

you in the high office of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.

The duties of every office which you have filled have been promptly and zealously discharged; and especially was this the case with respect to the last and most important position occupied by you—that of Chief Ruler in this jurisdiction. On behalf of, and authorized by, the Grand Lodge, we ask your acceptance of the accompanying Past Grand Master's Regalia, in recognition of the respect and esteem in which you are held by the fraternity generally, and we pray that you may long be spared by the Great Architect of the Universe to work with your brethren in promoting the great principles upon which Freemasonry is founded, and that upon you and the members of your family His choicest blessings may be poured.

On behalf of the Grand Lodge,

HUGH MURRAY,	} Committee.
R. B. HUNGERFORD,	
W. C. WILKINSON,	
J. CASCADDEN,	

London, 17th January, A. L., 5883.

The Most Worshipful Brother was then formally invested with the Past Grand Master's regalia, and was accorded the full grand honors by the brethren. The regalia is precisely similar to that conferred upon His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, comprising chain, apron and gauntlets, and its costliness is observed at a glance, as it forms a glittering mass of blue and gold.

M. W. Bro. Moffat in reply said:—

“RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR, BRETHREN AND LADIES,—I am delighted beyond measure at seeing so many of my Masonic fellow-workers here to-night. I take it as a personal compliment that so many of my townsmen and Masons from a distance are here to witness the liberality of the Grand Lodge to myself, a retiring Grand Master, who has but very imperfectly discharged the duties connected with that high and honorable position during the past year. I am especially pleased to see so many ladies with us to-night. I did to some extent anticipate a goodly number. The novelty of the occasion was certain to attract the notice of the ladies, for it is the first time in the history of the Masons of this city to witness the

presentation of a Grand Master's regalia. Col Moffat after eulogising the fair sex and referring to a Queen of Biblical renown said: That our ceremonies are of such a nature that it would be impossible for ladies to undertake them. I want the ladies, however, to understand that although we cannot make Masons of them, they are greatly under our protection in many ways unknown to themselves; and at this moment we have at least 200 widows that are receiving pecuniary assistance from our Grand Lodge, besides numbers of orphan children. Something like twelve thousand dollars are given away annually, chiefly to assist the ladies. These things are not known but amongst Masons and those benefited. Surely, then, we are entitled to the warm sympathies of the ladies, as I know we have it. On that account I am pleased to see so many of them here to-night.

“Right Worshipful Sir, with regard to the testimonial that you have just presented, I may say that I have a right to feel proud, indeed so much so that I cannot find words adequate to express my gratitude. To my mind the regalia is so appropriate and benefitting that I have been surprised that other articles for presentation have been selected by some of my predecessors. It is quite true, sir, that in this case I shall not be able (as the phrase goes) to hand it down to posterity as a memento of the kindness of the Grand Lodge, but I conceive it will afford me unbounded gratification to wear it in business connected with the Craft, and I am sure it will also afford the brethren a satisfaction to be able at times to see the beautiful regalia that they so kindly presented to their P. G. Master.

“Another consideration is worthy of notice, and I think it an important one—that it establishes the fact that although having attained to the highest pinnacle, I have no intention of withdrawing from the actual duties of