

Your Executive has had to make several fresh appointments during the year on account of some of them leaving their locality, or for other cause failing to act. Following is a list of those appointments:—

Bro. A. J. Andrews, Winnipeg, Man., in place of Bro. Freeman.
Bro. J. Anderson, London, Co. Middlesex, in place of Bro. Harding;
Bro. F. J. Passmore, Norfolk, Brant, Haldimand, Waterloo and Wellington, in place of Bro. Goulding.

The District Deputies, for the most part, have been active and zealous officers in looking after the interests of the Lodges in their several Districts, and they have rendered myself valuable assistance in carrying out the duties of my important office, for which I desire to tender them my sincere thanks.

Litigation.

Immediately after the close of last Supreme Grand Lodge, your Executive took legal action, through the Society's solicitor, to prosecute Mr. Baker, late Secretary of Yorkshire Lodge, for embezzlement of Lodge funds and forgery; and Mr. Smith, late Secretary of Britannic Lodge, for embezzlement, both of Montreal. Mr. Smith made partial restitution and obtained his liberty on condition that he undertook to pay the balance against him. Mr. Baker defended his case, and although he was committed for trial, when the case came before the grand jury it was thrown out on a technicality, which resulted in considerable expense to the Guarantee Fund.

Your Executive also found it necessary, in order to protect the interests of the Lodges involved, to institute proceedings against several other officers of Subordinate Lodges, for breach of trust; but I am pleased to say they all, with one exception, made restitution, and prosecution was thus avoided, and only a trifling expense was occasioned to the Guarantee Fund.

The papers in all these cases will be laid before this Grand Body.

Appeals and Disputes.

I am happy to say that there have been but few disputes in the Lodges during the year, calling for our interference, and these have all been adjusted without appeal to this Grand Body with one exception, which will come before you in its proper place.

Guarantee Fund.

This Fund, as will appear by the Financial Statement, has been heavily drawn upon, principally to meet the expenses incident to the