

TENNESSEE—1875.

M. W. A. J. Wheeler, Grand Master. R. W. John Frizzell, Grand Secretary.

The Sixty-second Annual Communication began on the 8th of November, A. L. 5875, at Nashville.

Lodges represented, 345 ; members present, over 450.

The address of Grand Master Wheeler deals mainly with topics of local interest, but is throughout pervaded by the earnest spirit of true Masonry. He reports that "one source of annoyance or disquiet with several of the Lodges in this State, the past year, has been in occupying a Lodge-room or hall in common with other organizations." He very properly opposes this practice, and recommends prohibitory action on the part of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master visited the State of Mississippi, and received a truly fraternal welcome. He says of it :

"Bro. J. Y. Murray, the M. E. Grand High Priest, and Brother M. C. Bell in their addresses of welcome, desired me to convey to this Grand Lodge and the twenty thousand Masons of the State, the earnest respect, love and esteem of the Masons of Mississippi for the Masons of Tennessee. As no State has reflected more lustre upon the Fraternity than Mississippi, and as the welcome was heartily approved by the Grand Master of that State, I have much pleasure in bringing you the message they sent."

Further on, the M. W. Grand Master, alluding to the deaths during the year, refers in appropriate terms to the losses sustained by Canada, Kentucky and Tennessee :

"Canada has been called upon to mourn the loss of her Grand Master and Grand Secretary ; Kentucky mourns for her venerable and faithful Grand Secretary, but Tennessee feels a nearer, sharper, keener pang * * * in the death of one of the most gifted and remarkable men of the age, ex-President Andrew Johnson."

The address of the M. W. Grand Master was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. Among the edicts we quote Nos. 17 and 18 :—

"No. 17.—Applications for dimits must be made at a stated meeting, and shall be granted if all dues are paid and no charges have been preferred or time asked to prefer the same.

"No. 18.—No Lodge hereafter created, either by Dispensation or Charter shall bear the name of any living person."

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