

GRAND ORANGE LODGE

The thirty-sixth annual session of the Right Worthy Grand Orange Lodge of Nova Scotia was called to order here on Tuesday afternoon of last week, by Grand Master Gass.

The annual address of the Grand Master was an able effort treating the various questions in which the society is to day interested and encouraging the brethren to still greater efforts in the work assigned to them.

Grand Secretary Forbes reported the past one of the most prosperous years in the history of the order in this province and showed that Nova Scotia now had fifty seven primary, six county and five district lodges and ten scarlet chapters in good working order, the property of these lodges being valued at \$20,580 and insured for over \$15,000. During the past year 410 new members have been received and 95 lost through death, expulsion and withdrawal, leaving an increase of 315.

On the following day—Wednesday, the undemonstrated officers were elected and installed for the ensuing year:

Grand Master—John C. Gass, Shubenacadie.
S. D. Grand Master—Lewis Church, Chester.
J. D. Grand Master—Alex Nicholson, Cow Bay, C. B.
Grand Chaplain—W. R. Fraser, Trenton.
Grand Treasurer—James Miller, Shubenacadie.
Grand Secretary—George Forbes, Shubenacadie.
Grand Lecturer—John M. Humphreys, Trenton.
Grand D. of C.—John W. Cumming, New Glasgow.
Deputy Grand Secretary—C. L. Miller, Truro.

Also a number of deputy grand chaplains. Grand Master Gass was elected delegate to the Imperial Orange Council which meets in the city of London, Eng., in July next. The provincial demonstration on the 12th of July next will be held at Trenton. The next meeting of the grand lodge will be held in the town of Truro.

At eight o'clock Wednesday evening the 75th band drew up in front of the lodge room and the drangemen at once formed in procession marching by way of Lincoln street to the drill shed headed by the band. The sashes and regalia worn were simply rich, the men well mated and the marching equal to that of well drilled soldiers. The procession was one of the best we have ever had the pleasure of seeing and other secret society men could well look upon it with envy. The procession was followed to the hall by a large number of people where another great body had already assembled itself nearly filling the large shed. Grand Master Gass presided and made the opening speech, followed by such other well known platform speakers as Messrs. G. A. Parker, N. R. Fraser, Hugh Fraser, and Rev. J. B. Laird, Rev. Mr. Baty, Rev. Mr. McGillivray, Rev. Mr. Archibald and Mr. Letson. In the matter of supplying good music, the band was more than successful. The delegates in attendance at lodge sessions were:

John C. Gass, Grand Master, Shubenacadie
Lewis Church, D. Grand Master, Chester
W. R. Fraser, Grand Chaplain, New Glasgow
James Miller, Grand Treas., Shubenacadie
G. O. Forbes, Grand Secy., Truro
John M. Humphreys, Grand Lecturer, Trenton
J. W. Cumming, G. D. of C., New Glasgow
C. L. Miller, D. Grand Secy., Truro
J. J. Murray, D. Grand Chap., Trenton
A. D. Ross, " " New Glasgow
Jos. Cleveland " " Baywater
Thomas Hanna " " Lunenburg
C. A. Smith, " " Lunenburg
Mr. W. A. Garrison Past G. Master, Halifax
Capt. C. C. Church " " Elmudale
Hugh Fraser " " Elmudale

Geo. W. McCully, County Master, Truro
S. R. Bigney, " " River John
A. W. McMillen, " " Spring Hill
J. M. Anderson, " " Lunenburg
H. C. Gass, Past " " Shubenacadie
John S. Evans, " " New Glasgow
Alex Nicholson, " " Mahone Bay
C. W. Anderson, " " Cow Bay, C. B.
Jas. D. Maxwell, Dist. Master, Westville
Addison Miller, " " Shubenacadie
H. H. Elliott, " " Halifax
Frank H. Reeves, Wor. Master, Oldham
W. J. Wentzel, " " Bridgewater
Jas. D. Selig, " " Westville
Elias Cleveland, " " Chester
Wm. Fraser, " " Eureka
Caleb Backman, " " Baywater
John D. Fraser, " " Trenton
John A. Roy, " " Westville
Angus A. Ferguson, " " Cow Bay, C. B.
John Crook, " " Dartmouth
John H. McVicar, " " Spring Hill
A. Worger, " " French Village
Thos. Crowe, " " Torinook
R. J. Harrison, " " Macaan
Jas. D. Selig, " " Lunenburg
Enoch Mason, Dep. Master, Mahone Bay
John P. Massey, " " Halifax
E. H. Hall, Primary Proxy, Shubenacadie
Robert D. Aubin, " " Halifax
Elias R. Covey, " " Peggy's Cove
A. C. Steadman, " " Gay River Road

A large number of visitors from various parts of the province were also present.

On Tuesday evening of last week the Union church at Lunenburg was completely filled to witness the presentation by Col. C. E. Kaulbach, M. P. of a silver watch from the Dominion government and the Humane society's medal and velum certificate to Mr. Rufus Parks, for heroic conduct in the rescue of the Hilda Maude on the 17th Oct. 1891; also the presentation to Capt. Chas. Rafuse, of the schooner Emma Corkum, of a very handsome binocular glass from the imperial government in acknowledgment of his humanity and kindness to survivors of the barge Hope, of Alengstivith, wrecked in the North Atlantic on the 22nd of August, 1892.

LUNENBURG PIGEONS

A correspondent writing in the Boston Globe, in asking cannot Carrier Pigeons be successfully used on fishing vessels, says:

"The fact that the secret of the seas, the story of the wreck of the schooner Robert J. Edwards and the loss of her crew on the treacherous Sable Island, was given to the world by a homing pigeon, has given rise to much speculation as to the possibilities of the employment of these brave little winged messengers in the fishing business.

"Sergt Muholland, the trainer of the bird, says that had it not been for the exceptionally high winds prevailing, the bird would have accomplished the distance, some 240 miles, from Sable Island to Halifax in a day.

Very often if a master of a fishing vessel could communicate with his owners or fish buyers great pecuniary gain would follow.

For instance in the fresh halibut business. Shipping a regular outfit of carrier pigeons were taken on board these, trained to fly direct to a home-cote in Gloucester, and released within 500 miles of home.

A pigeon so released would convey information of the greatest value to the owners and also to buyers concerning the amount of the catch, whether or not there are other fares immediately following from the banks, or whether the vessel would probably be the only one in port for several days.

Owing to the uncertainties of the arrival of fairs of halibut, haddock and other fresh fish the prices paid fluctuate appreciably, and the buyers and sellers often suffer thereby.

Another point of great value in the employment of these birds is in the mackerel fishery, especially along the New England coast. The great fickleness of mackerel

schools, during the past decade especially, has been after alluded to. At times great schools of these fish appear in certain sections, where but one or two vessels happen to be. If some of the fleet were present good hauls could be made and the difference between a losing and a profitable season be the result.

There are always numerous of the sailing fleet coming and going from port, and a "tip" brought to port by one of these feathered messengers from a chance vessel that mackerel were schooling off Monhegan, Mt. Desert, or in the vicinity of Block Island, could be quickly availed of by numerous schooners.

The possibilities of this thing can be realized when it is stated that there are birds on Cape Ann that can fly from 200 to 400 miles and be in their coop on the same night of the day in which they are liberated.

Further than this it is asserted that the birds can be used to communicate with vessels at sea, although this would seem to be a most difficult feat in the case of a fishing vessel.

As going to confirm this, the fact is brought forward that a fancier presented the cruiser New York with five pairs of birds, for which the Cramps built a fine coop in which they were confined until they had become thoroughly familiarized with their surroundings.

In order to test the capacities of the birds during a recent spate of the cruiser, these birds were held ashore, and after the war-ship had steamed well to sea and miles out of sight the birds were liberated. In a few hours afterwards they were in their coops.

Of course in this instance the conditions were quite favorable. The great high-sided milk-white steamer with its three distinctive stacks could not be easily mis-

taken for any other form of marine shipping.

In the case of a fishing vessel the conditions would be different as craft, if this description bears the same general resemblance and identification would be a matter of some difficulty. Yet by some peculiarity such as a peculiar design or argument on the truck, it is reasonable to assume that the intelligence of the birds would be sufficient to enable them to reach their destination again on a vessel fishing generally on the same banks, as a halibut catcher, pigeons would get the "lay" of the land sufficiently to enable them to carry and fetch news with tolerable certainty.

The uses above outlined are not impractical or visionary. Contrary to the general impression, the homing pigeons are not of delicate physique, but are endowed with a characteristic which makes them especially valuable—endurance—for they never give up their quest until their powers fail. This point will be seen when it is remembered that the pigeon that brought the news of the Edwards' sad fate, was according to the record of the government official on Sable Island, released in a gale of from 75 to 80 miles per hour. For the commercial purposes of the fishing business no such severe conditions would be required. Rather, ordinary weather.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

LIBERAL STANDARD-BEARERS IN THE COUNTIES.

ANTIGONISH—Hon. C. F. McIsaac and Christopher Chisholm.

ANNAPOLIS—Hon. J. W. Longley and Jos. Bancroft.

COLCHESTER—F. A. Lawrence and A. Dickie.

CUMBERLAND—T. R. Black and A. E. Fraser.

DIGBY—E. E. Topper and A. E. Corbett.

CAPE BRETON—Jos. McPherson and A. J. McDonald.

GUYSBORO—D. H. McKinnon and J. H. Sinclair.

HALIFAX—Hon. W. S. Fielding, Hon. M. J. Power and Wm. Roche.

HANTS—Arthur Drysdale and W. H. Guild.

INVERNESS—John McKinnon and S. McDonnell.

KINGS—B. H. Dodge and H. H. Wiekwire.

PICTOU—Jas. D. McGregor, M. McDonald and J. F. Oliver.

QUEENS—A. M. Hemen and R. Hunt.

RICHMOND—Jos. Matheson and Capt. Joyce.

SHELBURNE—Hon. Thomas Johnson and Thomas Robertson.

VICTORIA—John A. Fraser and John G. Morrison.

YARMOUTH—Wm. Law and Forman He field.

LENINGTON.—Hon. C. E. Church and J. D. Sperry, Esq.

In three or four counties the conservatives have no candidates as yet.

Mr. W. E. Delaney, son-in-law of P. McGuire, Esq., and, one time, leader of the 75th band of this town, has of late been passing along other than pleasant paths, as will be seen by reading the following from the Halifax Chronicle of Friday last:—The family of W. E. Delaney have been sorely affected by scarlet fever. Three of Mr. and Mrs. Delaney's four children had the disease. One, the eldest, was left deaf and suffering with dropsy; another died on Tuesday, after 48 hours illness, and was buried Wednesday; and the third very low and fears are entertained for his recovery. Mr. and Mrs. Delaney have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends.

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