

PETERBOROUGH.—On Thursday evening, December 27th, being the festival of St. John the Evangelist, the installation of the officers of the Corinthian and Peterborough Lodges took place. There was a very full attendance of the members of both lodges, besides many visitors. R. W. Bro. E. H. D. Hall, K. C. T., P. D. D. G. M., etc., performed the ceremonies in his usual impressive manner, being assisted by W. Bros. Winch, Davidson, Boucher, Morrow, Belleghem and O'Donnell. The following are the officers of the respective lodges:—

CORINTHIAN LODGE, No. 101.—W. Bro J. E. Belcher, W. M.; W. Bro. R. E. Wood, I. P. M.; Bro. E. J. Toker, S. W.; Bro. H. Denne, J. W.; R. W. Bro. Rev. V. Clementi, Chap.; W. Bro. R. P. Boucher, Treas.; Bro. G. B. Sproule, Sec.; W. Bro. H. C. Winch, Organist; Bro. Chas. Wynne, S. D.; Bro. F. J. Winch, J. D.; Bro. Chas. Stapleton, D. of C.; Bro. Jas. English, S. S.; Bro. H. Owens, J. S.; Bro. E. E. Henderson, I. C.; Bro. W. Lech, Tyler.

PETERBOROUGH LODGE, No. 155.—W. Bro. B. Shortly, W. M.; W. Bro. Walter Paterson, Jr., I. P. M.; Bro. Jas. Alexander, S. W.; Bro. W. Brundrette, J. W.; Bro. Rev. E. B. Harper, D. D., Chap.; W. Bro. D. Belleghem, Treas.; Bro. M. R. Kidd, Sec.; Bro. R. Logan, Organist; Bro. R. W. McFadden, S. D.; Bro. W. Thompson, J. D.; Bro. Jas. Paterson, D. of C.; Bro. W. Smith, S. S.; Bro. H. T. Admison, J. S.; Bro. W. H. Hill, I. G.; V. W. Bro. C. Cameron, Tyler.

Masonic authorities generally condemn the infliction of severe penalties for non-payment of dues. The practice of suspension for that offense is, it seems, a modern regulation growing out of our present system of lodge government, and while our edicts authorize the suspension of those in arrears, and even their expulsion, it should be remembered that the latter is the severest penalty known to our code, and corresponds with capital punishment in our civil government. It should, therefore, only be resorted to in extreme cases, where the ability to pay is undoubted, and the refusal amounts to absolute contumacy. To suspend, much more to expel, a Mason for non-payment, who is too poor to pay his dues, is in conflict with the charitable features of our institution, and an outrage upon those principles of humanity on which the order is founded.—*Texas Freemason*

## GENERAL MASONIC ITEMS.

Louisiana has recognized the Grand Lodges of Cobar and Cuba.

The Grand Lodge of Oregon at its last meeting resolved that all fees for affiliation be abolished in that jurisdiction, with a view of inducing non-affiliates to attend their Masonic duties.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri has decreed that the keeping of liquor stores by any of its members is a Masonic offense, and those who do so "are liable to be dealt with for unmasonic conduct."

The Grand Lodge of Alabama has resolved to propound to representatives of subordinate lodges the following question:—"Has your lodge enforced the edict of the Grand Lodge as to drunkenness and profanity?"

Sixty six lodges on the Pacific slope in California have dependent upon them two hundred and fifteen widows, three hundred and sixty-six orphans, and seventy-six indigent brethren, whom they care for. This is Freemasonry indeed.—*The Keystone*.

The Grand Commandery of Ohio, following the example of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, undertakes to legislate for the Scottish rite, and decides what is the Simon-pure unadulterated sarsaparilla "Ancient and Accepted Scottish!—*A. R.* [Regular humbug.—ED. CRAFTSMAN.]

In Arkansas Grand Lodge the following decision was given:—"Ought a lodge to investigate a charge against a brother by a woman?" Ans.—Yes, if not a frivolous one. A woman can certainly tell the truth, and her statements may sometimes be very damaging to a brother's former good name, and consequently to the character of Masons generally; and if a wrong has been committed, it ought to be righted."