

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—1888.

THE Thirty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington was held in the City of Port Townsend, on the 13th and 14th June, 1888, M. W. Bro. JOSEPH SMITH, Grand Master, presiding. A hearty welcome was extended the Grand Lodge by the Masonic fraternity and citizens of the place, and in addition to an excursion on the bay and a grand ball in its honor, Grand Lodge was invited to join in a "clam-bake." Fortunate Grand Lodge!

The Grand Master delivered an eloquent and instructive address covering his official actions for the preceding twelve months, and making feeling reference to the dead of his jurisdiction, especially to Past Grand Master James Biles, one of the founders of the Grand Lodge, who was buried with Grand Lodge honors.

The visit to Washington of Past Grand Master Robert Morris, of Kentucky, was feelingly referred to by the Grand Master, who concluded his notice of the illustrious Masonic poet by saying that "he had now arrived at that period of life when he should be able to retire from his labors and rest upon his laurels." Little did our good Brother Smith then imagine how soon the poet laureate of Freemasonry was to retire from all his labors!

The proceedings of the Grand Lodge at this Communication do not appear to call for any special notice.

An admirable Report on Foreign Correspondence, of over 120 pages is from the graceful pen of R. W. Bro. Thomas Milburne Reed, Chairman of the Committee, who apologizes for lack of time to revise what appears to us so singularly free from defects as to afford no cause for revision.

Quebec has pleasant notice, and our Report of Foreign Correspondence is highly commended, for which many thanks.

The 50 subordinate Lodges on the roll have a membership of 1,986.

M. W. Bro. NATHAN SMITH PORTER,

Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. THOMAS MILBURNE REED,

Grand Secretary.