

Duff, whose sterling qualities had only recently become fully recognized—there have been three such changes. In South Australia there had been two, in consequence of Lord Kintore's election and the completion of his term of office as Governor. In Tasmania, with the most recently established Grand Lodge, there have already been two changes, through the honoured and well-earned retirement of M.W. Bro. the Rev. Poulett Harris, and the sudden death of M.W. Bro. Dr. Giblin, in the prime of manhood, and whilst his career seemed full of high promise for the future. And now in Victoria the first change in the Grand Mastership has come at M.W. Bro. Sir William Clarke's own express desire that the Craft here should enjoy, as it has already enjoyed in New South Wales and South Australia, the prestige and the advantage of having the Governor of the colony on the Grand Master's throne. Fortunately Sir William's interest in Masonry remains unabated, and the Craft will not lose the benefit of his services, as with characteristic self-effacement he has consented to act as his successor's Pro-Grand Master. Should the occasion hereafter arise I do not doubt that his brethren may look to him with confidence to resume his old place at the head of the Order. Most Worshipful Grand Master. If the occupations of a busy life have prevented you for many years from taking an active part in English Masonry, I hope it is not fanciful to point out that, considering your family associations with many of the great engineering works which are as distinctive and will be as permanent memorials of the nineteenth century as the venerable Gothic fanes of Europe are of the middle ages, there is an appropriateness in your identifying yourself more closely with the Order whose members are the speculative successors, as the modern engineer and his assistants are operative successors, of the old Craftsmen. The Prince of Wales, the M.W. Grand Master of England, and the patron Australian of Masonry, by con-

ferring on your Lordship the rank of Past Grand Warden of England, vouched for you to your Australian brethren as eminently fitted for the government of the Craft. Your brethren on this side of the world, when they reviewed these features of your career, could not fail to ratify His Royal Highness's judgment. One who has dedicated his time and energies and fortune to worthy aims and the benefit of his fellow men, who has interwoven philanthropy and public spirit into the web and woof of his life, who has studied human affairs in all parts of the world, who has had legislative experience in both Houses of the British Parliament, and has held high office under the Crown in more than one administration, who has been decorated and ennobled by his sovereign in recognition of his distinguished services, and who finally, on the recommendation of her advisers, have been appointed to the Governorship of this great colony—unquestionably answers the requirement of the Ancient Charge that the Grand Master should be of "singularly great merit in the opinion of the lodges." Moreover, in unanimously electing you M.W. Grand Master to the highest office in their gift, your brethren of the Craft in Victoria have not only done honor to you and brought distinction to their Order, but they have manifested through you, as Her Majesty's representative, their devoted and unchangeable loyalty to your Royal mistress, Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. Most Worshipful Grand Master seated on that throne, you have at once received a high distinction and undertaken a grave responsibility. You have been invested and installed as the supreme ruler in a brotherhood 8,500 strong—without counting thousands more who are prevented by distance or other circumstances from continuing their active membership. The significance of these numbers will be better understood if we recall some of the preliminary conditions of admission to our Order, and some also of our beliefs and practical aims. Every member of our