

REPORTS OF DEPUTY GRAND CHANCELLORS.

R. H. McCONNELL, Esq., *Grand Chancellor of Ontario.*

Dear Sir and Bro.,—I have much pleasure in submitting the following as my report of District No. 1, trusting that it will meet with your approval and that of our grand body.

We have now in this district comprising as it does the City of Toronto and County of York, nine lodges of our order as follows:—Mystic, No. 1; Ivanhoe, No. 4; Damon, No. 6; Queen City, No. 18; Amicus, No. 20; Ontario, No. 25; Toronto, No. 30; Syracuse, No. 39; Philos, No. 41.

I may say generally that during the past year in the history of our order, in this jurisdiction there has been manifested a steady and healthy growth and increase not only in its membership but in enthusiasm and interest in the order generally, and more especially in the ritualistic work. There seems to be throughout all our lodges a praiseworthy desire on the part of their respective officers and members to vie with each other in their zeal to excel in the practical working of our order and rendition of our beautiful ritualistic ceremonies without the assistance of rituals.

In this behalf one lodge in particular is deserving of the highest encomiums for the manner in which its officers and the rank and file of its membership have sacrificed their time, and to some degree their personal finances, and no doubt to a great degree their personal convenience in the perfection of what is now in my estimation at least the best rendition of the Amplified 3rd Rank in this jurisdiction. I refer to Ontario Lodge, No. 25, which has now the complete paraphernalia for the rank in question.

I am instructed by Brother W. J. Robertson, who has control of the endowment rank in this district, that the applications for admission to that branch of the order show an increase for this year of fully 50 per cent. over that of the year 1894. Special attention of the members has been drawn to this most estimable branch of the Order, and I trust that the time will not be far distant when admission into the Order will be synonymous with admission into the endowment rank, as I feel that in that more than in any other way could the members be permanently cemented to our Order.

Referring to the Uniform Rank of the Order, I am instructed that proceedings are under way to make such alterations in the location of their Armoury, their rules respecting drills, etc., as will meet with the approbation of the members of the Order to a greater extent than at present, the division hoping thereby to increase materially their present membership.

Mystic, No. 1.—Is still maintaining her reputation for steady and careful conservatism. She has added several new members during my term, and I