

VERMONT.—1891.

THE 98th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Vermont was held at Burlington, on June 10th and 11th, 1891.

The portrait of M. W. Bro. GEORGE W. WING, Grand Master, forms the frontispiece to the volume of proceedings.

Quebec was represented by its excellent friend, Past Grand Master Alfred A. Hall.

Amongst the fraternal dead of the jurisdiction, to whom touching reference is made by the Grand Master in his address, we find the names of Bro. Bascom, who was representative of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana near his Grand Lodge, of the Grand Tyler, Lafayette B. Slopef, who was also a Past D.D.G.M., and of Past Grand Secretary John B. Hollenbeck, who died at the age of over 99 years.

We thoroughly endorse, and are only too pleased to be able to reproduce the following references by the Grand Master to the good work accomplished by District Meetings, and by the custom of providing refreshments at both Lodge and Districts Meetings :—

To one who has attended these District Meetings for a series of years, the good work they have accomplished is apparent. The Brethren in each District are better acquainted. They are induced to attend the meetings outside their own District, thus extending their circle of acquaintance, and increasing their interest in the cause of Masonry. As a result the Lodge is better attended, the officers better supported, the work better done, and instead of a Lodge where the object apparently is to see how quickly the routine business can be transacted, and the Brethren get away, there is a united, strong, healthy, active and earnest Lodge of Masons.

In my judgment nothing adds more to the success of these District Meetings than the custom of having a banquet at some period of the meeting. It furnishes an hour for social converse, for exchange of views and sentiments, for the cultivation of the social virtues, bringing us into closer bonds of communion and fellowship. If the same custom should be followed in the Lodges at their regular meetings, I am confident that the result would be most satisfactory to all interested in the social part of our Order, and that there would be a marked increase in the attendance.

From the report of the Grand Secretary we learn that there have been 463 initiations during the year, the largest number in twenty years, and that the present membership is 8,889.

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