

of the office until after his installation in proper form.

II.—THEIR DUTIES.

The most important duty of a District Deputy Grand Master is that of visitation. *He is to visit all the Lodges in his District during his term of office.* This implies that he is to attend each Lodge at least once, during the year for which he is elected. In some Districts this is a very onerous duty, entailing considerable expense and involving a great sacrifice of valuable time; but it should not, on that account, be neglected. Brethren should not accept the office, unless they intend to perform its duties thoroughly; and Districts should not, and do not, elect a brother to this office except upon the understanding that these duties will be performed faithfully. The visitation of Lodges by a skilled workman is of the greatest possible benefit to the Craft. New Lodges are properly instructed and set in the right path. Weak Lodges are strengthened, their deficiencies are pointed out to be remedied; and the causes of their weakness are discovered to be corrected. And even old and good Lodges cannot but receive benefit and pleasure. New life is infused by these visits, and they are always accompanied with, or followed by a revival of interest in the work and proceedings of the Lodge. We have known a number of cases where a visit by a Grand Officer produced the happiest effects.

He is to see that all the Lodges are working in accordance with the ritual adopted by Grand Lodge. To do this it is necessary that he should see the work of the Lodge. If he takes the chair and does the work himself, he cannot tell whether the Lodge is working properly or not. His duty is to inspect their work. He should direct the Master to open and close in the three degrees, and perform any work that may be on hand. If there are no candidates for the degrees, he should direct a rehearsal by the Master and other officers of the

Lodge of such parts of the work as he may deem advisable. After this is done he is in a position to judge of the quality of the work of the Lodge. He should point out any errors or omissions, and should show the proper manner in which the work should be performed, and generally give such instruction as he thinks necessary. This should be done in the kindest manner, and not in any spirit of fault-finding. A judicious officer can do all that is necessary in this respect, and yet leave the most pleasant remembrances behind him after his departure. It is not best, however, to criticize the work of the degrees in the presence of newly made candidates.

He is to see that the Returns to Grand Lodge have been regularly forwarded to the Grand Secretary with all fees and dues payable thereon. Being an officer of Grand Lodge, he is the guardian of its interests. It is highly important for the welfare of both the Grand Lodge and the private Lodges, that the returns, and fees should be sent in at the proper times. He should inspect the books of the Lodge, see that the minutes are properly kept and that they show the work and business in proper shape. He should see that every member has signed the By-laws.

The Lodge register should be examined in order to ascertain that all the particulars required by the Constitution are inserted therein—the names of all the members, their ages, residences and occupations, and the dates of admission, or initiation, passing and raising, and withdrawal or suspension.

The Secretary should have a cash book and ledger, also a receipt book and an order book. The Treasurer should have a cash book. The account of the Grand Lodge fees and dues is to be kept separate and distinct from the moneys belonging to the private fund of the Lodge.

When a District Deputy Grand Master has heard and determined any