

WEST VIRGINIA.—1891.

THE 27th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia was held at Martinsburg, on the 10th and 11th, Nov. 1891.

Quebec's representative, Bro. A. M. Evans was in attendance, and Grand Master JOHN M. HAMILTON, who presided, dealt eloquently in his address with the aims and characteristics of Freemasonry, and reported friendly relationship between his Grand Lodge and its sisters throughout the Masonic world, and the gratifying progress of Masonry in his own jurisdiction.

There is the record of a number of decisions rendered and dispensations issued by the Grand Master during his term of office, and we regret to find that two Past Grand Masters of this jurisdiction were called to rest during the year. Past Grand Master Dr. George Baird was stricken by the hand of an assassin, and Bro. Chas. H. Collier succumbed to disease, at the age of fifty. Our sympathy goes out to our Brethren in their affliction.

The legislation enacted at this session of Grand Lodge was only of local importance.

The whole number of members reported by the 93 working Lodges is 4,528, a gain over last year's report of 417. It is satisfactory to know, at the same time, that in some Districts at least, due care is exercised in the admission of new material. One D.D.G.M., reports "Applications have been numerous. *So have black balls.*"

Bro. Geo. W. Atkinson presented a very complete and interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, but reviewers would be saved considerable trouble if the printer did not persist in printing original matter and extracts in exactly the same type and style.

Quebec's proceedings for the previous January were not received by him, though his own Grand Lodge only met in November