

bourne, near the Grand Lodge of Victoria.

Bro. Gustave Lama, of Lima, near the Grand Lodge of Peru.

And the following appointments have been made, with my approval, of representatives near this Grand Lodge, namely:—

R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, of Preston, for the Grand Lodge of Washington Territory, who has been reappointed.

R. W. Bro. Robert Ramsay, of Orillia, for the Grand Lodge of Victoria.

R. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C., of Kingston, for the Grand Lodge of Peru.

I regret that I have been called upon to issue commissions to investigate serious charges preferred against three Worshipful Masters. One of the brethren found guilty has been suspended from all the rights, privileges and benefits of Masonry; one was severely reprimanded, and the third, on recommendation of the committee, I ordered to be tried by the Lodge.

A disastrous fire having destroyed a large portion of Port Perry, application was made to me to assist from the funds of Grand Lodge, the brethren who had suffered loss. After careful inquiry I instructed the Grand Secretary to inform the W. M. of Prince Albert Lodge, that I could not see my way clear to grant any specific sum to the Lodge for losses sustained; any individual cases of hardship, however, I would recommend to the chairman of the Board of General Purposes.

DECISIONS.

Q. Can a Quaker who does not take an oath or administer one, be made a Mason. Ans. No. An affirmation in lieu of the oath or obligation of Masonry is not admissible.

Q.—Candidates for Masonry, before initiation, require to declare their belief in a Supreme Being who has revealed His will to man. Is the Bible meant by that Revealed Will?

A.—Certainly, God's holy book is His revealed will. It is one of the three great lights, placed on the altar, to rule and direct our faith.

Q.—Can an agnostic, who says there may be a God, I do not deny it, but I do not know that there is, be made a Mason?

A.—No. No person can be initiated who does not believe in the True God, the Great Architect of the Universe, the Creator and Preserver of all things, who has revealed His will to man, and who will punish vice and reward virtue.

Q.—What should be done in the case of a Mason who is taking an active part in promoting and furthering the so-called Free-Thought doctrine?

A.—An atheist, who denies the existence of a God, a free-thinker who discards revelation, or who expresses contempt for God or religion, should be proceeded against according to the mode laid down in "Masonic Trials."

Q.—Can an Indian, who is not enfranchised, be made a Mason?

A.—Yes. Color, creed or country is no bar to initiation. The question of admitting a candidate is one of expediency, and is left to the judgment of the members of the lodge where such application is made.

Q.—Can a brother against whom charges of unmasonic conduct are preferred, object to the composition of the committee appointed by the lodge to investigate?

A.—A member of the committee, for causes to be fully explained by the objecting party, may be removed by the Master and another appointed.

Q.—Can a ballot be demanded on any question before a lodge?

A.—No. The Masonic mode of voting is by a show of hands. The Constitution provides that in the exceptional cases of balloting for candidates, at Masonic trials, and at the election of certain officers, the vote is by ballot. In other cases it is not permissible.