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**The Craftsman,**

AND BRITISH AMERICAN MASONIC RECORD.

"THE QUEEN AND THE CRAFT."

HAMILTON,.....JULY 15, 1868.

**MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.**

The meeting of Grand Lodge last week was very largely attended, and was, in all respects, a most interesting and important Communication. We are sure the readers of the CRAFTSMAN will feel that we have done right in delaying, for a couple of days, the publication of this number, in order that they may, at the earliest moment, be placed in possession of the proceedings of Grand Lodge

Many things occurred which are worthy of comment, and which will form the subject of articles in future numbers. In the meantime, we content ourselves with congratulating the Freemasons of Canada upon the hearty good-feeling, and unmistakable spirit of unity, which animated the representatives from every part of the jurisdiction.

In the election of Grand Master, the Grand Lodge have recognized the merits of one of the most hard-working, painstaking and zealous Freemasons in the jurisdiction. M. W. Bro. Stevenson has filled, for many years, the Deputy Chair; and as *ex-officio* President of the Board of General Purposes, a position of great responsibility, and requiring much labor, has earned the respect of all whose lot it has been to be in any way associated with him. He has fairly earned the exalted rank now conferred upon him; and the almost unanimous vote of Grand Lodge—648 out of 700 votes—by which he has been placed in the Grand East, is a substantial compliment of which any man may be justly proud.

**MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.**

REPORTED SPECIALLY FOR THE CRAFTSMAN.

LONDON, 8th July, 1868.

The Thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada commenced its sittings at the City Hall, London, to-day, and was opened in AMPLE FORM at three o'clock, p. m.

**PRESENT.**

- M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Grand Master,  
On the Throne.
- R. W. Bro. Alex. A. Stevenson, D. G. M.
- " " Francis Westlake, D. G. M., London.
- " " James Seymour, " Hamilton.
- " " William McCabe, " Ontario.
- " " John H. Graham, " E. Townships.
- " " I. H. Stearns, Grand Senior Warden.
- " " John Turquand, " Junior "
- " " Rev. V. Clementi, Grand Chaplain.
- " " Henry Groff, " Treasurer.
- " " Alex. Murray, " Registrar.
- " " Thos. B. Harris, " Secretary.

- V. W. Bro. John Clarke, Grand Senior Deacon.
- " " James Bowman, " Junior "
- " " M. H. Speucer, " Supt. Works.
- " " William Edgar, " Dir. of Ceremonies.
- " " J. W. Lethbridge, " Sword Bearer.
- " " H. Waterman, Asst. " Organist.
- " " James Horon, " Tyler.
- " " Peter G. Brown, } " Stewards.
- " " Joseph Hursell, }

And about three hundred Representatives.

The Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Lodge were read by the Grand Secretary.

The minutes of the last Grand Communication, and of two special Communications of Grand Lodge, were taken as read and confirmed.

**DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.**

The Grand Master announced to the Grand Lodge, that there was present on this occasion a distinguished brother from England, a member of the mother Grand Lodge, who, in the early history of this body, had done it good service, by advocating its claims to recognition. He had great pleasure in introducing Brother Brackstone Baker, P. G. Steward of the Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. Baker was received with the Grand Honors, and suitably acknowledged the cordial manner of his reception.

R. W. Bro. Kivas Tully gave notice, that he will, to-morrow, move that in consideration of the services rendered to this Grand Lodge in its infancy, the rank of Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Canada, be conferred upon R. W. Bro. Brackstone Baker, Past Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of England.

R. W. Bro. Sir John A. Macdonald, K. C. B., Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, was formally introduced, and took his seat upon the platform.

**GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.**

The M. W. the Grand Master then read the following address.—

BRETHREN,—It is with no ordinary feeling that I again greet you at our Annual Communication; and although we miss some of those "old familiar faces" whose presence always brought pleasure to our hearts, and whose warm brotherly grasp ever lives in our remembrance, still we would acknowledge, with lively gratitude, the many blessings vouchsafed to us; and we would also humbly and heartily thank our Heavenly Father that He has again permitted us to take sweet counsel together as to the best means of advancing the great work for which we are associated. May He bless our present Convocation, and strengthen and encourage us in all our efforts to promote His glory, and enable us to foster and to cultivate that most prominent tenet of our Order—Brotherly Love.

**OBITUARY NOTICE.**

Since our last annual meeting, Our Right Worshipful and loving Brethren, the Hon. Robert Spence and Captain E. A. Walker, have been removed from their sphere of labour, struck down, as it were, in the prime of their useful life by the decree of Him who doeth all things well, whilst we, the children of His creation and the humble dependents on His bounty, can only bow with reverent submission to His most holy will. We have also to deplore the removal of our Right Worshipful Brother, the Rev. Dr. F. J. Lundy, Past Grand Chaplain, and one of those

whose valuable services in the early history of this Grand Lodge will be found recorded in our printed proceedings. Our esteemed and reverend brother was suddenly summoned from the scene of his earthly labours to his great account in the month of March last, while engaged in the public celebration of divine worship; may we not, my brethren, confidently hope that these services so suddenly arrested on earth are now continued in heaven. But, though we thus mourn for the departed, we mourn not as those without hope, for we rejoice in the belief that we shall again meet them in the Grand Lodge above, there to partake in peaceful re-union with the souls of all our departed brethren who have kept the faith—the mysterious and unspeakable happiness of thine everlasting kingdom. Brother Spence as Chairman of the Masonic Asylum Trust, devoted much of his time and talents towards the successful carrying out of that truly masonic scheme, and it will not be easy to supply his place. Brother Walker occupied at his death the important position of District Deputy G. M., of the Toronto District, and to my knowledge had visited many of his lodges previous to his untimely decease; but we shall not have the pleasure of listening to his report, or to the valuable suggestions which he would doubtless have submitted for our consideration at this meeting.

## PUBLIC EVENTS

Among the public events of the past year, which, although not especially connected with us as Masons, still interest us as fellow subjects, there are two, to which I will very briefly refer.—I allude to the foul murder of the Hon. D'Arcy McGee at Ottawa in the month of April last, and the dastardly attempt to murder His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, while paying an official visit at Sidney, Australia. The occurrence of these events sent a thrill of horror through the civilized world. McGee, the able statesman, the eloquent speaker and the talented writer, had but returned from the House of Commons, when he was most foully murdered by the pistol of the assassin—without warning, without a moment for preparation, sent into the presence of his maker and his judge: "unhoused, unannealed."

The attempt to murder the son of our beloved sovereign most fortunately failed, and although he was severely wounded, we have reason to thank God that his life was saved, and that our Queen and Nation has not to mourn his untimely death. It has been alleged that the murder of the one, and the attempt on the life of the other, emanated from the same vile source, and formed but part of a plan of assassination, which we are told may yet be more fully developed. Our peaceful country has again been threatened with invasion, and the brave and loyal youth of the Dominion have once more been called out for preparation to resist any piratical attempt that may be made against us. Aided by the soldiers and sailors of the empire, our brave volunteers and the militia of the country will promptly rally around the old flag, and will speedily crush down all who dare attempt to place a hostile foot upon our free soil.

In consequence of Brother Bull's inability to undertake the superintendence of the Montreal District, I requested the Grand Registrar to assume the duties of that position, and I have no doubt, that during the present session, we shall receive, from that able and energetic brother, an interesting

account of the state of Masonry in that part of our jurisdiction.

## GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF ENGLAND.

I have much pleasure in announcing that the Most Worshipful the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England, has been pleased to appoint our distinguished and eminent brother, the Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, K. C. B., D. C. L., Minister of Justice for Canada, &c., as the representative of that august body near this Grand Lodge. In selecting one so well known and so universally popular, as the leading statesman of the Dominion, the Most Worshipful Grand Master has not only secured the services of a most talented brother, but, at the same time, he has also made an appointment which will be received with unmixed satisfaction by every member of this Grand Lodge. I have great pleasure in recommending that the rank of a Past Grand Senior Warden of Canada be conferred upon Brother Sir John A. Macdonald.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

Formal information has been received of the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge for the Province of New Brunswick, and I was honored by an invitation to visit them at St. John's, for the purpose of installing their first Grand Master, a request with which I would gladly have complied, as I entertained no doubts as to their right to Masonic self-government, had I not felt that it would have been improper for me, as your Grand Master, thus to have anticipated the action of this Grand Lodge, with reference to their recognition as a supreme Masonic authority. The official documents in connection with this matter will be laid before you, and I have no doubt that the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick will receive a prompt and cordial recognition at your hands.

## SPECIAL GRAND LODGES.

I have also to announce that during the recess, two special meetings of Grand Lodge were called for the purpose of assisting in the ceremony of laying the corner stone of two churches, one at Port Dalhousie, in the Province of Ontario, the other at Dundee, in the Province of Quebec. As my other duties prevented my personal attendance, I was most ably represented at the former ceremony by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, and at the latter by our Right Worshipful Brother A. A. Stevenson. To both of these distinguished brethren my thanks are due for the very efficient and satisfactory manner in which they discharged the important duties imposed upon them.

## TESTIMONIALS.

I had much pleasure in carrying out the expressed wishes of the Grand Lodge with reference to the Testimonials ordered to be presented to Our Most Worshipful Brother Thomas Douglas Harington, Past Grand Master of Canada; and to our worthy and efficient Grand Secretary, the Right Worshipful Thomas Bird Harris, Esq. The correspondence between Bro. Harington and myself, on this subject, will be laid before you, and also an account of the very pleasing incidents which took place at the presentation to Bro. Harris, in presence of a large assemblage of the fraternity at Hamilton. While on this subject, I may venture to suggest for your consideration, that as yet, no recognition has been made

of the valuable services rendered to Masonry by Our Most Worshipful and faithful Brother, Wm. B. Simpson, Esq., during the two years he so ably administered the affairs of this Grand Lodge as your Grand Master.

A GENERAL GRAND LODGE FOR CANADA.

The consideration of the subject of a General Grand Lodge for our New Dominion has not been overlooked by me during the past year, although no special action has been taken in the matter. The solution of this great question must be left to time, and to the calm consideration of the Craft generally. Any exhibition on our part, of too great a desire to secure this result, would, in all probability, only delay, if it did not entirely defeat, that union of the whole Masonic body in the British dependencies here, which so many are so anxious to secure.

NEW LODGES

I have also to announce for your information that, during the past year I have granted dispensations for the opening of 12 new Lodges within this jurisdiction, and as, in every case, the forms and requirements of the Constitution have been strictly complied with, I anticipate that you will at once direct the issue of the usual warrants. The dates, names and localities are as follows, viz.:—

- 9th August, 1867—Petrolia Lodge, Petrolia, Ont.
- 18th December, 1867—Tuscan Lodge, London, Ont.
- 18th December, 1867—Madawaska Lodge, Arnprior, Ont.
- 24th December, 1867—Saugeen Lodge, Walkerton, Ont.
- 1st January, 1868—White Oak Lodge, Oakville, Ont.
- 25th February, 1868—Frelighsburg Lodge, Frelighsburg, Quebec.
- 29th February, 1868—St. Alban's Lodge, Mount Forest, Ont.
- 7th March, 1868—Leeds Lodge, Gananoque, Ont.
- 8th April, 1868—Mount Royal Lodge, Montreal, Quebec.
- 13th May, 1868—Irvine Lodge, Elora, Ont.
- 5th June, 1868—Doric Lodge, Danville, Quebec.
- 24th June, 1868—New Dominion Lodge, New Hamburg, Ont.

BUSINESS OF THE PAST YEAR.

The Masonic business of the past year has neither been less onerous nor less important than that of those which have preceded it; the various matters which have come up before me, and which were either decided by myself, or referred to special committees, or to the Board of General Purposes, were not of a nature requiring special reference here; all documents connected with them, whether as involving questions of Masonic law or discipline, will be found on file, with the Grand Secretary, all of which are open to you: inspection.

THE ELECTION OF MASTERS.

In connection with these matters, there is one evil existing to which I trace many of the difficulties which are now of so frequent occurrence. I allude to the want of a proper care, and to the neglect of masonic law and principle too often evinced by the members of the craft, in the selection of those who are to govern our subordinate Lodges. Brethren are too often selected as rulers, merely because their social qualities may be of a high order, and often, also, from their general popularity, without duly considering their ability to work the Lodge, their administrative capacity to govern it, or their possession of those still higher qualities which are so essential to the successful carrying on of the great work of Masonry. In selecting your Masters, let me entreat you, my brethren, always first to consider your duty to Masonry and to your Lodge. This im-

portant duty can never properly be performed if you place in the chair one who has to rely upon others for doing that which he is incapable of performing himself

MASONRY NOT A MERE BENEFIT CLUB.

In the course of the discussions which occasionally take place at our annual meetings, sentiments are sometimes expressed by the younger members of the fraternity which have led me to believe that they neither fully understood nor appreciated the original design and aim of our institution, but had come to regard it as if the great and sole object of our association was the mere accumulation of funds for the relief of distressed masons, for the support of their widows, and for the education of their destitute children, forgetting, apparently, the explanations which had been given, and the lessons they had received at their initiation into our mysteries. Charity, in its largest sense, in its broadest signification, is a virtue dear to the heart of every true Mason, and that Charity, which is not only active, but passive, is freely exercised by the genuine brother; he is ever as ready to assist the distressed as he is to abstain from unkindness, uncourteousness, or the malicious construction of his neighbors' motives. The inculcation of every virtue—the improvement of our species—the advancement of learning and science—the study of the liberal arts, and especially the cultivation of brotherly love—these are some of the aims of the craft and of its votaries. If there is to be found in our ranks any individual who has joined us, actuated by no higher motive than self-interest, and influenced by the idea that he is thereby making a most judicious investment for himself and family, he will soon discover that he has not only deceived himself, but that he has altogether misapprehended the genius, the scope, and the great objects of Masonry; for our brotherhood is not for a moment to be placed on the same level with those mere benefit clubs, which have recently been established, with the sole and avowed intention of making to the contributor, or to his legal representatives, a full and equivalent return in hard cash for that which he has invested in their hands. Neither is Masonry to be thus shorn of her fair proportions, nor is she to be circumscribed or fettered as to the discharge of her numerous duties. We are told that the three great tenets of a Mason's profession are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth: and to you, my brethren, I now say, cultivate them all.

THE WORK.

The disappointment felt by many at the non-exemplification of what we technically call the *work*, at our last Communication, was largely shared in by myself. The unavoidable absence of some of those upon whom I had relied for assistance, rendered it impossible for me to carry out the promises made on the subject. True, it was suggested that some of those able brethren then present might exemplify the work of the three degrees; but this, although of course instructive, would not at all have met the object which I had in view, or which you desired: which was to exhibit to you the pure and standard work, as adopted after much careful investigation and research by this Grand Lodge. I am happy to announce that a part of to-morrow will be devoted to this object, and I have to request for it your earnest attention and most careful considera-

tion I believe that you will agree with me in the opinion, that any discussion on the subject here would be injudicious; but at the same time, it is of great importance that the views and opinions of those who have really studied the question, and who believe that they are in a position to throw more light upon it, should receive due consideration. Those views and opinions can be submitted to the Standing Committee on Ritual, who will at all times be ready to receive, and most respectfully and carefully to consider, any suggestions which may be laid before them. In my address of last year, in referring to this subject, I used the expression, that "I regarded with much apprehension any attempt at innovation or change in the *lex non scripta* of Masonry," and I have reason to believe that my views on this subject, as then expressed, were not very clearly understood by some, while by others they were entirely misapprehended. The Ritual is not to be considered as a landmark in Masonry: many parts of it are not essential; they have been changed and may be changed again, though as a learned and reliable writer remarks, such changes should be made with great caution, and perhaps had better not be made at all; but, adds he, on the other hand, there are portions of the Ritual, and large portions, too, which do constitute landmarks, which never have been changed, and never can be changed without a destruction of the very identity of Freemasonry. The beautiful lectures which form so important a feature in our system, are most useful; but, as the same author remarks, they are not essential, neither are they to be considered as constituting landmarks, for before the year 1717 no such system existed. Many changes, some of them, doubtless, decided improvements, while others were very much the reverse, have since been introduced, which proves conclusively that they have no claim to be regarded as landmarks of the Order. Time will not permit me, at present, to dwell at greater length upon this very interesting topic, and I must therefore make my remarks as brief as possible.

MASONIC CONSERVATISM.

It is not difficult to account for the variations which we occasionally find in the working of some of our Lodges. The Master, though retaining all the essentials, may slightly deviate in some parts of the phraseology of the details: in course of time these changes become as it were established, and after a few years are regarded as almost landmarks of that lodge, a departure from which would be considered as a dangerous innovation. Now the remedy for all this is so to be found in the Book of Constitution, under the head "of Private Lodges," sec. 21:—"All Lodges are particularly bound to observe the same usages and customs. Any deviation, therefore, from the established mode of working is highly improper and cannot be justified or countenanced; and in order to preserve this uniformity, and to cultivate a good understanding among Free Masons, some members of every lodge should be deputed to visit the other lodges as often as may be convenient." In any action which the Grand Lodge may, in its wisdom, consider it prudent and necessary to take, with reference to this most important matter, I can only express my earnest hope that you may at all times be guided by a wise conservatism: and in using the term, I do not wish to be understood as expressing merely the desire or effort to preserve what is estab-

lished; but I wish you to receive it in its larger and more Masonic sense, which implies that there is no blind and superstitious respect for things established, simply because they are so. Precedents with us says a learned and thoughtful brother, have no authority unless they are founded upon principle, and on the other hand, changes have no support unless they are prompted by necessity and guided by reason. It is to such conservatism as this that our gratitude is due for that steady and healthy progress which Masonry is now making, which gives it a standing and character among the institutions of the age, which is rendering it daily more and more worthy of cultivation by men of intellect, and which must bestow upon it, as a science and a system of philosophy, a perpetuity and prosperity which its merely social and charitable character could never have secured. This kind of conservatism is the sheet-anchor on which the safety of Masonry mainly depends.

FINANCES

From the accounts submitted by that most efficient and trustworthy officer, your Grand Treasurer, it is gratifying to find that our funds are in a most prosperous and satisfactory condition. The whole amount of funds, as appears by his books, is \$28,064 90, which belongs to the following accounts, viz.:

General Fund.....	\$18,359 15
Current for Benevolence.....	543 25
Invested for do .....	8,625 14
To credit of Asylum Fund .....	537 36
	\$28,064 90

Which funds are invested as follows:—

In Gore Bank Agency at Simcoe ....	\$ 2,464 90
In Middlesex Debentures.....	1,600 00
In Provincial do .....	16,000 00
In Dominion Stock.....	8,000 00
	\$28,064 90

I would again suggest it as desirable that the whole of the Asylum Fund should appear in the books of the Grand Treasurer, so that his report should show all the funds belonging to this Grand Lodge. This arrangement would not interfere with the entire control of that fund by the Asylum Committee.

CONCLUSION.

And now, my brethren, in conclusion, I have to apologize for the very crude and unpolished manner in which these hastily written remarks are laid before you. The pressure of new duties, and a very recent attack of sickness, left me but a few hours in which to carry out the practice, initiated by myself, at the commencement of our career as a Grand Lodge, of preparing something in the form of an address with which to open our Annual Communication. In once more resigning into your hands the office and position with which you so often have honored me, and in requesting you now to relieve me from its cares and responsibilities, I would I had the power and ability to express even a tithe of the fraternal love and affection I entertain for you and for Masonry. No language at my command can convey it, I shall therefore not make the attempt.

"The temple of our purest thoughts is—silence"

May Masonry continue to flourish in all parts of the

world, and may we, her workmen prove equal to our profession, and worthy of our exalted privileges. For, after all, brethren, we are but just what our name conveys—merely builders—patiently but hopefully toiling on, and hurriedly following in the steps of our predecessors, trying to carry out the designs left by them on their Masonic trestle-board, and leaving the work to be continued and perfected by those who are to come after us, rejoicing, however, in the hope that our feeble contributions of service, and of labor may lead to that glorious consummation which will secure the approving smile and ultimate reward of the Great Architect of the Universe, who is Himself the beginning and the end of all creation. Finally, my brethren, let us work while it is day, for the hour cometh when no man can work.

WM. M. WILSON,  
Grand Master

The address was referred to the Board of General Purposes.

R. W. Bro Sir John A. Macdonald, K. C. B. handed in his warrant as Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, as follows:

[L. S.] ZETLAND, G. M.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Worshipful and Worshipful Officers

OF THE

Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, and all others whom these Presents may concern

HEALTH. PEACE. UNITY.

We, the Grand Master, in our own name, and on behalf of the Right Worshipful and Worshipful, the Officers and Brethren of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of England, being most desirous of continuing and advancing the relations of Amity and Prosperity Love which now subsist between the two Grand Lodges, and the several Lodges and Brethren under their authority and sanction respectively, and of the great confidence reposed in, as well as the high consideration entertained for, our right-trusty and well-beloved

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BROTHER SIR JOHN ALEXANDER  
MACDONALD, KNIGHT, COMMANDER OF THE MOST  
HONORABLE ORDER OF THE BATH,

Chairman of the recent Conference of Delegates from British North America, on the measure of confederation, &c.

Do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint him

OUR REPRESENTATIVE

and the Representative of the Grand Lodge of England in the said Grand Lodge of Canada, charging him, our said Representative, at all times and upon all occasions, to use his best exertions to promote and maintain the integrity, the honor and the welfare of the Masonic Craft at large, and to testify our good will, high consideration, and fraternal regard, towards the Most Worshipful Grand Master, his Officers, and the Brethren of the Eight Worshipful Grand Lodge of Canada, whereby the Bond of Union may be strengthened and the interest of the fraternity promoted, conferring upon our Representative ample powers to do and perform all such Masonic Acts as by the laws and usages of the two Grand Lodges, the Representative of a sister Grand Lodge may do and perform.

With fraternal greeting, we do request the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Canada to receive our said Representative, whom we charge to assure the Grand Lodge of our high respect, and of our cordial desire to co-operate with them in every effort that can be made to preserve the purity and usefulness of Ancient Freemasonry throughout the world.

Given under our Hand and the Seal of our Grand Lodge at London, this 6th day of December, A. L. 5867, A. D. 1867.

BY COMMAND OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER, THE EARL OF ZETLAND, K. T.

DEGREY AND RIPON, D. G. M.

WM. GRAY CLARKE, G. S.

HONORARY RANK.

R. W. Bro. Dr. Bernard moved, seconded by R. W. Bro. DeGrassi, that the rank of Past Grand Senior Warden of this Grand Lodge be bestowed upon R. W. Bro. Sir John A. Macdonald, K. C. B., D. C. L. &c., Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, near the Grand Lodge of Canada. The motion was carried.

R. W. Bro. Sir John A. Macdonald, K. C. B., was received with the Grand Honors, and appropriately returned thanks for the warm and cordial reception awarded to him, and the honor conferred upon him.

REPORTS OF D. D. G. M.'S.

The following reports of D. D. G. M.'s were read, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

MONTREAL DISTRICT

To the V. V. the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M.

By command of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I assumed, in my official capacity of Grand Registrar, the supervision of the Montreal District, vacant by the declension of R. W. Bro. Richard Bull, of his appointment of D. D. G. M., and it gives me great pleasure in reporting, that since that time, Masonry among us has been in a satisfactory condition.

One new Lodge has been formed in the city of Montreal, and since its inception under dispensation, it has been working with a degree of diligence and zeal, which I trust will entitle the officers and brethren to their warrant of confirmation.

No complaint of any kind has been placed before me officially, which is a satisfactory indication that the work is being carried on with that harmony which ought at all times to characterize the brethren.

A desire for uniformity of work has been manifested to a larger extent than usual among the respective officers of the Lodges, and as far as has been in my power, I have endeavored to accomplish this. It is also pleasing to notice that the use of instrumental music in our ceremonies is becoming more general, stimulated no doubt by the able assistance rendered by professional and other brethren who have recently joined the order. The approaching exemplification of "work" at Grand Lodge is anxiously looked forward to by many of the delegates.

Our Masonic Library has, by the liberality of several distinguished brethren, been considerably increased during the past year, but I regret to say it is not so generally made use of as could be wished. This result may possibly arise from the inconvenience of having the library in the Lodge room, which is only available on Lodge nights. Steps are being taken to remedy this, when I trust the brethren generally will avail themselves of this great privilege.

Several brethren have, since last report, been removed from amongst us by death, but only in one instance, that of our late Bro. Thos. Sellar, of Victoria Lodge, has the funeral been accompanied by masonic ceremonies.

Our local Board of Relief, composed of representatives from all the Lodges in the city of Montreal, whether under this jurisdiction or otherwise, has been in active operation during the past masonic year, and I believe fully meets in every respect the duties required of it. It is gratifying to find our brethren hailing from different jurisdictions, so cordially co-operating with us in the great work of dispensing our charity to needy and distressed brethren. A sum of about four hundred dollars has been paid out by the Board during the year, and this is altogether exclusive of what private Lodges may have done during the same period, in relieving those of their own membership who may have had claims upon them and which, in the aggregate, may equal in amount the sum distributed by the Board.

A circular signed by R. W. Bro. Borlase, P. D. D.



G. M., E. T. D., has been sent to the several Lodges in this district, inviting to a conference the delegates to Grand Lodge, to take into consideration that part of the address of the M. W. the Grand Master at last communication of Grand Lodge, having reference to the status of Grand Lodge, &c., and the report on which, by a special committee, was laid over for consideration at next Communication of Grand Lodge, so that when the discussion may arise they may be able intelligently to express an opinion thereon. This circular was received and formally acted on by all the Lodges, with, I regret to say, one exception, who, by vote of the Lodge refused to receive it at all. I had previously, so far as I had opportunity, called the attention of Lodges to this subject, and I certainly would have deemed it desirable that all the delegates should meet for an interchange of opinion on such an important topic. The conference referred to being, at the date at which I write, still in the future, I cannot in any way indicate the feeling of the brethren on this question.

I cannot conclude without reference to one important point which has been almost the only source of discord amongst us during the past year. I refer to the right of the brethren to belong to two or more Lodges, where there are so many Lodges meeting in one place, and as a consequence a large membership. It can hardly be expected that differences will not arise, and in more than one instance these have been aggravated by double membership. I mention this, not that the matter has been before me officially, but to express the hope that Grand Lodge will see fit to do away with this anomaly in our constitution.

The whole respectfully submitted.

(Signed.) ALEX. MURRAY,

*Grand Registrar, and acting D. D. G. M., M. D.*

MONTREAL, 2nd JULY, 1868.

#### PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

*To the most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Canada.*

In complying with the requirements of Grand Lodge, I herewith submit a brief report on the condition of Masonry in the Prince Edward District during the past year.

I have to regret that my business avocations prevented my visiting as many of the Lodges in the western part of this District as I intended, and duty required, during the past winter; however, I have thankfully to acknowledge the very valuable services of R. W. Bro. Henderson, of Belleville, and W. Bro. DeLaney, of Trenton, in visiting those Lodges and giving them instruction.

The Lodges throughout this District, on the whole, are in a very prosperous condition, and working as near the system laid down by the Grand Lodge of Canada as possible.

On the 24th of October last, I installed the officers of Filius Viduæ Lodge, No. 189, Adolphustown, and was presented on that occasion, on behalf of the Lodge, with a very handsome silver cup, suitably engraved.

Only one death among the brethren of this District has been reported to me during the year, viz.: that of Bro. William Henry Chamberlain, of Belleville Lodge, No. 123, who was interred with masonic honors.

I have granted dispensations during the past year as follows:

To Union Lodge, No. 9, Napanee; Belleville Lodge, No. 123, Belleville, and to Moira Lodge, No. 11, Belleville, to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist. To Trent Lodge, No. 38, Trenton, to celebrate the festival of St. John the Baptist. To Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18, and Star in the East Lodge, No. 164, to appear in Masonic clothing at a concert, proceeds to be devoted to charity; and I am pleased to know the enjoyment of the brethren has been enhanced by these privileges.

A dispensation has been granted during the year by the M. W. Grand Master, for a Lodge at Arnprior, called the Madawaska Lodge; and as I understand this Lodge is in good working order, I trust that it will be confirmed by warrant.

In concluding this report, I have to return my sincere thanks to the brethren of this District for the many acts of kindness and courtesy received from them.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

(Signed,) DONALD FRASER,

*D. D. G. M., P. E. D.*

#### HURON DISTRICT.

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

In conformity with the requirements of the Constitution, I submit herewith my report as D. D. G. M. of Huron District, for the year 1867-8.

I am happy in being able to report that during the year I have had the honour of being D. D. G. M. of this District, no grievances and no appeals of any kind have come before me for adjudication. The fact speaks in no un mistakeable language of the harmony existing among the various members of the fraternity in this District; and also of the existence of a spirit of mutual forbearance which should always characterise the conduct and dealings of members of our ancient and honourable order.

The prosperity which in the good Providence of the G. A. O. U. has blessed all portions of the Dominion during the past year, I may safely say has marked in an especial manner the Lodges in my District. Peace and prosperity have been with them.

I regret that circumstances over which I had no control prevented me from visiting all the lodges in my District; but those I had the opportunity and pleasure of visiting gave me great satisfaction, and as a general rule I found the W. M. and officers well skilled in the principles and practice of ancient Freemasonry.

I granted dispensation to St. James Lodge, Tecumseh and Irving lodges to wear masonic clothing in public at the Annual Festival of the respective Lodges.

I refused to the "Northern Light" Lodge a dispensation to pass the ballot for a rejected candidate for a second time, within two months of his rejection.

I recommended the application for the establishment of a new Lodge at Walkerton to be called the "Saugeen Lodge," one at Mount Forest to be called the "St. Alban's" Lodge, one at Elora to be called the "Irving Lodge," and another at New Hamburg, all of which the W. M. the Grand Master has been

pleased to entertain, and dispensations have been duly issued for the same.

All of which is respectfully submitted,  
**M. C. CAMERON,**  
*D. D. G. M.*

**LONDON DISTRICT.**

*To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge :*

In presenting my second annual report to Grand Lodge on the condition of Masonry in the London District, I would most respectfully beg to state that I have had the honor of visiting, during the past year, every Lodge in this District, comprising 25 Lodges under Charter and one U. D. At the annual Communication last year, I was much gratified in being able to report to Grand Lodge, the prosperous and favorable condition of the Lodges under my control; and on the present occasion it is my pleasing duty to bear testimony to the marked improvement, which reflects the highest credit on those worthy brethren, who have devoted themselves to the art and science of our time-honored institution, thus enabling them to conduct the business of their various Lodges in accordance with the established usages of our Order.

**ERRORS AND COMPLAINTS.**

In November last, a complaint was made by Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, Iona, against St. Paul's Lodge, No. 107, Lambeth, for having accepted and initiated a candidate whose residence was within the jurisdiction of the former. On investigation, the charge was fully sustained, and I directed the candidate and the initiation fee to be handed over to Prince of Wales Lodge, which was readily complied with, and the dispute settled in a manner satisfactory to both Lodges.

In December, I received a communication from Malahide Lodge, No. 140, Aylmer, informing me that during the temporary absence of the Worshipful Master, a Lodge was summoned and officers for the ensuing year elected, one week previous to the regular night of meeting. At first, this error appeared to be rigorously dealt with; an enquiry into the circumstances, however, convinced me that the brother who called the meeting was not actuated by any improper motive, but had been misled as to the proper night of meeting. I declared this election null and void, and ordered a new election.

**GRIEVANCES.**

Nearly all of the grievances that have claimed my attention during the past year have been more imaginary than real, and in the majority of instances, have been easily and satisfactorily adjusted. Two cases have been recently communicated to me, in one of which I endeavored to effect a reconciliation, but from the hasty temper and stubborn disposition of one of the parties, the attempt was useless. The other I have not interfered with, as the time was close at hand for the meeting of Grand Lodge. Both of these cases will be brought before Grand Lodge at its present Communication.

**DISPENSATIONS.**

The M. W. Grand Master has been pleased to grant a dispensation for a new Lodge in the city of London, called the "Tuscan," which has been regularly organized.

I have also granted several dispensations for

holding masonic festivals, and two for the removal of Lodges,—one to St. John's Lodge, No. 81, Delaware, to remove to Mount Brydges, the other to Cassia Lodge, No. 116, Widder, to remove from that village to the station.

**DEATHS.**

In accordance with the will of the G. A. O. T. U., many of our esteemed brethren have been called from labor to rest. Amongst the number, the following have been reported to me :

- Bro. Wm. Dillon, Wellington Lodge, No. 46, Chatham.
- W. " John H. Black, St. George's Lodge, No. 41, Kingsville.
- " H. C. Hughes, Malahide Lodge, No. 140, Aylmer.
- Rev " P. Smith, Chaplain of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, London.
- " John Davidson, " " " "

The last-named brother lost his life by an accident on the Great Western Railway, he being an employee of that Company. He leaves a wife and several small children in destitute circumstances.

**BENEVOLENCE.**

Masonry is essentially a benevolent institution; in fact, benevolence has ever been considered one of the strongest pillars upon which our Order is built; and with your permission, M. W. Sir, I would solicit the attention of Grand Lodge to one point in connection with this subject, which, I think, merits the most careful and serious consideration.

On referring to our Grand Lodge reports, I find that the Annual receipts amount to nearly \$7000; yet out of this large income there is not \$1000 devoted to purposes of relief; and I would respectfully urge that the time has arrived when some more efficient means should be adopted for relieving the necessities of those who have such strong claims upon our benevolence.

I would suggest that a Committee be appointed in each District with the D. D. G. M. as chairman, to meet quarterly and enquire into any case or cases of destitution in their district, and recommend such assistance as may seem necessary, the amount so given not to exceed one half the amount of fees annually paid by the District to Grand Lodge.

Being about to retire from the office of D. D. G. M. for London District, (and I trust that the office will be filled by some one better qualified to discharge its duties,) I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness I have received at the hands of the brethren of this District.

And in conclusion, M. W. Sir, permit me to congratulate you on the honourable position to which you have recently been appointed as County Judge for the County of Norfolk.

May the G. A. O. T. U. preserve your health and strength, so that you may long continue to discharge the duties of that important office. At the same time I am satisfied that your zeal and assiduity for masonry will not relapse, but if possible, will be stimulated with renewed vigour, and that you will continue to devote to the benefit of our order that wisdom and experience which has contributed so materially to our success in the past.

I would acknowledge M. W. Sir, the prompt attention given by yourself and R. W. Bro. Harris, Grand Secretary, to all my communications during my term of office.

Respectfully submitted,

**F. WESTLAKE,**

*D. D. G. M.*



## HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada:

BRETHREN,—I have the honor to submit herewith my second annual report on the condition of Masonry within this District during the past twelve months.

## VISITATIONS.

Though unfortunately rendered incapable of again making a tour of all the Lodges, owing to a very severe winter's illness, I have, nevertheless, had several opportunities of visiting about half the number, and these, I am pleased to report, are healthy and steadily progressing. With nearly all the others I have had occasional correspondence, either through the Worshipful Masters or brethren, and learn that they are quietly pursuing the even tenor of their way, adding to their numbers ashlar's worthy of a place in our temple, and building up that great moral edifice of brotherly love and truth, which is truly the cement and glory of Freemasonry.

Wherever necessary, I availed myself of the privilege of correcting manifest errors in work, and imparting such instructions on the general government of a Lodge as seemed desirable, nearly always receiving courteous attention and ready compliance from all brethren with whom duty brought me in contact.

## COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS.

In several instances, complaints of a serious nature were submitted for adjudication. To these I gave the most careful consideration, and by thoroughly understanding the grounds of variance, and judiciously administering proper counsel, I had the pleasure of being instrumental in effecting a satisfactory adjustment of all but one case. That one,—arising out of a brother improperly going to law with another on pecuniary affairs, without having first sought masonic redress,—I regard as being in a fair way of settlement, knowing that the basis of arrangement proposed by me has met with approval from all the parties concerned, and that a few days will only be required to heal the rupture. I purposely avoid more minute details of these inharmonious differences; believing that where amicable agreement has been come to, which meets with mutual concurrence from the parties aggrieved, it is more in accord with duty to throw the broad mantle of charity over such foibles than to enlarge upon them, or keep alive remembrances that must cause sorrow, and which should really be buried in oblivion.

## CONTUMACIOUS CONDUCT.

In connection with this department, I feel sorry at having to report conduct, on the part of the W. Master of St George's Lodge, No. 15, that calls for grave consideration and firm discipline. An admonition against harsh ruling given the W. Bro. a short time since, appears to have greatly wounded his feelings, and has produced a refractory course of action, strongly calculated to provoke the resistance of authority, to bring the Lodge into disrepute, and to keep visitors, who look for fraternal courtesy, from attending its meetings. In one instance I have had to order the erasure from the minutes of a very improper resolution, couched in offensive terms, and not only contumacious in spirit, but subversive of the ancient charges and well known landmarks. In

another, I had to forbid the holding of a meeting illegally summoned, at which it was designed to commit the Lodge to partizan interference, in a matter then in the hands of the M. W. Grand Master. And, lastly, when I required the minute book and attendance register, to submit to the B. of G. P., now in session, the W. Bro. ordered the Secretary to show them to me but not to give them up. These facts show a spirit closely bordering upon insubordination, and while I would gladly refrain from noticing them here, yet duty demands that they should be reported, in order that such extraordinary proceedings may be properly dealt with, and their repetition guarded against.

## THE WORK.

The unfortunate circumstance that prevented an exemplification of the ritual of this Grand Lodge at its last annual communication, produced much disappointment in some lodges; but on explanation, it was seen that unavoidable causes, accruing at the last moment, alone interfered with this essential duty being discharged. I feel assured that the ample arrangements made for exemplification during the present session, will give great satisfaction, and enable brethren of isolated lodges to carry home with them valuable instruction that will greatly tend to uniformity in our ceremonies.

## STATISTICS.

The reports received from the various Lodges show most of them to be in a prosperous condition, at least in as far as the accession of increased strength may justify this opinion, and in the steady accumulation of surplus revenues at their disposal. The tabular statement hereto appended\* will also show that while an unusually large number of initiations have occurred in some lodges, the ballot box has been jealously guarded, thus affording the only safe protection against improper material being introduced. In my intercourse with the W. Masters and brethren, I have strongly urged the importance of looking closely to the personal worth and integrity of all applicants who may seek admission into our order, believing that where this caution is used a higher status must be obtained, which will not only make masonry more respected in the eye of the world, but more useful and certain in working out its humanizing mission.

## LATE HOURS.

I have found a laxity in several Lodges in the time of commencing and closing their meetings. This arises in a great measure from the presiding officers not being punctual to the hour specified in their by-laws, thereby showing a bad example to subordinates, and eventually doing much harm to the lodge; for where meetings are not opened till an hour after the appointed time, they are of necessity kept an hour longer from their homes and their families, and the craft suffers in consequence. I hope the advice given to correct this evil will not fail in producing its proper effect.

## A NEW LODGE.

In reporting the formation of a new Lodge at Oakville, under the name of "White Oak," to which a dispensation was granted by the M. W. G. M. on

\* The statement is not quite complete, one or two Lodges requiring yet to be filled in. We do not, therefore, give any abstract of it here.

the 11th January, 1868, I take great pleasure in referring in commendatory terms of the manner in which the lodge is conducted, and the truly Masonic spirit that has actuated the W. M. and brethren since its opening. The Lodge is well and neatly furnished with carpets, room fittings, jewels, books, &c., and no debt exists as a debt, the original expenses having been paid by the petitioners for the dispensation.

I am informed by R. W. Bro. Harris, who formally opened the Lodge and has since visited it several times, that the quality of the material already introduced is highly creditable, and that the prospects for steady increase and permanency are most auspicious. The members have been very fortunate in the choice of their first W. M., Bro. Geo. K. Chisholm, whose social position, affable deportment, and genial temperament, are well calculated to beget respect for "White Oak Lodge," and render it a credit to this grand body. The Minute Book and Records having been found satisfactory, I would recommend that a warrant be granted.

FESTIVALS, &c.

In August last, several of the Toronto Lodges visited "Niagara Falls," in this district, when they were honored with the presence of the M. W. Grand Master and other grand officers, besides a number of brethren from lodges in the vicinity and the American side. The occasion proved a very happy re-union, and beautifully illustrated the benign influence of Masonry in uniting all nationalities in the common bond of brotherhood. On the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, I had the pleasure of visiting the Hamilton brethren, and assisting in the installation of several W. M.'s elect then present. The visit was also instrumental in reconciling differences, and creating harmony where discord had prevailed.

On the Festival of St. John the Baptist, I had the honor, by command of the M. W. G. M. to act in his behalf, in performing the imposing ceremony of laying the corner stone of St. John's Church, Port Dalhousie, in which I was cordially assisted by the G. Secretary, G. Chaplin, several P. G. officers, and nearly three hundred brethren of surrounding lodges. I have since had a very kind letter from the rector, Rev. A. Dixon, A. B., in which he returns his warmest thanks to the craft for their attendance, and adds, "I would also remark that the very impressive ceremonies and services in which you took so prominent a part, have had a most beneficial effect on the minds of many present, who have hitherto, through ignorance, been strongly prejudiced against Masonry. Will you have the goodness to convey to the gentlemen of various lodges who favoured us with their company this expression of our sincere thanks?"

DISPENSATIONS.

Of those I have granted one to St. Mark's Lodge, Drummondville, to wear Masonic clothing and unite in procession with the Toronto brethren last August; one to St. Andrew's Lodge, Caledonia, to wear Masonic clothing at a picnic on St. John's Day, and one to Valley Lodge, Dundas, for a similar purpose. The Hamilton brethren also had a very agreeable moonlight excursion on 24th ult. at which Masonic insignia was worn.

QUARTERLY.

The record of deceased brethren, though happily not so full as last year, yet contains several revered names that will be remembered with the kindest regard for faithful service performed and invaluable aid rendered this Grand Lodge in its days of infancy. Who of our older members will not read with profound regret of the demise of R. W. Bro. Rev. F. J. Lundy, P. G. Chaplain, whose gifted genius and facile pen enabled him to adorn our earlier proceedings with many of the ablest reports there recorded. And who that knew the more retiring but not less praiseworthy labours of Bro. Robt. Brown in disseminating our purest principles, and reproving the unfaithful, but will drop a silent tear. When they learn that he is no more, and that never again this side eternity will he mingle with us in the holy work of relieving the distressed, cheering the disconsolate, giving friendly counsel, and other kind acts, for which his name will long be held in grateful remembrance.

In Bro. W. Robb's sad death by drowning, the craft has lost a worthy, consistent mason: the country, a brave officer, whose valor was proved in 1866, and the community in which he dwelt, one of the noblest-hearted men that ever lived.

Brothers Milton Davis, Donald Henderson, James H. Wright, Henry Izard and John Mulheim, have also gone to their long homes. These brethren were all interred by the craft with masonic ceremonies.

CONCLUSION.

In drawing my report to a close, I have again to thank the brethren for the fraternal kindness always experienced at their hands, and to regret that causes already explained alone prevented my visiting each Lodge as required by constitution.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,

D. D. G. M., H. District.

ONTARIO.

The Most Worshipful Wm. Mercer Wilson, LL. D., Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons, of Canada,

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—I have the honor to submit the following annual report for the Ontario District, comprising the counties of Ontario, Durham, Northumberland, Peterborough, and Victoria, entrusted to my supervision, by the kindness of my Masonic brethren, in my absence at the last annual communication of Grand Lodge.

INSTRUCTION.

From a previous knowledge of the greater part of the District, I was well aware that very few of the Lodges had made much progress in acquiring the work established by Grand Lodge, and therefore, I felt it to be my duty to take immediate steps to prosecute the work of instruction which had been commenced by the establishment of lodges of instruction in a part of the District by my worthy predecessor, R. W. Bro. William Henry Weller.

On receiving official notification of my appointment, I wrote to R. W. Bro. Weller asking him to advise me of any plans initiated by him which he would either desire or recommend to be followed up, but owing to his absence from the country, I did not hear from him.

## INSTALLATION.

Owing to my absence from the meeting of Grand Lodge, at which I was nominated and appointed, I was not installed until the 24th of August, when the ceremony was performed in St. John's Lodge, Toronto, by R. W. Alfio DeGrassi, P. D. D. G. M., Toronto District.

## CIRCULAR.

On the 3rd of Sept. following I notified each lodge by circular, a copy of which is herewith submitted, among other things, that "Measures would be taken at an early day to re-organize the Lodges of Instruction which had been established by R. W. Bro. Weller, and to establish others, with a view to afford an opportunity to every officer especially, and also to every member so inclined, to make himself acquainted with the mode of work established by Grand Lodge, and further in order to assist those desirous of acquiring that work, I would devote the first Friday and the first Saturday of each month to the service of such brethren as might call upon me, at the Lodge Rooms of Lebanon Lodge, Oshawa.

Several Masters, Officers, and Brethren availed themselves of this invitation.

## GENERAL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Having in the meantime visited thirteen out of the eighteen lodges in the district, I notified the W. M. of each lodge that I would hold a general lodge of instruction at Port Hope, commencing on the 23rd December, to continue in session as long as those present might desire.

The meeting continued in session four days, and resulted in my being able to place within easy access of each lodge reliable work, so far as the opening and closing ceremonies and the work of the first degree are concerned.

## LICENSES FOR LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

I issued a license to that extent to W. Bro. James Might, M. D., W. M., J. B. Hall Lodge, under whose care St. John's, Hope, Ontario, Corinthian, Peterborough, Faithful Brethren, and J. B. Hall Lodges were placed, to W. Bro. E. W. Edwards, who took charge of United and Colborne Lodges, and W. Bro. James C. Brown, whose license embraced Golden Rule, Percy and Hastings Lodges.

I had previously re-organized the Western Lodge of instruction, comprising the four lodges in the County of Ontario, of which that experienced and thoroughly qualified brother, W. Bro. Francis Kellar, kindly took charge.

## WORK.

I was extremely anxious to be able to report to Grand Lodge at this session that every lodge in Ontario District could be properly and efficiently worked by its own officers.

In this matter I was too sanguine. Owing to the lack of interest of the officers, more especially the Worshipful Masters of several of the lodges, which perhaps had better not be named at present, the work of perfection in them has truly but just begun.

Notwithstanding much remissness and apathy on the part of many, at the beginning of the official year, I am happy to be able to state that, in part from a change in the officers made in December,

and in part from other causes, there is now an earnest desire manifested by nearly all to attain proficiency in the authorized work.

The ritual of Grand Lodge in the opening and closing ceremonies, and in the work of the first, generally prevails. The exceptions are Golden Rule Lodge, Campbellford, Hope and Ontario Lodges, Port Hope and St. John's Lodge, Cobourg. Some progress has been made by Hope and Ontario Lodges, and circumstances of an unusual character prevented Golden Rule Lodge from giving any attention of consequence to the acquisition of it.

In several lodges I experienced some disinclination to acquire what they called the "New Work," their so-called Old Work being the result of inaccurate and imperfect means used and having been improved according to the taste and fancy of the worker.

Like theft in Sparta, this process is seemingly considered honorable, if not found out, and accordingly measures are almost invariably taken by such workers, who, I am glad to say, now form a small and constantly decreasing class in this district, to disguise their stolen apparel, or borrowed plumes, by addition, diminution or alteration, but the result of their ingenuity, however produced and however dissimilar it may be on any two successive occasions, and however unlike anything to be found elsewhere, is still by them stoutly held to be the old, the original work.

With the exception of the Lodges in the western part of the District, I found, on my visit, no two of the Lodges which worked exactly, or even mainly, alike.

Through the valuable assistance of the brethren already named, who took charge of the Lodges of Instruction established in December last, I am glad to be able to report that this has been partially remedied, and I am pleased to be able to offer a fair instalment of improvement.

The Lodges which have acquired the work of Grand Lodge to the greatest degree, with accuracy, are Lebanon Lodge, Oshawa; and Durham Lodge, Newcastle.

Great credit is due to W. Bro. John Boyd, W. M. of the former, and to W. Bro. R. T. Wilkinson, W. M. of the latter, for the great progress they have made in acquiring the work.

In so far as the work has been learned, the ceremony is best executed by Hastings Lodge.

Very considerable improvement has also been made by Jerusalem Lodge, Bowmanville; Colborne, and Mount Zion Lodge, Brooklyn.

This progress is entirely attributable to the zeal and attention of the present Masters, and in the case of Colborne Lodge, much assistance has been given by that zealous mason, W. Bro. Edgar W. Edwards, W. M. of Unity Lodge, Brighton.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

While it may be the most equitable policy to overlook the remissness of the few Masters who have not hitherto taken active steps to acquaint themselves with the work authorized by this Grand Lodge, I would recommend, now that the Ritual is about again to be illustrated, that a general regulation be adopted, that no Master be installed, hereafter, until he obtains a certificate from the G. M.

or some qualified G. L. Officer to be named by the G. M., that he is in possession of the work and lectures adopted by this Grand Lodge, and that he is competent to *practice* and impart the same.

It should be borne in mind, in this connection, that the proper practice of our work is by no means the easiest part of the ritual.

To facilitate the acquisition of the theory of the work, I would recommend that it be made incumbent upon each W. M., at the expense of his Lodge, to attend periodical meetings to be held at convenient central points, at which the D. D. Grand Master shall be empowered in his discretion to impart the exoteric portions thereof in writing, under such suitable restrictions as the G. M. may from time to time establish, and that at such meetings the esoteric portions and the practice of the work be fully illustrated and explained by the D. D. G. M.

CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION.

A very large majority of the Lodges I found to be totally unacquainted with the proper ceremony of installation.

It was fully explained and illustrated, both during many of my visits to the individual Lodges and also at the General Lodge of Instruction at Port Hope.

I installed the W. Masters of United, Composite and Colborne Lodges, at Colborne, on the 27th of December, and the W. M. of Mt. Zion Lodge, subsequently, at Oshawa, and the W. Masters of Durham and Jerusalem Lodges, at Bowmanville.

I believe the ceremony, with possibly two exceptions, was properly performed in the other Lodges by well-informed brethren.

At the conclusion of the session of the General Lodge of Instruction, held at Port Hope, the adjoining Lodges were invited to attend the meeting at Colborne, and were largely represented at it.

The meeting was a most pleasant one, and the brethren of Colborne Lodge entertained their guests in a most handsome manner.

In reply to an address which was presented to your representative at this meeting, I had the privilege of bringing under the notice of the brethren some of the leading characteristics of our time-honored institution, and of the duties of members of our excellent Order.

GRAND LODGE MONETÉ.

The regulation of Grand Lodge, requiring that a separate and distinct account of the fees and dues received on account of Grand Lodge be kept, I found to be all but universally overlooked.

Attention was specially called to it, and I think it will be hereafter observed.

SIGNATURE TO BY-LAWS.

A book containing the By-Laws of the Lodge, with the signature of each member, was fully kept by but few. When I found it wanting or imperfect, I advised the W. M. to observe the regulation of Grand Lodge.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF D. OF G. P.

The recommendation of the Board of General Purposes, adopted at the Tenth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, that each Lodge should, in future, discharge the travelling expenses of the

D. D. G. M., to the extent of at least one visit in each year, is almost a dead letter in the Ontario District, having been observed by but two of the eighteen Lodges in the District.

REGALIA.

Another recommendation of the Board, adopted by Grand Lodge at the same Communication, that the Lodges of each District should unite in purchasing the Regalia for the D. D. G. M., to be held for the use of the brother who may at any time fill that office, has been partially acted upon.

The matter was taken up by a Special Committee appointed by several Lodges in the Western part of the District.

I am informed by W. Bro. Francis Kellar, P. M. of Composite Lodge, Whitby, Chairman of that Committee, that the following Lodges have forwarded to him their proportion of the amount required for that purpose, and also their proportion of such further sum as was deemed necessary to provide suitable record books and other requisites for the District, viz:—Lebanon Lodge, Oshawa; Ontario Lodge, Port Hope; Jerusalem Lodge, Bowmanville; Prince Albert Lodge, Prince Albert; Composite Lodge, Whitby.

Corinthian and Peterborough Lodges state, through their Secretary, that they are unable to pay their proportion.

Percy Lodge, Warkworth, and United Lodge, Brighton, will forward their proportion so soon as all the others have done so.

The following Lodges refuse, viz: Hastings Lodge, Hastings, and Durham Lodge, Newcastle, alleging, that inasmuch as the D. D. G. M. is a Grand Lodge Officer, any requisite Regalia should be provided by Grand Lodge.

OBITUARY.

The only death reported officially to me during the year, was that of W. Bro. William Dinwoodie, a member of Peterborough Lodge, and at the time of his decease, serving his second term as W. M. of Manistee Lodge, situated at Manistee, in the State of Michigan, in the United States of America, at which place Bro. Dinwoodie died on Sunday, Jan. 19th, 1868. (The particulars of Bro. Dinwoodie's death, and the correspondence which followed it, have already appeared in the CRAFTSMAN.)

REVIVAL OF LODGES.

I have much pleasure in reporting the revival of Hope Lodge, No. 114, Port Hope, and Faithful Brethren Lodge, No. 77, held at Oakwood at the time of the surrender of its warrant.

Both of these Lodges surrendered their warrants, &c., in 1865, to my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Charles D. Macdonnell.

I am glad to report that they have resumed work under very favorable auspices.

The warrant, &c., of Hope Lodge, was entrusted by the G. M. to W. Bro. A. T. Williams, a brother who formerly had much experience, and who is now supported by able and zealous officers.

I had the pleasure of installing the officers of Faithful Brethren Lodge on the 6th of June, at Lindsay, to which place the Lodge has been removed by the authority of the G. M.

The brethren have secured a good room in a

convenient locality on the principal street, and are determined that their Lodge shall, in a greater degree than heretofore, merit its excellent name.

W. Bro James Might, M. D., W. M. of J. B. Hall Lodge, has been of invaluable assistance to the brethren, in enabling them to qualify themselves to resume work; and in token of their appreciation of his services, he has been made an honorary member of the Lodge—the highest honor which any Lodge can bestow upon any brother outside of its membership.

## DISPENSATIONS.

The W. M. of Durham Lodge, Newcastle, applied for a dispensation to appear in masonic clothing at the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, which I granted.

The W. M. of Composite Lodge, Whitby, applied for a dispensation to wear the regalia of the Order at a Festival, of which dancing was to form a part, to be given under the auspices of the Lodge, on the 7th of February last, and feeling that I had not the power to grant the same, I forwarded his application to the G. M., when he was pleased to grant it. A large number of brethren from the adjoining Lodges attended and it passed off with delight to those present and credit and honor to the craft.

At the request of the W. M., I had the honor of opening the entertainment with the usual ceremonies and a few remarks pertinent to the occasion.

I also granted a dispensation to the members of Lebanon Lodge, Oshawa, to wear the regalia of the Order at a strawberry festival given by the Lodge on the 3rd inst.

## VISITS.

Since my appointment I have visited and examined the books of every Lodge in this large and extended district, some of them several times.

In addition to such individual visits and the general meeting at Port Hope in December last, I have held meetings at Warkworth, Millbrook, Brighton, Colborne, Cobourg, Port Hope, Newcastle, Bowmanville, Oshawa, and Whitby, of which the Lodges in the vicinity were notified and which they were summoned to attend.

My correspondence with the officers and brethren has been very extensive, which, I trust, has in a measure lightened the labors of our excellent Grand Secretary. I have been frequently indebted to him for valuable advice and assistance during the year. Promptness and despatch have been the characteristics of his office in this respect during my experience.

## CONDITION.

Without exception the Lodges of Ontario District are in a prosperous financial condition, and I have much pleasure in being able to state that unity, harmony and brotherly love prevail among them.

Only a few mistakes and misunderstandings have occurred, and these, with a single exception in a case respecting the regularity and validity of the minutes kept by the lodge, in which I had no power, were easily adjusted by friendly counsel in a brotherly manner.

## TABULAR STATEMENT.

I submit a tabular statement herewith giving

certain facts and statistics respecting the lodges in the District. It appears from it that 79 were initiated since July 1st, 1867, 68 passed, 55 raised, and that 33 affiliated; 50 unheard from.

The adequate performance of the duties of D. D. G. M. requires too much time, expense, and exertion for a private individual, and I was not much surprised to learn that some of the lodges had never been visited by any of my predecessors, and that several others had not, before my visit, seen that officer for years. In conclusion, M. W. Sir and brethren, I acknowledge with emotions of the most profound gratitude the distinguished honor which you have been pleased to confer upon me, and the cordial and fraternal reception which has always been extended to me by the craft; and I cheerfully submit this record of my official labors to your better judgment, and if it shall be found that I have faithfully and diligently endeavored to discharge the duties of the high and important office entrusted to me, my reward will be ample indeed.

All of which is, nevertheless, respectfully and fraternally submitted.

WILLIAM McCABE,  
D. D. G. M., Ontario District.

OSHAWA, July 1st, 1868.

## CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Canada:

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of the Masonic Lodges in the Central District:

I beg respectfully to call the attention of the Grand Lodge of the large extent of the District, and the numbers of the lodges within its limits. No brother having private avocations to attend to, can without serious prejudice to his own business, thoroughly discharge the responsible duties of D. D. G. Master.

I have visited all the lodges under my jurisdiction except three, and I would have visited all, had not a misapprehension on my part respecting the meeting of Grand Lodge prevented my doing so.

I regret that I have not been able to visit frequently those lodges that are in need of instruction.

I can with pleasure report that the officers of the lodges I have inspected are in almost every instance zealous and attentive to their duties, and that the members give them a generous and respectful support.

The ritual approved of by the Grand Lodge has been generally adopted and the work does not vary more than may be reasonably expected until the District is divided, or a paid officer appointed, whose special duty it shall be to instruct in the ritual, and enforce uniformity.

"St James'" Lodge No. 74, and "Rising Sun" Lodge No. 85, work in accordance with a ritual similar to that used in the United States. These lodges contain many old and much esteemed masons, who are loath to give up ceremonials they have been long accustomed to, yet if Grand Lodge will vouchsafe to instruct them fully they will yield to the general desire for uniformity.

The Minute and other Lodge Books, with but



a few laudable exceptions, and not such as should be used to record Masonic proceedings. They are nearly all in a most unsatisfactory state, and I submit with all due respect that Grand Lodge prepare books for subordinate lodges, and require their use.

"St James'" Lodge No. 74, has initiated a candidate who is maimed in his right hand: but who is undoubtedly a man of superior mind, and well able to earn an independent livelihood. I mention this fact because my attention has been drawn thereto by influential masons, and I deem it desirable to call forth an expression of opinion on this and similar cases.

There are but one or two Lodges in the district that have libraries of any kind. A sound acquaintance with the history of Freemasonry, and a clear understanding of its principles are more to be desired than a mechanical knowledge however accurate of its ceremonies; and therefore I consider it of the utmost importance that a strong effort should be made in every lodge to place the means of education within the reach of all.

In October, the Brethren of "Simpson Lodge" No. 157, petitioned to remove said lodge from Delta to Newboro', after due enquiry I granted their request.

I have granted dispensations during the past year as follows:

To "Simpson" Lodge No. 157. Newboro', for a Festival on the 24th June.

To "Mount Zion" Lodge No. 28. Kemptville for a Festival on 27th December last.

The M. W. Grand Master issued in December a Dispensation to hold a Lodge at Arnprior; and also in March a Dispensation to hold a Lodge at Gananoque. I have visited the Brethren in both these villages, and can with confidence in their ability to conduct a Masonic Lodge, recommend that warrants be granted them.

In December I installed the W. Master and invested the officers of Plantagenet Lodge No. 186. I found them on examination well skilled in their work; but I consider it my duty to state that I fear there is not ample material in Plantagenet, nor in the immediate vicinity, to build up and sustain a well-ordered Lodge.

In January I received the Warrant and Minute Book of "St. Francis" Lodge No. 24. Smith's Falls.

I regret to report that the condition of "True Briton" Lodge No. 14, Perth, has not improved during the past year.

Cornwall Lodge No. 125, Cornwall, held no meetings during the years 1866 and 1867. The Minute Book for these years is lost. I am therefore unable to judge accurately why Masonry has failed to establish a lodge in the thriving town of Cornwall. I am informed that the unwise introduction of Politics into the Lodge meetings threw discord among the Brethren. I have observed a tendency to this unmasonic proceeding in other Lodges, and have not failed to warn them to avoid such discussions. Regular meetings have been held this year; but they were ill attended and gave no promise of ability to revive the Lodge and restore harmony.

Aylmer Lodge, No. 138, Aylmer, has worked for some years in a careless and irregular manner;

during the past year few meetings have been held. I trust the Officers and Brethren of this lodge will resolve on and carry out a thorough reform.

Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond, held its meetings during the past year in the Town Hall. I represented the inconvenience and danger arising therefrom to the W. Master and Brethren of the Lodge; and I am glad to have it in my power to report that with praise-worthy exertions they have commenced the building of a lodge room that will be finished in a few weeks.

I have been notified of three masonic funerals as follows:

Bro. C. J. Thomas of Doric Lodge No. 58, Ottawa.

" Simon Sweetland, formerly of St. John's No. 3, Kingston.

Bro. A. W. Ardagh of Prescott.

In conclusion, I thank the Brethren of the Central District for the many acts of kindness and courtesy shewn towards me on all occasions.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN P. FEATHERSTON,

*D. D. G. M., Central District.*

Ottawa, July 3rd 1868.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of Canada, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons:

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR, OFFICERS AND BRETHREN.—There are the following eighteen Lodges in the Eastern Townships District, in the Province of Quebec:

1. Prevost,.....No. 1,.....Dunham.
2. Dorchester,.....No. 4,.....St. Johns.
3. Nelson,.....No. 8,.....Philipsburg.
4. Golden Rule,.....No. 12,.....Stanstead.
5. Shefford,.....No. 53,.....Waterloo.
6. St. Francis,.....No. 67,.....Richmond.
7. Victoria,.....No. 71,.....Sherbrooke,
8. Stanbridge,.....No. 117,.....Stanbridge.
9. Yamaska,.....No. 130,.....Granby.
10. Clarenceville,.....No. 152,.....Clarenceville.
11. Browne,.....No. 163,.....W. Farnham.
12. St. Johns,.....No. 175,.....Mansonville.
13. Tuscan,.....No. 182,.....Levis.
14. Royal Canadian,.....No. 187,.....Sweetsburg.
15. Ascot,.....No. 188,.....Lennoxville.
16. Ashlan,.....No. 191,.....Coaticook.
17. Frelighsburg.....U. D.....Frelighsburg.
18. Doric,.....U. D.....Danville.

I have visited most of these Lodges during the past year, and I have very great pleasure in reporting that they are generally enjoying a good degree of substantial prosperity. The officers are, for the most part, very able men and zealous masons, and there seems to be on the part of the brethren an increasing desire for Masonic knowledge, and a growing love for the order.

During the past year, R. W. Bro. M. M. A. Tait, has been pleased to act as District Secretary, and Bro., the Rev. C. P. Mallory, as District Chaplain.

It is my melancholy duty to report the death on the 30th of March, of R. W. Brother Elisha Justin, P. M., of Golden Rule Lodge, No. 12, Stanstead, and past District Deputy Grand Master of the Eastern Townships' District.

He was buried with Masonic honors on the 2nd day of April. At his funeral there was a large con-



course of townspeople, and of brethren not only from his own lodge, but from many other parts of the townships, and the adjacent parts of the State of Vermont.

By the death of R. W. Bro. Justin, the Craft in the Eastern Townships has lost one of its best men, as well as one of its brightest masons. Few men have been more generally and deservedly beloved, by all who knew him, than "Father Justin," as he had been familiarly and endearingly called for many a year. His loss is very extensively felt and because of his great worth and his many virtues his memory will long be cherished, not only by his brethren of the Eastern Townships, but also by a large number of the fathers of this Grand Lodge throughout its entire jurisdiction. I beg to suggest that in honor of so good a man, and so excellent a mason, a memorial page of our printed proceedings be set apart.

By dispensation, the Festival of St. John the Evangelist was publicly celebrated by St. John's Lodge, Mansonville. I deeply regretted my inability to be present on the occasion, but I have reason to believe that the Festival was conducted in a manner highly satisfactory, and the result has been very beneficial to the Craft in that section of the District.

The late Festival of St. John the Baptist was also by dispensation publicly celebrated by Prevoist Lodge, No. 1, Dunham. On this occasion nearly all the Lodges in the Western part of the Eastern Townships, were very fully represented, and the attendance of ladies and gentlemen from the vicinity and surrounding Townships was also very large.

Religious services were held in the Church of England, in the forenoon, at which time our Rev. Bro., H. Montgomery, of Philipsburg, delivered an excellent discourse.

Shortly after this, the beautiful monument, erected to the memory of our late Eminent and beloved Brother, the Rev. Archdeacon Joseph Scott, D.D., P. D. G. M., was formally unveiled and consecrated, in the presence of a large concourse, with prayer, by the Rev. Bro. Montgomery, after which an able address was delivered by Bro. Chamberlin, M. P.

Prevoist Lodge, which has greatly honoured itself by the erection of this monument, was assisted by contributions from different Lodges in the vicinity, and the sum of \$50.00 voted by Grand Lodge, was also appropriated for the same purpose. This good example might becomingly be followed by other Lodges, who enjoyed the services of faithful and eminent Brethren, who have gone to their rest.

In the after part of the day, about 300 persons, men, women and children, partook of a sumptuous dinner in the commodious Hall of Bro. Seely's Hotel; V. W. Bro. Stevens Baker, W. M. of Prevoist Lodge, in the chair. After dinner, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and honoured. It would be unnecessary to report in detail the credit deserved by so many of the Officers and Brethren of Prevoist Lodge, for their successful efforts in conducting one of the best public Masonic Festivals ever held in that section of the Dominion. And there are many reasons for

believing that the results will be highly beneficial to that Lodge and to the Craft in general.

It is with especial pleasure that I have to report that the affairs of Prevoist Lodge are being put into a highly satisfactory condition, and that the Lodge itself is now enjoying great harmony and prosperity under the direction of excellent officers and prudent brethren. Where all the Lodges in the district are doing so well it is unnecessary to do more than to record the credit to all which is so generally and deservedly due.

The Lodges throughout the district cordially and promptly responded to the recommendation of Grand Lodge, and have procured regalia for the D. D. G. M. and his successors, at a cost of a little over one hundred dollars.

Several important questions have arisen during the past year, in regard to which it is sufficient to report that the M. W. the G. M. has been pleased to endorse and confirm all the decisions of the District Deputy.

It is unpleasant to be obliged to report that there is not among all our Lodges and brethren a very general satisfaction with the manner in which the affairs of some of the committees of the Board of General Purposes are conducted, particularly that on grievances, appeals, &c., &c.

The brethren often seem to have good cause of complaint when important cases, duly brought before them for consideration and early action, are sometimes put off and postponed from meeting to meeting of the Board, and from one committee of Grand Lodge to another, until often wide-spread and permanent evil results therefrom, both to individual brethren and to the craft in general.

I have the honor further to report that the lodges throughout the eastern townships appear to have taken into their most careful and mature consideration the very important matter of a general Grand Lodge for the Dominion of Canada, which has been so ably submitted to the craft by our M. W. the Grand Masters, during the past three years, and there seems to be in the E. T. D. a very general agreement in the opinion of the M. W. the G. M. expressed in his address at the last regular committee of the Grand Lodge, wherein he said, "I must confess that I entertain grave doubts whether a union embracing such an immense extent of country would have a tendency to promote the advancement of the best interests of Masonry on this continent."

With my heartiest thanks to my brethren for my unanimous re-election as D. D. G. M., E. T. D., and for their, I fear, over-partial kindness to me in all my official intercourse during the past year, I again return into their hands and yours, M. W. Sir, the important trust committed to me, praying the G. A. O. T. U. to bless all our faithful endeavors to promote the best interests of our beloved Order.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. GRAHAM,  
D. D. G. M., E. T. D.

RICHMOND, Province of Quebec, July, 1868.

The foregoing reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters were, on motion, received, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet on to-morrow at 10.30 o'clock, A. M.

SECOND DAY.

LONDON, 9th July 1868.

The Grand Lodge met at 11.45 o'clock, A. M.

The M. W. the Grand Master presiding.

A letter was read by the Grand Secretary from Prevost Lodge, which was referred to the Board of General Purposes.

R. W. Bro. Tully's motion that the rank of Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Canada be accorded to R. W. Bro. Brackstone Baker of England, was carried unanimously.

Several notices of motion were given, in relation to the place of holding the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

REPRESENTATIVE OF GRAND ORIENT OF BRAZIL

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, D. G. M., presented his credentials as Representative of the Grand Orient of Brazil, near the Grand Lodge of Canada, and was received with the Grand Honors.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES' REPORTS.

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, President of the Board of General Purposes, presented the following Reports:

AUDIT AND FINANCE—ANNUAL REPORT.

"The undersigned has the honor to report, for the information of Grand Lodge, that in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, the members of the Board of General Purposes were notified to attend the semi-annual meeting of the Board, at Brockville, on the second Tuesday of February, 1868, but only four members could make it convenient to be present, not sufficient to form a quorum for the transaction of business. Several matters of routine requiring immediate attention, I appointed R. W. Bro. John Kerr and R. W. James Bain, two members of the Finance Committee of the Board, to examine the books and financial statements of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, in order to enable me to issue orders on the Grand Treasurer for the payment of certain accounts presented against Grand Lodge, and to relieve a number of brethren and widows of brethren, in whose behalf applications had been received. Brothers Kerr and Bain discharged that duty with great care, and the result of their labors was published as the annual Financial Report, and circulated amongst the Lodges. The following is a synopsis of their report:—

The receipts for the year, ending 31st December, 1867, as per Grand Secretary's Books, were as follows:—

Certificates .....	\$2,118.00
Dues.....	3,366.50
Fees .....	1,413.50
Dispensations .....	351.00
Warrants.....	100.00
Constitutions .....	304.27
Proceedings .....	34.50
Donations Masonic Asylum Fund	335.56
	<hr/>
	\$8,023.33

By Grand Treasurer's statement the following is the position of the General Grand Lodge account:

General fund account .....	\$16,813.20
Benevolence investment account	7,890.24
"    current account.....	263.90
	<hr/>
	\$24,967.34
Asylum Fund.....	519.19
	<hr/>
	\$25,486.53

Invested as follows:—

County Middlesex Debentures, 6 per ct.	\$1,600.00
Provincial Debentures, 7 per cent.....	16,000.00
Gore Bank, Simcoe, on call, 4 per cent	7,886.53
	<hr/>
	\$25,486.53

The Masonic Asylum Fund stands as follows:—

Provincial Debentures .....	\$3,800.00
Bank of Montreal .....	19.46
Interest on Prov. Debentures, about....	310.00
Grand Treasurer, on call.....	519.19
	<hr/>
	\$4,648.65.

The expenditures for the year, as more fully appears by the detailed statement already furnished to Lodges by the Grand Secretary, was \$2,617.34.

The amount expended for benevolence amounted to \$1,173.90.

In conclusion, I have also to state that the instructions of Grand Lodge, regarding regalia for the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, near the Grand Lodge of Ireland, have been carried out, a suit of P. G. Senior Wardens' Regalia having been forwarded to that R. W. Brother, the expense of which has been defrayed from Grand Lodge Fund.

AUDIT AND FINANCE—HALF-YEARLY REPORT.

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, also reported as follows:—

The Board of General Purposes, having examined the financial statements of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary for the half-year ending 30th June, 1868, and having compared them with the vouchers, beg to report the same to be correct.

The receipts of the half-year, as per Grand Secretary's books, amounted to \$4,514.55, as follows:

Certificates .....	\$1363 00
Dues.....	2031 95
Fees .....	751 00
Dispensations .....	203 00
Warrants .....	30 00
Constitutions .....	112 40
Proceedings .....	23 20

Total.....\$4,514 55

By the statement of the Grand Treasurer, the following appears to be the position of Grand Lodge funds on the 30th June, viz:

General fund account.....	\$18,359 15
Benevolent fund investment account..	8,625 14
"    "    current account.....	543 25
	<hr/>
	\$27,527 54
Asylum fund.....	537 36
	<hr/>
	\$28,064 90

These funds are invested as follows :

Gore Bank, Simcoe, on call, at 4 p. ct...	\$2,464 90
Middlesex County Debentures, bearing 6 per cent.....	1,600 00
Provincial Debentures, bearing 7 p. ct..	16,000 00
Dominion Stock, bearing 6 per ct. ....	8,000 00
	\$28,064 90

The Board would call attention to the fact, that the seven per cent. Provincial Debentures expire on the 1st September, and that some other investment of Grand Lodge funds will have to be made. They recommend that the amount now invested in those Debentures be at once invested in Dominion Stock ; and that hereafter, all investments of Grand Lodge funds be made in such stock exclusively.

The Board having examined the following accounts, have directed them to be paid. The accounts amount to \$516.00

The Board have received another application from Alexandra Lodge No. 158, at Oil Springs, asking for a loan towards the completion of a building for which a contract had been entered into. The Board, while sympathising with Alexandra Lodge, feel that they cannot recommend a departure from the decision arrived at by Grand Lodge at last annual communication.

BENEVOLENCE.

R. W. Bro. Stevenson presented the Report of the Board on Benevolence. It recommended the granting of the sum of \$730.00.

The Board venture once more to draw attention to the great inconvenience occasioned by the neglect to comply with the regulation, that "all applications for relief be forwarded, in writing, to the grand secretary previous to the meetings of the board."

EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE WORK.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded with the exemplification of the work, giving the opening and closing in the first three degrees. R. W. Bro. McCabe acted W. M., R. W. Bro. John King P. M., W. Bro. R. T. Wilkinson S. W., R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson J. W., W. Bro. J. P. Campbell S. D., W. Bro. D. Patterson J. D., P. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, I. G., W. Bro. J. Boyd, Stewart.

The exemplification was most attentively listened to, and was most admirably performed. Bro. McCabe's explanations, as the work proceeded, aided wonderfully, not simply in enabling the brethren to remember the words of the work, but also the principles upon which it is based, and the history of which it is symbolical. Too much praise cannot be given to the brethren who exemplified the work thus far, and in an especial manner to R. W. Bro. McCabe.

The Grand Lodge was called from labour to refreshment at one o'clock. to meet again at three o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at three o'clock, the D. G. M., R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, presiding.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

After some discussion, it was resolved that the exemplification of the work should be at once pro-

ceeded with, and that the election of officers should be the first order of the day after the exemplification of the work.

MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.

During the preparations for the exemplification of the work, motions were made that the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge be held at Quebec, at Montreal, and at Ottawa, respectively. M. W. Bro. Bernard's motion in favor of Montreal was carried by a large majority,

EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE WORK.

Grand Lodge then proceeded with the exemplification of the work, the entered apprentice degree being illustrated, the Trestle Board of the degree being given by V. W. Bro. Otto Klotz.

On the conclusion of the lecture, M. W. Bro. Bernard moved that the further exemplification of the work be deferred until after the election of officers, and that such election be the first order of the day for the evening session.

EVENING SESSION.

Lodge resumed at 9.10 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. the Grand Master presiding.

The Report on applications for Warrants was read by R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, received and adopted.

ON CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS.

APPLICATIONS FOR WARRANTS.

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

Petrolia	Lodge, .....	Petrolia.
Tuscan	" .....	London.
Madawaska	" .....	Arnprior.
Saugeen	" .....	Walkerton.
White Oak	" .....	Oakville.
Frelighsburg	" .....	Frelighsburg.
St. Albans	" .....	Mount Forest.
Leeds	" .....	Gananoque.
Mount Royal	" .....	Montreal.
Irvine	" .....	Elora.
Doric	" .....	Danville.
New Dominion	" .....	New Hamburg.

On examining the Minute Books of the Lodges applying for Warrants, the Board finds that very few of them have been kept in accordance with the Forms of Entry appended to the Book of Constitution, and while recommending Grand Lodge to grant the Warrants thus applied for, they would strongly urge upon the Lodges referred, to a strict adherence to said forms in future.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed the following as scrutineers of the ballot: R. W. Bro. W. McCabe, V. W. Bros. Thos. White, Jr., and John E. Brooke, assisted by W. Bro. M. Gutman. The election was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows :

- M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Esq., Montreal, Grand Master.
- R. " " James Seymour, St. Catharines, Deputy Grand Master.
- " " " John W. Murton, Hamilton, Grand Senior Warden.
- " " " Steven Baker, Durham, Grand Junior Warden.
- " " " Rev. Vincent Clementi, Lakefield, Grand Chaplain.

R. W. Bro. Henry Groff, Simcoe, Grand Treasurer.  
 " " Daniel Spry, Toronto, Grand Registrar.  
 " " Thos. B. Harris, Hamilton, Grand Secretary.  
 " " Robert Nixon, Montreal, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, Chatham, London District.  
 " " David Curtis, Brantford, Wilson District.  
 " " Thomas Matheson, Mitchell, Huron District,  
 " " John Parry, Dunnville, Hamilton District.  
 " " M. H. Spencer, Barrie, Toronto.  
 " " Wm. McCabe, Oshawa, Ontario District.  
 " " H. W. Day, Trenton, Prince Edward District.  
 " " Geo. M. Wilkinson, Kingston, St. Lawrence District.  
 " " William Mostyn, Almonte, Ottawa District.  
 " " Alexander Murray, Montreal, Montreal District.  
 " " John H. Graham, Richmond, Eastern Townships Dist.  
 " " Alexander Walker, Quebec, Quebec District.

R. W. Bro. Rev. V. Clementi asked and obtained permission to allow his notice of motion, in reference to "vesting the appointment of D. D. G. M.'s in the M. W. the G. M.," to stand over until next meeting of Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. Dupuis gave notice that he would, at the next annual meeting of Grand Lodge, move to change the time of meeting from the 2nd Wednesday in July to the 1st Wednesday in September.

The Report of the Board on Benevolence, Annual Report on Audit and Finance and Semi-annual Report on Audit and Finance, and so much of the Report on Constitutions and Regulations as had reference to the granting of Warrants to Lodges U. D. were adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment at midnight, to meet again to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, 10th July, 1868.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labour at eleven o'clock.

The M. W. the Grand Master presiding.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

V. W. Bro. J. M. Dunn moved that in view of the arduous labours devolving upon the Board of General Purposes, each member in attendance on the first and succeeding days of each future Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, as also of the first and succeeding days of the semi-annual meeting of the Board itself, be paid his mileage and per diem expenses.

An interesting discussion arose upon the motion, in which the merits of the Board were canvassed, and a general expression of approbation given of its conduct of the business of Grand Lodge. The fact was pointed out that the delay in the business arose not from dilatoriness in the conduct of the Board, but from the practice of Lodges in putting off bringing matters before it until Grand Lodge was actually in session.

W. Bro. Dr. Billington moved in amendment, seconded by Bro. Faulkner, That at all future meetings of the Grand Lodge, the Board of General Purposes do meet two days before the meeting of the Grand Lodge in each year; and that the members of the Board be paid their expenses for attendance at meetings of the Board.

The amendment was carried.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

V. W. Bro. Thos. White, Jr., Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted the Report of the Committee, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Lodges.

On motion of R. W. Bro. F. Westlake, seconded by R. W. Bro. L. A. Henderson, the Report was received and ordered to be printed with the Proceedings of Grand Lodge.

DIVISION OF CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Moved by W. Bro. James Reynolds, seconded by W. Bro. McDonell, and—

*Resolved*—That Central District be divided into two districts, to be called respectively the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Districts; the St. Lawrence District to comprise the Counties of Frontenac, Leeds, Grenville, Dundas, Stormont, and Glengarry, the City of Kingston, and the Towns of Brockville and Cornwall; and the Ottawa District to comprise the Counties of Renfrew, Lanark, Carleton, Prescott and Russell, the City of Ottawa, and the Village of Aylmer, in the Province of Quebec.

REPORTS OF BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, President of the Board, presented the following reports:

CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS.

The Board of General Purposes beg leave to report:

That they have had submitted to them by M. W. Bro. Bernard, with the consent of the W. M. of Antiquity Lodge, of Montreal, the following statement of facts in relation to the position of M. W. Brother Bernard, in that Lodge.

"At a regular communication of the Lodge of Social and Military Virtues, held in Montreal, on Nov. 1st, A. L. 5855, it was proposed by Bro. E. Morris, seconded by Bro. Henry, 'That the thanks of this Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to R. W. Bro. Bernard, and, also, that in consideration of the many services rendered by him to the craft of Canada, in general, in establishing the Grand Lodge of Canada, he be admitted an honorary member of this Lodge; carried by acclamation.'

"From this time up to a recent date, M. W. Bro. Bernard voted and exercised all the privileges of membership. The name of the Lodge was changed to that of the Lodge of Antiquity. Circumstances occurred which called in question his right to exercise the privileges of ordinary membership, and finally it was ruled by R. W. Bro. J. C. Franck that he was not and never had been an honorary member of the Lodge; his name was consequently erased from the list of members.

"We submit herewith the minute book of the Lodge, also the by-laws, and ask permission to make such further statements as may be necessary to elucidate the case, and ask a decision on the following points.

"Has M. W. Bro. Bernard ever been an honorary member of the Lodge of Antiquity?

"Is he still a member and entitled to exercise all the privileges of ordinary membership?

"Under existing circumstances what is the duty of Lodge of Antiquity in the matter?"

This submission was signed by M. W. Bro. Ber-

nard and W Bro M Gutman, W M. of Antiquity Lodge.

The Board have examined the minute book of the Lodge of Social and Military virtues, as well as its by-laws, and from this examination they learn the following facts :

1. That M. W. Bro. Bernard was elected an honorary member as set forth in the submission.
2. That he was so elected in accordance with the by-laws of the lodge in force at the time.
- 3 That the election took place while the lodge was under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.
- 4 That for a period of about twelve years M. W. Bernard exercised the privilege of membership in Antiquity Lodge, without his right to do so being challenged.

The Board therefore report that M. W. Bro. Bernard having been returned to this Grand Lodge, as a member, when the Lodge of Social and Military Virtues surrendered its warrant to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and affiliated with the Grand Lodge of Canada, we are bound to recognise his honorary status, and hold that he is entitled to all the privileges conferred upon him by said Lodge before its connection with the Grand Lodge of Canada. The Board further decide that in denying the right of M. W. Bro. Bernard to exercise the functions of membership, the then W. M. of Antiquity Lodge exceeded his duty.

The Board desire to express their satisfaction at the fraternal manner in which this question has been submitted to them, the object both of M. W. Bro. Bernard, and the W. M. of Antiquity Lodge, being simply to obtain the decision of Grand Lodge upon the point in issue.

MASONIC ASYLUM TRUST.

The Board have had under consideration the following report from the Masonic Asylum Trust:

*To the Board of General Purposes.*

The Masonic Asylum Trust beg to present the following report.

DEATH OF THEIR CHAIRMAN.

With feelings of no ordinary pain the Board have, in the first place, to record the death of their valued and esteemed Chairman, the late R. W. Bro. the Hon. Robert Spence.

Many members of the Grand Lodge will remember the unceasing interest which this distinguished brother for many years evinced in the discharge of the active duties of the true mason; whether as Master of his Lodge, member of the Board of General Purposes and of the Grand Lodge, or more recently, when failing health prevented his being often from home, as the zealous Chairman of this Board.

As a means whereby we may be enabled "to let our light so shine before men." that they may see the true work of masonry and glorify the G. A. O. T. U., our departed brother, from the first initiation of this great project entertained the warmest feelings as to its imperative necessity, and the Trust earnestly hope that his last report as their chairman (see proceedings 1867, page 257) may not be lost sight of, but that his fervent appeal may now speak as from the tomb, "Let us do good as we have op-

portunity." The Trust express their earnest desire that his last recommendations may not fall to the ground, but that Grand Lodge at its present meeting will take decisive steps in carrying them out as a tribute to his memory, and when the noble Charity is in operation, among the names of benefactors to be inscribed on its walls, none more worthy shall then be found than that of the first Chairman, the late R. W. Bro. the Hon. Robert Spence.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

At a meeting of the Trust held shortly after the decease of R. W. Bro. Spence, R. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, was unanimously elected Chairman, and it will rest with the Grand Lodge to fill up the vacancy in the Trust. They would venture respectfully to recommend the name of V. W. Bro. James Bain, P M. of Saint Andrew's Lodge, both as a compliment to the Lodge from which the project originally emanated, see proceedings 1860, page 100, and as a tribute of his earnest zeal in the cause.

THE TRUST FUNDS.

Referring to the proceedings of 1867, page 354, for the last published statement of the fund, the Trust now report additions to the same as follows:—

1. Balance in the Bank of Montreal.....	\$ 14.18
Interest on Government Debentures by cheque of the Hon. Receiver General.....	390.58
Interest on funds in Bank.....	5.28
	\$410.04
Less cheque for Solicitors acc. \$40.00	
"    incidental expenses.. 6.00	46.00
	\$364.04
Present balance.....	\$364.04

2. The amount in the hands of R. W. Bro. the Grand Treasurer, Gore Bank, has been increased by interest and other receipts to \$537.36.

Recapitulating the foregoing, the fund may be now stated as follows:—

Government Debentures, as before.....	\$3,800.00
Bank of Montreal, credit Trust .....	364.04
Gore Bank, credit of Grand Treasurer.	537.36
Total.....	\$4,681.40

OFFER OF NIAGARA LODGE.

The Trust would, in the next place, refer to the following clause in the Report of the Board of General Purposes, on the subject of the Asylum (see proceeding 1867, page 371,) wherein after alluding to sundry offers and subscriptions, they report with reference to that of the Niagara Lodge No. 2, as follows:

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

"That the sum of \$3000, also a two story brick building, an elevation of which, with a description of the building, is attached, and 2 acres of land with improvements, garden, grapes, and other fruit trees therein, be granted for the purpose of the Asylum. This offer is in addition to the sum of \$40, already contributed by this Lodge."

Fortified by this favorable view already recorded by Grand Lodge, the Trust resolved to make a per-

sonal inspection of the premises, so nobly offered by this "well nigh the oldest" Lodge in Canada. Accordingly on the 1st inst. they proceeded to Niagara where they were received by Bro. Angus Morrison, M. P., the Mayor, the Reeve, and other influential inhabitants, accompanied by whom they proceeded to make a careful and minute examination of the premises, and they now report them as follows:

The building, beautifully situated in the Town of Niagara, is a capacious one, measuring 87½ by 50 feet, three, not two, stories in height, and although erected for many years, the walls and roof are in good preservation, and by removing the interior partitions, the present arrangement of the rooms being unsuitable, there would be ample scope for its refitting for the purposes required, the extreme cost of the required alteration being probably \$4000.

The amount of land offered with the building, namely, 2 acres not being considered sufficient, it was ascertained that 4 acres in addition can be obtained at a cost of about \$500, which could be paid for out of the \$3,000, offered by the Lodge, thus leaving \$2,500, to be applied towards the improvements, and an acquired property of 6 acres *en bloc*.

The water supply, an important consideration, was found to be ample, an excellent and unfailing spring well, 45 feet in depth, with a good pump, being on the premises. The drainage also was satisfactory.

In conclusion, it was considered that the offer of Niagara Lodge, No. 2, is one that entitles them to the thanks and gratitude of the fraternity, evincing as it does a hearty zeal for the interests of the craft, and a laudable anxiety to see this great work carried into operation.

The situation for salubrity and convenience is second to none in Canada, and taking into consideration the urgent necessity of providing a home for the "indigent and distressed brother mason," his widow and orphans; the members of the Trust heartily and unanimously recommend that the offer of the Niagara Lodge, No. 2, be accepted, the locality adopted by the Grand Lodge as the site for the Asylum, and the Trust empowered to proceed with all expedition to further the institution.

KIVAS TULLY,  
*Chairman.*  
S. B. HARMAN,  
A. DEGRASSI.

TORONTO, July 3rd, 1868.

With reference to the above, the Board recommend that so much of the Report as refers to the offer of Niagara Lodge, be referred back to the Trust, with the request that they report upon other offers, which have been made from various localities towards the erection of an Asylum building, and which are now in the hands of the Grand Secretary, or which may be hereafter sent in, it being distinctly understood that this Board is in no way pledged to accept any offer.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board.

A. A. STEVENSON,  
*Pres. B. of G. P.*

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Board of General Purposes begs leave to

report upon the several cases of Grievances and Appeals submitted to them, as follows:

The Board recommend that Br. Chas. H. Potter, of Prevost Lodge, No. 1, excluded for unmasonic conduct,—Br. James Wight, of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, excluded for unmasonic conduct—and Br. Charles Raymond, of Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, excluded for unmasonic conduct, be summoned to show cause at the next meeting of the Board, why they should not be expelled from the Order, and that R. W. Bro. David Browne, of Prevost Lodge, charged with unmasonic conduct, be suspended, and that he also be summoned to show cause at the next meeting of the Board, why he should not be expelled.

Considering the charge made against Br. Angus Russell, of Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, not sufficiently specific, the Board does not recommend that any action be taken upon it.

The Board consider the complaint made by W. Br. Oille, W. M. of St. George's Lodge, No. 15, against R. W. Br. Seymour, D. D. G. M. of the Hamilton District, to be frivolous and vexatious; and the following question which, after stating his case, he puts for adjudication, viz: "Has a D. D. G. M., during an *unofficial* visit to a Lodge in his District, power to publicly admonish or reprimand the W. M. in open Lodge, and threaten to take the gavel from him, without complaint to him made previously in his official capacity by any Lodge member?" the Board consider should be answered in the affirmative.

The charge of unmasonic conduct made by Br. Penton against Alexandra Lodge, should, in the first instance, be disposed of by the D. D. G. M. of the District, as the Board finds that it has no time at its disposal to hear cases, except on appeal.

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

The Board of General Purposes beg to submit the following on the Reports of the D. D. G. M., received from nine out of the eleven Districts into which this Grand Lodge is divided.

The Districts from which no reports have been received, are the "Toronto" District, (owing to the death of the D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. E. A. Walker,) and the "Quebec."

It is extremely gratifying to find that the D. D. G. M's. have evinced so much zeal and energy in the discharge of the many and onerous duties pertaining to their high offices, to which, in all probability is to be attributed the harmony and steady progress of our time-honored institution.

The Board learn with surprise that the brethren of the "Eastern Townships" are not fully satisfied with the conduct of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals. They would inform those brethren that delays which sometimes unavoidably occur in deciding cases of appeal are mainly due to the brethren preferring complaints, owing to the too general terms in which charges are sometimes framed, and the incompleteness of the evidence often offered in their substantiation.

The attention of the Board has been called to a paragraph in the report of the D. D. G. M. of the "Huron District," that he "refused to grant a dispensation to pass the ballot for a rejected candidate a second time," it not being in the power of a D. D. G. M. to entertain an application for such a dispensation.



In the report of the D. D. G. M. of "Central District," it is stated that the two lodges in his district, viz., "St. James" Lodge 74, and "Rising Sun" Lodge 85, work in accordance with a ritual similar to that in the United States. He also mentions that "these lodges contain many old and much esteemed masons who are loath to give up ceremonials they have been long accustomed to, yet if Grand Lodge will vouchsafe to instruct them fully they will yield to the general desire for uniformity." This Board begs to refer these worthy brethren to sections 21 and 36, under the head of Private Lodges, in the book of Constitution, wherein they will find the peril of their present position, and to remind them that it is the duty of the worthy Masters and officers of each lodge to perfect themselves in the work of the Grand Lodge from which they hold their charters, prior to their assuming the duties of their respective offices, and the Board sincerely trust that the R. W. the D. D. G. M. will see that the requirements of the constitution are not evaded. With feelings of the deepest sorrow we learn the unhappy position of Cornwall Lodge 125, Cornwall, it appearing that owing to the introduction of politics at the meetings of the said lodge that harmony which is so essential to the preservation of our order is not enjoyed therein. This the Board cannot too earnestly deprecate, and would call the attention of the various members of that lodge to the charge to the newly initiated candidate, wherein it is expressly stated that he is, whilst in the lodge, to abstain from all topics of political or religious discussion.

The Board learns with regret that the W. M. of St. James Lodge No. 74, in the Central District, has initiated a candidate who is maimed in one of his limbs, thus clearly violating the ancient charges, and in direct opposition to the frequent ruling of our successive G. M.'s, that the said worthy Bro. has shown a great want of Masonic knowledge in this matter, and the Board would recommend that the M. W. G. M. either admonish or otherwise punish said brother for such misconduct.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board.

A. A. STEVENSON,

*Pres. B. of G. P.*

#### CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS.

The application of Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, for permission to wear gold jewels and lace instead of silver ones, having been further laid over at the meeting of Grand Lodge, Kingston, 1867, to enable the petitioners to produce further evidence in proper form, to strengthen their claim, at the semi-annual meeting of this Board, which meeting, for want of a quorum not being held, the said petition has again been under consideration of this Board. The petitioners having submitted to this Board additional evidence to strengthen their claim, establishing that their warrant of 1795 had never ceased to be in force up to the year 1844, when they transmitted their warrant to England and received a new one, sanctioning all their proceedings as No. 733 English, and No. 10 Provincial Register. Some members constituting that lodge in 1805 are found to have been members thereof in 1843, notwithstanding which, however, this Board cannot recommend Grand Lodge to grant the prayer of Barton Lodge.

Regarding the prayer of the brethren of Petrolia Lodge, at Petrolia, that the officers of that lodge

having held office for upwards of twelve months, while working under dispensation granted in 1866, permission be granted to the members of that lodge to hold an election of officers immediately on receiving their warrant; this Board recommends Grand Lodge to grant that prayer.

The Board having carefully examined and considered the gross irregularities in the proceedings of Prince Albert Lodge No. 183 since its formation, as they appear from the minute book of that lodge, deemed them of such serious and grave character that this Board would have had no alternative but to recommend the erasure of that lodge; however in consideration of the frank and honest acknowledgement of guilt personally made by the P. M. Bro. Baird, the W. M., Bro. Jas. Emmery, and the J. W. Bro. Sinclair, and their candid declaration that those irregularities and violations of the constitution resulted solely from a want of proper knowledge and not from any wilful neglect of duty, and also in consideration of their faithful promise to strictly conform hereafter to the rules and regulations of this Grand Lodge, wherewith they assured the Board they are now familiar, and also in consideration of the plea of mercy by said officers, and the recommendation and at the earnest solicitation of the D. D. G. M. of Ontario District, the R. W. Bro. Wm. McCabe, the Board recommends Grand Lodge to throw over the past proceedings of that lodge, the broad mantle of charity, that virtue, the practice of which forms the basis of our time-honored fraternity.

The Board, notwithstanding their gross irregularities, feel justified in making this recommendation, being convinced that there was not the remotest intention on the part of the officers of that Lodge to violate the rules and regulations of Grand Lodge, and the Board is also assured that the present officers of Prince Albert Lodge are taking every means to acquaint themselves with the proper work.

Regarding the desire of the brethren of King Hiram Lodge at Lindsay, to resuscitate that Lodge, the Board recommend that the question be referred to the D. D. G. M. for Ontario District, to take such action as he may deem best for the general interests of the craft.

The Board have had brought under their notice, the case of Wm. John Stonier, initiated into Freemasonry in Great Western Lodge, No. 47, under the following circumstances:

Mr. Stonier was balloted for and accepted in Strict Observance Lodge, No. 27, but before his initiation removed to Windsor, where, within one year, he applied for initiation into Great Western Lodge.

Strict Observance Lodge was applied to for information, and on the 19th May, 1868, the Secretary of that Lodge wrote to the W. M. of Great Western Lodge, stating that "Mr. Stonier was balloted for and accepted in this Lodge previous to his removal from Hamilton, which removal prevented his being initiated here." The letter further recommended Mr. Stonier as in every way qualified to be made a mason.

Upon the receipt of this letter, Great Western Lodge initiated Mr. Stonier, without his being either proposed or balloted for in the Lodge, but, as they allege, out of compliment to Strict Observance Lodge and under the impression that the initiation made Mr. Stonier a member of Strict Observance Lodge.

The Board beg to report that this proceeding of Great Western Lodge was irregular; but the irregularity was due to a misapprehension on the part of the Lodge, their action being prompted by good motives, and influenced by an unauthorized letter from the Secretary of Strict Observance Lodge, bearing the seal of the Lodge.

Under the circumstances, they recommend that Bro. Stonier be considered an unaffiliated Mason, and that Great Western Lodge be permitted, if it so desire, to admit him as a member in the usual way, and confer upon him the other degrees previously thereto.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board.

A. A. STEVENSON,  
*President B. of G. P.*

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Board beg to report the following memorial from the recently established Grand Lodge in and for the Province of New Brunswick.

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada:*

The Memorial of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of New Brunswick, SHEWETH:—

“That at a convention of duly Warranted Lodges, held at the city of Saint John, in the Province of New Brunswick, in British North America, in the month of October last, the Grand Lodge in and for the Province of New Brunswick was, by the unanimous action of sixteen Lodges, erected upon the Ancient Charges and Constitutions of Freemasonry:—

“That the circumstances which prompted this action are set forth in the published proceedings of convention, and of the First Communication of this Grand Lodge, transmitted for your information.”

“That this Grand Lodge hath been duly erected by the united action of a large majority of the Lodges established in the Province, and embracing the different jurisdictions heretofore represented in New Brunswick.”

“That this Grand Lodge, so legally erected, according to the ancient constitutions of the craft, claims, and has sole and exclusive masonic jurisdiction over ancient craft masonry within this Province of New Brunswick.”

“This Grand Lodge, therefore, desires that fraternal communication may be established between your Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.”

“This memorial, by resolution of the Grand Lodge, is issued under the hand of the M. W. Grand Master and the Seal of Grand Lodge, this sixth day of April, A. D. 1868, A. L. 5868.”

B. LESTER PETERS,  
*Grand Master for New Brunswick.*

W. F. BUNTING,  
*Grand Secretary.*

The foregoing having received the careful consideration of the Board, it has much pleasure in recommending that this Grand Lodge cordially recognize the establishment of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, and cheerfully extends to it the right hand of fellowship, as a sister Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. A. STEVENSON,  
*Pres. B. G. P.*

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The scrutineers reported that the following brethren had received the highest number of votes as members of the Board of General Purposes for the ensuing term, viz: M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, Kingston; M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, Ottawa; V. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, Preston; V. W. Bro. James Bain, Toronto; R. W. Bro. I. H. Stearns, Lennoxville.

INSTALLATION OF M. W. GRAND MASTER.

R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master Mason elect, of the Grand Lodge of Canada, was then presented for installation by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, P. G. M., and was duly installed and invested by the retiring G. M., M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, who placed him in the Grand East. M. W. Bro. Stevenson was then proclaimed three times, and saluted with full Masonic honors.

M. W. Bro. WILSON, in retiring from the oriental chair, expressed the gratitude he felt for the repeated honors and the many acts of kindness which he had received from his masonic brethren of Grand Lodge. Although retiring from the more active duties of Freemasonry, he should always be pleased to place whatever experience he had acquired at the command of his successor, or of other brethren who might stand in need of it, when called upon to do so. He congratulated, in a few well-chosen words, M. W. Bro. Stevenson upon his elevation to the position of honor which he now so worthily filled.

ASYLUM TRUST.

Moved by R. W. Bro. KIVAS TULLY, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. DEGRASSI, That V. W. Bro. Jas. Bain be appointed to fill the vacancy, caused by the lamented death of the R. W. the Hon. Robert Spence, in the Masonic Trust.—*Adopted.*

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment at half-past one o'clock, p. m., to meet at three.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

BARTON LODGE.

On motion for the adoption of the report of the Board of General Purposes on constitutions and regulations,

M. W. Bro. BERNARD moved, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. GRAHAM, in amendment, That so much of the report as refers to the application of Barton Lodge, No. 6, to be permitted to wear gold jewels and lace instead of silver, be amended by striking out the word “cannot,” thus granting the prayer of the petitioners.

This amendment, after some discussion, was carried, and the report, as so amended, adopted.

THE ASYLUM TRUST.

On motion for the adoption of the report of the Board on the Masonic Asylum Trust,

M. W. Bro. BERNARD moved, seconded by R. W. Bro. WESTLAKE, in amendment, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that the Asylum Trust should be abolished, and that the Board of General Purposes be directed to consider and report upon the proper disposition to be made of such portion of the Asylum Fund as has been contributed by

private Lodges or individual brethren, the remainder to be transferred to the general fund of Grand Lodge.

A most interesting discussion occurred on this motion, the merits and demerits of the Masonic Asylum scheme being frankly and fully considered, when

R. W. Bro. J. H. GRAHAM, moved in amendment to the amendment, seconded by R. W. Bro. M. A. SPENCER, that the further consideration of matters pertaining to the Masonic Asylum Trust Fund, and the disposal of the funds contributed towards the establishment of a Masonic Asylum, be postponed until the next regular communication of Grand Lodge.

This amendment being accepted by M. W. Bro. Bernard, was declared adopted.

#### ON THE M. W. G. M.'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Bro. Seymour presented the following:—

The Board beg leave to report, that having respectfully considered the various subjects of interest to the Craft referred to in the M. W. G. M.'s instructive address, they cordially reciprocate his fraternal greeting on the auspicious circumstances under which the present Annual Communication is held.

They unite in the unfeigned grief so touchingly expressed, in reference to the demise of the distinguished Brethren whose names appear in the obituary notice. The invaluable services rendered this Grand Lodge by the deceased cannot be too highly prized; and to mark the esteem in which their memories are regarded, your Board would recommend that memorial pages be set apart in the printed proceedings, therein to record in the usual way a lasting tribute to their worth.

The atrocious assassination of a prominent and honored Canadian Statesman, by the hands of a midnight murderer, justly calls not only for execration by the Masonic fraternity, but also for retributive justice from our civil authorities, who will be universally sustained in using all the power in their hands to protect life and crush out lawlessness, from whatever source it may proceed. The failure of the diabolical attempt to take the life of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, by another misguided assassin, is truly matter for profound gratefulness to the Most High, through whose providence our beloved Sovereign and the entire empire were saved from the poignant grief his untimely death would have caused. In this connection, your Board would recommend that an humble address be prepared, expressive of the horror of this Grand Lodge at the outrage designed, and of our warmest sympathy with Her Majesty in the trying ordeal through which her son was called to pass; that such address be engrossed, signed and sealed, and transmitted for presentation through the Governor General.

The Board learn with the sincerest pleasure of the appointment of the distinguished Brother, who now has the honor to represent the Grand Lodge of England at our present Communication, and heartily approve of the M. W. G. M.'s recommendation to confer upon him the honorary rank in his representative capacity, assured that his presence at our assemblages will always be hailed with the liveliest satisfaction.

The formation of a Grand Lodge in the Province of New Brunswick, is a source of unalloyed pleasure, and your Board cheerfully concur in the recognition to this sister Grand Body so deservedly commended.

The Board rejoice in the success which attended the public ceremonies at Port Dalhousie and Dundee, for which special Grand Lodge communications were convened, and learn with much interest that the effect produced on both occasions was decidedly beneficial to Masonry, in removing erroneous impressions and correcting pernicious opinions unjustly entertained.

The Board are pleased to learn that the invaluable services of the M. W. and R. W. Brethren who have received testimonials by order of Grand Lodge, have been thus fittingly rewarded: knowing full well that the recognition thus publicly attested is but a just tribute to past faithful devotion to its honor and prosperity. They also cordially concur in the suggestion that some suitable acknowledgment should be made of the eminent services of M. W. P. G. M. Simpson.

The question of establishing a General Grand Lodge, being one surrounded with issues that require the nicest discrimination, it is a source of much gratification to your Board to know that the matter has been treated with so much judicious caution by our M. W. G. M., who truly remarks, that any precipitate haste on the part of indiscreet friends would assuredly retard the successful consummation of so desirable an end.

The organization of twelve new Lodges within this jurisdiction during the past year, is a gratifying evidence of the growing popularity of Freemasonry, the beneficent principles of which need only to be known to be appreciated. Confidently believing that the brethren concerned will realize the higher privileges and responsibilities thus assumed by them, your Board hail these new accessions to our fold with unmingled pleasure, and cheerfully commend them to the consideration of Grand Lodge for Warrants of Constitution.

The declaration that Masonry is not simply a benefit club, must force itself upon every reflecting mind; for were that idea once to prevail, the higher mission of inculcating brotherly love and truth, would soon pale before the mercenary one of dollars and cents. Therefore your Board regard the remarks of the M. W. G. M. on this topic as well-timed and in season, and earnestly commend them to the attention of those members whose opinions need more liberal development on so important a subject.

The necessity of uniform practice in administering our rites and ceremonies, cannot be too forcibly impressed upon the attention of W. M.'s and others entrusted with authority to instruct. In this sense your Board consider the exemplification of the *work* witnessed during the present Communication, as well calculated to attain so desirable an end; and they cheerfully take this opportunity of thanking the M. W. G. M. for the judicious wisdom displayed in carrying out the long-looked-for wishes of the Craft throughout our jurisdiction in this matter.

The preservation of Masonry in its present proud position, being mainly due to the conservatism which has handed it down through countless generations

untainted and unimpaired, deservedly calls for special mention; and the more so, as the tendency of the age is to innovate by pernicious change and mar a wondrous system of morality, carefully veiled in allegory, and beautifully illustrated by symbols. May the wholesome reflections of our G. M. on this point be carefully pondered over by young craftsmen, whose inclination to *alter* and *improve* will be much curbed thereby.

Your Board heartily approve of the suggestion that the Asylum fund should appear in the Grand Treasurer's books, to show at a glance all the funds owned by this Grand Lodge; and in future they will carry out the proposal.

In closing this review, your Board sincerely sympathise with our M. W. G. M. in the severe illness through which he has recently past; and while commending him to the care of that All-wise Creator, who doeth all things well, they fervently pray that not only may he enjoy long life, happiness and prosperity, but that the day may be far distant when he will cease to labor in the vineyard of masonry, or withdraw from us that wisdom, prudence, fortitude and justice which have rendered his name honored, and added so much to the welfare of this Grand Lodge.

The importance of electing well skilled brethren to preside over subordinate lodges, is a subject that commends itself to the earnest consideration of every Mason, and your board earnestly hope that the well-timed reference thereto will be treasured up and become the means of securing much-needed improvement in this particular.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES SEYMOUR,  
*Pres. B. of G. P.*

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, nominated the following brethren as members of the Board of General Purposes, for the next ensuing term:

R. W. Bro. HENRY MACPHERSON,  
V. W. " THOS. WHITE,  
" " DR. CLARKE,  
" " M. GUTMAN,  
" " HON. THOS. WOOD.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The thanks of Grand Lodge were severally granted to the brethren of London for the preparations made for the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and the courtesy extended to members during its session; to the Railway and Steamboat Companies for their liberality in granting reduced rates to the representatives attending Grand Lodge; and to the Committee on Credentials and to the Scrutineers, for their efficient and painstaking discharge of their laborious duties.

THE RITUAL.

Moved by W. Bro. Dr. BILLINGTON, seconded by V. W. Bro. W. W. PRINGLE, that the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Secretary, be a standing committee to devise the best means of instructing the Lodges in the ritual as recognized by Grand Lodge. *Adopted.*

CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS.

R. W. Bro. SEYMOUR presented the following supplementary report on Constitutions and Regulations.

The Board have had brought under their notice by Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan, the following case:

A person residing at Ingersoll, removed to Lucan where he remained about nine months, certainly less than twelve. During his residence there he made application to St. John's Lodge, No. 68, Ingersoll, for the degrees of masonry. They received his petition and initiated him. It is complained by Irving Lodge that, in doing this, St. John's Lodge violated article 2, "of proposing members," in the book of Constitution.

The Board beg to report that, in their opinion, the candidate could not, until the expiration of one year, become masonically a resident of Lucan, or under the jurisdiction of Irving Lodge, and therefore continued to be masonically within the jurisdiction of St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll, who acted rightly in the matter.

At the same time the Board consider that, as an act of courtesy, St. John's Lodge should have consulted Irving Lodge before admitting the candidate.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES SEYMOUR,  
*Pres. B. of G. P.*

On motion for the adoption of the report, the last clause of the report, which implied a censure on St. John's Lodge, notwithstanding that it had acted constitutionally, was struck out, and the report as so amended adopted.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The following notices of motion for the next annual communication were given:

W. Bro. BARBER. That the fees and dues payable by subordinate lodges to Grand Lodge be reduced one-half.

R. W. Bro. KAHN. That at the next annual communication, he will move that the Huron District be divided into two districts.

V. W. Bro. P. G. BROWN. That the District Deputy Grand Masters be paid their expenses by Grand Lodge for one visit to each subordinate lodge in their districts.

W. Bro. JOHN E. HARDING. That the necessary travelling expenses of the District Deputy Grand Masters be paid in equal proportion by all the lodges within their district, such amount to be ascertained and paid through the Grand Secretary immediately after each annual communication.

W. Bro. W. S. MARTIN. That section 7 of proposing members of the constitutions be so amended that no candidate for initiation be received unless he receive the unanimous vote of the votes cast.

W. Bro. R. P. STEPHENS. That clause No. 1, "of District Deputy Grand Masters," of the constitution be amended so as to allow Past Masters to vote in the election of District Deputy Grand Masters for their respective districts.

R. W. Bro. L. H. HENDERSON. That it be an instruction to the Board of General Purposes to report as early as possible the expediency of reorganizing the Masonic districts within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

W. Bro. BARBER. That it is desirable in the interests of Masonry, that one or more paid Grand Lecturers be appointed.

R. W. Bro. A. IRVING. To amend the constitution, in so far as the same relates to the Board of General Purposes, with the object of securing a more general representation of the members of the Grand Lodge in the said Board; and to that end the amendment of the 1st, 3rd, and 4th articles relating thereto—providing for the number, qualification, mode of selection and appointment of the members thereof.

The business of Grand Lodge being finished, it was closed at six o'clock, p. m., in ample form

### PRESENTATION.

At a Regular Communication of Mount Royal Lodge, A. F. & A. M., held at Montreal, on Tuesday evening, 9th June, instant, a magnificent copy of the Holy Bible, elegantly bound in Turkey Morocco, was presented to the Lodge by the Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124, C. R., accompanied by the following address:—

To the Worshipful Master and Members of Mount Royal Lodge:

WORSHPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,—In meeting you this evening on the "level" it is with most peculiar gratification. We do not meet you as, in ordinary cases, visitors approach a Lodge. We do not come to you only as brother to brother, but indeed we approach you as a mother does her child, and we are proud so to name you. And how could we better prove our good feelings than by endeavoring to inculcate that great, that glorious, that first of all masonic lessons, a firm belief in the supreme Architect of the Universe,—that He will reward virtue and punish vice,—and that he has revealed His will to man. And how? In that sacred book, the rule and guide of our faith, a copy of which, the Lodge over which I have the honor to preside, has deputed me to present to you this evening. But it may be said that when a parent sends his child, at the age of maturity, forth into the world, he generally endows him with the best worldly possessions; gives him of his affluence all that he can spare, sufficient means to obtain a livelihood, nothing, in fact, too costly to bestow upon the favorite. So would the mother—the old Montreal Kilwinning Lodge—be happy to give you her best, her most costly jewels, to contribute from her savings to start you in the world, were it not that masonry has a higher aim, that there is something of more intrinsic value in it than jewels or precious stones; that the corner stone of the building is the one without which our ancient and magnificent temple could not stand. That corner stone is the sacred book, and that most inestimable treasure your mother Lodge now takes delight in presenting to you, and we hope and trust that you will be governed by the precepts it contains. Brethren, much more might be said on this occasion, but I know the Masons who hear me, I know the Worshipful Master whom, as head of this Lodge, I now address. Few words are necessary to express to you our very best wishes for the welfare and prosperity of your Lodge. I need hardly assure you. Brethren, I regret that this duty did not fall on one more capable than myself. I feel entirely incompetent to do justice to the occasion; but I can assure you, brethren, that I have spoken my own honest convictions, and I am fully convinced that I have uttered the sentiments of every member of the Lodge to which I am proud to say most of you formerly belonged. And now, Worshipful Sir, in conclusion, we beg of you to accept our good wishes; and may we all, no matter what Lodge we hail from, so live that we may, when the labors of this life are completed, unite in harmony in the Grand Lodge above.

(Signed,) JOHN P. PEAVEY,

MONTREAL, 9th June, 1868. W. M. Montreal Kilwinning Lodge.

The Worshipful Master of Mount Royal Lodge acknowledged the gift in the following REPLY:

To the Worshipful Master of Montreal Kilwinning Lodge:

WORSHPFUL SIR,—On behalf of the Members of Mount Royal Lodge, I tender our most sincere thanks to yourself and members of Montreal Kilwinning Lodge for the very elegant and timely present made to us this evening, and for the very handsome and pleasing manner in which the presentation has been made; but more especially we thank you for the kind consideration and manifestation of fraternal feeling which prompts your Lodge to act so

generously to us as we enter upon our Masonic career. The beautiful token of esteem you have been pleased to select is the one most dear to each of us. It will ever be open before us, and will be the centre around which we shall all gather to receive instruction on the truths therein contained, the foundation on which we base our hopes, and which we are taught to consider the unerring standard of truth and justice. Hoping we may always be obedient to its precepts, I again thank your Lodge on behalf of Mount Royal Lodge, and I hope this manifestation of good will may be a bond to connect the two Lodges affectionately to each other through all time.

(Signed,)

CHAS. STORER,

W. M. Mount Royal Lodge.

MONTREAL, 9th June, 1868.

### CRAFT MASONRY.

The Lodges electing their officers in June met in the Masonic Hall, Toronto Street, and installed the following brethren:—

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE, No. 16, G. R. C.—W Bro Dr Joseph Adams, W M; V W Bro James Bain, P M; Bros George P Archer, S W; Robert Fraser, J W, James E Ellis, Treasurer; W L Wilkinson, Secretary; Alex McKenzie, S D; John Barnett, J D; S P Kleiser, D of C; Butt, I G; Rawlinson, Organist; W H Howland and Emilio Pernet, Stewards; V W Bro John Paterson and W Bro Jos. Adams, Hall Trustees; Bros Grassick, Rep C Ben't Com; Willing, Tyler.

KING SOLOMON'S LODGE, No. 22, G. R. C.—The officers of this Lodge were installed by R. W. Bro. Francis Richardson, past D. D. G. M.: V W Bro Daniel Spry, W M; W Bro Aug T Houel, P M; Bros David McLellan, (re-elected) S W; Geo B Kingsmill, J W; R W Bro Rev Vincent Clementi, P M, Chaplain; Bros Chas Gaspe Fortier, Treasurer; Chas L Roberts, Secretary; W Bro Jas Norris, P M, S D; Bros Thomas Laughton, J D; John Trew Douglas, D of C; Henry Clay Houel, Organist; Edmund G Leigh, I G; Geo Chauter and Thomas Patterson, Stewards; S McGowan, Tyler. V W Bro Alex M Monro, Chris W Bunting, P M, W Bro Jas Norris, P M, A T Houel, P M, and Bros Thos Sargent and W J McClure, Com. of General Purposes. Bro James Spooner, Rep C Benevolent Com. W Bro A T Houel, P M, and V W Bro Daniel Spry, Hall Trustees.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 75, G. R. C.—The following officers were installed by R. W. Bros. Kerr and Gundry: W Bros Fred I Menet, W M; Wm Hamilton, P M; Bros John Ritchie, S W; Bernard Saunders, J W; N L Steiner, Treasurer; Scott, Secretary; I McIntosh, S D; Smith, J D; Henderson and Trotter, Stewards; Gledhill, Organist; Champ, I G; T Willing, Tyler. W Bros Gundry and Kerr, Hall Trustees.

A splendid gold P. M.'s Jewel and Collar was presented to W. Bro. Houel by King Solomon's Lodge.

After the installation, the members of King Solomon and Wilson Lodges dined together in the lecture room of the Mechanics' Institute. V. W. Bro. Daniel Spry presided, supported by V. W. Bro. John Segsworth, W. M. Wilson Lodge, and W. Bros. P. M.'s Houel, Morris, and Bunting, and R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, P. M. of Manitou Lodge, Collingwood. A very pleasant evening was spent, and after the usual toasts, the proceedings were brought to a close at 12.

### CAPITULAR MASONRY.

CATARAQUI CHAPTER, No. 12.—The following is a list of the officers of this Chapter, which meets at Kingston, for the current year, installed on the 11th May last:

R. F. Comp. Henry Dumble, Z.; V. E. Comp. S. H. Blundheim, H.; E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, Jr., J.; Comp. R. C. Benedict, S. E.; Comp. R. Town, S. N.; E. Comp. Francis Mito, Tr., Comp. Wm. Grob, P. S.; Comp. W. W. Mathews, S. S.; Comp. M. O'Brien, J. S.; Comp. T. Graham, Janitor.

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