

SOUTH DAKOTA—1891.

THE frontispiece to the report of South Dakota's proceedings for 1891 consists of an engraving of the late M. W. Bro. Geo. Harper Hand, Immediate Past Grand Master, who died on the 10th March, 1891, and to whose memory affectionate reference is made.

Watertown was the scene of the Seventeenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, which was held on the 9th and 10th June, 1891, Grand Master Theodore D. Kanouse, presiding.

In his brief though eminently business-like address, the Grand Master well and wisely counsels the Brethren to beware of canvassing for candidates, adding :—

Though not another Mason should ever be made, we should guard our doors securely against those who seek to wear our badges for mercenary purposes, and whose daily lives of debauchery, profanity and vulgarity, give the lie to their professions of faith in the tenets of our Craft.

The Grand Lodge of Tasmania was fraternally recognized, but recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was deferred.

Bro. William Blatt again presented, with becoming modesty, one of his carefully prepared and thoughtful reports of Foreign Correspondence. We take the following sensible remarks from his introduction :—

Most Wor. Bro. Richard Vaux hits the nail squarely on its head when he says that the continual effort, at times successful, to tinker with the established regulations of Grand Lodges, and even the customs and usages of the craft, is largely due to the effort of those who, prior to their admission to our ranks, were schooled in the laws and customs of other associations. Ignorant of the high moral principles underlying our institution, which can be understood only by a diligent study of the symbolism and esotery of Masonry, they endeavor to mould legislation after a manner inconsistent with the true spirit of the institution. A proper study of Masonry by its members will readily convince them that its teachings and fundamental principles are well abreast of the civilization and enlightenment of the age. Masonry is complete in its moral philosophy, and needs but to be evolved by study. It needs no improvement at the hands of the innovator. As you love the institution Brethren, defend it from encroachments.

In discussing the address of Grand Master Sorrels of Arizona, he says :—