

other lands, could be ruthlessly shot down by a fiend in human shape, is past all understanding; but so it is, our brother has gone where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.

In our own jurisdiction, during the year, we have lost by death a number of valuable brethren, members who will be greatly missed from our annual communications, and with whom we have been in the habit of associating for many years.

After alluding to the deaths reported to him, viz:—P. G. M. Bro. Harington, of Prescott; Bro. Chauncey Bennett, of Hamilton; Bro. Meakins, of Hamilton; P. G. Chaplain C. W. Paterson, and Grand Representatives Blackie and Austin, the Grand Master pays the following tribute of respect to two London brethren now gone before:—

On the 5th of May, 1882, Bro. Donald Currie, a member of Tuscan Lodge, No. 195, London, was buried by that lodge. He was called away very suddenly, and quite unexpectedly. He, too, has left behind him many mourning friends, who can scarcely realize the fact that he is gone. Bro. Currie was a Mason of the right stamp, quiet and unassuming, content to labor in any position he could do the most good. He could always be relied upon for charity, the good Mason's pride, was required.

The above, I had hoped, would have closed the record for the year. Not so, however, for on the 9th June died Bro. John Brown, City Chamberlain, a Mason for forty-seven years, having been initiated in St. John's Lodge, London, 209, I. R. He was buried with Masonic honors June 11th, 1882, by the city brethren. The funeral was largely attended, the city corporation, Board of Education, city officials, and large numbers of citizens testifying to their respect for the memory of good old John Brown, who had lived with them for fifty years. Thus has passed away another landmark and a Mason of forty-seven years' standing.

From the assassination of President Garfield only a few months were allowed to pass, when the world was again startled with the intelligence that an attempt had been made to assassinate our beloved Queen.

If these assassinations and attempted assassinations are the work of disloyal socialists and communists, organized for the purpose of destroying the constitutional liberties of the people, high and low, rich and poor, then surely the time has arrived for all right thinking people to bestir themselves, and forever rid the world of such unholy organizations.

To us Free and Accepted Masons, who are taught loyalty and attachment to the country that gives us protection, let that

country be where it may, our duty is plain to endeavor, by all lawful means, to stamp this evil out of existence. I would suggest the propriety of the Grand Lodge, at this our first meeting since the dastardly attempt was made, drafting an address suitable for the occasion, and that it be forwarded to H. R. H. the M. W. Grand Master of England, for presentation to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Patroness of the Order.

NEW LODGES.

I have for years been of the opinion that our lodges required consolidation more than additions to their number. Consequently, I am rather pleased than otherwise at the few applications that have been made for dispensations during the year. I have to report the following dispensations granted, they having been recommended in the usual way by the D. D. G. M., and satisfying myself that they were to be located in sections of the country not likely to interfere with lodges now in existence:—

Leopold Lodge, Brigden, County of Lambton—October 26th, 1881.

Victoria Lodge, Victoria Road, County of Victoria—January 16th, 1882.

Moffa Lodge, Harrietsville, County of Middlesex—April 21st, 1882.

In accordance with the recommendations of Grand Lodge, I continued the dispensation issued to Cedar Lodge, Wiarton, for another year.

OFFICIAL VISITATIONS.

Previous to the last annual communication in Hamilton, I had made arrangements for a three months' visit to the mother land. My trip was intended to be of pleasure and information; with that in view, I was constantly on the move, visiting places of interest in France, England and Scotland. Time was too limited to do more than visit a very few Masonic lodges in Scotland just before leaving on the 6th October—Lodge St. Clair, No. 349, Edinburgh; Lodge St. George, No. 333, Glasgow; Lodge Princess, No. 607, Glasgow, and my mother lodge, No. 21, old St. John's, Lanark. The first named lodge did me the honor of presenting me with a jewel and a certificate of honorary membership.

The second, St. George's, made me an honorary member also; and all had banquets upon the occasion of my visits. To the R. W. Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and brethren of these lodges, I tender my sincere thanks for the great kindness and hospitality experienced.

The Grand Master then enumerated the lodges he visited officially during the year.

The Grand Master called the attention of the Grand Lodge to the non-receipt of any correspondence, for some years, from