

FOURTH PERIOD  
PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MONTREAL AND WILLIAM HENRY "UNITED"  
(and the Development, and the End of the Provincial Grand  
Lodge System in Canada).  
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In this young country, the barometer of Freemasonry stood at "set stormy"; and the arrow was not to work around to indicate any prolonged period of peace and harmony until the twentieth century had well begun. However, in 1824, St. Paul's Lodge experienced the comfortable feeling of having surprisingly "come into its own". With the Provincial Grand Master, (The Honourable William Magillivray), a member of their lodge; with the Provincial Grand Secretary, (Turton Penn, a capable craftsman, four times Master of St. Paul's), a member of their lodge; with the knowledge that their petitions had produced the actual formation of this Provincial Grand Body, (to which, indeed, they continued to contribute the largest quantum of local support for the whole of the thirty odd years of its existence), they naturally concluded their future destinies to be especially interwoven with those of the new institution. William Magillivray did not live long to fill the chair of Provincial Grand Master. Not a young man when appointed, his life as a fur-trader, had been one of extraordinary and exciting adventures. He died in 1825.<sup>1</sup>

It was found impossible to enrol in the new P.G.L. all of the thirteen lodges in the district mentioned in St. Paul's 1824 petition. The total number enrolled was nine. By virtue of the fact that it was the only lodge with a senior or "Modern" warrant, with its foundation date of 1770, St. Paul's was undoubtedly entitled to the Provincial number one; but, for the reason that the new Provincial Grand Body was so largely in its hands, it appeared unwise to insist on this right. "Union" Lodge of Montreal, (which had been No. 8 under the Duke of Kent's "Antients"), was therefore given the new number one. "Prevost" Lodge, at Frelighsburg in the Eastern Townships, (which had been No. 9 under the "Antients"), was given No. 2. St. Paul's took the provincial number three.

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1. Wallace's "Dictionary of Canadian Biographies".

The following is the list of the nine lodges which constituted the support of the new P.G.L.<sup>1</sup>

Provincial No.	1	Union	Montreal	London No.	780
"	2	Prevost	Frelighsburg	"	781
"	3	St. Paul's	Montreal	"	782
"	4	Nelson	Caldwell Manor (Clarenceville)	"	783
"	5	Murray	St. Andrews	"	784
"	6	Golden Rule	Stanstead	"	785
"	7	Wellington Persevering	Montreal	"	786
"	8	Columbia	Hull	"	787
"	9	Odell	Odeltown	"	788

(Wellington Persevering Lodge did not long live up to its name. It "broke up" about 1827, and went out of existence. But later some of its members got together, and formed the "St. George's" lodge, which was given the provincial number 10, (London No. 643). St. George's was considered by many to be an offshoot of "Wellington Persevering"; but it was the first lodge to be constituted and installed by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry.)

Later, "Zetland" lodge, No. 11 was constituted, (London No. 731). In this case the officers were installed by St. Paul's lodge on the 12th August, 1845; W. Br. J.S. McCord acting as installing officer.

Then, "St. Lawrence" lodge, (London No. 923) was constituted and the officers installed by the then Provincial Grand Master, (the Hon. Wm. Badgley), on the 29th April, 1854. The minutes of St. Paul's mention that the lodge was present, and assisted at the ceremony. On account of re-numbering, St. Lawrence was given the provincial number 9.)

Following William Magillivray's death, John Molson, (now the Honourable John Molson, member of the Legislative Council), was appointed Provincial Grand Master; and installed in his own Masonic Hall Hotel on the 5th September, 1826, by Rt. W. the Hon. Claude Denechau, of Quebec. John Molson was in himself a living embodiment of the history of St. Paul's lodge. Made in the lodge while it had provincial number 10 under the original Provincial

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1. Graham's "History of Freemasonry", p.169.

Grand Lodge of "Moderns" at Quebec, he had been twice Master of the lodge during its "Modern" regime, (while Sir John Johnson was P.Gd. Master in 1791 and 1795); he had been a constant member of the lodge during the time of the Duke of Kent's "Antients"; and he had been P<sup>r</sup>. Grand Sword-Bearer in the P.G.L. of Montreal and William Henry under Rt.W. Bro. Magillivray. As soon as this new P.G.L. had been constituted and the officers installed with characteristic energy he began the erection of a Masonic Hall at his own expense, so that the new Provincial Grand Body, (of which he was soon to become Provincial Grand Master), might be worthily housed. And, that the building might produce sufficient revenue to become self-supporting, he built it as part of a large hotel, the quarters devoted to the Craft occupying one entire floor. The Hall was solemnly dedicated by R.W. Bro. Wm. Magillivray on the 13th May, 1825, and the new P.G.L., accompanied by his brother Simon, P. Grand Master of Upper Canada; and by Union, St. Paul's and Wellington Persevering lodges, also the band of the 70th regiment.<sup>1</sup> The building stood near the corner of St. Paul and Bonsecours streets, and was at first called the "Masonic Hall Hotel"; but that not proving a good name for a hotel receiving many guests who were not freemasons, the name was soon changed to that of "British American" hotel; and as such it became widely known as the best hostelry in Montreal. St. Paul's lodge was invited by Rt.W. Bro. Molson to hold its meetings in the Masonic Hall portion; and so moved up from its old quarters at the "City Tavern". Into the Masonic Hall, therefore, it brought all its records. These included its original 1770 charter from the Quebec "Provincial Grand Lodge" of "Moderns", signed by Rt.W. Bro. the Hon. John Collins; all its minute books as a "Modern" lodge, (with the exception of the first minute book, which had somehow been lost); and all its minute books as one of the Duke of Kent's "Antients"; together with its minute books under the "United" regime up to date. Their quarters were thus described:

"The Lodge room was most chastely and classically fitted

1. Graham's "History of Freemasonry", p.169.

up, with double rows of columns, of the Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders, in pairs; and terminating, on the eastern side, by a magnificent throne of the Composite order. Between the columns, standing on their bases, twelve feet from the sides of the walls and twelve feet from each other, from west to east, were placed the couches for the accommodation of the members; and these, with the rest of the furniture, were covered with blue damask, the remainder of the furniture being in perfect keeping."

In these new luxurious quarters, the future then appeared serene; both for the Provincial Grand Lodge of William Henry, and for St. Paul's Lodge.

In 1831, a Committee was appointed to amend the By-Laws of St. Paul's, (which were the old By-Laws printed as No. 12 "Antient"), and to make them conform to the new constitution of the "United Grand Lodge". The report of this Committee certified that they had examined again the 1770 charter of the Lodge; and from the minute books available had set up a consecutive list of Masters from 1770 to 1831: which list has fortunately been preserved. The work of this Committee probably constitutes the first attempt in Canada to get together any historical records of Masonry.

The "British American" hotel was built, (as were most of the important buildings in Montreal at that time), with solid but limestone outside walls; but the interior was all timber and plaster; the partitions were hollow frames of wood lath covered with plaster. With a climate of extreme cold in winter, necessitating super-heating, buildings dried out quickly into "fire traps"; and the demon Fire was destined to attack and destroy the "Masonic Hall". Early in 1833, an important concert was given in the British American hotel; for which the corridors and halls were beautifully decorated with evergreens, interspersed with Chinese lanterns. These decorations were so effective that the famous "Bachelor's Club" asked that they be permitted to remain till Mardi-gras: when they would hold their annual ball.

And after this, the decorations were still kept on, ready for any other function that might come along; growing drier and more inflammable day by day. On the 24th of April, fire broke out in the hotel; and, before it could be extinguished, had spread to these decorations, through which the flames ran as if they had been so much gun-powder. In a few hours time, the whole structure had been reduced to ashes.<sup>1</sup>

This fire was a serious blow to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry; but, more than that, was to prove the beginning of the gradual disintegration of the Provincial Grand Lodge system in Canada. It was a serious blow to St. Paul's lodge; but, more than that, meant to the whole of the craft in Canada the loss of what today would be considered priceless records of the early days of Freemasonry.

Immediately after the fire, St. George's lodge No. 10 very generously offered the use of their lodge room and regalia to St. Paul's lodge; which hospitality they were glad to accept.

The Manager of the "British American Hotel" had been one Francis Rasco, an Italian; and after the fire he built a new hotel a few doors farther west; and this hotel again became the most celebrated Montreal hostelry for many years. In May 1835, St. Paul's lodge moved into new quarters in "Rasco's Hotel". This building is still standing, still displays the original hotel sign; and is now numbered 281 to 293 St. Paul Street East.

The building of the "Masonic Hall" was the last achievement of Rt. W. Bro. Molson's active life; and he did not long survive its destruction. He died in the early part of the year 1836. And, with his death, all the steam seemed to ooze away from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry.

No successor was appointed to replace Rt. W. Bro. Molson for many years, (the lodges in the district reporting through Deputy P. G. M. Turton Penn, who held this office until a new appointment of Provincial Grand Master should be made). Few, if any, Grand Lodge meetings were held. In January 1840, Committees of the different lodges met to try and do something in this regard,

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1. Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, Sec. 1., 1866  
E. G. Massicotte, pp. 54-55.

but nothing was done. One is led to wonder if the matter of a new appointment was deliberately delayed until arrangements for the housing of the P. Grand Body could be made similar to those provided by the "Masonic Hall" in the British American Hotel. For the next move appeared to be an attempt to repeat the former glories.

In the spring of 1846, Moses Judah Hays, an old member of St. Paul's lodge, was prepared to build a new Hotel, to contain a new "Freemason's Hall". On the 12th May, 1846, the Honourable Peter McGill, a prominent citizen and member of St. Paul's lodge, was installed as successor to Rt. W. Bro. Molson, in the "St. George's Lodge room" in Mack's Hotel (the installing officer was the Revd. John Bethune, Past Master of St. Paul's, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master under Wm. Magillivray). And, on the 1st October, 1846, the corner stone of the new "Freemason's Hall Building" to be erected, was laid with full ceremony by Rt. W. Bro. Peter McGill.

The "Hays House" was an elaborate building situated in the middle of Dalhousie Square, at that time the most fashionable quarter of the city; (lying where the C.P.R. Place Viger Station now is, and just east of where the old "Quebec Gate" had been in the former fortification walls). As a hotelry, it was again (like its predecessor) to become widely known as the most popular hotel in Montreal. After the burning of the House of Parliament on Youville Square in 1849, the Parliament of Canada met in the "Hays House", until such time as the seat of the Federal Government was moved to Ottawa. St. Paul's lodge moved its quarters into the "Freemason's Hall" therein, in 1850.

But, again, the demon Fire was to attack and destroy this building. On the 8th of July, 1852, there broke out early in the morning the terrible conflagration known as the "Great Fire of Montreal", that consumed at least two thirds of all the buildings east of the line of St. Lawrence Main Street. By nine at night, the flames were roaring through Dalhousie Square, and the "Hays House" went down in the general debacle. (This time, St. Paul's lodge did not lose the remainder of its

Hays  
Lodge could be  
Hays, and

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minutes books, they had been stored elsewhere in a "fire-proof" vault).

It was the turn of "Zetland" lodge to offer the hospitality of their Lodge room, in Murphy's Hotel, corner of Gosford and Notre Dame Streets, and there St. Paul's met all the following winter. In the fall of 1853, St. Paul's moved into new quarters in the famous "St. Lawrence Hall" hotel on Craig Street (only recently demolished, 1933). In the St. Lawrence Hall, St. Paul's held its meetings for seventeen consecutive years, when, (following the trend of the growing city) it moved "uptown" to the south side of St. Catherine Street, opposite to Christ Church Cathedral.

Rt.W. Bro. Peter McGill was spared the responsibilities of acting as Provincial Grand Master while the "Freemason's Hall" was being burned; he had resigned in October, 1849, owing to serious ill health; and William Badgley, Q.C. (afterwards Judge Badgley), a Past Master of St. Paul's, who had served the Provincial Grand Lodge in several capacities, was appointed and installed as Provincial Grand Master in his stead. A man of great firmness, the P.G.M. of Montreal and William Henry flourished under his rule. He was however, fated to be the last Provincial Grand Master in this district, and later, when the storms of freemasonry were to cast the wreck of the Provincial Grand Lodge upon the shoals, his steady hand on the helm during the crisis enabled the different Grand Lodge officers to retire from office with little loss of either dignity or self-respect.

On the 29th April, 1854, the Provincial Grand Master constituted and installed the officers of the new St. Lawrence Lodge. By amicable arrangements, St. Paul's then agreed to sublet its lodge rooms in the St. Lawrence Hall to the new lodge.

On the 11th May, 1854, the Provincial Grand Master, together with twenty-two other minor officers of the P.G.L. and the representative of St. George's, Zetland, St. Paul's and the new St. Lawrence Lodge, laid the "Foundation Stone" of the first "Mechanic's Hall" to be built on the south-west

corner of St. James and St. Peter Streets, with full masonic honours. When this building was demolished in 1927 (to make way for the new Royal Bank building) the entire corner-stone, and the glass case containing the original documents, were removed; and in 1928, built into the foundations of the present "Mechanic's Institute" building which had been erected on the east side of Atwater Avenue in Westmount. Finding any remaining trace of the "Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry" by request of the Directors of the Library the stone was "re-laid" in the present building by St. Paul's lodge.

While "Montreal and William Henry" was thus progressing under Rt.W. Bro. Badgley, the "Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada" had fallen on difficult times. Simon Magillivray did not prove a complete success as Provincial Grand Master; his private affairs compelled him to be more in Montreal than Toronto; and he was often away in London for protracted periods. After his death, Sir Allan MacNab was appointed to the position, but Sir Allan was a very ardent "Conservative" member of Parliament, and became Prime Minister of Canada prior to Sir John Macdonald; and the complaint was that he had no time to devote to freemasonry, and left all Grand Lodge duties to his Deputy. The number of lodges had increased very rapidly in Upper Canada as compared to Lower Canada, and by 1853 it became evident that the majority were convinced that the "Provincial Grand Lodge" system was not workable in Canada. And in 1855, the first independent "Grand Lodge of Canada" was constituted in the City of Hamilton. In the minutes of St. Paul's lodge meeting on the 25th September, 1855, a circular from a meeting of delegates from various Lodges held at Niagara Falls was read, asking the co-operation of the lodge in the movement. In reply St. Paul's lodge unanimously resolved, "That in view of the irregularity and unconstitutionality of the proceedings in question, this Lodge absolutely declines to take any part whatever in, or recognize the contemplated convention."



But at the lodge meeting held on the 27th December, 1855, the news from the Provincial Grand Lodge was not so favourable to their point of view. Rt.W. Bro. Badgley reported that there had been a stampede; that all the country lodges in the district, and the three other Montreal lodges, had turned in their English Warrants and joined the new "Grand Lodge of Canada". He had called the delegates of the country lodges into town, and, together with the Montreal lodges, had discussed the question fully. The country delegates however, did not commit themselves, but returned to "consult" with their lodges. And their final resignations followed. The new "Grand Lodge" at last offered the opportunity for a proper recognition of their foundation dates prior to 1824.

The three other Montreal lodges had all been constituted by the P.G.L. of "Montreal and William Henry", and had nothing to do with any earlier dating. Rt.W. Bro. Badgley succeeded in getting two Montreal lodges, St. George's and St. Lawrence, to take back their warrants, and resume work again under the Grand Lodge of England. Zetland lodge, however, refused to reconsider its decision, and definitely joined the "Grand Lodge of Canada".

The P.G.L. therefore, continued awhile, supported by a total of three lodges. The minutes of St. Paul's lodge, 10th November, 1857, shew the following entry:

"The Lodge, at its meeting tonight, resolved that, in view of the small number of lodges working under English Warrants in the Districts of Montreal and William Henry, it is inexpedient to continue the Provincial Grand Lodge; and that on its dissolution, this Lodge will communicate direct with the United Grand Lodge of England."

And, exactly as suggested in the minute referred, the "Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry" was formally dissolved; while St. Paul's, St. George's and St. Lawrence began to report direct to London.

There was only the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec and Three Rivers left. (The P.G.L. of Upper Canada, entirely

deserted by all its lodges, simply disintegrated, exactly as the original Provincial Grand Lodge of "Moderns" had become disintegrated, after all the early "Modern" lodges had joined the Duke of Kent's "Antients").

Situated in Quebec, where Canadian freemasonry began in 1759, the Quebec P.G.L. had many interesting traditions. It was in 1827, that, at the request of Lord Dalhousie, Governor General, the corner-stone of the "Wolfe and Montcalm" monument in the city of Quebec was laid with full masonic honours by the Provincial Grand Lodge and Rt.W. Bro. Denechau, assisted by the band of the 66th Regiment, "les Freres du Canada", and Albion St. John's, Sussex, Merchants, and St. Andrew's lodges.<sup>1</sup> Graham in his "History of Freemasonry" quotes from a current newspaper account:

"It was an affecting incident of this interesting occasion, that by the request of the Governor, Rt.W. James Thompson, Overseer for sixty-nine years of Public Works, and the last survivor of Wolfe's army, being then in the 95th year of his age, gave the three mystic taps with the mallet upon the corner-stone".

This was the same James Thompson that was for so many successive years the Provincial Grand Secretary of the first "Provincial Grand Lodge of "Moderns", begun in Quebec in 1759; and it was his great-grand daughter that handed over to the Grand Secretary of the present Grand Lodge of Quebec in 1920, the first "Minute book and letter book" of this the first Provincial Grand Lodge. This book is very largely written in James Thompson's own handwriting, and, by its discovery, the facts about the earliest part of the history of freemasonry in Canada were for the first time made clear.

After Denechau's death, Bro. T.D. Harrington was appointed in 1852 P.G.M. for the City and District of Quebec and Three Rivers. He is the last Provincial Grand Master of this District recorded in the London "Masonic Year Book". But he removed very shortly to the City of Toronto, and was replaced

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1. "Merchants" and "St. Andrews" lodges were two of the many "Modern" lodges that, in London, had been marked "erased" in 1813.

by Bro. James Dean, Jr. ~~to~~ <sup>Dean's</sup> Graham in his "History" on pages 186-7 gives a verbatim copy of the Patent issued by the United Grand Lodge under the Earl of Zetland, dated in London on the 12th December, 1857. James Dean, Jr., (of whom no mention is made in the Year Book) acting as Provincial Grand Master, laid the corner-stone of the new Masonic Hall in the City of Quebec on August the 6th, 1861. There were five local lodges present, which shews that as late as 1861 this last "Provincial Grand Lodge" had still a support in Quebec of at least five lodges. Representatives of St. George and St. Lawrence lodges (who were then reporting directly to the United Grand Lodge) were also present from Montreal.

But there was a storm brewing in the distance that was later to sweep away the entire support of this last Provincial Grand Lodge and leave it to die of inanition, (just as all the support of the P.M.L. in Upper Canada had been wiped out in 1855). Arising from circumstances which have nothing to do with freemasonry, this storm (when it broke) was to cause divisions just as bitter (even if on a smaller scale) as the divisions between "Moderns" and "Antients" had been in England a century before.

After many years of discussion, the Act of Confederation of the different Provinces in British North America was finally signed in 1867. Upper and Lower Canada (later known as Canada East and Canada West) now became for the first time the "Province of Ontario" and the "Province of Quebec"; while the word "Canada" was extended to the whole Dominion. The "Grand Lodge of Canada" would have been only too glad similarly to extend its jurisdiction. However, it seemed all very well to have an Independent Grand Lodge in Hamilton for what used to be known as Canada; but were the same officers to be exalted to the position of being in control of the Maritime Provinces, and the Western Provinces, just because a political amalgamation was being formed? The answer came in the formation of separate independent Grand Lodges; one for each Province. Nova Scotia came first, and formed the "Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia". New Brunswick came second. In 1869, the new "Province

of Quebec" formed the "Grand Lodge of Quebec". Today there are nine provinces in Canada, with nine corresponding separate Grand Lodges.

The "Grand Lodge of Canada" did not seem to mind about the outlying provinces, but was much upset about the breaking away of the nearby Province of Quebec, and a bitter warfare began. It was a three-cornered fight. Ontario attacked Quebec, Quebec attacked the three lodges in Montreal still reporting to England. Of these, St. George's lodge split in two; one-half threw in their lot with the new Grand Lodge of Quebec, making a condition that they be granted the Number 10, which had been their original number when founded in 1823 by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry. The other half continued their work under their London number, now reduced from 643 to 440, and is today one of the two lodges in the province reporting direct to the Grand Lodge of England.

St. Lawrence lodge stuck to London for many years; but at last gave up its English Warrant and went in completely with the Grand Lodge of Quebec. With its original London number 923 reduced to 640, it was still meeting in Montreal as an "English" lodge thirty years ago.

The principal campaign however was to bring in old St. Paul's lodge, and the feeling caused by its persistent decision to remain on the registry of England engendered a great deal of resentment.

The dating and numbering in the Province of Quebec was of prime importance in the minds of all the lodges. And, in 1869, with the sole exception of St. Paul's, all the lodges existing were of "Antient" origin; and the Duke of Kent's regime only began in 1792. (One lodge, "Albion" of Quebec, was on the "Antient" roll prior to the coming of the Duke of Kent). But St. Paul's stood out as the only remaining lodge that had been founded during the first rule of the original senior Provincial Grand Lodge of "Moderns", and the brethren were apparently convinced that if they threw in their lot with a new independent Grand Lodge, this fact would become obscured in time; and so stood firm by their guns.

In the lodge minutes, at their meeting 9th November, 1869, there is set down at length what was to be St. Paul's final and decisive resolution as to Grand Lodge affiliation. The entries say in part:

"In consequence of a reply from the Grand Secretary of England to the effect that so long as this lodge desired to retain its allegiance to the parent Grand Lodge, it was assured of the support of that body; and that the Grand Lodge of Canada, or the prospective Grand Lodge of Quebec, had no right to compel this lodge to withdraw from its allegiance and join any other Grand Lodge; it having been expressly stipulated, at the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada, that no attempt was to be made to interfere with any lodge that desired to remain under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. This lodge, therefore, deemed it quite unnecessary to receive any proposition from the Grand Lodge of Canada tending to sever its connection with its parent Grand Lodge, as the ties which have grown up during a connection of more than a century, are of too close and dear a nature to admit of their being sundered."

(This last paragraph, though correctly stating the principle at stake, is not historically perfectly accurate. To begin with, the lodge was first Modern, then Antient, then United. The "United Grand Lodge of England" had only been in existence about 55 years. And the lodge had its actual record of its first Warrant, 8th November, 1770. It would have been more correct to say "nearly a century" than to say "more than a century". But St. Paul's minutes go on to say that the lodge had just received from its friends the "Mechanics Institute" library the present of a 1723 volume entitled "Looking unto Jesus", bearing the sign manual of Gwyn Owen Radford, formerly well-known Master of the Lodge. And on the inside cover, on part of an 1818 lodge summons, in Bro. Radford's own handwriting, appeared these words, "Founded by Lord Aberdour's warrant, 1760". The Brethren appear to have jumped to the conclusion that this was an indication of the foundation of St. Paul's Lodge as early as 1760. However, the discovery

in 1920 of the first "Minute Book and Letter Book" of the first and Senior "Provincial Grand Lodge" of "Moderns" makes it clear that Bro. Radford's memorandum referred to the establishment of this Provincial Grand Lodge itself, and not in any sense to the formation of any subordinate lodge. It verifies St. Paul's Warrant date as the 8th November, and also relates the fact of its constitution and the installation of its officers by St. Peter's lodge on the 27th December, in the year 1770. It shows how this first P.G.L. established itself (but without warrant) during the period that Lord Aberdour was Grand Master of "Moderns"; how it got its first warrant (which was lost) signed by Earl Ferrers in 1764; and its second and final warrant signed by the Duke of Beaufort in 1763. Bro. Radford's mystic words appear really to have meant that he had ascertained that the first P.G.L. of Canada began during Lord Aberdour's regime).

The friction and bad-feeling developed by this definite decision of St. Paul's lodge was the cause of many non-intercourse edicts.<sup>1</sup> The friction and bad-feeling died with the passing of the generation of freemasons who had taken sides, but the Edicts remained. Twenty-five years ago, a St. Paul's mason found himself surrounded by restrictions as to inter-visiting. In all the blue lodges he could visit freely. A St. Paul's Mark Mason was debarred from any visiting in, and the Mark lodge closed to any visitors from Canada. A Royal Arch Mason from St. Paul's could visit any Ontario chapter, and his own chapter could receive Arch visitors from Ontario; but with the Grand Lodge of Quebec, all such intercourse was debarred. However, in the ranks of "Scottish Rite Masonry" the brethren intermingled again freely. This state of affairs lasted until the visit to North America of Lord Amphill, the Pro Grand Master of the "United Grand Lodge" of England in 1923, when the last remaining Edicts against free inter-visiting were completely removed by mutual and friendly agreement.

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1. See Robbin's English-speaking Freemasonry; pp. 315 and subsequent.

After the formation of the "Grand Lodge of Quebec" in 1869, and the subsequent establishment of independent Grand Lodges in each of the separate provinces, there remained in Canada the question of the name "Grand Lodge of Canada" now become a manifestly unsuitable title. But this Grand Lodge had actually been the "Grand Lodge of Canada" for nearly fifteen years after its foundation in 1855; and at last by mutual consent of the different Canadian Grand Lodges, it was agreed that its historic position was to be indicated by a new title, the "Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario", that as such it was to undertake never to print the "Grand Lodge of Canada" portion without adding the words "In Ontario" which are now held to be a component part of its name.

Matters are now all adjusted upon a basis mutually acceptable to everyone. Three Lodges now remain in the whole Dominion of Canada reporting direct to the Mother Grand Lodge in England; i.e., "Royal Standard" at Halifax, in the old Province of Nova Scotia, and "St. Paul's" and "St. George's 440" in the city of Montreal. There is no more friction<sup>1</sup> and the freemasons of the Canadian Grand Lodges find an especial pleasure in visiting the English lodges, and noting the minor differences that exist in the work. In this respect, St. Paul's is probably unique. Never having been instructed to change, its meetings provide an opportunity of seeing the work done as it used to be done in Canada in the earliest days of the United Grand Lodge of England, when the lodge was still working under Claude Denechau as Provincial Grand Master, and when the "Mason's Manual" was first published in 1818.

Thus after a hundred years of stormy times, the barometer of freemasonry in Canada at last points to "Set Fair". Goodwill, harmony and brotherly love at last prevail among Masons throughout the entire Dominion, and as far as the human eye can foresee, the Craft will continue to thrive and flourish "~~Ad mare usque ad mare.~~"

Montreal, May 1934.

PEMBERTON SMITH

- mari que mare*
1. When the handsome new Masonic Temple was erected on Sherbrooke Street West in Montreal by the Grand Lodge of Quebec a few years ago, St. Paul's lodge on the English Register, made a contribution equivalent to £1000 in sterling towards the building funds, to emphasize the good feeling that exists.
- (£5000)*