

Some weeks ago, I invited the presence of the Grand Masters of the three neighboring States to be present at this communication, and have received from the Grand Master of Ohio his polite acceptance of our invitation. I had much pleasure in making the acquaintance of the Representatives from Ohio, and do not feel surprised that in such hands the order should be in so prosperous and happy a condition.

An application was made to me by D. D. G. M. Locke of Belle River, Michigan, to allow certain parties, residing in the township of Sombra, C. W., desirous of joining the order, to connect themselves with a Lodge on the American side of the river St. Clair, inasmuch as our nearest Lodge was situated some 30 miles distant; it was further represented to me, that these parties would shortly be in a position to apply for a charter for a Lodge under our own jurisdiction. I felt much pleasure in granting the necessary permission, and hope shortly to receive an application for a charter from these brethren.

I have the satisfaction of laying before you a summary of the working of all the Lodges in this jurisdiction, by which you will find that our progress though slow has been steadily onward. Much of the dross has been cast off, and the pure metal remains with us. Our members now consist of men of the right stamp, engaged in a good cause, and ready to prompt others to do likewise. In deep sympathy with the struggling energy of Brother P. G. Master Maclaren, of Quebec, to revive the order in Canada East, I have to report to you, that the number of Lodges in that jurisdiction has not increased, and only one Lodge now remains of the large band who were pioneers in the work of the order in Canada. Br. Maclaren has bravely buffeted the waves of opposition which have been rising higher and higher, and to his honesty of purpose and firm determination to prove himself an Odd Fellow, indeed it is to be attributed that the funds have not been divided and the last link broken—the last Lodge in Canada East dissolved. It is not pleasant to reflect upon the misconduct of others, but it is only justice to state that had the Montreal brotherhood been composed of metal of the proper ring—had they not in bygone days been recreant to their duty, they would have now the satisfaction of being in a far different position—their attempt to raise a single “Phoenix” would not be so decided a failure.

Brethren, I shall not longer detain you from the work of the session; I shall gladly convey to you all the information in my power, on matters connected with the order; it will be your duty to elect at this session the proper officers for the ensuing year; exercise due caution in your choice, and in resigning my charge to my successor, I shall be glad of the assurance, that the work auspiciously begun has a bright future before it, and shall retire with the consciousness that whatever errors may have occurred on my part have not been those of intention. Our order in Canada now numbers 605 members, with a respectable amount of funds in the several