

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The following address was delivered by the M. W. the Grand Master, at the recent Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick :

BRETHREN,—There could not be a more appropriate season for the annual assembling of Grand Lodge than that of the autumnal equinox, when nature is bringing to a close her labors for the year. The mellow fruit and the golden grain, which have been ripening under the summer's sun, are gathered by the husbandman who now stands face to face with the results of his labor. Spring, gorgeous in her apparel, glorious in her beauty, eloquent with the voices of nature, is the season of youth and of promise. Autumn is the season of fulfilment. Spring is rich in hope. Autumn's treasures are the realization of that hope to the industrious and faithful toiler. So, when we gather together at this Autumn-tide, Nature herself, speaking by a symbolism that it is not difficult to interpret, bids us remember that the fruits of our harvest are the results of our toil. As we have sown so shall we reap. If we have faithfully and diligently performed our allotted tasks in the days that have been gathered into the inexorable past, the results will be satisfactory to ourselves and beneficial to our fellows. The season should teach us to make the examination rigidly, honestly and faithfully.

It affords me pleasure to be able to say that, during the year that is just closing, the circle of brethren prominent in the affairs of Grand Lodge has not been broken by a single death. For His tender mercies to us in this and in every other respect we reverently offer to the Grand Architect of the Universe the "acceptable incense of obedient and grateful hearts."

There has, however, occurred in the year one death of which Grand Lodge will not fail to take official notice. The distinguished nobleman, the Earl of Zetland, who, for a quarter of a century presided with such grace and courtesy over the Grand Lodge of England, whose sign manual was attached to nearly every Warrant formerly held in this Province, and whose name is yet familiar in our mouths as a household word, has been called to his eternal rest. It will be a proper mark of our respect to pass an address of condolence to the Grand Lodge of England on the loss the Fraternity has sustained by the death of this eminent and honored brother.

We have extended our friendly relations with the Grand Lodges of Scotland, New Jersey and Michigan by an interchange of representatives. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Scotland has appointed as the representative of his Grand Lodge at the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, an eminent and distinguished brother, conferring upon him, at the same time, an honorable past rank in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and transmitting to him through our Grand Secretary the jewel and clothing of that rank. I have appointed as the representative of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick at the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Brother Alexander Hay, who has, since the organization of our Grand Lodge, taken a deep interest in its welfare, given us much kindly assistance, and shown our brothers visiting Edinburgh many courtesies. Brother Hay has been formally received in his representative capacity by the Grand Master of Scotland, as will be seen by the correspondence on the Grand Secretary's table. I respectfully ask Grand Lodge to confirm this appointment, and recommend as a proper courtesy in this case that the rank of Junior Grand Warden be conferred upon Brother Hay. I also ask Grand Lodge to confirm the appointment of R. W. Bro. D. Burnham Tracy as our representative to the Grand Lodge of Michigan, and of R. W. Bro. David B. Bruen, as our representative to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Applications for recognition have been received from bodies claiming to be Grand Orients in Egypt and Hungary. These will be laid before you by the Grand Secretary.

Circular letters have been received from two or three Grand Lodges with whom we are in friendly communication, announcing the suspension of their fraternal relations with each other. It is to be hoped that the differences existing between these supreme bodies will be speedily settled, or at least modified, so that harmony being restored, the only contention existing among regular Masons shall be as to who can best work and best agree.

I have been invited by the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, as your Grand Master, to participate in the ceremony of dedicating the magnificent Masonic Temple just completed in the city of Philadelphia. The ceremony takes place during the present week, and it was, therefore, impossible for me to accept the courteous invitation. I also received an invitation from the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of