

ber of any Lodge in this Province, nor had she resided in this City previous to her husband's decease; he was a member I believe of a Lodge in England, and affiliated with a Lodge in Ontario; it would be wise therefore for this Grand Lodge to apply to the Grand Lodges of England and Canada in her behalf, and in the meantime to relieve her from the benevolent fund of this Grand Lodge, failing which to levy a small tax on all the Lodges in the Province to supply her immediate wants.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to grant to R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson and other influential and able brethren of this city, a dispensation to form a new Lodge to be called St. John's Lodge, and I have great pleasure in recommending that a warrant of confirmation be granted to this Lodge by the M. W. Grand Lodge at its present session.

The usual dispensations were granted to several of the Lodges to wear Masonic regalia on the occasion of the festival of St. John the Evangelist, to Royal Albert Lodge to wear Masonic clothing on the occasion of their annual Ball, and to several brethren Masters of Lodges, to allow the brethren to wear Masonic regalia at the general Masonic Pic-Nic held at Chambly in August last. I also granted a dispensation to St. Charles No. 29, to confer the second and third degrees on five brethren named in the returns of that Lodge, sea going mariners, at a less interval than one month, as provided for in page 59 book of constitution.

It yet remains for me to say a few words regarding the Lodges in this city working under foreign jurisdictions; there are three Lodges working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England,—St. Paul's, St. George's, and St. Lawrence,—and one, the Elgin Lodge, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

These Lodges continue to work with all the spirit and energy if not with the precision and regularity of our own Lodges. They are in our midst as it were without any one to supervise them, without any one to guide them, they are, one might almost say, Grand Lodges of themselves, for as far as their respective Grand Lodges are concerned they know nothing of how the business of the Lodge is conducted, how the work is performed, they know nothing of the general feeling of the members regarding the Grand Lodge of the Province in the midst of which they are at work, or what injury may be caused by them to the craft in general and to this Grand Lodge in particular.

These Lodges are governed solely by the W. Masters elected to preside over them. Be they wise, prudent, and discreet then the Lodges will prosper, be they differently disposed, then the reverse will be the consequence, and we as a Grand Lodge have no power to control them. The Grand Lodge of Quebec is looked to by the Grand Lodges of the world to see that the honor, reputation and usefulness of the craft is maintained in our Province. We are expected to fully maintain the principles and increase the prosperity and happiness of our order in the Territory over which we have been permitted to have Masonic jurisdiction and yet we have amongst us brethren over whom we have no control, brethren over whom we can exercise no power for good, should they be inclined to do evil, who are of us and yet not with us, who are our brethren and receive all the rights and privileges as such and yet unwittingly I trust, do us and themselves injury, who give us no support but rather discouragement, and who prefer to contribute to the maintainance of a Grand Lodge three thousand miles away rather than support the Grand Lodge of their own Province.

Some of us know full well how tender yet how strong are the ties which