

I have pleasure in congratulating you upon the peaceful and progressive character of the Masonic year now closing. No vexatious questions or serious difficulties have been encountered; several new Lodges have been launched; and a considerable number of worthy men have assumed the responsibilities pertaining to Masonic membership, of which particulars will be given you by the Grand Secretary.

True, each year brings somewhat of disappointment, bereavement and sorrow, but it also brings consolations and compensations, and all things considered, we have abundant reason for gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe for the favors that we have received.

Not being able to communicate with the Grand Secretary, owing to stoppage of the mails, I am not in a position to properly review the year's doings, and must therefore trust to him to supply omissions.

OFFICIAL ACTS.

On St. John's Day, June 24th, 1893, the Corner Stone of the Protestant Orphan's Home was laid in Victoria, in presence of a vast concourse of people. I was presented with a magnificent trowel, the handle made of Teak from the historic steamer "Beaver," and the blade of solid British Columbia silver, suitably inscribed.

On July 17th, 1893, Grand Lodge was convened for the purpose of laying the Corner Stone of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at Nanaimo, which was done with the usual ceremonies. On this occasion, also, there was a very large attendance, and I was the recipient of a beautiful trowel, very similar to the one already mentioned. I need hardly say that these trowels will be highly prized mementoes of the occasions on which they were given, and of the exalted position in which you have placed me.

On the evening of the same day, assisted by the Deputy Grand Master and other Grand Lodge Officers, I installed the officers of Doric Lodge, No. 18, at Nanaimo.

July 18th, 1893—Visited Ashlar Lodge No. 3.

July 19th, 1893—Visited Vancouver-Quadra Lodge, No. 2, Victoria.

July 20th, 1893—Visited Victoria-Columbia Lodge, No. 1, Victoria.

July 27th, 1893—Visited Miriam Lodge, No. 20, and installed officers.

Sept. 4th, 1893—Granted permission to remove Spallumcheen Lodge No. 13, from Lansdowne to Armstrong.

Sept. 8th, 1893—Approved By-Laws of Doric Lodge, No. 18.

Nov. 4th, 1893—Refused dispensation to St. John's Lodge, for the purpose of overcoming residential disqualification, not deeming the reason given sufficient to justify departure from constitutional usage.