

M. E. Comp. Henderson said, V. E. Sir, in rising to respond to the toast which you have presented in such flattering terms, I can hardly find words to convey to you my deep and earnest appreciation of your kindness, your sympathy in my deep distress, and your warm support in all my efforts to advance Royal Arch Masonry in this city and District. I am not unmindful of all I owe to the Companions of my own Chapter, for from them I received that position and advancement which brought me in contact with my Companions of the Grand Chapter, who so far overlooked my many failings as to consider me worthy of the position of Grand Z., an office of great honor and responsibility, which any Royal Arch Mason might indeed feel proud to fill; neither am I forgetful of my many failings in the discharge of the duties devolving upon me; but I know full well, and to that you can bear me witness, that I have been ever ready to do all that lay within my power to advance the best interests of Masonry, to uphold its many excellent precepts and to endeavor so to live and act that nothing I may have done or may do shall ever bring discredit on our Order. To my Companions of the Grand Chapter I am indeed grateful for their many acts of kindness, and for this last mark of their esteem I shall ever be deeply indebted, and shall prize it, as I know my family will prize it, as expressive of that respect and esteem which I am assured they entertain for me. Let me assure you, V. E. Sir, that this last act of kindness shall urge me on to the performance of such duties as shall ever show how much I esteem your hearty appreciation of my humble services in the cause of Masonry, to which I am so firmly and earnestly attached.

"The Officers of Grand Chapter" was the next toast in order, to which R. E. Comp. D. Spry responded. He said

V. E. Sir and Companions, it is with more than ordinary pleasure that I rise to respond to the toast which you, E. Sir, have given in such flattering terms, and to which my Companions have responded in such a way as to fully assure me that I am indeed in the company of Jolly Good Fellows. I am glad to be present and to give an expression to those feelings of esteem which the Royal Arch Masons of Canada entertain for the guest of the evening, my late worthy chief as Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter. You will bear with me in the embarrassing position in which I am placed this evening, for were I to give expression to my own feelings and the feeling of the Royal Craft regarding M. E. Companion Henderson, while he is here present, you would think me guilty of flattery, and he would doubt the sincerity of my motives. It is at all times difficult to speak of a man in his presence with that freedom which carries with it the great essential of all our utterances

—truth—but when I have nothing but words of praise to utter, how can I express myself. That he is a good business man and prompt in attending to all matters claiming his attention I can abundantly testify. That he is a good and true man I know full well, as testified by the large gathering this evening of those who know him well in his daily walk in life, and who, had he any serious faults, would not have assembled to do him honor. More I need not say than that we all love him, and love him well. For my able colleagues, the Grand Officers, I need only point to your worthy Grand Superintendent of this District as a specimen of the material selected by Grand Chapter to fill the important elective offices, while your first Principal, our able chairman of this evening, worthily represents the Companions selected by the Grand Z. to fill the appointed offices. With such specimen bricks always before you, it will not be difficult for me to convince you that the Grand Chapter of Canada is composed of worthy, able and intelligent Companions, and in whose hands the honor and good name of Royal Arch Masonry can safely be entrusted.

V. E. Companion S. S. Lazier also responded, and gave expression to the feelings of pride with which he and the Companions of Belleville witnessed the proceedings of that evening, as they are glad to learn that the members of Grand Chapter had the same high opinion of the M. E. Comp. Henderson as themselves. The leading position which Masonry occupies in Prince Edward District was largely due to the Past Grand Z. and the able and efficient officers of Grand Chapter, who were from time to time selected from this section of the jurisdiction, and while thanking the Companions for the hearty reception given to the toast, he rejoiced to be present and assist in honoring our Past chief.

Song—"The Larboard Watch," by Comp. Hurst, Principal Sojourner.

R. E. Comp. D. Spry, proposed the next toast, "The 1st Principal Z. of Moira Chapter," to which V. E. Comp. James Smith ably responded, during which he heartily thanked the Companions of Moira Chapter for their kindness to him at all times, and for the able assistance which they all gave him in performing the many duties devolving upon him.

Song by Comp. Spangenburg.

V. E. Companion S. S. Lazier proposed "The Past Officers of Moira Chapter," to which V. E. Comp. W. H. Ponton, Past Z., R. E. Comp. D. Piteathley, E. J. Sisson, John Pharnacott, W. Doctor, W. Ellis, and H. Robinson, responded in suitable terms, after which the Companions joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," ending the proceedings at 12.30 a.m.