

Benevolence granted three brethren, and the widows of two brethren, £50 each. Warrants were granted for the formation of fifteen new lodges, three of them being located in South Africa.

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Grand Master Vrooman, of New York, was solicited to be a candidate for public office, it being stated that his connection with Freemasonry would make him "run well." Replying to his political friends he said:—"Masonry is non-political, and by no act of mine shall cause or excuse be afforded, to friend or foe, for saying or thinking that I forgot that fact." Bro. Vrooman is made of brighter and more sterling material than many Masons in Canada, where the venerable institution is dragged through the mire to secure place or power.

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The *London Freemason* says:—"With the issue of its June number the CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN completed its 23rd volume, and with it the 23rd year of its existence, and we heartily congratulate our contemporary on its record. There are many questions over which we find it difficult, if not impossible, to accept THE CRAFTSMAN'S views, but we gladly pay our tribute of respect to the courtesy it invariably exhibits towards those who can only 'agree to differ' with it, and the ability with which it has been as invariably conducted. We trust it may have before it a long and prosperous career."

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At the refreshment table of one of our city lodges recently a brother made a speech, which was accepted as humorous by some of the brethren, while others were greatly displeased. The

supposed humor consisted of making a parody on a certain portion of our ritual, and thus burlesquing Masonry in a Masonic Lodge. The brother was reproved privately, and retorted that he had only followed the example set by the Grand Treasurer at the recent session of Grand Lodge in Owen Sound. The establishment of questionable precedents is dangerous, and leads to a license that is not easily controlled.

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The Grand Commandery of Ohio held its 47th annual conclave in Dayton on August 14th. Sir Knight Henry Perkins, of Akron, was elected Grand Commander. Sir Knight John N. Bell, Dayton, Grand Recorder. The statistics show the following:—Membership Aug. 1, 1888, 5,944; created, 421, admitted, 97; reinstated, 52; making 6,514. Withdrawn, 161; died, 70; dropped for non-payment of dues, 134; suspended, 0; expelled 16; total, 381; leaving present membership, 6,133; a net increase for the year of 189. The next annual conclave will be held in Toledo, August 20, 1890.

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It is undoubtedly a great convenience for Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Sovereign Grand Sanctuary to meet in the same place yearly, and about the same time. But it is a great injustice to the Craft at large to have the elections in one of these bodies regulated or controlled by the elections in others. Ambitious brethren pair, saw-off, and combine, and even gerrymander, to secure votes. This may be Masonic, but we have yet to learn upon what authority it is founded. Those who object to such proceedings have the consolation of