

nificent suite of apartments for the uses of the Craft—a ceremony in which nearly one thousand brothers united, and the public celebration of which demonstrates the Masonic unity now prevailing in Italy, as well as the growth of liberty in the Eternal City.

The dedication of the fine new Masonic Temple in New York was an event of more than ordinary interest. The Grand Master of that State courteously extended to the Grand Master and other prominent officers of this Grand Lodge an invitation to be present and participate in the ceremonies. The Temple is owned by the Craft in the State and its erection is but the preliminary step to the creation of a Masonic Asylum, intended to be the most complete establishment of its kind in the world. This work, and the noble charity which it is designed to aid, have long been in contemplation by the Masons of the Empire State, and I would have been much gratified had the time at my disposal enabled me to participate in an event which, alike from its interest and the magnificence of its surroundings, is of historic importance in the history of Masonry on this Continent. But I had made an engagement with the Craft in Prince Edward Island for a later period in the same month, and was unable to give the time. The Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Secretary concurred with me in the idea that the occasion was one to call for the congratulations of the entire Craft in the Province.

With all the Masonic jurisdictions with which we are in fraternal communication the most kindly relations prevail.

The lodges in Prince Edward Island united in the formation of a Grand Lodge for that Province of the Dominion, and a courteous request was sent to me and to the officers of Grand Lodge to attend on the 24th of June to instal the Grand Master and other officers of Grand Lodge. Satisfied with the regularity of their proceeding, the movement of the Freemasons in Prince Edward Island was one that met with my hearty concurrence, as I have no doubt it will with yours, and I readily accepted the invitation. I attended the new Grand Lodge and installed M. W. Bro. Yeo, the Grand Master, and the other officers. Besides the Masonic duties in Grand Lodge the Craft on the Island had arranged for a public procession and a service at church, where an excellent sermon was preached by Rev. Bro. Archdeacon Read, and in the evening there was a Masonic dinner, at which the visitors were hospitably and courteously entertained. The "Encampment of St. John" of the Order of the Temple had courteously offered their services as an escort to the Grand Master of New Brunswick, to and from Charlottetown, an offer which I gladly accepted, and the presence of this fine chivalrous organization gave great interest to the public ceremonies.

In our own Dominion the death of M. W. Bro. Wm. Mercer Wilson, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, excited deep and general sympathy. When I was made a Mason in the city of Montreal, nearly twenty years ago, Bro. Wilson was then at the head of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and for several times, at various intervals, he has been called to the same position, the duties of which he discharged with discretion, zeal and ability. I believe that a close review of Bro. Wilson's career would show that he was the leading mind in the movement for the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada, the result of which has been the present system of Masonic Government in the Dominion. In the early days of the movement his patient energy and wise counsels sustained that Grand Lodge in the darkest hour of trial. He visited a large number of the Grand Lodges in the United States, explaining to them the position of his Grand Lodge and procuring from them support and sympathy; and his continued election to the position of Grand Master clearly showed how Grand Lodge trusted him. When what is known as the "Quebec difficulty" had assumed such a position that its settlement became an absolute necessity, the Grand Lodge of Canada recalled him to the position of Grand Master—the highest compliment that could have been paid to him. It was never my good fortune to personally meet Bro. Wilson, but I had considerable correspondence with him, and ever found him prompt, clear and decisive, whilst the fund of Masonic knowledge at his hand, on the most intricate questions, was very large indeed. As a citizen, M. W. Bro. Wilson was held in the highest esteem by the community in which he lived; the Government of the country showed its confidence in him by giving him a seat on the Bench, and his whole career, civic and Masonic, was that of a good man. Grand Lodge will not, I am sure, fail to give expression to its sympathy with the Grand Lodge of Canada in the loss it has sustained by the death of so eminent a brother.

In our own jurisdiction we have to mourn the death of R. W. Bro. W. P. Flewelling, who died at Clifton, on March 26, at the age of sixty years. For many years Bro. Flewelling was an active member of Midian Lodge, in which he filled nearly every important office, and of which he was treasurer at the time of his death. He took an active interest in the formation of our Grand Lodge, and was its first Senior Grand