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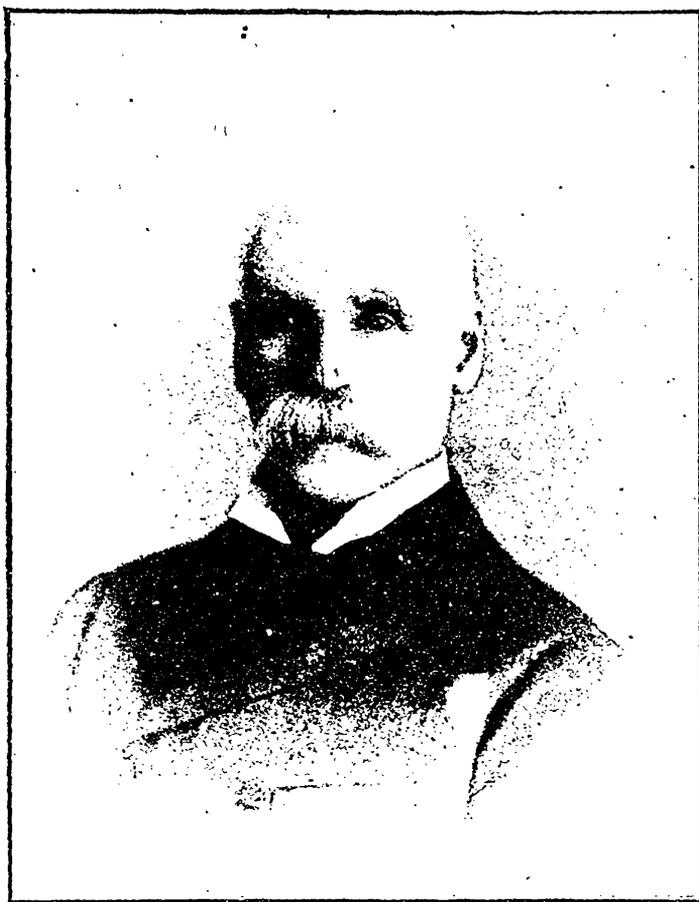
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*BRO. WARRING KENNEDY,*  
MAYOR OF TORONTO.

THE  
CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN,  
AND  
MASONIC RECORD.

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Is Grand Chapter going to make Toronto its permanent abiding place? It could do worse.

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REVIVING dormant chapters should be abolished, as excellent reasons have been set forth why the practice should be abandoned.

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THE Grand Chapter of Canada has changed its time of meeting, from July to January. Is this an indication that the heated term has had an effect on elections?

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GRAND Z. Robertson continues that the Royal Arch is the "real summit of a true Masons journey," an assertion that may not please some brethren burdened with degrees, but nevertheless a rock bottom truth.

THERE should be a revival in Capitular Masonry now, as the Grand Z. has not only administered a timely rebuke here and there, but offers some excellent suggestions.

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BRO. E. T. Malone was the moving spirit in arranging for the reception of Grand Lodge.

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BRO. Corton has announced himself as a candidate for D.D.G.M., for Toronto district next year.

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THE absence of stimulants in the refreshment room, Massey hall, was not an attraction for the thirsty brethren.

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THE delegates from points outside of the city received complimentary tickets to the concert, and they enjoyed it, as the talent was first-class.

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THE election of Bro. Richard Dinnis, as D.D.G.M., of Toronto District was a fitting compliment to a modest but energetic Mason.

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BRO. Hess' motion to amend the constitution so as to change in a measure the construction of the Board of General Purposes did not commend itself to the brethren, as it failed to secure a seconder.

BRO. Ben Allen, Grand Senior Warden, polled a vote in keeping with his avordupois, and he deserved it.

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THE registration of delegates in the Queen's hotel on the evening before the meeting of Grand Lodge was a good move.

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BRO. J. E. Harding's voice was not powerful enough for Massey Hall, and P.G.M. Murray, was requested to read Bro. H's report on benevolence.

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BRO. Dinnis, D.D.G.M., Toronto district has appointed Bro. McKnight district secretary, and the Rev. Mr. Sims district chaplain.

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THE brethren of Grand Lodge do not feel disposed to give up the privilege of electing officers, as Bro. Cuthbert's motion was defeated by a large majority.

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OPINIONS differ as to the usefulness of Grand Representatives. They may be ornaments, but they are useful, and that usefulness has been experienced on more than one occasion.

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THE late president of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association. Bro. C. B. Harper, was a prominent, Mason and his successor is also a member of Craft. Bro. Burnham, Past Grand Master.

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THE twenty-first annual session of the Imperial Council, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America, will be held at Nantasket Beach, Mass., Sept. 2 and 3. Doubtless the beach is the nearest approach to a desert within easy reach.

THERE was some talk in Grand Lodge of "decayed" brethren. Where are they? Decayed eggs, decayed trees, decayed fruit, but decayed human beings—bah!

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THE address of Grand Master White was not as lengthy as that of his predecessors, but it covered the Masonic field, what was lacking in verbage was more than compensated for by the practical way he treated the matters dealt with.

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BRO. Barwick is determined that the Masonic Asylum for old and decrepit brethren will materialize, and succeeded in getting the report of Masonic Asylum Trust Fund referred to a special committee. Bro Hoodless, in seconding the motion, made a neat and brief speech.

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THE Masonic concert in Massey Hall, on the evening of the first day of Grand Lodge meeting, was a decided success, one of the features of the evening, and not announced on the programme, was the happy speech, of Grand Master White, who captured the ladies by his complimentary and humorous remarks.

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THE wife of T. W. Parvin, the daughter of a Past Grand Master, and the daughter-in-law of Most Worshipful Brother Theodore Sutton Parvin, of Iowa, Past Grand Master; Past Grand Commander; Past High Priest, and an active member of the Southern Supreme Council, 33rd and last degree, is a 14th degree Mason, Lodge of perfection, and was the Worshipful Master of Martha Washington Lodge of Master Masons

in Mexico. Brother Theodore Sutton Parvin was himself knighted in Apollo Commandery No 1 of Chicago, January 10, 1855. He never expected then to live to see the day when his son and son's wife would meet in the same Master Masons Lodge, and the son's wife would be the Worshipful Master.

#### NOT RETROGRADING.

The multiplicity of fraternal societies, many possessing benevolent or benefit features, has not injured our grand old institution, as some were pleased to predict a few years ago. The attendance at the recent session of Grand Lodge shows that the Craft is not only increasing in membership, but that interest in it is becoming greater each successive year. There is a charm about Masonry not to be found in other societies, and that charm is not the refreshment room, while it would be absurd to deny the usefulness of that adjunct in cultivating the social element, yet it would be equally absurd to give it greater credit than attaches to it. The song, the speech, even the friendly glass, plays their part, but none or all of them constitute the attractive features of Masonry. Ask a dozen Masons why they attend the meetings of their respective lodges, and a dozen different replies will be received whatever it is that draws the brethren out to the meetings, it ultimately becomes a part of their nature, and it is as essential that they should attend lodge as don clean linen. That they are lukewarm and indifferent Masons must be admitted, but a study of such Masons will unveil the fact that they lack individuality, and have no special characteristics. They are of the lackadaisical

class who allow the tide of humanity to carry them through the world paying no attention to their surroundings, and entirely indifferent to the well being of humanity. The active zealous Mason is already a good citizen, as the parts that urge him to be active in that direction, prompt him to progressiveness in all matters of business. Masonry may be old; it may be termed by some as rusty or moth-eaten, but judging by recent occurrences it is still progressive, and its admirers anything but mossbacks.

#### DEATH OF BRO. COL. HENDERSON.

R. W. Bro. Col. L. H. Henderson, familiarly known to many of the regular attendants at Grand Lodge as "Larry" dropped dead in his office in Belleville at noon, on July 19th. A few minutes previous to this he had been chatting pleasantly with D. B. Robertson, the city clerk, the chief of police and a number of American gentlemen. Coming down stairs he entered his own office by the side door leading from the lobby of the city hall. His clerk, Capt. Charles Dunlop, was in the office at the time. Bro. Henderson staggered slightly and muttered in a feeble way as he entered the office, "My God, the pain, the pain! My breath is leaving me" and sank into a chair. Mr. Dunlop placed him on the couch nearby and ran to get some water. He called to chief of Police Newton to remain with him. The chief telephoned immediately for Dr. Gibson and went in to stay with him, but the colonel only gasped a few times and expired before Mr. Dunlop or Dr. Gibson arrived. He had been complaining for a week but had given no sign immediately before he died of

being dispirited or ill, Dr. Gibson said the immediate cause of his death was heart failure. The office a few minutes after Bro. Henderson expired was crowded with people utterly amazed and shocked at the terribly sad intelligence.

Bro. Henderson was born in Picton, Ontario, about 77 years ago and went to Belleville when a mere boy. He had lived most of his life in that city and had been intimately connected with the city's affairs. He leaves a family of one son, Harvey, connected with Galt Bros., Montreal, and a daughter, Clara, wife of Captain Sewell of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company. He had another son, Dr. Edward Henderson, who died some time ago. Bro. Henderson had been city solicitor for twenty-five years. He had been city treasurer for three years, taking the place of Mr. Tannahill, who retired.

For many years Bro. Henderson was an active member of the Craft, filling many important positions. He was a P.D.D.G.M., at the time of his death a member of the Board of General Purposes, a position in which his keen knowledge of the detail of the Craft rendered him very valuable to his brethren. He was of a kindly disposition, and always ready to render what assistance he could to younger or less skilled members of the Craft. He was associated with several Masonic bodies. Among them A. & A. S. R. in which he had secured the thirty-second degree.

Bro. Henderson was initiated in Moira Lodge, No. 11. On December 9, 1857, his certificate of membership being No 901 on the roll of members in Canada. He was an honorary member of Moira Lodge, No. 11; of Belleville Lodge, No. 123, and of Eureka Lodge, No. 283. He was also a member of Moira Chapter, No. 7, and King Baldwin Preceptory, No. 6. Among the positions he held in the Craft were the following:—P.D.D.G.M., of Prince Edward district. Past Grand Z. of Royal Arch Chapter, Right

Eminent in Great Priory of Canada, and held decoration of Patents from Prince of Wales Great Priory of England; Sovereign Grand Commander of A. & A. Scottish Rite, 33rd and last degree; honorary P.G.M. General of the Sovereign Sanctuary of Royal and and Oriental Freemasonry of the Royal Masonic Rite, 33° 96. .90, for the Dominion of Canada and Province of Newfoundland, etc.

In military circles he had attained high positions, having been Major of the XV Battalion, Argyle Light Infantry, for a great many years and having received the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel of that Battalion about six months ago.

The funeral of Bro. Henderson took place on July 21st. The brethren formed in procession at their hall and marched to their late brother's residence, and shortly after their arrival the 15th Batt., under command of Major Ponton, marched up and took its position opposite the house. Following them came the City Council in a body and the police force under command of Chief Newton. A Masonic service was held at the house conducted by R.W. Brothers E. T. Malone from Toronto and Arthur McGinnis of Moira Lodge, No. 11 of Belleville.

The casket was wrapped in the folds of a Union Jack and upon it lay the sword and helmet of deceased, buried in numerous beautiful floral tributes. The battalion presented arms as the casket was being placed in the hearse. The procession formed in the following order.

- Pioneer Corps.
- I. O. O. F. and military Band
- 15th batalion Bugle band.
- 15th Battalion and staff with Arms Reversed.
- Visiting Officers.
- Moira, Belleville and Eureka Lodges
- A.F. & A.M.
- Moira Chapter, No. 7.
- King Baldwin Preceptory.
- Hearse and Bearers.
- Chief Mourners on Foot.
- City Council on Foot.

Police Force.  
Officers of 49th Battalion  
Civic Employees on Foot.  
Citizens on Foot.

Citizens in Carriages.  
The pall-bearers were all Knights Templars, as follows, from King Baldwin Preceptory No. 6, G. R. C. :—

R. E. J. Parker Thomas, P.G. Marshall, Great Priory; R.E. Col. Samuel T. Lazeir, and R.E. H. W. Day, M. D., P. Prov. Priors; E. Wm. Dacter, and E. Jeremiah P. Thompson, Past Preceptors; E. Wm. H. Beggar, M.P. P.

The procession marched down North Front St. thence to Coleman st.; along Bridge st. to St. Thomas' church. The procession was met at the church door by Rev. Canon Burke and Rev. A. L. Green and it proceeded up the aisle to a dead march play by Mrs. Col. Campbell on the organ. Canon Burke assisted by Rev. Mr. Green, conducted the service. The rain which had been threatening for some time, began to fall in torrents just as the service was ended and it was decided to read the burial service at the church. In the meantime the band and the battalion left for the cemetery. When the rain had nearly ceased to fall, the procession reformed and marched up Bridge st. to Commercial st., and many drove out to the cemetery to take in the final ceremony.

At the request of the W. M., of Eureka Lodge, No. 287, the impressive burial service of the Order was rendered R.W. Bro. E. T. Malone, P.D.D.G. M., of Toronto District No. 11, and Past Most Eminent Grand Master General of the Great Priory of Canada, assisted by R. E. J. Parker Thomas, Past Grand Marshall of the Great Priory of Canada, after which the military escort fired three volleys and thus concluded the last tribute to one so highly respected. The floral tributes were beautiful and numerous. Following is a list of them and by whom sent:

A Star—Mr. McWhirter, (Chicago) and Mrs. Carter, (Kingston.)

Cross—Mrs. Henderson, (Perth.)  
Cross—Mr. and Mrs. Meighan, (Perth.)  
Wreath—Mr. and Mrs. Sewell.  
Spray—Mr. and Mrs. Sission.  
Cut flowers—Mrs W. B. Northrup.  
Crescent—Mrs. G. F. Hope.  
Spray—Mrs. Newbery.  
Cut flowers—Mrs. Milburn.  
Cut flowers—Chief Newton.  
Pillow—Officers 15th Battalion.  
"Our XV. Colonel."  
Pillow—City Council, "Our Treasurer."

The chief mourners were:

H. I. Henderson, Montreal. (son)  
L. H. G. Henderson, Montreal, (grandson); Guy Bell, (grandson), R. Lambton Sewell, (son-in-law); Geo. E. Henderson, R. Croft Hulme, D. A. McWhirter, Chicago, (nephew); R. C. Carter, Kingston; W. A. Meighan, Perth; Mast Reginald Meighan, Perth.

The following officers from other corps were present: Major Lighthall and and Capt. Weese, of the 16th, and Col. Brown, Major Hambly, Surgeon Tracy, Capts. Johnston and Farley and Lieut. Watts, of the 49th Batt.

When the 15th had assembled at the drill shed before the parade Major Ponton addressed the men briefly. He hoped, while the march would be a long one, that every man would keep his position in the ranks, as they were called upon to perform one of the saddest duties in the history of the battalion—that of burying their commanding officer. The men looked particularly well, and their marching was favorably commented upon. They marched to the cemetery through a heavy down-pour of rain, headed by the band, and it was nearly seven o'clock before they reached the city on their return.

The procession was a very long one and the route was lined with citizens, who all seem deeply impressed by the solemnity of the occasion.

Lt.-Col. Cotton, D.A.G., sent a letter of regret at his inability to attend the funeral of Col. Henderson and also expressing his regret at his untimely demise.

### THE PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.

This peculiar institution of Symbolic Masonry is doomed in Missouri. At the last session of the Grand Lodge, R. W. Brother Allen McDowell presented an amendment to the Constitution, looking to the abolishment of said Degree, as a prerequisite to presiding as Master of a Lodge. The system of Capitular Masonry having incorporated the Degree and made it a part of its Ritual, the question naturally arose, to whom does this Degree belong? Royal Arch Masonry claims and confers it, and said claim is conceded by Symbolic Masonry. It can not belong to both. Besides to confer it upon a brother because he has been elected to preside over a Lodge, and call him a *Past* master before he is installed, or has passed the chair, has always seemed very peculiar, if not worse. To this writer, the anomaly has been a source of amusement, and the folly existing, placed the thing beyond the limits of intelligent appreciation. Before sending out to the Lodges the printed form of the amendment, proposed by Brother McDowell, I addressed a circular to every Grand Lodge in the United States and the Dominion of Canada, asking what was the custom in their jurisdictions, as to requiring the Master elect to receive the degree of Past Master before presiding as Master. Answers from nearly all the Grand Lodges addressed were received. These replies show that about one-half of the Grand Lodges do not require the Degree as a qualification to serve as Masters of Lodges. Others confer the Degree but declare it useless, and repudiate it as an appendage to Symbolic Masonry. The Degree is not in high favor in some Grand jurisdictions where used. The amendment submitted by Bro. McDowell, was printed and sent to the Lodges the First of February, asking their consideration and action. Replies have come to hand from a majority of the Lodges. Enough have already voted to send the Degree to "the moles and bats." It is doomed, so far as its connection with Symbolic Masonry in Mis-

souri is concerned. Out of the hundreds of votes sent in, only twenty-five refused to approve the proposed change. Good bye, dear old anomaly. Go thou to thy rest, like one who draws the drapery of oblivion about him and lies down to a wakeless nap.

JOHN D. VINCIL.

—*The Masonic Constellation.*

### TORONTO INDUSTRIAL FAIR.

An unbroken record of successes in the past is the best possible guarantee that the Toronto Industrial Exhibition of 1895, which opens on the 2nd of September, will be a display of unrivalled attractiveness. Many improvements in the buildings and grounds have been made to further the convenience of exhibitors and the public, and with the return of an era of prosperity the enterprise of the management will doubtless be rewarded by a thorough appreciation of the inducements offered. The volume of exhibits this season will be larger and more diversified than ever before, and special attractions of a brilliant and exciting character will be presented, including the noval military spectacle "The Relief of Lucknow," with gorgeous Oriental accessories and pyrotechnic effects on a scale of grandeur and variety hitherto unequalled. The system of cheap railway fares and special excursions from far and near enables all to visit the fair at trifling cost and everyone should take advantage of the opportunity, as it embodies all that is best worth seeing and knowing in mechanical progress and scientific invention. All entries close on the 10th of August,

The special committee on Masonic Charity in Iowa, report that in their opinion it is the best way to dispense relief through the medium of Lodges, with such assistance as may be needed from the Grand Lodge Charity fund. This was because there could be found only 17 men, 2 widows and five orphans to enter a Masonic Home. Iowa has a membership of 26,103.

### MASONRY CONDONES NO CRIME.

From time immemorial the slander against Masonry has been steadily promulgated that Masons will condone crime and assist the criminal Mason to escape from the grasp of justice. Never was a lie permitted to survive so long as this, and without a particle of evidence be resurrected from time to time. Last week here in Detroit this slander received what ought to be a death blow, in the case of Col. Farnsworth, city assessor, who stood charged with having personal knowledge of some "boodling" matter, which he refused to expose on the grounds that his information was received from a personal friend whom he would not betray. The police judge in Detroit is vested with grand jury power to investigate crime. Farnsworth was brought before him, questioned, and flatly refused to answer. The prosecuting attorney insisted upon judgment, and the Colonel was sentenced to thirty days in jail for contempt. Now, the point is just here. Col. Farnsworth, Prosecuting Attorney Fraser and Police Justice Sellers are all three personal friends and Masons, belonging to the same Masonic bodies of the more advanced degrees, and if any possible favor was to be shown it might naturally be looked for from each to the other. But on the contrary, a court officer escorted to the common county jail the assessor—by the way one of the most respected gentlemen in the city—and to get out of serving his sentence the supreme Court of the State must first pass upon the justice of his sentence. Now, here is a clear case in which Masonry had no disposition to intrude its presence between the law and its transgressors, and we insist that the same rule is ever observed, all slander to the contrary notwithstanding. Now, there is a serious moral attached to this incident, which we seek here to emphasize. Freemasonry is not organized to sustain and protect its membership in wrong doing. It is

based upon obedience to the moral law and that of the land in which it is located. It throws no shield about the criminal, nor has it any use for such. The commission of a crime is a serious infraction of a Masonic obligation, and is punishable with suspension or expulsion. No Mason is obligated to shield or condone crime, else would ninety-nine hundredths of the membership leave the institution in disgust. On the contrary, it seeks to make men pure, true, clean, law-observing and law-abiding citizens.—*The American Tyler*.

### AN UNWISE DEPARTURE.

Freemasonry is without doubt the oldest established institution in the world. This is generally admitted by the great majority of people of the present day, whether they are Masons or not. Its great age has been attained by a strict adherence to so-called landmarks, that it was made unlawful for any man or body of men to remove. These are recognized as having been established in the beginning, and made unchangeable by the founders of the Institution. By whom, when or where this was done may not be satisfactorily established, nor can it be an institution that existed in a prehistoric age, and has only traditions for its earliest history. So far as written history of Masonry avails, this theory is well supported, and for many generations past it has been generally accepted and adhered to as being finally settled.

The Masons of the present day suppose themselves to be following in the footsteps of their forefathers for many generations. The great mass of them have been taught and believe this to be their imperative duty, and have no disposition to do otherwise. It is true all have not been taught exactly alike, and hence there is not absolute uniformity in all things pertaining to the government and ritualistic work of Masonry. Experience has shown that this is not essential to the growth and prosperity of the Institution. There is a wide

difference in this regard, in many respects, in Masonry as practiced in Pennsylvania and Indiana, and yet in both of these great States there is prosperity, growth and happiness within the domain of Masonry. In each the Craft are working in harmony according to the light that has been given them.

We now come to the special point in the article. One of the cardinal principles of Masonry has always been, that its esoteric ritual should not be committed to writing. The neophyte is impressively taught this lesson in his very first step in Masonry. There is in the whole system of Masonry, and the great multiplicity of degrees following this first one, no more binding obligation than the candidate takes upon the checkered pavement, and there is no power that can absolve him from it. It is this that has been the safe-guard of Masonry as it has come down through past ages. Men claiming to be Masons, have at different periods in the past published what they claim to be correct expositions of the esoteric ritual of Masonry, but they never had any evidence to establish its correctness, save their own individual, unsupported word. This counted for little with the most of people outside of the Masonic Order. If these expositors had ever been Masons, the fact of their revealing secrets in violation of their obligations to keep them, branded them in the eyes of the world as perjurers, whom honest men would not believe, hence their pretended exposition did no harm to Masonry.

There are, however, some Masons of the present day who seem to have grown wiser in their own conceit, at least, than their forefathers, or even the founders of this time-honored institution. Strange as it may appear to the brother who holds in conscientious regard the obligations taken upon the altar of Masonry, it has come to the point at last where a great Grand Lodge like that of Ohio, Massachusetts, or Michigan, can willfully violate this most solemn obligation, and order a

written copy of the esoteric work made, to be preserved in the archives of the Grand Lodge, from which cypher copies are to be made for the use of Lodges. We are not so very much surprised that this has been done in Ohio, where some other no less absurd departures from ancient usages of the Craft have been perpetrated in the last few years, but in staid old Massachusetts we did not deem such a thing possible! And it is not surprising to us that the Grand Lodge of the old Bay State should be first made to feel the effect of this unwise departure from the old method of transmitting the esoteric work from mouth to ear.

Much as we dislike to give this matter the publicity of appearing in a Masonic Journal that many read who are not Masons, we have already seen it in several of our exchanges, and knowing ones may wonder why the *Advocate* has nothing to say about it. It has developed that in a few months after the written copy was made by order of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, it appeared for sale in print, and two prominent Masons were expelled by the Grand Lodge for publishing it.

They claimed that there was no greater offence in issuing one thousand copies than in making a single written copy. One thing is very sure: if the written copy had not been made, there would have been no printed ones. The first offence was by the Grand Lodge, and the offence of these two brethren was but a natural sequence to it.

Grand Lodges that have been led into this unwise departure can not too soon recind their action, and cause all written or printed copies of esoteric work to be cremated.—*Masonic Advocate*.

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It is against the law of the Grand Lodge to wear any jewels or clothing in a Craft Lodge purporting to belong to any other degree than Craft Masonry, and the R.W.M. would be acting quite within his right in requesting any brother wearing such to either take them off or withdraw.

### IS IT A MASONIC OFFENSE?

In Iowa, one suspended for non-payment of dues, ten or more years thereafter moves elsewhere and visits. Is it a Masonic offense? The Committee on Jurisprudence answers, "Yes," and the report was adopted.

The *Trestle Board*, of San Francisco, commenting on the above, says. Now we do not demur at the decision under the law, but we do condemn the law as uncharitable and un-Masonic. The brother is still a Mason and under the full obligations of Masonry so far as he could in his power comply. We assume that he failed to pay his dues from inability. He paid as long as he was able. Before he became a member of any Lodge and immediately after being made a Master Mason, he was assured that he was a Master Mason qualified to meet in all Master Mason gatherings, and as much was commended to their kind care and consideration. He was then afterwards informed that he could become a member of the Lodge in which he obtained his degrees by signing the by-laws, and thereby would be subjected to its rules and burdens. He had been suspended only from membership, because the burden was more than he could bear. Therefore he was entitled to none of its benefits. It does not appear that he visited any Lodge for ten years; if he had done so, what rights or benefits did he obtain? He was entitled to no benefits from the Lodge; it does not appear that he asked for any—perhaps he did. The Book of the Laws says: "Ask, and it shall be given you." If he did ask, it was no Masonic offense, nor were they *as a Lodge* under obligations to him. They were under the individual obligation to him, from which nothing but expulsion can relieve them. So, in consequence, the law was invoked to apply to him, and he is unable to pay the dues demanded to place him in "good standing," and has nothing to offer in justification of his "offense" in trying to hold Masonic com-

munication with his brethren, the result will be "expulsion" or "Masonic death" for non-payment of dues, or endeavoring to carry a burden he could not bear. Truly, this is on phase of brotherly love, relief and truth.

### HE IS GROWING OLD.

"Yes, he is growing old," they say. The initiate, the energetic Master, the brilliant Grand officer, is on the rising side of the meridian to-day, and the old man of to-morrow. The bud of now; the "last leaf of then." Where is the "last leaf" in our Masonic bodies? Where is he "who is growing old?" Where is the once bright, ambitious Master, when the almond tree flourishes, when the windows are darkened? Dimitted, forgotten, buried, unknown! Where is he who once bore the burden and the heat of the day, after three score years have tinged his hair with gray? Crowded out; crowded out!—out—out! Age, and often penury, have rung an unwilling dimitt from the Lodge he loved; the Lodge in which he won his laurels, achieved his ambition: where his hand was guided by justice and his purse open to the needy. "The last leaf," tossed by adversity, trembling under infirmity, falls from the bough, dimitted, gone!

This is not a fancied sketch. The great army of non-affiliates are by a large majority old men. The lot of the average is a dependence upon his children, or other relatives. The period when the dues of the Lodge, Chapter and Commandery were willingly and easily paid has passed; now it becomes a burden, and rather than suffer humiliation, he withdraws and loses his Masonic home, his birthright.

It is a shame, the disgrace of Masonry, that Lodges going on exacting dues from the patriarchs, the fathers, and drive them to dimission! The Grand Bodies should enact a law putting every Mason who has arrived at the age of sixty on the life member list. Yes, pension her faithful soldiers!—*The Orient.*

### MERCENARY MASONRY.

In his address to the Grand Lodge of New York, at its 114th annual communication, M. W. Bro. John Hodge, under the head of non-payment of dues, has the following :

“An examination of the reports of the Grand Secretary for the last ten years, relating to the numbers unaffiliated for non-payment of dues, discloses a condition of affairs that should receive the earnest attention of the Master of every Lodge. It will be observed by the following summary, that the number of unaffiliated is largely in excess of the number restored. From 1885 to 1894, the number of unaffiliated was 24,914 ; for the same period, there were restored, 10,754.

“In all fraternal organizations, unless pecuniary benefits depend upon good standing, it is natural that many will through carelessness or lack of interest, permit their membership to lapse. Experience has taught me that this condition can, to a very great extent be remedied, if the Secretary of the Lodge is faithful in the performance of his duty. It is reasonable to suppose that the great number annually unaffiliated would be materially reduced, if the Secretary of the Lodge is not himself careless in the discharge of the duties incumbent upon him. An effort on his part to collect the dues of members would greatly reduce the number of unaffiliates.

“An example in the recent past, where a Secretary for two consecutive years succeeded in obtaining from all the members of his Lodge the amount of their dues, is the best evidence of what can be accomplished by a wide-awake, active officer. If an effort were made in the same direction by all the Secretaries of Lodges in which there are delinquent members, the number of unaffiliations for non-payment of dues would be exceedingly small. When we consider that in the last ten years more than fourteen thousand have remained unaffiliated, and that thereby, with the dues averaging two

dollars and fifty cents each per annum, more than three hundred and fifty dollars thousand have been lost to the Lodges, we readily admit that this matter is worthy of consideration, and should receive the best attention of every brother who has the welfare of his Lodge at heart”

Speaking as one with twenty-one terms' experience as Secretary of Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, we must differ with the M. W. Brother in the intimation that the Secretary is more responsible in this connection than any one else. The Lodge, in its treatment of impecunious brethren, is to be blamed in nine cases out of ten. The best Secretaries have been within, our observation, the Secretaries who work for love of the Order and small pay, same as the other officers of the Lodge, and in such is to be found the least non-affiliation. The Secretaries receiving the highest pay generally are the poorest collectors, and hence non-affiliation is larger.

### CONCISE MASONIC HISTORY.

The following is a synopsis of a speech made by Rev. J. H. Amacker, of Arkansas, giving a brief history of the Masonic fraternity from its foundation to the present day.

1st. A definition of Freemasonry, showing that it has always been considered under two denominations, viz. : operative and speculative. Operative Masonry being simply a knowledge of mechanics, this form of it is as old as the world. Primeval man being utterly ignorant of everything, had to learn by experience.

2nd. The liberal arts and sciences, music and religious truth, were also added to the mechanical arts by the societies which are organized in the earliest ages for the purpose of preserving a knowledge of what has been learned.

3d. The principles of these early societies known as the “Lux” of the patrician age, Geometry, Philosophy—but more commonly called “Mysteries”—were in their oldest and purest form,

the same as the fundamental principles of Freemasonry.

4th. The Ancient Mysteries explained, showing that in them all was preserved, a symbolic representative of a death, burial and resurrection.

5th. One of the oldest societies of purely operative Masons was the "Sidonian Builders," organized by the priest-architects of Tyre about 1500 years before Christ. They built the temple of Solomon and introduced Masonry into Israel.

6th. A company of Jewish Masons appeared in Rome 38 years after it was founded. They formed the famous Roman College of Architects, which continued until the downfall of the empire, A. D. 476. This fraternity of "Builders" being composed of artists and learned men, contributed largely to the greatness of Rome. A lodge or company went with each legion of the army. They were civil engineers, the sappers and miners of the age and the best educated men of the time. Whenever countries were conquered these fraternities were to be found building up in far better style what war had destroyed.

In A. D. 166 Jewish Masonry was introduced into Britain, and as the island was conquered by the Romans, gradually spread all over the land. In A. D. 976, the First Grand Lodge of England was formed by Prince Edwin of York, since which time the true Israelites have been called "Ancient York Masons."

In A. D. 1717 the Grand Lodge of England decided that Masonry should no longer be restricted to Operative Masons. Since that time the lodges have wrought in Speculative Masonry only.

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#### PRACTICAL BENEVOLENCE.

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From the *London Eng., Freemason* the following is taken, which shares the depth of Masonic friendship and benevolence in his Mother Land:—

A scheme is on foot for organizing a testimonial to the family of the late

Bro. E. A. Francis, P.M., P.Z., Preceptor of the Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949, who died at the early age of 45 years in December. The idea is to raise such a sum of money as will enable the widow to clear off, or at all events materially reduce, the mortgage on her house, and if this is done, there is a reasonable probability that she will be freed from all serious care as to the future. Bro. Francis was a most exemplary Mason, and held in high esteem by all who had the privilege of his acquaintance. He was initiated in Vermont, U.S.A., in 1873, and on returning to England joined, in 1879, the Skelmeisdale Lodge, No. 1658, and was installed W.M. in 1890. He was also a P.M. No. 183, and P.Z. of the Burdett Chapter, No. 1293—having been exalted to the Royal Arch in the Pannur Chapter, No. 720, in 1885—and P.P. 1st A. G. Soj. of Middlesex. He was also a Life Governor of the Masonic Institutions, and had served sundry Stewardships, on their behalf, but his most successful work was done in his capacity of Preceptor of the Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1959, Treasurer of the industry Chapter of Improvement, No. 186, and as Preceptor of the Rose of Denmark Lodge of Instruction, No. 975. In these several capacities, as well as in that of President of the Masonic Benevolent Association connected with the Brixton Lodge of Instruction, our late Bro. E. A. Francis did very great service to the Craft, and we trust this appeal on behalf of his widow and children will be productive of benefit to them.

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There is no law written or unwritten which requires a Lodge to show its Warrant to a visitor, although it has been both asked and done. Before a brother visits a Lodge, he ought to be satisfied that the Lodge is regular, and as the visit is made presumably to please the visitor and not the visited, the Lodge cannot be asked to do for him what he ought to have done for himself before the visit.

## Grand Lodge of Canada.

### FORTIETH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The fortieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada was opened in Massey Hall, Toronto, on July 17th, the attendance representing some thirteen hundred voices. Among the Past Grand Masters on the dais were M. W. Bros. D. Spry, London; Hon. J. M. Gibson, Q.C., Hamilton; Henry Robertson, Q.C., Collingwood; J. K. Kerr, Q.C., Toronto; R. T. Walkem, Q.C., Kingston; Hugh Murray, Hamilton, A. A. Stevenson, of Monteval, and J. Ross Robertson, Toronto.

The Grand Master, W. R. White, Q.C., of Pembroke, presided. He was supported by R. W. Bro. W. Gibson, M.P., Deputy Grand Master, and the Deputies of the various districts of the province.

After the formal ceremony of opening, his Worship Bro. Mayor Kennedy was introduced, and on behalf of the city, made a neat speech of welcome, to which Grand Master White responded suitably.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, P.D.D.G. M., Chairman of the local Reception Committee representing the city lodges, presented the greetings of the Toronto brethren embodied in a handsomely engrossed address, to which the Grand Master likewise responded. These formalities concluded, the business of the session was opened with.

#### THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

##### *Brethren of the Grand Lodge.*

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to this the fortieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

We have gathered here from all parts of the jurisdiction, animated, I trust, by one object—the advancement of the best interests of Masonry.

It will be the duty of Grand Lodge to discuss and legislate upon such ques-

tions as may be brought before it and I have no doubt such matters as may engage your attention will be dealt with in that spirit of judicial fairness that has always characterized the proceedings at our Annual Communications.

My duty on this occasion is to call your attention in as brief a manner as possible to the work done during the year and to put before you such matters as I may consider worthy of your attention, either now or at some future time.

Before doing so I deem it right to express to you my very sincere appreciation of the high honour you conferred upon me last year in almost unanimously placing me in the exalted position of ruler of the Craft in this jurisdiction. I assure you, in all honesty and sincerity, that I know of no position in the gift of any body of men in the land that could confer higher honour upon the recipient. But I am aware that the high honours attending the position of Grand Master are attended with great responsibilities. If I have failed to satisfy your high expectations, I shall make neither apology nor excuse. If, however, I have come within even reasonable reach of these expectations, I shall be more than satisfied, when I know that I am weighed in the same balance as the long line of illustrious and able Masons who have proceeded me in the occupancy of this chair.

The year has been marked by no Masonic event of importance. I have not been called upon to decide any question of great moment. Our relations with other Grand Lodges have been most cordial, and, within our own jurisdiction, I think I am safe in saying that scarcely a ripple of discord has disturbed that peace and harmony, which seem to have become the normal condition of this Grand Lodge. I am pleased to be able to say that the record for this year, as set out in the reports of the D.D.G.M.'s of the different districts, shows an ever increasing interest in the work, and a healthy condition generally existing among the private lodges.

## DEDICATIONS.

The best possible evidence of the healthy condition of the Order is the number of new lodge rooms I have been called upon to dedicate during the year, all of them comfortable, convenient, and, in some case, luxurious homes for the Craft during both labour and refreshment.

The following is a list of the lodge rooms dedicated :

At Windsor, on September 27th, 1894, by myself.

At Pembroke, on November 22nd, 1894, by myself.

At St. Thomas, on January 14th, 1895, by myself.

At Wyoming, on March 14th, 1895, by myself.

At Galt, on April 26th, 1895, by myself.

At Alymer, on November 5th, 1894, by P. G. M., M. W. Bro. J. M. Gibson, and at Thamesford, February, on February 7th, 1895, by R. W. Bro. William Gibson, M. P., D. G. M.

While upon this subject, it may not be out of place for me to suggest that in most of the cities and large towns in the jurisdiction efforts should be made to acquire property in business localities and by means of joint-stock companies, or otherwise erect suitable buildings. The income that could be derived from the portions of the buildings rented for business purposes, ought to, in most cases, in time pay for the buildings, or, at all events, pay good interest upon the investment.

## BY-LAWS.

I have had transmitted to me for approval during the year a large number of by-laws which have been revised or amended by the several lodges forwarding the same. I regret that in many cases they had to be returned for further revision and alteration, either from some informality in the by-laws submitted or because they conflicted with the constitution. It would be advisable that lodges should exercise more care in these matters, and thus save a great deal of unnecessary correspon-

dence both on the part of the Grand Secretary and myself.

## CORNER-STONES.

On the the 28th of September, 1894, I laid the corner-stone of the new Town Hall at Cayuga, in the presence of a large number of the brethren and the citizens of the town and surrounding country, and on the 16th May, 1895, M. W. Bro. Walkem, at my request, laid the corner-stone of St. Jude's church (Anglican) at Napanee Mills

## CEREMONIES.

At the different Masonic functions in which I have taken part during the year, I have found the Book of Ceremonies, prepared and issued under the authority and during the regime of my immediate predecessor, M. W. Bro. Gibson, of great value and assistance, and I have no doubt it has been of estimateable value to the various D. D. G. M.'s.

## DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW LODGES.

The following dispensations for new lodges have been granted : Bonnechere Lodge, at Eganville, on 23rd October, 1894 ; Algonquin Lodge, at Elmsdale, on 11th May, 1895.

## RULINGS.

I have not been called upon to make many rulings during the year, although the usual plethora of questions has been asked. In every case where a hypothetical query was put in the usual "A. B. C. D." form, I have declined answering, on the ground that I did not consider it any part of the Grand Master's duty to furnish the brother asking the question with ammunition to bombard some brother who held different views.

In every instance where a real difference of opinion existed upon a point which involved the government of the lodge, or a real live issue between its members, I did not hesitate to decide according to the best of my judgement. I am pleased to say that I have had less, perhaps, of this work to do than most of my predecessors.

The subject which I found the most trouble in dealing with was the question of physical qualifications. In all such cases I felt constrained to leave the matter to the W.M., or D.D.G.M., who could personally see whether the candidate could comply with the requirements of the constitution or not. I regret very much that my views on this subject differ slightly from those expressed by some former Grand Masters. I favor a liberal interpretation of the constitution rather than a strict one. I think if a candidate possesses the necessary mental and moral qualifications, it would be a great hardship if he should be deprived of the benefits of Masonry because he has some slight physical defect which prevents him from absolutely, and in the most perfect manner, complying with all the ceremonies of the work of Grand Lodge.

#### LEGISLATION.

Your attention will be directed to several amendments to the constitution, proposed to be made at this session of Grand Lodge, and, without in any way seeking to influence Grand Lodge, either for or against any of the proposed legislations. I deem it my duty to address you a few words of caution upon the subject, I have always thought, and still think, that Grand Lodge should hasten slowly in making amendments to the constitution: If anything is found to work either injury to the Craft or an injustice to any large number of individual Masons, then, it is not only your right but your duty to so amend the constitution as to remedy the evil. But let me remind you that no system of human laws has yet been devised which, while doing perfect justice in 99 cases, may not do injustice in the hundredth. Unless, therefore, the wrong is widespread and glaring, it may be as well to let matters remain as they are.

On the question of abolishing representatives to other Grand Lodges, while they may be strong arguments in favor of such a course, it must be

borne in mind that they cost us nothing, and may be both useful and ornamental. At all events, they form a sentimental link in the chain of fraternal courtesies, that are constantly being exchanged between our Grand Lodge and other friendly Grand bodies. An attempt will be made to settle the much vexed question of the residence of a candidate; let us hope it will prove successful.

You will also be asked to restrict or regulate the practice of permitting other than the recognized work of this Grand Lodge in private lodges. Many will think this a move in the right direction, and that the working of a different ritual in our lodges upon certain occasions is not beneficial. I trust this matter will receive your serious consideration. Other matters of which notice have been given are: A re-organization of that very useful body the Board of General Purposes; the centralization of Grand Lodge; the appointment of certain Grand Lodge officers now elected; the old, and well-discussed question of transacting the business of private lodges in the third degree, and a proposed amendment in the manner of voting in private lodges. All these matters are worthy, of and no doubt will, receive your careful consideration. Let us hope that we may all be guided to proper decisions in these different subjects.

#### REMOVAL OF LODGES.

During the year a lodge was, by consent of the D.D.G.M., moved from one place to another. This occasioned considerable adverse comment, and representations were made to me respecting the same. On looking into the matter, I found that, by clause 69 of the Constitution, the D.D.G.M. has the power to give or refuse his consent in such a case. And, as no charge of irregularity or impropriety was made, I do not feel at liberty to arbitrarily cancel the consent given by the D.D.G.M. I felt bound to assume that, acting within his powers, he had acted properly, that if the parties concerned felt ag-

grieved they could appeal to Grand Lodge, which would meet shortly. It may be well to consider, in the light of this case, whether the powers of D.D. G.M.'s, in such matters, should not be restricted somewhat.

#### CANVASSING FOR OFFICE.

Representations have been made to me that the practice of canvassing for office is becoming prevalent in both private lodges and Grand Lodges, and having been convinced, through developments made in an appeal against the election of an officer in a certain private lodge, that the most open and unblushing canvassing had taken place in that particular instance, I deem it my duty to condemn as strongly as possible any such practice. Friends may speak well of one whose merit and ability entitle him to be promoted to office in either private lodge or Grand Lodge. But the making of slates, the pledging of brethren to vote one way or the other, and all the other wiles and dodges so well known to the politician are utterly foreign to the genius and spirit of Masonry, and should be most emphatically frowned upon and discountenanced by every true Mason. Let us hope, for the credit of Grand Lodge, as well as private lodges, that this evil does not exist to any alarming extent, and that the representations made to me are either without foundation or somewhat exaggerated.

#### OFFICIAL VISITS.

I have endeavored, in so far as my other pressing public and private business would allow me, to visit nearly every part of the jurisdiction during the past year; either for the purpose of presiding over special communications of Grand Lodge, or to attend social gatherings of the brethren in Masonic centres. Everywhere have I been received, personally, in the heartiest and most hospitable manner, and officially, with that respect and loyalty to the office which I hold, which has always characterized the Masons of this jurisdiction.

A very pleasant feature of some of these gatherings was the presence of large numbers of ladies, especially at Kingston, at the centennial celebration of the Ancient St. John's Lodge: at London at the Masonic conversazione, and at Windsor and Pembroke, on the occasion of the dedication of their new halls. An equally noticeable, and, to me, a most gratifying feature was the total absence of wines and other intoxicants at these festive gatherings—strong proof, if such were needed, that the Masons may be safely left to deal with this question without the necessity of any arbitrary legislation by Grand Lodges.

#### INVESTMENTS.

At the last meeting of the Board of General Purposes, a resolution was passed authorizing me to enquire into the status of investments of Grand Lodge, and obtain, if necessary, a legal opinion as to the position of these investments, and the order in which they rank in value as assets or claims upon the various societies concerned; and, further, that if after such examination, I thought a change necessary in investment, the matter should be reported to the Finance Committee for immediate action and investment under my direction.

I obtained the legal opinion of M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q.C., which will be submitted for your information. His view was that, as holders of the debentures of the several institutions in which Grand Lodge funds are invested, we ranked equally with depositors and other creditors upon the assets of the company, and that depositors had no higher or better right or claim upon the company, its assets or estate. Fortified with this opinion, which, I may say, is the same as I myself had formed, and being assured by several leading financiers that there was no suspicion of the absolute solvency of any of these institutions, I did not consider a change of investment necessary, but, in order to continue the investments as they were, we should have to take renewed debentures of the com-

pany, extending over a term of years, and, by some oversight, no doubt, the resolution does not in specific terms give me that authority, and I declined assuming the responsibility of re-investing. I laid the whole matter before a special meeting of the Finance Committee, and it was decided that the moneys should be allowed to remain on deposit with the several companies, the Grand Secretary having arranged what interest should be allowed us until this meeting of the Grand Lodge, when you will no doubt be able to deal satisfactorily with the question of re-investing these funds. I may be permitted to suggest that in case of securities hereafter maturing during recess, a committee composed of the chairman of the Finance Committee, the President of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary should have general powers to re-invest in such securities as they may consider safe.

#### APPOINTMENT.

Right Worshipful Bro. Rowat, D.D. G.M., of London District No. 3, having removed from the jurisdiction, I appointed R. W. Bro. A. E. Cooper, G. J.W., acting D.D.G.M. for the balance of R. W. Bro. Rowat's term of office. R. W. Bro. Cooper has discharged the duties of the office to the entire satisfaction of the district and myself.

#### A WORTHY ASSOCIATION.

The General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada, established some years ago for the protection of the Craft in the distribution of funds for the relief of worthy applicants, is rendering excellent service. In our own jurisdiction the experience, since Grand Lodge affiliated, has been most satisfactory, and the recent affiliations of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia and other bodies, indicate a growing appreciation of the wisdom of our well-timed action in affiliating eight years ago.

#### CLOSING OBSERVATIONS.

I have thus, my brethren, endeavoured, as briefly as possible, to lay before

you the record of the past year, and to make such suggestions as my past year's experience has led me to believe might be useful to you. But before closing my address, I desire to say that my year of office has been rendered peculiarly pleasant to me by the cordial support I have received from every Grand Lodge officer.

The Deputy Grand Master, Wardens, Chaplain and other officers have made great personal sacrifices, and travelled long distances to aid me in the performance of my duties. I appreciate, to the fullest extent, their kindness and loyalty to me, personally, and their devotion to the interest of the Craft. To my predecessors in office, I have been much indebted for their ever ready counsel and assistance. The experience gained by them during their years of office has been always most readily and generously placed at my service, and that living encyclopaedia of Masonic knowledge, the Grand Secretary, has always been ready to furnish me with information and data, drawn from that inexhaustible storehouse, of which he alone possesses the key.

I feel, indeed, that I have been especially fortunate.

Let us, while thanking the G.A.O.T. U. for the peace and harmony that exists among us, and for our very satisfactory progress during the year, pray most earnestly for a continuance of these blessings.

Among the visitors present were M. W. Bro. Judge Wedderburn, Past Grand Master of New Brunswick, and R. W. Bro. W. Allen, Past Grand Junior Warden of Nova Scotia, both of whom were received and welcomed with the customary honors.

The chairman of the several committees then presented their reports.

The Grand Secretary's report showed the total receipts for the year from various sources to amount to \$19,710.34, and the expenditure to \$17,238.24.

Upon the recommendation of the Grand Master, R. W. Bro. R. A. Klock, of Klock's Mills, was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of

Delaware, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves.

The following resolution, moved by M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, was discussed at considerable length: "That article No. 144 (page 46) of the constitution be amended by adding thereto the following words: "Neither is it lawful for any private lodge to permit any brother or brethren, hailing from a foreign jurisdiction, to illustrate, practise, or administer within its precincts, under any circumstances whatsoever, other than the authorized work of Grand Lodge, and that where special work is authorized in the jurisdiction, the same be confined to the meeting places of lodges having permits."

On a vote being taken, the necessary two-thirds was lacking, and the motion was declared lost.

R. W. Bro. George C. Davis, of London, presented and read the report on the fraternal dead.

At 10.30 o'clock, Thursday morning, Grand Lodge resumed, Grand Master White presiding.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Q.C., presented the report of the Committee on Benevolence, which, among other things, revealed the interesting fact that since the formation of Grand Lodge over 44 per cent, of the entire revenue has been devoted to benevolence.

From the report of the Masonic Asylum Fund Trust, it including interest, now totalled \$14,043, the nucleus of which was contributed many years ago by a number of private lodges, supplemented by a grant from Grand Lodge. The report recommended that, as the fund was insufficient to establish an asylum of necessary dimensions without imposing a heavy tax on the Craft, that the consent of the original contributing lodges be requested to transfer the sum to the general fund of Grand Lodge, and apply it to benevolent purposes.

W. Bro. W. Barwick offered a resolution, which was carried, to the effect that the report be referred back, and

that the Grand Master appoint a committee of five to consider the best means of carrying out the original intention of the fund.

R. W. Bro. Malone, chairman of the Committee on the Condition of Masonry, presented a report, which embraced a review of the eighteen districts of the province, the deduction being that the Craft has made a decided advance, and that harmony and enthusiasm prevail.

R. W. Bro. F. F. Manley had a motion that the constitution be amended so as to make Toronto the permanent place of meeting of Grand Lodge, but withdrew it until next year.

R. W. Bro. Alex. Hess, of St. Thomas, moved that the clause of the constitution, re the Board of General Purposes, be amended so that its membership shall consist of the M.W. the Grand Master, the immediate Past Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master (to be president), the D.D.G.M. of each Masonic District, the two Grand Wardens, and ten other members, six of whom shall be elected by Grand Lodge, and the remaining four shall be appointed by the Grand Master. Balance of the clause to remain unchanged. Provided that this proposed change shall not interfere with the present rights of any Past Grand Master to his seat at the Board.

The motion not receiving a seconder, fell through.

V. W. Bro. Robt. Cuthbert moved that all officers of Grand Lodge, other than Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and District Deputy Grand Masters shall be appointed by the Grand Master. It was lost by a large majority.

The same brother's motion to conduct the business of the private lodges in the third degree, was withdrawn.

The Committee on the Grand Master's address endorsed his remarks relating to the removal of Georgina Lodge from Sutton to Toronto, and recommended that the constitution be so amended as to prevent a similar occurrence in the future.

It was also recommended that no regular work can be permitted in any of our lodges which do not possess a special privilege, except that authorized by Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Benevolence reported that the sum of \$8,645 was distributed last year to the widows and orphans of deceased Masons, and to needy brethren.

A resolution was adopted unanimously requesting the Grand Master to confer the rank of P.D.D.G.M. upon R.W. Bro. A. E. Cooper, of London, G.J.W., who for the better part of the year superintended the work in that district

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers commenced at noon. On the ballot for Grand Master there was a total vote of 1,021, of which 1,015 were cast for the re-election of the present incumbent, an announcement that was received with considerable enthusiasm. The re-election of R. W. Bro. W. Gibson, M P., Deputy Grand Master, also by an almost unanimous vote, was likewise the occasion of much gratification. The total vote of Grand Lodge was 1,345.

Officers were elected as follows :

- M.W. Bro. W. R. White Q. C., Pembroke, Grand Master.  
 R.W. Bro. Gibson, M. P., Beamsville, Deputy Grand Master.  
 " Benj. Allen, Toronto, Grand Senior Warden.  
 " J. J. Mason, Hamilton, Grand Secretary.  
 M.W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer.

#### DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

- R.W. Bro. J. B. Carscallen, Dresden, 1st Masonic District.  
 " Robert Scott, Petrolia, 2nd Masonic District.  
 " W. W. Rutherford, Aylmer, 3rd Masonic District.  
 " J. A. McFadden, Stratford, 4th Masonic District.  
 " James Walmsley, Warton, 5th Masonic District.

- R.W. Bro. J. G. Fraser, Woodstock, 6th Masonic District.  
 " James S. Dewar, Clifford, 7th Masonic District.  
 " G. C. Houlden, Hamilton, 8th Masonic District.  
 " R. E. Fletcher, Barrie, 9th Masonic District.  
 " J. C. Bartle, Niagara Falls, 10th Masonic District.  
 " Richard Dinnis, Toronto, 11th Masonic District.  
 " R. E. Woods, Peterboro', 12th Masonic District.  
 " J. S. Dench, Trenton, 13th Masonic District.  
 " F. S. Wartman, Harrowsmith, 14th Masonic District.  
 " O. Bascombe, Kemptville, 15th Masonic District.  
 " A. Hood, Arnprior, 16th Masonic District.  
 " Andrew More, Fort William, 17th Masonic District.  
 " A. A. Mowry, Gravenhurst, 18th Masonic District.

At the meeting of the Toronto District the question of dividing the territory was discussed, and the following committee was appointed to communicate with the lodges, and if they agreed to the proposal, to prepare an equitable division of the district, to be submitted for the consideration of Grand Lodge next July: R. W. Bros. J. B. Nixon, H. A. Collins, George Tait, G. J. Bennet, E. T. Malone, T. H. Brunton, H. Charles, G. Vanzant, S. V. Todd and J. A. McGillivray.

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## Royal Arch Masonry.

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#### GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

The thirty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada opened at 10 o'clock, July 16th, in the Masonic Temple, Toronto street, with a large attendance. Among those present were M. E. Comps. J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, Grand Z.; Donald Ress, Picton;

D. Spry, London; R. B. Hungerford, London; Henry Robertson, Q.C., Collingwood; J. J. Mason, Hamilton; T. Sargant, Toronto; Past Grand Z.'s; R. E. Comps. J. E. Harding, Q. C., Stratford; M. Walsh, Ingersoll, Grand H.; W. G. Reid, Hamilton, Grand J.; Grand Superintendents J. W. Sharp, Dresden; W. Rutherford, Aylmer; S. F. Passmore, Brantford; K. Mahoney, Guelph; W. Burrell, Hamilton; R. T. Walkem, Q.C., Judge Creasor, J. K. Kerr, Q.C., F. W. Gearing, Stratford; C. H. Connor, St. Cathrines; R. Oliver, Toronto; W. T. Toner, Collingwood; J. W. Quinlan, Port Hope; E. A. Morden, Picton; James Adams, Kingston; R. E. Comps. J. W. Hickson, D. F. MacWatt, W. Roaf, D. H. Martyn, J. Malloy, A. Shaw, W. Rea, J. D. Christie, W. Gibson, M.P., Hon. J. M. Gibson, Q.C., W. Walker, Hugh Murray, A. R. Hargraft, J. Huber, B. Allan, G. G. Rowe, James Sutherland, J. S. Dewar, A. E. Cooper, E. T. Malone, A. Patterson, D. Taylor, G. Stewart, N. T. Lyon, R. J. Craig, F. F. Manly, and others.

Grand Chapter having been called to order the Grand Z. welcomed the companions in the following:

A difficulty in finding features in our work, which, when dealt with, would vary the monotony of the periodical message of the Grand First Principal, troubles me as we meet together in this, the thirty-eighth convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The preacher has an ample range as he looks over the leaves of The Word, which is the keystone of our faith. Wide territories of thought are open to a Grand Master. But a Grand First Principal is confined to fields, most of which fortunately bear rich harvests, while some yield but scanty crops. In other the gleaner finds only promises of good to come, while, with regret be it said, a few acres produce nothing but a harvest of barren regrets. I feel, therefore, that the limit of my feeble power may fall far below the line of your reasonable expectations, and thus I am impressed with a diffidence,

which may or may not be characteristic of the profession of moulding public opinion and manufacturing criticism.

The intelligence of this assemblage, so accustomed to hear enlightening words from its presiding officers, has always been more or less critical, so that one must weigh well his thoughts in forming the written sentences that are to go on record.

Literary fireworks, even if I had the ability to fill the air with them, are in place at a flag-raising, or on some national anniversary. On these occasions our lips breathe words patriotic and our hands applaud to the echo the hero of the platform. He who speaks wins his audience with chosen phrases, some original, and others, perhaps, the revamped thoughts of owners, who if they had the power, would from another land eagerly discuss the duration of punishment deserved by hucksters who carry to market literary fruit plucked in other people's thought-gardens.

My humble endeavor, therefore, will be to cast up in a few paragraphs, which it is to be hoped will not weary, my year's work, and summarize opinions upon such of its features as are of vital interest to this Grand Chapter.

Standing within sight of the thirtieth milestone in my journey as a Mason, with opportunities for experience on nearly every line of Masonic labor, my view is strengthened that the interchange of thought under the sheltering tree of friendship does more good in fraternal association than oft-repeated obligations, or grips, which covers degrees which cannot be numbered within the mechanism of a fully equipped calculating machine.

As we sit here to-day many Companions may have but a bowing friendship with those surrounding them. Yet in this room there are a score of Companions, who for more than a quarter of century have cherished a friendship, which had its birth in the first home of a Mason—within a tyled door of a Craft Lodge.

One of those who were of this circle was M. E. Companion, F. J. Menet, Past Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter. He was a companion active in the work, and warm in his friendship, and his kindly face will be missed in our councils.

#### AN INSPECTION OF THE CHAPTERS.

In the light of these thoughts, and faithful to the promise made when you honored me with this position. I have endeavored to keep myself in touch with the work, and with the men who guide the work, by visiting 77 of the 82 chapters on the roll of Grand Chapter in this Province and east of Sault St. Marie. The fulfilment of my undertaking entailed nearly six thousand miles of travel. It occupied as much time as I was enabled to snatch from the hours of a busy business life, thus making it impossible for me to extend my visits in outlying districts, or gratify my heartfelt desire to see and hear words of encouragement to our Companions colonial in the empire continent of the Australian seas.

The actual estimate of the strength of the work will be found in the reports of those officers who have charge of the districts. A perusal of these reports favors the view that criticism has in some cases been tempered, not to the shorn lamb, but to shield the older members of the flock from the cyclone of Criticism which might sweep away whatever little of reputation they ever possessed as presiding officers of an intelligent assembly.

The duties of Superintendent call for some display of energy on the part of Companions accepting the office. It is pleasant and agreeable to visit Grand Chapter and return home clothed with imposing regalia, which is the emblem of authority, but to accept office and to ignore a solemn obligation to discharge the duties of that office is not in accordance with the morals of Masonry.

This reference is solely to the work in Algoma and Manitoba districts. In the former, one out of three Chapters

was visited; in the latter two out of six. It must be said for the superintendents of these districts that their territory is one of magnificent distances, and that, even with increased facilities for travel, it is impossible for Companions, who like ourselves have each day to solve the problem of keeping the dollar they have in one hand, while the other is reaching for the dollar they have not, to give a large share of their time to this work. We are all bread-winners. Some of us have that which we part with only, as our cousins across the border say, on the gold standard; others have or had acres in central locations, ornamented with corner lots, bought by the square foot and now sold by the acre, and a few are sleeping on pillows made up of the equities of redemption which grow small and beautifully less with each succeeding sunrise. With all our fraternal relations and ties of friendship, the house and home have, and rightly too the first call. We cannot, therefore, expect men to sacrifice material interest and weeks of time to the development of the sentiment of good will for one another.

In those districts which are east of the Sault, my opportunities for experience with my Grand Superintendents have been the source of untold pleasure. They have been with me at early morn, when only the agricultural world was active, and far into the night, when most of our Companions were, I trust comfortably in bed. Yes, they have been with me by road and rail, in summer when the thermometer was climbing vigorously upward, and in winter when the telltale mercury had not for hours and days been upon speaking terms with zero. This testimony to the worth of earnest, painstaking and active men is given because deserved, and not on the principle that personal laudation is a mixture always kept in stock, to be given in large gulps to those who least deserve it.

Personal observation in seventy-seven chapters east of the Sault indicates that the work in thirty-nine

chapters is of the highest character. Among these may be included the work of the chapters at Dunnville, Oakville, Toronto (St. Paul's), which by reason of exceptional accuracy in detail merits special mention. In fourteen of the chapters the work is over the average, and yet lacks the attention to detail, which is of such material importance. Thirteen of the chapters are struggling with the work and making some headway, but the improvement is intermittent and the general character of the work is slowly deteriorating. Eleven chapters are marked by management which is noticeably indifferent, by interest which is apparently dead, and by an enthusiasm which is a dim tradition even to those young in the work.

Niagara chapter is the story of a name without fame—a place once a fruitful Craft field, but to-day, in Capitular work, a barren desert of buried hopes. Some men are eager to accept office utterly unconscious of the fact that incapacity has no place in the equipment of him who would guide work, either Craft or Capitular.

Amherstburg is another example of indifference to and neglect of the work. On election and installation nights the Chapter sees many faces. Combinations form and foreign influences interfere to such an extent that men are placed in office whose first and only appearance is perhaps made on these nights, for on all other occasions they find it convenient to be absent.

Alliston is another place where the work is dead beyond revival. Meaford is much the same. Grimsby has some members of life left, but its revival is doubtful. Port Colborne has had discretion in its dying days, and has handed in its warrant and expired according to ancient custom. Chatham, Exeter and Lindsay are three places, each of which might be awarded a medal for apathy without any chance of a mistake being made. Indeed, nothing less than a fire at the Masonic Hall would secure a quorum of Companions at any one of these places.

Rat Portage has a chapter which is almost extinct.

Reviewing the entire roll in Ontario, with 39 Chapters doing high grade work, 14 over the average, 13 that although below the average, are yet struggling for a place, there is reason for congratulation during the past year.

To this, of course, must be added the work of two Chapters in the Algoma District, six in the Manitoba District, one in British Columbia, and six in Australia, fifteen Chapters, out of which at least twelve are doing fair work.

This gives fifty three Chapters in first-class condition; and thirteen doing work, indifferent as it may be, yet yet with prospects of bettering their position.

These are my views in connection with the work based upon personal visits, and given with an endeavor to be fair and just in determining the character and condition of the Chapter.

The primal importance of actual personal inspection cannot be over estimated. It is my belief that if this were carried out to the fullest extent, within two years every Chapter on the roll would be doing good average work.

#### PROPOSALS FOR NEW CHARTERS.

The indifference displayed in many places to the interest of Capitular Masonry induces a hesitation in extending the work by the issue of dispensations or of warrants to new Chapters. Our printed records, with the roll of Chapters scattered over all parts of the jurisdiction, are external evidences of internal welfare. And yet, it is an easy thing to have an army on paper, with cannons on the ramparts and shot and shell stored ready for any emergency. But paper armies have vanished before to-day, and the sad lessons of defeat have shown that what is represented on paper must have material existence in the field. So it is with the work of Royal Arch Ma-

sonry. We may issue dispensations and establish Chapters, but if the workers are only represented by names on the roll call, but if the officers are these who are on hand only at a church parade, an "At Home" or an official muster, where Masonic Millinery is the best thing in the outfit, then is not a Grand First Principal justified in refusing to touch the button and give vitality to an organization which would not reflect credit upon Masonic life?

Along this line comes the question of reviving dormant warrants, in places other than those in which they were originally located.

My personal experience in the writing of Masonic History has confirmed an opinion, uttered twenty years ago, that the removal of warrants from one part of the jurisdiction to the other, was not in harmony with the progressiveness which should mark Capitular Masonry,

The fee for a new Chapter has been, heretofore, \$50, a price not unreasonable considering that the fee for the Capitular Degrees was \$20. In order, however, to extend the work, consent was given to the re-issue of old warrants at the reduced fee of \$10.

This opened the gateway, and from the east and west, from the north and south of the jurisdiction, requests were made and petitions duly filled for the re-issue of warrants which had already seen service.

The plea may have been in the interest of the Royal Arch, but marching alongside of this plea was the factor that it was not only a cheap way of establishing new Chapters at a discount of \$40 from the price of a new warrant, but also a scheme for obtaining an antiquity which had been earned by Companions, whose bones would almost rattle in the churchyard at the thought of their Masonic memories being in the care of those who might or might not reflect credit upon their names.

The warrants so removed, having Chapter names applicable to the locality, cease to possess any geographical

significance, while the fact that those whose names appear on the warrant as Charter members are dead and gone, looks as if the scheme of revival were an enterprise for obtaining antiquity at a low price, with inducements to live men to climb a genealogical tree which might be admired for its age only.

Chapters cannot prosper in small centres. One lodge rarely develops searchers after the higher mysteries of the Royal Arch in sufficient numbers to give strength to a Chapter. Different lodges have different characteristics, but these are harmonized in the higher and unified life of the Chapter. One great element of strength in our system is its power to build stones hewn from many quarries into the perfected beauty of the Royal Arch.

#### PRE REQUISITE TO SUCCESS.

The introduction of the work in the form adopted by Grand Chapter commends itself as a ready means of attaining an exemplification which existed only in a very crude form prior to the adoption of the present work. While it is true that in a few of the Chapters the moss-covered ritual of long ago is worked off on unsuspecting candidates, the percentage of these workers is so small that it is better to await the dispensations of a kindly Province than endeavor to discipline those who offend. In the former case the action would be permanent—in the latter it would be but temporary. One is reminded of these efforts when listening to obligations so constructed that they contain the condensed essentials of all the degrees, from the Entered Apprentice to those which were in vogue in the days of the Egyptian mysteries, when novices were tested with the terrors of the elements. There can be no efficiency without effort, and with effort would come a knowledge of the ritual which would save the work from being disfigured by absurdities in rendering.

#### THE REDUCTION OF OUR FEES.

The wisdom of the action taken by Grand Chapter in reducing the fee for degrees to \$10 may have been ques-

tioned, and justly so, when first discussed. It was a venture which had with it possibilities not of advantage to the Royal Arch. It was said to be a cheapening of Masonic privileges that would lessen the dignity of degrees which had acknowledged antiquity.

These views however, are not justified by actual experience. The move was an excellent one from many points of view. It has enlivened the work in our chapters. It has turned the streams of Craft thought to refresh the fields of the Royal Arch. It has given us life in places where, Masonically speaking, death was lurking. It has revived the work so much that even veterans, who unbuckled their armour years ago, thinking that as they walked out chaos would walk in, have left their firesides and refreshed their memories with bits of the ritual, which if shortened by a couple of words, would leave them nothing to say.

#### DIFFICULTIES YOU HAVE TO CON- TEND WITH.

While these outward and visible signs of revival cheer our hearts, we have, nevertheless, to contend with difficulties which have not to be surmounted by other institutions.

The ground floor of our fraternal structure holds the initial part of the work, which gives, by the three sections of the Craft degrees, the right to go up higher and seek in the fourth section the brighter and clearer light of Masonry in the degrees of the Royal Arch. The Capitular degrees are of admitted antiquity. They contain the essentials of knowledge that give perfection to the Craft degrees, and which were not manufactured to suit the whims of those whose delight it was to face the camera and look pleasant as the artist perpetuates the grandeur of their regalia for the edification of generations yet unborn.

These thoughts meet us when we find that there are there are those who claim that the higher light shines elsewhere, that the Royal Arch is but a minor constellation, and that if the

Craft Mason desires to see the sun of knowledge in all its radiance and eventually finds himself placed amongst the immortals, he must have a guide who knew not Moses, one of a tribe that is not descended from the princes and rulers of the Craft, but who can lead the wayfarer by pleasant roadways, where obligations vegetate and good company is the leading characteristic.

For other degrees in the field of Masonic labor one has, and truly, every regard and veneration. Men have the right to join any branch of Masonic work, but no man or men have the right to better the condition of the rites, to which they are partial, at the expense of an institution which saw the sunlight almost half a century before the rites alluded to were known to have either a father or mother.

The Royal Arch degree is one of merit. Its worth is shown in the fact that in the motherland it was for years an integral part of the Craft work. It stands and will stand as the perfection of Masonry. Other degrees may have in them the essentials and be good enough Masonry for those who want them. Our degrees, however, are counted as the millionaire counts his cash. We are not turning into the highways and byways Companions as moving advertisements of our work. Nor do we call to our aid the notation table and teach the innocent Craftsman to believe that a concentration of numerals proves that the possessor has the pathway to his greatness lined with libraries of knowledge, when every friend knows that all he owns are the steps that lead up to the empty shelves.

The higher rites, any that you may select, are not the exalted end of the Masonic student's journey. They are pleasant picnic-grounds on the upward road, were worthy brothers, with the price of admission, may turn aside to be refreshed with good companionship and adorn their names with Roman numerals indicative of nothing but ability to pay for degrees, The Royal Arch chapter is the real summit of the true Mason's journey, a height which

is not to be attained by the sweat of a pocket-book, but which must be won by mental toil.

The Royal Arch has the right of way. It follows in the van of the primal degrees, and is the living impersonation and the recognized terminus of all that is legitimate in the Masonry that has been handed down by our fathers in the Craft.

This divergence for a few moments from the beaten track reminds me that other features of the work deserve attention.

#### THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION.

The committee in charge of the re-drafting of our Constitution will place the result of their labors before you, and it to be hoped that their earnest effort made, will be favored with your approval.

On one point in the proposed Constitution, I desire to express an opinion. The committee has introduced a clause providing for an officer to be known as a Grand Lecturer. This was a suggestion of my own—the result of considerable thought as I journeyed from Chapter to Chapter. It does not entail any expenditure whatever on the part of Grand Chapter, but gives those Chapters which desire the services of such an officer an opportunity at a very moderate cost of perfecting themselves in the ritual under a thoroughly competent instructor. It is an experiment worthy of trial.

#### THE FINANCES OF GRAND CHAPTER.

An important matter for Grand Chapter is its financial investments. We are not a wealthy institution and yet we have some \$20,000 of funds, \$5,000 of which is invested in building society stock, and the remainder, about \$16,000, lies to our credit in the bank. One-fourth of this sum was invested a few years ago with a loan and building association, whose stock to-day is so low that a poor man, with but little ready cash, could be a Millionaire in the face value of this stock. Fortunately, we sold out and escaped what

would have been a loss to-day of perhaps \$3,000, or over.

It is not my duty to criticise the the standing of commercial companies. My business is with funds of Grand Chapter. Safety is our first consideration. Our funds are trust funds and there should be no speculative investment in funds of that character. We have no right to invest in the securities of societies or companies that may, or may not, when assets are re-valued, be able to stand the strain. Nor should we, in our investments, be swayed by the influences and friendships of those of the Craft who are either directly or indirectly interested in moneyed institutions. Prudent investors recognize the value of municipal and county bonds and debentures as the best form of security, and with this in view, an opportunity will be offered to Grand Chapter in a few weeks to have city bonds at a shade under 4 per cent, as an investment for surplus funds. It is better to have  $3\frac{7}{8}$  per cent or  $3\frac{3}{4}$  per cent sure, than  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent or 5 per cent with the element of doubtful value. The shrinkage, which has struck every form of business and every line of trade, affects loan institutions. Property on the red-lined balance sheet of a loan society only increases in value by the addition of interest and of taxes, and when re-values have to be made, if they ever are, the decrease in value is not encouraging. If we must invest in monetary institutions, let us choose those which receive money at first hand from the investor, and not institutions which have to seek the aid of chartered banks or the larger trust companies.

#### INSTRUCTION IN THE CHAPTERS.

I have held under my personal direction thirteen Chapters of instruction during the past year. At these all the degrees have been exemplified. The attendance except at the meeting at Chatham, was satisfactory. The work at London, Barrie, Belleville, Brockville, Almonte and Windsor, was excellent, while that at Toronto and Oakville was of the highest character. The

Mark work of Dunnville Chapter, and the Royal Arch work of St. Paul's Toronto, and of Oakville Chapter, were an example of earnest study and exact attention to every detail never excelled in the jurisdiction.

#### OUR AUSTRALIAN COMPANIONS.

Coincidences that mark our lives are illustrated by the fact that as this paragraph is being written, the Australian mail brings with it the announcement from our Grand Superintendent, that union on terms honorable to our Companions in the Australian District and to those of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, has been agreed upon, and that the fusion will be consummated on next Friday, the 20th of July. The Terms of union will be found in the report of our Grand Superintendent. They provide for a recognition of the past rank of our officers, for foundation warrants from the Grand Chapter of Victoria, for our Chapters, free registration of our members at date of amalgamation, and that dispensations be granted by the Grand Chapter of Victoria for the installation of officers elected at the meeting in each Chapter succeeding amalgamation.

Judging by the report of our Grand Superintendent and by personal letters received, the basis of union is one that is satisfactory. May it prove to be so. May the memory of whatever of unrest existed in the past be forgotten forever. May the union now accomplished lead to the building up of another stronghold of the Royal Arch, guarded by Companions with hands and hearts united, in a land pre-eminent for enterprise, and dear to us as Canadians because of its place in the circle of our world-wide British nation.

#### THE MEETING DATE OF GRAND CHAPTER.

The question of changing the date of the meeting of Grand Chapter has been discussed by many Companions during the past year.

The Committee on the Constitution considered the matter, and although favorable to the idea, determined to

leave the decision to Grand Chapter without a recommendation.

Years ago the proposal was made to have a Masonic week, once each year, when all organizations, Craft and Capitular, as well as those affiliated by custom, would meet and transact the business and other duties pertaining to each. The proposal was carried into effect and for fifteen years past, a week in July has been occupied with Masonic work.

The feeling that more interested would be created in each department of the work, that a larger attendance would be secured, and that a more general prosperity would wait upon us induced the promoters of the movement to carry it into effect.

While there may be an increase in the average of attendance by other institutions meeting in the same week, the average number of Chapters represented is about the same as it was ten years ago, and a review of the proceedings does not show the advantages anticipated. Indeed, an opinion prevails that our meeting in the same week as the Craft Grand Lodge lessens our importance and obscures our identity, and decreases the interest, by reason of the relatively greater questions which occupy the mind of the Craft Grand Lodge.

This is the subject of paramount importance to Grand Chapter, and a proposal that we should foregather in mid-winter, when the demands of business are not so pressing upon those who toil either in the city or country, is worthy of the fullest consideration.

This Grand Chapter is a sovereign organization with an honorable record of thirty-eight years. It has raised the standard of Capitular work, and commands the regard and respect of kindred bodies. If the view that we are lost in the Masonic maze by meeting in the same week as other bodies be true, then by all means let us try, if only as an experiment, the effect of assembling at another time, when our energies will not be divided, when our time will be at our command and not

subordinate, as it is to-day, to the business of another body, which naturally takes precedence.

#### THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

The exchange of representatives with foreign Grand Chapters, and the appointment of Companions to positions of that character, remind me that the representative system is to be discussed in the Craft Grand Lodge. The representative system has been established for many years. It originated with the Grand Lodge of an American jurisdiction, and in its initial form subordinate lodges of various jurisdictions exchanged representatives as evidences of fraternity, as tokens of friendship. When adopted by Grand Lodge it assumed a more enlarged form, and has gained such favor that with, perhaps, one exception, every Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter adhere to the system. It may not have all the advantages intended by its founders, but it has the merit, at least, of marking friendly relations which exist between Craft jurisdictions, and the very act of appointment is evidence of a desire to strengthen and cement the bond that mutually joins all organizations known to be Masonic. Some allege that these representatives are but flies upon the Masonic wheel, that in their appointment there is no end to serve, no purpose in view. It may be said that this does not apply to those selected in connection with Grand Chapter, for four years ago a very important service was rendered by the representative of this Grand Chapter, near an American Grand Chapter, a service which was gratefully acknowledged. Also, within a few months, another act of kindness was performed in the interests of Companions of this jurisdiction by an American representative, which gave considerable comfort to those concerned. These cases I recall. There are also others, of which I have not the date at hand. The existence of representatives is no burden upon the revenue of Grand Chapter. They have not salaried rank. There have been,

and may again be, examples of good having been done by them, and they can never do harm. They represent a sentiment, but there is a strength in sentiment, and it would not be well to lose that strength by abolishing the Grand Representatives. The report of the Grand Scribe E. contains a list of those whom I have recommended as representatives to us from our Grand Chapter.

#### THE CORRECT FORM OF MARKS.

My attention has been called to the use of heraldic signs and coats of arms in the Book of Marks of some Chapters. My opinion is, that the marks selected should be Masonic in character, and composed of lines in any form, whether in squares, triangles, right angles, or circles, or a selected combination of all. These marks were originally in the operative lodges used by the members to indicate their work, and in all transactions recorded in the lodge books, when a signature was necessary, after it came to the mark.

Some Companions in our jurisdiction have found in their ancestral garrets a coat of arms, which may or may not be theirs, and adopt these arms as a Masonic mark, and enter it in the book of marks, and engrave it on their key-stone. This insignia, so selected, is neither Masonic nor appropriate. There is a place for coats of arms, but Masonic records are not that place. The Operative Masters of the Craft, when they wielded the mallet and chisel, gained their right to mark their work by years of toil. And so let our work bear the mark of merit, and not the painted quarters of insignia, which have no place in a land where character is the test, and an unsullied reputation and good citizenship count for more than all the trimming which money or favor can glue on the fabric of a mortal life.

#### THE CASE OF CARLETON CHAPTER.

It is a pleasure to state that harmony has prevailed during the past year, and that, with one or two exceptions, nothing has occurred to disturb the even tenor

of goodwill for which this jurisdiction is noted.

One case, however, requires special mention. At the last meeting of Grand Chapter, the Committee on Warrants recommended that the dispensation, issued to Dufferin Chapter at Carleton Place, be continued for another year, from the fact that some slight unrest had occurred in the Chapter, and it was thought probable that the extension of the dispensation might lead to the settlement of the difficulties. My absence for a few weeks in Europe prevented my personal attention to the matter, but I directed the Grand Scribe E. to attend at Carleton Place, convene a special meeting of the Chapter, hear the opinions of Companions and endeavor to adjust matters, and that if he found it absolutely impossible to arrange an amicable settlement to withdraw the dispensation. The Grand Scribe E. acted in accordance with my instructions, listened to a lengthened discussion in the Chapter, and seeing that there was no possible hope of a reconciliation, withdrew the dispensation, leaving the books and appointments of the Chapter in the care of its First Principal. His action he reported to me and I have endorsed the same. At a later date another petition for a dispensation was forwarded for a Chapter at Carleton Place, and, after an examination of the names thereon, I issued a dispensation for a Chapter to be known as "Maple Leaf Chapter," and the officers were installed in due form. This is one of the four Chapters out of 79 in this province which I have been unable to visit, but I witnessed an exemplification of its work at Almonte and can testify to its accuracy, and also to the earnestness of the officers of Maple Leaf Chapter.

My ruling has been asked in regard to the exemplification of foreign work in this jurisdiction. My opinion is that the standard and authorized work of this Grand Chapter should alone prevail in the jurisdiction. The introduction of foreign work, with dramatic embellishments, is apt to create dissatisfac-

tion and discontent amongst the younger Companions, who, in the early days of their Capitular lives, are easily swayed by the alleged beauties of a ritual decorated with ornamentations that are not in harmony with the Canadian methods or manners.

#### THE PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.

The Past Master's degree, having been eliminated from our system, a Chapter in a western district asks permission to still continue that section of the work, on the ground that, being on the International line, it facilitates the entry of our Companions into foreign Chapters. Grand Chapter having abolished the P. M. degree, no authority can be given for its continuance in any Chapter and to confer the degree is therefore a direct violation of the constitution of Grand Chapter, subjecting the Chapter, so working, to discipline. The P. M. degree never had a right to even a place in the Capitular system. It gained favor here years ago as a relic of a custom that prevailed in the old land, when the Craft chair was a pre-requisite to the Capitular. This condition has passed away. The P. M. degree belongs, and always did, to the Craft work, and the conferring of the degree in a chapter is an attempt to give exalted rank and knowledge to men, many of whom are not out of leading strings in Craft work. The legitimate Past Master is to be found in the Craft lodge. The imitation article is found in Capitular jurisdictions which undertake to confer the degree. There is enough legitimate Masonry in our particular branch of work, without importing an extraneous ceremony, which has features repellent to the instincts of men who reverence the teachings of Masonry.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Foreign Correspondence this year has been written by R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett. It is a masterly effort, and will be read I am sure, with pleasure by not only by our own Companions, but by those in other jurisdictions who peruse our proceedings.

## A WORD IN CLOSING.

If during the year my interest in the work has not been proclaimed by the silent eloquence of action, no, words of mine will proclaim that interest now.

Whatever you disagree with in my message you can attribute to an excess of enthusiasm. If my zeal has not spared the feeling of any Companion, I hope that the Companion will remember that the same zeal has not spared my time or my comfort.

It is just possible that I take Masonic life too seriously, but I feel, as one who has a deep interest in the work, that unless Grand Chapter is more rigid in its requirements from those selected for office, it is a waste of time for a Grand Z. to travel miles to kindle fires out of embers that have almost ceased to smoulder, and view the ruins which human skill cannot rebuild.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

The reports of the Committees on Audit and Finance, Warrants, Benevolence, Credentials, Grievances, Jurisprudence, Condition of Capitular Masonry and Foreign Correspondence were presented and adopted.

In view of the approaching union of the Chapters under Canadian warrants in Australia with the Grand Chapter of Victoria, it was resolved to confer past rank of various grades upon a number of the Companions at the Antipodes in recognition of faithful services.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year, the three Grand Principals, Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer being re-elected by acclamation :

- M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, Grand Z.  
 R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, Ingersol, Grand H.  
 R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Hamilton, Grand J.  
 M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, Toronto, Grand Scribe E.  
 R. E. Comp. Aubrey White, Toronto, Grand Principal Sojourner.

R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer.

R. E. Comp. Philip T. Lee, Newmarket, Grand Registrar.

## GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

- James Woods, London, St. Clair, No. 1.  
 James Woods, Sarnia, London, No. 2.  
 A. R. McDonald, Woodstock, Wilson, No. 3.  
 R. Mahony, Guelph, Wellington, No. 4.  
 T. M. Davis, Hamilton, Hamilton, No. 5.  
 F. W. Gearing, Stratford, Huron, No. 6.  
 —. German, Welland, Niagara, No. 7.  
 Wm. Simpson, Toronto, Toronto, No. 8.  
 George Monkman, Barrie, Georgian, No. 9.  
 A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg, Ontario, No. 10.  
 W. Webster, Belleville, Prince Edward, No. 11.  
 J. F. Graham, Prescott, Central, No. 12.  
 W. H. Hearst, Sault Ste. Marie, Algoma, No. 13.  
 James Haddock, Winnipeg, Manitoba, No. 14.  
 Wm. Downie, Vancouver, British Columbia, No. 15.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

*Elected*:—W. Roof, Toronto; D. MacWatt, Barrie; D. H. Martyn, Kincardine; A. Shaw, Kingston; A. R. Birrell, Hamilton. *Appointed*:—W. W. Rutherford, Aylmer; G. V. Greenhill, Galt; G. J. Bennett, Toronto; J. D. Christie, Simcoe, and James Adams, Kingston.

The following are the appointed officers:—V.E. Comp. Charles A. Matthews, Toronto, Grand First Assistant Sojourner; V.E. Comp. W. A. Karn, Woodstock, Grand Second Assistant Sojourner; R.E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, Toronto, Grand Lecturer; V.E. Comp. J. J. Moore, Stratford, Grand Sword Bearer; V.E. Comp. J. Menish, Brockville, Grand Master of Veils; V.E. Comp. Colin Wigle, Amherstburg, Grand Standard Bearer; V.E. Comp. H. W. Watson, Vancouver, Grand

Director of Ceremonies ; V.E. Comp. J. Micht, M.D., Port Hope, Grand Organist ; V.E. Comp. John Phillips, Welland, Grand Pursuivant ; V.E. Comp. N. J. Lindsay, Calgary, Grand Steward ; V.E. Comp. William Smith, Billings Bridge, Grand Steward ; V.E. Comp. A. Cameron, Owen Sound, Grand Steward ; V.E. Comp. Conrad Hoff, Milton, Grand Steward.

Among the changes made in the constitution were the division of the central district, and the fixing of January instead of July as the period for holding the Annual Convocation. The Central District, which hitherto comprised twelve Chapters, is now divided into two, which will be known as the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Districts, numbered 12 and 13 respectively. The former will include the Chapters at Prescott, Brockville, North Augusta, Morrisburg and Farrow's Point. The other those at Ottawa, Mattawa, Almonte and Renfrew.

Grand Chapter will next meet on the fourth Wednesday in January, 1897, in Toronto. Two o'clock in the afternoon was decided as the hour for opening in place of 10 a.m. as formerly.

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#### DEATH OF W. BRO. DR. JOHN H. McCONNELL.

W. Bro Dr. John H. McConnell, of Toronto, one of the delegates to the Supreme Court, I.O.F., now in session in London, Eng, died suddenly on the 30th ult., in an ante-room of the hall where the Foresters were in session. Some months ago he had a slight shock of paralysis, but latterly appeared in excellent health. His sudden and unexpected death is much regretted by a host of Masonic friends in this city and elsewhere. The Foresters are making special arrangements by which the body will be brought home. The burial will be a noted one owing to the peculiar circumstances of the death.

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## Craft Tidings.

### AMERICAN.

The Grand Lodge of Iowa charges \$20 for charters for Lodges.

The estimated value of the property of the Grand Lodge of New York is \$10,000,000, and is rapidly increasing.

The Grand Lodge of New York show returns of membership of 88,573, a net increase of 2,359 over the previous year.

The Grand Commandery of Indiana has a surplus of \$8,000 in the treasury, and as a consequence has reduced its dues *per capita* from one dollar to seventy-five cents.

The Scottish Rite Masons in St. Louis will soon begin work on a cathedral to cost \$75,000. The fees for the degrees are \$110.00.

Connecticut Grand Chapter, R. A. M., has a regulation that no Royal Arch Mason of thirty year's standing shall be subject to discipline for non-payment of dues.

The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, at its annual communication declared the Cerneau fraud illegal, and endorsed the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, of which Bro. Henry L. Palmer is Grand Commander.

The Grand Lodge of Verginia has decided that "a candidate with one perfect eye is physically qualified to be made a Mason." Also, that "a candidate who has lost a portion of his thumb, but who can literally conform to all requirements without artificial aid or friendly assistance, is eligible."

Bro. Thomas Montgomery, of Minnesota, says that while he "believes that Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar should keep up their membership in Blue Lodge," he "does not hold that non affiliation in the Lodge is a Masonic crime." Fraternal not monetary considerations, were the lines upon which the Craft was founded in early days.

Bro. P. M. Savery, of Mississippi, says "life is too short for everybody to be an expert ritualist, therefore learn the essentials. Learn them orally. Let the embellishments alone until you get a foundation, then learn all you possibly can of the rest."

#### FOREIGN.

The Grand Orient of the Republic of Chili, at Valparaiso, is in regular activity. It has seven constituent Lodges, which are doing good work.

The United Grand Orient of Lusitania, at Lisbon, Portugal, was organized October 30, 1869. It comprised 70 constituent Lodges and 2850 brethren.

"There is nothing to prevent women being Freemasons," said Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, in his lecture at St. George's Hall, London, on "The Past, Present and Future of Freemasonry."

Freemasonry is in a flourishing condition in India. Under the Grand Lodge of England, there are 42 Lodges in Bengal, 42 in Bombay, 8 in Burma, and 22 in Madras. Under the Grand Lodge of Scotland there are also 33 Lodges, making a total of 151 Lodges.

The Grand Master, in his address to the Grand Lodge of India, has this paragraph: "The Grand Lodge revenues have been ample. We own a magnificent property. We have a surplus in the treasury. We owe no man anything. I congratulate you upon this state of affairs."

"In 1775, there was a ladies' Lodge at St. Petersburg, and it was carried on with all true Masonic dignity for several years. But we have a record nearer home than that, of a lady—the great aunt of the present Mrs. Basil Wilberforce—becoming a Freemason," and, as Dr. Richardson says, "remaining one of the best who ever entered the Craft."

We are sometimes led to advise those seeking membership in the fraternity to keep out because they cannot afford it. A man has no right to join any society at the expense of his own

or his family's comfort. Masonry is not an asylum or school of correction intended to reform men; it seeks only to make reformed men better; neither is it an institution of benevolence, where the man goes to receive monetary benefits or better a crippled condition; it takes care of its own when misfortune overtakes them. He should be able to support himself and family and to lay aside something for a rainy day before he joins a Masonic Lodge.

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## Miscellaneous.

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### THE VIEWLESS TEMPLE

LAWRENCE N. GREENLEAF.

The temple made of wood and stone may crumble and decay,  
But there's a viewless fabric which shall never fade away;

Age after age each Mason strives to carry out the plan,

But still the work's unfinished which those ancient Three began.

None but immortal eyes may view complete in all its parts,

The Temple formed of Living Stones—the structure made of hearts.

'Neath every form of government, in every age and clime,

Amid the world's convulsions and the gastly wrecks of time,

While empires rise in splendor and are conquered and o'erthrown,

And cities crumble into dust, their vey sites unknown,

Beneath the sunny smile of peace, the threatening frown of strife,

Lo! Masonry has stood unmoved—with age renewed her life.

She claims her votaries in all climes, for none are under ban,

Who place implicit trust in God, and love their fellow-man.

The heart that shares another's woe, beats just as warm and true,

Within the breast of Christian, or Moham-madan, or Jew.

She levels all distinctions from the highest to the least,

The King must yield obedience to the Peasant in the East.

What honored names on history's page, o'e whose brave deeds we pour,

Have knelt before our sacred shrine, and trod our checkered floor!

Kings, princes, statesmen, heroes, bards, who  
 squared their actions true,  
 Between the Pillars of the Porch, now pass in  
 long review.  
 O, brothers! what a glorious thought to dwell  
 upon:  
 The Mystic Tie that binds our hearts, bound  
 that of Washington.

Although our past achievements we with honest  
 pride review,  
 As long as there's Rough Ashlars, there is work  
 for us to do,  
 We still must shape the Living Stones with  
 instruments of love,  
 For that eternal Mansion in the Paradise above,  
 Toil as we have toiled in ages past, to carry  
 out the plan—  
 'Tis this: The Fatherhood of God, the Brother-  
 hood of Man.—*Square and Compass.*

#### MISPLACED CONFIDENCE.

Probably there is one thing that causes more trouble among Masons and brings Masonry more into illrepute among the profane than anything else, and that is misplaced confidence and broken faith among Craftsmen themselves. There is no use beating about the bush in this matter. It is well known to Masons, and is much talked of by those outside of the Institution, and the day is not far distant when it will be taken up by the Grand Bodies and summary action taken upon the offenders. Occurrences of this kind have become altogether too frequent of late years for the good of the Institution. Scarcely a Lodge can be found but which contains someone who has been ill used by a brother Mason. Some sharp practice has been performed, promise broken or misleading advice given, by a brother Mason, against one who had a right to expect entirely different usage at his hands.

Election to a Masonic Lodge is one of the best character recommendations any man can possess, providing the committee was properly performed its duties, and the brethren vote intelligently. And there is no gainsaying the fact that our Lodges are, as a rule, composed of the best men in the community. But it does not follow that they are all of that class, neither can it be helped if some fall from grace and

do things they should not, but a strict weeding out of this class of people would have a salutary effect upon others, and would increase the public respect for Masonry an hundred fold.

Freemasonry is a brotherhood a family, wherein we are taught to help each other, to keep sacred a brother's secrets, and should we hear a brother's character wrongfully traduced, we should speak up in his behalf; should we deem him to be in danger, we should forewarn him; in fact, we should have full confidence in one another. But can we always rely upon receiving just treatment from our Masonic brethren? We regret to be compelled to answer in the negative.

Backbiting and petty jealousies among Masons should never be countenanced. There are some who seem to take great delight in spreading unsavory reports concerning their brethren. Such persons should have a quietus put upon them whenever they indulge in such reprehensible and un-Masonic conduct. Masons should pull together and not permit anything to come between them.

At times it seems to us that the "broad mantle of Masonic charity" has grown so old and threadbare that it sadly needs repairing, or, perhaps, 'twould be better to have an altogether new one made.—*The Masonic Record.*

#### MONETARY QUALIFICATIONS.

There are some among even the leaders of the Order who seem to think that the standard of Freemasonry can be raised by the imposition of higher fees, and hence it is we occasionally hear of Lodges desirous of improving the tone of their composition adopting the expedient of raising their dues, or a new Lodge will be started with ambitious apparently higher than those of its neighbours, and in order to secure some sort of superiority they settle the fees of initiation and the annual subscription at amounts in excess of others in their immediate neighborhood, or in

other respect in apparently equal circumstances.

Does the result in such cases justify the course adopted? or have the effect that is desired? We hardly think so, being of opinion that momentary considerations are of little or no moment to those who desire to enter the Craft from unworthy motives. Indeed, we would rather expect an undesirable candidate to seek admission into a high priced Lodge than a cheaper one, because he would imagine by so doing he would stand a fair chance of becoming acquainted with a higher section of society, but at the same time we are inclined to recognise that different grades of Lodges are desirable, in order to provide for the requirements of different sections of society in the same neighbourhood, although the main principle of Freemasonry is rigorously opposed to anything like a departure from equality in our midst.

How, then, it may be asked, are we to have distinctions without a difference in price, and for answer we would say, merely set a higher standard at the outset, and resolutely object to the introduction of any candidates who do not come up to that standard. This is the most effectual method, and at once removes the mercenary element, which which is not only most objectionable from a Masonic point of view, but, to our mind of thinking, wholly ineffective.—*Freemason's Chronicle.*

The length of your cable tow in old Scottish working was, for E.A., two miles by day and one by night; F.C., three miles by day and two by night; M.M., five by day and three by night.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue, and we shall be obliged if our brethren will favor us with notice of any omissions that may occur:

E. J. Carter, \$1.00; Jas. W. Staton, \$1.00; Dr. A. A. Henderson, \$1.00; S. Hollingworth, \$1.00; Ino. P. Noyes, \$1.00; J. M. Little, \$1.00; Harry Vigeon, \$3.00; N. T. Lyon, \$1.00; D. McFarlane, \$1.00; W. J. Robie, \$1.00; John Scoon, \$1.00; W. H.

Erbach, \$1.00; Hon. John Yeo, \$1.00; W. W. Fryer, \$1.00; J. B. Jardine, \$1.00; Burlington Lodge, \$2.50; A. McLean, \$1.00; J. W. Morton, \$1.00; Supreme Council 33°, \$2.50; S. Stacker Williams, \$1.00; Qu'Appelle Valley Lodge, \$1.00; Arch'd Hood, E. C. Fitzgerald, \$2.00; Jas. Alexander, \$1.00.

#### PLEASANTRIES.

Customer: "Give me a dozen fried oysters." Waiter: "Sorry, sir; but we're all out of shell fish, excepting eggs."

A student, describing the salubrity of Italy, stated that, "in spite of the cholera the mortality only reached twenty per thousand."

A gentleman, who was relating an accident he had had, was asked by the surgeon if it was near the vertebrae that he had been hurt. "No, sir," was the reply: "it was near the Observatory."

An auctioneer at a sale of antiquities put up a helmet with the candid remark: "This, ladies and gentlemen, is a helmet of Romulus, the Roman founder: I think he was the first in the iron business."

Mrs. Newriche (patronizingly): "Where any of your ancestors men of note, Mr. Cynic?" Mr. Cynic: "Yes, madam, I should say so. One of them was the most famous admiral of this day, and commanded the allied forces of the world." Mrs. Newriche (with altered tone of deep respect): "Is it possible, Mr. Cynic! And what was his name?" Mr. Cynic: "Noah, madam."

The *Musical Courier* tells this anecdote about Joachim and a London barber: "The great violinist is said to have once visited a barber in that city to get his hair cut. He is in the habit of wearing it rather long behind, and intimated as much to the barber, whereupon that individual promptly replied, 'I wouldn't wear it too long, mister: if you do, you'll look just like one o' them fiddlin' chaps,'"

He had been silent in thought for some time. At length he heaved a sigh, which moved his friend to inquire what the trouble was. "This world ain't run right," he answered. "Why, you ought to be happy. You've been away enjoying yourself, I understand." "Yes. I've been away but, I don't see much enjoyment,—not in a world where the fish are so shy about bitin' an' the mosquitoes so eternally willin'."

At the recent meeting of the Supreme Court I.O.F., R. W. Bro. Harry A. Collins, of Toronto was elected Supreme Treasurer. The remainder of the Supreme Executive were re-elected.