

cannot realize fully how much of anxiety, of solicitude, of patient training, of careful planning, of force and energy, have been employed to bring about results. When success crowns such labors it is most gratifying. I met several members of the Rite from various parts of the Province of Ontario, who had the same enthusiastic story to tell respecting the meetings of last winter.

No questions have been raised during the year involving disputed constitutional points, differences of opinion, disagreements of any kind either between bodies or members. This is probably in part due to the excellence and completeness of the constitutional regulations, in part to the good judgment of presiding officers, in part to the good feeling which prevails throughout our entire membership. It is a satisfactory condition, over which we can all rejoice.

The various matters to come up at this annual session will in regular order receive, as business has ever received, your earnest consideration. It is fifteen years since we first came together and founded this Supreme Council. Some that we loved are no longer here, some that we then scarcely knew have come among us, and are warm and cherished friends. In our views of men and things and of many phases of life we probably on important points widely differ; but as we look back over these years what a satisfaction it is to us all, those who have been here from the beginning, those who have come among us since, that in all the matters with which we have had to deal here we have been moved by the spirit of unity and have acted in the bonds of harmony, exemplifying as far as it is possible for man, frail, erring mortal, to do so, the true spirit of this great brotherhood. We lay down now trusts that three years since were imposed upon us, the offices then committed to our charge, confident that our faults will be regarded with leniency, that where there have been failures these will be attributed to the head and not to the heart, satisfied that those who take up our burdens will strive faithfully, diligently, cheerfully, to sustain the dignity, to advance the interests, to extend the usefulness, to spread the principles of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. And, Peers and Brethren, with these feelings animating us, we may now proceed to the work of our annual session.

J. V. ELLIS, 33°,
Grand Commander.

The Supreme Council was then closed in the Degree of Perfection, and labor resumed in the Thirty-third Degree.

On motion of Ill.: Bro.: DANIEL SPRY, the address of the Sov.: Gr.: Commander was referred to a special committee.

The Sov.: Gr.: Commander appointed the following brethren as the committee: Ill.: Bros.: ISAAC H. STEARNS, JOHN MORISON GIBSON and DAVID MCLELLAN.