

the Minute Books which I have inspected were models of neatness and care. My only cause of complaint with many of the Lodges being the want of promptness in the assembling of the brethren at the hour named in the summons, a few of the officers showing a poor example in this respect. Late hours also are not conducive to a very exalted opinion of the order being held by those in the outer world, especially the fair sex.

With few exceptions the various Lodges were not aware of my intended visits, consequently I was enabled to inspect their usual mode of carrying out the work and business of the Lodge, and not work specially brushed up for the inspection of the D. : D. : G. : M. :

In the month of November I visited Richelieu Lodge No. 60, at Sorel, accompanied by a few of the brethren from Montreal, and received a hearty welcome. I was much pleased at the able manner the Worshipful Master conferred the degrees and conducted the work of his Lodge.

Early in this year, accompanied by the R. : W. : the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer, and a number of Worshipful Brethren from Montreal, I paid an official visit to Dorchester Lodge No. 4, at St. Johns, and received as usual a courteous and fraternal welcome. This historic Lodge is endeavoring to trace their history which goes back into the last century. Unfortunately many evidences of their age and other valuable documents have been lost by fire. I have no doubt, should it be required, Grand Lodge would be only too happy to assist them in their researches.

The brethren of this Lodge have been frequently asked for permission to allow Canadians in their jurisdiction to join Lodges over the border in the United States, some of the American Lodges being located nearer the domiciles of the applicants than Dorchester Lodge. I think this waiving of our rights over Masons resident in this Province, from information I have received, could perhaps be obviated by the reviving of Hoyle Lodge at Lacolle.

The two Lodges which I was unfortunately unable to visit are Chateaugay No. 36, at Huntingdon, and Argenteuil, No. 67, at Lachute; from different sources I have received information that both are in a prosperous way.

The year has been one of peace and harmony, no complaints having been laid officially before me. I received five applications for dispensations, all of which were duly transmitted to the M. : W. : the Grand Master.

In August last I granted a dispensation to Hochelaga Lodge No. 57, to confer the degrees in less time than one month on two seagoing Master Mariners. Numerous appeals for charity have been promptly met, the Lodges in this city again exemplifying that great cardinal virtue of the fraternity by continuing to contribute to the support of R. : W. : Bro. J. T. McMinn, P. : D. : D. : G. : M. :

During the year the Lodges united in the purchase of a Regalia for the use of the D. : D. : G. : M. : of this district. The district is now in possession, the first time for many years, of a handsome regalia composed of apron, chain and gauntlets.

In August the brethren joined the brethren of Bedford District in an excursion to Highgate Springs, Vermont. A large attendance of the craft was present,