

in every clime, by every race of civilized man; and lastly, in this country, above all, it has associated itself with human sympathies and charitable institutions. (Hear.) Let me say further that, while it has changed its character in some respects, it has lost nothing which can claim the respect of men who formerly, through the dim periods of the middle ages, carved its records upon the public buildings, upon tracery of the mediæval windows, or the ornamentation of palaces. Now it is content to devote itself to works of sympathy and charity, and in them it finds its highest praise and reward. Let me draw one further distinction, and that is an important one. In some other countries it has been unfortunately the lot of Freemasonry to find itself allied with faction and intrigue, with what I may call the darker side of politics. In England it has been signally the reverse. Now the Craft here has allied itself with social order and the great institutions of the country, and, above all, with monarchy, the crowning institution of all. (Cheers.) Your Royal Highness is not the first by many of your illustrious family who have sat in that chair. It is, no doubt, by the lustre of your great name and position you will reflect honor on the Craft to-day; but it is also something to be at the head of such a body as is represented here. (Cheers.) I may truly say that never in the whole history of Freemasonry has such a Grand Lodge been convened as that on which my eye rests at this moment, and there is further an inner view to be taken, that so far as my eye can carry me over these serried ranks of white and blue, the gold and purple, I recognize in them men who have solemnly taken obligations of worth and morality—men who have undertaken the duties of citizens and the loyalty of subjects. (Cheers.) I am expressing but very feebly the feelings and aspirations of this great assemblage when I say that I trust the connection of your Royal Highness with the Craft may be lasting, and that you may never have occasion for one moment's regret or anxiety when you look back upon the events of to-day. (Loud cheers.)

The Prince, who was again greeted with loud and prolonged cheering, replied in the following terms:—

Brethren, I am deeply grateful to the Most Worshipful the Pro-Grand Master for the excessively kind words he has just spoken to you, and for the cordial reception which you have given to me. It has been your unanimous wish that I should occupy this chair as your Grand Master, and you have this day installed me. It is difficult for me to find words adequate to express my deep thanks for the honor which has already been bestowed upon me—an honor which has, as history bears testimony, been bestowed upon several members of my family, my predecessors; and, brethren, it will always be my most ardent and sincere wish to walk in the footsteps of good men who have preceded me, and with God's help, to fulfil the duties which I have been called upon to occupy to-day. The Pro-Grand Master has told you, brethren, and I feel convinced that such an assemblage as this has never been known; and when I look around me on this vast and spacious hall, and see those who have come from the north and south, from the east and west, it is, I trust, an omen which will prove on this auspicious occasion an omen of good. The various duties which I have to perform will frequently, I am afraid, not permit me to attend so much to the duties of the Craft as I should desire; but you may be assured that when I have the time I shall do the utmost to maintain this high position, and do my duty by the Craft and by you on every possible occasion. Brethren, it would be useless for me to recapitulate everything which has been told you by the Pro-Grand Master relative to Freemasonry. Every Englishman knows that the two great watchwords of the Craft are Loyalty and Charity. These are their watchwords, and as long as Freemasons do not, as Freemasons, mix themselves up in politics, so long I am sure this high and noble Order will flourish, and will maintain the integrity of our great empire. (Cheers.) I thank you once more, brethren, for your cordial reception of me to-day, and I thank you for having come such immense distances to welcome me on this occasion. I assure you I shall never forget to-day.

The Prince resumed his seat amid loud cheers, which were long continued.

His Royal Highness spoke with a perfect elocution which rendered every syllable audible to the whole of the vast assemblage; but when, in conclusion, he uttered a manifest impromptu in saying that the reception which had been accorded to him, and the spectacle which he witnessed, were things which to the last day of his life he "should never forget—never!" there was just so much tremor of his voice as seemed to show that even the trained self-possession of Royalty was somewhat shaken, as indeed it well might be, by the magnitude and the splendor of the spectacle.

At the conclusion of the Prince's address the march from "Eli" was performed upon the organ, and then, a telegraphic address of congratulation from the Grand Lodge of Genoa having been previously read, deputations from the Grand Lodges of Scotland, Ireland, Sweden, and Denmark, were successively introduced. The Grand Master next appointed the Earl of Carnarvon to be Pro-Grand Master, Lord Skel-