

As each of these applications were accompanied by the necessary certificates and vouchers required by our regulations, I have now much pleasure in recommending that a regular warrant of constitution be issued to them respectively, in lieu of the temporary authority granted by my Dispensations.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

During the past year I have been called upon officially to decide various questions of Masonic Law, but as none of them possess any peculiar interest or importance, I consider it unnecessary to bring them before you at present. A serious difficulty occurred in one of our Subordinate Lodges, in which several Worshipful Brethren became unfortunately involved, but as this matter has all been happily and satisfactorily arranged, and the lawful authority of this Grand Lodge properly vindicated, I have no desire to give it undue prominence, or to refer further to a matter which occasioned me much pain and anxiety at the time. All the documents, however, connected with this and similar matters are in the possession of the Grand Secretary, and can be referred to if necessary.

THE GRAND SECRETARY.

At the last meeting of this Grand Lodge it was determined that an *Honorary Jewel* should be prepared and presented to our Grand Secretary. This I find has been neglected, but no time will now be lost in giving effect to your wishes, although at the same time I would venture to suggest for your consideration whether twelve years of valuable and faithful service might not be more substantially and appropriately acknowledged, than by a mere jewel of office, which, although valuable as a proof of your appreciation and regard, is otherwise of but little use to the recipient.

BOSTON.

I was honored by an invitation from the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to be present at the dedication of their Masonic Temple at Boston, on the 24th of June last, and I much regret that circumstances prevented me from accepting the invitation, and from meeting the large and brilliant assemblage of Masons upon that very interesting occasion. His Excellency, W. Bro. Andrew Johnson, the President of the United States, with the leading members of the Fraternity in that Republic, and upwards of ten thousand Masons participated in the solemn and imposing ceremonies of dedication. We congratulate the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts upon the successful completion of their superb edifice, and also upon the great success which has thus crowned their labors. We, as Masons, enter as fully, and participate as heartily in the joyous emotions excited by the occurrence of important events of this kind, as if they had taken place in our own midst and in our own dominion, for Masonry knows neither country nor language; and although (as the Reverend and eloquent orator said on the occasion referred to,) we may be men of different nationalities, men of diverse views in philosophy, men of widely varying types of religious faith, and men of diametrically opposite political sentiments, yet we have been brought into harmonious and abiding social relations by the powerful and controlling influence of the compass and square.

DISTRESS IN GEORGIA.

I regret to announce to Grand Lodge that much distress still prevails among our brethren in the Southern States, and startling accounts of misery and want suffered by the widows and orphans of Masons in the State of Georgia have been forwarded to the Craft in Canada and elsewhere. Our Lodges in many instances promptly responded to this appeal, and I would gladly at that time have been the almoner of your bounty, but found upon enquiry that no funds either for charitable or other purposes are now left subject to the order of your Grand Master. I heartily commend this subject to your most favorable consideration, and hope that if this distress and want has not already been relieved by a bountiful harvest, no time will be lost in forwarding substantial evidence of your sympathy to the suffering widows and orphans of Georgia.

M. FURNELL, ESQ.

It is also my painful duty to inform you of the death of Michael Furnell, Esq., the representative of our Grand Lodge at the Grand Lodge of Ireland. By the death of this distinguished brother, we have lost a warm friend, and our Order a most worthy Craftsman; his loss will be sincerely regretted by every member of the Fraternity in Canada.

I had much pleasure in appointing R. W. Bro. James Vokes Mackey, of Dublin, as our representative near the Grand Lodge of Ireland, with the rank of a Past Grand Senior Warden, as successor to our deceased brother Furnell.

REPRESENTATIVES.

I have also made arrangements, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, for an exchange of Representatives with several other Grand Bodies with whom we have not heretofore been in communication, and I have appointed the following distinguished members of our Order as our Representatives at these Grand Lodges and Grand Orients respectively, viz.:

- R. W. Bro. Andrew Kerr Mackinlay, at Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.
- R. W. Bro. E. T. Carr, at Grand Lodge of Kansas.
- Ill. Bro. J. M. C. Obed, at Grand Orient of Cuba.
- Ill. Bro. Dr. Francisco De Paula Romas, at Grand Orient of Brazil.
- Ill. Bro. J. M. Samper Angiano, at Grand Orient of New Grenada.
- Ill. Bro. Antonio M. Molléjas, at Grand Orient of Venezuela.
- Ill. Bro. Adolph R. Pfell, at Grand Orient of Uruguay.
- Ill. Bro. Joas Caetano D'A. Almeida, at Grand Orient of Portugal.
- Ill. Bro. Luis Gaspil, 33d, at Grand Orient of Mexico.
- Ill. Bro. Francesco De Luca, at Grand Orient of Italy.
- Ill. Bro. A. M. Medina, at Grand Orient of Chili.

These diplomatic relations with Grand Orients, have been established through the kind and fraternal offices of Ill. Bro. Andres Cassard, the distinguished representative of these Grand Bodies to the Grand Lodges of the United States, and I indulge in the hope that we will soon have the pleasure of receiving and welcoming, in proper form, the accredited representatives of these Grand Bodies among us.

By the last mail from England, I received an official communication from our Most Worshipful Brother W. C. Stephens, Esq., announcing the resignation of his position as Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, near this Grand Lodge, a copy of which I herewith lay before you.

Although retiring from a high and important position, (the duties of which he has for so many years discharged with great ability and discretion),