

heartily for the address and the magnificent testimonial which you have so kindly presented to me, as well as for the warm interest you have taken in the well-being of myself and family.

During the long and serious illness from which I have just recovered, and which for some time past prevented my regular attendance at our lodge meetings, I appreciated highly the friendly visits which so many members of this and other lodges made me at my residence. Such a lively interest in a brother's welfare is one of the distinguishing features of Freemasonry, and has a tendency to draw us closer together in our relations in life. I have felt considerable interest in advancing the welfare of Kerr Lodge, and have warm feelings of personal regard for its members, because it bears the name of one of my best personal friends, M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, one of our most esteemed Past Grand Masters, and because I have always found the brethren of this lodge actuated by strong friendly feelings for each other, and an earnest and sincere desire to uphold Masonry in its purity. I am glad to know, brethren, that our united exertions have been crowned with success, and that our lodge, which is one of the best worked in the Province, may now be classed among the strongest financially and otherwise on the roll of the Grand Lodge. I am at a loss, however, to understand why I should have been selected for such an expression of your esteem and generosity, as shewn by the presentation of this valuable testimonial, and I honestly think you have greatly over-estimated the value of my services. During the residence of myself and family in Barrie, we have received many kindnesses, and it is particularly gratifying to know that among the members of the Masonic fraternity with whom I have been so intimately associated in society matters, I have been so very fortunate as to secure your hearty friendship and good will.

On behalf of Mrs. Spry, I am desired to convey to you her heartiest thanks for the beautiful and appropriate gift which you have made her. As she is a Mason's daughter and a Mason's wife, she has had many opportunities of witnessing the great benefits which Masonry confers upon those who are so unfortunate as to require assistance; she is, therefore, a warm admirer of Freemasonry, and has the highest regard for the fraternity, the members of Kerr Lodge, and the brethren of the town of Barrie generally. These testimonials we shall preserve with pride and gratification, and in the years yet to come as we journey through life, we shall look upon them with a grateful remembrance of your esteem and affection, and trust that we may all hereafter meet in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect rules and reigns forevermore.

Right Worshipful Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, paid an eloquent tribute to the Masonic character and ability of the recipient, and congratulated the lodge upon the evidence the testimonial and other auspices of the occasion gave of their flourishing condition. Right Worshipful Bro. Ramsay followed with a graceful compliment to the Masonic fealty and energy of Grand Master Spry, and referred to their many years of fraternal acquaintance. Very Worshipful Bro. R. King, Sr., W. Bro. Gordon, and W. Bro. Ward, followed briefly.

At refreshments, speeches were made by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, R. W. the Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Ramsay, V. W. Bro. King, Wor. Bros. Rogerson, Gordon, Ward, Reid, Wilmott, and McCraw; and Bro. Wm. Downie, S. W.; Bro. Palling, J. W.; Bro. Nicholson, D. of C.; Bro. Barraud, and others. Bros. J. C. Morgan, Barraud and Rogers, contributed songs.