

been called away. Let us all pray that he is in the Great Grand Lodge above, where there is neither tears nor sorrow.

Brethren, let us all strive, by all that is in our power, and call on our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to assist us, that when we are called we may not be found wanting.

THE POSITION WE HOLD AMONG SOCIETIES.

The position which we, as an Order, occupy, is one which we ought to feel justly proud of. From an exceedingly small beginning we have attained large proportions. The tree, planted in Toronto in the year 1861, has spread with more than anticipated rapidity, from west to east and north, receiving under the shadow of its branches nearly every city and town in Ontario and Quebec. The work goes bravely on, and a tree is always judged and prized by the fruit and foliage it bears; so we will have to exercise great care and caution that it is kept properly pruned and grafted with nothing but the choicest material, and let our lives be in strict accordance with the teachings of what our Society is founded on, viz., "The Word of God."

ANNUAL RETURNS.

The Annual Returns come in very irregularly. The officers of the District Lodges (when such are formed), should visit the subordinate Lodges under their jurisdiction, and instruct, assist, encourage, and discipline them to be punctual in forwarding their returns, properly filled and signed, as it leaves your Grand Secretary in the dark as to the numerical strength and standing of our Order.

FRATERNAL VISITS.

I would suggest frequent fraternal visits between the several Lodges, as a means of encouraging and awakening new interests. Such visits will be profitable, and extend the circle of acquaintance with those who are in the same work as ourselves, also by discussing subjects of interest. Our meetings are not made interesting enough to encourage the members to attend more regular, as the returns show such a large number suspended and expelled for non-attendance and arrears of dues. I would also caution officers of subordinate Lodges to be very careful about expelling members for slight offences, as we should use all means in our power to bring back those that wander from the fold, by kind treatment and brotherly love. I speak from experience. By following the advice given there will be many a brother brought back, that, if expelled, would be forever lost to our Society, and be the means of sinking him lower in the slough of misery.

CULTIVATE THE YOUNG MIND.

I would recommend the cultivation of the young mind. Time keeps his pace, and flies as fast in idleness as in employment; whether we play or labour, sleep or study, the sun goes on, the sand runs. This is, indeed, most true; and yet how much time do young men generally spend in frivolity or idleness; how much in what is worse—vicious indulgences. How frequently are