

Ontario leads actually and relatively, that Province having, in the well-equipped, harmonious and effective bodies in Hamilton, organizations which are models of themselves, and whose influence is felt throughout the whole Province.

The report of the Illustrious Treasurer-General will shew that a portion of the balance of funds in his hands has been permanently invested.

Dispensations have been issued during the year to a Lodge of Perfection at Barrie and to one at Windsor. Doubtless these dispensations will be returned at this annual session, with a request from each body for a warrant. Both Lodges, I understand, have organized under very favorable circumstances, and are in the hands of enthusiastic and capable members.

As a result of conversation and discussion in the Supreme Council last year, and of conference with brethren of the Rite in this city after the close of the session, the bodies here resumed labor, and I am hopeful that a new era has opened for us at this Grand East.

In March last, I was able to visit Hamilton and to partake on Maunday Thursday of the mystic banquet with the members of Hamilton Chapter of Rose Croix, a large number of whom were present. In that thriving city I spent a most delightful day in intercourse with the brethren, and saw in the prosperity of the Rite there, a condition of things that gave me much satisfaction. Besides the resident members of this Supreme Council, I was fortunate enough to have with me the Illustrious Treasurer-General, who was on a brief visit to his old home.

On the day following, with quite a number of brethren from Hamilton, including the Lieutenant Grand Commander and the Ill. Secretary-General, a visit was paid to the Kingston Lodge of Perfection at Kingston. Nothing could exceed the cordiality of our reception, the genuine warmth of feeling displayed towards us all by the members of the Rite whom we there met. An official visit was made to the Lodge, and although we saw no work, we had the pleasure of meeting a large number of earnest and intelligent brothers, and we saw a Lodge well provided with all the requirements for the effective conferring of the degrees. I am sure that I only express the natural sentiments of all who accompanied me when I say that in our reception, in our subsequent hospitable entertainment, in the kindly display of fraternal feeling, in the splendid body of men composing our Lodge of Perfection and Chapter of Rose Croix, we saw ample grounds on which to base the belief that the Rite at Kingston is well placed. Possibly it is in the nature of things in that historic city, that there will not be rapid growth, but the conditions appear to be favorable to moderate prosperity.

Applications have been made during the year, and—when strong representation has followed—I have given authority to residents of Canada to go out of the country to take degrees of the Rite. I have, however, done this with considerable feeling of hesitancy. I am not sure what power the Sovereign Grand Commander possesses or the Supreme Council claims in a matter of this kind. I am not satisfied that he has authority to exercise at all. Personally, I do not look

with favor on Masons who degrees which can be secured by the idea of a brother holding all the 18°, and to another in the order, acting for the Supreme Council, beside the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council over the candidate, another Supreme Council the of the superior. Years ago advancement where he pleased modified in the case of the Council by a well known rule. As examples might be allowed to be declared otherwise, and in view of the Supreme Councils, it is membership actually resident doubt a full understanding of the general system applicable to this Council for England appears degrees to anybody. The Southern Jurisdiction, has to go where he pleases to take has not found it advisable PIKE himself modified his language of the day is called land acted upon his view I quote his circular, as it contains records:—

OR. OF WA

THE SUPREME COUNCIL,

*To the Inspectors-General, in
Bodies of its Obedience*

The Supreme Council of the British Crown having lately and to authorize its Chapter of the Scottish Rite upon native-born jurisdiction, you are hereby Council and ours, no rule of your conferring our Degrees temporarily within our jurisdiction resident in England or in America; but that you are of Scottish or Irish birth or in Scotland or Ireland, or of the Sup. Council of Ireland and our Supreme Council