

During the present month, the sad intelligence has reached us of the sudden demise of R. W. Bro. Robert Ramsay, of Orillia, Ont. He was Past Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, and Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory, near ourselves. One of our most pronounced friends and advocates. His pen and voice were ever ready in our defence. He had advanced to the higher walks of Masonic life. His death will be widely felt.

M. W. Bro. Col. W. R. Kennedy, P. G. M. of Manitoba, died in London, England, on the 3rd May last, on his return from Egypt, where he had been on service. He was buried in the city of London with distinguished honors. Representatives of the Queen, the Prince of Wales, Duke of Cambridge, and Col. Wolseley being present.

I would suggest that memorial pages be set apart in memory of these esteemed brethren.

NEW LODGES.

I have issued Letters of Dispensation to constitute Lodges at Aylmer, to be called "King Solomon," and at Portage du Fort, to be called "Portage du Fort" Lodge. The petitions were favorably endorsed by R. W. Bro. C. D. Chitty, D. D. G. M. for Ottawa District, and also by the Lodge nearest each. I trust they have made such progress as will entitle them to Warrants at this Communication of Grand Lodge.

APPOINTMENTS.

In keeping with a resolution passed at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, whereby fifty dollars was granted to the Montreal Masonic Board of Relief, conditioned that a representative be named, of this G. L., on that Board, I have appointed R. W. Bro. I. H. Stearns, Grand Treasurer, as such representative.

I have issued a commission to R. W. Bro. E. R. Rowell, D. D. G. M., for Bedford District; R. W. Bro. H. E. Channell, D. D. G. M. for St Francis District; and R. W. Bro. W. H. O'Regan, D. D. G. M. for Shefford and Brome District, authorizing them to investigate into all causes of difference now or heretofore existing between Prevost Lodge No. 8, and late Prevost Lodge No. 7, and to report thereon to this Grand Lodge. The same will be laid before you, and I earnestly hope such action will be taken as will be in the interests of the Craft; and satisfactory to the highly esteemed brethren interested.

DISPENSATIONS.

Requests therefor have not been numerous I am happy to say. While the prerogative of the Grand Master is ever to be exercised with caution, Lodges should consider well before asking for it. A little delay is often better than undue haste. I have felt that a strong case ought to be made out before granting permission to pass and raise within less time than that prescribed by the Constitution.

The wearing of regalia on public occasions must not become so frequent as to be in any way considered common. A mason should be known by the life he leads and not by his apron or scarf pin.