

R. W. Junior Grand Warden—Bro. Dr Maffey, P. M., E. C.

R. W. Grand Chaplain—Bro. Rev. Swindell, E. C.

R. W. Grand Treasurer—Bro. Councillor Zevenboom, P. D. S. G. W., E. C.

R. W. Grand Registrar—Bro. A. H. Padley, P. S. G. W., I. C.

R. W. President of Board of General Purposes—Bro. F. A. Burton, P. D. S. G. W., S. C.

R. W. Grand Secretary—Bro. H. W. Holway, P. J. G. W., I. C.

The officers and brethren of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales and representatives of other Grand Lodges, then entered and took their seats on the dais to the right and left of the Chairman of the Convention.

The Convention was then closed, and the Grand Lodge of Victoria opened with prayer, after which the Grand Officers elect retired, and the Chairman vacated his seat in favor of R. W. Bro. G. W. Manning, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, who, with the assistance of a number of Grand Officers of that Grand Lodge, duly installed the newly elected Grand Master and his officers.

The proclamation having been duly made in the East, West, and South, the Grand Master addressed the brethren as follows:—

"In acknowledging the honor you have been pleased to confer on me in electing me to be Grand Master, I must take the opportunity of congratulating my brother Masons, not only in this colony, but throughout Australia, on the establishment of the second Grand Lodge in this half of the world. (Applause.) Following the courageous example of New South Wales, we have this day exercised the just and constitutional privilege of establishing the Grand Lodge of Victoria, by which we sever our financial connection with the Grand Lodges on the other side of the world. In doing this, it is not with any ill-feeling: our sympathies and love are as great for the parent lodges as they ever were—(applause)—but it is because we feel that the time has arrived when in the interests of Masonry throughout the colony, we should take charge of our own affairs. The wonderful progress of Masonry throughout the United States of America and Canada, fully justifies the belief that in following in their footsteps we shall extend

and strengthen the benefits of our Craft throughout the colony, and relieve ourselves from the apathy and indifference which I regret to say has existed for a number of years, and encourage the desire on the part of brothers to become more familiar with the mystic teachings of our sacred order. (Applause.) As it is now so late, I will not detain you by addressing you upon the legality of our proceedings to-day. The establishment of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, the very interesting and exhaustive address made at its inauguration by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, and the circulation of its proceedings have made Victorian Masons familiar with the facts—and I think they are indisputable—that New South Wales and Victoria have, in establishing their Grand Lodges, acted in a perfectly just and constitutional manner according to the leading lights of ancient Masonry. (Applause.) Brethren, as your Grand Master, I shall endeavor to maintain the dignity of the Grand Lodge by adhering strictly to the principles of ancient established Masonic laws and customs. It will be my special duty to maintain the constitution under which we act with firmness and decision, and I shall devote myself sincerely to endeavoring to reconcile those Masonic differences which I regret to say exist at present. (Applause.) On behalf of the Grand Lodge of Victoria I accept the right hand of fellowship that has been so generously held out by our brothers of New South Wales. (Applause.) We are greatly indebted to our brother the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master—who so ably officiated as installing-master—and the officers of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, for their visit here to take part in this interesting ceremony. I hope that the time is not far distant when we shall have an opportunity of reciprocating the obligations we are under to our New South Wales brethren. (Applause.) I will not detain you further at present, but will simply express the hope that the Great Architect of the Universe may look down and bless our proceedings to-day, and give us strength for the performance of our duties. May we continue, through Him, to labor with success, in peace and harmony, and may He assist and preserve our ancient order by cementing it with every moral and social virtue. So mote it be. (Applause.)"

Brother Goddard moved,—

"That, inasmuch as the members of this Grand Lodge hail from different jurisdictions, it is resolved that they retain such rank and title as they severally held at the formation of this Grand Lodge, and that actual and Past District and Provincial Grand Lodge officers rank as Past Grand officers corresponding with the highest position each officer may have held."