituted officers or members were specified in every law or constitution in which any powers or authorities are given, or rules or regulations prescribed for the principals, unless special provision is made to the contrary.

22. In the Grand Lodge alone resides the power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the craft, and of altering, repealing, and abrogating them, always taking care that the ancient land-marks of the Order are preserved. The Grand Lodge has also the inherent power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relative to the craft, or to particular Lodges, or to individual brothers which it may exercise either of itself, or by such delegated authority as, in its wisdom and discretion, it may appoint; but in the Grand Lodge alone resides the power of erasing lodges and expelling brethren from the craft, a power which it ought not to delegate to any subordinate authority.

23. No Lodge shall be erased, nor any brother expelled, until the Master or officers of the Lodge, or the offending brother shall have been summoned to show cause, in the Grand Lodge, why such sentence should not be recorded and enforced.

24. All differences or complaints that cannot be accommodated privately, or in some regular Lodge, shall be reduced into writing, and delivered to the Grand Secretary, who shall lay them before the Grand Master, or the committee appointed by the Grand Lodge. When all parties shall have been summoned to attend thereon, and the case shall have been investigated, such order and

adjudication may be made as shall be authorized by the laws and regulations of masonry.

25. When any memorial, or other document, shall be presented by any member of the Grand Lodge, either on behalf of himself or another, the member presenting it shall be responsible that such paper does not contain any improper matter, or any offensive or indecorous language.

26. No brother below the rank of a Past Grand Master shall assume the Grand Master's chair, though he be entitled in the absence of the Grand Master, to rule the Grand Lodge.

REGULATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GRAND LODGE
DURING THE TIME OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.

1. THE Grand Lodge being opened, the Regulations are to be read. The minutes of the last Regular Communication, and of any intervening Grand Lodge, are then to be put for confirmation, and all communications from the Grand Master, and Deputy Grand Master, and reports from the District Deputy Grand Masters and Committees, are there to be read and taken into consideration, and the other business regularly proceeded with.

2. All matters are to be decided by a majority of votes, each Lodge having three votes, each Past Master one vote, each officer of Grand Lodge (except the Grand Tyler) not otherwise entitled to a vote, shall have one vote by virtue of his office, and the Grand Master a casting vote in case of equality; unless the Lodge, for the sake of expedition, think proper to leave any particular subject to the determination of the Grand Master. The votes of the members are always to be signified by each holding up one of his hands, which uplifted hands the Grand Wardens or Deacons are to count, unless the number should be so unequal as to render counting unnecessary.

3. All members shall keep their seats, except the Grand Deacons, Grand Director of Ceremonies, and his assistant, and the Grand Stewards, who are allowed to move about, from place to place, in the discharge of their duties.

4. No brother shall speak twice to the same question, unless in explanation, or the mover in reply.

5. Every one who speaks shall rise, and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand Master, nor shall any brother presume to interrupt him, unless to address the Grand Master to order, or the Grand Master shall think fit to call him to order; but, after he has been set right, he may proceed if he observe due order and decorum.

6. If any member shall have been twice called to order for

transgressing these rules, and shall, nevertheless, be guilty of a third offense at the same meeting, the Grand Master shall peremptorily command him to leave the Lodge for that Communication.

7. Whoever shall be so unmasonic as to hiss at a brother, or what he has said, shall be, forthwith, solemnly excluded the Communication, and declared incapable of being a member of the Grand Lodge, until, at another time, he publicly own his fault, and grace be granted.

8. No motion on a new subject shall be made, nor any new matter entered upon after eleven o'clock at night.

OF GRAND MASTER.

1. THE Grand Master shall, according to ancient usage, be elected and installed at the Annual Communication. He is then to nominate such of his Grand Officers as it is his prerogative to appoint, and with the elective Grand Officers, they are to be thereupon installed or invested in ancient form.

2. No brother shall fill the office of Grand Master for more than two consecutive years, but he may be re-elected after the expiration of the following year.

3. Should the Grand Master die during his Grand Mastership, or be rendered incapable of discharging the duties of his office, (by sickness, absence, or otherwise,) the Deputy Grand Master, or, in his absence, the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, or in his absence, the Grand Wardens, shall assemble the Grand Lodge immediately, to record the event; which Grand Lodge shall appoint three of its members to invite the last preceding Grand Master to act until a new election take place; should he decline or be unable to act, then the last but one, and so on; if no former Grand Master be found to act, the Grand Lodge shall be summoned to elect a Grand Master.

4. The Grand Master, under sanction of the Grand Lodge, may by warrant appoint any brother of eminence and skill to represent the Grand Lodge in a sister Grand Lodge. He may also, with the concurrence of the Grand Lodge, constitute any distinguished brother, who may be regularly deputed from a sister Grand Lodge, a member of the Grand Lodge of Canada, with such rank as the Grand Lodge may deem to be appropriate.

5. The Grand Master has full authority to preside in any Lodge and to order any of his Grand Officers to attend him. His Deputy is to be placed on his right and the Master of the Lodge on his left hand. His Wardens are, also, to act as Wardens of that particular Lodge during his presence; but if the Grand Wardens be absent, then the Grand Master may command the

Wardens of the Lodge, or any Master Masons to act there as his Wardens, *pro tempore*.

6. The Grand Master may send his Grand Officers to visit any Lodge he may think proper.

7. Should the Grand Master be dissatisfied with the conduct of any of his Grand Officers, he may submit the cause of complaint to the Grand Lodge; and, should it appear to the majority of the brethren present that the complaint be well-founded, he may suspend or displace such Grand Officer. If displaced, another Officer must be elected or nominated, as previously provided, but no Grand Officer can be removed unless with the approbation of the Grand Lodge.

8. The Grand Master may summon any Lodge or brother to attend him, and to produce the warrant, books, papers, and accounts of such Lodge, or the certificate of such brother. If the summons be not complied with, or a sufficient reason given for non-compliance, such summons is to be repeated as a peremptory summons; and if such last summons be not attended to, such Lodge or brother may be suspended, and the proceeding notified to the Grand Lodge.

9. The Grand Master shall not be applied to on any business concerning Masons or masonry, but through the Grand Secretary, the Deputy Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Masters.

10. If the Grand Master should abuse his power, and render himself unworthy of the obedience of the Lodges, he shall be subjected to some new regulation, to be dictated by the occasion.

OF DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

1. This officer is to be elected at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and in order to secure a proper supervision of the affairs of masonry in both sections of the Province, he shall not be elected from that portion in which the Grand Master resides, and if present is to be immediately installed, according to ancient usage. He must have been Master of some regular Lodge. In the absence of the Grand Master, the Deputy possesses all his powers and privileges.

2. The Deputy Grand Master has full authority, in the absence of the Grand Master, to preside in any Lodge which he may visit with the District Deputy Grand Master on his right hand and the Master of the Lodge on his left hand. The Grand Wardens, if present, are to act as Wardens of that particular Lodge, during the Deputy Grand Master's continuance there; but, if the Grand Wardens be absent, then the Deputy Grand Master may command the Wardens of the Lodge, or any other Master Masons to act as his Wardens, *pro tempore*.

3. He may hear and determine any subjects of masonic complaint, or irregularity respecting Lodges or individual Masons, and may proceed to admonition, or to suspension, until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, according to the general laws of the craft. A minute of all such proceedings, stating the offense and the law applicable to it, together with his decision, is to be transmitted to the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary. When the case is of so flagrant a nature as, in the judgment of the Deputy Grand Master, to require the erasure of a Lodge, or the expulsion of a brother, he shall inform the Grand Master thereof through the Grand Secretary, and specially notify the same to the Grand Lodge with his opinion thereon.

4. The Deputy Grand Master has no power to expel a Mason, though, when satisfied that any brother has been unjustly or illegally suspended, removed, or excluded from any of his masonic functions or privileges, by a Lodge within his district, he may order him to be immediately restored, and may suspend, until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Lodge or brother who shall refuse to comply with such order.

5. The Deputy Grand Master may summon any Lodge or brother to attend him, and to produce the warrant, books, papers, and accounts of such Lodge, or the certificate of such brother. If the summons be not complied with nor a sufficient reason given for non-compliance, a peremptory summons shall be issued; and, in case of contumacy the Lodge or brother may be suspended, and the proceeding notified to the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary.

6. He has power to give or to refuse consent for the removal of a Lodge from town to town, or from one district into another, notifying the Grand Secretary for the information of the Grand Master.

OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

1. The District Deputy Grand Master, for each District, shall be nominated by the Lodges in that District and confirmed by the Grand Master at the Annual Communication in July, and, if present, regularly installed. He must be an installed or Past Master and a resident in the District for which he is appointed. This officer is invested with a rank and power, in his particular District, in the absence of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, similiar to those possessed by the Grand Master himself.

2. He may preside in every Lodge he visits within his District, with the Master of the Lodge on his right hand.

3. He may hear and determine any subject of masonic complaint, or irregularity respecting Lodges or individual Masons,

within his District, and may proceed to admonition or to suspension, until the decision of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, shall be made known thereon. A minute of all such proceedings, stating the offense and the law applicable to it, together with his decision, is to be transmitted to the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary, or to the Deputy Grand Master, and when the case is of so flagrant a nature as, in the judgment of the District Deputy Grand Master, to require the erasure of a Lodge, or the expulsion of a brother, he shall make a special report to the Grand Lodge, with his opinion thereon.

The District Deputy Grand Master has no power to expel a Mason, but when satisfied that any brother has been unjustly or illegally suspended, removed, or excluded from any of his masonic functions or privileges, by a Lodge within his District, he shall report the circumstances to the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master who may order him to be immediately restored, and may suspend until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Lodge or brother who shall refuse to comply with such order.

4. If the District Deputy Grand Master shall neglect to proceed on any case or business, which may be sent for his decision within a reasonable time, the application or complaint may be transmitted to the Grand Secretary. An appeal, in all cases, lies from the District Deputy Grand Master to the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

5. The District Deputy Grand Master may summon any Lodge or brother, within his District to attend him, and to produce the warrant, books, papers, and accounts of such Lodge, or the certificate of such brother. If the summons be not complied with nor a sufficient reason given for non-compliance, a peremptory summons shall be issued; and, in case of contumacy, the circumstances are to be reported to the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, who may suspend the Lodge or brother, as before provided.

6. He has power to give or refuse consent for the removal of a Lodge from town to town, within his District, but not from his District into another, or from another District into his own, without the sanction of the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

7. He is required to correspond with the Grand Lodge, and to transmit to the Grand Secretary, at least fourteen days prior to the Annual Communication, a circumstantial account, in writing, of his proceedings, and of the state of masonry within his District, together with a list of such Lodges as may have been constituted since his last return, and the fees due thereon to the Grand Lodge.

OF GRAND WARDENS.

1. The Grand Wardens shall be elected and invested at the Annual Communication.

2. When the actual Grand Wardens are in the Lodge no others can supply their places, but in their absence the senior Past Grand Wardens present shall act *pro tempore*. If no past Grand Warden be present, the Grand Master or presiding officer may direct any other members of Grand Lodge to act as Grand Wardens for that occasion.

3. The Grand Wardens, whenever commanded, are to attend the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master; and while he presides in any particular Lodge, are to act there as his Wardens.

OF GRAND CHAPLAIN.

The Grand Chaplain shall be elected and invested at the Annual Communication, and shall attend all Communications and other meetings of the Grand Lodge, and there offer up solemn prayer suitable to the occasion, as established by the usage of the fraternity.

OF GRAND TREASURER.

1. The Grand Treasurer shall be elected and invested at the Annual Communication.

2. The Grand Treasurer shall give a joint bond, with two sureties, to the Grand Master and such other trustees as the Grand Lodge shall nominate, in such penalty and with such conditions as may be deemed expedient for the due performance of his trust.

3. To the Grand Treasurer shall be committed all moneys raised for the general charity, or for any other public use of the Order, of which he shall keep an account in a book, specifying the respective uses for which the several sums are intended, and shall disburse the same in such manner as the Grand Lodge shall direct, and produce his accounts of receipts and disbursements before every Regular Communication; and these accounts shall be annually audited by a committee, who shall make their report thereon at the Annual Communication in July.

OF GRAND REGISTRAR.

1. The Grand Registrar shall be elected and invested at the Annual Communication.

2. He shall have the custody of the seals of the Grand Lodge, and shall affix, or may authorize the Grand Secretary to affix, the

same to all patents, warrants, certificates, and other documents issued by the authority of the Grand Lodge, as well as such as the Grand Master in conformity with the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge may direct.

3. He is to superintend the records of the Grand Lodge, and to take care that the several documents issued be in due form.

4. The Grand Master may, by a written document, direct the Grand Registrar to take charge of any District for which there is not a District Deputy Grand Master, and he shall thereby be empowered to perform all the functions of a District Deputy Grand Master.

OF GRAND SECRETARY.

1. The Grand Secretary shall be elected and invested at the Annual Communication.

2. The Grand Secretary is to sign and certify all instruments from the Grand Lodge, under seal or otherwise; to issue summonses for all meetings of the Grand Lodge and its committees, and to attend and take minutes of their proceedings; to receive the returns from the several Lodges and enter them in the books of the Grand Lodge, and duly report the same to each Communication of the Grand Lodge; to transmit to all the Lodges the accounts of the proceedings of every Communication or other meeting of Grand Lodge, and all such other papers and documents as may be ordered either by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Lodge; to notify all Lodges, quarterly, of all expelled, suspended, or excluded members, and all rejected candidates; to furnish the District Deputy Grand Masters with all proper documents and information that they may require; to receive all petitions, memorials, &c., and to lay them before the Grand Master or other proper authority; to attend the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, and to take to him any books and papers he may direct; to conduct the correspondence of the Grand Lodge, and generally to do all such things as heretofore have been done or ought to have been done by a Grand Secretary.

OF GRAND DEACONS.

1. The Grand Deacons are to be appointed by the Grand Master on the day of his installation.

2. If the Grand Deacons be absent, the Grand Master or presiding officer may appoint any members of Grand Lodge to officiate *pro tempore*.

OF GRAND SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS, GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES, ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY, ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES, GRAND SWORD BEARER, GRAND ORGANIST, ASSISTANT GRAND ORGANIST, GRAND PURSUIVANT, GRAND STEWARDS, GRAND STANDARD BEARERS AND GRAND TYLER.

1. The Grand Superintendent of Works, Director of Ceremonies, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Sword Bearer, Organist, Assistant Organist, Pursuivant, Stewards and Standard Bearers, are to be appointed annually by the Grand Master on the day of his installation. They are to attend all Communications and other meetings of the Grand Lodge.

2. The Grand Superintendent of Works ought to be a brother well skilled in the science of geometry and architecture. He is to advise with the proper committees on all plans of buildings or edifices undertaken by the Grand Lodge, and furnish plans and estimates for the same; he is to superintend their construction, and see that they are conformable to the plans approved by the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge; he is to suggest improvements, where necessary, in all the edifices of the Grand Lodge, and, on the first meeting in every year, report on the state of repair or dilapidation of such edifices; and make such further reports, from time to time, as he may deem expedient.

3. The Grand Director of Ceremonies, in addition to his other duties, has the care of the regalia, clothing, insignia and jewels belonging to the Grand Lodge.

4. The Grand Pursuivant is to preside over the Masters and Past Masters nominated to attend within the porch of the Grand Lodge. He is, at every meeting of the Grand Lodge, to preserve order in the porch, and with the assistance of the brethren nominated for attendance there, to see that none except those who are qualified, and who have their proper clothing and jewels, and have signed their names to the accustomed papers, and are in all respects entitled to admission, be admitted.

5. Eight Grand Stewards shall be annually appointed for the regulation of the Grand Festival, under the direction of the Grand Master. They shall also assist in conducting the arrangements made for the Communications and other meetings of the Grand Lodge.

6. Grand Standard Bearers may be appointed by the Grand Master, as the occasion may require. They must be Master Masons, and are to carry the standards of the Grand Lodge and Grand Master on all Grand Ceremonies. They are not, however, by their appointment, members of the Grand Lodge, nor are they to wear the clothing of a Grand Officer.

Any Grand Officer entitled to have a standard, may, whenever it shall be necessary, appoint a Standard Bearer, who must be a Master Mason.

7. The Grand Tyler is to be elected by an open vote at the Annual Communication.

The Grand Tyler is to attend all meetings of the Grand Lodge, assist in the arrangements, and see that none be admitted but those properly entitled.

If any Grand Tyler shall, without the special license of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, attend at any masonic funeral or other public procession, or shall officiate or attend at any meeting or pretended Lodge of Masons not being regularly constituted, and not acknowledging the authority of the Grand Master, or not conforming to the laws of Grand Lodge, he shall thereby be rendered incapable of ever after being a Tyler or attendant on a Lodge, and be excluded the benefit of the general charity.

OF PRIVATE LODGES.

1. The officers of a Lodge are : the Master and his two Wardens, with their assistants, the two Deacons, Inner Guard, and Tyler ; to which, for the better regulation of the private concerns of the Lodge, are to be added a Treasurer and Secretary ; and other officers, viz., a Chaplain, Director of Ceremonies, and Stewards may also be added, and shall hold office until their successors shall have been regularly elected or appointed.

2. Every Lodge shall annually elect its Master, Wardens, Chaplain, Treasurer and Secretary, by ballot, such Master having been regularly elected, and having served as Warden of a warranted Lodge for one year ; and, at the next meeting after his election, when the minutes are confirmed, he shall be duly installed in the chair according to ancient usage. He shall then appoint the Deacons, Inner Guard, Director of Ceremonies and Stewards ; also all committees for conducting the business of the Lodge ; and shall invest all the elective and appointed officers. Tylers are to be chosen by an open vote of the Lodge.

3. Every Lodge has the power of framing by-laws for its own government, provided they are not contrary to or inconsistent with the general regulations of the Grand Lodge. The by-laws must be submitted to the District Deputy Grand Master for the approbation of the Grand Master, and when approved, a fair copy must be sent to the Grand Secretary, and also to the District Deputy Grand Master ; and when any alteration shall be made, such alteration must, in like manner, be submitted, and no law or alteration will be valid until so submitted and approved.

The by-laws of the Lodge shall be fairly written in a book, and shall be delivered to the Master on the day of his installation, when he shall solemnly pledge himself to observe and enforce them during his mastership. Every brother shall also sign them when he becomes a member of the Lodge, as a declaration of his submission to them; and every member shall at all reasonable times have access to such by-laws, which should be printed for the use of the Lodge and delivered to the members.

4. The Master of every Lodge is to cause the ancient charges, the regulations of Grand Lodge relating to private Lodges, and the by-laws of his Lodge, to be read in open Lodge once in every year.

5. The Master is responsible for seeing that a book or books be kept, in which the Secretary shall enter the names of its members and of all persons initiated or admitted therein, with the dates of their proposal, admission, or initiation, passing and raising; and also their ages, as nearly as possible, at that time, and their titles, professions or trades; together with such transactions of the Lodge as are proper to be written.

6. The regular day of meeting of the Lodge shall be specified in the by-laws.

7. A Lodge of Emergency may at any time be called by summons, giving seven clear days' notice, by the authority of the Master, or in his absence, of the Senior Warden, or in his absence, of the Junior Warden; but on no pretense without such authority. The particular reason for calling the Lodge of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and afterwards recorded on the minutes; and no business but that so expressed shall be entered upon at such meeting.

8. Every Lodge shall keep a book, in which each member attending, at each meeting, shall sign his name before entering the Lodge; and a similar book, or a portion of the same book, for visitors, who are in like manner to enter their names, masonic rank, and the name of their mother Lodge and the Lodge hailing from.

9. The precedency of Lodges is derived from the number of their warrant of constitution, as recorded in the books of the Grand Lodge. No Lodge shall be acknowledged, nor its officers admitted into the Grand Lodge, nor any of its members entitled to partake of the general charity or other masonic privilege, unless it has been regularly constituted and registered.

10. No Lodge can make a Mason, or admit a member, without strictly complying with all the regulations enacted for the government of the craft on these occasions.

11. No Lodge shall, on any pretense, make more than five new brothers in one day, unless by dispensation; nor shall a Lodge be

permitted to give more than one degree to a brother on the same day; nor shall a higher degree in Masonry be conferred on any brother at a less interval than one month from his receiving a previous degree, nor until he has passed an examination in open Lodge in that degree.

12. No Lodge shall make a Mason for a less consideration than £3 15s., nor on any pretense remit or defer the payment of any part of this sum. The member who proposes any candidate must be responsible to the Lodge for all the fees payable on account of his initiation.

13. Every Lodge must receive as a member, without further proposition or ballot, any brother initiated therein, provided such brother express his wish to that effect on the day of his initiation, as no Lodge should introduce into Masonry a person whom the brethren might consider unfit to be a member of their own Lodge.

14. Every Lodge must be particularly careful in registering the names of the brethren initiated therein, and also in making the returns of its members, as no person is regularly entitled to partake of the general charity unless his name be duly registered, and he shall have been at least two years a contributing member of a Lodge.

15. To prevent injury to individuals, by their being excluded the privileges of Masonry, through the neglect of their Lodges in not registering their names,—any brother so circumstanced, on producing sufficient proof that he has paid the full fees to his Lodge, shall be capable of enjoying the privileges of the craft; but the offending Lodge shall be reported to the Grand Lodge, and rigorously proceeded against for neglecting to make the proper return, and detaining moneys which are the property of the Grand Lodge, and which had been paid to the Lodge for specific appropriation.

16. The Master is to see that all moneys received or paid on account of the Lodge, be entered in proper books by the Secretary and Treasurer; and the account of fees or dues received on account of, and payable to the Grand Lodge, kept separate and distinct from the moneys belonging to the private fund of the Lodge. The accounts of the Lodge shall be audited at least once in every year, by a committee appointed by the Lodge.

17. Each Lodge shall procure for every brother initiated therein, a Grand Lodge certificate, to be paid for by the Lodge.

18. No Lodge, or officer or member of a Lodge, shall, under any circumstances, give a certificate or recommendation to enable a Mason to proceed from Lodge to Lodge as a pauper, or in an itinerant manner to apply to Lodges for relief.

19. No Lodge shall form any public masonic procession without a license from the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or

District Deputy Grand Master, except in case of funerals, which shall be immediately reported to the Grand Secretary and the District Deputy Grand Master.

20. All Lodges are particularly bound to observe the same usages and customs; every deviation, therefore, from the established mode of working, is highly improper, and cannot be justified or countenanced. In order to preserve this uniformity, and to cultivate a good understanding among Freemasons, some members of every Lodge should be deputed to visit the other Lodges as often as may be convenient.

21. No brother can be a member of more than one Lodge at the same time; but this law is not to take effect until after the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in 1857.

22. Lodges have the power of electing any brother an honorary member of their Lodge by a vote of the Lodge.

23. If any brother behave in such a manner as to disturb the harmony of the Lodge, and be thrice formally admonished by the Master, and persist in his irregular conduct, he shall be punished according to the by-laws of that particular Lodge, or the case may be reported to higher masonic authority.

24. Every Lodge has the power of excluding a member for gross, immoral or infamous conduct, or for non-payment of dues; but no Lodge shall exclude any member without giving him due notice of the charge preferred or complaint made against him, and of the time appointed for its consideration. He shall be at liberty to be present, and be afforded every opportunity of defending himself; when the case has been investigated he shall withdraw, and the votes of the brethren shall be given openly. The name of every brother excluded, together with the cause of his exclusion, shall be sent to the Grand Secretary, and also to the District Deputy Grand Master.*

25. A member excluded for non-payment of dues, may be immediately restored by the Lodge on payment being satisfactorily made, notice thereof being given to the Grand Secretary and District Deputy Grand Master of the District.

26. The jewels and furniture of every Lodge belong to, and are the property of, the Master, Wardens and brethren of such Lodge; nor shall any jewel be worn in a Lodge other than those specified for the officers, except such honorary or other jewel as shall appertain to, or be consistent with, those degrees which are recognized and acknowledged by and under the control of the Grand Lodge.

27. All minutes, lists and books of account belonging to a Lodge,

* The term *expelled* is used only when a brother is removed from the craft by the Grand Lodge. Upon the removal of a brother from a private Lodge, the term *excluded* only is applicable.

must be produced by the Master when he shall be so required by competent authority.

28. The majority of the members of a Lodge, when congregated, have the privilege of giving instructions to their Master, Past Masters and Wardens, before the meeting of the Grand Lodge; because such officers are their representatives, and are supposed to speak their sentiments.

29. Each Lodge shall annually make a return to the Grand Secretary of the Masters, Wardens and Past Masters of the Lodge, and including all members who claim to be entitled to attend in a Grand Lodge as Past Masters, as having served the office of Master in some other Lodge, specifying the Lodge in which each of such Past Masters has served the office of Master; and no brother shall be permitted to attend in Grand Lodge unless his name shall appear in some such return.

30. Each Lodge shall make its returns and payments regularly to the Grand Secretary; and in case of neglect for one whole year to make such returns and payments, or if the Lodge do not meet during that period, it is liable to be erased. The Master, Past Masters and Wardens of a Lodge which shall have neglected for more than one year to make its returns or its payments to the Grand Lodge, are thereby disqualified from attending the Grand Lodge, or sitting upon any committee, until those returns and payments shall have been completed.

31. By a vote of the Lodge, the fees of any member in indigent circumstances may be remitted, a representation thereof being made to Grand Lodge.

32. If a Lodge be dissolved, the warrant shall be delivered up to the Grand Master.

33. If the warrant of constitution of a Lodge be sold, or procured by any other means than through the regular channel of petition to the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, such warrant shall be forfeited, and the Lodge erased.

34. As every warranted Lodge is a constituent part of the Grand Lodge, in which assembly all the power of the fraternity resides, it is clear that no other authority can destroy the power granted by a warrant; if, therefore, the majority of any Lodge should determine to quit the Lodge, the constitution or power of assembling remains with the rest of the members. If all the members of a Lodge withdraw themselves, the warrant ceases and becomes extinct, and all the authority thereby granted or enjoyed reverts to the Grand Master.

35. No Lodge shall be erased, or its warrant declared forfeited, until the Master or officers shall have been warned, in writing, of

their offense, and shall have been summoned to answer to the complaint made against them.

36. If any Lodge, or its Master and Wardens, be summoned to attend, or to produce its warrant, books, papers or accounts, to the Grand Master or his Deputy, or the District Deputy Grand Master, or any committee authorized by the Grand Lodge, and do not comply, or give sufficient reason for non-compliance, a peremptory summons shall be issued; and in case of contumacy, such Lodge may be suspended, and the proceeding notified to the Grand Lodge.

37. A Lodge offending against any law or regulation of the craft, to the breach of which no specific penalty is attached, shall, at the discretion of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or District Deputy Grand Master, be subject to admonition or suspension, as before provided.

OF THE MASTERS AND WARDENS OF LODGES.

1. All preferment among Masons shall be grounded upon real worth and personal merit only; therefore no brother shall be elected Master of a Lodge, or appointed to any office therein, merely on account of seniority or rank. No Master shall assume the Master's chair until he shall have been regularly installed, though he may, in the interim, rule the Lodge. It is necessary, previously to the installation of the Master, that the minutes of the preceding meeting of the Lodge should be read and confirmed, so far, at least, as to the election of the Master, after which the usual ceremonies of installation are to be performed. Should the minutes of the election of Master not be confirmed, then a summons must be issued for the following regular meeting of the Lodge, setting forth that the brethren were again to proceed to elect a Master; and on the confirmation of the minutes of that election on the following ordinary meeting of the Lodge, the installation of Master will follow.

2. Every Master, when placed in the chair, shall solemnly pledge himself to observe all the old-established usages and customs, and to preserve the landmarks of the Order, and most strictly to enforce them within his own Lodge.

3. No brother shall continue in the office of Master for more than two years in succession, unless by a dispensation, which may be granted by the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master in cases of real necessity; but he may be again elected after he has been out of that office one year.

4. The Master and Wardens of a Lodge are enjoined to visit other Lodges as often as they conveniently can, in order that the same usages and customs may be observed throughout the craft, and a good understanding be thereby cultivated among Freemasons.

5. The Master is responsible for the due observance of the laws relating to private Lodges, and is bound to produce all books, minutes and accounts, when required by any lawful authority.

6. If the Master should die, be removed, or be incapable of discharging the duties of his office, the Senior Warden, and in the absence of the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, shall act as Master, in summoning the Lodge until the next election of officers.

In the Master's absence, the immediate Past Master, or, if he be absent, the senior Past Master of the Lodge present, shall take the chair. If no Past Master of the Lodge be present, then the Senior Warden, or in his absence, the Junior Warden, may rule the Lodge, but cannot confer degrees.

A Past Master of any other Lodge present at a meeting of a Lodge, may be invited to officiate as Master, and may confer degrees or perform any other ceremony.

7. The Master and Wardens of every Lodge, when summoned so to do, shall attend the Grand Master or his Deputy, or the District Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Lodge, or any committee authorized by the Grand Lodge, and produce the warrant, minutes and books of the Lodge, under pain of suspension and being reported to the next Grand Lodge.

8. The Wardens or officers of a Lodge cannot resign their offices, nor can they be removed, unless for a cause which appears to the Lodge to be sufficient; but the Master, if he be dissatisfied with the conduct of any of his officers, may lay the cause of complaint before the Lodge; and if it shall appear to the majority of the brethren present that the complaint be well founded, he shall have power to displace such officer, and another must be elected or appointed in his place.

OF TYLERS.

1. The Tyler is chosen by the members of the Lodge, and may at any time be removed, for cause deemed sufficient by a majority of the brethren present at a regular meeting of the Lodge.

2. He is to see that every member and visitor has signed his name to the attendance book before entering the Lodge, and that he is provided with proper clothing.

3. If any Tyler, without the license of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or a District Deputy Grand Master, shall attend at any masonic procession except a masonic funeral, or shall officiate or attend at any meeting or pretended Lodge of Masons, not being regularly constituted and not acknowledging the authority of the Grand Master, or not conforming to the laws of the Grand Lodge, he shall thereby be rendered incapable of ever after being a

Tyler or attendant on a Lodge, and shall be excluded the benefit of the general charity.

OF MEMBERS AND THEIR DUTY.

1. No brother shall be admitted a member of a Lodge, unless the laws of the craft, relating to the proposing and admitting of candidates, shall have been strictly complied with. (See proposing members.)

2. A brother who has been concerned in making Masons clandestinely, or at a Lodge which is not a regular Lodge, or for small and unworthy considerations, or who may assist in forming a new Lodge without the Grand Master's authority, shall not be admitted as a member, nor even as a visitor, into any regular Lodge, nor partake of the general charity or other masonic privilege, till he make due submission, and obtain grace.

3. No brother shall presume to print or publish, or cause to be printed or published, the proceedings of any Lodge, or any part thereof, or the names of the persons present at such Lodge, without the direction of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or District Deputy Grand Master, under pain of being expelled from the order.

This law is not to extend to the writing, printing, or publishing of any notice or summons issued to the members of a Lodge, by the authority of the Master, or the proceedings of any festival or public meeting at which persons not Masons are permitted to be present.

4. Any brother who shall violate the secrecy of the ballot by stating how he voted on any question, or by endeavouring to ascertain how a brother voted, or if he should be aware and mention it to another brother, shall render himself liable to severe masonic censure, and for a second offense to expulsion.

5. The majority of the members present at any Lodge duly summoned, have an undoubted right to regulate their own proceedings, provided that they are consistent with the general laws and regulations of the craft; no member, therefore, shall be permitted to enter in the minute book of his Lodge a protest against any resolution or proceeding which may have taken place, unless it shall appear to him to be contrary to the laws and usages of the craft, and for the purpose of complaining or appealing to a higher masonic authority.

6. If any member shall be excluded from his Lodge, or shall withdraw himself from it, without having complied with its by-laws, or with the general regulations of the craft, he shall not be eligible for admission to any other Lodge, until that Lodge shall have

been made acquainted with his former neglect, so that the brethren may be enabled to exercise their discretion as to his admission. Whenever a member of any Lodge shall resign, or shall be excluded, or whenever, at a future time, he may require it, he shall be furnished with a certificate, stating the circumstances under which he left the Lodge; and such certificate is to be produced to any other Lodge of which he is proposed to be admitted a member, previous to the ballot being taken.

7. All differences between or complaints of members, that cannot be accommodated privately, or in some regular Lodge, shall be reduced into writing and delivered to the Grand Secretary, who shall lay them before the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Master, or the committee appointed by the Grand Lodge. When all parties shall have been summoned to attend thereon, and the case shall have been investigated, such order and adjudication may be made as shall be authorized by the laws and regulations of Masonry.

8. A Mason offending against any law or regulation of the craft, to the breach of which no specific penalty is attached, shall, at the discretion of the Grand Lodge, or any of its delegated authorities, be subject to admonition or suspension, or, by the Grand Lodge, only, to expulsion.

OF PROPOSING MEMBERS.

Great discredit and injury having been brought upon our ancient and honorable fraternity from admitting members, and receiving candidates, without due notice being given, or inquiry made into their characters and qualifications; and, also, from the passing and raising of Masons without due instructions in the respective degrees, it is determined, that, in future, a violation or neglect of any of the following laws shall subject the Lodge offending to erasure, because no emergency can be allowed as a justification.*

1. No brother shall be admitted a member of a Lodge without a regular proposition in open Lodge, nor until his name, occupation, and place of abode, as well as the name and number of the Lodge of which he is or was last a member, or in which he was initiated, shall have been sent to all the members in the summons for the next stated Lodge meeting; and the decision of the brethren ascertained by ballot. When a Lodge has ceased to meet, any former member thereof shall be eligible to be proposed and admitted a member of another Lodge, on producing a certificate from the Grand Secretary, stating the fact, and specifying whether the brother has been registered and his dues paid.

2. No person shall be made a Mason unless he has resided one

* A dispensation cannot, in any case, be granted.

year in the district of the Lodge to which he seeks admission, or produces a certificate from a Lodge in the place of his previous residence, nor until he has been properly proposed at one regular meeting of the Lodge, and a committee has been appointed by the Worshipful Master to make the necessary inquiries into the character of the candidate, and his name, age, and addition or profession, and place of abode, shall have been sent to all the members in the summons for the next regular meeting, when, after the committee have reported to the Lodge, he must be balloted for, and, if approved, he may be initiated into the first degree of Masonry.

3. In cases of emergency, the following alteration, as to the mode of proposing a candidate, is allowed. Any two members of a Lodge may transmit, in writing, to the Master, the name, etc., of any candidate whom they wish to propose, and the circumstances which cause the emergency; and the Master, if the emergency be proper, shall notify the said recommendation to every member of his Lodge, stating the name, age, addition or profession, and place of abode, of the candidate; and may appoint a committee as above provided, and, at the same time, summon a Lodge to meet at a period of not less than seven clear days from the issuing of the summons, for the purpose of balloting for the candidate and if the candidate be then approved, he may be initiated into the first degree of Masonry. The Master shall, previous to the ballot being taken, cause the said proposition, and the emergency stated, to be recorded in the minute-book of the Lodge.

4. No man shall be made a Mason in any Lodge, under the age of twenty-one years, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, nor shall any dispensation suspend the operations of the law requiring seven days notice, or committee of inquiry, or the ballot. Every candidate must be free-born, and his own master, and, at the time of initiation, be known to be in reputable circumstances. He should be a lover of the liberal arts and sciences, and have made some progress in one or other of them; and he must, previous to his initiation, subscribe his name in full length, to a declaration of the following import,* viz.:

"To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, officers and members of the Lodge of——, No.—

"I, ———, being free by birth, and of the full age of twenty-one years, do declare, that unbiassed by the improper solicitation of friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary or other unworthy motive, I freely and voluntarily offer myself a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry; that I am prompted by a favorable

* Any individual who cannot write is consequently ineligible to be admitted into the Order.

opinion conceived of the institution, and a desire of knowledge; and that I will cheerfully conform to all the ancient usages and established customs of the Order.

"Witness my hand, this — day of —.

"Witness, — —."

NOTE.—A petition having been received cannot be withdrawn.

5. No person can be made a Mason in, or admitted a member of a Lodge, if on the ballot two black balls appear against him. Some Lodges wish for no such indulgence, but require the unanimous consent of the members present; the by-laws of each Lodge must, therefore, guide them in this respect; but if there be two black balls, such person cannot on any pretense, be admitted.

6. Every candidate shall, on his initiation, solemnly promise to submit to the Constitution, and to conform to all the usages and regulations of the craft, intimated to him in time and place convenient; and if intending to join the Lodge he must sign the by-laws of the Lodge on his initiation.

7. No rejected candidate can be balloted for in the same, or any other Lodge, within six months of the time of his rejection.

OF THE LODGE SEAL.

Every private Lodge shall have a masonic seal, to be affixed to all documents proper to be issued.

An impression of the seal is to be sent to the Grand Secretary, and, also to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the District Deputy Grand Master; and whenever changed, an impression of the new seal shall, in like manner, be transmitted.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

1. No general Lodge of instruction shall be holden unless under the sanction of a regular warranted Lodge, or by the special license and authority of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or a District Deputy Grand Master. The Lodge giving its sanction, and the brethren to whom such license is granted, shall be answerable for the proceedings of such Lodge of instruction and responsible that the mode of working there adopted has received the sanction of the Grand Lodge.

Notice of the times and places of meeting of the Lodge of instruction shall be given to the Grand Secretary.

2. Lodges of instruction shall keep a minute of all brethren present at each meeting, and of brethren appointed to hold office, and such minutes shall be produced when called for by the Grand

Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or District Deputy Grand Master, or the Lodge granting the sanction.

3. If a Lodge which has given its sanction for a Lodge of instruction being held under its warrant shall see fit, it may at any regular meeting withdraw that sanction by a resolution of the Lodge, to be communicated to the Lodge of instruction. Provided notice of the intention to withdraw the sanction be inserted in the summons for that meeting.

OF VISITORS.

1. No visitor shall be admitted into a Lodge, unless he be personally known or recommended, or well vouched for, and after due examination by one or more of the brethren present, and shall have entered his name, his masonic rank, the name of his mother Lodge and the Lodge hailing from, in a book to be kept by every Lodge for the purpose; and during his continuance in the Lodge he must be subject to the by-laws of the Lodge. The Master of the Lodge is particularly bound to enforce these regulations.

2. No brother residing in the Province, and not affiliating with some Lodge shall be entitled to the benefit of the Benevolent fund for himself or family, to masonic burial, nor to take part in any masonic ceremony, public or private, nor entitled to any masonic privilege whatever, nor can he be permitted to visit any one Lodge in the town or place where he resides more than once during his secession from the craft.

The attention of the brethren is particularly called to the exercise of the greatest caution in vouching for brethren.

OF CERTIFICATES.

1. Every brother shall be entitled to a Grand Lodge certificate, immediately upon his being registered in the books of the Grand Lodge, for which certificate the Lodge shall pay ten shillings. Each Lodge, therefore, when it makes a return of the Masons whom it has initiated, shall, in addition to the register fee, make a remittance of the money for the certificate.

2. Every brother to whom a Grand Lodge certificate is granted must sign his name in the margin thereof, or it will not be valid. This should be done in the presence of the Worshipful Master, or Secretary of the Lodge.

3. No brother shall obtain a Grand Lodge certificate if he shall have been admitted to more than one degree of Masonry on the same day, or at a shorter interval than one month from his receiving a previous degree, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master.

4. Every return, or other document upon which a Grand Lodge certificate is to be issued, must specify not only the date of initiation, but also the days on which the brother was advanced to the second and third degrees.

5. All applications for Grand Lodge certificates must be made to the Grand Secretary; and if the name of the brother wishing for the certificate has not previously been registered, the money payable on registration must be transmitted at the same time; as no certificate can, on any account, be issued, until such money has been paid.

6. No Lodge shall grant a private Lodge certificate to a brother, except for the purpose of enabling him to obtain a Grand Lodge certificate, (in which case such certificate shall be specifically addressed to the Grand Secretary); and except, also, such certificates as may be required by the laws of the Grand Lodge, or called for by any of its committees, or issued to a member on retirement or exclusion from a Lodge for the purpose of evidence of standing. Nor shall a Lodge under any pretense, make a charge for a private Lodge certificate.

OF PUBLIC PROCESSIONS.

1. No public procession shall, on any pretense, be allowed, without the license of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or District Deputy Grand Master, except a masonic funeral, the urgency of which will not admit of the delay necessary to communicate with the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Master. Such proceeding shall be immediately reported by the Master of the Lodge to the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary, or to the Deputy Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master.

2. If any brother shall attend as a Mason, clothed in any of the jewels or badges of the craft, at any public procession, except a masonic funeral, without the permission of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or District Deputy Grand Master, he shall be rendered incapable of ever after being an officer of a Lodge, and also be excluded the benefit of the general charity. And if any Lodge shall so offend, it shall stand suspended until the Grand Lodge shall determine thereon.

• OF APPEAL.

1. As the Grand Lodge, when congregated, is a representation of every individual member of the fraternity, it necessarily possesses a supreme superintending authority, and the power of finally deciding on every case which concerns the interest of the craft.

Any Lodge or brother, therefore, who may feel aggrieved by the decision of any other masonic authority or jurisdiction, may appeal to the Grand Lodge against such decision. The appeal must be made in writing, specifying the particular grievance complained of, and be transmitted to the Grand Secretary. A notice and copy of the appeal must also be sent by the appellant to the party against whose decision the appeal is made.

2. All appeals must be made in proper and respectful language; no others will be received.

FEEES.

The following shall be the fees payable to the Grand Lodge :

For granting a new warrant, seven pounds ten shillings.

For a dispensation for a new Lodge, five pounds.

For a warrant of confirmation, two pounds ten shillings.

For a new warrant, in case of loss by fire or otherwise properly certified, two pounds ten shillings.

For a dispensation to initiate a candidate under twenty-one years of age, five pounds.

For a dispensation to confer any degree in less time than provided by the constitution, five pounds.

For a dispensation to initiate more than five Masons in a day, for each one beyond that number, one pound.

For a dispensation for any public procession, five shillings.

For a Grand Lodge certificate, ten shillings, and two shillings and sixpence registration fee.

For every person initiated into a Lodge, ten shillings for a Grand Lodge certificate, and five shillings registration fee.

For every E. A. or F. C. joining from without the jurisdiction, seven shillings and sixpence.

For every M. M. joining from without the jurisdiction, five shillings.

Every member of each Lodge shall pay toward the fund for Grand Lodge purposes, two shillings and sixpence per annum.

ALLOWANCES TO REPRESENTATIVES.

1. One representative from each Lodge shall be entitled to receive his actual travelling expenses, at the rates established by the proprietors of public conveyances which he shall take in coming directly from his Lodge to the place of meeting and returning thereto, as charged by said proprietors at the time; and also, for each day's attendance, ten shillings. But though he represent more than one

Lodge, he shall receive pay only as for one Lodge; nor shall he receive more than the aggregate dues of the Lodge or Lodges he shall represent.

2. Grand Officers shall be entitled to the like compensation, from the funds of the Grand Lodge.

3. Absence of a Grand Officer or representative, before the close of the Communication, from any cause except sickness of or calamity to himself or his family, shall forfeit all claim to payment or compensation under the two next preceding sections.

These regulations to remain in abeyance until declared operative by a vote of Grand Lodge.

OF REGALIA.

1. The following masonic clothing and insignia shall be worn by the craft; and no brother shall, on any pretense, be admitted into the Grand Lodge, or any subordinate Lodge, without his proper clothing.

2. No honorary or other jewel or emblem shall be worn in the Grand Lodge, or any subordinate Lodge, which shall not appertain to or be consistent with those degrees which are recognized and acknowledged by the Grand Lodge.

JEWELS.

The Grand Master: The compasses extended to 45° , with the segment of a circle at the points and a gold plate included, on which is to be represented an eye irradiated within a triangle also irradiated.

Past Grand Masters: A similar jewel, without the gold plate.

Deputy Grand Master: The compasses and square united, with a five pointed star in the centre.

Past Deputy Grand Master: The compasses and square only.

District Deputy Grand Master: The compasses and square united, with a five pointed star in the centre, the whole to be placed within a circle on which the name of the District is to be engraved.

Past District Deputy Grand Masters: The same, omitting the five pointed star in the centre.

Senior Grand Warden: The level.

Junior Grand Warden: The plumb.

Grand Chaplain: A book, with a triangle.

Grand Treasurer: A chased key.

Grand Registrar: A scroll.

Grand Secretary : Cross pens, with a tie.

Grand Deacons : Dove and olive branch.

Grand Superintendent of Works : A semicircle protractor.

Grand Director of Ceremonies : Cross rods.

Assistant do. do. do.

Grand Sword Bearer : Cross swords.

Grand Organist : A lyre.

Grand Pursuivant : Arms of the Grand Lodge, with rod and sword crossed.

The jewels of the Grand Chaplain, Treasurer, Registrar, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Superintendent of Works, Director of Ceremonies, Sword Bearer, Organist, and Pursuivant, are to be within a circle with an embossed wreath composed of a sprig of acacia and an ear of corn ; and of the Junior Grand Deacon, Assistant Grand Secretary, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, and Assistant Grand Organist, to be similar to those of their senior and superior officers, the wreath on the band being omitted.

The jewel of a Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge is : A cornucopia between the legs of a pair of compasses extended upon an irradiated gold plate, within a circle, on which is engraven, "Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada."

Grand Tyler : The sword in a circle, on which is engraven, "Grand Lodge of Canada, Grand Tyler."

All the above jewels to be gold or gilt.

Masters of Lodges : The square.

Past Masters : The square, and the diagram of the 47th prop. 1st b. of Euclid engraven on a silver plate pendant within it.

Senior Warden : The level.

Junior Warden : The plumb.

Treasurer : The key.

Secretary : The cross pens.

Deacons : The dove.

Inner Guard : Cross swords.

Tyler : The sword.

All the above jewels to be of silver.

COLLARS.

Of Lodges : To be light blue ribbon, four inches broad. If silver chain be used, it must be placed over the light blue ribbon.

Of the Grand Lodge : To be of Garter blue ribbon, four inches broad, and bound with gold lace.

The Grand Stewards of the year to wear collars of crimson, four inches broad, bound with silver lace.

Past Grand Officers to wear the collars of their late offices, but without the pendant jewel; a similar but smaller jewel, in enamel, being worn on the breast.

In the Grand Lodge, and on all occasions where the Grand Officers appear in their official capacities, they shall wear the following regalia :

Grand Master : Chain over blue collar, gauntlets and apron, all bound and embroidered, and jewel.

Deputy Grand Master : Chain over blue collar, gauntlets and apron, all bound and embroidered, with jewel.

District Deputy Grand Master : Blue collar, gauntlets and apron, all bound and embroidered, with jewel.

Senior and Junior Wardens, Chaplain, Treasurer, Registrar and Secretary : Blue collar, gauntlets and apron, all bound, and jewel.

All other Grand Officers : Blue collar and apron, all bound, and jewel.

APRONS.

Entered Apprentice : A plain white lamb skin, from fourteen to sixteen inches wide, twelve to fourteen inches deep, square at bottom, and without ornament ; white strings.

Fellow Craft : A plain white lamb skin, similar to that of the Entered Apprentice, with the addition only of two sky blue rosettes at the bottom.

Master Mason : The same, with sky blue lining and edging one and a half inch deep, and an additional rosette on the fall or flap, and silver tassels. No other color or ornament shall be allowed, except to officers and past officers of Lodges, who may have the emblems of their offices in silver or white in the centre of the apron.

The Masters and Past Masters of Lodges to wear, in lieu and in the place of the three rosettes on the Master's apron, perpendicular lines upon horizontal lines, thereby forming three several sets of two right angles ; the length of the horizontal lines to be two inches and a half each, and of the perpendicular lines one inch. These emblems to be of ribbon, half an inch broad, and of the same color as the lining and edging of the apron, or of silver. If Grand Officers, similar emblems of garter blue or gold.

Grand Stewards, present and past : Aprons of the same dimensions,

lined with crimson edging three and a half inches, bound with silver, and silver tassels.

Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge, present and past: Aprons of the same dimensions, lined with garter blue edging three and a half inches bound with gold, and gold tassels, with the emblems of their offices in gold or blue in the centre.

The apron of the District Deputy Grand Masters to have the emblem of their office in gold embroidery in the centre, and the acacia and seven eared wheat embroidered on the edging, one on each side.

The apron of the Deputy Grand Master to have the emblem of his office in gold embroidery in the centre, and the pomegranate and lotus alternately embroidered in gold on the edging.

The apron of the Grand Master is ornamented with the blazing sun embroidered in gold in the centre; on the edging the pomegranate and lotus, with the seven eared wheat at each corner, and also on the fall, all in gold embroidery; the fringe of gold bullion.

OF CONSTITUTING A NEW LODGE.

Every application for a warrant to hold a new Lodge must be by petition to the Grand Master, signed by at least seven regularly registered Masons; and the Lodges to which they formerly belonged must be specified. The petition must be recommended by the officers of some regular Lodge, and be transmitted to the District Deputy Grand Master, who is to forward it, with his recommendation and opinion thereon, to the Grand Secretary, to be submitted to the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master. If the prayer of the petition be granted, the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master may issue a dispensation, authorizing the brethren to meet as a Lodge until a warrant of constitution be granted by the Grand Lodge.

The following is the form of the petition:

To the M. W. Grand Master of the fraternity of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.

We, the undersigned, being regular registered Masons of the Lodges mentioned against our respective names, having the prosperity of the craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of the art; and, for the conveniency of our respective dwellings and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge, to be named ——. In consequence of this desire, we pray for a warrant of constitution, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at —— on the —— of every month, and there to discharge the duties of Masonry in a

constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge; and we have nominated and do recommend brother A. B. to be the first Master, brother C. D. to be the first Senior Warden, and brother E. F. to be the first Junior Warden, of the said Lodge. The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

In order to avoid irregularities, every new Lodge should be solemnly constituted by the Grand Master, with his Deputy and Wardens; or in the absence of the Grand Master, by his Deputy or the District Deputy Grand Master of that District, who shall choose some Master of a Lodge to assist him. If both those officers be absent, the Grand Master may appoint some other Grand Officer or Master of a Lodge to act as Deputy *pro tempore*.

The following is the manner of constituting a new Lodge according to the ancient usages of Masons:

A Lodge is duly formed, and, after prayer, an ode in honor of Masonry is sung. The Grand Master is then informed, by the Secretary, that the brethren present desire to be formed into a new Lodge, &c., &c. The petition, the dispensation, and the warrant or charter of constitution, are now read. The minutes of the Lodge while under dispensation are likewise read; and being approved, are declared regular and valid, and signed by the Grand Master. The Grand Master then enquires if the brethren approve of the officers who are nominated in the warrant to preside over them. This being signified in masonic form, an oration on the nature and design of the institution is delivered. The Lodge is then consecrated according to ceremonies proper and usual on those occasions, but not proper to be written, and the Grand Master constitutes the Lodge in ancient form.

The candidates, or the new Master and Wardens, being yet among the brethren, the Grand Master asks his Deputy if he hath examined them, and found the candidate Master well skilled in the noble science and the royal art, and duly instructed in our mysteries, etc. The Deputy answering in the affirmative, he shall (by the Grand Master's order) take the candidate from among his fellows, and present him to the Grand Master, saying: "Most Worshipful Grand Master, I present this my worthy brother to be installed Master of the Lodge, whom I know to be of good morals and great skill, true and trusty, and a lover of the whole fraternity wheresoever dispersed over the face of the earth."

Then the Grand Master, placing the candidate on his left hand, having asked and obtained the unanimous consent of all the brethren, shall say: "I appoint you the Master of this Lodge, not doubting your capacity and care to preserve the cement of the Lodge," etc.,

with some other expressions that are proper and usual on that occasion, but not proper to be written.

Upon this, the Deputy shall rehearse the charges and regulations of a Master, and the Grand Master shall ask the candidate, saying "Do you submit to these charges, and promise to uphold these regulations, as Masters have done in all ages?" The candidate signifying his cordial submission thereunto, the Grand Master shall, by certain significant ceremonies and ancient usages, install him, and present him with the book of constitution, the lodge book and the instruments of his office, not altogether, but one after another; and after each of them, the Grand Master or his Deputy shall rehearse the short and pithy charge that is suitable to the thing presented.

After this, the members of this new Lodge, bowing all together to the Grand Master, shall return him thanks, and immediately do their homage to their new Master, and signify their promise of subjection and obedience to him, by the usual congratulation.

The Deputy and the Grand Wardens, and any other brethren present, that are not members of the new Lodge, shall next congratulate the new Master; and he shall return his becoming acknowledgment to the Grand Master first, and to the rest in their order.

Then the Grand Master desires the new Master to enter immediately upon the exercise of his office, in naming his Wardens; and the new Master, calling forth the two brothers, presents them to the Grand Master for his approbation. That being granted, the Senior or Junior Grand Warden, or some brother for him, shall rehearse the charges of Wardens; and the candidates being solemnly asked, by the new Master, shall signify their submission thereunto.

Upon which, the new Master, presenting them with the instruments of their office, shall, in due form, install them in their proper places, and the brethren shall signify their obedience to the new Wardens by the usual congratulation. The other elected officers of the Lodge, and those appointed, are then invested in ancient form.

The Lodge being thus completely constituted, shall be registered in the Grand Master's book, and by his order notified to the other Lodges.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master appointed the following brethren a committee to prepare the Book of Constitution for circulation, namely :

R. W. Bros. Stephens and Harris, and V. W. Bro. Osborne.

On the application of the W. M. of St. John's Lodge, of London, and of the S. W. of St. John's Lodge, of Ingersoll, permission was granted to the officers of those Lodges to continue to wear their present regalia, until they have procured that in accordance with the Constitution.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint the following brethren a committee to divide the Province into Districts :

R. W. Bros. Bernard, Stephens, Lundy, and W. Bro. Moffat.

The M. W. the Grand Master announced that the first business of the afternoon sitting of the Grand Lodge would be the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members, and Representatives.

The M. W. Grand Master nominated R. W. Bros. Bellhouse and Daniel, and W. Bro. Smith, scrutineers, for taking the votes of the brethren in the election of Grand Officers.

The election of Grand Officers was then proceeded with, and the following brethren were declared duly elected :

| | | |
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| M. W. Bro. | W. Mercer Wilson, | Grand Master. |
| R. " " | A. Bernard, | Deputy Grand Master. |
| V. " " | J. H. Isaacson, | Grand Senior Warden. |
| " " " | Charles Magill, | " Junior Warden. |
| " " " | Rev. St. Geo. Caulfield, | " Chaplain. |
| R. " " | Wm. Bellhouse, | " Treasurer. |
| " " " | Thos. B. Harris, | " Registrar. |
| V. " " | John Osborne, | " Secretary. |

An open vote having been taken for Grand Tyler, Bro. John Morrison was declared elected.

The Grand Master then appointed a committee, composed of R. W. Bros. Bernard, Stephens and Simpson, for arranging the numbers of the various affiliated Lodges, according to the respective dates of their formation.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at 8 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members, and Representatives.

The committee appointed for the division of the Province into Districts, presented their report; and, on motion, it was resolved that the Province be divided into the following seven masonic Districts, viz.:

No. 1. The London District: to comprise that portion of the Province lying between its extreme western boundary and the eastern boundaries of the counties of Perth, Middlesex, Elgin, Huron and Bruce.

No. 2. The Hamilton District: to comprise that portion of the Province lying between the London District and the river Credit.

No. 3. The Toronto District: to comprise that portion of the Province lying between the rivers Credit and Trent, including the carrying place.

No. 4. The Central District: to comprise all that portion of the Province lying between the river Trent and Lower Canada, including the County of Prince Edward.

No. 5. The Montreal District: to comprise all that portion lying between Western Canada and the Richelieu and St. Lawrence rivers, including Sorel.

No. 6. The Eastern Townships District: to comprise all that portion lying south-east of the Richelieu and St. Lawrence rivers.

No. 7. The Quebec District: to comprise the remaining part of Lower Canada.

On motion of R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. C. Stephens, it was unanimously resolved:

That the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge be held at the city of Montreal.

R. W. Bro. Simpson gave notice that at the Grand Lodge meeting to-morrow, he would move

That this Grand Lodge meet annually on the second Wednesday in July, instead of the first Wednesday, as now stated in the Constitution.

R. W. Bro. Daniel gave notice that at the Grand Lodge meeting to-morrow, he would move

To amend Section 8 of the Constitution, to make it read: That no brother, except the Grand Chaplain, shall be eligible to any office in the Grand Lodge, unless he has been regularly installed Worshipful Master of a private Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, to meet again on Friday morning, at 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 5856.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at 1 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members, and Representatives.

The committee appointed by the Grand Lodge to arrange the numbers of the warrants of the affiliating Lodges, presented the following report, which was on motion unanimously adopted.

The committee appointed to determine the respective numbers of the Lodges under this jurisdiction, adopting the principle determined upon by this Grand Lodge, have the honor to submit the following catalogue:

No. 1. Lodge of Social and Military Virtues, Montreal.

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| 2. Niagara | Lodge, | Niagara. |
| 3. Barton | " | Hamilton. |
| 4. Union | " | Grimsby. |
| 5. Norfolk | " | Simcoe. |
| 6. Sussex | " | Brockville. |
| 7. Prevost | " | Dunham. |
| 8. Golden Rule | " | Stanstead. |
| 9. St George's | " | St. Catharines. |
| 10. Prince Edward | " | Picton. |
| 11. Nelson | " | Clarenceville. |
| 12. St. Andrew's | " | St. Andrew's. |
| 13. St. George's | " | Montreal. |
| 14. St. John's | " | London. |
| 15. Zetland | " | Montreal. |
| 16. King Solomon | " | Toronto. |
| 17. Lodge of Strict Observance | | Hamilton. |
| 18. St. John's | Lodge, | Cayuga. |
| 19. Thistle | " | Amherstburgh. |
| 20. St. John's | " | Hamilton. |
| 21. St. Thomas | " | St. Thomas. |
| 22. Brant | " | Brantford. |
| 23. Great Western | " | Windsor. |
| 24. Wellington | " | Dunnville. |
| 25. <u>Sheffield</u> | " | Waterloo. |
| 26. Vaughan | " | Maple. |
| 27. Harmony | " | Binbrook, |
| 28. <u>Wellington</u> | " | Stratford. |
| 29. Hoyle | " | La Colle. |
| 30. Acacia | " | Hamilton. |
| 31. St. Andrew's | " | Caledonia. |
| 32. Kilwinning | " | London. |
| 33. Rehoboam | " | Toronto. |
| 34. Jacques Cartier | " | Montreal. |
| 35. St. Francis | " | Melbourne. |
| 36. St. John's | " | Ingersoll. |
| 37. King | " | King. |
| 38. Victoria | " | Sherbrooke. |
| 39. Alma | " | Galt. |

Your committee regret that several Lodges affiliated with the Grand Lodge of Canada have failed to furnish the returns required by the Grand Lodge, in order to enable your committee to ascertain their proper numerical position.

R. W. Bro. Simpson moved, in accordance with notice given on the previous day,

That the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge be held on the second Wednesday instead of the first Wednesday in July, as stated in the Constitution.

Which was seconded by W. Bro. Bungay, and unanimously adopted.

R. W. Bro. Daniell moved, in accordance with notice given on the previous day,

That Section 8 of the Constitution be altered so as to read: That no brother, except the Grand Chaplain, shall be eligible to any office in the Grand Lodge, unless he has been regularly installed Worshipful Master of a private Lodge.

In amendment, it was moved by R. W. Bro. Bellhouse, seconded by R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris,

That the word "elective" be prefixed to the word "office" in the motion of R. W. Bro. J. Daniel.

And the motion, as amended, was unanimously adopted.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, to meet at half-past 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at half-past 3 P. M.

The M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members, and Representatives.

The M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to confirm the nomination by the Lodges of the respective Districts, of

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| R. W. Bro. James Daniel, | D. D. G. M. for the London District. |
| " " " W. C. Stephens, | " " Hamilton " |
| " " " G. L. Allen, | " " Toronto " |
| " " " W. B. Simpson, | " " Central " |
| " " " P. D. Brown, | " " Montreal " |

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to appoint the following brethren:

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| V. W. Bro. James Moffat, | Grand Senior Deacon. |
| " " " J. E. Smith, | " Junior Deacon. |
| " " " F. J. Rastrick, | " Supt. of Works. |
| " " " J. C. Spence, | " Dir. of Ceremonies. |
| " " " R. A. Malcolm, | Asst. " Secretary. |
| " " " G. W. Powell, | Asst. " Dir. of Ceremonies. |

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|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| V. W. Bro. J. W. Haldimand, | Grand Sword Bearer. |
| " " " W. T. Thomas, | " Organist. |
| " " " R. J. Fowler, | Asst. " Organist. |
| " " " Samuel Ross, | " Pursuivant. |
| " " " E. Morris, | } " Stewards. |
| " " " Dr. Fowler, | |
| " " " A. S. Abbott, | |
| " " " Dr. H. Crouse, | |
| " " " Thos. Fletcher, | |
| " " " J. R. Carroll, | |
| " " " D. Barker, | |

The Grand Officers for the ensuing year, present, were then installed, invested and proclaimed in due and ancient form.

R. W. Bro. Dr. Lundy gave notice that he would, at the next meeting, move,

That so much of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge as restricts a brother from being a member of more than one be repealed.

The committee appointed to consider the application of the brethren in Kingston for a warrant for the Cataraqui Lodge, presented the following

REPORT.

That your committee consider it to be the imperative duty of the Grand Lodge to require in every case a perfect compliance with its Constitution, and therein they find it provided that every application for a warrant to hold a new Lodge must be recommended by the officers of some regular Lodge, and also, that the place of holding the meetings of the Lodge shall be stated in the petition. These conditions have not been complied with in the petition referred to, and your committee conceiving that it is not in the power of the Grand Lodge, without special resolution, to dispense with these requirements, recommend that the application be returned to the brethren by the Grand Secretary, with a request that these omissions may be supplied, and that a warrant or dispensation should then be granted.

On motion of Bro. Martin, seconded by R. W. Bro. Daniel, the report was received and unanimously adopted.

The committee appointed to consider and report on the address of the M. W. Grand Master, read the following report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ADDRESS OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL THE GRAND MASTER.

Your committee beg leave to report:

That the address of the M. W. the Grand Master contains matter of the greatest importance to, and deeply affecting the

vital interest of our Grand Lodge, and the craft in general in this Province.

That the report of our progress so far, and of our present position is highly gratifying, and should call forth an earnest expression of our heartfelt gratitude to the great Architect of the universe for the blessings of Heaven that have been so benignly and freely shed on our path. While the difficulties with which we have had and may still have to contend, should only have the effect which was doubtless their design, to call forth increased vigilance, to prevent our slumbering at our posts, and if possible, to stimulate us to still greater exertion in the cause of our beloved Order.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, your Grand Lodge is indebted for his devotion and zeal in visiting subordinate Lodges, and every where maintaining the dignity of his position. The most cordial concurrence must be felt by Grand Lodge in the sentiments expressed in the address, of the sense of obligation towards the members composing the various committees, in whose hands, the business of the Grand Lodge was placed, especially to the advice and assistance of R. W. Bro. Stephens, the value of which could only be enhanced by the willing and constant manner in which it has been rendered.

To the various officers of the Grand Lodge, and particularly to the R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Bernard much of its present position of prosperity is due, for the untiring zeal and ability with which their duties have been performed. Your committee would deem it only necessary further on this point to remark, that the present meeting of Grand Lodge, in itself displays the essential elements of prosperity and success, in the good feeling and brotherly love which have prevailed, no matter how wide the difference of opinion on the various subjects under discussion, or how earnest the arguments in their support.

Of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the parent of a number of affiliating Lodges, your committee would desire to make honorable mention. The first, of our parent Grand Lodges, to extend to us the right hand of fellowship, to express their belief in the integrity of our motives, and to entertain and appreciate our assurances that the welfare and progress, aye, even the existence itself of Masonry in this Province reign paramount in our hearts, acknowledging the correctness of our proceedings even to the annulling of old and still revered authority; for this prompt and truly fraternal treatment your Grand Lodge cannot entertain nor express too deep a sense of gratitude.

Your committee would express their confidence that the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, composed as they are of most enlightened and generous brethren, will, before our next Commu-

nication, have also admitted the justice of our cause, and recognized our constitutional position.

To the several Grand Lodges in the United States, who have acknowledged the legitimacy of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and with whom we are now in fraternal communication, the cordial feelings of Grand Lodge should be expressed. May the Supreme Ruler of the universe grant that "prospering they may prosper," to the diffusion of light and knowledge throughout their respective districts. To the brethren of Kentucky, especially, your Grand Lodge is indebted for kindness to, and cordial reception of our Grand Master, on his recent visit.

Your committee regret, however, that the duty entrusted to them involves matter of a less pleasing nature, and with much pain feel compelled to allude to the position adopted towards us by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, still in connection with the Grand Lodge of England. While they cannot but congratulate you on the truly masonic feeling which has characterized the management of the affairs of Grand Lodge, and the tone of its correspondence in strictly adhering to the principles of attributing to those brethren remaining in connection with the Grand Lodge of England the same and equal credit for sincere and masonic motives, to that we claim for ourselves, and in every case avoiding the least approach to any expression of a personal nature conceiving the "good of the craft" is, or ought to be, the chief aim of every brother, it must therefore be a matter of regret that any brother of the Provincial Grand Lodge, while, personally, professing the approval of the motives by which we were actuated, admitting the necessity for the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, and expressing the best wishes for success, and hesitating only as to the decisiveness with which we have acted, should have so far forgotten the principles of Masonry as to asperse and malign our motives, and misrepresent our conduct and position in a circular issued to other Grand Lodges, without even having the candour to furnish us with a copy, and this too before their parent Grand Lodge and governing body had expressed any opinion on our proceedings. This conduct is the more reprehensible, as it is well known that we have the sympathy of a great majority of the Lodges and brethren still adhering to them, who await the decision of that Grand Lodge.

Your committee regret that they cannot but concur in the remarks of the M. W. the Grand Master in the action of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York towards us, believing as they do, that interested influences, of which Grand Lodge is doubtless aware, have been brought to bear to our prejudice. But they cannot pass over this part of their duty without alluding to

the anomaly of a Grand Lodge, whose internal state is such as to require the remarks made by its Grand Master, in the same paragraph in which he denounces us, taking upon itself to condemn as unmasonic, the action or motives, of such of its sister Grand Lodges as have recognized us.

Your committee, while regretting the action taken towards us by parties in office in the two bodies just alluded to, would still strongly recommend that no alteration be allowed to appear in the tone of the correspondence of this Grand Lodge towards or respecting them, and that the privilege of our Lodges be freely extended to such of the brethren as may desire to use them, believing sincerely that in neither of these bodies is there any brother (except those few to whom it is now our painful duty to refer) who would not still be willing to grasp the hand of each member of this Grand Lodge and hail him as a brother.

Your Committee, however, would recommend, that whilst this treatment be accorded and continued to the members of those Lodges already in existence, that this Grand Lodge being now regularly formed and duly recognized, and that too, by one of its parent Grand Lodges, and being, therefore, the supreme masonic authority in this Province, that no new Lodge be considered otherwise than as clandestine in Canada, unless it derive its authority from this Grand Lodge, and that due notification of such intention be furnished to all concerned.

Your committee fully concur in the remarks of the Grand Master on the necessity for deciding on the system of working to be adopted throughout the Province, and as to the desirableness of including the Mark Degree in that of the fellow craft, and beg to recommend to the Grand Lodge the appointment of a committee to consider these important subjects and report to the next Communication of Grand Lodge.

Your committee with pleasure refer to the allusions made in the Grand Master's address, to those masonic publications that are rapidly becoming so important, as a means of diffusing masonic knowledge among the brethren. To the *Masonic Review* of Cincinnati your Grand Lodge is much indebted for the liberal and unprejudiced manner in which our position has been discussed in its columns. And your committee consider the Grand Lodge and the brethren generally called on to lend their support in as great a degree as possible to the truly masonic and able journal, lately commenced in Montreal—the *Pioneer*.

In conclusion, your committee would express the hope that another year may find us still on our onward progress, ever advancing and exemplifying the benefits of Masonry in a degree hitherto unknown in this Province.

JOHN OSBORNE, Chairman.

The consideration of this report was deferred until the evening sitting of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment to meet at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sitting at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The consideration of the report of the committee on the Grand Master's address was proceeded with, when the following resolution was offered by R. W. Bro. Daniel, seconded by W. Bro. Duncan, and unanimously resolved :

That the report of the committee on the Grand Master's address be adopted, and the officers of the Grand Lodge be requested to carry out the principles therein laid down.

A committee was then appointed, composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and all Present and Past District Deputy Grand Masters, to consider the form of working to be adopted by the Lodges in this Province, and also the question of attaching the Mark Degree to that of the Fellow Craft's, and to report thereon to Grand Lodge at its next Communication.

The following report from the Grand Secretary on the business of the Grand Lodge since the last Communication, was read and received.

THE GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The duties of the Grand Secretary for the past year have been attended with many difficulties, arising from the want of the proper materials to discharge them punctually and with effect; these, however, are at length being supplied, but like all new institutions it takes time to develop the necessary wants for its proper working.

The Grand Secretary herewith begs to lay before Grand Lodge, returns of Lodges up to the present time, shewing a list of thirty Lodges that have affiliated with the Grand Lodge since its formation, and to which warrants have been issued, with a registry of 1,179 members in good standing. There have been 9 dispensations granted by the M. W. Grand Master, and issued for new Lodges, under this jurisdiction, and several other Districts are writing for the form of application.

The Grand Secretary would impress upon all Lodges the necessity of the greatest care being taken in sending their returns regularly and correctly filled up, and the indispensable requirement that the Christian name be in full, together with the various headings properly filled up, so that the registry may be correctly kept.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. B. HARRIS, G. S.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Bernard, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. C. Stephens, and resolved :

That the best thanks of the Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to R. W. Bro. Harris, for the zeal and assiduity displayed in conducting the business of his office from the formation of the Grand Lodge.

The following report of the Grand Treasurer for the same period, was then read and received.

THE GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

The receipts of the Grand Lodge from the time of its formation to the present have been very limited and as the disbursements were altogether of a petty nature it was deemed proper, to save as much trouble as possible to the Grand Secretary, that he should keep the account. The receipts up to the present time amount to £93 5s. and the payments to £64 14s 4d. leaving a balance of £28 10s 8d in the Grand Secretary's hands.

In the commencement of every great undertaking, there have of necessity, a great many preliminary expenses to be incurred, and the Grand Lodge of Canada has proved no exception to this rule. The following Lodges, namely: Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe; Strict Observance, St. John's, and Barton Lodges, Hamilton; and St. John's Lodge, London, anticipated this necessary outlay, and early sent in liberal donations which enabled the Grand Secretary to meet the required demands without either himself or the Grand Treasurer being at any time in much cash advance, and the Grand Treasurer would recommend that the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the Lodges mentioned for thus early contributing to the funds of the Grand Lodge.

Whilst however the disbursements during the past few months have been so limited, the amount now due by the Grand Lodge for printing and other expenses is large, and as extensive and expensive orders have been given out, the Grand Treasurer can only urge upon the Lodges affiliating with this Grand Lodge the absolute necessity of following in the footsteps of the Lodges already named so that the finances of the Grand Lodge may always be in a flourishing state.

In addition to the orders already given, others for articles necessary to the dignified and proper working of the Grand Lodge, now follow, and as every well wisher of the prosperity of the Grand Lodge should feel, it ought to rank second to none in the world, the inference must be drawn that to secure this, funds are requisite and your Grand Treasurer feels it is only necessary to remind the representatives of the various Lodges of the fact, to insure him being placed in a position at all times to meet the legitimate demands of the Grand Lodge.

It is estimated that at least £1,500 must be collected ere the Grand Lodge will be in possession of the usual Grand Lodge clothing, jewels, &c.

WILLIAM BELLHOUSE, G. T.

Grand Lodge Room, Hamilton, }
11th July, 1856. }

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. Daniel, and resolved :

That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be offered to R. W. Bro. Bellhouse, for the care and attention he has bestowed upon the discharge of his duty as Grand Treasurer.

The following report of the standing committee on correspondence was read.

TO THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA :

Your committee, appointed by the Grand Lodge at its last Communication for conducting the foreign correspondence of Grand Lodge, and for other general purposes, beg to report :

That with the least possible delay after the consecration of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the installation of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Officers, they prepared an address from this Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of England, which, having been submitted to and approved by the Grand Master, was signed by him on behalf of the Grand Lodge, the seal of the Grand Lodge was affixed, and the address was forwarded officially to the Grand Lodge of England. Copies were sent direct to all the Grand Officers of that Grand Lodge; and through an influential brother in England, W. Bro. F. J. Bigg, a copy was also forwarded to every Lodge in England.

Similar addresses were likewise prepared for, and sent in proper form to the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, and to the various Grand Lodges in the United States.

To these addresses an official notification has already been received, of most cordial recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada by one of our mother Grand Lodges—the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The promptitude with which that Grand Lodge responded to our appeal, and the truly fraternal and generous manner in which that ready recognition was conveyed, your committee feel, entitle that Grand Body to our warm and lasting gratitude and respect—a feeling in which, they doubt not, the Grand Lodge will heartily unite.

From several Grand Lodges of the United States similar communications have been received, acknowledging the correctness of our position and reciprocating our proffered hand of fraternal affection; with those Grand Lodges we have now commenced a

masonic correspondence, which it is both hoped and believed, neither time nor circumstances can even interrupt. Many other of the American Grand Lodges which have held no Communication since the receipt of our address, have forwarded copies of their annual reports, and in several instances accompanied by assurances of fraternal recognition at the approaching Communications of their Grand Lodges.

No reply has been received to our address from the Grand Lodge of England, although ample time has elapsed since their Quarterly Communication in June. Your committee deeply regret to feel that this is but a continuation of the neglect which the brethren in this Province have ever experienced at the hands of the Grand Lodge of England.

By the Grand Lodge of New York and a few other Grand Lodges of the United States, the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada has been considered somewhat precipitate, and its recognition has consequently been for a time deferred; but, although the present decision of those Grand Lodges has been unfavorable to the Grand Lodge of Canada, whatever may be the impression entertained by any members of this Grand Lodge with regard to the motives that may have influenced their action, your committee believe that the course taken by those Grand Lodges has been the result of conscientious convictions that they were acting correctly; at the same time your committee feel assured that such conviction arose from an absence of full information with regard to the facts of our case, and your committee anticipate with confidence that ere long, those Grand Lodges will fully understand the justness of our cause and the correctness of our action, and that they will then cheerfully unite with their sister Grand Lodges in acknowledging the legitimacy of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The Grand Secretary has put into the hands of your committee the annual reports of several Grand Lodges in the United States, which have afforded your committee very great pleasure and a vast amount of masonic information, and, without alluding especially to any individual report, your committee had intended to have referred at some length to a few subjects mentioned in those reports, to which they felt it to be of the highest importance that the attention of the brethren should be particularly called; but since the preparation of their report, the revision and confirmation of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge has so satisfactorily provided for the whole of the matter capable of being controlled by laws, that it would be needless now to occupy the time of the Grand Lodge by further reference thereto.

Your committee will conclude their remarks with a reference to a matter that most seriously and injuriously affects the true principles

and benevolent objects of the Order, and deserves the strongest condemnation at our hands, viz., the unworthy and unjustifiable uses made of Freemasonry for selfish and mercenary purposes by travelling mendicants and trading Masons.

1st. The impositions practiced on the brethren by itinerant mendicants who infest this Continent, and by plausible representations of distress, extort from the unwary members of the craft funds that should and would otherwise have been bestowed on needy and deserving brethren. The great majority, if not the whole of these persons—Masons only in name—are dissipated, worthless vagabonds, who prefer a life of idleness and beggary to one of honest industry. In thus commenting upon the frequent claims made upon the charity of the brethren by imposters, or unworthy objects, your committee would by no means desire to curtail the proper exercise of that virtue which Masons so ardently admire and so universally practice, but they would strongly recommend, as a safeguard against imposition, that a committee of benevolence should be appointed by the Lodge or Lodges of each town, composed of members whose engagements would best enable them to afford the time, and whose masonic knowledge would protect the funds of the craft from being abstracted by any undeserving object or masonic imposter.

2nd. The improper use that is made of masonic symbols for the purpose of pecuniary gain, particularly in our business relations. These masonic emblems are exhibited on sign boards and business cards, and worn on the person in the form of jewelry, with a view of conveying to the world the impression that the owner is a member of the craft, and proud to acknowledge it, whilst in most cases your committee fear the true object is to promote the business in which they are engaged, which is a most unwarrantable and unmasonic perversion of our principles to mercenary and unworthy motives.

These subjects have been so ably treated in the report of one of our sister Grand Lodges that the committee think it well to annex its remarks, as follows:

“The craft have been sorely imposed upon by itinerant mendicants. Numbers of them have not been associated with a Lodge for years; losing sight of the institution in their prosperity, they contributed nothing to the relief of others, but now that pinching want opens their eyes, they are loudest in praises of the ancient Order they so dearly love, and are most ready to remind us of our duties to a brother in distress; some of the most accomplished among them, together with masonic pedlars, you will discover with masonic emblems curiously wrought in their breast-pins, finger rings or watch seals; these intruders should be avoided.

“It is a matter of regret that we perceive a disposition in some

of our highly esteemed brethren to imitate these imposters by wearing, conspicuously upon their apparel, a masonic device. Masonry does not expect her votaries to expose her to the gaze of the world; in her modesty she shrinks from a boast of her existence, preferring to see herself advertised through the medium of untold benevolence and acts of hidden charity; her excellencies flourish most when cherished in the warm bosom of charity that vaunteth not itself, rather than in that soil which bringeth forth the flower without the fruit.

"Connected with this custom is one equally, if not more offensive and unmasonic, by which our sacred temple is converted into a house of merchandise. Many of our brethren, forgetful of their avowal, made on entering its portals, that they are uninfluenced by mercenary motives, violate this pledge by placing upon their sign boards, vehicles and cards, masonic symbols and emblems which should possibly pertain as a means of advertisement to those brethren alone who are manufacturers of masonic clothing, and jewels. This custom may have obtained among the craft from a mistaken conception of the principles of our institution, and I would seriously recommend the passage of a resolution which leaves the Lodges without a discretion, in compelling its members to remove these emblems from public gaze, and advising the members of our Order to avoid all business transactions with any house in which they may be displayed."

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. STEPHENS, Chairman.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. A. S. Abbott, seconded by R. W. Bro. C. Magill, and unanimously resolved:

That the report of the committee on foreign correspondence be received and adopted.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. Osborne, seconded by W. Bro. J. W. Baine, and unanimously resolved:

That the best thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered, to W. Bro. F. J. Bigg, of London, England, for the valuable assistance he has rendered this Grand Lodge, by bringing our address before the Grand Lodge and private Lodges in England, and for warmly advocating our cause in that Grand Lodge and with the craft generally.

R. W. Bro. A. Bernard moved, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson,

That the Grand Master be requested to nominate a brother as representative of this Grand Lodge at the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Which having been unanimously adopted, the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. M. Furnell, Provincial G. M., of North Munster, Ireland, to be such representative."

R. W. Bro. A. Bernard moved, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. Osborne,

That the Grand Master be requested to nominate a brother as representative at the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Vermont.

When the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. J. B. Bowdish as such representative.

The Grand Secretary was directed officially to communicate the foregoing resolutions.

It was then moved by R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. Daniel, and unanimously resolved:

That the Grand Lodge, appreciating the kind and valuable counsel and services at all times of R. W. Bro. Stephens, do present him with a masonic honorary jewel or other suitable mark of their esteem.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed R. W. Bros. W. B. Simpson, J. Daniel, T. B. Harris, J. Osborne, and Bro. Dr. Duggan, a committee to carry out the wishes of the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. J. Osborne moved, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. Bellhouse, and unanimously resolved:

That the best thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, for his devotion and zeal in behalf of the Grand Lodge.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. C. Magill, seconded by R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, and unanimously resolved:

That the warmest thanks of the Grand Lodge be expressed to the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Bernard, for his great and successful exertions in furtherance of the good of the craft.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following committees for conducting the business of the Grand Lodge during the ensuing masonic year.

COMMITTEES, 5856.

Correspondence:

R. W. Bro. Dr. Lundy. R. W. Bro. W. Bellhouse.
R. W. Bro. R. Bull.

Constitution and Regulations:

R. W. Bro. R. Bull. Bro. Dr. Duggan.
R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris.

Warrants:

R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris. R. W. Bro. R. Bull.
" " " Dr. Lundy. " F. J. Rastrick.

Grievances:

R. W. Bro. C. Magill. R. W. Bro. R. Bull.
" " J. R. Holden. " " J. W. Baine.

Appeals:

W. Bro. J. R. Holden. R. W. Bro. C. Magill.
" " J. W. Baine. " " " R. Bull.

Finance :

R. W. Bro. W. Bellhouse. R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris.
 " " J. Harris. " " " R. Bull.

Bro. Dr. Duggan.

Accounts of Representatives :

R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson. R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris.
 " " S. Ross. " " H. J. Martin.

Charity :

W. Bro. J. Harris. W. Bro. H. J. Martin.
 R. " " W. Bellhouse. R. " " R. Bull.
 V. " " S. Ross. V. " " H. Crouse.

V. W. Bro. J. Moffat.

Audit :

W. Bro. H. B. Bull. R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson.
 W. Bro. J. F. McCuaig.

The Grand Lodge was closed in *Ample Form*, with solemn prayer.

ATTEST.



J. OSBORNE,

Grand Secretary

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