

the fact that they receive as much honor as they confer in having at their head a nobleman, not only of illustrious lineage, holding the highest rank in the country as the representative of the Queen, but universally popular, and having an earnest sympathy with the Order over which he is called on to preside. The interest which the Grand Master has ever shown in the cause of Freemasonry, with which his name has been identified for forty-three years, will not relax in his official sphere, but we may expect will be called into greater activity, and will infuse a new spirit into the Order. There is no fear, as the Deputy Grand Master observed in his address, that, although the office is only an annual one, his Grace will ever have to seek the suffrages of the body. He will continue to receive for many a year the willing homage which was paid him yesterday, and, doubtless, will fulfill his generous pledge to imitate the example of his predecessor, and use his best endeavor to maintain the dignity and extend the power of the Order.

THE LATE GRAND MASTER.

THE death of the Grand Master naturally caused a wide spread feeling throughout the community. We have already published letters and resolutions of condolence, and now add others.

The Aldworth Lodge, No. 235, Paisley, County of Bruce, adopted the following at a special meeting on the 18th January:

"Moved by Brother Gordon, seconded by Brother Valentine,

"That the Worshipful Master having intimated to the brethren of Aldworth Lodge, No. 235, G. R. C., the death of their Most Worshipful Grand Master, William Mercer Wilson, which took place on the morning of Saturday last, the brethren cannot permit this opportunity to pass without unitedly bearing testimony to their sense of the great loss which is sustained by Masonry, in consequence of this mysterious dispensation of the G. A. O. T. U. Highly esteemed in all the relations of life, much respected as an upright Judge, a loyal citizen, and a high minded gentleman, his death will be felt to be a public calamity of no common kind, but in consequence of his long and intimate association of himself with the Masonic fraternity, and the signal ability with which he discharged the multifarious and arduous duties devolving upon him in the Most Worshipful Grand Master's position, which he was so frequently elected to occupy. His loss to the Grand Lodge, and to the Craft in general, is a peculiarly great calamity. With regret of the most profound character do we receive this unlooked for intelligence.

"In token of our regard for him and our deep sorrow for his sudden demise, the brethren of Aldworth Lodge agree to wear the usual mourning emblem, for the space of one month; and the Secretary is instructed to send a copy of this, our unanimous resolution to Mrs Wilson, and to the CRAFTSMAN for publication.—*Carried unanimously.*

JAMES C. GIBSON, Secretary.

LODGE OF SORROW.

IMPOSING CEREMONY AT THE MASONIC HALL, OTTAWA.

THE Masonic Hall on Friday night witnessed one of the most imposing and impressive ceremonies that have ever taken place in Ottawa, the occasion being the holding of a Lodge of Sorrow by the brethren of the "Mystic Tie," in memory of the late Grand Master and Grand Secretary, M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, LL. D., and R. W. Thomas Bird Harris, 33°. The hall, which, by the way, is a very beautiful one, was elaborately prepared for the occasion, and reflected great credit on Brother Fred. H. Hunton, who superintended the arrangements. All the furniture was heavily draped with black cloth, white festoons of the same were suspended from the walls and ceilings. The Master's and Warden's chairs were further adorned with emblems appropriate to the occasion. In the centre of the room was

A CATAFALQUE

surmounted by a heavily draped arch with burning tapers. On this reposed two coffins covered with heavy black palls with deep white borders; each coffin was surmounted with the collar and jewel of the highest Order to which the brother belonged, and crossed swords, on which were deposited a pure white apron and pair of gloves, the whole surrounded by the three lesser lights. The altar was heavily draped, whereon the closed volume of the Sacred Law was deposited, the square and compass being surmounted by a wreath of *immortelles*; in front of the altar the emblems of mortality were laid. There was