

The full band of Gilmore and a very strong vocal orchestra—among them Brothers Alfred Wilkie, first tenor; Frederick Koppel, second tenor; A. E. Stoddard, baritone; W. P. Tyrrel, bass, then sung the following

GRAND MASONIC HYMN,

Professor Leopold Damrosch acting as conductor:—

BARITONE SOLO AND CHORUS.

"Thou who art God alone,
Accept before Thy throne
Our fervent prayer.
To fill with light and grace
This house, Thy dwelling place,
And bless Thy chosen race.
O God draw near!

As through the universe
All nature's works, diverse,
Thy praise accord,
Let faith upon us shine,

And charity combine
With hope to make us Thine,
Jehovah, Lord!

Spirit of truth and love
Descending from above,
Our hearts inflame,
Till Masonry's control
Shall bind in one the whole,
A temple of the soul,
To Thy great name!"

R. W. and Rev. S. Schoonmaker, Grand Chaplain, read forty verses from II. Chronicles, chapter 6, after which the following Te Deum, composed by Brother Albert S. Caswell, was sung:—

"We praise Thee, O God!
We acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship Thee,
The Father everlasting, &c."

This portion of the music was conducted by Brother P. S. Gilmore, Brother Caswell playing the organ accompaniment.

Hereupon R. W. Ellwood E. Thorne stepped forward, and in a loud and steady voice, delivered the following address:—

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

"BRETHREN—We have assembled at this time and in this place to crown the labor of more than a quarter of a century, by solemnly dedicating and setting apart this building for the purpose of the great fraternity of which we are all proud to be constituent members; and we may justly feel elated, that, in this the great commercial metropolis of our country, there is at last, a temple builded with the best of care and appliances of human skill, garnished and adorned in a manner fitting the wealth and power of the 100,000 craftsmen of this jurisdiction, yet that after all is the least important part of the work. These solid walls, built to stand unshaken before generations yet unborn; the proud dome overlooking the marts where commerce and manufactures give sustenance to millions, may lend additional lustre to the eye and an honest swelling of the heart of the craftsmen who look upon them and feel that this is the work of their hands—the

SPLENDID RESULT OF THEIR LABOR,

devotion and sacrifice. The earnest and gratefully received congratulations of our peers from every part of the world may excuse our joy on this festal day. But more than all this is the reflection that, with the close of this day's labor, we have reached the second step in that great undertaking conceived in fear and amid doubt and perplexity, that there should be erected in the city of New York a hall, the revenues of which are to be a perpetual, and an inalienable endowment to the largest system of benevolence ever undertaken by the craft. This hall, therefore, is not so much for the convenience and comfort of our working, in the ordinary acceptance of the word, as it is for the benefit of the aged and needy brother, the desitute widows and orphans of our household, I would, therefore, my dear brethren, while we pause for a

SOLEMN SERVICES OF THIS OCCASION,

that we hear and now gather fresh zeal, more earnest devotion, more unchangeable resolve to go on with the appointed labor. I would, that in your prayers, you solicit from the Great Architect not only the continuance of the blessings He has thus far and so abundantly showered upon the work of your hands, but that He will give you light and courage and tireless energy to persevere unto the end. I would that you may all understand and appreciate how great, how noble, how elevating the design drawn upon our trestle board by the founders of this enterprise, and that it may be given to each of you to give a portion at least of his Masonic life to the completion of the task still before us, looking not here for your reward, but remembering that our Father, who seest in secret, will reward us openly, remembering that when we have received