

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF GRAND SECRETARY.

THE Most Worshipful the Grand Master, with the concurrence of Grand Lodge, has been pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason Grand Secretary for the balance of the current year, in room of the late R. W. Bro. Harris, deceased.

WE have been obliged to leave out this month a lecture on the "Spirit of Freemasonry," delivered by Bro. Rev. E. H. Jenkyns, although it is in type. It will appear in the October number.

DEATH OF THE GRAND SECRETARY.

THE grim King of terrors, stalking apace through the land, has thinned the Masonic ranks of late. The noblest and the best have fallen in both hemispheres, but nowhere has death reaped a richer harvest than in this. Many a brother has been stricken down in the plenitude of power or in the midst of his usefulness; and now another, in our eyes the most illustrious of all, has passed the portals of the Grand Lodge above. Right Worshipful Brother Thomas Bird Harris, 33°, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada, breathed his last at his residence in this city, on the morning of Tuesday, August 18th, after a brief illness, borne alike with fortitude and calm resignation. It were unnecessary to speak of our departed brother in the terms of eulogy usual on such occasions, for his fame as a Mason, if not boundless, was almost world wide, while his character as a man was such that

"None knew him but to love him,
None named him but to praise."

The immortal Sterne tells us that "to die is the great debt and tribute due unto nature; tombs and monuments, which should perpetuate our memories, pay it themselves, and the proudest pyramid of them all, which wealth and science have erected, has lost its apex, and stands obtruncated in the traveller's horizon;" and so with us, one of our proudest human symbols of Masonry in Canada, and its truest exponent, has passed away. What wonder then, that we mourn our loss of him who

"Has come to join the ranks of that innumerable caravan,
Which moves on to that mysterious realm
Where each must take his chamber in the silent halls of death."

Little did he who pens this humble tribute to a noble memory think, when he, jointly with the Grand Secretary, prepared a report of the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge Meeting, that it would be the last time they should meet on earth. Our deceased brother made everything connected with the Craft a labor of love; hence it is to be feared that he did more than his health would admit, and fell a victim to his zeal. He spared neither pains nor labor to get out a full and faithful report of the Grand Lodge proceedings for the CRAFTSMAN, in which we need hardly tell the reader he manifested a deep and lively interest. Previous to the annual communication, which commenced on the 6th July, with