

from Bombay, India, and holds the office of R. W. Substitute Grand Master of all Scottish Freemasonry in India.

The income of the Grand Lodge of England is over £26,000 per annum. It has invested funds exceeding £75,000 and large freehold properties. Half its income is devoted to charity. It has 2,044 active lodges under its direct jurisdiction.

Sir Archibald Campbell of Blythwood, Bart., M.P., has consented to re-election as Grand Master Mason of Scotland, and will accordingly be nominated for his fourth year in that office at the Quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge in the beginning of November.

The Grand Lodge of England has now 2,191 lodges on its roll; of Scotland, 737; of Ireland, 376; of France, 297; of Germany, 378; of Spain, 368; of Italy, 156; of Roumania, 23; of Belgium, 16; of Sweden and Norway, 37; of Portugal, 18; of Turkey, 12.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland, of which the Duke of Abercorn is Grand Master, and R. W. Skeleton, Q.C., Deputy Grand Master, has now 376 Lodges on the roll, while the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland has 147 Chapters on its roll, Judge Townsend being at the head of Royal Arch Craft.

A meeting of the Executive of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria was recently held. Reports were received from 70 lodges, out of 130, in favor of the movement of a consolidated and independent body. Another circular is to be sent to the remaining lodges, asking them to reply at once. It is expected that the movement will be unanimous.

Prince Eugene, the youngest son of the King of Sweden, is stated to have resigned his membership of the Order. He is a Radical of the most extreme type, and as the Swedish lodges are established upon a highly orthodox and Conservative basis, which will not permit of unrestricted freedom of thought and speech, he has wisely retired from the Order. The King, who is described as "a Mason body and soul" is said to deeply regret this defection, but he exercises no pressure upon his sons either in politics or religion.—*London Freemason.*

The Masonic fraternity at Simla gave a grand ball at the Town Hall recently. His Excellency the Viceroy, the Countess of Dufferin, and the Ladies Helen and Hermione Blackwood, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, and

Lady Lyall, with a large number of the *élite* of Simla, were invited and attended. There were about 500 guests. Before the ball was opened, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood presented, on behalf of the Masonic fraternity, a jewel to the Countess of Dufferin. This was most graciously received. Dancing was kept up till 3 a.m.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

PAYMENT OF DUES.

To the Editor of THE CRAFTSMAN.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The last issue of THE CRAFTSMAN to hand, and I must say that the improvement is great. Re dues mentioned in editorial on G. L. Proceedings, there is or should be a blank on all summonses to insert amount. I do not find it much trouble to let each brother know his arrears every month, and I accept dues at all times, giving receipt for the same. The result is very satisfactory, and it is a rare occurrence for a brother to be six months behind.

Yours fraternally,

R. G. DECEW,

Sec. Hiram Lodge, No. 319.

Hagersville, Oct. 12.

[Bro. DeCew has kindly volunteered to act as agent for THE CRAFTSMAN in his locality. Brethren wishing to subscribe will please make a note of this.

"THE CRAFTSMAN'S" VIEWS ENDORSED.

To the Editor of THE CRAFTSMAN.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me, firstly, to congratulate you on the marked change for the better in your valuable journal since it came under your control; and secondly, on the fearless manner in which you grapple and deal with existing Masonic abuses. Your article on the extension of Canadian Royal Arch Masonry abroad showed that you were not afraid to hew to the lines of the square, let the chips fall where they may. Wishing you ever increasing power to do good.

Yours fraternally,

JAC.

Toronto, Oct. 24.