

"These statistics are suggestive, and will repay their careful study. The total, it will be seen, far exceeds that of last year, and the remarkable increase in some jurisdictions may be *apparent* only, arising from a more careful revision of previous statistics. We particularly refer to Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, and Texas. If the figures in our column of 'Net Increase,' do indeed indicate the actual growth of the year, then our brethren of these jurisdictions are to be congratulated upon their remarkable prosperity, provided the material worked up be good and sound.

"It will be seen that in the United States and British Provinces there are 9067 Lodges, with a aggregate membership of 590,721. The initiations during the year (omitting the District of Columbia, Georgia, New Jersey, and Virginia, from which no returns of initiations were given), amount to the very respectable number of 39,487. And after deducting the suspensions, removals, and deaths, the net increase over 1872 appears to be 26,208. We do not believe that if Bros. FINNEY, BLANCHARD, PIUS IX & COMPANY could gather their malignant 'Antis' into Lodges, they would equal in number this net increase of our Fraternity. So, may it ever be, so long as we only take in 'good men and true.'"

In conclusion, we tender to our *confreres* of the quill a word, our hearty thanks for the many flattering notices of our last effort. These reports are becoming more valuable, year by year, and it is our desire, as it is, doubtless, that of all the reporters, to make these annual reviews permanently interesting, and worthy of preservation in any collection of Masonic literature.

All which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,

Chairman Com. on Foreign Correspondence.

Collingwood, Ont., June 1st, 1874.

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