

personally given me great satisfaction, and I trust that circumstances may soon favor the interchange of Grand Representatives therewith.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

During the past year Quebec has been honored by the interchange of Grand Representatives with sister Grand Royal Arch Chapters, as follows:

At Quebec. Grand Chapters. From Quebec.
 H. Dunne.....Delaware...A. G. Cox.
 H. A. Earle.....Louisiana...E. H. Fay.
 R. T. Thomas...Nebraska...J. R. Cain.
 J. Bowen.....Nevada...W. Timson.
 J. W. Wiggett...N. Carolina...S. D. Wait.
 H. L. Robinson...Nova Scotia...J. Poynts.
 S. Kennedy....S. Carolina...W.H.D. Gailard

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

A new departure has been taken by me since our last Annual Convocation, which I hope may meet your approval.

District Meetings of the officers and members of the several Chapters have been held in the cities of Quebec, Montreal and Sherbrooke. The result seems to have been to the very considerable advantage of Royal Arch Masonry in these several localities; and it appears to many of the Companions that it would be well to hold such meetings annually, throughout the several Districts within our jurisdiction.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

These officers have performed their important duties with very commendable zeal and fidelity, and I have no doubt but that their annual reports will show that their services have been greatly promotive of the interests of the Fraternity.

I am of the opinion that, if not now, it will soon become necessary to divide the Eastern Townships into two separate districts—the Bedford and the St. Francis. The present district seems to be too extensive for economical and effective supervision by any one Companion.

BOOKS OF MARKS, &c.

In addition to what I submitted to Grand Chapter in my last Annual Address, regarding the importance of the due selection and registration of Marks—and besides the duty there anent made incumbent by the constitution, on the First Principal of every Chapter—I am of the opinion that it ought to be considered one of the especial duties of the Grand Superintendents, on visiting a Chapter, carefully to inspect, along with the other books, the book of marks, and make special report thereon to Grand Chapter.

The importance of such careful annual or semi-annual inspection, and the due reporting thereof, along with what else pertains to the welfare of such constituent Chapter, can hardly be over-rated. Special

commendation should be given to those whose minute books, cash books and books of marks are most neatly and most correctly kept; and, if need be, in special cases, all these books may be required to be brought to the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter for the inspection and report thereon of a committee appointed for that purpose.

STANDING ORDER OF GRAND CHAPTER.

On the first page of the cover, and on the title-page of the first published proceedings of this Grand Chapter, was printed the following:—"Ordered to be read in all Chapters and preserved." This should be made a standing and imperative order of the Grand Chapter, and it should be implicitly obeyed by all constituent Chapters.

The reading of the Annual Transactions of the Grand Chapter in every private Chapter—a part at each of several convocations—including the report on foreign correspondence, is absolutely necessary for the information and due instruction of the Companions; else the greater number of those Exalted will remain in painful ignorance of the important transactions of our own Grand Body, and of the history of Capitular Masonry throughout the world.

This interesting and important duty ought not on any account to be overlooked or neglected by first principals, as no Chapter can be deemed to be properly instructed and sufficiently educated in Royal Arch Masonry unless this be faithfully done.

It is also to be hoped that every Chapter on our Registry has carefully preserved all the copies of our annual proceedings, and every fifth or sixth year they should be well bound.

These will make valuable volumes, interesting and instructive for the present, and they will become more and more precious as time goes by. At the beginning of our history let this goodly practice be duly inaugurated, and I feel sure that it will be faithfully followed by our successors.

SUGGESTIONS.

Important esoteric and other books and manuscripts are in the possession of many members of our fraternity. What finally becomes of them? Would it not be well for these Brethren and Companions so to arrange as that the precious Masonic materials should, at or prior to their demise, be donated to the Grand Chapter.

This suggestion may, I trust, be borne in mind, and it is to be hoped that in this way not a few precious legacies may come into the possession, and be carefully preserved in the archives, of this Grand Body.

The question also sometimes arises how carefully the old records and other valuable books and papers of constituent Chapters are being preserved. Are they not some-