

the case may be that they may just fit it. While caution must always be observed, circumstances must not be ignored. The laws of the Medes and Persians stagnated the nations which they governed, and the inflexible rule of the Egyptian Priests as to perspective, dwarfed artistic thought and left to the world a legacy of uncouth hieroglyphics that rival only the embryonic attempts of a school boy. God gave man discretion in a more or less degree. Circumstance is a condition which men must recognize; so in the matter of satisfying yourself as to the worthiness of a stranger Brother to visit the Lodge, use discretion, consider the circumstances and be cautious. In such matters I can only state generalities. Those on the ground must deal with particulars.

The Grand Lodge has our congratulations upon its onward progress during the past year. Its 34 constituent Lodges now claim a membership of 1594, and an increase during the twelve months of 104.

Bro. Thomas J. Wilder supplies the greater part of the Foreign Correspondence report, but Brother Thompson, though occupying the chair of the Royal Solomon, takes a hand in the job and smites right vigorously some of his critics, including Bro. Vincil of Missouri. Quebec is passed unnoticed.

Bro. Wilder goes with characteristic western vigor for the scalp of the Lodge which proceeded against a Brother in default, while he was attending the bedside of his dying wife.

The following, from the same good Brother's pen seems worthy of reproduction:—

"There is much said now-a-days in regard to the secrecy of the ballot. A ballot should be secret, unless some brother who expects to or does cast a black ball tells of it himself, and that he has a perfect right to do, and the Lodge, Grand Master or Grand Secretary has no business to ask him his reasons for so doing. It is true, that if his reasons are not proper, and he is foolish enough to tell what they are, he is subject to discipline and should be 'punished for unmasonic conduct, and one of the specifications should read, 'for being a fool.'"

In Bro. Thompson's conclusion, he says:—

"While we have this opportunity to appear before the brethren of the guild, we should like to suggest the idea of the reporters on correspondence for the various Grand Lodges, having a day and hour arranged at which they could meet at Denver in 1892, at the Knights' Templar triennial conclave. We be-