

BEDFORD DISTRICT.

R. W. Bro. E. R. Rowell, District Deputy Grand Master for Bedford District, read and presented the following report :

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Quebec.*

According to the requirements of the Constitution, I have the honor to submit to Grand Lodge my report on the state of Masonry in the District of Bedford.

During my term of office I have visited all the Lodges in my District, and some of them several times. With the exception of Corner Stone Lodge at Cowansville No. 37, the meetings have been held regularly, with good attendance and with increased interest among the members of the craft. Corner Stone Lodge is in good condition financially, and has many able and influential members. They have not, however, elected their officers for the year. I believe if proper care were exercised in selecting the officers the Lodge would soon be in a prosperous and good working condition.

Brown Lodge No. 24 is in a more flourishing state than for many years past.

During the year two applications were received for dispensations to assemble on Sunday and march in procession to attend Divine worship. They were referred to the Grand Master, and cheerfully granted. One was by Stanbridge Lodge No. 19, the other by Bedford Lodge No. 59.

On February 28th a Lodge of instruction was held in the Masonic Hall at Stanbridge, under the auspices of Stanbridge Lodge. In response to an invitation, there were present R. W. Bro. J. Fred. Walker, D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Alex. Chisholm, W. Bros. Ed. Foster and W. B. Foster. The Lodges of the District were well represented, and a very pleasant and profitable time was spent. Our brethren received much valuable instruction from the Montreal brethren.

A Masonic picnic was held at Missisquoi Park, Highgate Springs, Vermont, when the Brethren of Bedford, Shefford and Brome Districts, with many of the Brethren of Montreal, met a large number of Brethren from Vermont. Addresses were delivered by M. W. Bro. John H. Graham, P. G. M.; R. W. Bro. John H. Isaacson, G. S.; R. W. Bro. A. A. Hall, D. G. M. of Vermont; R. W. Bro. F. W. Baxter, Highgate, Vermont, and several others. The day was delightful, the attendance large, and the best feeling prevailed between the brethren of Quebec and Vermont. Too much praise cannot be given to Bedford Lodge for originating and carrying out the arrangements of the day.

By invitation of the Worthy Masters I have installed the officers of the following Lodges:—Brown Lodge No. 24, Frelighsburg Lodge No. 33, Stanbridge Lodge No. 19, Royal Canadian Lodge No. 29, and Bedford Lodge No. 59.

The Grand Architect of the Universe has seen fit, in His goodness to remove from amongst us:—W. Bro. Wm. Elder, late W. M. Browne, Lodge No. 24; Bro. L. N. Collier, late of Farnham; Bro. T. R. Reid, late of Stanbridge Lodge No. 19; W. Bro. Dr. Charles Edward Cotton, late of Prevost Lodge, No. 7, Dunham; Bro. C. Browne, late of Corner Stone Lodge No. 37. They were all buried with Masonic honors, with the exception of Bro. C. Browne.