

OTTAWA.

The courteous (1) manner in which my last letter was received by "ye editor" was very marked.

It is unusual to give space to criticise, and refuse the letter. However, this is a point over which contributors have no control.

The District Committee paid an official visit to Rockliffe Lodge on the 10th inst., the following members being present: F. Hamon, D.D.G.M.; Geo. Bell, Sec.; D. C. F. Gallagher; John Smith, P.G.; T. H. Morgan, P.G.; A. W. Cameron, P.G.; John Baldwin, P.G.; N. Gammon, P.G.; Chas. Elkie, P.G. The speakers appointed by the Committee were P.G.'s Gallagher, Morgan and Smith. It is not necessary to add that they acquitted themselves most creditably.

The welcome received from Rockliffe was warm and sincere, Noble Grand Jacques laying it on perhaps a little too thick; the D.D.G.M. responded in a neat speech. A large number of short pithy addresses were made and a most enjoyable evening spent.

On the 19th the Committee paid a visit to Carleton Lodge, the following being present: F. Hamon, D.D.G.M.; Geo. Bell, P.G.; John Smith, P.G.; T. H. Morgan, P.G.; A. W. Cameron, P.G.; John Baldwin, P.G.; N. Gammon, P.G.; Chas. Elkie, P.G.

Noble Grand Manson extended the courtesy of the chair to the D.D.G.M., who, in accepting, made a neat speech in favour of such visits, and in thanking the N.G. he intimated that this was the first time he was so honoured outside his own lodge. A slight disappointment was occasioned by the absence of two members of the Committee, who were to discuss the circular lately issued; there was an excuse for one, owing to the bad condition of the roads between here and Manotick. However, Bro. Gammon was present and Bro. Baldwin and Elkie volunteered to fill in.

Brothers Baldwin and Gamble spoke on behalf of the "Rebekah Branch," both of whom waxed eloquent in their plea for more of "woman's influence" in our Order. Songs were sung by Bro. Guppy and Morgan and Bro. Elkie favoured us with a recitation. Short and pithy addresses were given by a number of others and a vote of thanks tendered the Committee for their visit, which was duly acknowledged by the D.D.G.M.

The Committee are strongly in favour of an "Odd Fellows' Home" for this jurisdiction. The Encampment and Rebekah branches are now considering a favourable report forwarded from Carleton Lodge on this subject.

Manotick Lodge paid Rockliffe a fraternal visit on the 17th inst. They were

welcomed by Noble Grand Jacques, and a large number of the members, as well as members of Carleton and Earncliffe Lodges, two brothers from Dakota, and P. C. P. Bowie, of Outaouais Encampment and Minnehaha Lodge, Winnipeg, were present.

R. Gamble, P.G., acknowledged with thanks the kindly welcome, strongly endorsing the social visits among lodges, and spoke feelingly of the fraternity existing among our members as more personally exemplified during his late bereavement. Past Grands Latimer and McPhee, of Manotick, F. Hamon, D.D.G.M., A. W. Cameron, P.G., John Smith, P.G., Geo. Bowie, P.C.P., N. Gammon, P.G., and Bro. Johnstone, of Dakota, made short addresses. Joseph Manners, P.D. D.G.M., and R. M. Jones favoured us with songs, E. Ripley, V.G., and Bro. Rettaliack contributed recitations. During the evening coffee and cake were served by a committee of Rockliffe Lodge. Rockliffe will pay Manotick Lodge a visit on Jan. 3rd.

Outaouais Encampment elected the following officers at their last meeting:—F. Hamon, Chief Patriarch; Jas. Langley, P.C.P.; Ralph Holcombe, Senior Warden; George Bell, G.S.W., Scribe; A. W. Cameron, P.C.P., Financial Scribe; George Bowie, P.C.P., Treasurer; T. Sheen, Junior Warden; R. Cottom, P.C.P., Junior; A. W. Cameron, P.C.P., Gavin Lindsay, P.C.P., F. Hamon C.P., Trustees.

The Encampment unanimously resolved that it would be in the interest of the Encampment Branch to have this city declared a district, if such system is adopted by the Grand Encampment. They also decided to meet monthly. It is understood that the George Branch Encampment will adopt the same course and Outaouais will meet on the first Friday and George Branch, on the second Friday, of each month. H. T. Cowan, D.D.G.P., laid the question of an "Odd Fellows' Home" before both Encampments speaking eloquently in favor of such a scheme. The Patriarchal Branch will be found in line in this glorious undertaking.

PATRIARCHS MILITANT.

Grand Sire Stebbins, Commander-in-Chief, having issued orders for a grand cantonment of the entire army during the coming season, it will now be in order for our Department Commander to make an effort to have it held in a locality convenient to Canada if not in it. It is also desirable to have the date fixed and known as early as possible, in order that the chevaliers may have ample time to arrange for their holidays and cantons to complete their organization. Wishing all a very happy and prosperous NEW YEAR.

A.W.C.

A FEW POINTERS.

Here are a few pointers for your lodge:

Give an entertainment to increase your general fund.

Try to recruit your lodge until you have doubled your present membership—if you succeed there is nothing to prevent your doing the same thing again.

Some of your members have been dropped or suspended; try to re-instate them, if you want them back.

Preserve good discipline, yet try to have something to interest the brethren when they are present.

Do not let the public forget that you are alive.

Strive to make your lodge the best in the Order, and the best lodge of any kind in the city.

Have open meetings and invite the general public.

"Never allow ridicule to repress the utterance of your honest convictions."

When you want to purchase anything be sure to patronize, when you can, a brother Odd Fellow.

No matter where your lodge places you, pull. Pull with a will and you will always have help from the true brother.

The Subordinate and Rebekah Lodges of Buffalo are talking of holding a grand fair for the benefit of the Home at Lockport.

Begin lodge promptly on time if a quorum is present. Tedious delays discourage members from coming, and if it becomes a habit it will soon be impossible to obtain a quorum.

Georgetown, a village in Central New York, has a population of only 200 and it supports a Subordinate Lodge of 80 members, also an Encampment, and every member of the Subordinate Lodge is a member of the Encampment. Georgetown also has a very large Rebekah Lodge.

The Order has an ownership in 2,838 pieces of real estate at a cost of \$12,857,-468.94, at a present valuation of \$16,521,-724.11, making a net increase of \$4,714,-414.06 by the investments. In addition to this it has invested in homes not less than \$1,000,000, with a landed possession of not less than 3,800 acres.

An application will be made at the next session of the Legislative Assembly for a special Act of the Legislature incorporating "The Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows" for Manitoba, with powers of incorporation of subordinate lodges, and with all such powers as are usual and necessary for such a fraternal body.

The Grand Encampment of Utah met in Salt Lake on the 27th of last month. The Grand Scribe's reports are only brought up to the 31st of last March, at which time there were sixteen encampments in the jurisdiction, with a membership of 288. The general condition of the encampment branch is reported much better than at the last session.