

**GRAND LODGE OF NEW
BRUNSWICK.**

The twenty-third annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was opened in Freemasons' Hall, St. John, on the 22nd ult., the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Thomas Walker, M.D., presiding. There was a large attendance of Officers and members.

The Grand Master referred to his trip to Great Britain in the early part of last year, a visit which was full of Masonic interest to himself. He gratefully acknowledged many courtesies received from Scottish and English brethren, especially mentioning the late Bro. James Webster, the then representative of New Brunswick in the Grand Lodge of Scotland; Mr. William Masters, of London, and Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, the Grand Secretary of England, through whose kindness he had an opportunity of admiring the magnificent room in which the Grand Lodge of England meets. He further said:

"But a few days since we were intensely shocked to learn of the sudden death of a venerable member of the fraternity, R. W. Bro. Bliss Botsford. This sad event, which called forth many expressions of sorrow and surprise, was the result of an accident. Judge Botsford belonged to one of the oldest and most honored families in the province, and occupying a high judicial position, was naturally a leading man in the community.

The deaths in other jurisdictions which the Grand Master referred to were Bros. James Webster, of Scotland, T. B. Pardee, of Canada, and C. M. Chambers, of British Columbia.

The report of the Grand Secretary showed that the total receipts of his office during the year were \$2,300.20, which includes \$117 special contributions to the payment of the floating debt of the Masonic Hall Company, from four lodges.

All the lodges except two have made their returns, which show the following particulars: Initiated 90, passed 89,

raised 82, joined 22, re-installed 10, withdrawn, 69, suspended 22, died 24. The total membership on 27th December, 1889, was 1,885.

Official notice was received from the Grand Lodge of Quebec of the withdrawal of the edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of England and all lodges and brethren in obedience thereto.

Bro. T. N. Robertson, representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, presented a letter from a committee of that body, stating that it was the intention of the craft there to hold a grand bazaar in Edinburgh in the autumn of 1890, in an effort to raise £10,000 to aid the annuity fund of the extended scheme of Scottish Masonic benevolence for the benefit of indigent Scottish Masons, their widows and orphans, and inviting the members of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick to contribute, particularly asking for contributions of articles peculiar to this country.

At the evening session the work of the First Degree was exemplified under the direction of the ritual committee by the Grand Master and a corps of officers selected from the various city lodges.

Bro. B. Lester Peters, the representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, presented a bronze medal, which had been forwarded by that Grand Lodge for presentation to the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, in recognition of the interest taken in its welfare last year on the occasion of the celebration of the lifting of the debt on the Masonic temple in that city.

Grand Master Walker, in accepting the gift, said that the craft in this jurisdiction looked forward and hoped and prayed for a similar event in connection with their temple. "May we all live to see it," he said.

Bro. J. Henry Leonard, representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, presented a medal struck by that body to commemorate the semi-centennial of the craft in that state, and was desired by the Grand Master to convey to the