

TEXAS.—1890.

A SPLENDID volume of proceedings contains the record of the Fifty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, which was held at Houston on the 9th December, 1890, and following days.

Grand Master A. S. RICHARDSON, who presided, delivered a lengthy and interesting address, from which we learn, with regret, of the decease of Past Grand Masters George W. Van Vleck and William Stedman.

Referring to the continued discussion of the question of the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, the Grand Master says :

Where the question involves the unqualified rejection of the Bible as the revealed word of God, the position of the Grand Lodge has been clearly defined. It has shown by repeated utterances that it is in strict accord with the traditional history of the Order—throughout Christendom at least—in recognizing the Bible as a constituent element in the definition of a Lodge, as essential as the charter itself. That it is the Great Light integrated into the very existence of the Order, furnishing us the rule and guide of our faith and practice. That its divine authority is not to be questioned, and that the man who—to use the language of Past Grand Master Sexton—says to her the *light* of your system is *darkness*, the standard of your *wisdom*, *ignorance*, the fountain of your *truth*, *falsehood*, has no proper place in Masonic economy.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals appears to have had a large amount of work upon its hands.

Another splendid report of Foreign Correspondence is submitted by Bro. Thos. M. Matthews. Under Kansas, he falls into the same error as some other Reviewers have in regard to our action in the matter of anti-liquor legislation.

Quebec rejected the motion to interfere with the free use of the ballot by subordinate Lodges. We believe that Brother Matthews is right when he says :—

I am free to say that I think most of the anti-saloon legislation had by the Grand Lodges heretofore has been intemperate, and to it as such I am opposed, and honestly so.

Quebec is very kindly reviewed, and our thanks are due to our good Brother for generous commendation of our last report.

R. W. BRO. GEO. W. TYLER,
Grand Master.

R. W. BRO. WM. F. SWAIN,
Grand Secretary.