

SECOND DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. Masons of Nova Scotia :

I have the honor to submit this, my second Annual Report, as D. D. G. M. for the above district; and although it is not so complete as I would wish, I am happy to be able to report the performance of more work this year than last.

In June last, after the meeting of Grand Lodge, I spent several days at Barrington in attendance on the Supreme Court then sitting there; and while there, I endeavored to have meetings of the different Lodges in that Township called for the purpose of official visitation. I found, however, that in consequence of the absence of so many of the brethren of these Lodges it was impossible to hold such meetings, and I was obliged to return home without making any visits; but while at Barrington, I had the mournful duty of presiding at an emergency of Philadelphia Lodge, called for the purpose of making arrangements for the funeral of Brother Nehemiah Banks, Past Master and Treasurer of the Lodge, who died very suddenly and was buried with Masonic honors. Brother Banks was held in high esteem by his brethren as well as by the community generally, and by his death Philadelphia Lodge lost an active, useful member, and Barrington, an energetic public-spirited citizen. The Lodge has also lost, during the year, another valued and worthy member, Brother Captain Joseph Wilson, whom I last saw at the emergency mentioned, and who died away from home, October 26th, 1877.

I intended visiting, in April, Westport and Freeport Lodges, and with that intention, wrote to the Worshipful Master of Westport Lodge, asking him at what time in the month it would be most convenient for the Lodge to receive me, and also inquiring as to Freeport Lodge, from which it appears there have been no returns for several years. I received in reply a letter from the Secretary of Westport Lodge, requesting me not to come, as no Lodge meeting could be held until the fall, and informing me that Freeport Lodge has not been working for the past three years. In consequence of this letter, I did not proceed either to Westport or Freeport, as I considered it useless to do so under the circumstances; but from all I can learn, it is evident that both these Lodges sadly need an official visit as soon as meetings can be held for that purpose. If they have ever been officially visited it is probably some time since.

On the first Monday in April, the regular night of meeting, I visited Hiram Lodge, Yarmouth, was received in the usual manner, and installed the officers elect. I reported pretty fully as to this Lodge last year, and find it now, as then, prosperous and flourishing; the work well done, the books and records well kept and neat, and correct in every particular. The brethren generally seem interested in their Lodge and anxious to maintain its efficiency, and from what I know of the present officers, it will, in all probability, prosper during the present year. No. of members 56; Initiated during the year 1; Passed 2; Raised 2; Arrears of dues \$185.00; Cash assets of the Lodge invested on note and mortgage security, about \$1000.00.

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