

the guilty parties to justice. We were invited to join in the movement and send a delegate to the meeting in Baltimore. Believing that the benefits to be derived from such an organization would far exceed the expense I appointed Bro. James Fyle, President of the Montreal Masonic Board of Relief such delegate. At the last moment, he found himself unable to leave home, I consequently named W. Bro. Mitchell in his stead. From the report of the Convention, I see that a General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada was organized. Among the office-holders I find W. Bro. James Mitchell of Montreal second Vice-President. I trust this action will meet with your approval and that the benefits resulting therefrom will be satisfactory.

AT HOME.

The year has been one of prosperity and unusual harmony. The ordinary amount of work has been done. The annual festivals have been observed. The brethren with their wives and lady friends have had many enjoyable, and I trust, profitable re-unions. In several instances, Lodges have attended Divine service, which custom I hope to see more fully adopted. No notes of discord have reached me. The edict issued last year against three Lodges in this city; on English Register—has been, so far as I know, rigorously observed. It is well understood that while they are with us in our midst, they are not of us. There having been no Masonic intercourse, there has been no altercation.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

These remain unchanged. The most friendly feeling exists between this G. L. and the various Masonic Grand Bodies of the world, saving, of course, England. Her occupancy of our territory is maintained, though no feeling of hostility has been expressed, and certainly no overt act has been committed. A large number of prominent brethren in the United States have, in various ways, fully endorsed the action taken by me last year against the three Lodges in this city of foreign jurisdiction. Several Grand Lodges have issued edicts thereanent, and all Masonic intercourse have been severed with the members of St. Paul, St. Lawrence, and St. George No. 440 Lodges. Correspondence on this subject has been voluminous; but one opinion has been expressed as to the action taken. The situation is grave and calls for the united wisdom of Grand Lodge. Let me ask you to approach this important subject with all the thoughtfulness, prudence and sagacity at your command. Our sovereignty must be maintained at any cost. My hopes for the future are far in excess of my fears.

INVITATIONS.

It has been a matter of deep regret to me that I have been unable to accept the many kind invitations that have been extended to me by different Lodges. Business matters, over which I have had little or no control, have prevented. I have, during my occupancy of this chair, enjoyed many pleasant occasions with the brethren, and fondly hope and trust that the associations and friendships formed will not be forgotten with passing years, but they will grow and ripen, and the memory thereof be cherished.