

Europe footing up say about three thousand three hundred and fifty. The Royal Arch Chapters, Conclaves, Grand Councils and Knights Templar Preceptories comprise some three thousand with a membership of about fifteen thousand. The growth of Freemasonry is the more surprising when taking into account the extraordinary efforts put forth by its enemies in various ways. Nothing does or can successfully resist its progress; its march is still onward in spite of all that is done to prevent it. The *London Freemason*, of a recent date, aptly remarks: "Even amid the combined assaults of most heterogeneous allies, Freemasonry fears nothing and cares nothing, but passing by alike false friends and relentless adversaries, march on, to use a military simile, "with drums beating and colors flying," to combat with increasing success, ignorance, intolerance, suffering and calamity."

Notwithstanding the repeated attempts of both *open* and concealed foes, to prevent its extension, and persecute the brotherhood, there is no fear of hindrance to Masonic profession. Happily, in Canada we are free from interference in any form, and we have unrestricted freedom. while in the adjoining republic, the only opposition that presents itself is "Anti-Masonry," a thing as harmless as it is unworthy of notice. In South America, however, persecution has reared its head afresh, and we learn that the Roman Catholic priesthood pursue the fraternity with the most relentless hatred. Right, however, must ultimately triumph even there, and, as it was before, the oppressors will have to submit to the penalty imposed by the outraged authority of the law. Everywhere we hear of the spread of Masonry, but particularly in Great Britain and its dependencies. The impediments thrown in the way of the Orders progress amount to very little, yet they are very numerous and annoying enough, little as they are calculated to effect the end in view. The greatest opposition comes from those who know the least of the benefits flowing from Freemasonry; but perhaps it is well that the plea of ignorance should serve them in good stead. It is satisfactory to find that there has been such a marked increase in the membership of the lodges here of late, and judging from appearances, it is likely that that increase will go on at a still more rapid pace. The close of the year brings with it the annual returns, which we confidently anticipate will exhibit the most gratifying results: already we hear of some which show evidences of the most marked progression in our lodges.

R. W. BRO. DANIEL SPRY.

AN esteemed correspondent in Hamilton has furnished us with the following sketch of the Masonic career of the M. P. Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario:

"R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry was born near the village of Burritts Rapids, County of Carleton, on the 29th day of November, 1835. Shortly after his father's death the family removed to the City of Toronto where he attended the Model School, acquiring an education that fitted him to fill the various offices that he has since held, with such credit to himself and to the Craft. In the year 1854 he was appointed to the Toronto Post Office, and remained in the P. O. department 15 years, where by his attention to his duties, and his genial manner, he commanded the respect and esteem, not only of his fellow clerks, but also those in authority, by whom he was soon promoted from one step to