

The whole proceedings show a healthy and harmonious state of affairs in Minnesota, which we trust may long prevail.

Number of working lodges 124 ; members 6,739.

M. W. Edwd. W. Durant, Grand Master.

R. W. A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary and Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

MISSISSIPPI—1878.

The Sixtieth Annual Communication commenced on 6th February, 1878, in the *Methodist Church* in the city of Grenada.

M. W. Brother, Grand Master John Y. Murray, presiding.

The Grand Master's address covers 12 pages of closely printed matter. He congratulates the Brethren that peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction, and adds that there is as complete harmony between Subordinate Lodges and among the Brotherhood as ever existed in the Order since the organization of the Grand Lodge.

He says numbers have not increased as in former years, but does not consider this an ill omen, for he believes the greatest danger to the institution does not lie in the want of numbers; it is not, he thinks the uninitiated or even the anti-mason who is most to be feared by the order, but the influence of bad men within, who have deceived us.

Another drawback to Free Masonry is, he believes :

"The many other secret societies in this country. Although most of them and perhaps all, have objects in view most praiseworthy, still I am inclined to believe that a conscientious man who is a Freemason risks something when he joins another secret society. How can he assume new duties until he knows they will not conflict with those he has already obligated himself to perform? There may be exceptions, but it strikes me as a rule, that those who hasten to take upon themselves new duties, are apt to relax in the performance of those already binding upon them. In fact, if we discharge well every duty devolving upon us as Masons, we may be perfectly content with the good we have done, as far as any worldly institution resting upon good morals only, could enable us.

"It is also believed that the higher degrees of Masonry, as organized and worked separately and apart from the Blue Lodge, have seriously injured Ancient Craft Masonry."

He reports 13 decisions.