

Having made his arrangements accordingly, Stephenson said farewell to the captain in whose ship he had made the first unfortunate passage from Carthage, and on parting with him, asked if he could account for the mate's conduct when the passengers were leaving the vessel. "I am the more at loss to find the reason for his treatment of me," he observed, "because on the voyage we were very good friends." "Well, sir," answered the captain, "I can let you into the secret. My mate had no special liking for Mr. —; indeed, I happen to know he disliked him as strongly as you and the rest of the passengers disliked him. But Mr. — is a Freemason, and so is my mate; and Freemasons are bound by their oath to help their brethren in moments of peril or distress, before they assist persons not of their Fraternity." This explanation so impressed Robert Stephenson, that he forthwith became a Mason. The Master, Wardens and members of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 7, constituted under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, presented him (Sept. 21, 1827.) with a document under their seal, in which he is styled, "a Master Mason of good report, beloved and esteemed among us."

ELECTION OF PRINCE OF WALES GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND.

THE London *Freemason* of March 6th, instant, gives us the following interesting particulars concerning the Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of England, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on March 3rd:

There were several hundreds of brethren present, who were probably under the impression that the Prince of Wales would preside. The brethren began to arrive at an early hour, and long before seven o'clock, all sitting room was occupied. By the time the Grand Lodge was opened more than half the brethren present were standing, and remained so during the conduct of Grand Lodge business.

The Grand Master's chair was occupied by Brother Hugh P. Sandeman, District Grand Master of Bengal, the G. S. W. chair was occupied by Lord Henry Thynne, M. P., G. S. W., and the G. J. W. chair by Bro. F. Pattison. The Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, acted as Deputy Grand Master, and the Earl of Limerick, Provincial Grand Master of Bristol, as Past Grand Master. To the right of the Earl of Limerick were Col. Burdett, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, Brother Thomas F. Halsey, M. P., Provincial Grand Master of Herts, the Rev. James Simpson, D. C. L., Grand Chaplain, and other eminent Craftsmen.

Bro. Standish Grove Grady, in rising to propose the election of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master for the ensuing year, said:

Most Worshipful Grand Master.—I having had the honor of nominating His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at the last quarterly communication as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of our Order for the ensuing year, it becomes my duty now to ask you to confirm that nomination, by your election of His Royal Highness this evening to that office. I do indeed esteem it the highest honor, that I have been selected to discharge this duty, and I cannot attribute it to any personal merits of my own, but rather to the circumstances that, not many years ago, I had the good fortune to be called upon to present to their Royal Highnesses the first words of welcome when the illustrious Princess, with whom the Most Worshipful Grand Master has so happily united his fortunes, first graced the shores of her adopted country; and still more recently to his Royal brother, the Duke of Edinburgh, and his illustrious bride, the Grand Duchess, when he introduced her to the loyalty of Her Majesty's subjects. And I again feel it an honor to discharge my present duty, and to ask this Grand Lodge, so numerously and influentially attended, to confer on His Royal Highness the highest honor that the Craft can bestow on any of its members. I need not remind you of the position of our ancient Order; I need not remind you that when a recent event rendered vacant the occupancy of our throne, how the voice of the Craft throughout Her Majesty's dominions fell as one on His Royal Highness, as the most fit to occupy the throne and preside over our ancient institution. I need not remind you of the manner in which His Royal Highness, when waited upon by the deputation of the Grand Lodge, which requested his acceptance of that office, how graciously, how handsomely, and with all truly Masonic feeling, he acceded to the wish and complied with their request. I need not remind you of the report which has reached us all, of the able and distinguished manner in which he performed one of our most interesting ceremonies on the recent occasion of the initiation of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. The way he presided over the anniversary festival of our charitable institutions will convince you that we have in His Royal Highness a ruler who will add brilliancy to the Order, and raise it to a position of prosperity to which it has not