

The Grand Master's Address is an ample one, relating mainly to local matters. It touchingly opens with allusion to the "Fraternal dead," Past Grand Master George Mortimer Hall, and says of him :

"His work was well done. A good man and Mason has passed away. His life was a part of the history of Vermont Masonry, and a witness of the power of living principle."

Under the heading "Condition of Masonry," we learn that not a single new Lodge has been constituted, and the hope is expressed that for some time, at least, the number will not be increased. "This is no indication, he says, "that Masonry is not flourishing, on the other hand, it is growing stronger by concentration and strengthening the old Lodges, instead of dividing them into weak ones." The number of Lodges is now one hundred.

Dispensations were granted during the year to ballot and confer the degrees upon three persons without waiting the time prescribed in the bye-laws. In at least two of the cases the reasons given for his action, are of too trifling a nature to warrant such a decision.

In concluding he says :

"Masonry not only *inculcates* the principles of love and benevolence, not only *feels*, but acts. No where in the world can a good Mason feel alone, friendless, or forsaken; the protecting arms of the institution surround him wherever he may be, ready to lend a helping hand in the hour of peril, sickness or distress, and, should he die, his brethren will close his eyes and give his body to the repose of the tomb."

"We have all subscribed to temperance as one of the 'cardinal virtues,' as a virtue which should be the constant practice of every Mason. It is not my purpose here to put upon this what many among us might deem a forced construction; Masons differ, and they differ honestly in their interpretations of temperance up to a certain point; yet all must admit that it constitutes a total prohibition of drunkenness and that no drunkard can be a good Mason. Habitual intemperance is a Masonic crime. It is the most difficult of all evils to deal with, because while most incurable, it is also the most fashionable and best tolerated in good society. Moreover, those who are its victims are the very last to be convinced of their true condition and danger. No man is willing to believe himself a drunkard, or in danger of becoming one.

"That my brethren may awake to the necessity of more vigorous treatment of this growing evil in our ranks, I throw out these suggestions in all fraternal love and kindness. The dissipation of the Craft is attracting wide attention in our State, and it is feared that it is deterring good and true men from entering our ranks. Brethren, consider this subject in its true light; ponder over it, and let temperance be in deed and in truth one of our personal cardinal virtues."

Of

"2.  
has been"3.  
liable for  
penal j  
the new"10.  
if absent  
until the  
grees on"11.  
number"12.  
resident  
ter of s  
resides."

The C

"In s  
Lodge th  
is scarce  
fraternity"The  
one Lodg  
so on—t  
jurisdicti  
sion of la  
measure,  
Lodges ha  
of time to  
rank is u  
Much of t  
make a prDuring  
to Past  
guished sAccomp  
of Grand  
dence."

There is