

hold Masonic Festivals on St. John's Day, December 27th, 1876; each of these Festivals, as I have since learned, passed off very pleasantly.

I am very happy to say that I found the Lodges which I visited working in an efficient and constitutional manner, the officers thoroughly qualified for the discharge of their duties, especially Golden Rule Lodge, at Stanstead, Victoria Lodge, at Sherbrooke, and Ascot Lodge, at Lennoxville. I found the usual attendance of members fair, and the minutes of the several Lodges carefully and regularly kept. I have good reason to believe that the Lodges which I have been unable to visit are in a prosperous condition. I was sorry to find in the most of the Lodges that several brethren were in arrears for dues, in a few instances heavily so.

On the Festival of St. John, December 27th, I had the honour to instal the Officers of Victoria, Ascot, and Lake Magog Lodges, in the City of Sherbrooke. I have found that the members of all the Lodges in this District, with the exception of Golden Rule, Mount Orford, and Lake Magog Lodges (which work the ancient York Rite), are very anxious that uniformity of work should be established in this Province as soon as possible. I am sorry to say that if Golden Rule, Mount Orford, and Lake Magog Lodges are compelled to change their Ritual, it will very materially dampen their zeal for Freemasonry, as they are very warmly attached to their Ritual, which I am happy to say is thoroughly and efficiently worked by them; especially is this the case with Golden Rule Lodge, which is the best worked Lodge I ever had the pleasure of visiting. I have also found all the Masters of the Lodges in this District very anxious that you would give them a Code of Masonic Law. They say the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Quebec does not touch on many points; and, on referring to Grand Lodge rulings, they find such diverse and antagonistic decisions that it is impossible for them to know what course to pursue. They firmly believe that the prosperity of the order would be materially enhanced if a Code similar to that of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ohio was established; and I must say that I heartily concur in their opinion.

The G. A. of the Universe has, in His providence, seen fit to remove from amongst us, to the G. Lodge above, W. Bro. William Lane, Past Master of Ascot Lodge, a loss which Ascot Lodge feels deeply. His body was interred with Masonic honours by Ascot Lodge, assisted by a large number of members from Victoria and other Lodges. We have also to deplore the death of Bro. Dr. Hall, of Lake Magog Lodge, whose removal from their midst is deeply regretted by the members of his Lodge. His body was removed to the City of Montreal for burial. These are the only deaths, so far as I have been able to learn, in this District.

During the month of January I received, from the Worshipful Master of Mount Orford Lodge, a complaint against St. John and Graham Lodges in Bedford District, for having encroached on the territory under their jurisdiction. This complaint I laid before the Board of General Purposes at its semi annual meeting in March, when it was decided that the matter should be referred to M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, for his explanation of the circumstances of the case, he being acquainted with the whole matter; and the complaint, with his opinion thereon, was to be submitted to the most Worshipful the Grand Master for his decision; and I trust the difficulty has by this time been settled.

fol
I
pre
bee
wor
clot
inte
hapi
On
char
dark
bene
bene
occu
Maso
him t
this r
Lik
childr
with r
heaven
pilgrim
overta
her sof
tear.
speake