

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

The Fourteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, was opened at the Masonic Hall, Hamilton, Ont., on Wednesday the 9th Inst. at noon.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	T. D. Harington, Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. " "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore, as Grand H.	
" " "	L. H. Henderson, Grand J.	

And a large number of officers and members.

The Grand Scribe E., having read the Rules and Regulations for the government of the Grand Chapter during business, and the usual motion accepting the minutes of last convocation as read, having been adopted, the Grand Z. rose and delivered the following :

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent, The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

GREETING :

COMPANIONS,—Once more I have the happiness of welcoming your presence in annual convocation—our Fourteenth Annual Convocation—and exchanging mutual congratulations. Another Masonic Year has passed away, taking with it on its passage some old familiar faces, but leaving us still to assemble and take counsel together, for which let us be grateful to a protecting Providence. Among those companions who have gone to their rest, there is one I cannot refrain from mentioning—he was a personal and esteemed friend of long standing—I mean our recently deceased Companion and Brother S. D. Fowler. His departure will be long felt and deplored, and sincere must be our sorrow. His attachment to our Order was great; his appearance at our meetings was regular; his leisure and time was freely afforded; he was ever ready to accept work, and never failed to carry out to the close whatever he undertook to do, or was entrusted to him. Gentle in his speech; quiet in his demeanour; earnest for Freemasonry; he did, indeed, make his work one of love! This Grand Chapter will doubtless place upon record, its sense of the worth our late lamented Companion, and convey its earnest sympathy to his surviving relatives.

I have not a great deal to say to you, for our Royal Arch affairs have been moving on so smoothly and harmoniously, that it is really difficult to prepare an address worthy your consideration. I have granted Dispensations for new Chapters as follows :

Montreal, at Montreal.
 Royal Albert, at Montreal.
 Mount Sinai, at Napanec.

I received petitions also for new Chapters to be held at Maitland, Colborne, and St. Mary's; but the first the Grand Superintendent of the District declined to recommend, and the two last reached me so near the meeting of this Convocation, that my Dispensations would have been useless. The Grand Scribe E. will therefore present these three petitions directly to the Grand Chapter, and Warrants, if they are approved, can at once issue. I trust also that the Grand Chapter will find itself able to confirm my above named Dispensation by granting Warrants.

The Reports of the respective Grand Superintendents will satisfy you as to the condition of our Subordinate Chapters, all of which I have, however, reason to believe, are prospering and working harmoniously, and as regards your Finances, I refer the Grand Chapter to the statements and accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and the Grand Scribe E. Such payments as were sanctioned by the Grand Chapter have been made, and the vouchers will be produced by the proper officer.

Notice of motion was given for changing the time of holding our annual convocations, from August to the same week in July, when, and at the place where the annual communications of the Grand Lodge of Canada are held, which, if followed by a substantive motion, will require your attention and consideration.

The proceedings of the various Grand Chapters have been received, and they tend to show that our order is progressing very favorably. Those Grand Bodies are in friendly relationship with the Grand Chapter of Canada, and evince their customary kindly interest in our welfare, and Credentials will be presented by Companions, who