

your term, your brethren desire to assure you that their expectations have been fully realised, and that they have been greatly impressed with the ability and grace with which you have conducted the inspections of the lodges. In addition to making an official visit to each lodge you have held lodges of instruction in the central localities, where the work was exemplified, and much valuable information was imparted. Your brethren have further to thank you for the courtesy shown during your visitations and in your correspondence, and assure you that they will continue to look forward to many further visits from you, in company with the brethren who from time to time may be elected to the high office you have filled with so much satisfaction to the lodges. This District Deputy-Grand Master's regalia we ask your acceptance of, and trust that you may long be spared to wear it, and that you will always be reminded by it of the many happy meetings in the different lodges, and of the hearty, fraternal feelings entertained by your brethren towards you.

On behalf of the Hamilton District Lodges.

D. McPHEE, D. D. G. M.
C. W. MULLIGAN, D. Sec.

Hamilton, Jan. 13, 1886.

The recipient replied in a suitable manner, showing deep feeling.

At the close of the lodge the brethren repaired to the banqueting-hall, where a couple of hours were spent very pleasantly. W. Bro. Geo. Bull, W.M. of Barton Lodge, who occupied the chair, read letters from R.W. Bro. K. Tully, Toronto; V.W. Bro. A. Born-gasser, G.S., Sharon; R.W. Bro. Rev. H. W. Davis, Toronto; R. W. Bro. John Satchell, G. R., Ottawa; R. W. Bro. Dr. Church, D. D. G. M., Ottawa; R. W. Bro. F. F. Manley, Toronto; W. Bro. James Seymour, P. G. M., St. Catharines; M. W. Bro. J. Moffat, P. G. M., London, and others, expressive of

their regret at their inability to be present.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were honored, and toasts pertaining to the craft and its members followed. To the toast of the Grand Lodge of Canada, R.W. Bro. H. Robertson, D. G. M., M. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, P. G. M., R.W. Bros. Rev. Dr. Burns, and E. E. Sheppard, Toronto, and others, responded.

The speech-making was interspersed with song and sentiment, all of which went to make the time pass pleasantly and speedily.

IMITATIONS OF FREEMASONRY.

It is not necessary for us to give evidences of that imitation which is the sincerest form of flattery, to prove the high opinion in which Freemasonry is held by the world in general; if it were, we might point to almost every society or brotherhood established for the purpose of relieving the necessities of its members, and claim each of them as imitators of Freemasonry, for in nearly every instance can we find traces of either the ritual, the forms or the ceremonies of Freemasonry, while in some, the similarity is so strong, as to induce the belief that the one is but a clumsy copy of the other. But while all, or nearly all of these societies, may be termed imitators of Freemasonry, many of them have extended the sphere of their operations far beyond the scope of Freemasonry, with results more or less beneficial or disastrous, in different instances. In England, it is the boast of a very large section of the Masonic brethren, that Freemasonry is not a benefit society. Admission to its ranks is open to all free men of good character, but it has no advantages of a pecuniary nature to offer to those who seek a participation in its mysteries. Its labors are directed rather to the improvement of a man's moral character, than the state of his finances; but this is not the case with some of the imitations of Free-