

Comp. J. M. Shaffer has an excellent report on correspondence, covering 118 pages, and dealing with matters and things in general in a very able manner. In his notice of Canada for 1876, he says:—

“‘Ordered to be read in all Chapters and preserved.’ This line is printed in small capitals on the title page. We protest that this method of dispensing Masonic light and knowledge will not accomplish its object. Companions do not attend meetings to have details of proceedings read to them. They go there for work and for duty. Send each Companion a copy to read for himself. If you have a first-class reader, he has not very exciting material upon which to expend his elocutionary powers. If you have an ordinary reader, he can bring about a state of somnolency upon his hearers which would rival the best and highest efforts of the poppy plant and all its wondrous extracts as developed by chemistry and other arts.”

On our system of Grand Superintendents of Districts, he says:—

“We are greatly pleased with this system, and would be glad to see it adopted here. We do not know whether these Superintendents receive any compensation for their work, or how they pay expenses, or whether the position is entirely honorary. We find no appropriation of funds in this direction.”

We may inform Comp. Shaffer that the position of Grand Superintendent is, with us, considered one of very high honor. They rank next to the Grand Council. They are elected, each one, by the representatives of the Chapters in each district, and are clothed with powers second only to the Grand Z. (G. H. P.) They may hear and determine any Masonic complaint, and may proceed to admonition or suspension, subject to appeal to the Grand Z., or Grand Chapter. All petitions for new Chapters must be recommended by them, and they have power to issue dispensations for public processions. They receive no compensation for their work, as the honor of the office is considered ample reward. They visit the Chapters and pay their own expenses. We are happily in possession of Companions of ability, who willingly devote their time and services in these arduous labors with no hope for reward save in the approval of their brethren, and in the consciousness of performance of duty in aiding the prosperity of our beloved Fraternity.

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M. E. Comp. A.
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R. E. Comp.
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