

mitted to the Grand Lodge of England through R. W. Bro. the Hon. Wm. Badgley, its highest representative in this Province, at an early date.

I subsequently brought the matter before the Board of General Purposes, at its semi-annual meeting, when the resolution of the Committee was fully confirmed. The conclusion arrived at by the Committee and by the Board was one in which I most heartily concurred, and I therefore surrendered the warrant to the Grand Lodge of England, through R. W. Bro. Badgley, and I feel no doubt this Grand Lodge will approve of my action.

Considerable discussion has taken place during the past year—more particularly in this city—relative to the authority of District Deputy Grand Masters, and amongst others, a question arose as to the right of a D. D. G. M. present in a lodge in his district—in fact, in his own Lodge—to exercise authority as such, his visit not having been announced as an official one, and he not being clothed in the regalia of his office.

I was called upon for an opinion involving that point, amongst others, and I stated that I did not see anything in the Constitution to prevent the D. D. G. M. from demanding the Master's chair at any time he might be present in a Lodge in his district, even though his visit was not announced as an official one, and though he was not clothed in the regalia of his office.

I have since read the articles on the powers and duties of D. D. G. Masters, written by R. W. Bro. Robinson, P. D. D. G. M., of Collingwood, Ontario, which appeared in *The Craftsman*, and which are now published in pamphlet form, and I find he states that "in Grand Lodge, and on all occasions where the Grand Officers appear in their official character, it is necessary that they should wear their proper regalia. Their rank and powers need not be recognized by the brethren unless this formality is observed."

He further on gives it as his opinion that a D. D. G. M., "has the power to assume and drop at will, as may suit his convenience or pleasure, the rights conferred on him by the Constitution."

I would understand by this that Bro Robinson holds that if a D. D. G. M. was present in a Lodge in his District, say, for instance, his own Lodge, but not clothed in the regalia of his office, and desired to assume his rights as such D. D. G. M., neither the W. M. nor the Lodge need recognize his authority in any way whatever, under any circumstances whatever, notwithstanding they know him to be the duly appointed D. D. G. M. for the District. I entertain the greatest respect for the opinion of Bro. Robinson, who has undoubtedly carefully studied the subject, as his able and exhaustive treatment of it shows, but on this point I still feel inclined to adhere to the opinion I gave; but as that opinion has been appealed from to this Grand Lodge, I will not say anything further respecting it at present.

It gives me much pleasure to state that Zetland Lodge No. 12 and Zetland No. 13 having entered into arrangements for amalgamation to work under the warrant held by Zetland No. 13, the amalgamation was consummated on the 11th September instant. As a result of this amalgamation the No. "12" on the Registry of our Grand Lodge becomes vacant, and I heartily recommend that the present Zetland Lodge be given that number, and that this Grand Lodge do at the present session authorise the Grand Secretary to change the number "13" on its warrant to that of "12." This seems to me but fair and right, and as the amalgamation was formed in the expectancy that the number would be so changed, I trust there will be no difficulty about it. The warrant held by No. 12 was of course surrendered, and is now among the archives of this Grand Lodge. f

In April last, Freligsburg Lodge, No 33, was destroyed by fire, and a loss of some \$200 was suffered by the lodge. I regret to say there was no insurance. This undoubtedly was a great oversight; every lodge should be most careful to see that its property is fully covered by insurance, and indeed it seems to