

and in order to carry out my intentions, which it affords me great pleasure to do, I now beg to hand you the following securities, viz :

"Car Trust warrants, Pittsburg and Western Railway Company, \$10,000; New York Gas, Electric Light, Heat and Power Company, \$10,000; Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, \$10,000; Electric and People's Traction, \$10,000; Wyoming Valley Coal Company, \$2,000; the Citizens' Street Railway Traction Company, \$500; cheque Thomas R. Patton to Grand Lodge, \$124.48—making \$42,624.48, which you will kindly deliver to the Trustees of the Fund, and when added to those in their hands will make the par value of the securities now held by them one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

"It is also now my desire that the principal shall not be limited to the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), but shall be gradually increased from year to year hereafter by the addition of a portion of the income to the principal, so that the Fund may meet the constantly increasing demand upon it.

"I therefore direct the Trustees to reserve each year one-fourth of the entire income and add it to the principal, so that the income of the Fund may increase with the demand upon it."

Bro. Patton announced that owing to the death of Bro. John Jay Gilroy, he had appointed Edmund D. Scholey a Trustee of the Fund.

His remarks were listened to with marked attention by the Grand Lodge.

Grand Master Tennis accepted of this renewed token of affection and of true Masonic charity.

Past Grand Masters Michael Arnold and William J. Kelly testified the appreciation of R. W. Bro. Thomas R. Patton's munificent gift, after which the Grand Lodge was closed in harmony.

The corner stone of the new Carnegie library in Vancouver, B.C., was laid with Masonic ceremonies on Oct. 1.

ON TOP OF BEN NEVIS, SCOTLAND.

"A somewhat novel and highly interesting Masonic function was performed within the Observatory by Lodge Fort William, No. 43. After taking part in the procession and other fetes at Fort William, the members made the ascent to Ben Nevis, and at the domicile which stands unrivaled in Britain in the matter of altitude, opened their Lodge, when a goodly number of candidates were initiated into the mystic Order of Freemasonry. Then the brethren, to the number of about thirty, dined in the hotel, after which the King's health was drunk with Masonic honors, while that of the Queen was pledged in true Highland fashion, each member placing his right foot on the table, and before sitting down, honoring the toast in the time-honored custom "wi' a' the honours three." The Masonic ceremony was fittingly concluded by the dispatch of the following telegram to the King: 'King Edward, Westminster Abbey, London:—In Lodge Fort William, No. 43, now assembled on the summit of Ben Nevis, the brethren have in a flowing bumper, and with full Masonic honors, pledged the health of your Majesty, and also in true Highland fashion that of your illustrious and dearly beloved Consort, Queen Alexandra. Sincerely we pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may shower blessings innumerable upon you both, and that your reign shall be long, peaceful, happy and prosperous. (Signed) William Thompson, R. W. M.'"

TINKERING WITH THE RITUAL.

In a selected article printed elsewhere there is an allusion to attempts made to improve the ritual, by making it shorter and by modernizing some of its expressions. This has gone so far as to produce a reaction, and efforts are making to get rid of these modern "improvements" and to restore the work to