

and Ramsay for their efforts in that direction. Both Companions, in response, advocated the necessity for masonic literature.

Comp. Silliman proposed "Prosperity and success to Signet Chapter, No. 34," with which the Grand Superintendent took occasion to couple "The First Principal, Ex. Comp. Robert Ramsay," and after paying a high tribute of praise to that Companion, stated that he hoped in future to become still more intimately acquainted with him, as he had heard that in all probability a Rose Croix Chapter would shortly be established in Toronto, under his management. The toast was drunk with Masonic honors. Ex. Comp. Ramsay, briefly replied, and Comp. Andrew Moffatt expressed his pleasure in seeing, after nearly forty years absence from a Chapter, a body of Royal Arch Masons in Orillia.

"The health of Comp. McPherson, Principal Sojourner," was drunk with a bumper. Comp. McPherson responded by singing, "The Entered Apprentice Free Mason."

The third Vice-Chairman then, in a highly complimentary strain, gave "The Ladies," which it is unnecessary to say, was duly honored, Comps. Chanter, Jardine, Williams, and G. M. Wilson, responding, each of whom maintained the virtue, beauty and excellence of the fair sex, especially those of their own locality.

Volunteer toasts and songs followed in rapid succession. One by Ex. Comp. Ramsay, was deservedly drunk with much enthusiasm, viz: "W. Bro. D.M. Malloch, and other absent brethren." Comp. Ramsay alluded to his sterling merits, and stated that really "Signet Chapter" owed its existence to him, as he (W. Bro. Malloch,) and W. Bro. Elliott were the originators of Orillia Lodge. Wor. Bro. Elliott responded, giving an account of the difficulties under which Bro. Malloch and himself had started the Lodge, and concluded by endorsing the sentiments of the previous speaker.

The "wee sma' hours" having arrived, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, and the companions dispersed, highly delighted with the day's proceedings, and we doubt not but that for many a long year the brethren will recollect both the work and refreshment of the opening ceremonies of "Signet Chapter No. 34."

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

At the Regular Convention of Huron Chapter, No. 30, held at the Masonic Hall, Goderich, on Friday evening, August 5th, R. E. Comp. Thos. Winter, Grand Superintendent of the Huron District, assisted by E. Comp. John Harris, P. Z. of Huron Chapter, No. 2, and E. Comp. John Dalton, Z. of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, installed the following officers:

V. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, 1st P. Z.; E. Comps. James S. Sinclair, 2nd P. H.; Hugh Gardiner, 3rd P. J.; Comps. S. H. Dettlor, S. E.; Edward Clifford, S. N.; R. L. Hunter, P. S.; E. Comp. John Harris, Treasurer; Comps. B. Trainer, S. S.; Mark Wade, J. S.; D. Ferguson, M. 1st V.; R. W. Brett, M. 2nd V.; T. T. Coleman, M. 3rd V.; Ross Robertson, Organist; Thomas Givley and A. McDonald, Stewards; B. Hazlehurst, Janitor.

Wawanosh R. A. Chapter, No. 15, G. R. C., Sarnia, which has not been in working order for about a year past—owing to the removal of R. E. Comp.

Wm. M. Jamieson, its late 1st Prin., to Toronto—has again been placed in a thorough state of efficiency. At a preliminary meeting called on 25th June last, for the election of officers, the following companions were unanimously elected, as follows:

E. Comps. J. A. MacKenzie, Z.; Louis Ernst, H.; Wm. Ireland, J.; Comps. George Russell, S. E. and Treasurer; Jehu Davis, S. N.; Thomas Parkinson, P. S.; and R. S. Oliver, Janitor.

A dispensation was then obtained from M. E. the Grand Z. to confirm this election, and for the installation of Comp. MacKenzie as Prin. Z., and Comp. Ernst as Prin. H.

On Monday, the 26th July last, R. E. Comp. Thomas F. McMullen, Grand Supt. of the London District, with the assistance of V. E. Comp. A. G. Smythe, of St. George's Chapter, London, in the most able and impressive manner installed the three Principals; and, with several other companions from London, exalted a candidate to the R. A. degree. Huron Chapter, of Port Huron, Michigan, with their First Prin., V. E. Comp. Fred L. Wells, were also present on the occasion. It is now confidently hoped that this old Chapter will again resume, and hold its former good standing.

FREEMASONRY.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN, BY B. W. BRO. OTTO KLOTZ.

The German poet and critic, Lessing, says: Freemasonry is not an arbitrary or a dispensable institution, it is a necessity which is founded in the essence of mankind and in civilized society. The real acts of the Freemasons are so grand, so far extending, that whole centuries may pass away, before it can be said: "That is what they have done." Nevertheless they have done all the good which has been done in the world, and will continue to work all the good that will yet be done in the world.

The real acts of the Freemasons are aiming at this: That they may mainly render all those acts—which generally are distinguished as good acts—unnecessary.

The German philosopher, Herder, says: If we exclude from the masonic field of action all matters of religion and politics, what remains for thinking and active men, what remains for a society of builders, but the erection of the edifice of *humanity*!

A grand work, a noble and beautiful undertaking! All objects which have a tendency to purely civil matters, narrow the sphere of action, but passing beyond those limits, man stands upon a vast, a free, a grand field. All discrepancies and wants of mankind can and may address themselves for relief to this invisible institute, which thinks and cares for them, helping where it can help without obliging the recipient to thanks. As if coming from a cloud the helping hand appears, and without being recognized it withdraws into the cloud. It is pleasant to imagine a society of men, acting in silence, consulting for the welfare of mankind—a society whose work itself is, in some measure a secret, but at which they labor as on an endless plan.

Excluding religion and politics, where is there a worthier, a nobler pursuit for a society than that of promoting the welfare of mankind?

If Freemasonry stands on that summit on which we desire her to stand—if she is that for which we