

[Oct.,

1890.]

The Consistory has taken steps to supply itself with the necessary material to revive its work, and I think the Supreme Council might fairly, under all the present conditions, aid our distant brethren by cancelling the existing financial obligation to the Supreme Council, and thus relieving the Consistory of a burden which will be a very heavy one, if liquidation of all the debt is demanded. The work which has been accomplished by our Illustrious Deputy and by the brethren who have rallied to his support is gratifying in the highest degree, and merits the warmest praise.

I took the opportunity while at Winnipeg to confer—with the assistance of Ill. Bro. BELL—under the resolution of the Supreme Council of last year, page 313 of our proceedings, the Thirty-third degree upon Ill. Bro. DANIEL HUNTER McMILLAN. Bro. McMILLAN is Commander-in-chief of the Consistory, an earnest and intelligent Mason, a member of the government of the Province, a man of high standing in the community in which he lives, and an excellent addition to our Honorary membership.

With respect to the Lodge of Perfection at Brandon I did nothing. Bro. BELL assured me that for the moment it would be useless for me to attempt to meet the membership, now pretty well scattered; but he has promised to use his best efforts at an early day to revive the body. The town of Brandon is showing many evidences of prosperity. Masonry is in great esteem there. So that I have little doubt that a properly made effort by him will culminate in success.

Among matters presented to my notice or to that of the Grand Secretary are two or three of which special mention is made. The question has been asked, "Does suspension by a Craft Lodge for non-payment of dues take effect in bodies of our obedience?" We must all feel that every brother should retain his good standing in Craft Masonry, but suspension for non-payment of dues is clearly not the suspension for unmasonic conduct contemplated by our Constitution. It is not the act of a Grand Lodge, but of a Subordinate Lodge, and such an act—often times arising from inability to perform a duty—should not unaffiliate our members without some act of ours. I confess that the question is a difficult one, because we cannot desire to retain on our roll members who do not do their duty as Blue Masons. A brother unable to pay dues should honorably retire from his membership. On the other hand it is well to recollect that a brother who is a member of a Lodge of Perfection and Chapter of Rose Croix is a joint partner with his fellows in the ownership of the property and privileges of the body, and failure to do his duty financially in some other body cannot justly of itself deprive him of membership in an association in which he discharges his duty faithfully. Questions of this kind ought not to arise, because every brother knows just what he can do and what he cannot do with his means, and Blue Lodges are not very likely to suspend a brother for non-payment of dues who will show any good reason why he should not be suspended.

Asked as to the best course to pursue in regard to a Brother who had been elected to the 14° received the 4° and 5° and who was then compelled to go into another jurisdiction to live, I advised that the authorities in that jurisdiction

be asked to complete the Brother might receive the ballot which elected him in the Craft, and is similar

A Brother was present at the ballot which was unfavorable to which application had been made in another Province as The Lodge in the original application. A Brother could apply for the application but the constitution which must be first applied to; third, constitution to be given "made for the degrees" "place of residence of" "consent of such body" by open vote will a majority. Inasmuch as it was quorum in another Lodge before the matter had been decided and there the matter had been decided the mode of giving confirmation from the Supreme

With all the Supreme Council most friendly kind; and our Supreme Council judgment is everywhere courtesy and respect to Kingston, to enjoy a happy library, containing many Council, and to see many devotion to the work of vigorous as he was when a journey to Washington is in session at this time expression of our esteem for him, Bro. FRED W. on his part to make a pleasant one.

None of our members which met in Cleveland a note from Ill. Bro. some of the proceedings nearly three hundred and thirty-two applicants.