

ary 15 and 16, 1896." M.W. Bro. James F. Lawless, St. Paul, Grand Master; R.W. Bro. Thos. Montgomery, St. Paul, Grand Secretary. The returns show a membership of 15,065, being a net gain over last year of 487.

WE copy from *The Toronto Daily Mail and Empire* of Feb. 7th, the following interesting item regarding the presentation of an address to V. W. Bro. Hambly, formerly editor of the CRAFTSMAN, on his retirement as Chairman of the Toronto School Board:—

"Chairman Hodgson presided at the meeting of the Public School Board last night, all the members of the board being present."

"At this meeting a beautiful address, illuminated by Robert M. Williams, and bound in full morocco, to the following effect, was presented to last year's chairman, Mr. W. J. Hambly:—Dr. Ogden, seconded by Mr. Roden, moved: That this board desire to place on record its high appreciation of the very satisfactory manner in which our esteemed chairman, W. J. Hambly, discharged his important duties during the past year, as well as of the uniform courtesy and kindness extended by him to his fellow members, whilst engaged in their deliberations; the hope is also expressed that the worthy gentleman may long be spared to render still further service in promoting the Public School system of this city and country, in the healthy development of which he has taken such a lively interest."

AN Exchange says:

The reading of Masonic periodicals broadens a Mason's conception of the grand institution, putting him in touch with the whole Masonic world, and saves him from turning into a mere fossil limited to his own Lodge or at farthest his Grand Lodge. In other words, it furnishes him extended Ma-

sonic light, and should make him a much wiser, better and therefore happier man.

IN the "*Freemason*" (London), of 18th January, R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan of Torquay, England, in referring to BARTON LODGE CENTENARY, says:

The CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN for December, 1895, is a most interesting number and a great credit to editor and publisher, because of the space to the "Barton Masonic Lodge Centennial," and the valuable information afforded as to the early records of that old and venerated lodge. The lodge was formed by a *Provincial* Dispensation on 20th November, 1795, the first meeting apparently for business being on 31st January, 1796. At the head of the able sketch of its history is a representation of the arms or seal of the lodge, having as supporters a *beaver* and a *sheep*. Fifty-seven names are appended to the original by-laws, *fac-similes* of these being reproduced in the magazine and likewise particulars of the fees for warrant and dues of November, 1795, and the receipt of the money, dated march 14th, 1796, from "*D. Phelps, G. Secy.*" No portion of the payment seems to have found its way to head-quarters, so that the lodge was not registered until 28th August, 1844, in our Grand Lodge, when a warrant was granted and the number 733 was allotted, on due payment. I maintain, however, that the date of the lodge should be recognised on our books as from 1795, it being no fault of the members that the fees were not paid by the Grand Lodge representative. The locality is given as Hamilton, but the lodge assembled in the neighborhood some 18 years before the place "was known even as a village." It was "No. 10 *Athol Provincial*," according to Bro. John Lane's invaluable "Masonic Records, 1717-1894," and was removed from our register in 1861, being now No. 6, Grand Lodge of Canada. There are several plates of illustrations, over