

that it will afford him much pleasure to accept the same position. With assurances of esteem, believe me to remain,

(Signed) "Yours fraternally,
"J. J. MASON,
"Gr. Sec."

Enclosed was a commission appointing Most Worshipful Grand Master Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada. At the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in July, 1882, there were 285 lodges represented, the total number of lodges in that jurisdiction being 401, containing an aggregate membership of 17,967, which is far in excess of all the Masons in Australia. The receipts for the year were \$16,913.47. The amount expended last year for charity was \$10,360. From the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for 1883, we clip the following:—

"There is perhaps no Province, State or Kingdom, or country in which Freemasonry is more popular or in a more flourishing condition than it is in Canada. It seems to be the almost universal custom in that Province to have the Grand Lodge to lay, with Masonic ceremonies, the corner-stone of every public edifice and church, there having been three special meetings of the Grand Lodge for such purpose during the past year."

From Kenning's *Cyclopædia* the following is extracted:—

"Until 1855 the lodges in Canada were under the English Grand Lodge, with Provincial Grand Masters, or under the Irish and Scottish Grand Lodges. In 1833 the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed, and since then the Grand Lodges of Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick have been formed."

The Grand Lodge of New South Wales is now recognized by twenty sister Grand Lodges, viz.:—Alabama, Arkansas, British Columbia, Montana, Manitoba, Nebraska, Nevada, New Brunswick, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, Indian Territory, Iowa, Kansas, District of Columbia, Canada, Victoria.—*Freemason, Sydney, N. S. W.*

THE ONLY WAY.

We understand that neither the damage done to the Masonic Temple has been as yet adjusted, nor a definite plan arranged for reconstruction, or renovation, of the edifice. To our minds there is but one plain course to be pursued by the Hall and Asylum Trustees in the interests of the fund and of the fraternity, and that is the reconstruction of the upper stories in such a manner as to produce the greatest possible revenue while providing for the wants of metropolitan lodges. Now, upon the third floor can be located one room at \$400,

two at \$300 each and one at \$200; on the fourth floor three rooms at \$300 and one at \$200 while the fifth and sixth stories can be made to afford the same accommodations and realize a like income. Of course, we make this reckoning, presumptively, and with a hope, that the unsightly and dangerous cumbrance to the building—the mansard roof—be removed and an additional story added, so that it and the fifth story shall be occupied by lodge rooms, thus not only lessening the debt more rapidly but also see the way clear to strike off that bug-bear—the poll tax, and by so doing enable lodges in the jurisdiction of New York, to deal more charitably towards its impecunious membership and curtail the aggregation of the army of unaffiliation. Let us remind the trustees that the Temple is the property of the entire fraternity of the State and the interests of our country members—who care little for Templarism or Scottish Masonry—have to be consulted so as to produce the largest possible revenue while encouraging the growth and prosperity of Blue Masonry and Blue Masonry only.—*Corner Stone.*

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales convened recently and was attended by a goodly number of brethren. In the absence of Bro. the Rev. Canon Raymond Portal, M. P. Grand Master, the chair was occupied by Bro. T. C. Walls, R. P. G. I. M. The minutes of the previous Grand Council having been read and confirmed, the following highly satisfactory report was read by the Recorder and unanimously adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes:—

"To the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown.

"Since the last meeting of this Grand Council the Cryptic degrees have continued to progress satisfactorily, the Grand Masters Council, No. 1, having been distinguished as in former years, for the accession of members, the number admitted since last report being thirty-seven.

"It is proposed to resuscitate one or more of the councils in London which have been in abeyance for some years, and it is believed that the attempt will prove successful.