

East of the Lodge above, all will be well. He is our Sun and our Shield. Our trust is in Him. As a Craft we have faith in God, hope in immortality, and Charity for the Brethren and for all men. Under these circumstances, with success in our vocation as Freemasons, with a good conscience towards the Grand Architect, our Brethren, and all mankind, with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania respected and loved at home and honored abroad, it is less difficult than under other circumstances it might be for me to officially say farewell.

And his successor, Grand Master J. Simpson Africa, immediately after his installation, addressed an equally encouraging reference to the condition of the Grand Lodge, to the Brethren present thereat, concluding as follows:—

Brethren, let us tarry a moment on the threshold of this new Masonic year and retrospect the history of this, the oldest Masonic jurisdiction on the continent. From the feeble beginning, when St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, was established, over one hundred and sixty years ago, our institution, suffering but surviving repeated absurd proscriptions and persecutions, has so prospered that three hundred and ninety-five living Lodges are now upon the list, and the membership numbers over forty-one thousand. Its offices have been filled by many of the most distinguished citizens of the Commonwealth. Its home here, in beauty of design, harmony of proportion, and solidity of construction, in adaptation, convenience, and comfort, is not excelled by any Temple in the world. With progress in material prosperity, the cultivation of the fraternal virtues has kept even step. Through all vicissitudes the simple, yet rich and expressive, ritual peculiar to the jurisdiction, has been transmitted pure and undefiled. Such is our inheritance. Let us all strive to be faithful stewards, and transfer our legacy unimpaired to those who shall succeed to the stations and places we now occupy.

The number of subordinate Lodges is 381; the total membership 47,192, being a net increase in twelve months of 1,302.

Past Grand Master Richard Vaux's review of Foreign Correspondence is stamped throughout with the impress of his remarkable talent and mental activity, his wonderful control of the purist English, his Masonic learning and research, his vigorous dissent from all but his own views, his extreme professions of affection, veneration, love and esteem for those who are made to feel the shafts of his keenest invective and criticism, and his evident confidence in the impossibility of error in his personal views and opinions. Thus he tells Bro. Drummond of Maine, that he (Bro. V.) is not Drummondish in declaring, without qualification, an