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**EDITORIAL ITEMS.**

**In Rhode Island only Past Masters** who have actually presided over lodges in the jurisdiction, are eligible for the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Warden of that Grand Lodge.

The lodge of instruction held by R. W. Bro. Creasor, D. D. G. M., was a great success. We wrote asking for particulars, but our request not having been complied with, we can only say we heard the Grand Master was there and that he expressed himself pleased with the proceedings.

It is proposed to organize a Rose Croix Chapter of the Memphis Rite in Hamilton. One of the most prominent Masons of the Ambitious City has taken the matter in hand, and asked the Substitute Grand Master-General to go down and assist him. Another is about being organized in St. Catharines.

From the published proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, we learn that there are three hundred and fifty-nine Past Masters in her jurisdiction; thirty-five working lodges, with a membership of three thousand six hundred and thirty-two. There was a decrease in membership during the year of one hundred and one.

Sir Knights Adams, Robert Ramsay and E. H. D. Hall have received from the Great Prior their patents of Knight Commander of the Temple, and are of course highly pleased at having the sign manual of the Prince of Wales in their possession. We congratulate the newly appointed K. J. T.'s upon

the distinguished honor. There are now twenty-six of them in the world.

Our contemporary the *Keystone* is responsible for the following:—"Bro. Sir Archibald Allison, who is an enthusiastic Mason, and has held the office of Provincial Grand Master of the Glasgow Province, relates the following story: In the Crimean war, during the assault on the Redan, an English officer led a small party of soldiers up to one of the guns placed in a recess of the Redan, and most of the men fell before the tremendous fire with which they were received. The others were attacked by a body of Russians, and the English officer was about to be bayoneted, when he chanced to catch the hand of a Russian officer, and give it a mystic pressure. The Russian in a moment struck up the bayonet of the soldier, led his new-found brother to the rear, and treated him with all the kindness of a Mason."

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has over six hundred lodges on its roll of subordinates, the aggregate membership being less than twenty thousand. Our thought is that this number of organizations is too many for the State, though we are aware of the fact that Kentucky includes a large territory. Is it not a mistake to create lodges when it is evident that they can never hope to have more than a dozen or a score of members? It will hardly strengthen Masonry as a whole to augment the number of weak and inefficient lodges. The better course would seem to be consolidation. Brethren will not be apt to think less of the institution because