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THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN,

AND

MASONIC RECORD.

J. B. TRAYES, P.D.D.G.M.,
Editor & Proprietor.

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No. 9.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

There have been many Provincial Grand Masters appointed from time to time in connection with the "Royal Order of Scotland," but it seems to have been left to one of the youngest in that capacity, albeit a veteran Mason, to deliver an allocution at an annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge. We refer to the "Ninth Annual" of the Provincial Grand Lodge for the United States of America, Gen. Albert Pike being the Provincial Grand Master of the "R. O." and Orator on the occasion (October 18th, 1886). The remarkable Address was delivered to "Dear Friends and Brethren" who are members of that curious Degree (or Degrees)—with such quaint ceremonials and customs—and who assembled in the city of Washington to greet their beloved and honored chief. Bro. Pike told his hearers that "Our Freemasonry is not all that it ought to be to us, or we should welcome our annual reunions with a greater gladness, be more saddened at parting from each other at their close, and permit only grave impediments to prevent our being present at each." Considering that General Pike has been for long the Grand Commander of the A. and A. Rite, 33°, for the S. J. of the United States, we desire to emphasize his declaration—"We are all debtors to Freemasonry. Our first-allegiance

is pledged at the beginning to Symbolic Masonry; and it always remains paramount. This is a truism which everyone admits, but the conduct of a vast number of Masons is inconsistent with it, and reject it. Too many forget that they are debtors of the Symbolic Masonry." We trust that the "old man eloquent" will be spared for another year, indeed, for many years, for he promises "that he will entrust to the keeping of the Provincial Grand Lodge a treatise upon the Symbols of the Blue Lodge, containing the results of his studies and reflections thereon, and so discharge in part the debt which, as a Knight of the Rosy Cross (Royal Order) he owes to the Symbolic Masonry." This is good news for those who delight in the "Science of Symbolism," of which General Pike is, beyond question, the *facile princeps*. The orator unhesitatingly declared that "the day will be long in coming when Masonry will be no longer needed by humanity, and the day will never come when any other Order will take its place." In his opinion the dawn of the reformation and reinvigoration of Freemasonry will witness "the errors and mischiefs that have grown insolent and strong shall flee away as the mists before the north wind. Fraud and imposture, scorched by the hot flame of its righteous indignation will be shrivelled up and perish, and the parasite organisms that have clung to it, and had their life from it, will be shaken off and left behind to die of inanition."—*London Freemason.*

THE ELEVENTH MASONIC DISTRICT

Report of the D.D.G.M. for 1886-87.

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

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,—
I have the honour to submit my annual report as to the condition of the Craft in the Eleventh District. My first official acts were the appointment of W. Bro. F. F. Manley, P. M. of Ionic Lodge, No. 25, as District Secretary, and the issue of a circular letter which called special attention to the clause in the Constitution providing that it was necessary that the ancient charges, the regulations of Grand Lodge for Private Lodges, and the by-laws of every Lodge be read in open Lodge once in each year, and particularly to the qualifications required by those elected to the office of Master, prior to installation. The letter read as follows:

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, A. F. & A. M.
THE ELEVENTH MASONIC DISTRICT.

Office of the District Deputy Grand Master.

Toronto, 21st July, 1886.

DEAR SIR AND WORSHIPFUL BROTHER.—In assuming the duties of District Deputy Grand Master of the Eleventh District, I have appointed W. Bro. F. F. Manley District Secretary, and communications for me addressed to his care will secure prompt attention.

I beg to call your attention to clause 107, page 44, of the constitution which reads:

"The Master of every Lodge is to cause the regulations of Grand Lodge relating to Private Lodges, and the by-laws of his Lodge, to be read in open Lodge once every year."

Kindly see that the requirements of the Constitution are carried out.

The ancient charges may be read at one meeting, the regulations at another, and the by-laws at a third. The time occupied will thus be divided, and brethren not wearied.

I also beg to call special attention to the fact that it is requisite that all those elected to the office of Master must be expert Craftsmen, well skilled in the work, and presented to a Board of Installed Masters for examination prior to installation. The next elections for the office of Master will be held in November and December, and in the interests of fraternity it is necessary that the regulations laid down in the Installation Ceremony should be carried out. All those elected to the office of Master will have to undergo examination so that I may know that they possess the necessary qualifications. I shall, therefore, if requested, either attend personally or send an Examining Master to every Lodge in this District, to examine him whom the brethren may select to rule over them. All newly elected officers must be able to open and close and exemplify the work in the three degrees. The office of Master is one of great honour, and there should be no royal road to it. It is unfair to earnest, attentive Craftsmen who study so as to become skilled in the work, that others, who are utterly incompetent,

should be vested with the rank and honour. Grand Lodge has declared that the Past Master who presents for installation, as well as a candidate who is not, commits a grave Masonic offence; and as some doubt has been expressed in the past concerning the efficiency of Boards of Installed Masters, in order that in the future no discredit may be brought on the Craft, those elected must prove their knowledge before installation.

Enclosed you will find a condensed report of the business transacted at the last annual communication of Grand Lodge at Windsor. If read in Lodge it will give your members a fair knowledge of the proceedings.

You will notice in the proceedings that on motion of M. W. Bro. Spry, clause 109 of the Constitution has been amended, by inserting after the word "days" in the first line, the words "and hours." The clause now reads: "The regular days and hours of meeting of the Lodge shall be specified in the by-laws." Please have your by-laws so amended.

My time is at the disposal of lodges, and I shall be happy to co-operate with the brethren in any work that will tend to the advancement of Craft work.

Yours Fraternally,

J. ROSS ROBERTSON, D.D.G.M.

OFFICIAL VISITATIONS.

I have officially visited each of the thirty-five lodges in this District twice. Five of these lodges I have visited three times, and one four times, making a total of seventy-eight visits, as will be observed by the tabulated statement, giving the list of lodges, the distance in miles from Toronto, showing the miles travelled in making these visitations to be 2,160.

In making these visitations no notification was given on the occasion of the first visit, so that I might see the ordinary work of the lodge, without the advantage of preparation. Of my second and subsequent visits all lodges were duly notified, in the form given in this circular.

TORONTO, April 15th, 1887.

SECOND SERIES OF OFFICIAL VISITS.

DEAR SIR AND W. BROTHER.—I am directed by R. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, D.D.G.M., to inform you that he will pay official visits to the Lodges of this District on the dates indicated at foot of this circular. Where the visits are not set down for Regular Meetings the D.D.G.M. would feel obliged if you will call an Urgent Meeting, so that he may be able to visit all the lodges in the district by the end of the second week in June. It is particularly requested that the W. M. and all the officers be present at these visitations, prepared to exemplify the work of opening and closing in the three degrees, and working as they may be able the Third, Second or First degree. The enclosed form please instruct your Secretary to fill up, and have ready for the D. D. G. M. on the occasion of his visit. These meetings have been arranged so that they should be as convenient as possible to lodges. You will readily understand that to visit all on the regular nights would occupy about four months, so that without emergencies it would be impossible to make this second series of visits.

If an emergency is required, please notify me that you have called it as requested.

Yours Fraternally,

F. F. MANLEY,

District Secretary.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

For the purpose of inculcating perfect uniformity of text and knowledge of the floor work in exemplification, I have held seven District Lodges of Instruction. The work was exemplified with absolute accuracy in every respect by a staff of officers carefully selected. These lodges were especially for the benefit and guidance of W. M.'s, Wardens and Deacons, as it has been frequently found that, at Lodges of Instruction, too large an attendance of the craft at large hampered the work by irrelevant discussions.

The Lodges of Instruction were held as follows:—

1st. At the Toronto street Hall, Toronto, 27th Oct., 1886. The E. A. was exemplified by V. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, of St. Andrew's, the F. C. by W. Bro. Davison, of Zetland. On the 29th Oct., the M. M. degree was exemplified in the same hall, by W. Bro. W. S. Jackson, of Ashlar. The attendance was very large, 120 members of lodges being present on the 27th, and 40 officers of lodges, 25 lodges being represented. On the 29th 132 members were present, and 60 officers, 28 lodges being represented. At the conclusion of the work questions were invited, and interest was evinced by the intelligent manner points were discussed.

2nd. At the Masonic Hall, Aurora, 26th Nov., 1886. The E. A. was exemplified by R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, G. R., of Zeta; the F. C. by W. Bro. S. Davison, of Zetland; the M. M. by V. W. Bro. George Tait, of St. Andrew's. The attendance was large, 60 members being present, including 40 officers of lodges, 12 lodges being represented.

3rd. At the Masonic Hall, Markham, on the 13th Dec., 1886. The E. A. and F. C. were exemplified by W. Bro. John Fletcher, and the M. M. by R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett. The attendance was small, 28 members being present, 18 of whom were officers, 12 lodges being represented.

4th. At the Masonic Hall, Lambton Mills, 17th Jan., 1887. The E. A. was exemplified by W. Bro. C. F. Mansell, of Zeta, the F. C. and M. M. by W. Bro. J. Fletcher, of Zetland. The attendance was fair, 30 members being present, including 13 officers of lodges, and 8 lodges were represented.

5th. At the Masonic Hall, Richmond Hill, on the 24th Jan., 1887. The E. A. and F. C. were exemplified by W. Bro. F. M. Morson, and the W. M. by V. W. Bro. Geo. Tait. The attendance was large, 90 members of lodges were present, including 26 officers of lodges, and 15 lodges being represented.

6th. At the Masonic Hall, Sharon, 31st Jan., 1887. The E. A. was exemplified by V. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, the F. C. by W. Bro. F. M. Morson, of Ionic, and the M. M. by R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett. The attendance was small, 21 being present, including 10 officers of lodges, 5 lodges being represented.

Selections only of the F. C. and M. M. were given.

7th. At Masonic Hall, Stouffville, on the 28th Jan., 1887. The attendance was small, and assisted by W. Bro. F. M. Morson, of Ionic Lodge No. 25, Toronto, I gave instructions in the opening and closing in the three degrees, with sections of the floor work, especially those portions in which the Wardens and Deacons are concerned.

It is but fair that I should mention the brethren who acted as officers at these Lodges of Instruction, for at much personal inconvenience many of them accompanied me in my visits, and all vied with one another in their efforts to give a perfect exemplification:—R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, V. W. Bros. G. Tait, A. W. Carkeek, G. O. W. Bros. W. S. Jackson, C. F. Mansell, F. M. Morson, A. D. Ponton, of Ashlar, R. Cuthbert, Jno. Fletcher, Bros. Benjamin Allen, of Ashlar, W. H. Taylor, M. Macleod, W. R. Cayell, of Zeta, Gilbert Peary, of Ashlar, Jackson Blizard, of Zeta, R. J. Barwick, of Ionic, Jas. Glanville, of St. Andrew's.

While I think that these Lodges of Instruction have done a certain amount of good in securing uniformity of work, yet from the character of the work in the various lodges, especially those outside the city, I am convinced that individual instruction in each lodge by a skilled Master, with a permanent Lodge of Instruction in Toronto, which would meet on stated dates say once every two months, would render a far greater amount of benefit, than the holding of Lodges of Instruction in different parts of the District. I suggest Toronto, as it is central, easy of access, the halls commodious, the appointments perfect, and a staff of officers can always be selected, who can be depended upon for skill and expertness. With such lodges, or schools of preparation, due notification being given, I am sure officers from all parts of the District would only be too anxious to attend, and thus gain the required knowledge, and perfect themselves in the duties of their respective offices. These lodges might be attached as is usual to a warranted lodge or specially licensed by the Grand Master.

St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto.

This lodge has 182 members on its roll. The average attendance is 23. The W. M. was not present, owing to absence from the city at my second official visit. He opens and closes in all the degrees, and exemplifies correctly the E. A., but not the F. C. or M. M. The work of the wardens, deacons, and I. G. is excellent. The books of the secretary and treasurer are well kept, the cash is paid over promptly and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust. The lodge share of furniture is \$650, is insured by the Trust. There are 23 members over one year in arrear, four

over two, and two over three. The arrears at date of visit were \$162. The invested funds amount to \$1,763, the assets to \$3,500; liabilities nil. This lodge is one of the oldest in Canada, is well conducted, and the utmost harmony prevails.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 22, Toronto.

This lodge has 156 members, with an average attendance of 31. The W. M. who is a P. M., exemplifies the three degrees, and is a good worker. The work of the wardens and deacons is very fair. The books of the secretary are exceedingly well kept, the funds are promptly paid to the treasurer, and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust. The lodge's share of the furniture is \$650, and is insured by the Trust. The lodge has a special insurance on jewels for \$100. There are no members in arrear over two years, and only six over one. The invested funds amount to \$1,276; assets about \$2,000; liabilities nil. For some years owing to circumstances known to Grand Lodge the lodge membership has not increased, but I am pleased to state that the cloud of unrest has disappeared, and at the May meeting three candidates were accepted. The outlook is therefore hopeful, and from the exertions of the W. M. I have no doubt that in the near future the harmony will be completely restored, and the lodge experience its old-time vigour.

Sonic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto.

This lodge has 117 members on its register, the average attendance being 30. The W. M. is perfect in his work, and exemplifies all the degrees in an accurate and masterly manner. His Wardens' work is rather weak, but that of the Deacons fair. This lodge is one of a group that ranks with the best in the district. The books of the secretary and treasurer are in excellent condition, the cash is promptly paid over and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased, the lodge being one of nine forming the Masonic Hall Trust. In dues one brother is four years, and two over three years in arrear. The assets are \$2,000, of which \$1,000 is invested. The lodge has a number of P. M.'s, some of whom are bright workers. The outlook for the lodge could not be better. A novel feature in Ionic is the passing of the charity box every evening after refreshments. The funds thus received are devoted to charity. The lodge supports a cot in the Lakeside Home for Little Children on Toronto Island.

Rehoboth Lodge, No. 65, Toronto.

This lodge has 146 members, with an average attendance of 36. The W. M. opens and closes in the three degrees, and exemplifies the E. A. I first visited this lodge 4th Nov., '86, and this year for my second visit I asked the W. M. to call an emergent meeting for the 20th May, as in

making two official visits to all the lodges in the District, I found it impossible to meet in every case with the lodges on their regular nights. The W. M., however, declined to call an emergency, stating that the lodge, although one of the wealthiest in Canada, would deem it an unnecessary expense. I therefore arranged to postpone my visit to Sutton on the 2nd June in order to be at Rehoboth on its regular night, and so notified the W. M., but a few hours before the lodge was called, I received a letter stating that he could not be on hand as important business called him out of the city. I visited the lodge, however, and examined the wardens' and deacons' work, which was good. The F. C. and M. M. have been exemplified during the year by P. M.'s, and I therefore presume that the W. M. is unable to exemplify in these degrees. The books of the secretary and treasurer are fair, cash is promptly paid over, and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust, is suitable and in good condition. The lodge's share of the furniture is \$650, is insured by the Masonic Hall Trust, with a special insurance of \$100. The amount in arrears at date of visit was about \$400. There are 32 members in arrears over one year, 24 over two, 4 over four, and 1 over five. The assets, including invested funds, are about \$4,000—liabilities about \$100. This lodge is prosperous, although but little work has presented itself this year. For some reason or other there seems to be a ray of unrest, or rather want of fraternity and harmony on the part of the W. M. with his officers. My impression is that the exercise of the spirit of good fellowship would conduce to the future welfare of this lodge.

St. John's Lodge, No. 75, Toronto.

This lodge has a membership of 193, and an average attendance of 40. The W. M. opens and closes in all the degrees. His exemplification of the work in the E. A. is fair, in the F. C. average, and his M. M. might be closer work. The wardens' work is good, and that of the deacons', average. The W. M. has exemplified all the work—P. M.'s have also done so. The condition of the books of the secretary and treasurer is good. The cash is promptly paid over, and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust, the share of the furniture owned by the lodge is \$650. It is insured. There are 17 members in arrears over one year, 15 over two, five over three, one over four and one over five. This lodge like many others does not deal as promptly with delinquent members as circumstances demand, neither is the by-law regarding suspension strictly adhered to. The members are summoned for non-payment, and although the law provides that either a reasonable excuse or appear-

ance by the brother must be made, still the unauthorized excuse of any brother for the delinquent is taken, and action postponed. It would be better if the provisions of the by-law were changed than not be adhered to strictly. The amount on the books at date of visit was \$800. The assets are about \$5,000, of which about \$3,000 is invested. The liabilities are only nominal. St. John's is a well conducted lodge. The W. M. is an earnest and zealous Mason, one who has the respect of the craft, and his energy in dealing with lodge matters is appreciated. The W. M. and officers elected in June are brethren, who, I am satisfied, will give the work in an accurate and satisfactory manner. This lodge supports a cot in The Lakeside Home for Little Children on Toronto Island.

Wilson Lodge, No. 86, Toronto.

This lodge has 116 members on its register; the average attendance is 40. The W. M. exemplifies all the degrees, and is above an average worker. His Wardens' work is fair, that of his Deacons not accurate. The secretary's and treasurer's books are well kept. The cash is paid over promptly and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust, is suitable and in good order. The share of the lodge in the furniture is \$650. It is insured. The arrears of dues at date of last visit were \$27 20 and the longest period any one member is in arrear is over two years. The assets are \$1,526, of which \$500 is invested. The liabilities \$60. The lodge is doing good work.

Mevenson Lodge, No. 218, Toronto.

This lodge has 112 members, with an average attendance of 47. The W. M. has exemplified all the degrees and is a very fair worker. His wardens and deacons give good average work. The books of the secretary and treasurer are well kept; the cash is paid over promptly to the treasurer and deposited in a chartered bank. The secretary elected last year failed to account for about \$280 of lodge funds, and appropriated them to his own use. He has been disciplined and recommended for expulsion. This is another case where failure to pay over lodge monies has led to peculation by officers. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust. The lodge share of furniture is \$650, and is insured by the Trust. There are no members in arrear of dues. The invested funds are \$900, and the assets about \$1,800; liabilities *nil*. The lodge is well conducted, and is making good progress.

Asklar Lodge, No. 247, Toronto.

This lodge has 125 members on its register, the average attendance being 30. The W. M. is one of the closest workers in the district, and with his Wardens, gives the exemplification with fidelity and accuracy

of detail. The Deacons' work is very fair. This lodge is noted for its good work. The books of both secretary and treasurer are in first rate order; the cash is deposited in a chartered institution. The hall is leased, is in good condition, is suitable, is well furnished, but ante-room accommodation is very poor. The furniture is valued at \$920, is insured for \$750, and an inventory is kept inside the lodge building, and not as it should be, outside. The invested funds are \$457, the assets \$1,541, liabilities *nil*. The arrears of dues at date of visit were \$260, and the longest period any one member is in arrears is over two years. The lodge has a benevolent fund of about \$1,500. This lodge stands pre-eminently in the front rank with about four other city lodges. Its success is assured; the utmost harmony prevails. The W. M. and officers have weekly rehearsals for work, and it is indeed "a model" lodge.

Doric Lodge, No. 316 Toronto.

This lodge has 108 members, with an average attendance of 28. The W. M. opens and closes just fairly well, and exemplifies the E. A. with tolerable correctness, but not the F. C. or M. M. He has, however, never given any work in the lodge. P. M.'s have exemplified the three degrees. The S. W.'s work is excellent, and that of the deacons fair. The J. W. has not been in the lodge since the night of installation. The books of the secretary are kept in a thoroughly business-like manner, and those of the treasurer are satisfactory. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust, and is suitable. The lodge share of the furniture is \$650, and is insured by the Trust. The dues are collected closely, only one member being in arrear over two years. The amount on the books at date of visit was \$355. The invested funds are \$542, and the assets about \$1,600. The prospects of the lodge would be better if the W. M. would rehearse the work with the officers. Dull exemplification by a W. M. ten is to weaken the interest of not only officers but members. This lodge suffered last year by the illness of the I. P. M., an excellent officer, whose continued ill health compelled him to give up lodge work.

Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto.

This lodge has 114 members on its register; the average attendance is 24. The W. M. exemplifies all the degrees, and is one of the brightest workers in the district. Before his installation he could give not only his own work, but that of all his officers. His S. W. is just a passable worker, and his J. W. a very fair one. The work of his Deacons is above the average. The secretary's books are well kept, but returns might be more promptly made. The cash is paid over to the treasurer and deposited in a char-

tered bank. Last December returns were not ready until May. The books of the treasurer are all that could be desired. The hall is leased from the Masonic Hall Trust; the lodge's share of the furniture is \$650, and it is fully insured. There are only three members in arrears over two years. The assets are \$900, liabilities *nil*. Arrears of dues at date of visit \$109 80. The prospects of the lodge are excellent. This lodge will group in the front rank with the best in the district. This lodge supports a cot in The Lakeside Home for Little Children on Toronto Island. At one meeting, at the refreshment table over \$200 was collected for this purpose in the charity box.

Occident Lodge, No. 346, Toronto.

This lodge has 154 members on its register; the average attendance is 30. The W. M. opens and closes in all, and exemplifies the E. A. very fairly, but only a part of the F. C., and none of the M. M. P. M.'s have given the F. C. and M. M. The wardens' work is a good average, that of the deacons' weak, and that of the I. G. good. The books of the secretary and treasurer are in excellent condition, those of the former especially. He is very painstaking and careful. The funds are paid to the treasurer promptly, and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased; is suitable, and is in good condition. The furniture is valued at \$750—insured for \$500. There are 20 members in arrears over one year; 3 over two, and 1 over four. The assets are \$1,000, the liabilities *nil*. This lodge is prosperous, well attended by P. M.'s, and has a good membership.

St. George's Lodge, No. 367, Toronto.

This lodge has 116 members on its register, and has an average attendance of 35. The W. M. can exemplify fairly well the E. A. and F. C., but not the M. M. He opens and closes in all the degrees. His S. W.'s work is excellent; his J. W.'s good, but not close; his deacons' weak, his I. G.'s very good. The books of both secretary and treasurer are well kept, and the cash is paid over promptly to the treasurer. The hall is leased; is suitable, and is in good condition. The furniture is valued at \$600; is insured for \$500. An inventory is kept. Longest period any member is in arrear is three years—total arrears, at date of visit, being \$160. Invested funds amount to \$350, assets \$1,087, liabilities *nil*. The prospects of this lodge are good. The W. M. and officers are all earnest craftsmen.

Orient Lodge, No. 329, Toronto.

There are 120 members on the register. The average attendance is 35. The W. M. has exemplified all the degrees, and is a good average worker, lacking only a little attention to detail. The Warden's work is not accurate, but is better than average

I tested the W. M. in different sections of all the degrees, and was favourably disappointed. He has his heart in the work. The cash is promptly handed over to the treasurer by the secretary, and deposited in a chartered bank. The books of both secretary and treasurer are business-like, and in good condition. The hall is leased, is suitable and in good condition, being a new building. The furniture is valued at \$1,400 and insured for \$800. The longest period any member is in arrear is eighteen months. The lodge has no invested funds. Its assets are \$1,400, and liabilities \$200. The future of the lodge ought to be good. During the past six months it is alleged that outside matters have been dragged into lodge business, and quite a number of candidates have been black-balled, but I have hopes that harmony has now been restored.

Alpha Lodge, No. 384, Parkdale.

There are 107 on the register; the average attendance is 30. The W. M. has worked the E. A. and a small portion of the F. C., but not the M. M. The F. C. and M. M. have during the year been exemplified by P. M.'s. The W. M.'s work is only tolerable; that of the Wardens is above the average. The Wardens are anxious to meet for rehearsal of work, but are not able to influence the W. M. in the same direction. The examination of candidates for advancement is very lax, for on the occasion of my third visit I found candidates for the F. C. not at all prepared, so that their progress for that evening was barred. If I had not been present they would have been put through irrespective of examination. I believe that the posting of candidates in this lodge has been unsatisfactory in the past, and that the W. M.'s have not insisted rigidly enough on preparation before advancement. The secretary's books are models for any lodge in the jurisdiction, and are the best in the district. The cash is promptly handed over by the secretary, and is deposited in a chartered bank by the treasurer, whose books are well kept. The hall is leased, is suitable, in good condition; it is one of the most commodious and best furnished in the jurisdiction; complete in every respect. The hall is owned by a company, in which members of the lodge are interested. It is worth \$12,250, and is insured for \$8,000. The furniture is worth \$1,400, and is insured for \$1,200. An inventory of the furniture is kept outside the lodge room. The assets of the lodge are \$1,800, the liabilities \$1,039. As to the future prosperity of the lodge the outlook is fair. I think the work could be vastly improved upon and the harmony of the lodge promoted if the W. M. would meet with his officers and rehearse the exemplification.

Zeta Lodge, No. 410, Parkdale.

This lodge has 39 members on its register; average attendance 21. The W. M. exemplifies the entire work, and he and his Wardens and Deacons, are indefatigable in their zeal. Their work is absolutely perfect in every particular and will stand the scrutiny of searching criticism. The books of both secretary and treasurer are kept in a business-like manner. The hall is leased, is commodious and well furnished. The furniture is worth \$800 and with the jewels is insured for \$1,000. An inventory of the furniture is kept outside the lodge building. The assets are \$1,200, liabilities *nil*. There are no members in arrear. The prospects of the lodge are bright. A portion of the suite of rooms is occupied as a club, reading room and library, and every week in the winter months the officers meet and rehearse the work. The reading room is also open to the members. It is an excellent feature, and has gone a long way to cement the friendship of the brethren. This lodge, taking it in all the work, and its method of transacting business, is probably the best worked in the district.

Richmond Lodge, No. 23, Richmond Hill.

There are 33 members on the register, and the average attendance is 12. This is one of the oldest lodges in Ontario. The W. M. is a passable worker, and can give the three degrees, but the work of the Wardens is below average, that of the Deacons poor. The secretary's books are kept fairly well, but the formula in the model minutes is not followed. The hall is owned by the lodge, is suitable, in good condition, and is valued at \$4,500; is insured for \$3,000 in the Western Insurance Company. The furniture is valued at \$250, and is insured for \$200. The longest period any member is in arrears is three years. The assets are \$4,750, the liabilities \$400. The W. M. claims that the future of the lodge is hopeful. In the past it has suffered from various causes. Masonry flourished in this locality in the early years of this century, but the enthusiasm of youth seems to have departed. Some years ago perfect harmony did not exist between some of the members, and I fancy this feeling to a certain extent cooled the ardour of the membership. The W. M. with a little attention has not the slightest trouble with the work, and if his officers would meet with him occasionally, fair exemplification could be given. With lodges, however, at Thornhill and Richmond Hill, I do not think that the progress in this locality will be marked.

Vaughan Lodge, No. 54, Maple.

This lodge has a membership of 44, with an average attendance of 13. The W. M. opens and closes in all the degrees with about average correctness. The W. M. was unable to give me the E. A. or F. C., but

gave me a selected portion of the M. M., which was fair to middling. The wardens' work was passable; that of the deacons' weak. The books of the secretary and treasurer are in good condition. The cash is paid over promptly and deposited in a P. O. savings bank. The hall is owned by the lodge, is suitable, in good condition, and valued at \$1,800, insured for \$1,400. The furniture is valued at \$600 and insured for \$400. An inventory is kept outside the lodge room. There was about \$75 on the books as arrears at date of visit. Ten members are in arrears over one year, eight over two, two over three, one over four, one over five, four over six. The assets are about \$2,500; liabilities *nil*. The work of the lodge would be advanced if the W. M. devoted time to rehearsal with the officers. With a lodge at Thornhill, nine miles distant, and at Richmond Hill, four miles distant, I do not see any great hope of rapid improvement. The W. M. explains that business prevents him taking an active part in lodge work.

Markham Union Lodge, No. 37, Markham.

There are 17 members on the register, and the average attendance is 7. The W. M. is a P. M., who through having his attention occupied in business is rather rusty, and without preparation could not exemplify the work. The opening and closing of the three degrees were very crude, could not have been more so. On the occasion of my last visit I had to wait, after making a special trip from Toronto, from eight till ten o'clock at night to get a perfect lodge, and then I had to send into the highways and byways to seek for craftsmen. The lodge seems to have fallen to pieces in its work. There was no meeting in August, Oct., Feb., March, April, and were it not for visitors there were only three meetings in the year with enough members of the lodge to open. The secretary's books are in a lamentable state, badly kept; could not be worse—craft records and official letters lying about the desk, and not in one single instance spread on the minutes, such as they are. I regret to write this, as I hold in high esteem both the W. M. and secretary, but it would be better if the charter were given back than that such a state of affairs should continue. The hall is owned by the lodge, is valued at \$700 and insured for \$400. The furniture is worth \$150, and is uninsured. The assets are \$850 and liabilities \$300. I felt much disheartened with my visit. Personal difficulties have, I am afraid, crept into lodge matters, and a strong and bitter feeling has existed amongst some of the brethren. There are only four or five of the brethren residing in the village. Others live in the country, and do not attend, and as a brother informs me hundreds of dollars of dues have been lost to the lodge in years past from want of prompt collection. The

lodge wants new life. I had a general talk over matters with some of the old P. M.'s, and they promised that matters would improve, but I have very grave doubts. I held one of my lodges of instruction in this hall, but I am satisfied that it was time and money thrown away, seed sown on pure rock, with a gale of wind in the immediate vicinity.

Sharon Lodge, No. 97, Sharon.

This lodge has 44 members, average attendance being 15. The W. M. is an excellent worker, accurate and uniform, gives the three degrees, and has exemplified all. The wardens' work is weak, and that of the deacons poor. The W. M. has been handicapped with officers who would not attend to their work, and all his efforts to bring them together for rehearsal have proved unavailing. The secretary's books are very well kept, and cash is promptly paid over and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is a poor one, but is at this writing being enlarged and made suitable. The furniture is valued at \$300, insured for \$200. The invested funds are \$162, the amount on books at date of my visit \$189, the assets about \$700; liabilities none. Of those in arrears there are 2 over two years, 8 over three, 5 over four, 4 over five. The W. M. is one of the best in the District, has executive ability, and rules his lodge well, but except from the secretary cannot get co-operation on the part of his officers.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket.

This lodge has 43 members; the average attendance is 12. The W. M. can exemplify all the degrees, and is one of the best workers outside of Toronto. His Wardens' and Deacons' work is not as accurate nor as uniform as it should be, but he has a live membership, and is doing his part in the work of Masonry. Some of the members are largely in arrear of dues, eight over two years, four over four, and three over five, one being in arrear for eleven years. The assets are \$700 and the liabilities *nil*. The hall is leased, is suitable, in good condition, and the furniture is insured for \$400. The secretary's and treasurer's books are well kept. The prospects of the lodge are bright.

Union Lodge, No. 118, Schomberg.

This lodge has 29 members on its register, average attendance 8. The W. M. can only work part of the E. A. and none of the F. C. or M. M., in fact he has done no work whatever. The opening and closing in the three degrees is inaccurate, and the Wardens' work is weak. The lodge did not meet in July, August, September, December of 1886, or in January or March 1887. The secretary's and treasurer's books are fairly kept, but the formula in the model minutes is not followed. The accounts are audited, and the cash is

deposited in a chartered bank. The offices of secretary and treasurer are held by one brother, although so doing is not in conformity with Sec. 1 of Con. relating to private lodges. The hall is owned by the lodge, is worth \$500, is insured for \$300, is suitable, in good condition with furniture and jewels worth \$250, uninsured and no inventory kept. The assets amount to \$835, liabilities *nil*. Dues are promptly collected, arrears about \$20. Three years ago the lodge was prosperous, but in 1885 there was only one initiation, and none in 1886 or 1887. Returns were not made last Dec. to Grand Secretary. The lodge secretary claims the blanks were not sent by Grand Secretary, but I am satisfied the latter mailed them, and that they shared the fate of two official letters of my own, and were mislaid. My third letter, a registered one, finally brought an answer. The outlook is not bright. The W. M. and secretary are overwhelmed with private business; the former has a shop, school and farm to attend to, and the secretary has a very extensive medical practice, and consequently Craft matters suffer. Circulars for meetings are not issued regularly, although this, however, is hardly an excuse for members not attending lodge. The W. M. promises better things, but I am afraid his enthusiasm will not hold out. Strong personal magnetism is the only thing that can keep this lodge together.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora.

This lodge has 47 members on its register. Its average attendance is 16. The W. M. and officers, elected June, 1886, are unable to exemplify any portion of the work. The degrees have been worked by P. M.'s. The W. M., elected June, 1887, opens and closes his lodge in the three degrees, and works the E. A. and will, without doubt, in a few weeks be able to give the entire work. The wardens' work is very good indeed. The secretary's books are well kept and in good condition. The cash is promptly handed over by the secretary to the treasurer, and the funds deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is owned by the lodge; is suitable and in good condition. It is worth \$3,000, and is insured for \$1,500. The furniture is valued at \$200, on which there is no insurance, and no inventory is kept. The number of members in arrear of dues over one year is 5, and over two years 3. The total arrears, at time of visit, were about \$25. The assets of the lodge are \$3,200, and liabilities \$1,200. The lodge was represented at last meeting of Grand Lodge. My impression is that this lodge will make material improvement during the coming year. The W. M.'s and wardens, although only elected a few weeks ago, are going to work in a most energetic manner, so that within a very few months the lodge

will be well worked, and a credit to the Craft.

Richardson Lodge, No. 136, Stouffville.

This lodge has 30 members on its register. The average attendance is 7. The W. M. opens and closes in the E. A. but does not in the F. C. or M. M., and cannot exemplify any of the degrees. He follows the example of his predecessor who could not give even the opening and closing. In fact the work has not been given by the W. M. in this lodge for years. The W. M. who preceded the I. P. M. only occupied the chair on the night of installation, and could not utter one line of the work. All these W. brethren were duly vouched for when presented for installation, although it was known that they were absolutely un instructed even in the smallest details. The lodge was not represented at last Grand Lodge, and the returns to the Grand Secretary have not been made with anything like regularity. The Grand Lodge dues were in the pocket of a former secretary for over a year. The outlook for the lodge is very poor. The W. M. elect is a P. M. but not an accurate worker; in fact he does not pretend to give correct work. The officers for 1886-'87 have never exemplified any part of the work, and except the late secretary, now J. W. elect, I do not think any more attention will be paid in the future than in the past. My impression is that the lodge, as conducted for years, has been an injury to the craft, and any usefulness it may have had, is gone forever. This unfavourable impression has existed not only amongst members of the craft in the vicinity, but with the general public. The secretary's minute book is fairly well kept for the past few months. The financial accounts are in a very unsatisfactory state, not caused, however, by the present treasurer, but by former secretaries, who have retained the funds of the lodge and given no account of their disposal to the treasurer or the lodge. The cash has not for ten years been handed over with promptitude to the treasurer. In some instances it has never reached that officer. This year there has been no work, consequently there has been but little cash to hand over. Every secretary for years has retained the funds or has not given an account of his stewardship. The books have not been audited for some years, and the audits given in the past are totally unreliable. The W. M. and officers inform me that the funds of the lodge have been appropriated by former secretaries, and that every effort to trace the matter up and have the money refunded has proved unavailing. I have paid two official visits to the lodge, and have used every exertion to cement matters; but things were even in a worse condition on the occasion of the second visit

than at the first. The treasurer's books could not be found. They were handed over to an audit committee, and that was the last seen of them. The old cash books have also disappeared, and I am informed by the W. M. and officers that it is not likely they will ever turn up. The fact is, that the lodge has been pillaged for years, and an accurate and reliable audit would reveal a state of affairs that the old officers, and some of the new ones, dare not face. The books of fifteen years ago show a record of secretaries getting into business troubles with lodge monies in their possession. These funds were kept with the general cash of the brethren, and not separate from the business account, hence heavy loss was entailed on the lodge. The members heretofore have been afraid to pay in their dues, as it was known that the cash paid in would never reach the treasurer. Members who did attend would not receive petitions from those desirous of membership, as there was considerable doubt as to whether the fees would go into the lodge cash box, or be retained by the secretaries, and still greater doubt as to whether the W. M. or any of the officers could give the smallest portion of the work. In fact this condition of matters was so well known outside the lodge that good material would not come up. The hall is leased; is suitable, in good condition; the furniture is valued at \$150; is insured, but no inventory kept. Without visitors, on many occasions, the lodge could not be opened. There have been only six meetings in the year. There was no quorum in July, August, September and December, of '86, or in February or April of '87. Even on election night the attendance was only seven. There are no brethren in arrears over one year, as all who were have been suspended. The arrears, at time of visit, were \$90, the assets \$250, liabilities nil. There is no lodge on the roll of any district in a worse condition than this one. It would be a great blessing if the warrant could possibly be withdrawn. Its retention is doing positive harm to the craft. The secretary stated, and I agreed with him, that to take fees from candidates, and give them the initiation ceremonial, such as they could get in this lodge, is practically obtaining money under false pretences. At a Masonic funeral service, held a few weeks ago, the impressive ritual for the dead was given in such a manner that turned the ceremony into a burlesque, and brought a blush to the cheeks of the members of the craft. A ten-year old school boy could have given it with better effect. Its rendition drew forth a cyclone of criticism from not only the craft, but from a large and respectable concourse of inhabitants who were present. The installation of W. M. and officers did not take

place in June, an appeal against the election being now before Grand Lodge.

Fatterson Lodge, No. 265, Thornhill.

This lodge has 40 members on register; attendance averages 10. The W. M. is unable to work any of the degrees, and cannot open or close in the F. C. or M. M., in fact he knows nothing whatever of the work, and was conveniently absent on the occasion of both my official visits. The degrees have been worked by P. M.'s whose powers of memorization do not keep pace with their zeal, consequently the work is disjointed and indifferent, remarkable for its inaccuracy. The wardens' work is very poor, the deacons' still worse. The secretary, a P. M., keeps the books just reasonably well, failing to enter the names of officers, members or visitors in the minute book, relying on the register book for records. The formula in the model minutes is not followed. The hall is leased, is suitable, in good condition, with poor entrance. The furniture is valued at \$500, is insured for \$200, and no inventory is kept. The longest period any member is in arrears is 18 months. Dues in arrear at time of visit \$35. The fact is that dues have been allowed to accumulate, and many dollars have been lost to the lodge from want of prompt collection. Members will not attend. The assets are \$500, the liabilities nil. It is difficult to form an opinion as to the future of this lodge. The work is so poor that those who do exemplify, so emasculate it of all its beauty, that the language falls like "a dull thud" on the ear of the listener, and relief to the nerves only comes when silence or some other order of business follows. The lodge is at a stand-still, and unless new life is instilled into it, there can be little hope of progress.

Robertson Lodge, No. 272, Nobleton.

This lodge has 20 members on its register. The average attendance is 14. The W. M. opens and closes and exemplifies all. He gave me the E. A. and F. C. and selected portions of the M. M. It was very creditable work. The secretary's and treasurer's books are in good condition, cash is promptly handed over, but is not deposited in a bank or P.O. savings bank. The hall is leased; is very unsuitable. The lodge has resolved to build a new hall, ground has been bought, and tenders let for same. It will be ready for occupation in November. The furniture owned by the lodge is worth \$75; uninsured. Of those in arrear there are seven over one year, three over two, one over three. The invested funds are \$256, and the amount on the books at date of visit \$72. The assets are \$323, the liabilities nil. The lodge was not represented at last meeting of Grand Lodge. The W. M. is

active and energetic, with his heart thoroughly in the work. The prospects for the lodge are fair.

Humber Lodge, No. 305, Weston.

This lodge has 36 members on its register; the average attendance is 9. The W. M. opens and closes in all the degrees, and exemplifies the E. A. and F. C. fairly. His S. W. and Deacons were conveniently absent on the occasion of my second visit, his J. W. is only an average worker. None of the others can do the work. The secretary's books would be all right if the formula was followed. The treasurer's books are only passable. The cash is promptly paid over. The hall is a leased one, suitable, in excellent condition, comfortably furnished, and is used by an Oddfellows' Lodge, who are owners of the hall. The furniture of the lodge is valued at \$100; is uninsured. The total arrears of dues at date of visit were \$75, one member being in arrear for over four and two over two years. The assets are \$250, liabilities nil. The outlook for this lodge is poor. It seems to have outlived its usefulness. The W. M. is anxious and willing, but nearly all the officers are careless. The attendance is poor, and I do not think it will improve. As the suburban villages and towns become more populous, the interest may revive, but it will be in the distant future.

Blackwood Lodge, No. 311, Woodbridge.

There are 40 members on the register; the average attendance 8. The W. M. opens and closes in the three degrees, and works E. A. fairly well, and the F. C. passably. He does not work the M. M. The Wardens' work is under the average. The secretary does not follow the formula, and the entries are irregular, still the books are fairly kept, and the secretary promises to make the necessary improvements. The hall is leased, is not suitable, and in poor condition. The furniture is worth \$150, is insured for \$100, but no inventory is kept. At my first visit in May there were six brethren in arrear of dues, one over three years, and two over four. The assets are \$200, the liabilities nil. The prospects of the lodge are brightening. By the removal of a manufacturing concern from Woodbridge to Toronto, four years ago, the attendance fell off very considerably, and for a time all efforts to revive the interest in the Craft seemed futile, but of late the W. M. has striven to create new life, and negotiations are in progress for the purchase of a new hall, a building that cost \$2,000 having been offered to the lodge for \$800, and it is to be hoped that headway will be made this coming year.

Georgia Lodge, No. 343, Sutton.

This lodge has 49 members on its register, with an average attendance of 13.

The W. M. has not exemplified any of the work, and his opening and closing of the degrees was away under the average. He gave for me a selected portion of the E. A. indifferently. The wardens' work is below the average, that of the deacons' very poor. The books of both the secretary and treasurer are thoroughly well kept, cash is promptly handed over, but not deposited in a bank. The hall is leased, is small but suitable. The furniture is worth \$400 and is insured for \$200, and an inventory is kept outside of the lodge room. The amount on the books at date of visit was \$100. There is one member in arrear over one year, and seven over four. The assets are \$400, liabilities nil. The newly elected W. M. is a P. M., and the prospects of the lodge are fair.

Mimico Lodge, No. 369, Lambton Mills.

This lodge has 58 members on its register; the average attendance 15. The W. M. does his work in a highly creditable manner. He can exemplify the entire work, and gave for me selected portions of all the degrees. His Wardens' and Deacons' work is the best outside of the city lodges. Indeed I was agreeably surprised, and felt that the Lodge of Instruction, held in Lambton, had borne good fruit. The secretary's books are in excellent condition—the treasurer's fair. The cash is promptly paid over and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is a new one, well appointed, convenient and suitable; is worth \$1,600, and insured for \$1,000. The furniture is worth \$400, and is insured. The longest period any member is in arrears is two years and a half. The total arrears at date of last visitation were \$108. The assets are \$2,108, liabilities nil. This lodge is making steady progress, although the attendance might be better. The W. M. is a zealous Mason, with a determined purpose to bring his lodge to the front rank. This lodge is one of the best outside the city of Toronto.

Ionic Lodge, No. 229, Brampton.

This lodge has 81 members on its register; the average attendance is 17. The work of the W. M. is not even ordinary average. He can exemplify the E. A. but very indifferently, and does not attempt the F. C. or M. M. The work of the lodge is not at all close work. The S. W. is an excellent officer. I was very much disappointed on the occasion of my second visit. The close examination of candidates for advancement is a redeeming feature in this lodge. Some of the P. M.'s are excellent workers. The secretary's and treasurer's books are in good condition, exceedingly well kept; the cash is paid over promptly and deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased, is suitable, in first class order, and the furniture, which is handsome, is worth \$700 and insured for \$400. No inventory of it, how-

ever, is kept. The total arrears of dues at time of visit were \$205; one brother is behind eight years, owing \$32; five over three years, three over four years, and two over two years. I have pointed out repeatedly to the lodge the necessity of either collecting the dues or suspending such brethren, but the lodge evidently has a reluctance to such action. The assets are about \$1,000, liabilities nominal. The outlook, however, for the lodge ought to be good, but success is impeded when the W. M. has not enough interest in his lodge to get up the work. To be successful those who are advanced should be skilled. The officers do not rehearse the work, and therefore, although every facility and appointment are perfect in the lodge room, still the interest and impressiveness are lost when crudeness, inaccuracy, and looseness are the distinguishing characteristics. P. M.'s whom I know to be excellent ritualists, tell me that Ionic has been one of the best lodges in the district, and I myself have seen very fair work by a P. M., but the record has been broken, and the lodge has evidently slipped so far back that it will require a considerable exertion to put it into shape again as a model lodge for exemplification.

River Park Lodge, No. 356, Streetsville.

This lodge has 63 members, with an average attendance of only 9. The W. M. exemplifies the E. A., but it is not average work. He does not give the F. C. or M. M. The wardens' and deacons' work is poor. The opening and closing in the degrees was very weak. The books of the secretary and treasurer are in good condition, funds are handed over promptly and deposited in a bank. The hall is leased from the Oddfellows, and is suitable. The Masonic furniture is worth \$200, but is not insured. An inventory is kept. The amount on books at date of visit was \$60. There are six in arrear over two years, one over four. The assets are about \$300, liabilities nil. This lodge has not made any progress for a long time, and the outlook does not seem to me to be bright. Any work that has offered for years has been done by P. M.'s, especially by one from the Tenth District. The W. M. and officers never meet for rehearsal, the regular meetings are poorly attended, and the interest in craft matters seems to be at a standstill. I do not see much chance for revival, unless the officers take the time and trouble to get up the work.

Zerodatha Lodge, No. 220, Uxbridge.

This lodge has a membership of 60, with an average attendance of 16. The W. M. opens and closes fairly well, and gives the E. A. and F. C. with over average correctness, but does not undertake the M. M., which has been given by the P. M.'s. The wardens' work is average, that of the

deacons' poor. The books of the secretary and treasurer are in good condition, the cash promptly paid over, but not deposited in any bank. The hall is leased and not suitable. The lodge has leased rooms in a new building, which cannot be considered comfortable. The furniture is valued at \$800; insured for \$500, and an inventory is kept. There are no members in arrear over one year. The amount on the books, at date of visit, was \$39 50. The assets about \$800, liabilities *nil*. The prospects of the lodge are favourable.

York Lodge, No. 156, Eglington.

There are 83 members on the register; the average attendance is 15. The W. M. works the E. A. fairly well and initiated one candidate at my second visit, and as there was no candidate for advancement he exemplified selected portions of the F. C. and M. M. The work was above the average. The W. M. and Wardens evince a strong interest in the work; that of the Wardens was average work. The secretary's books are all exceedingly well kept. The treasurer's books are all in good condition. The funds are deposited in a chartered bank. The hall is leased, is suitable, in first rate condition; the furniture is valued at \$750 and insured for \$500 in the Western Insurance company. The longest period any brother is in arrears is five years. The assets are \$883, and the liabilities are \$190. As to the future of the lodge, it should be stated that the lodge has overcome almost insurmountable difficulties, caused by a total loss by fire, and by many of the old members leaving for other parts of the country. Care and economy have been exercised, and the lodge expenses have been reduced to a minimum. This lodge is situated two and a half miles from Toronto. I have had to call the attention of the W. M. to the fact that his jurisdiction on the south and west extended only half way to the nearest lodge room, viz, Ashlar and Occident. My attention had been called to the fact that candidates were being ballotted for in York who reside within the jurisdiction of Occident and Ashlar, hence my action.

Brougham Union Lodge, No. 222, Brougham.

This lodge cannot be called a progressive one. There are 41 members on its register, and the average attendance is only 10. The W. M. can only exemplify the E. A., and the opening and closing in the degrees by himself and wardens was far from passable work. His deacons know nothing of their work. The secretary's books are in excellent condition, well kept and a credit to the lodge. The treasurer's book consisted of a small pass book with entries of cash for secretary. The hall is leased, is suitable, and in good condition. The furniture is valued at \$250, and is insured

in the City of London Company for \$200. The longest period any brother is in arrear is two years. The assets are \$400, including \$100 in cash, which I was surprised to hear was invested in a promissory note, endorsed by the treasurer. I have doubts as to the future of this lodge. The brethren live at long distances from Brougham, and many seem desirous of moving the lodge to Claremont, on the C. P. R. A number of brethren live at Pickering, six miles south of Brougham, and an effort has been made to establish a lodge at that place, but with Brougham lodge located as it is, I could not see my way clear to recommend a dispensation for a new lodge at Pickering. The W. M. of Brougham is a willing craftsman, but has no encouragement in his work. New energy will have to be created by the officers or some change made in order to revive the interest in the lodge. Under the present circumstances the prospects of improvement are dim.

Brock Lodge, No. 354, Cannington.

This lodge has 36 members on its register; the average attendance is 15. The W. M., a P. M., is an average worker, opens and closes with tolerable correctness in the three degrees, and exemplified for me selected portions of all. He has given all the work. The Wardens are not accurate, and the Deacons not posted. The secretary's and treasurer's books are in good order; the former does not follow the formula. The hall is leased, is a new one, very conveniently and comfortably furnished. The furniture is worth \$300, and is insured for \$200, but no inventory is kept. The funds are deposited in a chartered bank. The arrears at date of last visit in May were \$119. Many brethren in arrear four or five years were read out, and suspended in June. The assets are \$450, liabilities *nil*. The outlook is fair. The W. M. is a busy man, with lots of energy, and possesses all the qualifications, and with the I. P. M. takes an interest in Craft work. This lodge has suffered like others by a former secretary handling lodge funds for private business, collecting dues and forgetting to pay them over to the treasurer. It is decidedly inconvenient for a lodge to have a secretary with a short memory.

Suggestions and Instructions to Officers.

The statements given in this report indicate the work done in the lodges, its quality, with the condition of lodge records. In every lodge at my request the W. M. and officers opened and closed in the three degrees. If they had candidates they exemplified the work; if they had not they exemplified selected portions. Where the W. M. stated that he was unable to open and close his lodge in the three degrees, or exemplify any, I have not asked the work to

be done, but have given the necessary instructions and exemplification. As the suggestions made to the lodges at my visits were in many cases of a similar character, to avoid repetition I have not appended them to the individual lodge reports. These suggestions were as follows: To W. M.'s I showed that without frequent rehearsal with the officers it is impossible to exemplify the work in a satisfactory manner; that an hour a week spent together in the lodge room would in a few months give a smoothness, uniformity, and correctness to the work that would not only be creditable to the lodge, but would interest the members, and create an impressiveness amongst the initiates that would harmonize with the solemn character of the ceremonial. To wardens and deacons I impressed that regular attendance was indispensable, that it was unfair to W. M.'s to handicap them by absence, for without the co-operation of both wardens and deacons the entire intellectual machinery of the lodge was thrown out of gear, the work impeded, and perfect exemplification was impossible. In lodges outside of Toronto I found the attendance of wardens and deacons very poor indeed. To the secretaries I recommended that the formula of the model minutes should be followed, so that the monthly records of the craft might be accurate and uniform; that the list of officers, members and visitors should be given in the minutes, so that the register book may not be the only book recording these particulars; that the list of officers in each degree exemplified should be entered, and that in all the degrees the names of the W. M.'s or P. M.'s who exemplify, should be given; that the minutes be written in ink and not in pencil; that a rough or draft minute book should be kept, so that the regular minute book may be a sample of decent penmanship; and further that all cash paid into the secretary must be promptly paid over to the treasurer, and not kept for months in the hands of the secretary, as in the case of Stevenson Lodge, and that of Brock Lodge, and also one or two other cases. Where I found that promptness was not a distinguishing characteristic, I personally instructed the secretaries that any failure in the future to pay over funds would compel the W. M.'s to take prompt means in dealing with those who so far forgot to discharge the duties of their offices with fidelity. I called attention to the fact that a large amount of dues was lost from want of prompt collection, and that before the close of every year brethren should be notified of the amount due the lodge, and that in the month of November in each year a correct list of all brethren in arrear should be handed to the W. M. to be dealt with as required by the constitution. To treasurers I called attention to the necessity of keeping

accounts in a business-like manner, balancing books punctually at the proper time for audit, and where convenient depositing funds to the credit of the W. M. and treasurer in a chartered bank, or a P. O. savings bank, and not as I found in the case of Brougham lending the lodge money out on a promissory note, which however safe, was a most irregular and inadvisable way of holding lodge funds.

Deaths.

I have to record with regret the death of R. W. Bro. Joshua G. Burns, P. D. D. G. M. of this district, and a member of the Board of General Purposes of Grand Lodge. He died after a brief illness on the 28th May, 1887. The R. W. Bro. was a Craftsman of many years standing, a P. M. of Stevenson, Zetland, Orient and Mimico lodges, a brother whose soul was in the work, and whose untiring zeal contributed much to the success of Masonry in Canada. He will be sadly missed from our lodge gatherings, for no Craftsman who has passed away for years, ever did the same amount of work, not only in his own lodges, but in all the principal lodges in this district. I have also to record the death of W. Bro. Milner, of Ionic lodge, No. 229, Brampton; W. Bro. Wm. Norris, of York Lodge, No. 156, Eglington, both zealous Masons, who contributed much to the prosperity of the Craft in their respective localities.

Infringement of Jurisdiction.

On October 18th, 1886, I reported to the M. W. the Grand Master that a Mr. William Barrett, a resident of Toronto, had been initiated in St. Charles lodge, No. 44, Montreal Grand Registry of Quebec, such action being an infringement of jurisdiction. The matter having been adjusted to the satisfaction of the G. M. of this Grand Lodge, I was directed to accept Mr. W. Barrett as an E. A. and give him the F. C. and M. M. if he could obtain admission to one of our lodges. Mr. Barrett, being a worthy man, who had acted under a misapprehension, was balloted for and accepted in Mimico lodge No. 369, and in due course received his degrees.

Dispensations Granted.

I have granted the following lodges dispensations to wear Masonic clothing at conversaciones:—Zetland No. 326, 7th Jan., '87; St. John's No. 75, 28th Jan., '87; York No. 156, 1st Feb., '87; St. George's No. 367, 7th Feb., '87; Alpha No. 384, 10th Feb., '87; Orient No. 329, 23rd Feb., '87; Stevenson No. 218, 25th March, '87; Doric No. 316, 21st April, '87; King Solomon, No. 22, 6th May, '87.

Statistical Returns.

In this district there are 16 W. M.'s who exemplify all the work, 6 who give the E. A. and F. C., 9 who give only the E. A.,

and 4 who do not exemplify any part of the work. There are 21 lodge rooms leased at rentals varying from \$50 a year to \$200, and 6 lodge rooms owned by the Craft, the latter valued at about \$13,000, and insured for about \$8,000. The value of the furniture in all the lodge rooms is about \$19,000; insured for about \$11,000. The assets of all the lodges are about \$50,000, and the liabilities about \$4,000, and the arrears of dues over one year about \$2,000. The arrears over one year, prior to December last, would be about \$4,000, so that my efforts to reduce the amount during the year have been partially successful. I also urged the necessity of seeing that the lodge buildings, if owned, and the furniture should be insured and an inventory of the furniture kept outside the lodge room.

The Work of Relief.

Although the work of the General Boards of Relief in this district does not come directly under the supervision of the D. D. G. M., I have great pleasure in testifying to the excellent work done by the Toronto Board under the studied care and economy used in the disposal of the funds subscribed by the lodges in Toronto and granted by Grand Lodge. The work of relief has been materially aided by the affiliation of the Toronto Board with the General Board of Relief of the United States and Canada, for by adopting the rules and the rigid means of examination laid down by the general association, assisted by the warning circulars issued monthly from the head office at Baltimore, containing accurate descriptions of Masonic tramps and others unworthy of assistance, hundreds of dollars have been saved to the Craft in this district. Experience has shown that in Toronto eight out of every ten applying for assistance are unworthy. In every case where assistance has been solicited the wires have been used all over the continent, and with good effect, the rule being wire first, where possible, or if not, give limited assistance and use the post. Cases have been cited where a wire has saved an expenditure in relief of many dollars. The cost of affiliation to the General Association is trifling, being one cent *per capita*, so that if Grand Lodge affiliated at a cost of \$191, every lodge in the jurisdiction would receive a warning circular. Toronto Board and the General Association have requested me to suggest the affiliation of Grand Lodge to the General Association. In the United States the results for good have been marvellous, over 200 frauds being detected last year.

In Conclusion.

It is gratifying for me to state that my visit to the lodges seem to have given general satisfaction. This is the first year, with one exception, for twelve years that all the lodges have been visited by a D. D. G. M., and the first oc-

casional since Grand Lodge was rounded that all the lodges have been visited twice. Although in many cases I had to express my opinions on the work and conduct of lodges sharply and freely, my views were accepted in a kindly and fraternal spirit, the W. M.'s feeling that the admonition was necessary, that they had justly deserved the criticism given, and promising that in the future like faithful Craftsmen, they would endeavour to profit by the advice, and co-operate with one another in their respective lodges in rendering the duties of their offices in a manner that would not only be a credit to the district, but to the Craft in this jurisdiction. I trust that my efforts may commend themselves to you, M. W. Sir, the officers and members of Grand Lodge.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON,

D. D. G. M., Eleventh District.

Toronto, 1st July, 1887.

A MEETING of the joint committee appointed by the various Masonic lodges of Hamilton, in response to a request by the managers of the Queen's Jubilee celebration, was held on the 3rd ult. After due consideration it was deemed inexpedient for the Order, as such, to participate in the procession. At the same time the fraternity wished every success to the celebration. Hundreds of their number doubtless took part in it as members of the volunteer force, as school trustees, aldermen and members of other public bodies. This was a wise decision, and the only one open to the meeting.

On the 3rd ult., at Hamilton, the remains of the late Bro. Joseph Hancock were interred at Burlington Cemetery. There was a large turnout of friends and acquaintances of the deceased, and a delegation from St. John's Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was present. Rev. T. Goldsmith officiated and the beautiful service of the fraternity was read by W. Bro. W. R. Job, assisted by R. W. Bro. Bull, V. W. Bro. C. R. Smith and W. Bro. John Hoodless. The pall-bearers were V. W. Bro. C. R. Smith, W. Bro. W. Hancock, Bros. H. Hammill, Wm. Findlay and T. H. Butler.

THE ROUGH ASHLAR.

From a Volume of Masonic Sonnets, by Bro. George Markham Tweddell, now in the press.

A Stone rough from the Quarry, to which ne'er

The Mallet and the Chisel were applied,
Nor e'er by skilful Builders has been tried
For Column, Frieze, or Architrave: for fear
Of base material made them choose each Stone,

Worthy a Mason's labour to produce,
When dress'd with care, a portion fit for use
In goodly Fabrics. They would not adorn
Their Temples with such workmanship as soon

Might eaten be by gnarling teeth of Time,
And now we gaze with wonder in each clime

At their enduring Structures. Sun and Moon

Alike show marvels when they shine upon
Those noble Structures built by Brethren long since gone.

If for an earthly Building it be meet
Always to choose sound, firm, and lasting Stone

We Speculative Masons ought alone
To work up good materials, when we greet
Each other in our Lodges as the Sons
Of Light: for Masonry does not profess
To change the vile to good, though it will bless

All who will live its precepts. Mere Goths
and Huns

And Vandals—fit alone for Attila
Or Genseric to rule—are not the men

From which to make Freemasons. Only when

The heart and mind have been prepared,
we may

Each become polish'd Stones, and upright stand

Fit for acceptance at the Master-Builder's hand.

ROSE COTTAGE, STORESLEY, YORKSHIRE, ENG

CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS.

At the last meeting of King Solomon Lodge, No. 22, Toronto, the ballot was passed upon three candidates for initiation, and all were accepted. This may appear an insignificant item, but its significance lies in the fact that they are the first that have passed the ballot in two years. This is an indication that the present W. M., V. W. Bro. Hamley, has succeeded in restoring harmony in a lodge that has been notorious for its unmasonic actions.

CAPT. FOSTER of the little steamer D. Foster, which plies on Burlington Bay, (Hamilton,) is the owner of a very curious flattened, oval pebble, which was ploughed up on the farm of Mr. Jackson, in the township of Houghton, County of Norfolk. On the one side it bears very well executed figures of a gavel, square and compass, trowel, key, all-seeing eye, twenty-four inch gauge and letter G. On the other are figures of the sun, moon, stars, ladder, sack and an Indian bearing a bowl. The history of this curious stone and how it came to be where found are mysteries which may never be solved. Capt. Foster will be glad to show the relic to anyone who takes an interest in such matters.

At a recent meeting held in Toronto of representatives from the various Lodges, Chapters and Preceptories of the Masonic Order, a scheme was matured for the erection of a Masonic Temple. A committee was appointed to prepare a prospectus and stock book, and to receive subscriptions for the stock. The capital stock is placed at \$200,000—20,000 shares at \$10 a share—so as to give every member of the Order a chance to subscribe. The Committee is as follows: M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C. Chairman; Bros. Alex. Patterson, secretary; Walter S. Lee, R. Cuthbert, E. T. Malone, S. Davidson, J. A. Willis, J. Ross Robertson, R. T. Coady, C. Postlethwaite, A. Carkeek, F. J. Menet, T. F. Blackwood, Geo. McDonald, M. Snider, Wm. Roaf, T. Sargant and L. J. Clarke. The site of the new building will not be definitely selected until a good deal of the stock has been taken up, but it will likely be between Queen street and College Avenue, probably on Yonge street. The representatives of the different branches who were present at the meeting reported a general feeling in favor of the building throughout Masonic circles.

The Canadian Craftsman.

Port Hope, September 15, 1887.

K. T. CALENDAR.

We have been favored by a friend with a copy of the "Calendar of the Great Priory of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple, and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, in England and Wales and the Dependencies thereof" for 1887-88.

In regard to the foregoing title, we beg respectfully to intimate that it is quite easy to understand what is meant in speaking of "the Dependencies of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, but it appears to us to be a mis-use of language to talk of "the Dependencies of England and Wales."

We learn *inter alia* from this Calendar that "Sir Knight James Alexander Henderson, Q. C., D. C. L., G. C. T., of Kingston, Ontario, Canada West, is the representative from the Great Priory of England and Wales to the M. E. Grand Master and Grand Encampment of the United States."

Aside from the surprise that the said representative is not a resident of the United States, it is quite evident from the above that some one in England and Wales needs a lesson in modern history and geography.

We are also pleased to be informed that "Sir Knight James K. Kerr, Q. C., G. C. T., Past Provincial Prior of Canada and Past Grand Captain of England, Toronto, is the representative from the Great Priory of England and Wales to the M. E. Supreme Grand Master and the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada."

It appears to us that it would be well for the E. and W. K. T. authorities to make it clear to persons in England and elsewhere, that the

Toronto spoken of above is not a town in the United States, but that it is the city of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, and not of Ontario in Canada West.

Among other curious items therein of interest and importance to Canadians, the following may be cited:—The three Preceptorics in Victoria, Australia, heretofore chartered by "England and Wales," were the "Jacques de Molay," "Pembroke," and "St. George." The first of these is reported "under suspension for default in forwarding returns and dues (12 years), the third ditto (16 years), but by action of the Great Priory at the meeting on 13th May last, they are permitted to "pay up" by January 1st, 1888, or "they will then be struck off the Roll and their Warrants declared to be forfeited, and that henceforth all Preceptores seven years in arrears are to be struck off the Roll."

"The Pembroke" is also advertised as having "forwarded the annual returns and dues for the year 1886." It is, however, credited with £10 7s., but for what or for how many years is not stated. This Preceptory is also honored by having the name of Sir Knight H. Wallace Lowry in the "Muster Roll of officers of the Great Priory of England and Wales as Provincial Prior of Victoria, Australia."

In the report of the Council of the Great Priory of England at its session on May 13th last, it is stated in *re* the establishment of a Preceptory in Victoria, Australia, by the Great Priory of Canada, that "your Council feeling that it is not the wish of the Great Priory of England to act hardly or harshly in this case, recommends that the matter remain in abeyance till its next meeting in December, in order to give the Great Priory of Canada an opportunity of considering and answering the objections to its recent action in Australia, made by the Great Priory of England."

The Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, has, as we think, carefully considered, and at its annual assem-

bly in July last, correctly and constitutionally answered the unfraternal and bellicose objections and threats of the Great Priory of England and Wales.

And *mirabile dictu* at the same May meeting, the Great Sub-Prior on the Throne, Sir Knight Colonel Shadwell J. Clerke, (Gr. Sec. of the U. G. L. of Eng.), whose intolerant and imperious speech at the meeting last December, in favor of the Canada "boycotting" resolutions heretofore published in THE CRAFTSMAN, at the recent meeting remarked on the above report of their Council, that from the terms of a personal letter from the Grand Master of Canada to Sir Knight Emma Holmes, the representative of Canada, to the Great Priory of England and Wales, "he gathered from its terms that there was every probability there would be a happy ending to the unfortunate and unpleasant question that had arisen between the two Great Priorities. He hoped that such would be the case and the Great Priory of England would be ready again to stretch out the right hand of fellowship to their fratres in Canada."

The report of the Council in *re* "to let the matter remain in abeyance until the Great Priory meeting in December next, was agreed to."

This, compared with their former obnoxious and belligerent action, was a comparatively wise proceeding.

We hope that by next December, a Sovereign Grand Commandery will be duly and constitutionally formed, in and for the colony of Victoria, Australia.

GRAND Z'S ADDRESS.

The annual address of M. E. Comp Thos. Sargant, is a brief, plain, business-like document, dealing chiefly with matters of local interest and importance.

His allusions to the "jubilee," the report of his attendance at the triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, his cautious criticism and fidelity in the discharge of his executive duties, his favorable report of the healthy condition of the finances and general well-being of Grand Chapter and the various efforts being put forth to promote the interests of Capitular Masonry in our goodly province of Ontario, will afford much satisfaction to all zealous Royal Arch Masons.

Some disappointment will doubtless be felt because the Grand Z. did not deem it to be his duty officially to report upon the decisive action of the G. G. Chapter, U. S., in withdrawing its recognition of the Grand M. M. Lodge of England, chiefly on account of the "invasion" by the latter of the territorial jurisdiction of our sister Grand Chapter of Quebec. Although it is well known at home that the Grand L. and Grand Chapter of "Canada" in Ontario, are sound on the question of the exclusive territorial sovereignty of Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, &c., nevertheless, abroad his official silence thereon is liable to be misconstrued by those not fully informed.

In our opinion the words and acts of Canada, (Ont.,) should ever be such as to show unmistakably that she rejoices in the existence and maintenance of Masonic Sovereignties, not only in Quebec but in all the sister provinces of the Dominion, and that she is ever ready in her own and in their behalf to defend and uphold the right of the Craft, to have and to exercise exclusive grand local self-

GOVERNMENT.—The government of Masonic Bodies, subordinate and supreme, embodies all the best elements of government ever devised or applied by man. The best governments of the world, are conforming more and more thereto.

government in all the provinces and colonies of the empire, duly entitled thereto like as is enjoyed in other lands. There are other local and interjurisdictional questions upon which, it appears to us, the Grand bodies in Ontario hold decided views and upon which their chief executive officials should more frequently speak in no uncertain sound.

ORIENT, ORIENTATION.

The word orient and some of its derivatives, so familiar to Freemasons, comes to us from the Latin verb *orior*, (present participle *oriens*, *orientis*), signifying to rise, to be born, to spring from, etc., and hence the sun-rising: the east, eastern, birth, birth-place, countries east of Europe, &c., &c.

Freemasons lodges are symbolically situated due east and west (oriented). The Worshipful Master is seated in the east, in the oriental chair of King "Sol"-om-on. The location of a lodge is sometimes called its orient, and hence also the name Grand Orient instead of Grand Lodge.

Formerly from principle, most places of "sacred" worship were situated due east and west, expressively called their orientation, and there yet prevails what is denominated festival orientation, or the presumed pointing of a church edifice to the place of sun-rise on the day of its patron Saint. These practices and others like, are significant relics of "formerly all but universal sun-worship."

The "God of day" rises in the east and sets in the west, and westward is the course of empire in one perpetual round. Historically, earth's orientism is but now again just begun, and the nations of the east are once more being flooded with the light and a new world's day of still greater glory is now dawning.

Man comes forth into the morning, he arrives at the meridian of manhood, and in old age he passes away into the western night of death. His body, by enlightened or instinctive custom, is orientally laid away in mother earth as if looking for the expected "re-appearing," the *anastasis*, or what is literally or symbolically called, the "resurrection morn."

Freemasons are, or should be, true "sons of light," and thrice blessed are they, who, through life so orient themselves as that their path is as "the shining light" that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. Craftsman, ever "look to the east," now and ever orient thyself.

COL. MACLEOD MOORE'S "ALLOCATION," 1887.

We feel certain our numerous readers will be gratified at our insertion from the pages of the London (England) *Freemason*, of the 13th August, of the following criticism on the last Allocation of our Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, M. E. Sir Knight W. J. B. MacLeod Moore.

We have reliable information that the article is from the pen of R. W. Bro. Wm. James Hughan, of Torquay, the well-known English Masonic historian, antiquary, and acknowledged authority on all Masonic matters. It will be seen, he fully bears out the statement of our Supreme Grand Master, on the history and object of the Order of the Temple in the British Empire, and the system followed by the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada. The approval of so great an authority as Bro. Hughan, of all our Grand Master's views on Templary, we think ought to satisfy the cavilling of professed grumblers.

among our Canadian Fraters, who seem to be never satisfied to let well alone, but are ever craving for a change in Canadian Templary, without apparently knowing or caring what inconsistencies are introduced, so long as their ideas of military pomp and display are satisfied:—

“Our veteran chief of the Canadian Knights Templar has again favoured the Craft with another of his interesting addresses on the history of Knight Templary, and to our mind, the last is one of the best we have had the privilege of receiving and perusing. His references to the Jubilee of the ‘Most constitutional reign the world ever saw,’ that of our ‘Gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, the patron of our Templar Order,’ are such as might well be expected from such a devoted loyalist as Col. Moore. He much deploras the difficulty between England and Canada Masonically, in consequence of the issue of a warrant by the latter body for Melbourne, Victoria. His view of the subject, however, was not taken by the Great Priory of Canada, the members resolving to continue the charter in spite of the claim made by Col. Clerke, Great Sub-Prior of England. This is much to be regretted in every way, but into the matter we decline to enter under present circumstances. What concerns us is the Colonel’s ‘Historical Dissertation on Templar Rituals and their Masonic Connection,’ which is the chief feature of this year’s Allocation. His object is ‘to show true Templary is purely Christian, and in no way a part of universal Masonry.’ This has been our contention for many years, and it is very satisfactory to see the belief so ably justified by the Great Prior of Canada, who, by many of us, is looked upon as the best informed Knight Templar in the world. He speaks most favorably of ‘one of the most exhaustive and reliable histories by R. F. Gould, Barrister-at-Law, London, England, ever publish-

ed on Free Masonry,’ and declares it to be ‘a perfect mine of information not to be found in any other work on the subject.’ This, we believe, is the simple truth, and it is refreshing to find so old a Masonic student as Col. Moore, so ready to acknowledge the pre-eminence of the Masonic historian, a position now generally assigned to Bro. Gould.

“The Colonel considers that Masonic Templary originated from the ‘High Grade’ system, soon after speculative Freemasonry was imported from England to the Continent of Europe about 1740. We are told that ‘To the indefatigable literary labors of our Illustrious Brother (General Pike) is due the remodelling and placing the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite above all other High Degree Rites, and preserving the true meaning of ancient Masonic symbolism.’ Col. Moore also states that it was not until about 1780—although known in Great Britain some twenty or thirty years earlier, that Templary secured any official recognition in connection with the Royal Arch degree.” The earliest date re Knight Templar in England is 1779, at York, the ‘Baldwin,’ Bristol, following from 1780. In America, however, the records begin as early as 1769, which is certainly curious, to say the least. The formation ‘of the Grand Conclave Knight Templar in 1791 is next considered, its re-founding in 1804-7, and its reconstruction in in 1873.’ British Templary continues to the present day closely allied to the Craft although eminently Christian—none being admitted but members of the Masonic body, and such only as profess themselves Trinitarian Christians.” The Great Prior, moreover, affirms that ‘the degrees of Templary are not and never were intended to represent a military organization, but to perpetuate the religious principles upon which the ancient order was founded. . . . We do not pretend to believe that the Degrees of the Temple and Malta are in direct de-

agent or a perpetuation of the ancient chivalric orders, but merely as an adaptation to Freemasonry.

"There is much more in the remarkable Address we should like to quote, but must forbear. Many of the paragraphs deal with American Knight Templary, which is no favorite of the Great Priors, and other portions of the Allocation have reference more especially to Canada, as might be expected; but, however intended as to application, the whole is 'good and true,' from the beginning to the end, and invaluable as the matured convictions of one of the most learned and zealous Freemasons the modern Templars have ever had enrolled under their banners."

NEW YORK'S GRAND MASTER.

Some time ago, Grand Master Lawrence, of New York, suspended Prudence Lodge for initiating several men of questionable character, and his action led to an animated debate in Grand Lodge at its recent session, which resulted in his action being sustained.

The re-election of Grand Master Lawrence, causes some comment. The representatives from the country were generally opposed to re-nominating him, not because they lacked appreciation of the work he had done while in office, but for the reason that they considered the electing of a Grand Master for three years a bad precedent. In an interview with a reporter one of the representatives said:—

"Why, what's the use of us countrymen coming down here anyway? We have a majority of the delegates in the Grand Lodge; we outnumber these city men of New York and Brooklyn, yet when we arrive here every year we find a programme laid out for us, whether we like it or not, and it

generally goes through. Now we didn't want Lawrence for Grand Master again, and John W. Vrooman, of Herkimer, the present Deputy Grand Master, was our man; yet before we knew what we were doing we were all holding up our hands for Lawrence. He doesn't get any salary and has only the honor of the place, and as he is rich can afford to work for nothing. In fact, a poor man cannot get to be Grand Master of this lodge, and so well is this recognized that when a man of only moderate means reaches up near the Grand Master's gravel he is invariably switched off on some side track, where he must rest content with honors that cost less money to maintain."

It is quite evident "the machine" is a prominent feature in Masonry, in the Empire State as well as in the Premier Province. But happily there is every appearance of a desire to break away from old lines, and when the break comes the only sufferer will be—the machine!

ELEVENTH MASONIC DISTRICT.

The Annual report of R. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, of Toronto, D. D. G. M. for the Eleventh Masonic District, is one of the most remarkable ever made to our Grand Lodge or to any other Masonic Grand Body.

It consists of upwards of fourteen (14) closely printed pages. In addition to important official documents, it contains most complete records of the status of the thirty-five lodges in his metropolitan district, to which he made seventy-eight visits, to accomplish which he travelled two thousand one hundred and sixty miles. He also held during the year, seven District Lodges of Instruction, which were intended chiefly for the

benefit and guidance of Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Deacons.

Few D. D. G. M's., however willing or zealous, can hope to equal, much less surpass, the all but unparalleled labors of R. W. Bro. Robertson, during the past year. His laborious and successful efforts, will however, be of great value in stimulating other like officials to greater zeal and assiduity in the performance of their important duties for the advancement of the best interests of the Craft within our jurisdiction.

We fraternally proffer thrice hearty thanks to the D. D. G. M. for the Eleventh District, and give his report in full in this issue for the benefit of our readers.

DROWNED WHILE PERFORMING HIS DUTY.

Our esteemed Bro. E. J. Salmon, of Victoria, B. C., sends us the following interesting extract from the *Colonist*, of 30th July:—

“Yesterday morning Capt. Devereaux received intimation that Brochie ledge buoy was settling. The Douglas proceeded to the place to find out what was wrong. A boat was lowered from the steamer which contained the mate and four men including Thos. Streton and Douglas Booth. On reaching the buoy a rope was attached and those on the steamer endeavored to right the buoy, which was laying on the water at an angle of 45°. The men in the boat which was attached to the buoy assisted, and when they had righted it to a certain point a hole was discovered and before they could do anything, the air contained in the upper portion was expelled and filling with water the huge “guard against danger” plunged into the depths of the sea carrying the boat with it and the two men, Thomas Streton and Douglas Booth. The other men were picked up by a boat which put off from the steamer. Booth and Streton were seen to rise once

and as their heads appeared heart-rendering shouts were heard, but only for a moment as they sank beneath the waves and were seen no more. The other men were picked up by the relief boat. Capt. Devereaux sent to Esquimalt for grappling irons, and an attempt was made to recover the bodies, but without avail, and after searching for several hours, the steamer returned to port. Streton was well known in Victoria, having come here from his native place, Canterbury, Eng., about six years ago as a sailor on the ship Duke of Abercorn. He was aged about 26 years, was sober and industrious and a married man. Booth had only recently been discharged from H. M. S. Cormorant, having served honorably his ten years. On Thursday night he joined the Foresters Order, and although but a short time in the city was well and favorably known. The hole in the buoy was caused by the Yosemite striking it a few evenings ago. The fact was reported to Capt. Lewis, who examined the buoy and found it to all appearances perfectly sound. A new buoy was placed in position yesterday afternoon, but it is said no further attempt will be made to recover the bodies, as the tide current runs about three miles an hour at that point, and it is possible they will be cast on the beach by the tide.

Douglas J. Booth had recently affiliated with Victoria Columbia Lodge. The Masons will try to recover the body.

THE Mexican Masonic press protests vigorously against the invasion of Mexican territory by the *Grand Orient of France*, and *Patrie-Humanite* Lodge is declared spurious.

ANY one having Nos. 7, 8 and 9, Vol. 11, of THE CRAFTSMAN, will confer a favor by forwarding them to Bro. E. B. Spileman, Tawas City, Mich., U.S.

THE REPORT OF THE 11th MASONIC DISTRICT.

It would be vain on my part to point out to you the energy and zeal R. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson evinced to promote the interest of Masonry in the above district, as every right-minded Brother must be fully aware of that fact. I have no hesitation in saying that the report is accurate in every detail, and I sincerely hope that the W. Master and officers of the respective lodges in this district, as well as those outside of it, will endeavor to follow the instruction given by the distinguished Bro. during his official visits.

I make bold to say that during my connection with the Fraternity, and as a humble member of this district, have I ever read so efficient, so fearless a report of the true state of the affairs of the various lodges of which the 11th District is composed. I therefore repeat, too much cannot be said in praise of the distinguished Brother in his untiring efforts to discharge the duties appertaining to the high and exalted position of D. D. D. M. of the 11th District.

With regard to the report of Sharon Lodge 97, of which I am a P. M., I can only say that it affords me great pleasure to read that the W. M. is particularly eulogised as being a very good worker in the vine yard of the Lord, not so however with the subordinate officers, who, according to the R. W. Bro's. report, are not endowed with the requisite "skill."

There is, however, just one observation I beg leave to make; the R. W. Bro. finishes his report of Sharon Lodge, 97, by saying that it was greatly regretted that the W. M. "had not the co-operation of his members." As a member of the Lodge, I here emphatically assert that I never absented myself from any meeting when at home, and I have always performed any duty assigned to me by the W. M.

however humble it may have been.

Might there not be some grievance in connection with this sentence in question? It is just possible for a Master of a Masonic Lodge to alienate the brethren, and by some means make the lodge room untenable. A Master of a Masonic Lodge must possess various qualities to gain the love and esteem of the members of his lodge. A gentleman he certainly should be, exemplifying in private as well as in public life, the walk and language of such courteous and refined demeanor.

It cannot be expected that a discourteous man, one deficient of moral and intellectual refinement, will have the power to draw around him men of intelligence. A Master should neither be tyrannical nor arbitrary, ever willing to listen with respectful attention to the humblest of his brethren.

I maintain that want of courtesy on the part of a Master towards the members, more especially towards the P. M.'s of his lodge who find themselves slighted, or perhaps as incompetent, that occasionally tends to disturb the harmony in a lodgeroom.

I think that it is incumbent on every Master to consult the P. M.'s of his lodge on matters of importance, as their experience would often prove beneficial. It is also very desirable for the Master to make a distribution of the work in the conferring of degrees, especially to his Wardens, to give them an opportunity to prepare themselves for those higher duties to which they have a right to look forward, or assign portions of the work to some of the P. Ms. who would only be too glad to perform it, which perhaps will be far more agreeable to themselves and the members than the calling of P. M.'s. from sister lodges, to do the work when they (his P. Ms.) are willing and competent to render any such service.

In conclusion I can only say that a W. M. who will follow any of the courses here suggested, will find no

difficulty in preserving that harmony so essential in a lodge room, and likewise secure the hearty co-operation of the whole strength of his members, and at the end of his term a good conscience will amply repay the struggles which may have been encountered during the term of his office.

A. BORNGASSER.

Sharon, Aug. 1st, 1887.

"THE JUBILEE."

In view of the universal rejoicing over the jubilee year of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, &c., we would humbly offer a suggestion to her son, the M. W. Grand Master.

He is perfectly cognizant of the fact that the harmony which should exist in our Institution is marred by the violation of the rights of the G. Lodge of Quebec, in sustaining in their jurisdiction several Lodges holding allegiance to the G. Lodge of England.

Now our suggestion is this: Our Royal Brother could pour oil on the troubled waters by just simply forwarding a request to these Lodges to transfer their allegiance to Quebec. We do not ask him to order them, but just prefer a *sincere, earnest* request. We feel sure, if this were done, all the trouble would vanish and peace would reign, and bitterness be dispelled.

This would be a glorious achievement and a fitting addition to the pleasant memories of the Jubilee Year.

Further, if our Royal brother should favorably consider the above suggestion, we would fraternally request that he act independently of the brethren who are, and have been, his advisers during the trouble, and especially would we caution him against counselling with the Rev. Bro. Canon Portal, who, in spite of his calling, has done more to foment and foster the trouble than all others put together.

Even at the time when the grand celebration was being held, to which we have called attention, when, if

ever, all should have been striving for peace and harmony, this brother was inciting to revolution against the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America. This being so, we do not deem him a fit counsellor for the M. W. G. Master of England.

It is well known that the action of England in erecting what are called "Mark Lodges," on this Continent, has merited and received the condemnation of the G. G. Chapter, and there can be no doubt of the correctness of the position of that Grand Body, and yet this brother, in a letter written to *The Freemason*, claims that if the G. G. C. maintains its position it will be proper for the prescribed Mark Masons to erect Lodges of their own.

Well, all we have to say on the matter is, *just try it*. The Craftsmen who have built up the Holy Royal Arch will not sit tamely by and see a portion of their edifice torn away and made a distinct structure, under the banner of England, or any other foreign power. The Rev. Canon may think himself "a bigger man" than the General Grand Chapter, but if he comes to a direct tilt with that body he will meet the fate of the valiant Knight who attacked the wind-mill. The General Grand Chapter has spoken, and it will not recede one iota.—*The (Ohio) Masonic Chronicle*.

GRAND LODGES. — As to their rights, privileges and prerogatives, all regular Grand Lodges of Freemasons are Peers.

"PILGRIMS." — The Philadelphia and other American K. T. pilgrims, under command of R. E. Sir Knight Meyer, received a right royal reception from the Freres of York, and from the officers and members of the "Anglo-American" Lodge, London, England. When "peace" is restored it is proposed that there be a Masonic "pilgrimage" from Canada to England Scotland and Ireland!!!

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION IN B. C.

At the regular communication on Monday night of Union Lodge, No. 9, New Westminister, B.C., Brother D. Wilson, B.A., was presented with an address and elegant gold watch and chain, on the occasion of his leaving the "Royal City" to enter upon his new duties as Inspector of Schools, residing permanently in Victoria. The address was as follows:—

To Bro. D. Wilson, B.A., Junior Warden of Union Lodge, and Inspector of Public Schools:—Having heard with feelings of the deepest regret that you are about to leave our city, we assure you that were it not for the knowledge of the fact that it is for your advancement, we would feel the separation keenly. During your residence amongst us as a citizen, a public officer, and a Brother, we have found you in every way worthy of our confidence, respect and esteem. The great interest you have taken in Union Lodge has not escaped our notice, and we feel that to your skill, zeal and ability, we are indebted for much valuable assistance. As a slight token of our esteem and confidence, we ask your acceptance of this gold watch and chain, not for its intrinsic value, but that in after years it may serve to remind you of your sojourn in New Westminister and association with the members of Union Lodge. When you leave us, rest assured you carry with you our best wishes for your future prosperity, and when you are seated in the oriental chair of your new vocation, may you select from among the fair daughters of B. C. one to preside in the south who will be the glory and beauty of your day, and when the olive branches will have grown up around you, may your home be filled with "the oil of joy, the corn of plenty and wine of refreshment," and when father time shall stand in the west to close your day may you

be ready to obey the summons—full of years and honors—the result of a well spent life, and ripe for immortality.

Signed by J. S. Clute, D. G. M.; W. A. Duncan, W. M., and the other officers and members of the Lodge.

Bro. Wilson feelingly expressed his thanks to the brethren for the honor done him and trusted he would always merit the favor he had received at their hands.

Thereafter speech-making was generally indulged in, each brother testifying to Bro. Wilson's many virtues and the general regret that he should be obliged to leave New Westminister, though gratified at his deserved promotion.

The watch is a handsome Waltham and bears the following inscription:—"Presented to D. Wilson by the brethren of Union Lodge, No. 9, A. F. & A. M., on his departure from New Westminister, B.C., 1887." A heavy gold chain accompanies it, the whole forming a most delightful present and will no doubt long be cherished by Bro. Wilson for the sake of the kind hearts, good-fellowship and earnest feeling which prompted it.—*Daily Colonist, July 29th, 1887.*

In the United States there are now 69,347 Knights Templar.

N. J.—The annual session of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, for the northern jurisdiction of the United States, was held in the city of Providence, R.I., commencing on Tuesday, September 20. Illustrious Brother Murton, 33°, of Hamilton, well and worthily represented thereat the Supreme Council of the Rite for the Dominion.

A PRIVATE MEMBER'S DUTY.

This is a subject about which so much has been written from time to time that one can only hope at best but to reiterate many of the ideas that have long since grown familiar.

In the first place, it may be taken for granted that no lodge can fairly be successful unless the officers and members are fully alive to their duty and responsibilities. Many Masons evidently imagine that the whole responsibility of the lodge rests upon the shoulders of the few of their numbers who occupy the chairs. Now, while this in a measure may be true, it cannot be denied that upon every member rests a certain amount of responsibility. No lodge can be successful without active, intelligent, painstaking officers, but a lodge may sometimes possess these essentials without rising above mediocrity. Let the officers of a lodge be ever so efficient, if they do not have the co-operation of the members, they cannot succeed to any great extent. And this is one reason why we find so many lodges in a weak, unhealthy state. They have, perhaps, a large membership, and still it is quite possible they may have such a small average attendance as to find difficulty in getting a quorum. We have seen such lodges where, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the officers, little or no headway was being made. This is one of the great drawbacks. Members get careless and indifferent, become irregular in their attendance, and actually forget their night of meeting. How can you expect a lodge to prosper in that way. A candidate is initiated into a lodge, he is told of the excellent teachings, the noble precepts and grand truths that are inculcated, and the many benefits arising from the Order. This is all very nice, very encouraging, and he feels he has reason to be doubly grateful for his admission into such a

society. He attends regularly, he scarcely misses a night for a while, he lives up to our principles. In a short time he finds out how many members belong and is more than surprised to find that not more than fifteen per cent. of them ever attend. Now what a shock this must be to him to find that among all the brethren who have subscribed their names to the articles of our constitution, only such a few ever think it worth while to attend. Surely he must feel that our institution cannot be what it was represented or more interest would be taken in it by its members. This being his impression, and yielding to the influence of their example, it is not surprising to find he too soon becomes irregular in his attendance, and we must confess that when we look at the many drones that hover as it were around the outside of our hives, we are not surprised that the greater proportion of those regularly attending our lodges are made up of the younger brethren. This is not as it should be. If our institution is (and we believe it is) all that has been said of it, why should we forget the duty we owe to it in attending our regular communication.

We think if every M. M. would sit down for a moment he would be able to remember that there is some certain named distance, which, if he is within, he is expected to be present. Can it be that he has forgotten that distance! Perhaps so, and if so, why not forget just as easily many other duties.

It must be poor encouragement indeed for the officers and a few of the brethren to attend night after night and find many who are within a stone's throw of the lodge-room regularly conspicuous by their absence. We do not know how to get over the difficulty; we do not know any stronger motive that could prompt men to be faithful than what has already been impressed on every Master Mason in the course of the ceremony that elevated them to the proud dis-

function of a Master Mason, and if that has failed to remind them of their duty, what further can we say? One thing we do know, and that is, no lodge can ever reach its highest state of success until this evil is rectified, and we do hope the Brethren will see that they are not individually responsible for the sickly attendance of our regular communications.

ORDERS OF ARCHITECTURE.

There are five Orders, namely; the Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian and Composite. The Tuscan and Composite are Roman; the Doric, Ionic and Corinthian, are Greek. The Tuscan is but a modification of the Doric, and the Composite is a combination of the Ionic and Corinthian. The three Greek Orders of Architecture are the most highly esteemed by Freemasons. They are the counterparts of the three earlier Orders of the Egyptians and other more ancient nations.

The three symbolic pillars of the Temple of Solomon, were those of wisdom, strength and beauty, respectively represented by Solomon, King of Israel, Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram A. B.

These three pillars, represented by columns of the three Greek Orders of Architecture, symbolically support every lodge of Freemasons. The Ionic column, which is that of wisdom, and its symbolic officer, are situated in the east; the Doric column, strength, and its symbolic officer are situated in the west; and the Corinthian, beauty, and its symbolic officer are situated in the south. The emblematic position of these columns, during the hours of labor and refreshment, are well known to expert craftsmen.

The lessons in allegory, derivable from these symbols of architecture, are of incalculable value to all Temple-builders whose Supreme Grand Master is the Great Architect of the universe.

QUEBEC vs. GRAND MARK LODGE OF ENGLAND.

Grand Chapters which have passed resolutions forbidding all intercourse with the Grand Mark Lodge of England, or with English Mark Masons.—*fourteen, viz.:*—

Canada, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Louisiana, Minnesota.

Grand Chapters which have passed resolutions that Mark Master Masons holding certificates under Quebec should be alone recognized—*two, viz.:*—

Connecticut, Iowa.

Grand Chapters which have passed resolutions endorsing and upholding Quebec's action—*ten, viz.:*

Colorado, *General Grand Chapter of the United States*, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Nova Scotia, Dakota.

Grand Chapters which have passed resolutions requesting the Grand Lodge of M. M. Masons of England and Wales to withdraw from Quebec territory—*seven, viz.:*—

Arkansas, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Michigan.

Grand Chapters which have referred the subject to the General Grand Chapter—*seven, viz.:*—

Alabama, California, Georgia, Kansas, Missouri, New Jersey, New York.

Grand Chapters which have referred the subject to committees, and who have not as yet reported—*one, viz.:*—

Rhode Island.

Grand Chapters not heard from—*three, viz.:*

Tennessee, West Virginia, Washington Territory.

[Foreign correspondence Grand Chapter of Quebec.]

GENERAL MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

The second annual meeting of the General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada, will be held at Toronto, (Ont.,) on Wednesday, the 28th of September next.

This association, during the brief period of its existence, has been of incalculable benefit to the Craft in the United States and in Canada by detecting and exposing "tramps" and other like Masonic imposters and giving prompt and general information of all such to Masonic Boards of Relief and to Freemasons everywhere.

The Association will receive a hearty fraternal welcome at its forthcoming second annual assembly at Toronto, and we sincerely hope that all Masonic Boards of Relief in the Dominion will be represented thereat, that many other leaders of the Craft will also be present, and that there will be a large increase of Canadian membership. Of the officers, Bro. Martin Collins, of St. Louis, Mo., is President, Bro. J. Ross Robertson, of Toronto, is 2nd Vice-President, and Bro. D. F. Pennington, M.D., of Baltimore, Md., is Secretary.

VICTORIA, B.C., July 29, 1887.

To the Editor of CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN.

Last evening St. John's Church was filled with Masonic brethren, their wives, families and friends, to witness the marriage of W. Bro. John Piercy, of the firm of T. B. Pearson & Co., to Miss Henrietta R., daughter of Bro. Geo. Mesher, (St. John's Lodge, 1564, England). The bride looked superb in slate colored silk and was attended by Miss Whittaker, daughter of Bro. Wm. Whittaker, as bridesmaid, and who was dressed in

cream satin. The groom was ably supported by Bro. Geo. Russell, J. W., Victoria Columbia Lodge. The marriage was celebrated by the Rev. P. Jenus, and after the ceremony the register was signed by M. W. G. M. Bro. Milne and by G. P. Masters Bros. Brown and Dalby. Bro. Piercy has been a Mason but a few years, during which time he has risen to the highest position in the gift of his lodge, viz: that of Worshipful Master; he is the 2nd Principal in the Royal Arch Chapter, and was recently appointed G. S. D. at the last Grand Lodge Session. Quite a number of very handsome presents were made by the friends of the happy pair. The members of his Lodge and Chapter presented a unique walnut parlor suite and an oil painting of H. M. S. Triumph, elaborately framed and ornamented with Masonic emblems, on which the following inscription was engraved: "Presented by the Masonic Brethren of H. M. S. Triumph to W. M. Bro. John Piercy, on the occasion of his marriage, July 28th, 1887."

The installation of officers of Battle Lodge, No. 38, G. R. M., Battleford, N.W.T., took place on the 1st September, when the following were installed:—W. M., W. Bro. George Applegarth; S. W., Bro. Hugh Richardson; J. W., Bro. John Cotton; S. D., Bro. J. F. Pritchard; J. D., Bro. H. Nash; Chaplain, Bro. T. Clarke; Treasurer, Bro. J. Clinkskill; Secretary, Bro. H. McCleneghan; with Bros. Sykes, Nash and T. Clarke as G. P. Committee. This lodge is only one year old, and started with seven members. It now has thirty, with a capital of about \$600. It has a complete set of furniture, jewels, tools, &c., all new. Battle Lodge has a bright career before it, as may be gathered from the record of the past year. We wish it the most abundant success.

MASONIC GREETING TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

At the recent meeting of the Grand Chapter, the following greeting was sent to our beloved Queen:—

BROCKVILLE, 15th July, 1887.

To Her Majesty the Queen.

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, in annual convocation assembled, send their respectful and loyal congratulations to your Majesty on the successful celebration of your jubilee year. Long may you reign over a loyal, happy, contended and prosperous people.

ROBERT HENDRY, JR.,
Kingston, Grand Z.
DAVID McMILLAN,
Hamilton, Grand Scribe E.

To which the following has been received:—

Office of the Governor-General's Secretary, Canada.

OTTAWA, 16th August, 1887.

SIR.—I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor-General, to convey to you on behalf of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Canada, the Queen's thanks for the loyal congratulations contained in their telegram. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES J. JONES,
For the Gov.-Gen. Sec.

The Grand Scribe, Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Hamilton.

MASONIC ARBITRATION. — Inherent and inalienable rights cannot be made subjects of arbitration.

K. T. PEERS.—H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of Convent General; the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, K. T., U. S. A., and the Grand Master of the Great Priory K. T. of the Dominion of Canada, are officially K. T. Peers.

THOUGHTS ON THE NATURE OF FREEMASONRY.

WHAT IT IS, AND WHAT IT IS NOT.

BY GIFFORD HORACE GREELEY M'GREW.

When one considers the ideas that still prevail in many quarters concerning the nature of our Fraternity and the ceremonies of initiation into its mysteries, it would seem that a plain though brief statement of what Freemasonry is, might not be a useless task.

No doubt there are very many people who seriously believe in the reality of the traditional goat and his various reputed gambolings, who have a firm conviction that every candidate for Masonry is obliged to climb a greased pole, or, on failure thereof, to feel the end of a hot poker applied to his naked body, who candidly and honestly believe that every Mason carries with him, on some part of his person, the peculiar "brand" of the Institution. Then there are others who, while not placing any reliance in these stories, yet believe that they are but the exaggerations of what does really take place. They are sure in their own minds that some trick would be played on them, if they should become candidates. In fact, I know of one man (and no doubt many other similar instances might be adduced), who entered a lodge with such feelings of foreboding that at almost every step he would turn quickly, as if to surprise some one in the act of springing upon him or striking him from behind.

And so the misconceptions pass through the various gradations, from the grossest and most superstitious to the more refined, but just as erroneous, of the man who thinks the whole thing is a good joke and that every Mason is ashamed to acknowledge how he has been sold, and so helps to perpetuate the Institution in order that he may get his revenge for the outrage perpetrated upon himself by

seeing some of his friends similarly outraged. No man in his senses can for a moment think that such motives could hold together so vast and far-reaching a Brotherhood for the space of nearly two centuries, if we go back no farther in its history than the revival of Masonry that took place in London in 1717. In all other concerns of life, men would employ a different mode of reasoning. It is when they form opinions about Freemasonry that they seem to leave their common-sense behind them.

If I were to write of the origin of Freemasonry, I should attempt to show that it dates from a very remote antiquity; that it was hoary with age long before Solomon or his father David ever dreamed of building a Temple to the Most High God at Jerusalem. But I am now to consider the *nature* of the Institution, and so far as that purpose is concerned, it matters but little whether its origin can be traced back to the ancient Egyptians or to more modern authors; whether it is as old as Egypt's great pyramids and her unsolved sphinx, or whether it is no older than those modern monuments, whose meaning is well understood. In this practical and busy age, it matters little what may be the antiquity of a thing; the main question is, *What is it, and what is it good for?* Every tub must rest on its own bottom, and Freemasonry should form no exception in this regard. For myself, as I have already intimated, I believe Freemasonry in its *essential nature* to be as old as civilized man, and I further believe that it will ever be perpetuated as the one great Institution which meets an urgent demand in every human soul.

But I must not dwell on this point; I must address myself to answering the question, *What is Freemasonry?* And in attempting to answer this question, I shall at the same time try to say what it is not.

First of all, it is not a proselyting society. It asks no man to become

a participant in its mysteries. There can be no act more un-Masonic than for a Mason to ask a man to apply for admission, or to offer any inducements whatever for such an application. The first question asked of every candidate is this: "Do you seriously declare upon your honor, before these witnesses, that, unbiassed by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry?" and the second is like unto it: "Do you seriously declare upon your honor, before these witnesses, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the Institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to your fellow-creatures?" Unequivocal answers to these questions must be given before the candidate can approach even the threshold of our mystic temple. Masonry, then, is a voluntary association of men who profess to be actuated by a desire to help their fellow-creatures, rather than to be helped by them.

Freemasonry is *not* a mutual insurance company, with a few forms and ceremonies attached to entice the outsider to its ranks, however useful such associations may be. Freemasonry is a *charitable* Institution (see 1st Corinthians, 13th chapter), an Institution in which a man does not pay in a certain amount of money, with the hope of getting back more. It affords the most excellent opportunity for men of large hearts and generous impulses to do good to their fellow men without the hope of any other reward than that which comes from an approving conscience. It teaches and exemplifies that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Love for others, self-abnegation, lack of selfishness, is its grand cornerstone. Freemasonry is not a benefit association which pays to sick or disabled members a stated amount of money weekly. But let it not be understood that Masonry makes no

provision for those who are in want. There is the most sacred duty resting on every Mason in this wide world to help a worthy Brother in need of assistance. That is just where Masonry differs from the beneficiary societies. They pay so much a week to every sick member, and so much to the widow or family in case of his death, no matter how little either may really need the amount, but Masonry deals with each case on its own merits, and pays money and renders other assistance only where there is a real need.

Masonry is *not* a system of grips, passwords, and signs, by means of which its members can recognize one another and claim aid in time of need. If such were the case, it would seem unworthy of perpetuation, however valuable these means of recognition are when they are joined with other more useful information. And then these are by no means arbitrary or selected at random; they are all fraught with the deepest meaning. All our secret modes of recognition, every article of dress and ornament worn by members or officers, the whole arrangement, form, furniture, and ornaments of the lodge-room are far from being accidental; they are all intended to teach useful moral lessons. Freemasonry is not even a secret society in the strict sense of that term. It is secret only with regard to its modes of recognition and its forms of initiation. All its doctrines and principles are as open to the public gaze as those of any other society whatever.

Masonry is not a social "club," however praiseworthy such an organization may be. But Masonry is far from forgetting our social wants. How many of us have heard some brother remark that Masonry is "a good thing." Just what does he mean by "a good thing?" Is it not in many cases this, that Masonry enables him to come into intimate relations with those who would otherwise perhaps remain forever strangers

to him? Is it not that Masonry enables him to find, in whatever obscure village of the civilized world, a friend and a brother who will stretch forth the hand of sympathy, and in whose heart will well up a flood of tender emotion? That is to say, it is the social side of Freemasonry that makes it "a good thing" in his eyes. And this is no small thing. For my part, I believe Masonry is "a good thing" for many other and perhaps better reasons, but I do not forget, and I would not have others forget, that it is the great social society of the world. It is not enough that we are all human beings, children of the same Heavenly Father. Most of us are not cosmopolitan enough to allow this fact to make a stranger, with perhaps another colored skin, seem our brother. We want some special bond; Freemasonry furnishes that bond and unites the countless multitudes of the good and true of all nations and all climes where civilization has shed her benignant rays into one band of BROTHERS.

Masonry is not aggressive; she wages no wars except against intolerance, bigotry, and ignorance, and against these she uses no weapons but those of logic and reason. Freemasonry is the enemy of wars and bloodshed; she is the great harmonizer, the Apostle of Peace among men.

I have already hinted at the fact that Masonry gives instruction by means of symbols. This is pre-eminently the case in the first three degrees, which are universally known as the Symbolic Degrees. What is particularly true of these three degrees is equally true, though perhaps in less measure, of all Masonic degrees. Indeed, Masonry is a vast system of symbolism. Everything is symbolic from the first degree to the last. Legends having a more or less real historic basis of fact are recited to the neophyte, and by means of these he is taught wise and useful lessons for his guidance in life. If it be objected that wise and useful

lessons may be taught without any of the secrecy and mystery with which we shroud our work, the reply is, that such is undoubtedly the case. Freemasonry is only one of the means instituted for the enlightenment of mankind, but it is, nevertheless, one of the best means yet discovered. There is an element in man's very nature that longs for and will be satisfied with nothing short of just this mystery. It is that element in man to which Freemasonry appeals, and while man continues to have his present nature, Freemasonry will continue to have her mission. The truth or the falsity of the legends we teach is a matter of no consequence whatever; their value as a medium for conveying moral instruction is the only thing to be required of them.

I conceive Freemasonry to be a system of instruction which constantly adapts itself to the ever-varying wants of man. If it were not an institution that kept pace with the intellectual and moral advancement of the race, it would soon become obsolete and would be discarded as useless. It has changed its outward form to suit its changed and ever-changing surroundings, but the one particular feature which has always remained one and the same is its mode of imparting instruction by means of symbols.

Masonry is *not* a religion, yet "it is so far interwoven with religion as to lay us under obligations to pay that rational homage to Deity which at once constitutes our duty and our happiness." Masonry is tolerant of all religions, but partisan of none. She takes men of all nations, of all colors, of all races, and of all religions, and accepts them as her initiates, provided they have this one simple creed: "I believe in God, and in the soul's immortality." She questions her children in no way about their particular religious or political dogmas. With these she has no concern. She only asks that they have good moral characters and profess a belief

in a Supreme Power that rules heaven and earth and in the immortality of the divine part of man. The name by which the initiate designates this Supreme Power is of no moment so long as the name indicates the moral ruler of the universe. And along with his particular name for Deity, he brings with him into the lodge that sacred book which he has been taught to regard as divinely inspired. To the Mohammedan the Koran is as much one of the Great Lights in Freemasonry as to the Christian the New Testament, or to the Israelite the Old Testament. Either of these books and the square and compasses form the three Great Lights to those who devoutly believe in them.

I close with a definition of Freemasonry by our learned Brother Albert Pike. It is no less beautiful than true. "Freemasonry is the subjugation of the human that is in man, by the divine; the conquest of the appetites and passions by the moral sense and the reason; a continual effort, struggle, and warfare of the spiritual against the material and sensual."—*Liberal Freemason.*

EDITORIAL NOTES.

GRAND LODGES, &c. — The true theory of Masonic Grand Lodge existence and interjurisdictional relationship, is exclusive territorial sovereign independence first, and interjurisdictional federation by mutual recognition and the interchange of Grand Representatives, afterwards.

ERRATA.—In the August number of THE CRAFTSMAN, last paragraph of first editorial, change "visits" to *evils*; in that entitled "An Oblong Square," omit the whole of the line next to the last; and in the article on "Masonic Culture," in the last paragraph, omit the words "his body in the unity of." These errors were inexcusable.