

BRO. HENRY SHAW, near the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia;
 BRO. IRA J. BLOOMFIELD, near the Grand Lodge of Illinois;
 BRO. JOSEPH D. SAYERS, near the Grand Lodge of Texas;
 BRO. DANIEL L. MCKINNON, near the Grand Lodge of Florida.

I have recommended the following appointments:—

BRO. B. WILSON HIGGS, as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia near this Grand Lodge; BRO. HENRY W. AITKEN, as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois; BRO. ADAM MURRAY, as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and BRO. GEORGE A. AITKEN, as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

I respectfully ask Grand Lodge to confirm these appointments and recommendations. I have been so much occupied during the past year that I have been unable to visit as many of the Lodges as I should have desired, but in these few visited I found them working very fairly, and the Brethren in all the Lodges have expressed the determination of making themselves acquainted with the Ritual recommended by Grand Lodge. I have every hope ere the end of another year that a uniform system will obtain in all our Lodges. This is much to be desired, and will, I feel assured, have good results.

Eight Dispensations to confer degrees at shorter periods than authorized by our Constitution have been issued.

At our last Annual Communication we had, in this jurisdiction, nine chartered Lodges; to-day, we have to report eleven. Of the two last mentioned Lodges one is located in Victoria, and named "Westmoreland," and the other, "Orient," and located in Souris East; and here I have with you to sympathize with our Brethren in Souris, for the loss they have met with in the month of December last by fire, when nothing was saved from the devouring element but the charter, (it not being in the Lodge at the time of the accident.) Our Brethren of Souris had expended a considerable sum in furnishing their Lodge Room, and in a few short hours everything was lost. From the solid material that compose Souris Lodge, I have no doubt, like the Phoenix, it will soon rise in greater splendor. It will be for you, Brethren, to say what assistance you can render our Worthy Brothers in this their time of distress.

In the month of June last a very large portion of the city of St. John, New Brunswick, was destroyed by fire, and, in common with other citizens, many of the members of the craft in that commercial city suffered heavy loss, and no doubt many were left destitute. Our sister Grand Lodge and its subordinates lost nearly all of their property, but it is pleasing to record the fact that contributions from all quarters poured into St. John, not only for the general fund, but also from many Masonic jurisdictions, and our esteemed Brother, the M. W. Grand Master, ROBERT T. CLINCH, says in his annual address to the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, in October last: "Our deep distress awoke the kindest sympathy, and former rivalries were forgotten, and sectional differences disappeared from every part of the Dominion, from