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A COOL HAND.

A GLORIOUS summer evening in Lower Egypt, with the last glow of sunset dying away from the minarets of Cairo and the clustering towers of Mehemet Ali's citadel; a broad, shadowy, far-extending colonnade, such as Martin would have delighted to paint, skirting a basket of broad-leaved tropical plants, rich in all the splendour of southern colouring; a man pacing restlessly to and fro; looking at his watch about twice every five minutes. The colonnade in question is the piazza of the Hotel du Nil; the man is its latest arrived guest—myself.

To be kept waiting for dinner is notoriously the one injury which no Englishman can forgive; but when one travelled all night, climbed the Great Pyramid in the morning, and tramped all round Cairo in the afternoon, the infliction becomes simply unendurable. Yonder, at the upper end of the colonnade, stands the long table, with its hanging lamps and full-dinner paraphernalia; but not a sign of food as yet. I am just beginning to work myself into a highly British and patriotic rage (such things, of course, never happening at home), when a man approaches me from behind, and says in fluent Italian, though with a foreign accent: 'Can you oblige me with a light for my cigar?'

The voice is one which, once heard,

is not easily forgotten. I seize the new-comer by both wrists (to his no small amazement), and drag him to the light. The moment our faces become visible, there is a simultaneous shout:

'The Stoic, sure enough!'

'Old Diogenes, by jove!'

In this wise do I and my old college chum, Montacute Hardy, meet once more. Since we shook hands on the pier at Southampton, three years ago—he heading westward, and I eastward, on the course of travel which has proved much longer and infinitely more adventurous, than either of us foresaw—we have had no word of each other; and I am startled to note that the long wanderings and strange adventures which have altered me almost beyond recognition, and made me feel as though I had lived twenty lives in one, have left my old companion just as I remember him in the days of lectures and wine-parties. The same 'thoroughbred' look from head to heel; the same slight elastic figure; the same quiet, thoughtful, delicate face; and, above all, the same wonderful composure, which the maddest excitement of a boat-race, or the hottest fury of a town-and-gown, had never once disturbed. The venerable head of our college, had once commended Hardy as 'an admirable realization of the ideal Stoic;' and the

name, catching the fancy of the undergraduate, speedily became universal. His own name, however, would have described him quite as accurately; for in sheer imperviousness to every extreme of fatigue and exposure, the burliest athlete of the university might have yielded to the slender little man who now stands beside me, smoothing his trim moustache with a hand small and shapely as a young girl's.

I am about to burst into a volley of questions, but Hardy stops me short:

'You know the old proverb: "It's ill talk between a full man and a fasting;" and between *two* fasting men, in my opinion, it is still worse. Here comes those lazy beggars with the dinner at last, thank goodness; so let us eat first, and talk after.'

We do so, and to good purpose. The meal over and the guests dispersed, Hardy draws his chair out into the open, lights a cigar such as only *he* has the gift of picking up, and laughs heartily at my refusal of his offered case.

'Still as great a heathen as ever, eh? I remember we used to chaff you about your non-appreciation of liquor and 'baccy; but I thought all this wandering would have cured you?'

'Well, as to that, I should say that a man who hasn't learned to smoke and drink after four years at Oxford, may be considered hopeless; at all events, I've not learned to drink in Russia and Sweden, or to smoke in Turkey and Syria.'

'Ah, you *have* done your Jerusalem and Damascus pilgrimage, then? I thought as much. But where are you from now?'

'From Arabia last—having a look at the Yemen insurrection? And you?'

'Just across from New Zealand,' answers the Stoic, as coolly as if speaking of a place within five minutes' walk; 'for I don't count my halt at Point de Galle. I've been a *little* about since I left the 'varsity, though

nothing to boast of. Let me see, now—the United States, one; British Columbia, two; the Sandwich Islands, three; Guatemala, four; Brazil, five; Peru, six; Australia, seven; New Zealand, eight; Ceylon (if you like to count it), nine; Egypt, ten. H'm—not so *very* bad for three years' work. How do you stand?'

'Ah, my dear Sindbad, I'm nowhere beside you; only five countries outside of Europe, and not much to speak of in *them*. For to-night at least, I yield you the platform, and content myself with listening. Friends will please accept this intimation.'

'If you *can* content yourself with listening,' retorts Hardy, 'you're the first traveller I ever met that could. But what shall I tell you about?'

'Well, I presume there won't be time for the whole of your narrative to-night, so suppose you pick out the best adventure you've had, and tell me that?'

'H'm—let me see. I don't know that I've had any particularly worth telling,' answers the Stoic, with the modesty of true genius. You wouldn't care to hear how I got lost among the spurs of the Andes, or how some Indians took me prisoner in Oregon, or how a cayman nearly gobbled me on the Rio Madeira, or how'—

'Oh, if you call *those* "not worth telling," I give in at once. The best of mine wouldn't be a patch upon 'em.'

'Many thanks for the compliment; but I think I *do* recollect one yarn that'll suit you. Mix yourself another glass of lemonade, and I'll tell you how I paid an hotel bill in California.'

'Come, come, old fellow!' remonstrated I, 'it's giving yourself rather a bad character, to pick out, as the most wonderful event of your whole travels, that you paid an hotel bill!'

'Wait till you I've heard the story,' answered the imperturbable Hardy, lighting a fresh cigar as he spoke, 'there are more ways than one of paying a bill, as you, who are an Oxford man, ought to know. Have you put enough lemon in? Well then—Cur-

tain rises, disclosing Mr. Montacute Hardy on his way across the United States.

'When I left New York, the Pacific Railroad was nothing like finished; and if it had been, ten to one I wouldn't have gone by it. I don't care for your beaten tracks; it's always better to strike out a line for one's self. As you may think, there's no game to be had anywhere near the railways; and all the best bits of the Far West—Salt Lake City, the Grove of Big Timber, the Yosemite Valley, the Sunken Lake—lie well off the track. On the whole, I rather agree with my old trapper chum, Jim Mosely, who seemed to have quite a spite against railways, and used to say that "he meant jist to tramp it to the end of his days, for it was a sight better to walk the green earth nor to ride in the devil's mail coach." * And, by jove! he wasn't far wrong either; for when you wake up in the freshness of the early morning, after a good nap beside your camp-fire under a warm Mackinaw blanket, and see the clear sky above you, and the great green waves of the prairie, swell beyond swell, stretching away for miles and miles in the glory of the sunrise—and the great plain all alive with the twitter of birds and grasshoppers—and the fresh, fragrant morning air running through you like the breath of life, and every drop of blood in your veins leaping and dancing like living fire—I tell you, old fellow, there's nothing on earth to hold a candle to it!

'Poor old Jim! a braver fellow, or a better comrade, never stepped. I met him at Denver, on my way across the Plains, and we were quite like old friends directly. A simpler, jollier, kinder fellow you can't imagine; and at first, he had quite a fatherly compassion for poor little delicate me, gradually warming into real honest delight when he found that I could handle a rifle, carry a "swag," or stand a day's work as well as any

man. Many a jolly day did we have of it together, down in Colorado and Arizona—he teaching me all the ins and outs of hunting and trapping; and I putting him up to the uses of the different plants we fell in with (you know I was always a bit of a hand at botany), which was just the kind of thing he wanted. And then at night, when we were sitting over our camp-fire after supper, mixing our grog (and he was a rattling good hand at *that*, I promise you), we used to get to spinning yarns—he telling me of the adventures he'd had in California and Nevada in the old gold-digging days, and I telling him of all that I'd seen in Europe.'

'After we'd been out in Arizona about a month, we struck the southern end of the Yosemite Valley, and worked our way up it toward the main ridge of the Sierra Nevada. Jim was bound for Sacramento, and I thought I might just as well stick to him as long as I could; and, after all, it lay pretty nearly in my road, for, of course, I had to get to San Francisco if I wanted to go across to the Sandwich Islands, which were my next point. I mustn't say anything about the Yosemite, for if I were once to begin, I shouldn't be done this week. What with the Big Timber, and the Yosemite Falls, and the Sentinel Tower, and the "Bridal Veil,"* and the North and South Dome, and the cliff of El Capitan (thirty-three hundred feet of sheer granite without a break—I've seen nothing like it before or since)—in fact, as I heard an Irishman say once, "Nobody can imagine thim soights but him that's seen thim—and *he can't*."

'Just at this point, as ill luck would have it, poor old Jim fell ill (I can't think how he managed it, for he was as big and strong as a buffalo), and had to lie up at a shanty on the roadside, just at the foot of the main ridge. My own money was almost expended; so we agreed that the best thing I could do was to push on to

* The same ominous name is given to the railway by the Russian peasants.

* The Indian name of this splendid tall pine 'Wind Spirit' is much finer and truer.

Sacramento (which was only a little more than a hundred miles to the north-west), and send him back such "fixings" as he needed. The poor fellow's farewell to me was very characteristic: "Good-bye, boss; take care o' yerself. I ain't a-gwine to go under" [die] "this bout, yew bet; and we'll be on the tramp together agin 'fore long; so don't yew go stickin' yerself in any o' them big smokin' coaches as scares away all the b'ars and bufflers!"

'My new guide was a prairie Indian (very appropriately named the Ravenous Dog), a little, dirty, sneaking-looking beggar, whose sole object in life seemed to be to get drunk as often and as thoroughly as possible. However, I wasn't likely to want him more than four or five days, and I thought I could do with him *that* long; so I gave him to understand that, if he behaved himself, I'd give him as much rum as he could drink, when we got in, and if he didn't, I'd sent a bullet through him at once; upon which understanding we started. That day, all went smoothly enough; but the next morning, my evil star made me catch sight of a rare plant on the top of a precipitous bank, thirty feet high; and I must needs go up after it, while Master Redskin trudged slowly on with the horses. It was a stiff climb, but I got up at last, and had just collared the vegetable, when, lo! the edge of the bank broke away, and down I went! It was only a fluke that I didn't break my neck; but the briars and fallen earth saved me a bit. However, when I came to, I found myself all bruised and covered with blood, and my watch (which by some miracle wasn't broken) shewed me that I'd been lying there a good hour at least; but what was worse, there wasn't a sign of my worthy esquire or the horses! At first I thought he might have got tired of waiting, and struck on ahead; but when I got to the crown of the pass, and couldn't see him anywhere, I guessed at once that he'd bolted. In fact (as I afterwards found out), he

had seen me fall, and, making sure that I was either dead or too much damaged to look after him, he'd just constituted himself heir to all my property (rifle and saddle-bags included), and made tracks with them. So there I was, left high and dry in the worst part of the Sierra, with four dollars in my pocket, and only my knife if I got into trouble—for the lock of my revolver had got broken in the fall. I *must* have looked a fool, rather!

And at this enlivening reminiscence, he indulged in a hearty burst of laughter, to my no small amazement.

'Well, there was nothing to be gained by standing still, and when a thing has got to be done, you must just do it; so I hobbled along anyway, and got on pretty well after a bit; though, just at first, I felt as shaky as if I'd been going up for my degree exam. over again. Just about sundown I came to a hut, whose only tenants seemed to be a tall, guant, vicious-looking Yankee, and just about the ugliest nigger I ever saw in my life.

'Good evening, mate,' said I, 'can you put a fellow up for to-night? I don't feel like going much farther, somehow!'

'Kin yew *pay* for it?—thet's the idee!' said my host with a grin. 'Yew don't *look* like as yew hed made yure pile, thet's a fact!'

'It was my weakness in those days (I've got over it now) to be always riled by that kind of thing. I whipped out my pouch, and slapped it down on the table; and with all the small change in it, it made a very tolerable jingle. I saw the fellow's eyes light up, and I knew directly that I'd done wrong. You've been in the interior of Russia, and you'll know how a wolf's eyes gleam when he comes at you in good earnest. That's just the look I saw on that fellow's face then—and on the nigger's too, for that matter.'

"Good as pork, mister," said he, nodding at the pouch. "Guess yew'll

be for a bite 'fore gwine to roost; jist hold on a minnit, and we'll fix for supper right away."

"All right," answered I; "Ill jist look round outside to see if there are any plants worth picking up, while you get ready."

'This was a bit of diplomacy on my part; for I knew that, if they meant mischief, they'd lay their heads together the moment my back was turned, and I wanted to make sure. As soon as they'd gone into the hut again, I sneaked round to the back, and crouched behind the wood-pile, where I could hear every word they said. And, sure enough, in a minute or two, they began:

"Trapped our b'ar this time—eh Pomp?"

"Dat so, boss, sure 'nuff. He big fool, shew money to all man he meet!"

"He's bin and showed it jist once too often—so he has! Guess he's one o' them diggers who make a big pile, and then try to keep it dark by riggin' out like scarecrows, and lookin' down on their luck. But he can't throw dust in *my* eyes, that's what he can't! Pomp, jist take yure axe, and get ahint the door, and when stranger comes back, fotch him down from behind, while I give him the bowie in front!"

"Eh, boss, what for such big hurry? Wait little bit, better do."

"Why, yew black coward! air yew skeared of a little grasshopper like *that*?"

"Me no coward—you sabbee dat bery well," answered the black sulkily; "but what for make noise, make mess, when can do quietly? You 'member what bobbery dem Mariposa feller make, when dey see blood on de floor? Look see! you gib him plenty much drink—he go sleep sound—*den* we do job! So I do wid digger feller 'way down in Sacramento."

"Right yew air, Pomp—guess thet's how we'll fix it. Jist fotch out the whisky, now, while I go and see if stranger's anywhar roun'."

'But I didn't wait for him to come out, but went round, and came along towards the door of the shanty, whist-

ling as jollily as could be, that he might not smell a rat. I knew all I wanted to know; and, as I was too tired to have any chance of running, I concluded that my best way would be just to kill them both!

I looked down at the narrator with involuntary admiration. The idea of this dainty little butterfly, whom a puff of wind might almost blow away, calmly measuring himself against two powerful cut-throats in a lonely mountain gully, and 'concluding that his best way was to kill them both,' as coolly as one might speak of crushing a couple of cockroaches, had a really heroic flavour about it.

'At supper,' he continued, 'I was quite jolly with them, and chaffed and told stories till they were fit to crack their sides with laughing; but I took care to get very sleepy before long, and the two, who were watching me out of the corners of their eyes, exchanged looks as they noticed it.'

"Guess yew feel like hevin' a big sleep, stranger," said my considerate host; "so I'll jist shew yew yure clearin', and then yew kin take out all the sleep yew hev lost at one pull." He took me up a ladder into a small loft, shewed me some straw and a big horse-rug, and marched off.

'Here, then, was the situation. The ladder was fast to the door-sill, so I couldn't cut off their communications; and if I shewed fight openly, they would most likely get the best of it, especially if—as I half suspected—they had firearms. The only way was to trap them—but how? Just at that moment (never tell me again that novel-reading's of no use) I recollected that bit in *The Cloister and the Hearth* where Gerard and Denys hold their room in that Burgundian inn against the robbers, hiding behind the door and sticking them one by one as they come in. I resolved to try the same dodge; and I set to work to dress up a dummy with the straw and the horse-rug—fitting my cap and boots on it to make it more life-like—so as to look as if I were lying asleep in the farther corner. (When they used to think me a dab at rigging up lay-figures for the college theatricals, I little dreamed

to what a use I should one day put it!) Then, when all was ready, I slipped behind the door with my bowie-knife, and waited.

'If I were a Frenchman, now—say one of Dumas' Mousquetaires—I should tell you that I puffed a cigarette quite comfortably, and hummed an opera air between the whiffs. As I happen to be an Englishman, I may as well own that I wouldn't go over that half-hour again for more than I can say. If they had come at once, it would have been nothing; but the *waiting*—ugh! One minute, I'd think there was some one behind me, and set my back hard against the wall; the next minute a hand seemed to be coming through the wall itself, with a knife in it, right at me. Then it seemed as if all the air were full of knives and hatchets, ready to go into me if I stirred an inch; and once, when a straw pricked my bare foot, I was within an ace of screaming out. The wretches in the room below were still as death, listening for any sound from above; and in that dead silence, the ticking of the old clock pricked my ears like a pin. At last—just as I was thinking of rushing down upon them and having it over anyhow—I heard the ladder creak; creak again, louder—creak again, louder still—and then the Yankee's long, lean, wolfish face rose above the door-sill, peering about with a light. Seeing me (as he thought) fast asleep on the floor, he crawled up and stepped forward to strike, offering his back fair towards me. Like a flash my knife was down on the back of his neck, with such a lick that the blade came clear out under his chin, and he died without a sound. I had barely time to drop him on the straw, when the nigger (who, from first to last, didn't seem very game, and had contrived to hang back a little) came tumbling up—thinking, I suppose, that his master had done the trick, and meant to nail all the plunder himself. I struck him hurriedly, like a fool, as I was—and of course hurt instead of killing him. The next moment he had me fast. Down dropped the knife, and over we went upon the floor, fighting like wild

cats. And then began as fine a tussle as ever was fought out in a lonely place at midnight, with life for the stake, a corpse for umpire, and the moon for looking-on. Over and over we rolled, he gnashing his teeth and snarling like a wild beast, while the cold moonlight came streaming in through the little window upon the black's savage face, and the trampled straw, and the dead man's distorted features and grinning teeth, gaping wide with the gasp of his last agony. If Blacky hadn't been weakened by the flowing of the blood from his wound, he'd have finished me in no time; as it was, he was a tough customer. I began to think that I was in for it at last, when suddenly I felt the knife on the floor beside me. I gave him one tremendous squeeze, just to numb him for a moment, and seized it. The next moment, plug! it went into him, up to the very handle. He gave one choking growl, and lay dead.

'Having thus "accounted for the population," I began to debate whether I was justified in making prize of their belongings, in virtue of their recent nefarious attempt and my own forlorn condition. In this difficulty, my studies in light literature came to my aid once more. I recollected how Gaffer Hexam shut up Rogue Riderhood by telling him that "you *can't* rob a dead man;" fortified by which great authority, I went down-stairs, and proceeded to help myself to my late host's effects. I took what little money I could find, a gun, and some ammunition, filled my haversack with cold pork and "hard-tack," and then lay down before the fire and fell asleep.'

'What! with the two bodies just overhead?' asked I, confounded at this fresh proof of his extraordinary coolness.

'Why not?' asked the Stoic simply. 'Well, next morning at sunrise, under these improved conditions, I started again.' After a bit, I fell in with a digger going West, and we kept together as far as Sacramento. I didn't say anything about my adventure, however; and a few days later, I was rather tickled at hearing

a man astonishing one of the drinking bars with a story of how he had found "a white man and a nigger rubbed out in one of the shanties on the Digger Trail, and he guessed the Injuns as done it hed bin stampeded in the middle o' their work, for they hadn't sculped nary one on 'em,

though the nigger hed as fine a crop o' wool as ever growed."

'So know, my boy, that's how I paid my hotel bill—as light a one as I ever came across. Two strokes receipted it—only of a knife instead of a pen. Now, then, what do you say to some coffee before turning in?'

UNIFORMITY OF THE WORK.

BY M. B. LINDSLEY.

UP to within a few years little attention has been paid to the unwritten work, at least no effort has been made by the Grand Lodge of the United States or by the Subordinate Grand Lodges to introduce it to the Subordinate Lodges. A few and only a few of all the Grand Representatives to the Grand Lodge of the United States have had the unwritten work. The time allotted to each Grand Representative for examination and memorizing that book has been so short that few indeed have been able to master and bring it home. Consequently the Grand Representatives had communicated to their respective Grand Lodges only a part of it, and of course the local Grand Representatives having seen the work exemplified but once, had been able to fix and memorize only a still smaller part of it, and the result has been that when the work got down to the Lodges, it has been third and fourth hand, and nearly all of it received without the full or in many cases without even a partial description. Hence many errors have crept in and kept in the work. Besides the manner of giving the work to the local lodges has been against uniformity because of the large number who have hitherto given the work. In our State at least the unwritten work has been delivered to the lodges by the Representatives of the Grand Lodge, so that every lodge instead of hearing one, has had a different person to exemplify the work.

And hearing differently, each Representative must necessarily give it different. The great object, uniformity, has not therefore been attained nor need it to be expected through such varied instructions.

A change for the better has been inaugurated by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin. The office of Grand Instructor was created last session, (Dec. '75) and a person having the unwritten work entire was selected to administer the office. Two results so far have been attained. First, uniformity. Second, memorizing the work by the officers of the Lodges. In our twenty-five years our Grand Lodge has run and yet not even the simplest parts of the language of the unwritten work have been received and exemplified by them, and while these lodge officers have gone forward in the discharge of their duty, making altogether over fifteen thousand Odd Fellows, yet until within a year or two these officers have not had the unwritten work and what instruction they have given has been by initiation, and not as it should be by the language or description of the work conveyed or intended to be conveyed.

With our present facilities for acquiring the unwritten work, it is expected that within a few years at the longest our jurisdiction will be posted fully on the work. The result so far has been favorable to the plan of instruction inaugurated, and we hope to see it advanced and carried out fully.

UNDER THE SEAT.

'SMOKING-carriage, sir?' asked the tip-expecting porter, as he bore my rugs and minor packages along the platform. I said yes, and he made me comfortable, and received his sixpence. Then the guard came to look after my well-being, but got nothing more than innocent gratitude, which was perhaps all he desired. I have no doubt that I did him injustice in attributing his efforts to induce a fat old gentleman with a cough; a lean old gentleman who was snuffy; and a middle-aged gentleman enveloped in wraps, the lower part of whose face was covered up like a female Turk's, an evident window-shutter, to enter my carriage, in order to spite me.

Duty to his employers alone made him endeavour to fill up, but the British anxiety to get as much room as possible for my money was strong within me, and stirred uncharitable suspicions.

You may lead a horse to the water, or an anti-nicotinian old gentleman to a smoking-carriage, but you can't make him get in: and when each in turn put his head into my compartment, he jibbed, for some late occupants of it had been cigar, not pipe smokers, and it was rather strong. So I was apparently left alone—alone with the *Times*, and all the comic weeklies, and a modern poem.

The doors were banged, the engine whistled, the train began to move. It would not stop again till we got to Peterborough, so that I was safe to be undisturbed so far. There were six seats, and I could occupy as many of them as a limited number of members permitted. I almost wished myself an Octopus, to take full advantage of the situation. Calming down, I hung up my hat, put on a gaudy piece of needle-work won in a bazaar raffle, lit my pipe, cut my papers, and began to enjoy myself.

I sat in the left-hand corner, with my back to the engine, absorbed in a big lawsuit. It is great fun to read a cross-examination, and watch how a clever lawyer will make an honest man perjure himself. 'It reads al-

most like a crime,' I remarked aloud; 'but then it is an honourable, lawful, and beneficial crime. Soldiers kill people's bodies, lawyers kill people's reputations, all for the good of society in the long-run.'

While I was uttering the word 'Run,' my ankles were grasped suddenly and firmly; then, before I could recover from the shock, they were jerked backwards under the seat with such force that I was thrown forwards, sprawling. I tried to rise, but my right wrist was seized, and the arm twisted till I was helpless, and presently I found myself on the floor of the carriage, face downwards, a sharp knee being scientifically pressed into the small of my back, and both arms fixed behind me. My elbows were tied together, and then the knee was removed, and my ankles were secured. During this latter operation, I kicked and struggled.

'Hum!' said a deliberative voice, 'that will be awkward. Let's see; ah, these will do.'

'These' were my sticks and umbrella, which some one proceeded to apply as splints to the backs of my legs, using the straps which had kept them in a bundle to fix them at the ankle and above the knee. When he had done, I was as helpless as a trussed turkey.

Then I was turned over carefully and tenderly, and for the first time saw my assailant.

He was a gentlemanly looking man, dressed in a black coat and waistcoat, gray trousers, and neck-cloth. His hair and whiskers were just turning grizzly, his chin and upper lip were clean shaved. His forehead was high, his eyes prominent and fixed in their expression, his nose aquiline, his mouth a slit. He was of middle height, spare but wiry; indeed his muscles must have been exceptionally elastic and feline, for you would never have thought, to look at him, that he could stow himself away under the seat of a railway carriage so compactly.

He contemplated me, with his chin

in his right hand, and his right elbow on his left hand, and said thoughtfully: 'Just so. All for the good of society in the long-run—an admirable sentiment, my dear sir; let it be a consolation to you, if I should cause you any little annoyance.'

He took a shagreen spectacle-case from his pocket, wiped the glasses carefully with a silk handkerchief, and adjusted them on his nose. Then he produced an oblong box, which he unlocked, and placed on one of the seats. After which he sat down quietly in the place I had occupied five minutes before, a position which brought him close over my head and chest, as I lay supine and helpless at his feet.

'Do you know anything of anatomy?' he asked. I was as completely in his power as a witness in the cross-examining counsel's, and prudence dictated that I should be equally ready to answer the most frivolous and impertinent questions with politeness. I said that I did not.

'Ah!' he said; 'well, perhaps you may have heard of the spleen! Exactly. Now, science has never as yet been able to find out the use of that organ, and the man who bequeathed that knowledge to posterity, would rank with the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, and confer an inestimable benefit on humanity for the remainder of the world's lease. I propose to dissect you.'

'You will not get much glory by that,' said I, forcing myself to seem to take this outrageous practical joke in good part. 'An ungrateful generation may or may not profit by your discoveries, but it will infallibly hang you.'

'Not so,' he blandly replied. 'I am a surgeon, who once had a very considerable practice, but I had to stand my trial for an experiment, which proved fatal, on one of my patients. The jury, unable to understand the sacrifices which an earnest inquirer is ever ready to offer at the shrine of science, declared me mad, and I was placed in confinement. You see that I can act with impunity.'

And he opened the box. I broke

out in a cold sweat. Was it all real? Could the man be in earnest? 'But,' said I, 'surely you can get dead bodies to dissect, without having to recourse to a crime? And again, if generations of anatomists have always failed hitherto, why should you suppose that this one attempt should be more successful than the others?'

'Because, my dear sir,' said the man, with the smile of one who has caught a bright idea, 'all former investigations, including my own, have been made on dead subjects, while I propose to examine your vital organs with a powerful magnifying-glass, while they are exercising their normal functions.'

'What!' I gasped. 'You will never have the barbarity'— And here my voice choked.

'O yes; I have conquered that prejudice against inflicting suffering which is natural to the mind enfeebled by civilization. For many years, I secretly practised vivisection upon animals: I once had a cat, an animal very tenacious of life, under my scalpel for a week. But we have no time to waste in conversation. You will not be put to any needless suffering; these instruments are not my own, blunted for want of use; I took the precaution of borrowing the case of the gentleman under whose care I have been placed, before making my escape.'

While speaking thus, he took out the hideous little glittering instruments, and examined them one by one. They were of various appalling shapes, and I gazed upon them with the horrible fascination of a bird under the power of a snake. Of one only could I tell the use; a thin, trenchant blade, which cut you almost to look at it. He knelt across me, arranged his implements on the seat to his right; laid a note-book, pencil, and his watch on that to his left, and took off my neckcloth and collar, murmuring: 'The clothes are very much in my way; I wish that you were properly prepared for the operation.'

It flashed across me, in my despair, that I had heard of madmen being

foiled by an apparent acquiescence in their murderous intentions.

'After all,' I forced myself to say, 'what is one life to the benefit of the human race? Since mine is demanded by science, let me aid you. Remove these bonds, and allow me to take off my coat and waistcoat.'

He smiled and shook his head.

'Life is sweet; I will not trust you,' he said, unfastening my waistcoat, and turning back the lapels as far as he could. Then taking a pair of scissors, he proceeded to cut my shirt-front away, so that presently my chest was bared to his experiments. Whether I closed my eyes, or was seized with vertigo, I do not know, but for a moment or two I lost sight of everything, and had visions; a sort of grotesque nightmare it was, the figures in which I recall but very indistinctly; but I remember that the most prominent of them was a pig, or rather a pork, hanging up outside a butcher's shop, the appearance of which bore a mysterious resemblance to myself. These delirious fantasies were dispelled by a sharp pang; the anatomist had made a first slight incision. I saw his calm face leaning over me; the cruel blade with which he was about to make another and a deeper cut; his fingers, already crimson with my blood; and I struggled frantically. My operator immediately withdrew his armed hand, and stood erect. Then, watching his opportunity, he placed his right foot on the lower part of my breast-bone, so that by pressure

he could suffocate me.

'Listen, my friend,' he said: 'I will endeavour not to injure any vital organ, but if you wriggle about, I shall not be able to avoid doing so. Another thing, if you'—

He was interrupted by three sharp whistles from the engine, so shrill and piercing as to drown his voice.

'Impede me by these absurd convulsive movements, I shall be compelled to sever those muscles, which'

He never completed his sentence. There was a mighty shock, a crash as if all the worlds had rushed together. I was shot under the seat, where I lay uninjured, and in safety, amidst the most horrible din; breaking, tearing, shrieking, cries for help, and the roar of escaping steam.

I had strained the bonds which secured my elbows in my struggles, and the jerk of the collision snapped them; so that when I began to get my wits together, I found my hands free. To liberate my legs was then a very easy matter, but not so to extricate myself, the next thing I set about. The whole top of the carriage, from where the stuffed cushion part ends, was carried sheer away; and amidst the debris which encumbered my movement lay the mangled and decapitated body of the madman who, intending to assail my life, had, by keeping me down at the bottom of the carriage, saved it.

MORAL.—When alone in a railway carriage, it may be worth while to take a look below the seats!

WHEREIN WE DO WRONG.

AS an Order we are composed of men of all grades of occupation and fortune, bound together by a different tie than usually binds the world and the worldly; hence we do wrong when we in any way ignore this and associate clannishly only with those of our own sphere in worldly possessions. There are those who carry their dignity and self-esteem into the Lodge and all the gatherings of the Order, so that a poorer man, even if a brother, gets cool greetings from the well-

to-do. In the walls of a Lodge-room we should meet on one and the same plane—that of brethren, and no distinction of degrees or wealth should have conspicuous place. Only practical goodness and useful talents should have recognition, our respect should be given to a brother for his sincerity and kindness of disposition, and not to his mere place in the social scale of society. It is a bad condition of things when a Lodge has a membership so diverse in pecuniary condition

that half the brethren in it can't freely associate with the other half. The wealthier members of the Order are better in a Lodge to themselves, and in larger cities this is frequently the case, but in any Lodge we do wrong if we are cold to another solely on account of his present poverty, for we may one day change places as many have done since the war. The only distinction among men should be in moral rectitude, and especially among "Brethren of our friendly Order."

We do wrong again, when we permit personal canvassing or electioneering for office among us; our elections should be as unlike political ones as our offices differ from those of the State. The individual candidate should be one nominated without his seeking it, and elected without his personal solicitation. A Lodge should never give the least countenance to what may be termed electioneering documents. Our offices are not positions of pay, and they can only be truly those of honor when they are conferred by the Lodges free of all "wire-pulling"—they should be the spontaneous gift of the members to a brother for his work, and not for his importunity. A member who shows in any marked manner his great desire for an office, is generally *not* the one to nominate for it. Such brothers run all the time, and when they reach as high a pinnacle as the Lodge itself can elevate them to, they become lukewarm in the work—and when they retire from office they are too apt to retire from the work of the Order in the Lodge. Nominate, then, the brother of modest worth, and avoid the professional office-seeker, and discourage all committees or clubs for any candidate as an electioneering move.

We do wrong, as Odd Fellows, when we are too indifferent to our duties toward the sick. There are those who would at any time rather hire a nurse than go themselves; and while in many cases a professional nurse may be a necessity, yet in the majority of cases a sick brother would much rather see the faces of his brethren than the face of a stranger. It is clearly

the duty of each and every brother to visit the sick personally, and not by proxy, and if for any valid reason he cannot sit up with him, he should, nevertheless, give him a portion of his time, care, and consolation. There is no act more friendly than a sympathizing visit to the sick or distressed; the sick feel neglect more sensitively than the well; and we should cheerfully and promptly fulfil any and every duty that we have undertaken in joining any society or association. To join a brotherhood without being brothers, as the Order commands, is a sad mockery, and indicates either a want of firmness in our principles, or a selfish indifference to the rights of others. Whenever we undertake to do a thing we should do it in all its requirements, or relinquish our membership altogether.

We frequently do wrong, when we do not endeavour to properly entertain a visiting brother. There are members who, when a stranger enters their Lodge, take no notice of him, except to criticize or speculate on his object in making the visit. Others err in calling upon him for a speech without knowing that he can make one, and indulging in gross flattery in their reply or reception address. Nothing is more unbecoming an Odd Fellow than unmeaning, exaggerated flattery, and yet, judging by the reported speeches of some brethren, there must be a blarney-stone in some Lodges that their members kiss. A good man and a brother is always appreciated, and a silent approval is often more valued than a loud rhetorical one. There are members who live in the hearts of their brethren, and will have their memory fondly cherished long after they have left this world, and yet they have never had a formal eulogy delivered over or about them. But while obsequiousness toward a visiting stranger or a known brother is wrong and often a bore, yet there never was an occasion when a kind, cheerful, talkative reception of one was not acceptable. We believe in making a stranger brother, no matter how poor or how unknown, feel at ease and at home in any Lodge he may

visit during his wanderings; the more weary and care-worn he may appear the more need for every little attention that it is in the power of the most inexperienced brother to give. All are not gifted in the *art* of "receiving," but there is a spontaneous reception that may lack well-chosen words, yet being sincere ones, gratifies the tired traveller and gives him rest. Do not then neglect to speak kindly, warmly, truly to your visiting brethren, every one of you that may be present; don't think this the duty of the officers only. When the stranger is introduced to the Noble Grand and by him to the Lodge, let *every* member go forward, take him by the hand, and give him a kind greeting, a word of encouragement. He is a very poor brother who will sit still at a time like this, or if he goes forward has nothing to say.

Lodge frequently do wrong in not replying in a becoming spirit to communications from a sister Lodge. There is often a stiffness, a want of brotherly expression in the letters they send in reply to an invitation, or a business query; and sometimes a delay that looks like indifference. In all our acts as Odd Fellows there should be a warmth, an earnestness in our reciprocal communications, that will show beyond a peradventure that we are Odd Fellows indeed. This, of course, depends something upon the kind of Secretary that a Lodge has; but the Secretary is always a very impressible being, and is what the Lodge makes him. If the Lodge is in earnest, devoted and enthusiastic in its work, so is he; if it is formal, cold and precise, so is he; whenever it is otherwise it is either because the Lodge is at a loss to get a good Secretary, or has a bad one and don't know it, because too careless to see. A well-written letter from one Lodge to another gives much pleasure and satisfaction, and imparts new life to each hearer, while a poor, laconic, business letter falls upon our ears like a feather, and we go on with the

Lodge business without a particle of interest in the matter written upon.

Finally, we do wrong when we are indifferent to the prosperity of the Lodge or its members. Pride in its proper sphere is a good thing, and we do not do ourselves justice when we run down or neglect to praise anything to which we belong. The man who abuses the school at which he was educated, proclaims himself a dunce; and the brother who does not think the Order to which he belongs a noble one, the best in the world, stands self-condemned as a "detrimental" to it, and he should "step down and out." Every one connected with an institution should be enthusiastic in the promotion of it interests, or he is not a really good member. We need zeal in everything to make it a success, and our Lodge should be our constant thought, to make it as useful, perfect and comfortable as possible, then it is sure to succeed and become an ornament to the neighborhood.

If we are proud of our Lodge, devoted to our Order, and interested in the prosperity of our members, how differently we feel from the selfish and the careless—we live in a new sphere, and really enjoy this world and this life as it was intended to be enjoyed. A man should be active, not only in his handiwork, but in his feelings; he must not isolate himself, but be truly a part of the community in which he lives, and do whatever he can to promote the happiness and prosperity of his neighbors and brethren. We should be ambitious, not men of merely negative goodness, that are doing no harm, but actively employed all the time in doing good to somebody or something. Let us think our town, our neighbours, our Lodge, our church, our school the best in the world, or know the reason why. Be an Odd Fellow, as you should be everything else, earnestly, truthfully, faithfully, and lovingly, and you will be a happier, if not a richer man.—
Companion.

AN ADDRESS

Delivered Before Vandalia Lodge, No. 149, I.O.O.F., Vandalia, Mich., July 14th, 1876.

BY M.A. THOMPSON, P.G.

AS OddFellows we look upon the growth and marvelous development of our Order throughout the entire world where the light of christianity and learning has penetrated with feelings of pride and satisfaction.

While the purpose of the institution of Odd Fellowship is not to teach and point the way of life as concerns our hereafter, and while belief in no religious creed is essential to becoming an Odd Fellow, its teachings are as pure as christianity itself. We understand that the primary object and purpose of Odd Fellowship is to teach man his duty to his fellow men, and being so taught he incidentally becomes acquainted with his duty to his Creator.

Odd Fellowship is cosmopolitan in its character, it seeks to impress upon every man that comes within its hallowed precincts that all human beings are of one family whose Father is God. Races of men or nations of people are merely the consequences of different climates, conditions and associations. All the religious test that one order requires is a belief that God is. This would appear to be absolutely necessary inasmuch as the whole institution is based upon and the superstructure is largely made up of material drawn from the sacred book, which we regard as a revelation from duty himself. To one who does not believe in God the lectures and instructions of our Order would be meaningless and nugatory.

But in the principles of morality which should govern our social relations with one another, there can be no difference of opinion among civilized people of whatever nation, race or rank.

This is the broad field which Odd Fellowship seeks to occupy. The golden texts of our institutions are found in holy writ, viz: "Love thy

neighbour as thyself," and "whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you do ye even so unto them." If either of these maxims is strictly observed there would be nothing further to desire so far as the affairs of this world are concerned. But this degree of perfection, we need not expect to see attained in our life time, and probably for a long time in the future will remain without being accomplished.

We have no sympathy with those whom we hear constantly declaring against the degeneracy of the present age. We do not believe that this outcry is true in any essential particular. If it be true that the world is constantly growing worse it is but a poor commentary on the efforts of christians, and the efficacy of christianity in general, and it is but a poor recommendation for the benefits and advantages to be derived from the thousand and one benevolent institutions and societies of the present day to which the ages of the past have been total strangers. And in particular would it be an emphatic condemnation of the worthlessness of our own Order: For the institution of Odd Fellowship had its origin in the present age, and of course the present age only has witnessed its unparalleled growth and development. Within the lifetime of numbers of our older citizens, our Order has risen from obscure nothingness, until it has spread to all civilized land on the earth, thereby making the circuit of the globe. If the world is getting worse we are in part responsible for it, but as before remarked we do not believe such is the case.

On the contrary we believe that the world is making substantial advances in moral as well as in natural affairs. Was there ever a time when the popular conscience was more active than it is to-day? Was there ever a time

when the rights of men were more respected or better graduated? Was there ever a time when criminals were hunted out and punished more certainly? Was there ever a time when the poor, the afflicted and the unfortunate were kinder cared for than they are to-day? We challenge croakers to answer these queries by citing any time in the past when things were more favorable in these respects than they are to-day. We claim for our Order a share of the credit of these achievements. No one who knows can deny that our Order has exercised a powerful influence in the United States, at least upon the morals and consciences of the people. We further claim that this influence has been of such a character and tendency as to lift up the standard of morality to improve and benefit all who have been brought to feel its beneficent workings.

Among the moral qualities which we seek to inculcate and to practice, are Faith, Hope, Charity, Friendship, Love and Truth. Among the social qualities which we endeavour are Justice, Kindness, Toleration. Of the latter, toleration, we remark that its exercise is absolutely essential to becoming a good Odd Fellow. Mutual respect for the honest opinions of our brothers, however envious we may deem them ourselves, is not only just and wise but indispensable. People of all nations, kindred and tongues meet together and forget all else, but that they are children of one All Father. The Mystic Chain binds all hearts in unison, when brought together in one body recognizing a common brotherhood.

While the principles and teachings of Odd Fellowship are pure and true as it is possible to be, we know that many members of the Order are not of a character such as to bring respect and commendation to it.

And many others become indifferent and dead as it were, and after a time fall out and are heard of no more in the Lodge room.

If we seek to analyse the cause for

this condition of things, we might profitably look around us at other institutions and societies. We see the same thing among them all; we see unworthy persons creeping into membership in all of them. Of all the persons initiated into our Order, probably not more than fifty per cent. of them keep up in good standing year after year and make good active working members. We see the explanation of this matter in part, when we come to look into the causes which impel men to join us. Among these causes we will first name *curiosity*. A man who goes into an Odd Fellows' Lodge led by no other motive than curiosity to learn the inside working, the signs, passwords, etc., will, when his curiosity is satisfied, become perfectly indifferent to its sublime lessons, the teachings imparted to him will be as seed sown by the wayside.

Others join because they get an impression that it will be for their pecuniary advantage so to do, thinking that they might soon be overtaken by poverty or misfortune, and then they would have some source to look to for natural assistance. They run along for a time, and meanwhile do not become candidate for a poor house or for Odd Fellows' charity; they have paid a few dollars and have had no pecuniary return for the money invested, when they come to the conclusion that Odd Fellowship don't pay.

Others have not been gratified in their ambitious desire to fill the several chairs of the Lodge in rapid succession and get soured in consequence and perhaps withdraw from membership.

Others come in who have no real sympathy with the principles of Odd Fellowship. To them the words Friendship, Love, Charity, etc., have no tangible meaning. To them the commands of our Order, viz: To visit the sick, to bury the dead, to comfort the afflicted and to educate the orphans, meet with no generous and hearty response coming up from the depths of their own souls. Their

own narrow minded selfishness absorbs all else in their natures.

We have enumerated some of the characters which invariably fail to make good Odd Fellows, fail because their hearts are not given to the cause they have espoused, fail because they have no sympathy with the grand and unselfish principles of our Order. Water will find its level, so will men. All living beings flourish best where the surroundings are in keeping with their previous habits and instincts; man is no exception to this rule. Such men as we have described do not feel at home in such society as true Odd Fellowship creates. They might be compared to a plant whose native habitat is in cold wet bogs of a swamp, transplanted into a garden, where only plants thrive which love the warmth and the genial influence of the sun.

Again we have too many members who are only drones in the hive. They do not attend very regularly, and when they do attend, they scarcely do anything to make the lodge meeting interesting. We do not expect the time will come when all these failings and shortcomings of the brotherhood will be

avoided, until the golden age shall have been ushered in.

When this does at last arrive, the mission of Odd Fellowship will be ended for the reason that there will be no more wrongs to be righted or nothing higher to be attained.

I will offer a few words of suggestion and then I shall have ended. Let not our zeal to increase our membership prompt us to take in any but men of well known integrity and approved morality. Let us each and every one endeavour to give the lodge the benefit of his presence when at all practicable so to do. Let us endeavour to qualify ourselves for any or every office in the lodge. Let us endeavour to vary the exercises so as to have something new and instructive at every meeting. Let us, in short, try to act well our own part, whatever it may be, as there all the honor lies.

Finally, let us be guided in our every day lives by the teachings and precepts of our Order, and thereby show to the world that Odd Fellowship hath power to move, to control and to shape the lives of its members, that it is not merely an institution with name, but is in reality an engine with prodigious power for good.—*Michigan Odd Fellow.*

OLD ADAM.

A 'GRAND old gardener?'—not at all!

Adam, in sooth, was somewhat small;
His tribe have dwindled since the Fall,

Or *he*, at any rate,

Was squab as any Dutchman's tub.
Yet gardeners like old Adam Shrub

Are rare in what old fogies dub
'These days degenerate.'

I do not think that he was pat in
That many syllabled dog-Latin
That moderate gardeners love to
chat in

(To my distraction);

I never heard him call a blossom
The *Crambocrakja Polyglossum*,

But this sad lack disturbed his bosom—

No, not one fraction!

Perhaps 'twas little to deplore;
Others, indeed, might be far more
Versed in mere dull botanic lore

And nomenclature;

Old Adam chiefly cared to know,
How best to make his garden glow,
Perchance less like a 'Flower-show,'

But more like Nature.

And surely, since the untimely blight
Of earth's first garden, never sight
Of florticultural delight,
So glad and glowing,

Such Paradise for eyes and noses,
Such store for 'bowpots' and for
posies,
Was seen as when old Adam's roses
Were 'all a-blowing.'

I, a young 'pickle' rising seven,
Esteemed the place a very heaven;
Yet would at that sweet age have
given,

I'll frankly own, a
Whole world of stocks and roses for a
Free *entree* to the orchard. Flora
I loved exceedingly, yet more, a
Great deal—Pomona!

O Adam, were there ever grown
Such pears? such toothsome peaches
known?

Or plums, with flavour all their own,
As grew thy trees on?

Or what were sweeter than to win
Leave—granted with thy puckered
grin—

To visit that old orchard in
The strawberry season?

The Sciences were nought to Shrub,
But then Smelfungus—there's the
rub!—

This sciolist, this squat Dutch tub,
This void rotundity,
Roses and ribstones made to *grow*,
I have a modern gardener now,
Of Scottish accent, ponderous brow,
And great profundity.

Adam, by simple 'rule of thumb,'
Grew peach and pippin, pear and
plum,

In wealth whose sight would just
strike dumb

My man M'Slumber.

He, with much scientific fluster,
Last season just contrived to muster
Six pears, two pines, of grapes a
cluster,

And one cucumber!

My walks are painfully precise,
My beds are planned with quaint de-
vice,

Trim streaks of flowers grow coldly
nice

In every border;

But oh for Adam's rosy banks,
His walls of lilies, ranks on ranks,

His walks all windings, quibs and
cranks,

And sweet disorder!

I well remember how, when I
Was wooing winsome Cicely,
We twain would stroll, with none to
spy

Save Shrub the artful,
Among the roses white and red,
That topped my darling's dainty
head

(She'd beg a few—old Adam said:
'Marn—take a cartful'),

He'd dodge and dive with zeal dis-
creet,

What time he heard our loitering
feet:

Or sternly guard our Sacred Seat
Among the laurels.

Those hollyhocks *were* high, but he
Some snatched salutes was bound to
see,

Nor wholly unaware could be
Of tiffs and quarrels.

But who more Sphinx-like, staid and
bland,

Than Adam, watering-pot in hand,
When, giving him 'good-evening'
(and

Perhaps a 'tip' too),

We'd part?—As who should say:
'Why, bless

Your hearts—d'ye think I even *guess*
What Master Frank made bold to
press

On cheek and lip too?

Brave quaint old boy! I'll ne'er for-
get

The hours I passed, and dream of yet,
Among the roses dewy-wet,

And bosky corpses

Of that old garden. Shrub is dead.

He left no enemies, 'tis said,
Save what he'd call, with face flushed
red,

'Them *dratted* wopses!

His garden now—oh! desecration,
Fit theme for the vituperation

Of Ruskin!—is—a railway station
On the high level!

'Tis well old Adam's dead, or who
Knows but *he'd* swear, as sages do,
That all things now are going to

The—Prince of Evil!

THE

Canadian Journal of Odd-Fellowship.

W. D. GORDON, Editor.

KINGSTON, ONTARIO, AUGUST 1876.

G. L. U. S.—By authority of resolution of the G. L. U. S., the CANADIAN JOURNAL OF ODD-FELLOWSHIP is a recognized organ of that body, and authorized to publish its proceedings, and all official documents issued by it to the Brotherhood.

ONTARIO.—“I consider the CANADIAN JOURNAL OF ODD-FELLOWSHIP invaluable to every Odd Fellow. I trust the representatives will give it the support its importance demands, and spare no pains to increase its circulation throughout the length and breadth of Ontario.”—*Grand Master's Report, 1875. Endorsed by Grand Lodge.*

LOWER PROVINCES, B. N. A.—By several resolutions passed at its Session, in August, 1875, the R. W. Grand Lodge of the Lower Provinces, “recommends this national journal (THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF ODD-FELLOWSHIP) to every member of the Order.” * * * * “The objects, in our estimation, being thoroughly worthy the encouragement of this R. W. Grand Body.”

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF ONTARIO.

ON Tuesday, August 1st, the Grand Encampment of Ontario met in the Odd-Fellows' Hall, St. Catharines, at 9 a.m. Grand Patriarch Wilson in the chair. All the officers and a quorum of representatives were present, numbering about 80, besides a number of P.C.P.'s.

The forenoon was devoted to the examination of credentials, the reception of new members, appointment of standing committees, and the presentation of the annual reports of the principal officers.

GRAND PATRIARCH'S REPORT.

OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES,—

At the close of my official year, I welcome you to our Annual Council in this beautiful Hall. This is truly the Patriarchal Tent, for here is the birth-place of the Patriarchs of this Province, Union Encampment No. 1, being the first Encampment instituted. May we never forget that in union there is strength. I now submit for your consideration a Report of my work during the year.

DISPENSATIONS.

Since the last Session of this Grand Encampment, dispensations have been granted for the following Encampments :

Livingstone Encampment No. 29, Thorold. Instituted, Dec. 2nd, 1875.

Wentworth Encampment No. 30, Dundas. Instituted, Feb'y 1st, 1876.

Wellington Encampment No. 31, Guelph. Instituted, Feb'y 9th, 1876.

New Market Encampment No. 32, New Market. Instituted, April 6th, 1876.

Exeter Encampment No. 33, Exeter. Instituted, April 27th, 1876.

Peel Encampment No. 34, Brampton. Instituted, May 5th, 1876.

I therefore request that my action will meet with your approval, and that Charters will be granted the Patriarchs.

VISITATIONS.

I am sorry to say that owing to circumstances I found it impossible to make many visits. I believe, however, that my staff of D.D.G. Patriarchs were equal to the occasion, and have attended to the duties of their office in such a way that no loss has been sustained by the Patriarchs in this jurisdiction.

CAMPS OF INSTRUCTION.

I would recommend strongly that three permanent Camps of Instruction be formed and located in London, Hamilton and Toronto, where at stated seasons the D.D.G. Patriarchs could meet and be instructed in the secret work by the Representatives to the Grand Lodge of the U.S.

STATISTICS.

I refer you to the Report of the Grand Scribe for Statistics. Our progress has

been steady during the year, notwithstanding the extreme hard times, go on seems to be the word, and Ontario will compare favorably with any other jurisdiction.

DECISIONS AND APPEALS.

I am happy to state that there were but few questions submitted for my decision, and but one appeal which has been satisfactorily settled.

A question was asked—Could a D.D.G. P. grant a Dispensation to confer the Second and Third Degrees in one night? Answer.—Yes.

Another question was asked—Can a proposer of a candidate for membership in an Encampment withdraw the proposition after one of the committee has signed the Report? Under the circumstances, I answered yes.

Answer—See section 1410 White's Digest.

Question—Can an Encampment receive and ballot on the report of one of the Committee, the others not liking to sign it? Answer—No.

Question by D.D.G. P., Geo. W. Carey, Toronto—Is there any law allowing the H.P. to preside in an Encampment, in the absence of the C.P., S.W. and J. W., there being a P. C. P. present?

Also, if the H.P. presides would business be legal? Answer—Yes, that is if the business so done would be legal if the C.P. was in the chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.

I received a communication from Grand Secretary Ridgley, in regard to a Public Demonstration to be made by our Order in Philadelphia on the 26th of September, 1876. I ordered the G. Scribe to notify the several Encampments in regard to the same, and to take such action thereon as they deem fit.

Also, a communication from Bro. Nicholson, who is to act as Grand Marshal on the 20th September, wishing to know how many of the brethren were coming from this jurisdiction, so that he could give them a place in the line. I instructed the Grand Scribe to notify the several Encampments of the same.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the several D.D.G. Patriarchs for the assistance given me, and also the Grand Officers for their attention to the business of their several offices, and may the Great Patriarch above give you wisdom to conduct your deliberations and crown you with success.

HARPER WILSON, G.P.
St. Catharines, August 1st, 1876.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SCRIBE AND TREASURER.

*To the Officers and Representatives of the
R.W. Grand Encampment of Ontario,
I.O.O.F.*

PATRIARCHS,—

It is my pleasing privilege to again congratulate you, after the lapse of another year, on the substantial increase and exceedingly healthful condition of this branch of our beloved Order. The rapid progress of Odd Fellowship in Canada is abundant evidence that its sublime teachings and benevolent purposes are fully recognized by our people, and although we have passed through a year of unexampled financial depression and mercantile disaster, our Lodges and Encampments have flourished both numerically and financially beyond our most sanguine expectations, and many places have received with open arms new links of brotherhood which we trust will never be broken. Seven years ago this Grand Encampment came into existence with three tents in its fold and only a handful of members, and the most hopeful of us little thought then that in so short a time thirty-four Encampments, dotted here and there over our fair Province, with a membership reckoned in the thousands, and an influence which is a power in the land, would to-day be represented in annual session. But one Encampment, Victoria No. 25, Port Hope, has failed for two consecutive terms to send in their report, which is the result of the withdrawal of the charter from Durham Lodge by the Grand Lodge, for non-compliance with the mandates of that M.W. Grand Body, Durham Lodge being the principal feeder to Victoria Encampment. This is to be regretted, as it was a fine, loyal Encampment, with many excellent true hearted Odd Fellows as members, and we trust that wise legislation this year may restore both Lodge and Encampment to their former privileges.

Our membership, not counting our absent sister in, foots up an increase of 203 over our report of the past year, and all the D.D.G.P.'s report harmonious working and the best prospects for the future.

In accordance with resolution, I had 300 copies of the Journal of proceedings printed and distributed in the usual way and received copies of journals from various State Grand Encampments in return, besides exchanging with our own R.W. Grand Lodge.

This being the Centennial of American Independence, and the Grand Lodge of the United States having adopted important resolutions touching the great celebration of the brotherhood on this continent in Philadelphia next month, by command of the M. W. Grand Patriarch I issued a circular to all the subordinates inviting their co-operation, by sending delegations from their Encampments, and instructed each to notify Bro. John P. Nicholson, the Secretary of management at Philadelphia, of their individual action. The cordial invitation extended also to this M. W. Grand Encampment, is certainly entitled to recognition, and no doubt some recommendation will be offered by the M. W. Grand Patriarch to this Grand Encampment.

STATE OF THE ORDER.—Five new Encampments have been organized during recess, at all of which I had the pleasure of assisting, excepting Peel Encampment No. 34, Brampton, viz.: Livingstone Enc. No. 29, Thorold, December 2nd, 1875; Wentworth Enc. No. 30, Dundas, February 1st, 1876; Wellington Enc. No. 31, Guelph, February 9th, 1876; Newmarket Enc. No. 32, Newmarket, April 6th, 1876; Exeter Enc. No. 33, Exeter, April 27th, 1876, and Peel Enc. No. 34, Brampton, May 5th, 1876. All are in good localities, and from appearances bear evidence of prosperity. I notified all the Encampments that had not previously sent in to the Grand Encampment duplicate certified copies of their By-Laws to do so at once. The following are the only Camps who have responded to the request: Brantford Enc. No. 4, Brantford, and Huron Enc. No. 28, Goderich.

STATISTICS.—The returns from many of the subordinates came in promptly as requested, but there were two or three that did not arrive till the last moment, and the manifest carelessness on the part of some of the Scribes in making out their returns is certainly reprehensible. A committee ought to be appointed by each Encampment, of intelligent Patriarchs, to examine their returns before sending away, and then we could rely not only on promptness, but statistics that are reliable. Until some reform of this kind is effected, incorrect returns will be sent in and Encampments will be subjected to reproach from the errors reported by the committee appointed to examine returns. Last year out of 28 Encampments only 12 were reported correct in both semi-annual returns, and those were mainly the younger Encampments,

which I am pleased to say to their credit. The certificates from Representatives have also failed to come in, although the instructions are very particular in that respect, and continual grumbling does not appear to remedy the evil—consequently the short time set apart for our annual session is invariably encroached upon, and the work has to be finally rushed through with indecent haste, sadly interfering with us-ful legislation. The total revenue amounts to \$6,436.74, an increase of \$41.95 over last year. 317 have been initiated, 61 admitted by card, 5 rejected, 8 re-instated, 60 suspended, while 5 have been expelled and 9 have died. The dues to this Right W. Grand body amount to \$825.00, an increase of \$119.79 over last year.

FINANCE.—The past year has been an exceedingly prosperous one, and the reduction in our representation will enable us to leave something to the good, and we trust in another year to be able to wipe off our indebtedness and be able to procure a charter. Considerable profit is derived from the purchase, by subordinates, of all their supplies from this Grand Encampment, besides being an advantage to themselves, and securing a uniformity in all the blanks used throughout the jurisdiction, and we trust that representatives will instruct their Encampments to be particular in carrying out the law in this respect. Our account has been paid in full to the R. W. Grand Lodge, U.S., also Representative tax for the current year, and all incidental expenses to date, and we have a balance of cash in Treasury and supplies.

CORRESPONDENCE.—The correspondence during the year has been quite extensive, involving considerable time and labor, but of the most friendly and fraternal character. No new appeals have arisen, and the D.D.G.P.'s report harmony and continued progress, and the prospects for the coming year are indicative of advancement.

In conclusion I have to offer my thanks to the M. W. Grand Patriarch for the kindest courtesy and consideration, and to the grand officers generally for many little acts of kindness and assistance, and I have no doubt this session will be marked with the utmost harmony and wise legislation.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

M. D. DAWSON,

Grand Scribe and Treasurer.

London, August 1st, 1876.

STATISTICS.

The statistics of the Encampment Branch, as found in the books of the G. Scribe, may be briefly summarized:

Number of Encampments.....	34
Initiations during the year	317
Admitted by Card	61
Reinstated	8
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Increase.....	386
Withdrawn.....	91
Suspended or dropped	60
Expelled.....	5
Deaths.....	9
<hr/>	
Decrease.....	165
<hr/>	
Net Increase	221
Present Membership	1738

RECEIPTS.

Cash on 1st August, 1874	\$480 80
Dues to G. Encampment.....	825 00
Supplies	374 68
	<hr/>
	\$1680 48

EXPENSES.

Mileage and per diem of last Session	\$459 82
Grand Scribe's Salary.....	75 00
Remitted G.L.U.S.....	224 78

Printing	138 50
Postage, telegrams and incidentals	102 22

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Balance in cash	1000 32
Due by Subordinates.....	737 13
Supplies	54 13
	<hr/>
	229 23

Total assets1020 49

From the returns of subordinates we find that, in point of membership, Harmony leads with 173; then comes Toronto with 156; and St. Catharines with 110. These are all that exceed 100 members.

THE NEW OFFICERS.

The officers for the ensuing year are as follows:

- G.P.—W.H. Cole, M.P.P., Brockville.
 G.H.P.—John Young, Chatham,
 G.S.W.—E.R. Robinson, London.
 G.S. and T.—M.D. Dawson, London.
 G.J.W.—Thos. Woodyatt, Brantford.
 G. Rep.—J.H. Perry, Whitby.
 G. Rep.—John Gibson, Stratford.
 G. Marshal.—John G. Moore, Belleville.
 G. I. Sent.—Henry Neal, Sarnia.

ANNUAL SESSION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ONTARIO.

THE Grand Lodge of Ontario met in St. Catharines on Wednesday, the 2nd of August. The attendance of officers and representatives was very large. Every representative who was at the last Grand Lodge missed our late worthy Grand Treasurer, Bro. Geo. Irwin, who met with his death last May by a lamentable accident. This was the largest Grand Lodge ever held by the Order in Ontario, and while it was gratifying as an evidence of increase and prosperity, it was by no means satisfactory in its legislative capacity, being too unweildly to work well, consequently the session was very long, lasting until Saturday morning, and even then

not as much done as might have been had the Grand Lodge been smaller. A great many members expressed themselves that it was the most unsatisfactory Grand Lodge—as far as doing business went—that they had ever attended, on account of there being so many new members, and they not up to the work, while others only came for a holiday—but more of this anon.

One very pleasing feature in the Grand Lodge was the presence of Bro. J. W. Stebbins, of Rochester, Grand Master of New York, who exemplified the secret work in a very able manner, and in such a way that that every representative present

could comprehend it, and carry it away with him in his mind, and we have no doubt that ere this it has proved beneficial to the Order in Ontario. The celebrated case of Durham Lodge was settled, the Grand Lodge re-instating the Lodge. This action proved highly satisfactory to the whole Grand Lodge. We give below the Reports of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

GRAND MASTER'S REPORT.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge I. O. O. F. of Ontario.

OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES,—

We are permitted, under the pleasure of the Supreme Grand Master and Ruler of all our destinies, to meet again after the repose of a year to hold this, our 22nd annual session. One which must prove to be of importance in the annals of Odd Fellowship; rendered so, from the vast amount of legislation which will come before you for your earnest deliberation.

Though we have not increased as rapidly in membership as could be desired, yet our growth has been of a permanent character. Our losses are of that nature that they are rather of an advantage to us, by losing those who took no interest in the order and were detrimental to our growth.

I do not think our order ever rested on a more solid basis than at present, and if we profit as we should by the present session, our future will show an increasing brightness and thus be instrumental in continuing and furthering of those principles which command the admiration of the whole world.

You are, in obedience with the duty and the claims of the Lodges which you represent, called on to conform with the requirements of the constitution to legislate for hundreds of Lodges and thousands of deserving members. You are urged to do so without fear or partiality, and to cast aside all preconceived ideas on any

matter which may be brought before you for legislation, and decide solely on the merits of such cases. I sincerely hope and trust that each and every member of the Grand Lodge will take exception to anything which they may deem wrong until all differences have been explained and legally settled. Every Representative should so keep the responsibility of his position in consideration that he may be impelled with the best of motives, and be able to return to his Lodge with the satisfaction that he has used his best judgment on all questions that may come before this Grand body.

When elected to the high and responsible position of Grand Master I felt the honor of representing you, and recognizing the field of labor which I owed the Order I decided to put forth every effort to advance and increase this, our widely extended Brotherhood and presumed upon a pleasant intercourse and direct acquaintance with the members generally. But immediately after my first visit, it pleased our Universal Father to prostrate me upon a bed of affliction for a period of five months, so that I was compelled to forego all my arrangements for visiting.

Ever mindful of the principles of our Order, I hope you will aid me in overcoming such troubles and grievances that may tend to conflict with the dictates and laws of this Grand Lodge which we should under all circumstances espouse.

In regard to new Lodges, the past year has been one of prosperity for which we have reason to be thankful. The following have been instituted during the year and are now at work under dispensation, which I trust will meet your approval and that you will at once issue their respective charters :—

1875.

Alliston, No. 171, Alliston	Aug. 2
Penetangore, No. 172, Kincardine	Sept. 7
Emerald, No. 173, Dunville	Sept. 29
Dolman, No. 174, Ayr	Oct. 15
Lorne, No. 175, West Lorne	Oct. 28
Dauncey, No. 176, Widder	Nov. 20
Montana, No. 177, Wroxeter	Nov. 24
Wellington Square, No. 178, Wellington Square	Dec. 6

1876.

Madoc, No. 179, Madoc.....	Jan. 10
Owen Sound, No. 180, Owen Sound.....	Jan. 20
Ark, No. 181, Springfield.....	Jan. 27
Tecumseh, No. 182, Otterville.....	Feb. 10
Teeswater, No. 183, Teeswater.....	Feb. 23
Germania, No. 184, Waterloo.....	Feb. 28
Live Oak, No. 185, Greenville.....	Mar. 28
Dufferin, No. 186, Flesherton.....	Apr. 4
Cyprus, No. 187, Bradford.....	June 7
Cambridge, No. 188, Preston.....	May 31
Parry Sound, No. 189, Parry Sound.....	July 19

I received applications from Springfield and Gorrie, which I refused to grant. The first named place having a population of only 200 and being within two miles of Otterville, where there is at the present time a good Lodge and a population of some 800. In reference to Gorrie, it would draw its charter members principally from Wroxeter Lodge, which only has some 20 or 25 members, and I could not see that it would be for the good of the Order to build up one Lodge at the expense of another. I also received an application from Sault Ste. Marie and on account of the distance, and none of the applicants having been members (the most of them being M. U. O. F.) I thought best to defer action until this G. L. met, so that they might decide on the applications above recited.

During recess I have received the following questions, to which I have given the annexed answers :

Ques.—Does the G. L. consider beer an intoxicating drink ?

Ans.—Yes, decidedly so.

Ques.—Does an amendment become law as soon as passed ?

Ans.—Yes, unless the time is specified when it shall come into force.

Ques.—How is the P. W. and Ex. to be given ?

Ans.—P. W. at the outer door and Ex. at the inner door of Lodge Room, as you are instructed when initiated.

Ques.—How are Degree P. W.'s to be given ?

Ans.—Should be lettered, either half.

Ques.—Is it in the power of a subordinate Lodge to make the by-law declaring dues payable in advance, and if a brother fails to pay at such times can he be declared in arrears the second night of the quarter ?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—Can a brother be tried on a charge when absent ?

Ans.—No ; but can be expelled for contempt if notice is served to his last known address, but can on his return demand a fresh trial.

Ques.—Can the ante rooms be used for card playing after Lodge has adjourned ?

Ans.—Decidedly no ; the rooms of the Lodge shall not be used for any such purpose.

Ques.—Is a Scarlet member qualified to act as V. G. ?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—When an applicant has been balloted for and elected can a Lodge refuse to initiate him ?

Ans.—No ; but if any misrepresentation has been made for the purpose of procuring his admittance, a charge can be referred.

Ques.—Can the N. G. receive nominations after passing that order of business ?

Ans.—No.

Ques.—How many nights are required to qualify a V. G. for the office of N. G. ?

Ans.—Twenty-six.

Ques.—Is a P. G. eligible for election as N. G. ?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—Can you nominate and elect the same night to fill a vacancy ?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—Can an applicant with card be received in membership, he being without the A. P. P. W. ?

Ans.—No ; but can get an order from his Lodge so that the N. G. of the Lodge to which he applies can communicate it to him. If an expired card, he can be admitted as an ancient O. F.

Ques.—Can an applicant be admitted before he has resided in the place six months ?

Ans.—No.

Ques.—Can applicants be admitted as honorary members who are over fifty years of age, providing they do not require benefits ?

Ans.—No ; the laws forbid Lodges

having honorary members of any age.

Ques.—If a member who has paid a portion of his quarter's dues, and is taken sick before the expiration of the same quarter, is he entitled to benefits.

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—Is a Per. Secretary obliged to give receipts?

Ans.—Should do so in all cases when pass books are not used.

Ques.—If a brother in good standing is admitted while the Warden is distributing a ballot has such brother a right to vote on said ballot?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—Is the sitting N. G., who has previously served 26 nights as N. G., eligible as Representative?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—Can the D. D. G. M. be tried by the Lodge of which he is a member?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques.—Must the members chosen to try a D. D. G. M. be P. G.'s, or is any member eligible to serve?

Ans.—If there are not sufficient P. G.'s the next in rank are qualified to act.

I regret to report that I have had a very unpleasant and painful duty to perform in carrying out the instructions issued by the Grand Lodge to Durham Lodge No. 78 to the matter of appeal of Bro. Montgomery vs. Durham Lodge No. 78.

The mandate of this Grand Body upon the report of Committee on appeals being that Bro. Montgomery should be reinstated. On Sept. 1st, 1875, I received a series of resolutions from Durham Lodge No. 78, refusing to comply with the demands of the Grand Lodge. This being in direct violation of their obligation, and keeping in view mine when accepting the office of G. M., I had no alternative but to inform them that if they persisted I would be compelled to suspend them as a Lodge. I subsequently deprived them of their Charter and Seal, and notices to that effect were issued to the various Lodges of the jurisdiction. Having acquitted

myself of what I felt satisfied was simply my official duty, I received communications of no welcome nature threatening the G. L. as well as myself, with a lawsuit, and by way of intimidation that they had received legal advice in the premises. I felt annoyed to think that any member or members, should so far forget themselves, to a greater extent, by issuing two circulars to the Lodges the tenor of which invited the Lodges to open rebellion—quoting law to create sympathy for them, thereby losing sight of the fact of a proper channel through which to lay their complaint. The G. L. had acted in the matter, and though her action may have been unlawful, it is not in the province of one of her subordinates to openly refuse to obey her commands, and further to deputise Bro. Chant to lecture in their behalf throughout the jurisdiction, thus presenting only one side of the question at issue. Upon the merits of the case as presented to this G. L. you will have to legislate, and being fully persuaded of the cardinal virtues of our fellowship, Friendship, Love and Truth—that you will give them that fair play asked for in their unwarrantable and unbrotherly circular. I have no desire to infringe upon your patience but earnestly desire that you may accomplish as satisfactory a settlement as this much vexed question deserves, so that there may not be any future difference of opinion or diversity of procedure. I cannot permit the occasion to pass without thanking Bro. McMurty, D. D. G. M., for his zealous, prompt and impartial co-operation in this uncalled for trouble and refusal of compliance with their duty, unsurpassed by any Lodge, and perhaps equaled by none. I would therefore refer the Committee to the correspondence in this case.

I have further to report the result of the appeal to me of Bro. Munroe, N. G. elect, against the action of Alpha Lodge No. 154.

In the term commencing July 1875, they elected their officers in accordance with the law, viz: calling the

rolls and using paper ballots. When the night of installation arrived the usual questions were asked, when one of the Bros. objected to the installation of the N. G. elect on account of his being a hotel keeper. The Bro. who was appointed by D. G. M. McGaw to install, held that the objection was good and declared the election illegal and appointed a special night to re-elect officers, which election was proceeded with after which they were installed. I received an appeal from Bro. Munro who was elected to the office of N.G. on the regular night and on the receipt of it I sent the appeal to Bro. McGaw, D. G. M., requesting him to investigate the first election, and if he found it to be a legal one to order those who had been elected at the special meeting to vacate their seats and install those who had been previously elected, I afterwards received a communication from Bro. McGaw to the effect that he found the first election in every respect legal, and that he had followed out my instructions, based upon the law in the matter at issue. See correspondence.

BROTHERS :—I cannot permit this occasion to pass without testifying to the inflexible integrity of one of our officers, whose permanent absence in this session was caused by the fatal accident which occurred Thursday, May 18th. Father and son alike succumbed to the fell stroke. A Bro. whose acquaintance and company I enjoyed even the hour previous to the dire calamity which soon terminated his earthly career. He was one of many who proffered his hand to me with the earnest hope that I might be strong again. A few short minutes flit by, all is excitement, and I am compelled to witness the quivering and death-stricken form of our deceased Brother Irwin, G. Treas. He left me in the prime of life and full of hope in expectation of meeting in a few hours his loving family at home. His suffering soon terminated in the presence of sympathizing brothers and friends at 5.50 p.m.

In accordance with duty all that was mortal was attended by a deputation consisting of Bros. Wigmore, P. G. M., T. Partridge, P. G. M., E. R. Robinson, T. Brown, J. J. Dyas, W. T. Howell, P. G., T. Harding, J. W. Fletcher, P. G., to the station at Windsor, where they were met by the brethren of Frontier Lodge No. 45, who escorted his remains to his late home and sorrowing friends. In the meantime the son's injuries gave evidence of the near approach of death, his massive frame yielding on the evening of Saturday, Sunday being arranged for the funeral of both victims. The Brothers of Frontier Lodge left nothing undone to perfect arrangements. Our American brethren in Detroit, who had become cognizant of the death turned out in large numbers. The Encampment branch in their full uniform under a competent Marshall, and accompanied by their band, together with the Canadian Odd Fellows, of the various Lodges along the line, mourners and sympathizing friends, congregated to make up one of the largest funeral corteges ever seen in the town of Windsor, as a tribute to our departed brother. Every heart seemed to respond to the beat of the drum in the dead march to the tomb. Let us then make wise provision for the future and not wait until the opportunity is past.

Consequent on the death of Bro. Irwin; on the 6th June I called the executive of the Grand Lodge to meet in Hamilton to elect a treasurer to fill the vacancy, owing to continued ill health and the restriction placed on me by my physician I was unavoidably absent. The executive proceeded to election, the choice falling on Bro. Badenach, of Toronto, who has given bonds to the amount of six thousand dollars which were approved.

I received a circular from the office of the M. W. Grand Master, of the Grand Lodge of Nevada, requesting permission to appeal to the various Lodges in this jurisdiction in behalf of several Lodges in the said State, for relief on account of losses by fire,

which request I granted in accordance with the sublime principles of our Order.

I regret to inform you that Shannonville, No. 118, has forfeited their Charter and effects owing to the financial depression which has prevailed throughout the Province during the past year.

I cannot refrain from expressing the deep gratitude I feel for the prompt and continued assistance I have received from the D. D. G. M.'s in the discharge of the various duties that has been entrusted to them, some of them being very difficult and perplexing. I am pleased that my office gave me opportunities for keeping up a lively intercourse with them, and of cultivating that cordiality which tends so much toward inspiring our young and increasing organization. It is with pleasure I note the energy and indefatigable efforts of some of them, aiding by their action the increase of Lodges and membership of a very important and reliable nature. In exceptional cases there has been no manifestation of their labor, perhaps from a want of stimulus or that their field of labor was full, thereby rendering them so listless that they have not even reported to me anything which has occurred. I trust they will not long continue in this position, but at once put forth their efforts and give to the order such assistance as they are capable of. With a sincere desire for the individual health and prosperity of each D. D. G. M. I thank them for their co-operation.

I have pleasure in reporting the rapid strides of our order notwithstanding the general depression. One of the most noted comes to me from C. V. Stevens, D. D. G. M., who reported the institution of Penetangore Lodge No. 172 on the 7th September, 1875, assisted by brothers from a distance, this Lodge being the successful of practical labor and energy formed under the most favorable circumstances, rendered conspicuously so by 31 being initiated and one admitted by card. The receipts being \$387.60, thus justifying the anticipations of

those who labored for its inception. I am pleased to report that upon authority given by me to C. B. Stephens, D. D. G. M., he laid the corner stone of the Town Hall of Port Elgin on the 17th August, using the form laid down in White's Digest. The ceremony being imposing and well conducted, meeting the wishes of those interested and the approbation of the large concourse of people in attendance. The zeal and energy of this officer has been fully recognized. Nothing can be more satisfactory than to note the continued prosperity of the Lodges and the number of new halls being dedicated to the trifold uses of Odd Fellowship, thus giving evidence of the full recognition of our title. I have been prevented from participating in these demonstrations, but am fully satisfied with the efficiency of the work and that success will attend all their efforts!

I am in receipt of printed invitation from the joint committee of arrangement of the Centennial celebration on Wednesday, September 20, prior to the meeting of the G. L. of T. S.

Full particulars are laid down in the communication. I have left the matter in abeyance for the consideration and action of this Grand Body, and would recommend a committee be appointed to consider and report.

I notice we have in connection with our order mutual aid associations, which are in a flourishing condition, one situated in the city of Kingston in the east, the other in the city of Hamilton in the west. The operations of these associations thus far have been beneficial, paying promptly on the death of a brother a goodly sum to his widow or family at a time when most needed, and I have no doubt they in many instances relieve society of a great burden. I have pleasure in recommending these associations to the order generally. Hoping this report will meet your approval and the business of the Lodge may be transacted to the satisfaction of all.

Yours fraternally,

H. E. BUTTREY, G. M.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Ontario, I. O. O. F.:—

1. In presenting this my Tenth Annual Report of the transactions of my office and of the general working of the Order in Ontario for the past year, I do so with mingled feelings of pleasure and sadness.—Pleased that the life of our Grand Master, which was so seriously threatened, has been preserved, and that he is with us today to guide and direct our counsels; that our labours have been so abundantly blessed; that so many of us have been spared to meet again, to grasp each other's hand, to renew old associations; to recount the pleasant memories recalled by our meeting, and to review the experience of the past and legislate for the future;—and of sadness in missing from his accustomed place our late Grand Treasurer, Bro. George Irwin, who, while at his post of duty, was suddenly called from time to eternity. This sad and sudden event forcibly reminds us of the uncertainty of life, too short at the longest, to spend a moment in useless strife or unpleasant thoughts; may we rather improve the hours as they go, at all times striving to promote harmony and prosperity in our border, and to inculcate that beautiful doctrine of "peace and good will" among all men.

2. The various duties assigned to me by resolution, as well as the usual routine of office, have been attended to, and the correspondence of the year herewith submitted.

3. Immediately after the close of the last session I received tenders for printing the Journal. That of Bro. Josh. T. Johnson, of the *Brant Union*, being the lowest, and otherwise satisfactory, I accepted. Believing that the best interests of this Grand Lodge would be served by placing upon the desk of each representative a copy of the Journal of the previous year I had (200) two hundred extra copies printed, making (1,200) twelve hun-

dred copies of the Journal, as authorized by the resolution ordering the Journal of Proceedings to be printed.

4. The Journals of the several State Grand Lodges have been received and the compliment acknowledged by sending a Journal of our last session to each.

5. A very great many Lodges and members are asking for copies of our proceedings for back years. I find that there are but a very few copies of our complete history in existence, and should they get lost or destroyed it would be impossible to obtain the information therein contained from any other source. I believe the interests of the Order would warrant a reprint of the whole work, and am satisfied that, when printed, enough copies would be sold to reimburse the outlay. The matter certainly merits your consideration.

6. A number of lines of supplies, procured by order of this Grand Lodge two years since have been sold out. They were found to be very convenient not only in giving new Lodges a uniform, complete outfit, but cheaper for old Lodges. I would recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to have printed a sufficient number of such supplies to last the coming year.

7. A copy of the report of the Committee on Appeals, as adopted by this Grand Lodge, was sent to Durham Lodge, No. 78, and the Lodge requested to govern itself accordingly. A reply was received, refusing to obey the instructions of the Grand Lodge, which was at once referred to the M. W. Grand Master.

8. A copy of the same Committee's report, so far as it related to the appeal of James Doherty *vs.* Bissell Lodge No. 51, was sent to that Lodge, and the papers required have been received, and will be laid before the Committee on Appeals.

9. Also sent Gore Lodge No. 34 a copy of the report of the Committee on Appeals in the matter of James Smith, P. G. M. *vs.* Gore Lodge, and requested them to be governed thereby.

10. An appeal of Hugh Walker *vs.* Belleville Lodge, also an appeal of Bro. D. J. Diamond *vs.* the same Lodge, with papers, are herewith presented; also an appeal from Bro. George Schofield *vs.* Metropolitan Degree Lodge, with papers.

11. The duplicate copy of constitution and by-laws of the Lodges named in the report of the Committee on Laws of Subordinates, together with a copy of said report so far as it related to the individual Lodge, was sent, and the Lodges requested to make the required alterations and amendments.

12. A number of Lodges have sent in their by-laws for approval, each of which has been sent to the chairman of the Committee on Laws of Subordinates, and have been reported upon. As these reports were received, the result has been forwarded to the Lodges interested, in order that they might make the corrections ordered, and, if deemed advisable, get them printed.

13. Commissions were duly sent to the several District Deputy Grand Masters, together with a calendar, requesting them to be zealous in their duties. I have received letters from a number of Lodges complaining that they have not during the year received an official visit, and in some cases that the term P. W. had not been sent them for weeks after the first meeting in the term. Neglects of this kind may in some instances cause Lodges a great deal of trouble. It is earnestly to be hoped that in selecting a District Deputy Grand Master a Brother will be chosen who will faithfully discharge the duties, even though he has to do it at some inconvenience and sacrifice of personal comforts.

14. Charters were duly sent to the new Lodges as authorized, and in most cases the warrants have been returned and filed.

15. A copy of the resolution passed upon the death of our late Brother, Dr. John Lawrence, was sent to his widow, and its receipt acknowledged.

16. The resolutions of thanks to the Railroad and Steamboat Com-

panies, passed at the late session, were duly forwarded, and the several Companies have granted similar reduced fares for the present session.

17. Received from Bro. S. F. Burdett, Grand Secretary, of Kansas, a draft on New York for \$76.12 gold, being 25 per cent. of amount contributed by the Lodges in this jurisdiction to their relief, together with a number of pamphlets giving a full account of the receipts and disbursements of the Relief Committee, one copy of which I sent to each subscribing Lodge, and asked what disposition they would make of their amount. In most cases the sum was placed to the credit of the Lodge, though in some instances it was returned to the Lodge at once.

18. Received from the Representatives to the Grand Lodge of the United States, instructions that upon the payment of a royalty of ten (10) cents per copy of the Digest of Grand Lodge of Ontario we could go on and sell the same without mutilation. I issued a circular to the Subordinates, urging the necessity of Lodges and members being provided with so useful a work. Wrote the Grand Secretary, G. L. U. S., Bro. Bro. J. L. Ridgely, to know if we should pay the royalty as the work was sold. Received in reply the answer that it was the intention of the Grand Lodge of the United States that we should pay for all the copies in our hands at once. Upon inquiry, I find that we can have the objectionable features (copyrighted forms) removed and the book rebound at a considerable less cost than the ten cents per copy. In doing so we would be enabled to add our new constitution, &c., *rs* amended at the present session, and the Digest complete to date, making the work more valuable and enhancing its sale. I would recommend that such a course be adopted.

19. I received from Mr. W. H. Fraser, Secretary of the Centennial Commission, a letter asking for photographs, sketches, &c., of halls belonging to Lodges of our Order in Ontario. Referred same to the Grand Master,

and by his direction issued a circular, asking Lodges to comply with the request. Only some half-dozen Lodges complied, and but three of those received were framed. The large photograph sent by Eastern Star Lodge did not arrive until after the Commission had closed, else those received, though few, would have been sent.

20. Shannonville Lodge No. 118 not having reported for some time, I requested Bro. McFee, D. D. G. M. to proceed to Shannonville and ascertain the cause and if possible to get them going again. He reported that owing to the fact that the village was so small, and many of the members having removed from the place there were not a sufficient number of resident members to successfully work the Lodge, and suggested that the best course to adopt was to close the Lodge, saying that their furniture if sold would not quite cover their liabilities. By authority of the Grand Master, I entrusted Bro. A. McFee to take possession of their Charter, books, &c., and forward the same to me, allowing them to retain their furniture to meet existing liabilities. A schedule of effects received is on file.

21. According to our constitution, sec. 62, Lodges indebted to the Grand Lodge are not entitled to a vote. All the Lodges named in Schedule A are thus disfranchised, and though I have made every effort to secure the prompt receipt of returns, cash, &c., I have, in the instances named, failed. The fault lies principally in the carelessness of Secretaries in making out their returns. Some of the returns are received without signature of officers, without the name of the Lodge or the location from which it comes, without seal, in fact with as little information as can well be got into it. It appears to me that what is worth doing is worth doing well, and a very little trouble on the part of Secretaries would save your Grand Secretary the very unpleasant duty of referring to these delinquencies. The Statistical Table is not complete at this writing, owing to the absence of the returns

from Oriental Lodge No. 163, Hillsburgh Lodge No. 167 and Cypress Lodge No. 187. I see of no way to cure the evil better than to refuse mileage and per diem to Representatives from Lodges disfranchised according to the section above quoted.

22. Received from Col. W. J. DeGress, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Chili, a copy of the resolutions passed by that body, extending fraternal greetings to this Grand Lodge, &c., &c.

23. The Special Committee on Constitutions have completed their work, the same was printed, as per resolution adopted at the last session, and a copy sent to each Lodge, with a circular requesting that all amendments to the same be submitted by Lodges at an early date. The proposed Constitution and the amendments thereto will be duly presented by the Committee for your consideration.

24. Immediately on receipt of the December returns, I compiled and issued an abstract of information for the Lodges, and sent, also, a copy to the leading papers of the Dominion. I find that the same was copied into very many papers, thus making the information general. This has entailed a trifling expence as well as considerable trouble, but I believe has fully repaid the outlay.

25. A number of Lodges have made enquiry in view of forming Rebekah Degree Lodges. I have invariably replied that Legislation was in progress, looking to the formation and government of such Lodges, and as the Committee on Constitution has such legislation to present it would be well very carefully to consider the matter, taking into consideration the experience of other jurisdictions regarding this Degree. In States where it at one time most flourished we find most discouraging reports. If these Rebekah Lodges are, as shown, so short lived, is it well to encourage them further? Would it not be better to make such legislation as would allow Lodges to meet specially once each month to confer the degree and

spend the remainder of the evening in social intercourse? The importance of the subject seems to warrant me in giving one extract which fully meets my views :

"After six years' trial of the experiment (Rebekah Degree Lodges) those who were its most earnest advocates are reluctantly forced to confess that the attempt to sustain Lodges of this Degree under distinct Charters has thus far proved a lamentable failure. Petitions, memorials and resolutions are presented at every session of the G. L. U. S., asking for additional legislation, in the hope of curing existing defects. But there are inherent difficulties which, to those who have most carefully considered the subject, seems to be beyond the reach of legislation. It is by no means certain that any good has been accomplished through the instrumentality of these Lodges which might not have been as easily effected without their aid; while serious injury to the Order must in many cases result from their continued existence * * * * *

"But is it well to encourage the organization of bodies that are almost inevitably doomed to a brief and unprofitable career?"—*N. C. Nason, Grand Sec'y of Illinois.*

26. The office of R. W. Grand Treasurer becoming vacant by the death of our lamented Brother, George Irwin, which sad event occurred near London, by a railway accident, and which doubtless will be fully reported by the M.W. Grand Master, I was directed by that officer to call a special meeting of the Executive officers to elect a successor in accordance with sec. 28 Constitution of Grand Lodge. In pursuance of said call the Executive officers (excepting the Most Worthy Grand Master, who was prevented by illness) met in the city of Hamilton, and there duly elected Bro. Badenach, P. G., of Laurel Lodge No. 110, to fill the vacancy. The minutes of said meeting are on file. It was hoped that the account of our late Grand Treasurer would have been

closed and transferred without the expense of a trip to Windsor; but on corresponding with Bro. Henry McAfee, P. G. M., who was acting on behalf of the family of our deceased Brother Irwin, difficulties arose which it seemed could only be satisfactorily explained by a personal visit and audit of accounts; therefore, by direction of the Grand Master, I proceeded to Windsor, and soon had the business settled, and had the amount at the credit of our late Grand Treasurer in the Merchants' Bank transferred to our present Grand Treasurer, said amount being \$3,039.52, in which was included accrued interest \$84.83, leaving \$2,954.69 of capital. My books called for \$2,990.96. There thus appears a discrepancy of \$36.27 in favour of this Grand Lodge. Being duly authorized I proceeded to Toronto, and received from Bro. Badenach his bonds duly executed, and forwarded the same to the Grand Master.

27. In response to the appeal of the Grand Lodge of Nevada for aid, the sum of \$96, gold, was contributed by the below-named Lodges. The amount was duly forwarded to Bro. F. V. Drake, Grand Secretary of Nevada, and the receipt thereof duly acknowledged:—

Chatham.....	Lodge No. 29.....	\$ 5 00
Otter.....	" " 50.....	5 00
Kingston.....	" " 59.....	15 00
Friendship.....	" " 65.....	4 00
Warriner.....	" " 75.....	5 00
St. Thomas.....	" " 76.....	5 00
Nipissing.....	" " 79.....	5 00
Amity.....	" " 80.....	5 00
Belleville.....	" " 81.....	5 00
Grand River.....	" " 91.....	5 00
St. Clair.....	" " 106.....	5 00
Saxon.....	" " 121.....	10 00
Dresden.....	" " 124.....	2 00
Peaceful Dove.....	" " 135.....	5 00
Aurora.....	" " 148.....	10 00
Romeo.....	" " 164.....	5 00
		\$96 00

28. The following is an abstract from the Cash Book, and shows the financial transactions of the past year, a complete statement of which, together with a balance Sheet, and an abstract from the Returns will be found on another page:—

Balance on hand Aug 1st, 1875.....	\$1640 82
Received for Charter Fees.....	\$ 580 00
Supplies.....	1217 43
Capita Tax.....	5384 77
Kansas Fund.....	76 12
Interest.....	137 52

Returned on Expense account....	11 84	7407 68
		\$12048 50
Paid Expenses.....	\$5084 96	
" Supplies.....	663 98	
" Postage and Stationery.....	166 39	
" Huron Lodge, Kansas relief returned.....	2 50	\$5018 83
Now in Treasurer's hands.....		\$612 67

The discrepancy between the above balance and the balance shown by the Grand Treasurer is accounted for by the amount due from our late Grand Treasurer.

29. I have received circulars from the Grand Lodge of the United States and from the Joint Committee of the Order in Pennsylvania, inviting this Grand Lodge to participate in the general Centennial celebration of the Order in Philadelphia, on the 20th September next.

30. After closing this report, a letter was received from Bro. Thomas B. Blyth, P. G. of Oriental Lodge No. 163, Cornwall, saying that their Lodge room, with entire contents, was destroyed by fire on the 25th inst. Their returns, which had been neglected, were burned. Mystic Lodge, No. 128, Kilbride and Rond Eau Lodge No. 40 have also suffered severely by fire. These fires have in some instances necessitated the Lodges' appealing to sister Lodges for aid, when had they taken the precaution of insuring their effects, such a necessity would have been averted.

31. Nine years ago to-day I presented my first annual report to this Grand Lodge, then composed of twenty-three members, in this Hall then in the thriving *Town* of St. Catharines. That report was considered very encouraging, showing fourteen Lodges, with one thousand and fifty members, and our annual income of \$1,094 24, having paid for relief \$1,382. What food for the reflective mind the change a few short years has wrought! To-day we meet in the proud *City* of St. Catharines, and it is my great pleasure to report one hundred and fifty-six Lodges having a membership of 11,322, and our annual receipts \$98,214 07, having paid for

relief \$19,403 20; the present session being composed of two hundred and twenty members, representing nearly every county in our fair Province, a record of prosperity which speaks a volume for the real merit of Odd Fellowship, for surely no society that was not really worthy could possibly secure such a hearty public endorsement. Very many of the able workers of then are still the zealous workers of now, though some have been called home. Let us then be inspired by the noble history of the past and prove true in our devotion to the principles expressed in our motto. Never falter in well doing. Let us prove true to our obligation, our duty and our sense of right, knowing that in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Let us display the same zeal in the future as in the past, and we will have a record for the next decade that shall far excel its predecessor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. KING,

GRAND SECRETARY.

SUMMARY FROM THE SEMI-ANNUAL RETURNS, YEAR ENDING 31ST JULY, 1876.	
Number of Lodges.....	156
" Initiated.....	2,269
" Admitted by Card.....	266
" Reinstated.....	60
Total.....	2,600
" Withdrawn by card.....	386
" Suspended.....	980
" Expelled.....	22
" Died.....	73
Increase.....	1,139
Membership per last Report.....	10,183
Present total Membership.....	11,322
RELIEF.	
Number of Brothers relieved.....	892
" Widowed families re- lieved.....	180
Paid for Sick Benefits.....	\$11,556 77
" to Widows and Orphans.....	3,688 55
" for Burying the Dead.....	2,481 08
" for Charity.....	1,676 80
Total Relief.....	\$19,403 20
Total number of weeks sickness for which Benevits were paid.....	4,938 47
Total number of Brothers to whom paid.....	998
Total amount paid.....	11,556 77
Average to each Brother.....	11 58
" amount per week.....	2 34
Of the total Membership, 1 in each 11 received relief.....	
Average mortality, 1 in 155 09.....	
Receipts of Subordinate Lodges.....	\$92 214 07
Paid for current expenses by Sub- ordinate Lodges.....	44,987 87
An average of over 45.8 per cent. for expenses, and 19.75 per cent.	

for relief.....
 Thirty-four per cent. of receipts
 added to capital Lodges.....
 Widow and Orphans Fund of
 Lodges.....
 General Fund of Lodges.....

101 517 69
 285,569 99

The officers for the year are as follows:

- G.M.—J. Ham Perry, Whitby.
- D.G.M.—Dr. Cl. T. Campbell, Stratford.
- G.W.—Dr. Fife Fowler, Kingston.
- G.S. J.B. King, Brantford.
- G.T.—W. Badenach, Toronto.
- G. Rep.—Dr. Geo. Wright, Toronto.
- G. Rep.—Jas. Woodyatt, Brantford.
- G. Mar.—J. Campbell, Seaforth.
- G. Con.—J.E. Durham, Petrolia.
- G. Guar.—A. McFee, Belleville.
- G. Chap.—R.W. Bell, Carleton Place.

The following D.D.G.M.'s were appointed by the G.M.:

- No. 1—J.T. White, Brockville.
- No. 2—A. L. Morden, Napanee.
- No. 3—Thos. G. Carson, Picton.

- No. 4—W.H. Scott, M.P.P., Peterboro'.
- No. 5—W.H. Scott, M.P.P., Peterboro'.
- No. 6—James Brown, Oshawa.
- No. 7—W.B. Russell, Uxbridge.
- No. 8—Henry Wilson, Markham.
- No. 9—John Powell, Barrie.
- No. 10—A.S. Gillet, Milton.
- No. 11—C.B. Stevens, Walkerton.
- No. 12—A.B. St. John, Walkerton.
- No. 13—J. Campbell, Seaforth.
- No. 14—Richard Noakes, Harriston.
- No. 15—R. Walkerton, Galt.
- No. 16—W.J. Hodgson, Hamilton.
- No. 17—D. McConachie, Welland.
- No. 18—W.T. Cripps, St. Thomas.
- No. 19—Jas. Sutherland, Woodstock.
- No. 20—W.F. Howell, London.
- No. 21—E.E. Chipman, Park Hill.
- No. 22—H. McAfee, Walkerville.
- No. 23—James Cleeve, Chatham.
- No. 24—Henry Neal, Sarnia.
- No. 25—Wm. Jaffrey, Berlin.
- No. 26—J.R. Proctor, Belleville.
- No. 27—John Donogh, Toronto.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

OWING to press of matter, on account of Grand Encampment and Grand Lodge Reports, we are obliged to leave over some communicated articles on Dues and Benefits. They will appear in our next issue; also a full report of the reception of the Grand Lodge, by the members of the Niagara District.

SINCE the removal of the JOURNAL to Kingston it has not been issued with that regularity which we desire. This has been caused by va-

rious reasons, among which is the removal of the office of publication and the addition of steam presses for the proper publication of the JOURNAL. We hope to have the December number issued on time, after which there will be no cause to complain of the non-arrival of the JOURNAL. We hope our friends will bear with us, and all of them accept this notice as a reason for the past irregularity and as a token of future promptness and usefulness.

ON OUR TABLE.

THE New Age.
 The Heart and Hand.
 The Hebrew Leader.
 The Odd-Fellows' Banner.

The Hertz und Hand.
 The Eastern Chronicle.
 The Guardian.
 The Pen and Plow.

ELECTIVE OFFICERS.

LODGES.

St Thomas, 76, St Thomas.—A Murray, N G; O C Jarvis, V G; L Ferguson, R S; A J Clarke, P S; W F Forbes, Treas.

Oxford, 77, Ingersoll.—Herman Lewis, N G; W D Leflar, V G; John Andrews, R S; J D Henderson, P S; Angus Matheson, Treas.

Nippissing, 79, Uxbridge.—A W Smith, N G; Geo Thompson, V G; W B Russell, R S; J H Bustin, P S; James E Walks, Treas.

Amity, 80, Prescott.—John Robinson, N G; Samuel Dowsley, V G; William Winters, R S; Jas Hibbard, P S; Andrew Buckham, Treas.

Belleville, 81, Belleville.—W H Scholes, N G; J H Post, V G; William Davis, R S; C S Gilbert, P S; Jas Ellis, Treas.

Beaver, 82, Ruthven.—Alfred Fox, N G; Henry Whaley, V G; Windsor Russell, R S; Geo Lane, P S; Alfred Pulfoad, Treas.

Clinton, 83, Clinton.—Wm Foster, N G; Robert Wiseman, V G; Jno Callander, R S; Wm J Hembell, P S; D R Menzies, Treas.

Walkerton, 84, Walkerton.—Joseph Seardel, N G; William Healy, V G; Arthur Humphries, R S; Thos Strange, P S; James Fantair, Treas.

Constellation, 85, Burgessville.—L Burgess, N G; W J Moore, V G; E H Snyder, R S; J Cornwell, P S; J E Watson, Treas.

Napanee, 86, Napanee.—E S Lapum, N G; Guy C Baker, V G; John Graham, R S; Geo M Woods, P S; R J Wale, Treas.

Empire, 87, St. Catharines.—John Hanley, N G; W L Copeland, V G; J R Gibson, R S; Robert Gmley, P S; Theodore Parnell, Treas.

Olive Branch, 88, Woodstock.—George Clarkson, N G; Asa Hall, V G; Henry W Hill, R S; Wm Sharman, P S; A W Francis, Treas.

TO BE CONTINUED.

LODGE CARDS.

ONTARIO.

CATARAQUI LODGE, No. 10, KINGSTON, meets every Tuesday evening in the Odd-Fellows' Hall, corner Brock and Wellington streets. W. T. C. Bethel, N. G.; J. Jarvis, M. D., V. G.; J. B. Melver, R. S.

DOMINION LODGE, No. 48, LONDON, meets every Wednesday evening. Geo. Wrigley, N. G.; C. F. Ayers, V. G.; Geo. Heron, R. S.

MAPLE LEAF LODGE, No. 57, ORANGEVILLE, meets every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Wm. Still, N. G.; Jas. Clow, V. G.; T. Driver, R. S. Travelling brothers invited to attend.

LUCAN LODGE, No. 70, LUCAN, meets every Tuesday evening. Jas. P. Atkinson, N. G.; Wm. Shoebottom, V. G.; C. F. Pashley, R. S.

WARRINER LODGE, No. 75, PORT PERRY, meets every Monday night at their hall, Bigelow's Block. A cordial welcome extended to all visiting Brothers. D. Crawford, N. G.; E. Worthington, V. G.; R. Breathwaite, R. S.

RELIANCE LODGE, No. 89, GUELPH, meets every Monday evening. John Colson, N. G.; Wm. Parker, V. G.; Wm. Bourne, R. S.

GRAND RIVER LODGE, No. 91, PARIS, meets every Thursday evening. Jas. T. Patton, N. G.; T. Armstrong, V. G.; Wm. Fraser, R. S.

NITH LODGE, No. 96, NEW HAMBURG, meets every Thursday evening. Otta Fressprich, N. G.; R. Beger, V. G.; Bernard Tauber, R. S.

ST. THOMAS LODGE, No. 76, meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 in the Odd-Fellows' Hall, Victoria Block, Talbot street, St. Thomas. Visiting Brothers cordially invited. A. Murray, N. G.; O. C. Jarvis, V. G.; L. Ferguson, R. S.

GOLDEN STAR LODGE, No. 101, BRAMPTON, meets every Thursday evening. W. C. Bryant, N. G.; J. H. Beck, V. G.; J. J. Manning, R. S.

OLIVE BRANCH LODGE, No. 58, WOODSTOCK, meets at Odd-Fellows' Hall, west of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, every Monday evening. G. Clarkson, N. G.; A. Hall, V. G.; H. W. Hill, R. S.

HARMONY LODGE, No. 115, BRANTFORD. The officers are: J. W. Tutt, N. G.; S. Tomlinson, V. G.; John Dodimead, R. S.

ROMEO LODGE, No. 164, STRATFORD, meets every Tuesday evening. C. W. Young, G. A. G. U. Coulton, R. S. Visiting Brothers cordially invited.

DOLMAN LODGE, No. 174, AYR, meets every Wednesday evening. Jacob Shoemaker, N. G.; W. D. Watson, V. G.; T. M. Anderson, R. S.

ORIENTAL LODGE, No. 163, CORNWALL, meets every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, in the Odd-Fellows' Hall, Commercial Block. J. M. Ferguson, N. G.; Geo. H. Weagant, V. G.; A. Robin, R. S.

QUEBEC.

MOUNT ROYAL LODGE, No. 1, MONTREAL, meets every Monday evening at 8 o'clock, in the Odd-Fellows' Hall, 295 Notre Dame street, near the French Cathedral. Visiting Brothers cordially invited.