

Bro. J. H. Tilden, W. Bro. J. S. Henderson, W. Bro. J. M. Gibson, V. W. Bro. W. T. Munday, W. Bro. Wm. Bell, W. Bro. Wm. Reid.

The following address was read by Bro. R. A. Hutchison, Senior Warden:

ADDRESS.

To Right Worshipful Brother John James Mason, Past Master of the Lodge of Strict Observance, A. F. & A. M., No. 27.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER;

At the regular meeting of this Lodge, held on Tuesday, 21st day of July, A. L. 5874, A. D. 1874, it was unanimously resolved that a committee be appointed to present an address and procure a suitable testimonial to be presented to you by the members, and it now becomes our very pleasant duty, Right Worshipful Sir, as the committee appointed for that purpose, to carry out the wishes of the brethren.

In every office to which you have been elected, you have ever striven to promote the welfare of the Lodge to the utmost extent of your power, and we cannot fail to attribute its very efficient and flourishing condition as being in a great measure due to your energy and perseverance, and especially when holding the office of *Worshipful Master* for two terms; and we are but expressing the opinion of the brethren in stating that we feel that this most important position could not have been filled in a more *able* and *painstaking* manner.

We now desire, *Right Worshipful Sir*, to express the very great appreciation entertained by all the members of this Lodge of those valuable services, and also the *high esteem* in which you are held as a *brother Mason*.

We have now much pleasure, *Right Worshipful Sir*, on behalf of the members of this Lodge, in presenting you with this *Past Master's Jewel*, and we hope that you may long live to wear it, and that you will always take a pride in looking upon it as the gift of the Lodge of *Strict Observance, No. 27*.

That the G. A. O. T. U. may watch over and protect you and all those near and dear to you, is the earnest prayer of us all.

Signed on behalf of the members of the Lodge,

R. A. HUTCHISON, S. W.	} Committee.
JOHN HENERY, J. W.	
STEPHEN SEARLE,	
WM. HYNDMAN,	

To this R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason made the following

REPLY:

"V. W. SIR AND BRETHREN:—I hardly know how to express in fittest terms my heartfelt thanks to my brethren of the Lodge of Strict Observance for the very flattering expressions made use of towards myself, in the kind and fraternal address that you have just presented to me, and more especially for this unequalled jewel that has accompanied it.

I rejoice that I can look back through the years that have elapsed since first I received light in Masonry with feelings of the greatest pleasure, and that pleasure is now immeasurably heightened by the present spontaneous expression of approval from the members of my mother lodge.

I can in all sincerity say that from the date of my initiation down to the present time, I have been deeply in earnest in all that I have had to do in Masonry, animated, as I have been with a love of the Order, and of the work itself, and any success that I have achieved may in a great measure be attributed to these motives.

I looked for no other reward than the inward knowledge that my efforts for the cause had not been altogether in vain, and I am proud beyond measure to know that those efforts have been deemed by my brethren worthy the enviable gifts that have been bestowed upon me this evening. I am still more glad to know that the members of my lodge, with one consent, have joined heartily in bestowing so great an honor upon me, and have so generally desired to identify themselves with it. The richness and beauty of the testimonial is ample evidence of the universal wish to share in the presentation, and this unanimity is perhaps the most precious thought I have in connection with it.

During my Masonic career I have had the good fortune to be surrounded by many warm hearted, affectionate and skilful brethren, who in the lodge have faithfully aided and encouraged me in my endeavors to promote its prosperity, and with whom, outside of it, I have many a time taken counsel, to my great advantage. This fact has also, in addition to my great love for the work, much to do with the success of the Lodge during the years in which I had the honor of occupying the Oriental Chair.

Once more I thank you, brethren, from the bottom of my heart, for your kind words and wishes, as well as for this magnificent Past Master's Jewel. I need hardly say that I will treasure it with a jealous care, and will ever recall with feelings of pleasure