

private Lodges or individual brethren, the remainder to be transferred to the general fund of Grand Lodge.

A most interesting discussion occurred on this motion, the merits and demerits of the Masonic Asylum scheme being frankly and fully considered, when

R. W. Bro. J. H. GRAHAM, moved in amendment to the amendment, seconded by R. W. Bro. M. A. SPENCER, that the further consideration of matters pertaining to the Masonic Asylum Trust Fund, and the disposal of the funds contributed towards the establishment of a Masonic Asylum, be postponed until the next regular communication of Grand Lodge.

This amendment being accepted by M. W. Bro. Bernard, was declared adopted.

ON THE M. W. G. M.'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Bro. Seymour presented the following:—

The Board beg leave to report, that having respectfully considered the various subjects of interest to the Craft referred to in the M. W. G. M.'s instructive address, they cordially reciprocate his fraternal greeting on the auspicious circumstances under which the present Annual Communication is held.

They unite in the unfeigned grief so touchingly expressed, in reference to the demise of the distinguished Brethren whose names appear in the obituary notice. The invaluable services rendered this Grand Lodge by the deceased cannot be too highly prized; and to mark the esteem in which their memories are regarded, your Board would recommend that memorial pages be set apart in the printed proceedings, therein to record in the usual way a lasting tribute to their worth.

The atrocious assassination of a prominent and honored Canadian Statesman, by the hands of a midnight murderer, justly calls not only for execration by the Masonic fraternity, but also for retributive justice from our civil authorities, who will be universally sustained in using all the power in their hands to protect life and crush out lawlessness, from whatever source it may proceed. The failure of the diabolical attempt to take the life of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, by another misguided assassin, is truly matter for profound gratefulness to the Most High, through whose providence our beloved Sovereign and the entire empire were saved from the poignant grief his untimely death would have caused. In this connection, your Board would recommend that an humble address be prepared, expressive of the horror of this Grand Lodge at the outrage designed, and of our warmest sympathy with Her Majesty in the trying ordeal through which her son was called to pass; that such address be engrossed, signed and sealed, and transmitted for presentation through the Governor General.

The Board learn with the sincerest pleasure of the appointment of the distinguished Brother, who now has the honor to represent the Grand Lodge of England at our present Communication, and heartily approve of the M. W. G. M.'s recommendation to confer upon him the honorary rank in his representative capacity, assured that his presence at our assemblages will always be hailed with the liveliest satisfaction.

The formation of a Grand Lodge in the Province of New Brunswick, is a source of unalloyed pleasure, and your Board cheerfully concur in the recognition to this sister Grand Body so deservedly commended.

The Board rejoice in the success which attended the public ceremonies at Port Dalhousie and Dundee, for which special Grand Lodge communications were convened, and learn with much interest that the effect produced on both occasions was decidedly beneficial to Masonry, in removing erroneous impressions and correcting pernicious opinions unjustly entertained.

The Board are pleased to learn that the invaluable services of the M. W. and R. W. Brethren who have received testimonials by order of Grand Lodge, have been thus fittingly rewarded: knowing full well that the recognition thus publicly attested is but a just tribute to past faithful devotion to its honor and prosperity. They also cordially concur in the suggestion that some suitable acknowledgment should be made of the eminent services of M. W. P. G. M. Simpson.

The question of establishing a General Grand Lodge, being one surrounded with issues that require the nicest discrimination, it is a source of much gratification to your Board to know that the matter has been treated with so much judicious caution by our M. W. G. M., who truly remarks, that any precipitate haste on the part of indiscreet friends would assuredly retard the successful consummation of so desirable an end.

The organization of twelve new Lodges within this jurisdiction during the past year, is a gratifying evidence of the growing popularity of Freemasonry, the beneficent principles of which need only to be known to be appreciated. Confidently believing that the brethren concerned will realize the higher privileges and responsibilities thus assumed by them, your Board hail these new accessions to our fold with unmingled pleasure, and cheerfully commend them to the consideration of Grand Lodge for Warrants of Constitution.

The declaration that Masonry is not simply a benefit club, must force itself upon every reflecting mind; for were that idea once to prevail, the higher mission of inculcating brotherly love and truth, would soon pale before the mercenary one of dollars and cents. Therefore your Board regard the remarks of the M. W. G. M. on this topic as well-timed and in season, and earnestly commend them to the attention of those members whose opinions need more liberal development on so important a subject.

The necessity of uniform practice in administering our rites and ceremonies, cannot be too forcibly impressed upon the attention of W. M.'s and others entrusted with authority to instruct. In this sense your Board consider the exemplification of the *work* witnessed during the present Communication, as well calculated to attain so desirable an end; and they cheerfully take this opportunity of thanking the M. W. G. M. for the judicious wisdom displayed in carrying out the long-looked-for wishes of the Craft throughout our jurisdiction in this matter.

The preservation of Masonry in its present proud position, being mainly due to the conservatism which has handed it down through countless generations