

THE EARL OF ZETLAND.

The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England has announced his intention of retiring from the high office which he now fills in the Craft. The simple retirement of a Grand Master is not in itself a circumstance of much importance; but in this particular instance, where the occupant of the office has held it for over a quarter of a century, the event is one which naturally excites great interest, and the most profound feelings of regret among our brethren in England. The *Freemason*, referring to his Lordship, says:

"The Earl of Zetland comes of a good masonic stock, as we shall prove in a few words. His grandfather, the first Lord Dundas, was Deputy Grand Master under the Duke of Sussex in 1813, and his father, the first Earl of Zetland, afterwards filled the same post, and died in 1839, Prov. Grand Master of England. Our Most Worshipful Brother was born on the 5th of February, 1795, and is consequently now in his seventy-fifth year. His masonic career dates from the 18th June, 1830, when, as the 'Honorable Thomas Dundas,' he was initiated in the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 259, in which Lodge he eventually occupied the chair of Worshipful Master. His lordship was appointed Senior Grand Warden on the 25th of April, 1832; he succeeded the late Earl of Durham, as Deputy Grand Master, on the 24th of April, 1839, and followed the same lamented nobleman in the office of Prov. Grand Master in 1840; this high post he held at the death of H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, in April 1843, when, by the Constitutions of the Order, the Earl became the Ruler of the English Craft until the next period of election, at which time, namely on the 6th of March, 1844, his lordship was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master, and was installed as such on the 24th of April following. In Royal Arch Masonry, Lord Zetland's career has been equally brilliant; he was exalted on the 1st June, 1832, in the Prince of Wales Chapter, No. 259, and duly served in each of the principal chairs; he was appointed one of the Grand Sojourners in 1832; as Deputy Grand Master he became, *ex officio*, Second Grand Principal, and, of course, as Grand Master he was elevated to the dignity of Supreme Grand Z., in accordance with the Regulations of the Order. His lordship has also been Provincial Grand Master for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire since 1835."

During the reign of the Grand Master, the number of Lodges in England has risen from seven hundred and sixteen to nearly thirteen hundred; and the estimated membership, from twenty-seven thousand to eighty-four thousand five hundred.

WALSINGHAM LODGE, No. 174.—The following officers were elected for this Lodge for the ensuing year, on the evening of the 1st December inst.:—

W Bro Chauncey Bennett, re-elected W m; Bros John Hudson, S W; C Francis, re-elected J W; W B Franklin, m D, Treasurer; William Ross, re-elected Secretary; John Collet, Tyler.