

During the year the accessions were—exalted 339, admitted 36, reinstated 7, total 382; the losses were—dimitted 124, died 36, dropped 35, suspended 27, expelled 2, total 224; net increase 158. The report is neatly printed, and is accompanied by an excellent portrait on steel of R. E. Comp. Wm. B. Langridge, Grand Secretary.

Of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Proceedings which we have seen of late, those of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts and of the Grand Chapter of Michigan are the most beautifully printed. Between these two it is difficult to decide which is the more nearly perfect, but we incline to give the preference to that from Michigan. It is beautifully printed in old style type, on toned and calendered paper, and is, typographically speaking, a credit to the State. As a matter of course, it is a credit to the Grand Secretary, R. E. Comp. J. Eastman Johnson, who is also Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

THE *London Times* says some excitement has been caused in Chatham Garrison by the refusal of Rev. M. Cuffe, Roman Catholic chaplain to the forces, to perform the burial service over Armorer Sergeant J. V. Johnstone, of the Eighty-second Regiment, a Roman Catholic Freemason, who died at Fort Pitt Hospital. A resident Roman Catholic priest also declined, as Rev. M. Cuffe was his senior. Rev. Mr. Phillips, a Protestant clergyman, performed the Church service, when the deceased was interred in the military burying ground near Fort Pitt. The deceased was much respected, and hundreds of soldiers attended his funeral.

THE Grand Lodge of Louisiana held its annual communication at New Orleans, on the 13th of February. The following Grand Officers were elected for the current year: Michael Elot Girard, M. W. G. M.; John G. Fleming, R. W. D. G. M.; Edwin Marks, R. W. S. G. W.; Wm. Ritchie Whitaker, R. W. J. G. W.; William S. Pike, W. G. T.; James C. Batchelor, M. D., W. G. S.; Rev. John C. Carpenter, W. G. C.; Henry C. Brown, W. G. S. D.; Louis Prados, W. G. J. D.; Joseph H. DeGrange, W. G. M.; Hardy Richardson, W. G. S. B.; David N. Barrow, W. G. T.; Joseph A. Breauz, Tide P. Villasuna, Julius Lind, Joseph W. Berry, W. G. Stewards.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire met at Leeds on the 21st of Feb., R. W. Grand Master the Marquis of Ripon in the East. Affairs in the Province are prosperous. In the course of his remarks the Prov. G. M., urged upon the W. M. to use every care lest an evil might crop up of which he has seen an indication, viz., that of admitting persons into the Order in large towns to which those persons do not belong. Too much caution cannot be exercised in that direction. After a passing remark on initiation fees, his Lordship congratulated the brethren on the condition of the Masonic charities, but urged those who had hitherto done nothing to make a beginning.

THE GRAND LODGE of Mississippi held its fifty-sixth annual communication at Jackson, on the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of February. The following Grand Officers were chosen: M. W. Bro. A. H. Barkley, G. M.; R. W. Bros. Jas. T. Fant, D. G. M.; H. M. Street, S. G. W.; Wm. French, J. G. W.; J. L. Power, G. S.; M. W. Bro. Rev. J. H. Alexander, G. Chaplain; R. W. Bros. J. F. McCormick, G. Lecturer; A. P. Barry, G. Treas.; O. B. Collins, S. G. D.; Thos. F. Pettus, J. G. D.; W. T. Tyler, G. M.; Solon T. Sykes, G. P.; W. R. Montgomery, G. S. B.; W. H. Carkeet, G. Tyler. The address of Grand Master is: Rev. A. H. Barkley, Crawfordsville, Lowndes County.

THE Grand Lodge of Scotland met on Monday, the 2nd March, in the Great Hall, George-st., Edinburgh. The Most Worshipful G. M., Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart., occupied the throne. Petitions for charters for new Lodges were granted for Allahabad, Islay, Larkhall, Jamaica, Dreghorn, Lima, South Queensferry, and Kilsyth; several others remitted for further and future consideration. The power of the G. M. of Western India was extended over all Hindostan. The resignation of the P. G. M. of Victoria was accepted, and Bro. John Hislop was appointed P. G. M. of New Zealand, a cordial vote of thanks being accorded to Bro. W. Caldwell for his services in the Grand Lodge of that distant province. A motion was then discussed for the purpose of constituting all Past Masters as members of Grand Lodge, and warmly debated on both sides, but was ultimately rejected by a large majority.

PROCEEDINGS of the Grand Lodge of Alabama are issued. The body met at Montgomery on the first of December, 1873. There are 395 Lodges, with a total membership of 10,171; but only 200 hundred Lodges were represented at Grand Lodge. The following is reported as the work of the year: Initiated, 631; passed, 647; raised, 637; affiliated, 422; rejected, 237; dimitted, 662; died 184; expelled, 24; suspended for unmasonic conduct, 26; suspended for non-payment of dues, 634; reinstated, 187. It will be seen that the membership in good standing has fallen off during the year. No less than 77 Lodges are declared to have forfeited their charters under the law which provides that any Lodge not making returns or failing to be represented in Grand Lodge for two years, or any Lodge failing to assemble for work for six successive