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THE CRAFTSMAN

AND BRITISH AMERICAN MASONIC RECORD.

Bro. T. & E. WHITE, Publishers. }

"The Queen and the Craft."

{ \$1.50 PER ANNUM, in advance.

VOL. I.

HAMILTON, C. W., AUGUST, 1867.

NO. 11.

GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA.

Condensed Report of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held in the St. George's Hall, Kingston, commencing on Wednesday, the 10th day of July, A. D. 1867, A. L. 5867.

The following Grand Officers were present:

M. W. Bro. William M. Wilson, Grand Master,

ON THE THRONE.

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Deputy Grand Master.

" " " John Kerr, Grand Senior Warden.

" " " Isaac H. Stearns, Grand Junior Warder.

" " " Rev. Vincent Clementi, Grand Chaplain.

" " " Frank C. Draper, Grand Registrar.

" " " Thomas Bird Harris, Grand Secretary.

V. " " John E. Brooke, Grand Senior Deacon.

" " " W. W. Pringle, Grand Junior Deacon.

" " " E. M. Copeland, Grand Superintendent of Works.

" " " John K. Clare, Grand Director of Ceremonies.

" " " John W. Fergusson, Assistant Grand Secretary.

" " " John Wilson, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

" " " John Clarke, as Grand Sword Bearer.

" " " Thomas Matheson, Grand Organist.

" " " E. McKay, as Assistant Grand Organist.

" " " Stanislaus H. Blondheim, Grand Pursuivant.

" " " Thomas Graham, as Grand Tyler.

" " " F. F. McArthur,

" " " John Segsworth,

" " " John King,

" " " Thomas Winter,

} Grand Stewards.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. F. Westlake, London District.

" " " Charles Kahn, Huron District.

" " " James Seymour, Hamilton District.

" " " A. DeGrassi, Toronto District.

" " " Donald Fraser, Prince Edward District.

" " " John H. Graham, Eastern Townships District.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. W. Bro. Wm. M. Wilson, Representative of Grand Lodge of Illinois, the Grand Orient of Cuba and St. Domingo.

" " " A. Bernard, Representative of Vermont.

" " " T. Douglas Harington, Representative of Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

R. " " Thomas B. Harris, Representative of Grand Orient of Portugal, and the Grand Lodge of Kansas.

" " " John H. Graham, Representative of Grand Lodge of Maine.

" " " Thomas Drummond, Representative of Grand Lodge of Scotland.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. T. Douglas Harington, P. G. M.

" " " A. Bernard, P. G. M.

" " " W. B. Simpson, P. G. M.

R. " " James Moffat, P. D. D. G. M.

" " " Æmilius Irving, P. D. D. G. M.

" " " George W. Whitehead, P. D. D. G. M.

" " " John V. Noel, P. D. D. G. M.

" " " L. H. Henderson, P. D. D. G. M.

" " " A. G. Macdonell, P. D. D. G. M.

" " " James A. Henderson, P. G. S. W.

" " " S. D. Fowler, P. G. S. W.

" " " Henry Macpherson, P. G. S. W.

" " " Alexander S. Kirkpatrick, P. G. S. W.

" " " John Renshaw, P. G. J. W.

V. " " Christopher Bunting, P. G. S. D.

" " " John Paterson, P. G. S. B.

" " " James Bain, P. G. S. B.

" " " Robert Dennistown, P. G. Director of Ceremonies.

" " " Henry Grist, P. Ass't G. Director of Ceremonies.

" " " F. C. Detmers, P. G. Organist.

" " " Philip Henry, P. G. Steward.

" " " John M. Horsey, "

" " " Wm. Smcaton, "

" " " H. V. Sanders, "

" " " Alex. Walker, "

" " " E. J. Barker, "

" " " Henry Dumble, "

" " " Henry Robertson, "

" " " N. A. Gamble, "

" " " James Reynolds, "

" " " M. C. Cameron, "

" " " Thomas Wilkinson, "

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE form.

The Rules and Regulations were read.

The Minutes of the last Annual Communication having been printed, were confirmed.

The minutes of two special Grand Lodges held at Ottawa were read and confirmed.

The Committee on Credentials reported:

220 Members and Representatives present, and 155 Lodges represented.

The M. W. Grand Master delivered the following Address to the Brethren assembled:—

BRETHREN,—It is now seven years since I last had the honor of addressing you from this chair, and on looking back over the record of your proceedings, and when reflecting upon the many important events which have transpired during that long period, I rejoice that I am able to congratulate you, not only upon the wise conservative counsels, which have hitherto

guided your efforts in the cause of Masonry, but, also, upon the deservedly high position which this Grand Lodge has attained in the masonic world. The blessing of God has rested upon our labors, and our constant prayer to Him should be that He would still continue to foster and to cherish our venerable and beloved institution, and so to influence and guide our aspirations and our acts, that we may successfully carry out the great objects for which we are associated together.

ATLANTIC CABLE.

Before proceeding to direct your attention more especially to the various important matters which will occupy your time and attention during the present session, there are two events of more than ordinary public interest, which have transpired since our last Annual Meeting, to both of which I will now briefly refer. The first of these, in order of date, was the successful achievement of one of the most wonderful undertakings which man in his restless energy ever attempted. I allude to the Atlantic Telegraph. The constant and rapid correspondence now hourly kept up between England and America must have a tendency to bind still closer together those great nations. May it prove an eternal link of brotherhood between us all, and may the Providence of God which has thus directed the genius of man to this crowning victory over difficulties and dangers of no ordinary magnitude, make it instrumental in securing the happiness of all nations, and the rights of all people.

THE NEW DOMINION.

The Royal Proclamation, which gave life and power to that great work in which our statesmen have been so long engaged, has been issued by our Most Gracious Sovereign, and the "Dominion of Canada" now takes her position among the powers of the earth. This binding together of the scattered fragments of an empire by closer union, not only doubles our material strength, but our moral influence also, and must exercise a powerful effect in knitting still more closely the ties of reverence and affection, which binds us to our beloved motherland. The immediate results of this important measure will depend entirely on the spirit in which our people work out its details, and, as an able writer on the subject remarks, the great ultimate issues which hang upon them, will in all human probability be decided by the tone which may prevail in the new Dominion, and the policy she may pursue during the next few years. That wise counsels may prevail, and that the leading men of all parties in the state may unite in securing a successful and harmonious working out of the great problem now submitted for our solution, is, I am sure, the earnest wish of every true lover of his country, and all will unite in the heart-felt aspiration and prayer to the Great Architect of the Universe, that He, by whose permission and authority kings reign and nations exist, will pour down his richest blessings upon our beloved Queen and upon this country and people.

A GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

The new state of political existence upon which we are now entering, necessarily brings up for our consideration, the effect which it must to some extent, have upon our position as a Grand Lodge. The name, by which for many years, we have been

known and recognized in the Masonic world, becomes now, it is claimed, a misnomer. The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, which has supreme authority in that section of the new Dominion, is as much a Grand Lodge of Canada as we ourselves are. The distinguished brother who presided at your last annual meeting approved of the idea of a General Grand Lodge, having Provincial Grand Lodges in each Province, and the Board of General Purposes to whom the subject was referred, also reported favourably upon the suggestion made by my Most Worshipful predecessor, but at the same time advised that no immediate action be taken in the matter. What at that time was only an anticipation, has now become a reality; and while I readily admit that there is something peculiarly pleasing in the idea of uniting all the members of our fraternity, who reside in the various Provinces now confederated together, into one grand body; and while contemplating also the probability of important territorial additions still to be made to the new Dominion, I must confess that I entertain grave doubts, whether a union, embracing such an immense extent of country, would have a tendency to promote the advancement of the best interests of Masonry on this continent. In Great Britain, as you are well aware, there is no General Grand Lodge; and in the neighboring Republic, each state has a Grand Lodge which exercises supreme Masonic authority in her own jurisdiction. In the year 1859, the subject of a General Grand Lodge for the United States, was brought before a Committee of Grand Officers for consideration, and by referring to my address of that year, you will find that I at that time expressed the opinion, that the creation of a General Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over the several States of the Union, would neither be expedient nor desirable.

In submitting, however, the whole subject to your careful consideration, I do not wish it to be understood that I either decidedly oppose or approve of the suggestions which have been made. All I mean to convey to you is, that thus far I have not been able to satisfy my own mind, as to the wisest course to be pursued under our present circumstances. But I earnestly request for it, that thoughtful and calm investigation which the great importance of the matter, imperatively requires at your hands; and I would suggest, that its consideration be referred to a special committee, who may be able to report during the present session.

THE MASONIC ASYLUM.

The next subject of importance to which I would now direct your attention, is the proposed Masonic Asylum. Acting upon the suggestions made by the Board of General Purposes, a circular, containing a series of questions has been addressed to each of our subordinate Lodges; their replies to which will enable us to ascertain the views and wishes of the craft generally, upon this very interesting and important question.

It appears to me, that we are not yet in a position, which would warrant so large an expenditure of money as would be required for the erection and endowment of such an establishment as the Masons of Canada would wish to see associated with their name and order. Neither do I believe, that there exists any urgent necessity for the immediate expenditure of money for this purpose; for although

we must all admire the princely benevolence displayed by the Masons of England, in their great Masonic charities, we at the same time also know how widely different our position and circumstances are from theirs. Every warranted Lodge under this jurisdiction has, doubtless, its little list of widows and orphans, whom it gladly relieves to the utmost extent of its ability; and this Grand Body, also, has never yet turned a deaf ear to the appeal of poverty or distress; but if you were carefully to examine as to the position and circumstances of the parties respectively, who have thus received relief and assistance at your hands, you would, I am convinced, find that but very few of them, if any, would accept your bounty, if coupled with the condition, that before they could become recipients of it, they must become the inmates of a Masonic Asylum, and such of you as have had an opportunity of visiting asylums erected for aged and indigent Masons, either in England or elsewhere, and have carefully observed the inmates of these institutions, must admit the fact, that in this country, we have but few representatives of that unfortunate class of cases amongst us. The whole funds of our Grand Lodge, (with the exception of that portion which is absolutely required to defray contingent and other expenses), are, I consider, sacred to benevolent purposes; and if these are prudently invested in public securities, we shall be enabled without encroaching upon the principal, effectually to relieve and assist all who have claims upon our benevolence.

A BUILDING FOR GRAND LODGE PURPOSES.

It has also been suggested that the time has at length arrived when Grand Lodge should have a suitable and permanent place of meeting, and that a building should be at once erected in some central position, where the meetings of Grand Lodge should be held, and where the office of the Grand Secretary should be permanently established. With this suggestion I feel disposed to concur, but, until it is finally determined, whether our boundaries are to be enlarged or whether our jurisdiction is to remain as at present, it does not appear to me that we could prudently proceed to take action even in this matter at present. The whole subject, however, as to the disposal of the Asylum Fund and the various interests connected with it, having now been before Grand Lodge for several years past, I entertain no doubt, but that you will, during the present session, be able to arrive at a wise and satisfactory conclusion with regard to it.

"THE WORK."

It having been decided at our last annual meeting that in order to secure uniformity in our Lodges, an exemplification of "the work," as it is technically called, should be given upon the second day of the present session, I some time since appointed a committee, composed of Bros. Harris, Bull and White, upon whom this duty will devolve. These brethren, with such aid and assistance as I could render them, have devoted much time and thought to a careful preparation for the proper discharge of the duty imposed upon them. I must confess that individually I am nervously apprehensive as to any attempt at innovation or change in the *lex non scripta* of Masonry. A system which has come down to us from our ancient brethren, hallowed, mel-
lowed and approved by our fathers in the mystic

art, is not to be rashly interfered or tampered with; and if through inadvertence, or because it seemed more consistent with our modern notions, any change has crept in, I would gladly favor an immediate return to the old paths and traditions of our Order, for, as an ancient writer quaintly remarks: "They are the registers, the chronicles of the age they were made in, and speak the truth of history better than a hundred of your printed communications." I much regret that the pressure of business will prevent our distinguished and Right Worshipful Brother Richard Bull from assisting in the exemplification of a work, to the careful arrangement of which his best skill and ability has been most earnestly devoted. In connection with this subject, I may add, that it is intended to appoint a Standing Committee on Work, to whom all communications on that subject will in future be addressed.

THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

Upon carefully examining the published proceedings of our Grand Lodge for the last few years, I have been much struck with the amount of labor which devolves upon, and is so ably performed by our Board of General Purposes; and I am sure that I but express the prevailing sentiment of Grand Lodge when I say that we, as a body, are deeply indebted and most grateful to them for their efficient and valuable services. This Board is composed of our most intelligent and best educated members; and although it is doubtless considered as a very high honor to be selected as worthy of a seat among them, yet its members soon discover that high positions are generally accompanied with important duties and great additional responsibilities. The patient and unwearying attention given by them to minute and frequently tedious details, the constant sacrifice of their own private interests for the common good, (for in addition to their labors at Grand Lodge, the heaviest portion of their duties is performed between the annual meetings), and the careful and laborious discussion which precedes all their decisions, must be understood and known before they can be fully appreciated. And when we consider also that these brethren cheerfully devote their time and talents, without remuneration of any kind, simply from a love of the Order, surely I cannot err in claiming for them not only your cordial countenance and support, but also your most grateful and hearty acknowledgements.

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION.

Since our last annual meeting I have granted Dispensations for fourteen new Lodges, which are named and situated as follows:

Oriental	Port Burwell	25th July, 1866.
Petrolia	Petrolia	9th Aug., "
Tuscan	Lewis	1st Oct., "
Prince Albert	Prince Albert	4th Dec., "
Old Light	Lucknow	19th Jan., 1867.
Euniskillen	York	21st Jan., "
Plantagenet	Plantagenet	19th Feb., "
Royal Canadian	Sweetsburgh	20th Feb., "
Ascot	Lennoxville	6th March, "
Filius Vidux	Adolphustown	6th March, "
Belmont	Belmont	8th April, "
Ashlar	Coaticook	21st May, "
Orillia	Orillia	12th June, "
Scotland	Scotland	27th June, "

As each of these applications were accompanied by the necessary certificates and vouchers required by our regulations, I have now much pleasure in recommending that a regular warrant of constitution be issued to them respectively, in lieu of the temporary authority granted by my Dispensations.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

During the past year I have been called upon officially to decide various questions of Masonic Law, but as none of them possess any peculiar interest or importance, I consider it unnecessary to bring them before you at present. A serious difficulty occurred in one of our Subordinate Lodges, in which several Worshipful Brethren became unfortunately involved, but as this matter has all been happily and satisfactorily arranged, and the lawful authority of this Grand Lodge properly vindicated, I have no desire to give it undue prominence, or to refer further to a matter which occasioned me much pain and anxiety at the time. All the documents, however, connected with this and similar matters are in the possession of the Grand Secretary, and can be referred to if necessary.

THE GRAND SECRETARY.

At the last meeting of this Grand Lodge it was determined that an *Honorary Jewel* should be prepared and presented to our Grand Secretary. This I find has been neglected, but no time will now be lost in giving effect to your wishes, although at the same time I would venture to suggest for your consideration whether twelve years of valuable and faithful service might not be more substantially and appropriately acknowledged, than by a mere jewel of office, which, although valuable as a proof of your appreciation and regard, is otherwise of but little use to the recipient.

BOSTON.

I was honored by an invitation from the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to be present at the dedication of their Masonic Temple at Boston, on the 24th of June last, and I much regret that circumstances prevented me from accepting the invitation, and from meeting the large and brilliant assemblage of Masons upon that very interesting occasion. His Excellency, W. Bro. Andrew Johnson, the President of the United States, with the leading members of the Fraternity in that Republic, and upwards of ten thousand Masons participated in the solemn and imposing ceremonies of dedication. We congratulate the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts upon the successful completion of their superb edifice, and also upon the great success which has thus crowned their labors. We, as Masons, enter as fully, and participate as heartily in the joyous emotions excited by the occurrence of important events of this kind, as if they had taken place in our own midst and in our own dominion, for Masonry knows neither country nor language; and although (as the Reverend and eloquent orator said on the occasion referred to,) we may be men of different nationalities, men of diverse views in philosophy, men of widely varying types of religious faith, and men of diametrically opposite political sentiments, yet we have been brought into harmonious and abiding social relations by the powerful and controlling influence of the compass and square.

DISTRESS IN GEORGIA.

I regret to announce to Grand Lodge that much distress still prevails among our brethren in the Southern States, and startling accounts of misery and want suffered by the widows and orphans of Masons in the State of Georgia have been forwarded to the Craft in Canada and elsewhere. Our Lodges in many instances promptly responded to this appeal, and I would gladly at that time have been the almoner of your bounty, but found upon enquiry that no funds either for charitable or other purposes are now left subject to the order of your Grand Master. I heartily commend this subject to your most favorable consideration, and hope that if this distress and want has not already been relieved by a bountiful harvest, no time will be lost in forwarding substantial evidence of your sympathy to the suffering widows and orphans of Georgia.

M. FURNELL, ESQ.

It is also my painful duty to inform you of the death of Michael Furnell, Esq., the representative of our Grand Lodge at the Grand Lodge of Ireland. By the death of this distinguished brother, we have lost a warm friend, and our Order a most worthy Craftsman; his loss will be sincerely regretted by every member of the Fraternity in Canada.

I had much pleasure in appointing R. W. Bro. James Vokes Mackey, of Dublin, as our representative near the Grand Lodge of Ireland, with the rank of a Past Grand Senior Warden, as successor to our deceased brother Furnell.

REPRESENTATIVES.

I have also made arrangements, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, for an exchange of Representatives with several other Grand Bodies with whom we have not heretofore been in communication, and I have appointed the following distinguished members of our Order as our Representatives at these Grand Lodges and Grand Orients respectively, viz.:

- R. W. Bro. Andrew Kerr Mackinlay, at Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.
- R. W. Bro. E. T. Carr, at Grand Lodge of Kansas.
- Ill. Bro. J. M. C. Obed, at Grand Orient of Cuba.
- Ill. Bro. Dr. Francisco De Paula Romas, at Grand Orient of Brazil.
- Ill. Bro. J. M. Samper Angiano, at Grand Orient of New Grenada.
- Ill. Bro. Antonio M. Molléjas, at Grand Orient of Venezuela.
- Ill. Bro. Adolph R. Pfell, at Grand Orient of Uruguay.
- Ill. Bro. Joas Caetano D'A. Almeida, at Grand Orient of Portugal.
- Ill. Bro. Luis Gaspil, 33d, at Grand Orient of Mexico.
- Ill. Bro. Francesco De Luca, at Grand Orient of Italy.
- Ill. Bro. A. M. Medina, at Grand Orient of Chili.

These diplomatic relations with Grand Orients, have been established through the kind and fraternal offices of Ill. Bro. Andres Cassard, the distinguished representative of these Grand Bodies to the Grand Lodges of the United States, and I indulge in the hope that we will soon have the pleasure of receiving and welcoming, in proper form, the accredited representatives of these Grand Bodies among us.

By the last mail from England, I received an official communication from our Most Worshipful Brother W. C. Stephens, Esq., announcing the resignation of his position as Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, near this Grand Lodge, a copy of which I herewith lay before you.

Although retiring from a high and important position, (the duties of which he has for so many years discharged with great ability and discretion),

our distinguished brother cannot by any means sever the link which connects him with this Grand Lodge. His past services, and the many pleasing incidents connected with them, will never be forgotten by his Canadian brethren, and should he again return to this jurisdiction, he will find many warm hearts and ready hands, to welcome and to greet him.

UNAFFILIATED MASONS.

I would also direct the attention of Grand Lodge to the very large and increasing number of Masons who are not connected with any of our Lodges, and who, consequently, contribute nothing towards our fund of benevolence. This subject has occupied much of my attention for many years past, and I would suggest for your consideration the propriety of directing that every subordinate Lodge should endeavor to ascertain with as little delay as possible, the names of all unaffiliated Masons residing within the limits of their jurisdiction, and inform them that their names have been entered on the unaffiliated Roll of the Lodge, and that by instructions received from Grand Lodge, they are required to contribute a certain sum annually, (say half dues,) and that a failure on their part to comply with this requirement will be followed by such penalty as Grand Lodge may please to direct. I have discussed this subject with many of our unaffiliated brethren, who, from the pressure of their avocations, and for other reasons, have felt it necessary to retire from an active participation in Lodge duties, and in nearly every instance, I have been assured that they would gladly resume their connection with the Order, provided some such scheme as I have suggested was adopted.

FENIANISM.

In the month of September last, I addressed letters to the Grand Masters of the neighboring States, referring to the wicked and unjustifiable attempts of those reckless and lawless men, known as Fenians, to invade these Provinces, and asking them to supply me with any information they might possess as to their plans and intentions. The replies to these letters were most prompt and fraternal, and while assuring me that their best services would be rendered to me in the matter referred to, they, at the same time, convinced me that they and the intelligent and enlightened classes in the United States had no sympathy with these piratical marauders who had without a shadow of reason attacked and still threatened a peaceable and inoffensive community. On this subject I have also been in communication with the Grand Masters of England and Ireland.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

Your Committee appointed to collect material for a more perfect history of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction, have, under the able superintendence of their chairman the R. W. Bro. S. D. Fowler, collected a mass of information relating to the early history of our order in Canada, of a most interesting and valuable character, and are entitled to the best thanks, not only of this Grand Lodge, but of every member of the craft in the jurisdiction. The result of the labors of this committee has partially been published in "The Craftsman," and has materially added to the lively interest with which the members of our

fraternity look forward to the arrival of the monthly numbers of this most excellent periodical.

In connection with this subject, I would earnestly invite the attention of our old Lodges to a careful search in their archives for minutes and documents connected with the early incidents of their history, with a view to forwarding them to this committee with as little delay as possible.

LIBRARY.

I have also to direct the attention of Grand Lodge to the large accumulation of valuable Masonic material, consisting of Printed Proceedings of Grand Lodges, Pamphlets, &c., &c., now in the office of our Grand Secretary, and to suggest that if they were arranged and cheaply bound, they would form a valuable addition to our Grand Lodge Library.

INDEX.

It is also desirable that a general index to our own proceeding should be prepared and printed, and I would also suggest that in future, an index be added to our Annual publication of proceedings.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Since our last Annual Communication, I have had the pleasure of paying official visits to my brethren in Guelph, Montreal, Peterboro' and London, and I need scarcely add that my reception everywhere was most cordial and hearty. I would gladly have visited many of our other Lodges, had time and circumstances permitted, as I have long felt that official visits of this kind have a most beneficial effect in promoting the interests of Masonry.

SPECIAL GRAND LODGES.

I have also to state for the information of Grand Lodge, that I authorized the holding of two special meetings of Grand Lodge, since our last Annual Communication, which on both occasions were ably presided over by my Most Worshipful Brother Past Grand Master Harington, who officiated at the ceremony of laying the corner stone of two churches in Ottawa, a full account of which appeared in the papers of the day.

INVESTMENT OF GRAND LODGE FUNDS.

About the middle of August last, I observed an official notice emanating from the Receiver General's Department, to the effect that applications would be received up to the 10th of September for the purchase of provincial debentures, which were to bear 7 per cent. interest, and knowing that a large portion of our funds was lying on deposit at 4 per cent., I at once saw the importance of securing so favorable and safe an investment for them. I proceeded to St. Catharines, where I met many members of the Board of General Purposes, who were there attending a meeting of the Grand Chapter, and consulted them with reference to the matter. Finding that they approved of my suggestion, I proceeded to Toronto for the purpose of advising the Trustees of the Asylum Fund to invest that amount also in provincial debentures. I then visited Montreal, and made the necessary arrangements with our much esteemed brother, the Chairman of the Board of General Purposes, for the transfer of our funds, after which I proceeded to Ottawa, which I reached

on the 18th of August, where, with the valuable assistance of the Deputy Receiver General, I completed all the arrangements I had the power to make. I again returned to Montreal, for the purpose of obtaining the signature of the Chairman of the Board to an order on the Bank having charge of our funds, to deposit the same in the Bank of Montreal, as directed by the Receiver General. You are all probably aware that by the existing regulations, the signatures of the Chairman, the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Treasurer, are required to any order for the payment of money. On again calling upon R. W. Bro. Stevenson, I ascertained that he did not like assuming the responsibility of making this change without calling a special meeting of the Board to consider the matter; and as the time allowed for the application had nearly expired, I could only urge upon him the necessity of losing no time in ascertaining the views of the members of the Board, (of which, by the way, I entertained no doubt,) and I then returned home. On the 10th of September the sum of \$16,000 was deposited in the Bank of Montreal, for which amount, provincial debentures were drawn issued and handed over to the Grand Treasurer. An additional sum of \$1,500 was on hand at the time, but I am unable to say why this amount was not also invested in the same securities. The Asylum Fund was also invested by the Trustees in Provincial Debentures.

FINANCES.

The accounts of that most trustworthy and valuable officer, the Grand Treasurer, showing the state of our finances up to the 1st day of July, instant, will be laid before you, from which you will be pleased to learn that our finances are in a most satisfactory condition

I would suggest that whatever decision may be arrived at with reference to the Asylum Fund, it should still appear in, and form part of the Grand Treasurer's accounts, so that members may at all times know exactly the position of all their funds.

I find that we have to that date, cash in the Gore Bank, at Simcoe.....\$ 5159 67
 In County Middlesex Debentures..... 1600 00
 In Provincial Debentures..... 16000 00

Total funds.....\$22759 67

Which amount belongs to the following accounts:

General Fund \$14220 71
 Asylum Fund..... 467 81
 Investment for Benevolence.. 7890 24
 Current for do. .. 180 91

\$22759 67

In addition to which interest has accrued on Provincial Debentures, but which will not be available until 1st September next, when the half years' interest falls due, to amount of\$373 33

To be distributed as follows:

Benevolence.....\$184 10
 Asylum Fund..... 10 92
 General 178 31

\$373 33

BY-LAWS OF LODGES.

During the past year I have had to examine carefully a number of By-laws of Lodges; these, with some amendments and trifling alterations, I had much pleasure in approving and confirming.

BALLOT FOR GRAND OFFICERS.

I have also endeavored, with the assistance of that most efficient officer, your Grand Secretary, to perfect the arrangement of a system which will be tested at the present meeting, and by which I hope much valuable time will be saved to Grand Lodge at our annual balloting.

CONCLUSION.

There are still many subjects connected with my administration of your affairs during the past year which I would have wished to report upon for your information, but as this address has already extended far beyond the limits I originally contemplated, I will only add that all the documents connected with my transactions are ready for inspection should any reference to them be desired, and I think I may say with confidence, that my successor will find no unfinished business to encroach either upon his time or attention.

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon our labors during the present Communication, and wisdom from on high direct and guide us in all we undertake for the advancement and promulgation of our divine art.

WM. M. WILSON,
Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master read a letter from the Brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, and Cataragui Lodge, No. 92, of the City of Kingston, inviting the Grand Officers and Representatives of Lodges to attend a steamboat excursion through the Thousand Islands, which generous hospitality was cordially accepted.

A letter was read from R. W. Bro. Henry Groff' Grand Treasurer, acknowledging in appropriate terms the receipt of the Testimonial presented to him by the M. W. Grand Master, by a resolution of Grand Lodge.

A letter was read from M. W. Bro. W. C. Stephens, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of England at the Grand Lodge of Canada, stating that in consequence of having taken up a permanent residence in England, he had tendered his resignation to the Earl of Zetland, M. W. Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, of the office held by him at the Grand Lodge.

A letter from the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland was likewise read, on the subject of regalia for our Representative of that Grand Lodge.

A circular letter from the Grand Orient of France was read in relation to a Masonic Congress during the exhibition. The circular has already appeared in the CRAFTSMAN.

On motion it was resolved that so much of the address of the M. W. Grand Master as has reference to the present position of the Grand Lodge and the establishment of a Grand Lodge for the Dominion of Canada, he referred to a special Committee to be named by the M. W. Grand Master, and the

remaining portion thereof to the Board of General Purposes.

The M. W. Grand Master named the following to be such special Committee :

M. W. Bros. T. D. Harington ; W. B. Simpson ; A. Bernard ; and himself, ex-officio ; R. W. Bros. A. A. Stevenson ; J. H. Graham, and James Moffat.

Reports from the following District Deputy Grand Masters were read :

R. W. Bro. F. Westlake.....	London	District.
" " " D. Curtis.....	Wilson	"
" " " Charles Kohn.....	Huron	"
" " " James Seymour.....	Hamilton	"
" " " A. DeGrassi.....	Toronto	"
" " " W. H. Weller.....	Ontario	"
" " " Donald Fraser ...	Prince Edward	"
" " " Richard Bull.....	Montreal	"
" " " John H. Graham ...	Eastern Townships	"

These reports are all of the most satisfactory and cheering character. They represent Freemasonry in every part of the jurisdiction as in a flourishing condition, and what is still better, they bear, with one single exception, and that having reference to but one case, the most gratifying testimony to the hearty spirit of concord and brotherly love that characterizes the Craft. Many of the reports contain suggestions of a practical and valuable character, in relation to the uniformity of books for the use of Lodges, the necessity for some more satisfactory method of imparting instruction, the establishment of Masonic libraries, in one case, the payment on some fixed principle of remuneration, of Deputy District Grand Masters, for the expenses they incur in visiting lodges, the value of Masonic lectures, and other kindred subjects. The reports will be published in full in the official report of the proceedings of Grand Lodge.

On motion the foregoing reports were received and referred to the Board of General Purposes for consideration.

An appeal from R. W. Bro. H. Groff, on behalf of Bro. Sovereign, against the decision of the Board of General Purposes, in the matter of an appeal against Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, was read and referred to the following special Committee :

M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington ; W. B. Simpson ; R. W. Bros. Æ. Irving ; James Seymour, and Alex. S. Kirkpatrick.

V. W. Bro. John W. Ferguson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted a report, which was received and ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor, to meet on the following day, Thursday, at 10 o'clock a. m.

THURSDAY.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings on Thursday, at 10 o'clock a. m.

M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, as representative for the Grand Orient of Cuba ; M. W. Bro. T. Douglas Harington, as representative for the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, as representative for the Grand Orient of Portugal, presented their Credentials and Warrants of appointment for those several Grand Bodies, which were cordially received by Grand Lodge, and the Brethren saluted with the customary Grand honors and invited to a seat on the dais.

R. W. Bro. Thomas Drummond, representative from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, entered Grand Lodge, and was invited to a seat on the dais.

On motion, it was resolved that a Testimonial be presented to M. W. Bro. T. Douglas Harington P. G. M., for valuable services rendered to the Craft, and that the sum of \$200.00 of the Grand Lodge funds be set apart to defray the expense of the same.

Notice of motion for the next Annual Communication, by W. Bro. the Rev. Vincent Clementi :

That the Constitution be so amended as to vest the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters in the M. W. Grand Master.

Notice of motion for the next Annual Communication, by V. W. Bro. James Reynolds :

That the Central District be subdivided into two or more Districts, the present District being too large.

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, on behalf of the Board of General Purposes, submitted the Annual Report of the Board.

The report refers to the steps taken for the investment of Grand Lodge funds in Provincial seven per cent. securities, and states that after a special meeting of the Board, it was agreed to so invest them, to the extent of \$16,000, the debentures to be deposited for safe keeping in the Bank of Montreal, and to be withdrawn only on the joint written order of the President of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Treasurer, of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, for the time being.

The report also embodied the proceedings of the regular semi-annual meeting of the Board, held at Port Hope on the 12th February last. These proceedings were published in the March number of the CRAFTSMAN, and it is therefore unnecessary to repeat them here.

On motion, it was resolved that the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge should be holden at the City of London, Province of Ontario.

R. W. Bro. Rev. V. Clementi, in accordance with notice given, moved to amend the Constitution, so that Past Masters may have the privilege of voting at the nomination of District Deputy Grand Masters

for their respective Districts. A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken, it was declared in the negative.

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, in accordance with notice given, moved that the Constitution be so amended that Past Grand Masters be constituted ex-officio members of the Board of General Purposes, which resolution, after some discussion, was withdrawn.

R. W. Bro. A. F. Henderson, gave notice for the next Annual Communication, that he would move for a redivision of Masonic Districts in Canada.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 3 o'clock, p. m.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 4 o'clock, p.m.

Grand officers and representatives present.

The President of the Board of General Purposes, submitted the following reports :

CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS.

APPLICATIONS FOR WARRANTS.

The Board of General Purposes having had under their consideration the applications for Warrants by the several Lodges working under Dispensation, have carefully enquired into the efficiency of the working of those Lodges, and recommend the following as being worthy of receiving Warrants of Constitution from the Grand Lodge, viz :

Plantagenet	Lodge.....	Plantagenet.
Ascot	"	Lennoxville.
Royal Canadian	"	Sweetsburgh.
Ashlar	"	Coaticooke.
Tuscan	"	Levis.
Belmont	"	Belmont.
Oriental	"	Port Burwell.
Scotland	"	Scotland.
Old Light	"	Lucknow.
Filius Viduæ	"	Adolphustown
Orilla	"	Orillia.
Prince Albert	"	Prince Albert.
Enniskillen	"	York.

In respect to the petition of the members of Petrolia Lodge, the Board does not feel justified in recommending Grand Lodge to grant them a Warrant.

The Board also begs to advise that Brethren desirous of obtaining Warrants of Constitution be instructed to have their respective minute books ready for inspection on the FIRST DAY of the session of the Board, as by this system the labor of the Board will be greatly facilitated, and less interruption caused to the business of Grand Lodge.

In regard to the application of the late Faithful Brethren Lodge, of Oakwood, for a return of their Warrant and the removal of the Lodge from there to Lindsay, and the matter having been enquired into and approved of by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, D. D. G. M., Ontario District, the Board recommends that the prayer of that petition be granted, on payment of the arrears due to Grand Lodge, and on the certificate of the D. D. G. M. of the Ontario District, as to the efficiency and ability of the Worshipful

Master of that Lodge, to rule the Lodge and confer degrees.

The Board of General Purposes having had under consideration the letter of Bro. George Smith, of Quebec, desiring the Grand Lodge to confer upon him the rank of Past Grand Senior Warden, by reason of Bro. Smith having been appointed Provincial Grand Senior Warden, in 1864, under the Grand Lodge of England, and also having held several subordinate Provincial Grand Lodge Offices, viz : P. G. Steward, P. G. Deacon, and P. G. Director of Ceremonies, prior to 1864, begs to report to Grand Lodge that the Board does not feel justified in recommending the request of Bro. Smith, especially as the Grand Lodge of England does not acknowledge a Provincial Grand Senior Warden as an officer of that Supreme Grand Lodge.

The Board of General Purposes having had under consideration, the letter of J. C. Starrett, J. W. of Western Light Lodge, No. 13, G. R. C., requesting Grand Lodge "to grant that Lodge permission to start in Nobletown, also to erase all arrears and allow that Lodge to make a new start," beg to report to Grand Lodge that the Board cannot recommend the request being granted, and inasmuch as the Western Light Lodge has not been working for two years, and there being no prospects that the work of the Lodge will be resumed, the Board recommends that the Grand Secretary be instructed to require of the Brethren of Western Light Lodge, a surrender of their Warrant.

The concluding portion of Bro. Starrett's letter not being couched in proper language, your Board feels bound to condemn it in most unqualified terms, and would express the hope that such language shall never again be indulged in by any Bro. in addressing the Grand Lodge.

In compliance with a resolution of Grand Lodge: "That the Report of the Board on the application of the Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, for permission to wear gold jewels, be referred back to the Board for further consideration, and to report thereon at the next Annual Communication."

Your Board having made due enquiry as to what further evidence can be brought forward by the Brethren of Barton Lodge to strengthen their claim, and having ascertained that some misunderstanding exists as to the mode of producing that evidence, requests that the subject be further laid over in order to enable those Brethren to produce such evidence, in proper form, at the next semi-annual meeting of the Board.

In the matter of Clarenceville Lodge, and Alexandra Lodge, Oil Springs, the Board recommend that Grand Lodge will release them from the payment of all arrears of dues, and furnish any Certificates they may now require free of expense.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The Board of General Purposes have examined the financial statement of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, for the half year ending 29th June, 1867.

The Books of the Grand Secretary and statement of the Grand Treasurer were audited and found correct to the satisfaction of the Board.

The receipts of the six months ending 29th June, 1867, as taken from the Grand Secretary's books,

show an amount of \$3896,71, derived from the following sources:

Certificates	\$1060 00
Dues	1467 85
Fees	609 50
Dispensations	240 00
Warrants	10 00
Constitutions.....	187 80
Proceedings	21 00
Masonic Asylum Fund.....	300 56

\$3896 71

Say, three thousand eight hundred and ninety-six dollars and seventy-one cents.

The Grand Treasurers' statement to 29th June, 1867, shows to credit of Grand Lodge the following amounts:

General Fund Account	\$14,220 71
Benevolent Fund, (Investment Account)	7,890 24
Do. Do. (Current Account) ...	180 91

\$22,291 86

Asylum Fund.....	467 81
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\$22,759 67

Invested as follows:

Deposited in Gore Bank, Simcoe, on call at 4 p. c.....	\$ 5,159 67
Middlesex County Debentures at 6 per cent.....	1,600 00
Provincial Debentures at 7 per cent	16,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$22,759 67
	\$22,759 67

MASONIC ASYLUM FUND.

A further subscription of \$300 56 has been made to this fund since the last annual meeting of Grand Lodge, as follows:

St. John's, 75.....	\$280 56
Percy, 161.	20 00

\$300 56

The total amount to credit of this fund is \$4,281 81, composed as follows:

Provincial Debentures	\$3,800 00
Balance in Bank of Montreal	14 00
Deposited in Gore Bank.....	462 50
Interest accrued.....	5 31

\$4,281 81

CONTINGENT ACCOUNT.

There was placed to credit of Grand Secretary the sum of one hundred dollars, all of which has been expended in sundry items, the vouchers for which have been duly examined and a balance of ten dollars and nine cents found due to the Grand Secretary.

LODGES OVER TWELVE MONTHS IN ARREARS.

It is a matter of congratulation to Grand Lodge that the system inaugurated for the purpose of collecting Lodge dues has continued to work admirably, the only Lodges at present over twelve months in arrears being

Western Light, 13.....	Bolton.
True Britons, 14	Perth.
Stirling, 69.....	Stirling.
Rising Sun, 85.....	Farmersville.

The Board also recommend that all the funds of Grand Lodge not now invested, be invested either in Prov. Gov. Debentures, or in stock of the Bank of Montreal, to the satisfaction of the President of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, the securities to be deposited in the Bank of Montreal, only to be withdrawn on the written order of the above named officers of Grand Lodge for the time being.

BENEVOLENCE.

The Board recommended the granting of the prayer of a number of applications for relief from the Benevolent fund, amounting in the aggregate to \$480. The Board also recommended that the interest accruing from all the funds of Grand Lodge be set apart for and applied to the fund of Benevolence.

REGALIA.

The Board of General Purposes have the honor to report,—That they have had under consideration two letters, one from the Assistant Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and one from R. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, near the Grand Lodge of Canada, relating to Masonic clothing to be worn by the representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada near the Grand Lodge of Ireland, recently appointed; and the Board are of opinion that they should be authorized to procure and transmit to our representative in Ireland, a suit of P. G. S. W. Regalia, in reciprocation of the Grand Lodge of Ireland having followed the same course in regard to their representative near the Grand Lodge of Canada.

While upon the subject of Regalia, the Board would also remind the members of Grand Lodge that no Regalia has ever been procured for the Deputy Grand Master of Canada; and as it is exceedingly desirable that Grand Lodge Officers should be properly clothed, the Board would recommend that the D. G. M.'s apron, now submitted, be purchased at the price named. (forty-five dollars,) \$45.00, and that the President of the Board of General Purposes be authorized to procure Gauntlets to correspond, the cost of which to be defrayed from the General Fund of Grand Lodge.

ON THE CONDITION OF MASONRY.

Upon a review of the reports of the D. D. G. Masters, it is almost surprising to find the uniformity which prevails in describing the progressive and healthy condition of the subordinate Lodges in their several Districts.

This gratifying fact seems unaccompanied with any difficulties which might detract from the general harmony. An almost entire absence of complaints adds to the prevailing spirit of satisfaction.

With few exceptions the D. D. G. Masters seem to have visited the lodges with a good deal of industry, notable among whom are those of Wilson, London, Eastern Townships, and Hamilton Districts.

The D. D. G. Master of Ontario, deserves great credit for the establishment of Lodges of instruction, which might well be emulated elsewhere, and more particularly where a difference in work still lingers. The time has now come, when either apathy or want of opportunity to learn should form

no excuse for neglecting to purge the work of old errors, and it is submitted that an adherence thereto should be no longer tolerated.

The attentive perusal of the reports is recommended. They are all pregnant with the valuable suggestions of experienced and reflective men. The report from the Hamilton District is accompanied with an abstract of the Financial affairs, condition, and progress of each Lodge, testifying in a marked degree to the attention bestowed on them by the R. W. Brother having that District in charge.

The Lodges continue to increase steadily and at such a rate as to raise no doubt of the propriety of the enlargement of our sphere of action or questioning by their number, the healthy progress of the Order.

An alteration in the boundaries of the Prince Edward District, is proposed by the transfer of the County of Renfrew to the Central District, on the ground of convenience, and it is also suggested that the vast territory of the Eastern Township's District could be advantageously subdivided, and a notice of motion in Grand Lodge has been given to divide the Toronto District. The Board are of opinion that these alterations should be taken up as a general question, and if Grand Lodge be of opinion that more convenient arrangements can be made, then that the whole should be remodelled, symmetrically and with due regard to the interests of the Lodges.

It continues to be apparent that the duty of visiting Lodges by the D. D. G. Masters, is not discharged without very great personal inconvenience and considerable expense, which together press so heavily as to cause constant resignations and changes in the Superintendence of Districts.

It may not be difficult to remove the objection of expense, by the discharge of the amount incurred in expenses, but great responsibility and labor, must of necessity attend these high, important and honorable positions, and it is earnestly hoped that the R. W. Brethren, will not allow ordinary difficulties to induce them to abandon offices wherein so much is gained by the craft, by continuous and steady labors and guardianship.

ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The Board are most happy to learn that the M. W. G. M., since his return to the throne, after an interval of a series of years, is able so highly to compliment those who in the interim have conducted the affairs of Grand Lodge; and they unite with him in the prayer that the G. A. O. T. U., may ever continue His fostering aid to the genuine principles of our time-honored fraternity.

Masonry being a progressive science, it is a matter of most sincere congratulation, that art has at length triumphed over hitherto insurmountable barriers, in the successful laying of the Atlantic cable. May it like the circling sun, scatter the light of intelligence to all mankind.

The Board observe with unfeigned pleasure, the giant strides made by our young country; and as loyal subjects, echo the desire, that the same wise statesmanship which has formed our New Dominion, into the nucleus of a great nation, may ever sustain it in its onward progress.

Whilst admiring the noble spirit evinced by the movers in the projected Masonic Asylum, the Board

concur in the opinion expressed by the M. W. G. Master, that the funds now at the disposal of Grand Lodge are not sufficient to warrant so large an expenditure as must most necessarily be incurred to comport with the dignity of the Order. At the same time they would recommend that the funds be steadily augmented and carefully husbanded, with the ultimate view of consummating the long cherished hopes of its most sanguine promoters.

The Board are of opinion that it is inadvisable to erect a building for Grand Lodge purposes; believing that the present migratory principle is better adapted to the convenience of the craft in general than centralization, as it equalizes the burden to all and conduces to multiply the sacred links of friendship. The erection of such an edifice would necessarily lock up a large portion of Grand Lodge funds, so essential for the promotion of one of the grandest objects of Freemasonry—Benevolence.

The Board entirely agree with the M. W. G. M., in the wisdom that has suggested the exemplification of the WORK, by the distinguished Brethren named, but they deeply regret that unavoidable circumstances have rendered it impossible to carry out so desirable an arrangement; thereby disappointing a large number of brethren, who, firmly relying on the assurance given, travelled long distances for the express purpose of receiving *light* at this Grand Lodge. The Board are equally jealous of any innovations in the ancient landmarks. They further believe, that were it made a rule of Grand Lodge to have that exemplification annually repeated, it would exercise a most beneficial influence, particularly upon rural lodges, which labor under great disadvantages in acquiring correct instruction. They also strongly recommend that a standing committee on Work be forthwith appointed, as suggested by the M. W. G. M.

The encomium passed by the M. W. G. M., on the efforts of B. of G. P., in systematizing the business of Grand Lodge, coming from one whose high opinion cannot be too highly appreciated, they gratefully acknowledge. Yet they cannot refrain from expressing their deep regret at the manifest apathy evinced by several members, in neglecting to discharge the important duties assumed by them, thereby wasting much precious time that otherwise might be profitably employed for the benefit of the craft.

The Board are happy to hail in our Masonic family the new lodges which have been organized during the year; affording, as they do, the most gratifying evidence of a healthful and steady growth of our cherished principles, which exercise a salutary influence on the community at large.

The Board congratulate the M. W. G. M., on the satisfactory termination of the cases of jurisprudence submitted to him for adjudication; and also have pleasure in stating that no subject of Masonic complaint has come before them at this communication, thereby affording further proof of the unalloyed harmony pervading our mystic circle.

The Board cordially endorse the suggestions of the M. W. G. M., relative to the mode of expressing a mark of esteem to our worthy Grand Secretary; and would urge upon Grand Lodge the propriety of presenting that faithful officer with a piece of plate instead of the honorary jewel proposed; since such a tribute would be more acceptable to his family

and be preserved by them as a lasting memento of substantial friendship and good will.

The Board regret the M. W. G. M. could not attend the Boston celebration, particularly as the kindness shown in extending the invitation to him exhibits in the strongest manner the fraternal feelings entertained by the sister Grand Lodges towards the craft in Canada.

The Board deeply sympathize with their brethren of Georgia, in the devastations which war has brought upon them; and sincerely rejoice that the masons of Canada have contributed so liberally towards alleviating the sufferings caused thereby.

The Board learn with profound grief that R. W. Bro. Michael Furnell, our late representative at the Grand Lodge of Ireland, has passed from time into eternity. The invaluable services rendered by the deceased Brother to this Grand Lodge in its infancy will ever remain impressed on our Masonic annals; and we fervently join in the hope that he has ascended to the Grand Lodge above. We have ever confidence in the judicious selection of his successor made by the M. W. G. M. May he emulate the virtues of his lamented predecessor.

The appointment of a number of eminent representatives to other grand bodies with whom this Grand Lodge has not heretofore had communication, is an additional confirmation of the extension of our fraternal relations.

The Board are sorry to learn that M. W. Bro. W. C. Stephens the talented representative of the G. and Lodge of England, at Canada, has resigned the position so ably filled by him since the establishment of this Grand Lodge; and trust that his change of residence will not militate against the future happiness and prosperity of himself and esteemed family.

The subject of unaffiliated Masons has long been the cause of much anxious solicitude to this Board; and we heartily agree with the M. W. G. M. that the period has arrived when the matter should be seriously dealt with. But since there is ample provision in the constitution regarding the privileges forfeited by such brethren, we do not feel justified in recommending Grand Lodge to order the payment of fixed reduced fees by non-affiliated members, as, in our opinion, such compulsion would not only be an infringement upon the rights of private Lodges, but contrary to the constitution.

The Board sincerely hope that the arduous efforts of the committee engaged in collecting materials for the compilation of a Canadian Masonic History, will shortly be completed; and that the invitation of the M. W. G. M. to old Lodges for primitive documents will be promptly responded to. As regards a general index to past proceedings your Board are of opinion that the expense of preparing and printing would be more than its value would be worth; but they would recommend that in future an index be added to the annual records, and also that the accumulated Masonic works now in the Grand Secretary's office be cheaply bound and preserved for reference.

The cordial reception extended to our M. W. G. M. on his visits to Lodges in the places enumerated, will, we entertain no doubt, be accorded to him by every Lodge in his jurisdiction, should he find leisure to honor them with his presence.

The safe investment of Grand Lodge funds being a matter of paramount importance, your Board are pleased to learn the highly satisfactory arrangements entered into with the view of increasing the interest derivable therefrom. They are also gratified to ascertain the flourishing condition of the finances generally.

The M. W. G. M. is no doubt correct in expressing regret that he cannot enter upon many topics connected with his administration, owing to the unusual length to which his address has already extended, and your Board, claiming the same indulgence, trust that Grand Lodge will not expect them to enter more fully upon the consideration of any of the subjects brought under their consideration.

MASONIC ASYLUM.

The Board beg to report to Grand Lodge the result of the action of the Board taken at Port Hope in February last, in issuing circulars to the various private Lodges.

Fifty-three Lodges have sent replies to the queries therein put, fourteen of which are unfavourable to the further prosecution of the scheme, while thirty-four lodges strongly urge its being immediately carried into operation; four lodges, but recently formed, and one whose furniture has been destroyed by fire, are unable at present to do anything.

The sum of three hundred dollars and fifty-six cents (\$300 50) has been received in addition to the Asylum Fund, and a further sum of four thousand one hundred and eighteen dollars, (\$4118 00), promised on the work being begun; of this latter sum, however, three thousand dollars (\$3000) is promised conditionally.

This latter offer the Board consider well worthy of the serious attention of Grand Lodge. It is from Niagara Lodge, No. 2, and is contained in the following resolution of the Lodge.

"That the sum of three thousand dollars, (\$3000), also a two story brick building (an elevation plan of which, with a description of the building, is attached,) and two acres of land with improvement, (garden, grapes, and other fruit trees thereon,) be granted for the purpose of the Asylum," this offer is in addition to the sum of forty dollars already contributed by this Lodge.

Doric Lodge, No. 58, has contributed the sum of eighty dollars, (\$80,) and will give two hundred (\$200) more if the Asylum be erected.

Victoria Lodge, No. 81, Sherbrooke, suggested that the Grand Lodge become an incorporated body, and that the amount requisite for the erection of the Masonic Asylum be raised by the issue of Debentures, which would be purchased by those of the brethren in affluent circumstances.

It will be seen that a large proportion of the private Lodges have failed to reply to the queries put in the circular, but as twenty-three Lodges have expressed their opinion by previously contributing to the fund; it is presumed that the large majority of Lodges desire to see carried out this truly benevolent object.

On motion the foregoing reports were received and subsequently adopted.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The scrutineers appointed for the election of Grand Officers were R. W. Bro. Westlake, and W. Bros. Murray and Wilkinson. The following was the result of the ballot :

M. W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson, Grand Master, re-elected.
R. W. Bro. A. V. Stevenson, Deputy Grand Master, " "
" " " Isaac H. Stearns, Grand Senior Warden.
" " " Dr. Turquand, Grand Junior Warden.
" " " Rev. V. Clementi, Grand Chaplain, re-elected.
" " " Henry Groff, Grand Treasurer, re-elected.
V. " " A. Murray, Grand Registrar.
R. " " Thomas B. Harris, Grand Secretary, re-elected.
" " " James Heron, Grand Tyler.

DEPUTY DISTRICT GRAND MASTERS.

London.....	R. W. Bro. F. Westlake.
Wilson.....	" " D. Curtis
Huron.....	" " M. C. Cameron.
Hamilton.....	" " J. Seymour.
Toronto.....	" " E. A. Walker.
Ontario.....	" " Wm. McCabe
Prince Edward.....	" " D. Frazer.
Central.....	" " J. P. Featherston.
Montreal.....	" " R. Bull.
Eastern Townships.....	" " J. H. Graham.
Quebec.....	" " Alex Walker

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS.

Gr. Senior Deacon.....	V. W. Bro. J. C. Clarke.
" Junior Deacon.....	" " J. Bowman.
" Supt. of Works.....	" " M. H. Spencer.
" Dir. of Ceremonies.....	" " Wm. Edgar.
" Asst. do.....	" " E. H. Parker.
" " Secretary.....	" " Wm. Angus.
" Sword Bearer.....	" " J. W. Leitbridge.
" Organist.....	" " E. McKay.
" Asst. Organist.....	" " H. Waterman.
" Pursuivant.....	" " Blondheim.

GRAND STEWARDS.

V. W. Bro. M. M. Tait, Richmond.
" " " John Patterson, Woodstock.
" " " Wm. Wilkinson, Quebec.
" " " Thos. C. Macnabb, Chatham
" " " H. O. Meigs, Stanbridge.
" " " S. W. Flagler, Wellington.
" " " Peter J. Brown, Ingersoll.
" " " G. S. Clark, Montreal.
" " " Joseph Hursell, Cayuga.
" " " James M. Dunn, Guelph.
" " " J. Kirkpatrick Kerr, Toronto.
" " " E. P. Hannaford, Montreal.

Moved by R. W. Bro. Stevenson, seconded by R. W. Bro. Graham,

That the ruling of the M. W. the Grand Master, according to M. W. Bro. Bernard, the rights and privileges of full membership in the Lodge of Antiquity, and declaring that he cannot be deprived of those privileges merely by any resolution of the Lodge, be and the same is hereby concurred in and confirmed by this Grand Lodge.

The special Committee appointed on the appeal of R. W. Bro. Groff, on behalf of Brother Sovereign, against the decision of the Board of General Purposes, confirming the decision of Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, reported sustaining the action of the Board in the matter and stating that if any new evidence could be furnished the case should be reconsidered by the Board.

On motion it was resolved that taking into consideration the difficulties which had been explained

to Grand Lodge, arising out of the unavoidable absence of members of the Committee, the exemplification of the ritual of the three Degrees of Craft Masonry be deferred till the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge was then called off from labour to meet on Friday morning at ten o'clock, a.m.

FRIDAY.

On assembling of Grand Lodge, the scrutineers on the election of members of the Board of General Purposes, reported the following as elected :

R. W. Bros. Æmelius Irving, L. H. Henderson, A. De Grassi, James Moffatt and John Kerr.

The M. W. the Grand Master made the following appointments, as members of the Board :

M. W. Bro. Bernard, R. W. Bros. C. Kahn, W. H. Weller, James Milne, and V. W. Bro. Henry Robertson.

On motion, it was resolved—That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby heartily tendered to the Brethren of the St. John's and Catarqui Lodges, Kingston, for the ample and satisfactory arrangements made for the annual meeting of Grand Lodge, and also for the kind and hospitable entertainment extended to all the members and representatives of Grand Lodge.

It was resolved—That in all future cases, Honorary Members shall be elected by ballot, in private lodges, the same as in the case of joining members.

The special Committee, to whom had been referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as had reference to the position of the Grand Lodge of Canada, submitted the following report:—

Your Committee whom the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, in accordance with the vote of Grand Lodge, was pleased to appoint to take into consideration that portion of his address having reference to the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Dominion of Canada, beg leave to report, that having taken into their most careful and mature consideration that portion of the M. W. the G. M.'s address, referred to them, have arrived at the conclusion that the best interests of Freemasonry require that the present position, standing and name of this Grand Lodge be maintained, trusting that the love of union, and a sincere desire to promote the best interests of Masonry will induce the members of our Fraternity residing in other parts of the New Dominion eventually to unite with us in securing a harmonious and superior Masonic Government in the Dominion of Canada. And in order that this Grand Lodge may be perfectly cognizant of the mode in which your Committee arrived at this conclusion, they submit, for the information of the Grand Lodge, a transcript of their proceedings.

It was moved by the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, W. M. Wilson, and seconded by the Most Worshipful, Past Grand Master, W. B. Simpson :

" That this Committee having anxiously and most carefully considered all the circumstances connected

with the recent political change that has taken place, have arrived at the conclusion that the best interests of Masonry require that the present position, standing and name of this Grand Lodge be maintained; trusting that the love of union and a sincere desire to promote the best interests of Masonry will induce the members of our Fraternity, residing in other parts of the New Dominion, eventually to unite with us in securing a harmonious and superior Masonic Government in Canada."

In amendment to the above, it was moved by R. W. Bro. the D. G. M., A. A. Stevenson, and seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, D. D. G. M., E. T. D., "That all the words in the foregoing Resolution, after "require," be left out, and the following words inserted, so that the whole would read thus:

"That this Committee having anxiously and most carefully considered all the circumstances connected with the recent political change that has taken place, have arrived at the conclusion that the best interests of Masonry require the organization of a Grand Lodge in each of the four Provinces now constituting the Dominion of Canada, being satisfied that this course would be strictly in accordance with the laws and regulations of Freemasonry, respecting the establishment of Grand Lodges, and believing that a more substantial union would thereby be secured, and also that the affairs of the Craft would be much more effectively and economically managed by this method than by any other."

On division, the following vote was taken on the amendment:

Yeas:—M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, P. G. M.; R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, D. D. G. M., E. T. D.

Nays:—M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, G. M.; M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, P. G. M.; R. W. Bro. James Moffat, P. D. D. G. M., London District.

The above vote having been declared, M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, P. G. M., Chairman of the Committee, voted "Nay."

On division, the following vote was then taken on the Resolution:

Yeas:—Brothers Wilson, Simpson, and Moffatt.

Nays:—Brothers Bernard, Stevenson and Graham.

The foregoing vote having been declared, Bro. Harington voted "Yea."

Thus the original motion was carried by a majority of one.

A motion for the adoption of the report having been moved, several brethren addressed Grand Lodge, and it was resolved—

That the report of the special Committee on Grand Master's address be received, and the further discussion thereon be postponed until the next Annual Communication.

Notice of motion for the next annual Communication by Bro. J. C. Brown—

That the Committee appointed by the M. W. Grand Master to exhibit the true work be instructed

to prepare it as speedily as convenient; that a meeting consisting of the M. W. G. Master, the R. W. D. G. Master, M. W. Past Grand Masters, the D. D. G. Masters, and such others as the M. W. Grand Master may think desirable to appoint, be held thereafter to see and approve the work, and that when so seen and approved, three brethren be appointed to make a tour throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, exhibiting the same in each of the subordinate lodges, special meetings of the subordinate lodges to be held for such purpose when necessary, and this Grand Lodge to defray the expenses.

Notice of motion for the next Annual Communication, by V. W. Bro. Bain—

That the powers of the asylum trust be extended so as to embrace not merely the charge of the fund, but the duty of organizing and carrying into operation the proposed asylum, and that their numbers be increased.

Secondly—That the offer of the Niagara Lodge, No. 2, be accepted, and the asylum trust instructed to correspond with the W. Master of said Lodge, with a view to at once putting the asylum in operation.

Notice of motion for the next Annual Communication, by W. Bro. A. Murray—

That the words "is" and "or" on the 5th line of section 1, under heading "of proposing members," be deleted.

Notice of motion for the next Annual Communication, by M. W. Bro. A. Bernard—

That the asylum trust be abandoned, and that such portion of the asylum fund as has been contributed by private lodges or individual brethren be returned to such contributors, the remainder to be transferred to the general funds of Grand Lodge.

It was resolved—That the proceedings of the Grand Lodge from its first formation up to the present time be re-printed in two volumes, to be sold to lodges and to the members thereof at the cost of printing and binding, and that a full index be prepared and printed therewith, so soon as it is ascertained that a sufficient number have been subscribed for to defray the expenses thereof, and that this Grand Lodge take sixty copies.

Notice of motion for the next annual communication by W. Bro. J. M. Dunn.

That in view of the arduous labours devolving upon the Board of General Purposes, each member in attendance on the first and succeeding days of the Semi-Annual Meeting of the Board itself, be paid his mileage and per diem expenses.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Grand Trunk, and all branches in connection with its present system of management, the Great Western, the Northern and the Waterloo, Shefford and Chambly Railroads, for the opportunities afforded by said

companies of attending this annual communication of Grand Lodge at greatly reduced fares.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the Committee on Credentials of representatives and the scrutineers of the ballot, for the very satisfactory manner in which they had discharged their arduous duties.

The M. W. Grand Master installed and invested the elected and appointed officers present, who were proclaimed and saluted.

The labour of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed in AMPLE FORM, at 6 o'clock, p.m.

T. HOS. B. HARRIS,

Grand Sec.

APPENDIX.

REPORTS OF THE R. W. DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the M. W., the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Canada, in Grand Lodge assembled:

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In conformity with the requirements of the constitution, I submit herewith my report on the condition of Freemasonry in the Hamilton District during the past year :

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

Shortly after entering upon my official duties, I was instructed by the M. W. G. M. to examine into and report upon three objections raised by St. Mark's Lodge, No. 105, against a candidate whose petition for acceptance had been favourably acted upon by Strict Observance Lodge, No. 27. The objections were, 1st. "That the applicant had not resided a sufficient length of time in the jurisdiction where he had applied." 2nd. "That he had applied to two Lodges at the same time." 3rd. "That he was of unsound mind and incapable of preserving secrets." These I carefully investigated and finding that the first and second were merely technical, which the time between making the complaint and its reference to me had fully obviated, and that the third arose from private pique, coupled with indiscretion on both sides, rather than reality, I felt in duty bound to report in favor of dismissing the appeal, which was subsequently confirmed by the M. W. G. M. It is but just to add, in reference to this case, that the officers of both Lodges rendered me every assistance in arriving at correct conclusions, and that they appeared to be animated with the sole aim of preserving unsullied, not only the best interests of their respective Lodges, but, also of the craft in general.

By the same authority I investigated another appeal case at Milton, during the same month, viz: that of a brother, who with much shrewdness, alleged that he had been unjustly suspended by St. Clair Lodge, No. 135, for N. M. C. After hearing evidence, *pro* and *con*, and eliciting all the facts, I found that the Lodge had dealt very leniently with the brother, in not following up his suspension with a recommendation to Grand Lodge for expulsion, I therefore, reported accordingly, which report met with like approval from the M. W. G. M.

A serious case of personal difficulty between two old and influential members of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 62, also came under my notice, which I observed

with regret was rather intensified than allayed by the injudicious meddling of brethren who should have known better, charges were under consideration when I visited the Lodge, and counter-charges were threatened, which greatly embittered feeling on both sides. I at once endeavored to effect a reconciliation, and thus enabled the investigating committee to close an unpleasant duty in a pleasant manner. This proved impossible at the time, though both brethren appreciated the fraternal spirit that prompted my suggestions, and thanked me therefor. Subsequent information leads me to believe, with confidence, that calm reflection has so far modified temper, as to justify the prediction of an early and amicable settlement of this unfortunate *casualty*.

These, I am happy to state, constituted the only judicial acts required at my hands. But the correspondence on points of constitutional practice, on balloting, on By-Laws, on landmarks, on rites and ceremonies, and on reconciling personal differences between members and Lodges, was somewhat more voluminous. In each instance the reply given was strictly in accordance with the known usages of this Grand Lodge, and I am persuaded, from the ready compliance therewith, that satisfaction was the result, whilst harmony and true masonic feeling have also been greatly promoted.

VISITATIONS.

Indifferent health prevented my visiting more than three or four Lodges till after the new year set in. I then mapped the District out into convenient sections, and each month met three or four till the entire twenty-two Lodges were officially inspected. The four in Hamilton, without exception, and the two in St. Catharines, I found in excellent condition, whilst those at Niagara, Grimsby, Dunnville, Wexland, Drummondville, Milton, Smithville, Wellington Square, Port Colborne were equally creditable, the officers of the whole, from the W. M. down to the Tyler, vying with each other in zeal and punctuality to render their Lodges a credit to themselves and an honor to this Grand Lodge. The Ponthill and Cayuga Lodges were not so efficient; but both having since passed into the hands of a more painstaking and active set of officers, I have every confidence in their working up to a first class standard during the ensuing year. The Caledonia Lodge I believe to be well worked, but owing to the unpleasantness that prevailed during the evening I visited it, I had but little opportunity of judging its merits. The Dundas Lodge has laboured under great disadvantages during nearly the entire year, owing to the death of its lamented W. M. shortly after his installation. The P. M.'s very praiseworthily mitigated these as far as possible; but the absence of a responsible head naturally had a depressing effect. The new officers installed a few days ago give promise of an earnest energy that will infuse new life and restore this Lodge to its former excellent character. The Bimbrook and Stoney Creek Lodges are both in good condition, so far as their records and conversation with a number of the brethren of each enabled me to judge, and both own their neat Lodge-rooms. But owing to the W. M.'s living at some distance from their post office, neither received my notice of visitation in time, and hence I had not the pleasure of meeting them, though the trip to each involved a

thorough drenching with rain and a rough ride on horse back over a very rugged road. The York Lodge, which I had the pleasing duty of inaugurating under the dispensation granted by the M. W. G. M., commences work with very favorable prospects, and is presided over by a W. Bro., whose experience, social position and years is a sure augury of success. The members are all in good circumstances, the room (a fine one in a new brick building) is neatly furnished, at a rental of \$100 per annum for 21 years; and a well settled country affords a safe guarantee that there will be plenty of material from which to build up a creditable Lodge. I would therefore recommend that a Warrant be granted, should the Minute Book and other necessary evidence justify the procedure.

THE WORK.

In thirteen of the Lodges I had an opportunity of witnessing work in the First, Second or Third Degrees; the remaining nine performed no work during my presence. In each case of exemplification I was gratified to observe a close conformity to the ritual of this Grand Lodge, very few and trivial departures therefrom being noticeable. There was more variation in the ceremony of opening and closing than in any other respect; and whenever I discovered inaccuracy I imparted correct information to the proper officers with advice for future guidance.

I purposed, before the close of my official term, holding two District meetings, one at each end of the District, to suit the convenience of Lodges in the neighborhood of Hamilton and St. Catharines, whereat instruction in the several Degrees could be effectively imparted to the W. M.'s and Wardens; but the visitations drew so largely upon my time that the idea had to be abandoned. I believe this plan of securing uniformity of work would prove much more beneficial than Lodges of Instruction so called, because less expensive and requiring less formality to accomplish the same ends.

STATISTICS AND RECORDS.

In order to induce the keeping of correct and comprehensive details of Lodge records, I addressed a circular to each W. M., shortly before the 24th June last, asking to be supplied with reliable answers to the headings of the subjoined table. In nearly every instance I received prompt returns, with the queries filled in; but from three no replies came, though the W. Masters, were thrice written to for them. I would recommend each Lodge to keep a book that would show all this information at a glance, to be entered regularly as each semi-annual return is prepared for the Grand Secretary; which would in effect be a durable statistical history, occupying but a very small compass, and one that could not fail to instruct and stimulate each succeeding W. Master to keep up the character of his Lodge, "as Masters have done in all ages before him."*

MINUTES AND FINANCES.

The minute books of all the Lodges were examined by me, as far as time would permit; and while many gave evidence of regularity and taste highly creditable to the secretaries, several indicated gross carelessness and wanton departure from the authorized form laid down in the Book of Con-

stitutions. In one instance I found the minutes of six months not recorded at all, except on loose slips of paper. Directions were accordingly given to adopt the correct form in future and on no account to use slips again, which I am credibly informed have since been strictly adhered to.

The financial affairs of each Lodge were also enquired into, particularly with regard to the fees due Grand Lodge for membership and certificates. In most cases satisfactory assurance was given that all fees were paid, and many of the Lodges showed handsome balances at their credit after defraying all contingent expenses. But a few were unable to meet these enquires, owing to the absence of their treasurers. As far as possible, I gave proper instructions to correct this defect; and I believe that every Lodge in the District will now be found in good standing.

DISPENSATIONS.

Of these I have granted but two, both being to St. Catharines Lodges, to enable them to celebrate the Festivals of Sts. John the Evangelist and Baptist, in Masonic clothing, with their wives and families, in their Lodge room. Both celebrations proved eminently successful in every respect, and I have good reason to believe that the Craft have materially benefitted by them, in the harmonious and fraternal feeling they have called into exercise. The Hamilton and Caledonia Lodges also commemorated both Festivals in a public way with equal success, but under what authority I am not aware.

INSTALLATIONS.

On the 27th December I installed the W. M. and officers of Maple Leaf Lodge No. 103, and on the 24th June I discharged the same duty to the W. M.'s of St. George's Lodge No. 15, and St. Mark's Lodge No. 105. I take the more pleasure in referring to these installations, from the fact that the three officers inducted are thoroughly up in their work, and conduct their Lodges in a manner not only creditable to themselves, but also edifying and instructive to the brethren they preside over.

DISTRICT REGALIA.

The Lodges of this District have considerably appreciated the recommendation of the B. of G. P. made to Grand Lodge in 1865, to the effect that each District provide suitable Regalia for the D. D. G. M.'s, to be worn by them on all official occasions, and transferred to their successors on retiring from office. R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris took the matter in hand with his usual energy, and the result is, the handsome and costly Apron, Collar, Gauntlets and Jewel I now have the honor to wear for the first time.

OBITUARY.

Death has again marked for his own a number of our faithful and esteemed Craftsmen—brethren whose sterling worth won for them honorable names in life, and whose virtues will ever be emulated by all who knew them, now that they are no more. May we meet them in the Grand Lodge above. Their names, ranks and dates of decease will be found below, as far as furnished:

Bro. Robert McKnight,	M. M. No.	2, Nov. 16, 1866
" John Thomas	M. M. "	6, " "
" Emmett A. McElroy	M. M. "	6, May 15, 1867
" Samuel Kitchen	M. M. "	7, Jan'y 21, "
" D. H. Allison	R. A. "	7, April " "
" Chas. Partington	M. M. "	7, Aug. 2, 1866

* The tables referred to in this paragraph will appear in the regular official proceedings.

Bro. George Stoker.....	R. A.	"	15, Dec. 17, "
" E. W. Stephenson.....	R. A.	"	15, April 28, 1867
" Alfred McKinnon.....	M. M.	"	36, May, 17, "
" James T. Quackenbush.....	W. M.	"	100, Feb. 19, "
" Peter Thompson.....	M. M.	"	105, Nov. 7, 1866
" Rowland Caldwell.....	M. M.	"	135, Mar. 16, 1867
" Richard Ruddy, M. M.	York Lodge, U. D.,		February 11, "

These brethren were all interred with Masonic honors. Bro. Allison died at Boonville, Missouri, and his remains were followed to their last resting place by Cooper Lodge, No. 36, who testified to his worth in the resolutions of condolence passed to his relatives. Bro. Kitchen's name should also be held in grateful remembrance, as he preserved the jewels and records of Union Lodge, No. 7, in the war of 1812, and continued an active member of the craft for over 60 years.

CONCLUSION.

I cannot close my report without acknowledging the uniform courtesy shown me throughout the District, wherever I have met the Lodges or individual brethren, officially or otherwise; and though the duties have been onerous, this consideration has materially relieved them, and made a pleasure of what would otherwise have proved an irksome task. It should also be stated that in several instances the lodges seemed to realize the fact that travelling costs not only time but money; and they provided accordingly to cover actual expenses incurred for their benefit. While thanking the brethren for the mark of confidence which the position of D. D. G. Master of this influential District conveys, I sincerely trust that the honors will this year fall to the lot of another, whose health, labor and means will enable him to attend to the duties without personal sacrifice, and with more advantage to the best interests of the order than I have been able to impart.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAS. SEYMOUR,

D. D. G. M. Hamilton District.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Canada.

In compliance with the regulations of Grand Lodge, I submit this my third report on the condition of masonry in this District.

It affords me great pleasure in being able to state that the prosperity which the country in general enjoys is shared by the Lodges in the Huron District.

I have not been able to visit all the Lodges, but in accordance with a recommendation of Grand Lodge at its annual communication of 1865, I visited those Lodges where I thought my visits might be most useful, among which I may number Northern Light, No. 93, Kincardine, and St. Lawrence, No. 131, Southampton.

I was accompanied on the occasion of these visits by V. W. Bro. Thomas Matheson, Past Master of Tudor Lodge, 141, Mitchell, and was very much pleased at the truly masonic spirit which I found to prevail in both Lodges, amply repaying me for the long distance I had to travel in reaching them.

In Kincardine I found the work of the Lodge second to none in the Province, the members of the

Lodge had also erected a handsome hall, under which they have a store, which brings them in a large annual revenue.

At Southampton I did not find the work so complete, but much better than I anticipated, and when the isolated situation is taken into account, and likewise that the brethren have been left to themselves ever since the establishment of their Lodge, (mine being the first visit they have ever had from a District Deputy Grand Master,) they deserve much credit for having acquired so much of the adopted work, and what they have is in all respects correct. I am happy to add that I found a desire on the part of all the members of the Lodge to attain to a knowledge of the remainder of the work as soon as possible.

My visits to the other Lodges were a mere matter of form, inasmuch as I was persuaded that they not only knew the work in all its details, but had ample opportunities of practicing it.

I granted Dispensations to St. Lawrence, No. 131, Lebanon Forest, No. 133, and Tecumseh, 144, to wear Masonic clothing in public at the festival of St. John the Evangelist, and a Dispensation for the same purpose to 133, at the festival of St. John the Baptist.

I recommended the application for the establishment of a new Lodge at Lucknow, to be called "Old Light" Lodge, which recommendation the Most Worshipful the Grand Master has been pleased to entertain, and has issued a Dispensation for the same.

The following deaths have been reported to me—Brothers John Adams, St. James', 73, St. Mary's, died July 24, 1866, aged 22; John Robert Dark, Maitland, 112, Goderich, died April 2, aged 25; Jonathan Carter, Britannia, 170, Seaforth, died April 20, aged 58; William Story, Maitland, 112, Goderich, aged 55, died June 9th. These brethren were all buried with Masonic honors.

As I have no desire to be re-elected, I can speak without hesitation on a subject to which I felt it rather delicate to refer to in my former reports—the payment of D. D. G. Masters; Grand Lodge should make provision that their necessary expenses are paid, either from the funds of Grand Lodge or by the Lodges they visit. It should not be left optional with the Lodges, for while such is the case, it is doubtful whether a single D. D. G. M. would accept recompense from a Lodge.

In taking my official leave from my brethren in the Huron District, I return them my sincere thanks for the many acts of kindness and courtesy received from them.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CHARLES KAHN,

D. D. G. M. Huron District.

The rest of the Reports of the R. W. the Deputy District Grand Masters, we shall publish in future numbers of the *Craftsman*.

"THE CRAFTSMAN,"

And British American Masonic Record.

Issued on the 15th of each month, at \$1 00 a year, by
BROS. T. & R. WHITE HAMILTON, C. W.