

have already given the particulars of two Special Communications of this Grand Lodge, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of a new Masonic Temple, and afterwards, its dedication. We have not received the annual report of the Grand Lodge, and therefore are unable to say anything further in relation to it; we have heard from our correspondent, however, that Masonry is in a flourishing condition in British Columbia. The Grand Secretary would confer a great favor by sending us copies of proceedings of the Grand Lodge from its formation.

In directing our attention to the United States, it would be impossible to consider the state of Masonry in each of the jurisdictions into which that country is divided. Our readers must, therefore, be contented with a brief review of the present condition of the Craft in the whole Union. According to statistics recently gathered, there are over 600,000 Freemasons in the United States. Each State has its Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, &c. According to our American exchanges, the Order is steadily extending its arms and its prosperity has not, within the past year, received any check. Our American Brethren are more zealous, and more devoted to the Craft than Canadians, and more interest is taken by them in all that pertains to the working and management of their Lodges. In the vast majority of these Lodges, when there is no work to be done, something is provided in the way of lectures, instruction, readings, &c., in order that at each meeting there may be some attraction, and members thus encouraged to be regular in their attendance. Might we not take a leaf out of their book, and adopt some such plan in our Lodges? Our American Brethren also spend a great deal of money in the erection of magnificent "Masonic Temples," and the giving of sumptuous entertainments. On a visit to Philadelphia during the "Centennial" we met some of our Brother Masons,

and were kindly taken over the Masonic Temple in that city. It is indeed a splendid building, costing over \$1,000,000. The Blue Lodge rooms, of which there are seven or eight, are magnificently furnished, and are distinguished by the style of the furniture, such as the Oriental, Norman, Egyptian, &c. Each Lodge using these rooms pays a rental of \$100 for each night they are occupied. This, of course, includes, light, heat, ante-rooms, &c. New York also possesses a very handsome Masonic Hall or Temple, also costing something like \$1,000,000. Of course such Lodges are composed of wealthy members; there are other Lodges whose affairs are conducted in a more economical manner—and, therefore, we think, more in accordance with the spirit of Freemasonry. Better to dispose of the superfluous funds in charitable objects, such as founding Asylums, Schools, &c., than in ministering to their own luxurious tastes. And such seems to be the opinion of more than one of our American exchanges, otherwise we would not have been so bold as to express ourselves so plainly regarding our neighbors' affairs.

We will now take our readers across the Atlantic, and see how our Brethren in the Mother Land have fared during the past year. From the *Freemason's Chronicle*, to which we are indebted for the following facts, we learn that sixty new Lodges have been added to the roll of the Grand Lodge of England during the past year, as against eighty-one in the previous year. Of the Lodges now on the roll of the United Grand Lodge of England there are in England and Wales, 1,250; abroad and military, 430; or, altogether, 1,670 working Lodges. The number of the youngest Lodge on the roll is 1,792, so that the number of Lodges in abeyance, or which have dropped from the roll, either from having joined other jurisdictions, or through some other cause, is about 120. The United Grand