

principles and its magnanimity. It has borne prosperity with moderation, and adversity with fortitude. It has loomed loftier through the mists of error, and gleamed brighter in the fires of persecution.

Americans will not distrust the patriotism of an Institution of which Washington was the chief. I should be the most ungrateful and unfilial of sons if I failed to recognize its virtues; for my father was a Mason, and the Master of a lodge, and my uncle was Grand Master of Masons, and if your privileges were hereditary, I should be within your brotherhood.

GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

THE annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Quebec, was held in the Masonic Chambers, Montreal, on the 22nd September. M. W. Grand Master Dunbar delivered his annual address. We subjoin the most important portions of it:

Five more Grand Lodges have established fraternal communication with us during the past year, making in all forty-three Grand Lodges by which this is recognized as the sovereign Masonic authority in and for the Province of Quebec. We have now sixty lodges and more than three thousand members in good standing under our jurisdiction.

Two important events in the history of Masonry have occurred since our last meeting. The first was the installation, in the month of April, of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Freemasons of England. This ceremony took place under circumstances of unsurpassed splendor, in the presence of 8,000 brethren. In this Dominion, and especially in this Province, where His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, the grandfather of the Prince of Wales, honored the fraternity by accepting the office of first Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Masons in Lower Canada, the announcement that the Heir Apparent to the Throne of the great British Empire had openly patronized our mysteries and joined our assemblies, was received with feelings of peculiar gratification and pride. It affords the highest testimony to the merits of our Society, and is the best answer to those who endeavor to traduce and detract from it, not knowing its legitimate objects or benefits.

The formal dedication of the Masonic Temple in New York, on the 2nd of June, was the second memorable event. It was one of the most imposing displays in the history of Masonry in America. The procession on that occasion was probably the largest parade of the kind ever witnessed on this side of the Atlantic, about 26,000 Masons being in line. As observed by a leading New York newspaper (*the World*), at the time, "It would not be easy to surpass from the whole census of the Union, it would be impossible, we should say, to surpass from the list of any given commonwealth, or of any particular class and calling of men in any commonwealth in the Union, the general average of visible health, strength, decency and intelligence presented by the twenty-five or thirty thousand Free and Accepted Masons, Knights Templars and what not, who were gathered together from all quarters of the country."

The magnificent Temple erected in New York cost about a million of dollars, is an ornament to the city, and a lasting monument to the enterprise of our brethren there. As one honored with an invitation to be present at the dedication ceremonies, I can never forget the demonstration, nor the civilities extended to the Grand Secretary and myself.

Early in the year official communication was received of the decease of Judge William Mercer Wilson, LL. D., Grand Master of Masons in the Province of Ontario. I at once directed that the lodges under this jurisdiction should go into mourning for the great loss sustained by the death of the Grand Master of the sister Province, who was well known to most of the brethren here present as a venerated and zealous Mason: His eminence in the Order is evinced by the fact that a Masonic district and several lodges in Ontario bear his name. Anxious to do all in his power for the promotion of harmony in the Craft—whose first motto is brotherly love—his name will long be treasured in our memories, in connection with the difficulties with which the formation of our Grand Lodge was attended, as the great peace maker of Masonic Canada. We know what is the reward of those who act in this wise, and let us hope that when we have fulfilled our earthly destiny we may have the equal consummation of our wishes in seeing lowering clouds disappear, and knowing that our hand helped them to melt away beneath similar benign influences. I have no doubt the Grand Lodge will express its sympathy to its sister Grand Lodge, by passing a vote of condolence on the death of their Grand Master.

We were again called upon in May to regard the uncertainty of human life in the demise of one whose face was still more familiar in our own Grand Lodge. I refer to Right Worshipful Brother M. R. Meigs, M. D., Past District Deputy Grand Master of