

Chapter of New Brunswick, asking for our recognition, and that fraternal communication may be established with us. This Memorial I commend to your kindest consideration, and I feel sure the Grand Chapter of N. S. will join me in wishing that prosperity and harmony may always attend our Companions in New Brunswick.

Companions, it is with feelings of deepest regret I have to record that since our last Annual Convocation the Angel of Death has thrown his dark shadow across our portals, and called our much loved Past Grand High Priest, Wm. Taylor, to his eternal rest. In the bosom of his family and surrounded by loving friends he passed peacefully away on the 26th of February, 1888, in the 67th year of his age. By his death this Grand Chapter has lost one of its brightest ornaments. Brought to Light in Burns' Lodge, then No. 352, Registry of Scotland, in April, 1860, after filling numerous subordinate offices he was elected Grand Master Mason of Nova Scotia in 1881. Exalted to the sublime degree of the Holy Royal Arch in 1864, he was elected Grand High Priest of this jurisdiction in 1879. In every relation of life he was loved and honored by all who knew him, and most loved and honored by those who knew him best. He was a true friend, a sincere Christian, and in his daily life exemplified all that is beautiful in Masonry. To his bereaved family and friends we tender our heartfelt sympathy. To the Companions of this Grand Chapter we would say: So let us imitate his example, that when we are called to pass through the river of death we may also hear the glad welcome from the eternal shore: Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

I would recommend that a page to his memory be inserted in our Annual Proceedings this year. So far as I am aware at the time of this writing none other of our Companions have fallen by the way. In conclusion, Companions, I am glad to say we are at peace with all our brethren wheresoever dispersed.

While Royal Arch Masonry has not made such advances with us of late years as we might have wished, yet we have no reason for despondency. There are many able and faithful workers in the jurisdiction, and I would call upon all such to make a determined personal effort all along the line during the coming year to infuse new life and vigor into the Chapters to which they belong. To do this they must necessarily take an active part in Blue Masonry, for the vigor of the tree largely depends upon the strength of its roots. Only strong personal effort will enable us to keep pace with the progress of our country. I thank you very much for the great honor conferred upon me at your last Convo-