

was called to the new Cabinet, as Minister of Militia and Defence, an office the duties of which he acceptably discharged up to his appointment as Controller of Customs at Halifax, November 5th, 1874 which position he held until he resigned on January 21st, 1888. He declined appointment as Inspector of Immigration in 1897. He holds the rank of Lt.-Colonel in the Militia of Canada. Bro. Ross is a Liberal in politics, and unsuccessfully contested Victoria, N.S., for the House of Commons in that interest, at the general election of 1891, but he successfully carried the riding at the last general election. He is an Imperial Federationist and loyal to Imperial connection, but believes in freer trade relations and that the removal of the present barriers to trade are essentially necessary for the future development of national life and trade. He is a strong advocate, by precept and example, of temperance reform, so far as it can be properly enforced. A Presbyterian in religion, he married in 1855 Eliza, youngest daughter of Peter Moore, North Sydney, C.B.

R. W. Bro. Ross was raised in St. Andrew's Lodge No. 7, Sydney, C.B. (then No. 499, R.E.) on January, 20th, 1853; he affiliated with Virgini Lodge No. 3, Halifax, on 25th September 1876, filling the offices of Senior Warden, 1881, and Worshipful Master, 1882, and 1883. He received Royal Arch degree in Union Chapter No. 1, 18 September, 1884, and was High Priest in 1885 and Ex. Grand King in 1902. In the A. and A. S. Rite, he is a member of Victoria Lodge of Perfection, 140, 10th Feby., 1890, and of Keith Chapter Rose Croix, 180, since 25th March,

1890. At the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia he was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1885 and Grand Secretary from 1889 to 31 Dec. 1900 when he resigned that office.

AN UP-TO-DATE MOVE.

WHAT THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND
PROPOSES TO DO WITH MEMBERS WHO
ARE THREE YEARS IN ARREARS
OF DUES.

The Grand Lodge of England has enacted that a member of a lodge in arrears of dues for three years, shall cease to be a member of the lodge with which he is connected.

It is to be presumed that if any such drastic measure as has been passed by the Grand Lodge of England were brought up in the Grand Lodge of Canada, the entire dais of Grand Lodge would rise up and give a most vigorous "nay" to any such resolution, just on the ground that it would be too up-to-date for a body that has a constitution that would stand a considerable amount of revision.

We all know the difficulties of maintaining lodges, especially when a long list of members are either in arrears for dues or have been suspended for non-payment of dues.

An official of Grand Lodge some years ago stated that, if during the past forty years in private lodges, the dues in arrears had been collected, it would have aggregated a sum not far short of \$150,000, but putting it at one half that amount, say \$75,000, it would have made a handsome difference in the cash to the credit of each lodge in the jurisdiction during the forty years.

The Grand Lodge of England has recognized the difficulty of collecting