

## NEW JERSEY—1876.

Proceedings of the 89th Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Jersey, in the City of Trenton, 19th and 20th January, A. L. 5876.

Present, M. W. Wm. A. Pembroke, Grand Master; R. W. Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary, and a very large attendance of Grand Officers, Deputy Grand Masters, Past Masters, representatives and visitors.

From the M. W. Grand Master's address we quote:—

"I welcome you to our 89th Annual Communication. These years have been marked by signal providences and by unmistakeable progress in the Craft. The little band of fifty Masons who in 1786 composed the Masonic Jurisdiction of New Jersey, with Chief Justice Brearley as their Grand Master, has steadily advanced through many ordeals, until to-day, on the threshold of our ninetieth year we number 143 Lodges and over 12,000 Masons. \* \* \* \* During the year one of our Past Grand Officers has been removed by death. I refer to R. W. Bro. George Vail, and recommend that a memorial page inscribed with his name be inserted in the proceedings."

Allusion is made to the illustrious dead of other States and countries, after which local matters are discussed.

The Grand Master alludes to his visit to New York, in June, at the dedication of the Masonic Temple in that city.

The idea of raising means for the erection in the grounds of Mount Vernon of a suitable monument to George Washington, is presented and urged upon the Grand Lodge, which appointed a committee to suggest plans for carrying out the object.

We notice that the Grand Lodge of New Jersey had the honor of a visit from M. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, Grand Master of New York, and Bro. Joseph D. Bedle, Governor of New Jersey, who were received with appropriate honors.

Statistics: New Jersey has 145 Lodges with 12,013 members. Cash in hand and invested \$13,798.00.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence reviews the Proceedings of 41 Grand Lodges, among which Nova Scotia receives due notice.

M. W. Marshall B. Smith was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Joseph H. Hough was re-elected Grand Secretary.

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