

### THE REPORT OF THE 11th MASONIC DISTRICT.

It would be vain on my part to point out to you the energy and zeal R. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson evinced to promote the interest of Masonry in the above district, as every right-minded Brother must be fully aware of that fact. I have no hesitation in saying that the report is accurate in every detail, and I sincerely hope that the W. Master and officers of the respective lodges in this district, as well as those outside of it, will endeavor to follow the instruction given by the distinguished Bro. during his official visits.

I make bold to say that during my connection with the Fraternity, and as a humble member of this district, have I ever read so efficient, so fearless a report of the true state of the affairs of the various lodges of which the 11th District is composed. I therefore repeat, too much cannot be said in praise of the distinguished Brother in his untiring efforts to discharge the duties appertaining to the high and exalted position of D. D. D. M. of the 11th District.

With regard to the report of Sharon Lodge 97, of which I am a P. M., I can only say that it affords me great pleasure to read that the W. M. is particularly eulogised as being a very good worker in the vine yard of the Lord, not so however with the subordinate officers, who, according to the R. W. Bro's. report, are not endowed with the requisite "skill."

There is, however, just one observation I beg leave to make; the R. W. Bro. finishes his report of Sharon Lodge, 97, by saying that it was greatly regretted that the W. M. "had not the co-operation of his members." As a member of the Lodge, I here emphatically assert that I never absented myself from any meeting when at home, and I have always performed any duty assigned to me by the W. M.

however humble it may have been.

Might there not be some grievance in connection with this sentence in question? It is just possible for a Master of a Masonic Lodge to alienate the brethren, and by some means make the lodge room untenable. A Master of a Masonic Lodge must possess various qualities to gain the love and esteem of the members of his lodge. A gentleman he certainly should be, exemplifying in private as well as in public life, the walk and language of such courteous and refined demeanor.

It cannot be expected that a discourteous man, one deficient of moral and intellectual refinement, will have the power to draw around him men of intelligence. A Master should neither be tyrannical nor arbitrary, ever willing to listen with respectful attention to the humblest of his brethren.

I maintain that want of courtesy on the part of a Master towards the members, more especially towards the P. M.'s of his lodge who find themselves slighted, or perhaps as incompetent, that occasionally tends to disturb the harmony in a lodgeroom.

I think that it is incumbent on every Master to consult the P. M.'s of his lodge on matters of importance, as their experience would often prove beneficial. It is also very desirable for the Master to make a distribution of the work in the conferring of degrees, especially to his Wardens, to give them an opportunity to prepare themselves for those higher duties to which they have a right to look forward, or assign portions of the work to some of the P. Ms. who would only be too glad to perform it, which perhaps will be far more agreeable to themselves and the members than the calling of P. M.'s from sister lodges, to do the work when they (his P. Ms.) are willing and competent to render any such service.

In conclusion I can only say that a W. M. who will follow any of the courses here suggested, will find no