

We most heartily congratulate the Grand Lodge of New York upon this happy consummation of the project which it has had in hand for the last four years, and Past Grand Master Lawrence upon the magnificent success of what he may well be always proud to regard as a noble Masonic life work. It was no slight undertaking, in little more than four years, to succeed in paying off \$400,000 worth of mortgage bonds. The last cent of the indebtedness having been fully paid, the whole of the bonds representing the \$400,000 of debt were burned to ashes on the 12th April, 1889, and the mortgage debt finally extinguished. The 24th April was set apart as a day of thanksgiving and rejoicing, in commemoration of the "emancipation" of the Grand Lodge from its burden of debt. On the evening of that day, as was most meet and proper, every part of that grand old jurisdiction echoed with one universal acclaim of praise and thankfulness to the Most High, and a medal in bronze was struck, by the direction of the Grand Master, bearing the heraldic device of the Grand Lodge, and an inscription appropriate to the event.

Coming immediately after what is cause for so much rejoicing, it is exceedingly regrettable to learn that the cause of difference between the Grand Lodges of New York and New Jersey, in the matter of the initiation of Daniel E. Lemm, has not yet been satisfactorily adjusted. New York proffered arbitration and the offer was accepted, but the Grand Master of this jurisdiction declined to appoint an arbitrator while the interdict issued by the Grand Master of New Jersey remained in force.

With deep regret we have learned of the demise during the past year of Past Grand Masters Joseph D. Evans and John W. Simons, the latter one of the most eminent Masonic minds of the Empire State, and for many years its gifted and accomplished Chairman of Foreign Correspondence.

The total membership of constituent Lodges in this jurisdiction is 74,065, as against 72,625 on the 1st January, 1888.

New York has resolved upon the establishment of a Masonic Asylum, upon a magnificent site in the centrally situated city of Utica.

For the fifth time, Grand Master Lawrence was unanimously elected, but declined to further serve, and a set of complimentary

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