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THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN,

AND
MASONIC RECORD.

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

"The Queen and the Craft."

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No. 10

GRAND CHAPTER R. A. M. OF QUEBEC.

The Fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the Province of Quebec was held in the Royal Albert Rooms, on Tuesday, Sept. 21st. The following is the excellent address of the Grand Z., M.E. Comp. J. H. Graham:

Companions of the Holy Royal Arch:

Time, in its ever onward course, has brought us to the tenth year of the twenty-fifth century of the traditional year of Capitular Masonry.

This Grand Chapter, being in comparison but of yesterday, has now entered on its Fourth Annual Convocation, to which I bid you heartily and fraternally welcome.

Each succeeding year shows more and more clearly the wisdom of its organization, and we trust that many succeeding generations of Loyal Craftsmen will rejoice in upbuilding and beautifying the Grand Superstructure whose foundations have been so harmoniously and auspiciously laid.

It now becomes my duty to lay before you the principal events of our history during the past year; to preside over you in the discharge of your important duties during the Annual Convocation, and to aid you in drafting the designs for the overseers and workmen in their future labors; and may the Most High bless us in all the purposes of our present assembly, and grant abundant prosperity to us, and to all our Companions and Brethren throughout the Universe.

THE CRAFT AT HOME.

It is with great satisfaction that I have to report that peace, unity and harmony have continued to prevail throughout the jurisdiction; that an increased zeal has been manifested, and that an encouraging degree of well-grounded prosperity has been enjoyed.

The resuscitation of Dorchester Chapter Waterloo, and of St. Charles Chapter, Point St. Charles, are noteworthy events, and I sincerely hope that they may hereafter have a prosperous career. Several of the officers with whom I am personally acquainted, I know to be talented men and zealous Companions.

Two new Chapters have recently been established by Dispensation—the Bedford Chapter, in the village of Bedford, and the Mississippi Chapter, in the village of Mansonville.

These are presided over by able and well-skilled officers, and I trust that they will, on examination, be found to have made such progress that Warrants of Constitution may be granted to them at the present Convocation of Grand Chapter. Detailed information concerning these four Chapters will, doubtless, be given in their reports by the R. E., the Grand Superintendents of the respective Districts of Montreal and of the Eastern Townships.

TIDINGS FROM ABROAD.

All our relations to the sister Grand Chapters of the Dominion, and of the United States of America, from nearly all of whom we have received due recognition, and with most of whom we have fraternal correspondence, and have exchanged Grand Representatives—continue to be most harmonious and satisfactory. The volumes of Proceedings received from them are deeply interesting and instructive, and indicate that Capitular Masonry is fairly prosperous throughout the world.

It will, I am sure, afford you very great pleasure to learn that the Grand Chapter of Quebec has been duly recognized in the most fraternal manner by the Most Excellent the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland. The recognition of our young Grand Chapter by that venerable Grand Body has

personally given me great satisfaction, and I trust that circumstances may soon favor the interchange of Grand Representatives therewith.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

During the past year Quebec has been honored by the interchange of Grand Representatives with sister Grand Royal Arch Chapters, as follows:

At Quebec. Grand Chapters. From Quebec.
 H. Dunne.....Delaware...A. G. Cox.
 H. A. Earle.....Louisiana...E. H. Fay.
 R. T. Thomas...Nebraska...J. R. Cain.
 J. Bowen.....Nevada...W. Timson.
 J. W. Wiggett...N. Carolina...S. D. Wait.
 H. L. Robinson...Nova Scotia...J. Poynts.
 S. Kennedy....S. Carolina...W.H.D. Gailard

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

A new departure has been taken by me since our last Annual Convocation, which I hope may meet your approval.

District Meetings of the officers and members of the several Chapters have been held in the cities of Quebec, Montreal and Sherbrooke. The result seems to have been to the very considerable advantage of Royal Arch Masonry in these several localities; and it appears to many of the Companions that it would be well to hold such meetings annually, throughout the several Districts within our jurisdiction.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

These officers have performed their important duties with very commendable zeal and fidelity, and I have no doubt but that their annual reports will show that their services have been greatly promotive of the interests of the Fraternity.

I am of the opinion that, if not now, it will soon become necessary to divide the Eastern Townships into two separate districts—the Bedford and the St. Francis. The present district seems to be too extensive for economical and effective supervision by any one Companion.

BOOKS OF MARKS, &c.

In addition to what I submitted to Grand Chapter in my last Annual Address, regarding the importance of the due selection and registration of Marks—and besides the duty there anent made incumbent by the constitution, on the First Principal of every Chapter—I am of the opinion that it ought to be considered one of the especial duties of the Grand Superintendents, on visiting a Chapter, carefully to inspect, along with the other books, the book of marks, and make special report thereon to Grand Chapter.

The importance of such careful annual or semi-annual inspection, and the due reporting thereof, along with what else pertains to the welfare of such constituent Chapter, can hardly be over-rated. Special

commendation should be given to those whose minute books, cash books and books of marks are most neatly and most correctly kept; and, if need be, in special cases, all these books may be required to be brought to the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter for the inspection and report thereon of a committee appointed for that purpose.

STANDING ORDER OF GRAND CHAPTER.

On the first page of the cover, and on the title-page of the first published proceedings of this Grand Chapter, was printed the following:—"Ordered to be read in all Chapters and preserved." This should be made a standing and imperative order of the Grand Chapter, and it should be implicitly obeyed by all constituent Chapters.

The reading of the Annual Transactions of the Grand Chapter in every private Chapter—a part at each of several convocations—including the report on foreign correspondence, is absolutely necessary for the information and due instruction of the Companions; else the greater number of those Exalted will remain in painful ignorance of the important transactions of our own Grand Body, and of the history of Capitular Masonry throughout the world.

This interesting and important duty ought not on any account to be overlooked or neglected by first principals, as no Chapter can be deemed to be properly instructed and sufficiently educated in Royal Arch Masonry unless this be faithfully done.

It is also to be hoped that every Chapter on our Registry has carefully preserved all the copies of our annual proceedings, and every fifth or sixth year they should be well bound.

These will make valuable volumes, interesting and instructive for the present, and they will become more and more precious as time goes by. At the beginning of our history let this goodly practice be duly inaugurated, and I feel sure that it will be faithfully followed by our successors.

SUGGESTIONS.

Important esoteric and other books and manuscripts are in the possession of many members of our fraternity. What finally becomes of them? Would it not be well for these Brethren and Companions so to arrange as that the precious Masonic materials should, at or prior to their demise, be donated to the Grand Chapter.

This suggestion may, I trust, be borne in mind, and it is to be hoped that in this way not a few precious legacies may come into the possession, and be carefully preserved in the archives, of this Grand Body.

The question also sometimes arises how carefully the old records and other valuable books and papers of constituent Chapters are being preserved. Are they not some-

times lost, and could not some additional means be adopted for their greater security? Would it not be advisable that these old, and generally unused books, &c., say at the end of some given period of years, be also deposited in the archives of Grand Chapter, where, when necessary, they could be referred to, and where they might be kept in safety as valuable heir-looms, which would be most highly prized by future generations of Craftsmen? I commend this matter to your serious consideration.

CHAPTER SEAL.

It is an imperative command of the Constitution that "every Chapter shall have a Masonic Seal to be affixed to all documents proper to be issued, a description (or impression) of which shall be duly sent to the Grand Scribe E., and registered in the books of Grand Chapter."

I bring this matter thus prominently before you that the First Principals of Chapters may have no excuse for delay or forgetfulness, and I beg to remind the R. E. the Grand Superintendents that they should ascertain whether any Chapters are remiss in regard to this, and make report to Grand Chapter.

I am also of the opinion that it would be desirable to have every Chapter deposit with the Grand Scribe E. a printed copy of their respective By-laws, and all amendments made thereto from time to time. These being carefully collated and preserved in the Grand Chapter Library, would make a valuable addition thereto, and would be very convenient for the purposes of reference.

INSURANCE.

It is intimated that there are Chapters which do not have their furniture, regalia, libraries, &c., regularly insured. It seems as though it is only necessary to call attention to this in order to have so important a duty faithfully performed. Where neglect has hitherto existed, officers should have a care that it is promptly remedied.

CONSTITUTION.

I am informed that it has not been practicable for the excellent committee having in charge the preparation of the necessary additions to the Constitution of Grand Chapter, to have the same ready for presentation at the present Convocation. I beg, therefore, to suggest that the committee be continued for another year, and that they be requested to add a supplement containing all the necessary forms, &c., required for use by constituent Royal Arch Chapters, and, if practicable, a full and minute index.

WORK.

I am of the opinion that it would contribute very materially to the welfare of the Order, besides facilitating uniformity in

ritual, should a complete system of work be prepared and promulgated by Grand Chapter. If there are well-skilled Companions who, on appointment, will undertake to perform this important duty, it seems as though Grand Chapter might ere long be fairly able to defray the necessary expenses connected therewith. I therefore submit the matter for your careful consideration.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Your committee have, I understand, made a praiseworthy effort to meet the expectations of Grand Chapter by preparing a report on Foreign Correspondence during the past year. They ask that due allowance be made for this their first effort, with the hope that their future reports may attain a higher standard of excellence, and compare more favorably with the able reports generally received from abroad. Your committee well deserve the commendations of Grand Chapter.

EARLY RECORDS OF VERMONT.

Besides a volume of the Early Records of the Grand Chapter of the State of Vermont, kindly presented by that Grand Body to the library of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt by me of another volume of the same, with a suitable superscription thereon, and accompanied by a complimentary official letter. For these valuable donations, I beg to return your, as well as my own, fraternal thanks. Other like acceptable presentations from sister Grand Chapters will be gratefully acknowledged by the G. S. E. in his annual report or in our published proceedings.

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS.

It appears as though there is a great disparity between the number of Chapters on our Registry and the number of Lodges on the roll of Grand Lodge;—and although a too sudden increase may not be a sign of healthy growth,—and although we may not at a very early day expect very rapid numerical increase, yet it is quite evident that in those jurisdictions where Freemasonry is attaining its highest development, Craft and Capitular Masonry generally advance with somewhat equal steps; and it seems as though, all things considered, that say one Chapter to every three thriving Lodges within our jurisdiction, might fairly be anticipated at no very distant day. It is, moreover, a source of satisfaction to observe that members of the third degree of the Order are becoming more and more conscious of the fact that they are not thoroughly perfected workmen in what they have already attained unless they make further progress through the following degrees of Capitular Masonry and secure exaltation as Companions of the Holy Royal Arch.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS.

The occasions on which Freemasons may becomingly appear in public, clothed in their distinctive regalia,—are funerals, the laying of foundation and cope stones,—Divine worship,—and at certain social festivals. Hitherto, within our jurisdiction, Royal Arch Masons, as such, have generally been present along with Craft Masons, at funerals only. There do not appear to me to be good and sufficient reasons why they should not be, in like manner, associated with their brethren on the other public occasions mentioned.

Craft and Capitular Masonry have ever been held to form and constitute the substance of pure ancient Freemasonry,—the latter being the complement and perfection of the former,—and as all their fundamental principles, customs and symbolism are substantially the same, and of kindred and cognate origin, and both having the same elements of universality, it does seem well in such like ways to show their practical unity. And it should constantly be borne in mind that their separation as to grand governance, is purely a matter of convenience.

Moreover, if it is of advantage to one section of the Craft at times to appear publicly in the performance of such like time-immemorial duties, why should not the complementary section of our ancient fraternity be alike sharers of the same?

I noticed also that in the sister jurisdiction of Nova Scotia the companions of the Holy Royal Arch, by special invitation of the Grand Master, formed a notable part of the Masonic procession at the laying of the foundation stone of a public building in the city of Halifax. This appeared to be the general acceptance of the Craft there.

It also appears to be the general custom among the grand jurisdictions throughout the United States for Craft and Royal Arch Masons in their distinctive regalia, and in their allotted positions, to unite in the processions on all such public occasions.

For these and other like reasons, I cheerfully acquiesced in the proposal for Companions as such, to be present at the laying of the foundation stone of a church edifice under the immediate auspices of the sister Grand Craft Body of our jurisdiction, at the village of Freighsburg, on the 8th of June last.

To my mind, it appears as though it would be well, should the precedent adopted on that occasion, seemingly to the general acceptance, become the fixed policy of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

RELATIONS WITH VERMONT.

Having learned that brethren of our Province, situated near the boundary line between the jurisdiction of the sister Grand

Chapter of Vermont and our own, had occasionally been accustomed to make application to, and be exalted in Chapters located in that State, and that perchance in some instances the reverse also might have been the case, I therefore addressed a communication to the Grand High Priest of Vermont, M. E. Companion A. A. Hall, apprising him of these facts. A most courteous, fraternal reply thereto was received by me, and the First Grand Principoal of that Grand Chapter at once forwarded communications to their several constituent Chapters situated near their northern borders, admonishing them to their duties thereanent and requiring them for the future to be strictly mindful of their international obligations. Letters of like import were sent by me to the Chapters of our obedience similarly situated on our southern borders.

It is, therefore, to be expected that from hence the strictest heed will be given to this very important matter, so that not even through inadvertence, anything may arise to mar in the slightest degree the perfectly harmonious relations so happily existing between this Grand Chapter and our intimate fraternal ally and nearest southern neighbor, the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of the Green Mountain State.

INTERNATIONAL CRAFT MEDIATION.

In accordance with the resolution of Grand Chapter requesting me to do what was possible to aid in bringing about a satisfactory adjustment of the unhappy differences existing between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and North Britain, I have to report that chiefly by means of correspondence with eminent Companions in the mother country, and in which I had the hearty concurrence of the other members of our Grand Council, I have diligently sought to aid in attaining the object so devoutly to be desired, and I am not without hopes that some satisfactory progress has been made, but as the correspondence thereanent is at this time necessarily incomplete, and as efforts are still being made, the results of which are not as yet fully manifest, and which may to a very considerable extent materially affect the final issue of our fraternal mediation, I do not deem that it would be prudent or wise to submit these papers to the Grand Chapter at the present time, but to give the assurance that the greater part of all the correspondence will be laid before the Grand Chapter at a future Convocation, if the general welfare of the fraternity so demand.

I, therefore, beg the Grand Chapter to grant the continuance of its confidence, and fraternally to acquiesce in the decision arrived at by me, as above stated.

1886 GRAND CHAPTER HONORS.

I beg fraternally to recommend that the following Eminent Companions be constituted honorary members of this Grand Chapter, namely:—The Hon. John F. Townshend, LL.D., of Dublin, Ireland, First Grand Principal of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland; Thomas Douglas Harington, of Prescott, Ontario, Past First Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and Col. W. J. Bury McLeod Moore, of Laprairie, P. Q., Past Grand Second Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada. I am sure that it will give Grand Chapters as much pleasure to confirm these proposals as it gives me to make them.

THE FRATERNAL DEAD.

No instances of the death of any of our Companions have been reported to me during the past year. Should there have been such, the loss will be duly reported by the R. E. the Grand Superintendents.

I observe that not a few eminent Companions in other jurisdictions have been called from labor to rest. We can but mingle our tears with, and extend our sympathy to those who have suffered such great and irreparable loss; and we should thereby be admonished "to pursue with assiduity the secret tenets of our Order during the short space allotted to our present existence; wisely and usefully to employ our time in the reciprocal exchange of kind and friendly acts, and mutually to promote our own welfare and happiness and the welfare and happiness of all mankind, so that at the last, when the Gavel of Death shall call us from our labors, we may obtain a blessed and everlasting rest in that spiritual edifice not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

CLOSING WORDS.

And now Companions, while on the very threshold of a new Masonic year, let us in the true spirit of the sublime symbolism of our Order, be admonished to mark well our going out and our coming in, to strive in all our labors in the quality of life, to produce such work as shall be pronounced to be good and true, and which may not be declared fit only to be thrown over amongst the rubbish, but such as the unerring square of the Grand Overseer will prove to be well suited for the foundation of the holiest place—to be the head of the corner—or to be a veritable key-stone to complete and bind together the living arch of the grand dome in the symbolic temple of human brotherhood; and on all our work let there ever be inscribed the ineffaceable marks of true and skilful craftsmen, encircled and irradiated by the inscription of him who was faithful even unto death.

And when, as expert workmen, we are called upon to rule as masters, may we learn that we who are to pass successfully through this trying ordeal, should possess that knowledge and those high qualifications which alone can enable us to preside with credit to ourselves, and justly merit the approval and applause of our brethren.

And in our onward and upward course, let us so strive after perfection that we may well deserve the proud appellation of most excellent masters and loyal brethren, and may our finished work be such that when beheld, it may spontaneously call forth the applause of our fellows and of all beholders, and be consecrated with the precious incense of joy and thanksgiving.

And when, as faithful servants of the Most High, having attained the summit of our profession, and having finished our labors, may we with solemn awe and humble confidence, go into the presence of Him before whom even angels veil their faces, and then be found well worthy of exaltation among all the good and the true who forever love, serve and adore the Great I AM, who is the first and the last, without beginning of days or end of years, our Creator, Preserver and Benefactor; and may He bestow upon us the welcome plaudit, "well done, good and faithful servant, you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you rulers over many things, enter ye into the joy of your Lord." So mote it be.

May the labors of this fourth annual Convocation having been begun in order, be continued in peace, and closed in harmony.

JOHN H. GRAHAM,
Grand Z., Grand Chapter of Quebec.
Montreal, Sept. 21, 1890.

Women and Masonry.

At a late Masonic banquet E. P. Brown, a Cincinnati humorist, spoke as follows, in response to "The Ladies."

It may be a light matter for you, brethren, to conscript me in this way, but it is far from being such to me. Do you realize what you have called upon me to do? Have you for one single instance considered the magnitude of the task you have thrust upon me? You have not, or that far-reaching charity which makes its headquarters in this lodge-room

would have spared me. You impose upon me a task that would have made Hercules turn pale and feel like a small boy with a bile on his elbow. You ask me to enlighten you upon a subject that has always been incomprehensible to the minds of men, from the beginning of humanity down to the last new bonnet—in fact, ever since the morning when the first woman filled her pretty eyes with tears, put on her water-proof and went home to her mother in high dudgeon, with what she conceived to be a broken heart, and a deep-seated impression that her hubby was a beast, because he persisted in going to the lodge every other night. From that unfortunate moment, I say, up to the present time, woman has been a riddle that no man could guess, and yet not one of them would give her up. The little boy wasn't far out of the way when he said, "Man is a mister, and woman is a mystery." But a mystery, you know, is always attractive until it is solved and understood, and as the ladies never have been, and never will be fully understood, it is safe to say the time will never come when they will cease to be attractive. My subject is an old one, or at least of uncertain age, but a most interesting one, especially in the morning of youth; in the days of the first budding mustache, when John Henry looks into the love-lit eyes of Mary Ellen, and sees in their limpid depths everything in this world worth looking for and a large slice of Heaven besides. For him the magic pencil of inspiration itself can produce nothing brighter than the sweet look of affectionate confidence that beams upon him at the moment

of betrothal, and fills his heart with noble aspirations and a new-born interest in the market value of household and kitchen furniture. In the priceless gems of coronets can be found no jewel that shines with a brighter and purer light than the eyes of love. Brawny smith and relentless anvil have never forged a more binding fetter than has been found in one little tiny golden curl; and, in all the marvels of mechanism, where, I ask, can you find anything in machinery that can keep up with a woman's tongue, without a break or a smash-up?

In many respects women and Masonry strongly resemble each other. Both are full of mystery and devoted to the men. Both are celebrated for their good works. Masonry is the handmaid of religion; so, also, is woman. The mission of Masonry is to relieve the suffering, minister to the distressed, comfort the afflicted, and watch by the bedside of disease and death, and in all these good offices the soft hand of woman is never missing. Masonry has signs and symbols to remind its members of the cardinal virtues, but in women they are all manifest, even to a near-sighted man like myself, and require no gilt or tinsel emblems to advertise their presence. Masonry has its altar, upon which are pledged vows of fraternity and virtue, but not more sacred is it than the altar of a woman's heart, which never shrinks from sacrifice in behalf of those she loves.

Masonry raises man to sublime degrees of beauty, prunes his heart of vice, and implants in their stead vines of virtue and flowers of fragrant goodness. Woman "raises"

him also—if he happens to stay late at the lodge, to sublime degrees of consternation and infinite amazement at the high-pressure endurance of her vocal machinery, while she plants on his alabaster brow a hand that means business and destruction to hair, as she twines her taper fingers in his ringlets, and inquires, with an inflection that pries up the shingles, if this thing is to go on forever! Masonry has its jewels, but none to compare with woman—at least many of the brethren think so. In the hands of the Master the gavel is one of the most impressive instruments, and never fails to enforce silence, but, in a match for a silver cup, brethren, don't you think it would come out about a neck behind the rolling-pin in some lodges you could name?

How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in peace and unity! The wise man didn't say anything about the sisters getting along together in that same way, because in his wisdom he could see it was one of the things that couldn't be did. But talk about the compass binding the brethren together in fraternal love! Where, may I ask, can be found a greater love without the walls of Heaven than that encircled by a mother's arms when they enfold her first-born babe? To Masonic ears the square speaks volumes, enjoining correct principles and upright conduct toward all mankind, but which, think you, has done most to make men honest, good and honorable in all the relations of life—the square which we revere so highly or that formed by the bended limbs of childhood at the mother's knee, lis-

ing forth the first prayer? The "lights" of Masonry have thrown their pure and life-giving rays into all the dark corners of the earth, and have done much to make the world brighter and better; but, though the beneficent influence of our beloved order stands as high with me as with the next brother, I am ready to concede that the bright lights typified in female eyes have penetrated farther, and have done much, aye, much more—and I say it with no irreverence—to make life sweet, and beautiful, and grand, than all the lights of Masonry put together.

And yet, though our good sisters so strongly resemble Masonry, they have always been more or less antagonistic to it. They can't see why they are shut out and debarred from its privileges. "If the women are not good enough to belong to your fraternity," say the pouting fair ones, "will you please tell us why not?" This is the very trouble, dear madam and miss. You are too good. The necessity for your membership does not exist. Of the highest possible good you are the embodiment. Now, Masonry was founded for the express purpose of making *men* better—for the Lord knows they needed it. There was abundance of material ready to hand to work on, and Masonry undertook a big contract when she assumed the job. But with the crinolined angels Masonry had no mission, because they were already better than Masonry could ever hope to become, and so you were left out of the programme, with no slight intended. If Masonry ever gets the advance of you in true goodness you may rest assured the doors will be thrown wide

open, and the Tyler will be instructed to oppose nothing wearing back hair. But if that ever comes, the prediction goes on record right here, that you will be so fully occupied in taking an inventory of what the candidate has on that the sublimity and impressiveness of the ceremonies will do you but little good. The man who said you were kept out because you couldn't keep a secret was the basest kind of a slanderer, and not a married man, or he would have known better. Ask any census-taker who ever tried to find out a woman's age how well he succeeded, and see if the good man don't heave a sigh and begin talking about the weather right away.

But, though a woman cannot become a Mason in all that the term implies, the close observer of human nature will bear me out when I say that in nine cases out of ten she is the *Master of the lodge*, and no one understands better than she how to wear the apron and call the brethren to refreshment. She may not be able to give the password in the due form, but, if she don't know how to give the last word every time, and in all sorts of forms, will some brother please have the kindness to inform me, at the close of this entertainment, who does? And when she gives the *grip*—on a man's hair—something has got to give way. I never call any man a bald-head, or indulge in personalities, but a glance around this lodge room will show that I talk like truth on the witness block.

Although woman can not come as an Entered Apprentice to the inner sanctuary, she never fails to enter, heart and soul, into every good work. It is easier—ten thousand times

easier—for her to pass another woman on the street without looking back than it is for her to pass to the degree of Fellow Craft; but when it comes to making a "raise" to buy Christmas presents, or pay off a church debt, she is right at home every time, brethren; and talk about "lectures"—but I must draw the line somewhere.

Woman! the divinest work of the Supreme Architect! The shrine to which all hearts must come! Poets have gone into rhapsodies over her beautiful eyes, her will has swayed the destinies of nations, and her "won't" has kicked up all sorts of trouble. Kings and Princes have bowed the knee in obedience to her mandates, and the small boy has made woe eloquent when inspired by the slipper swaying to and fro in her lovely hand—an emblem, by the way, which she can extract more good from than the Master of this lodge. Bless the ladies! We admire them for their many graces of mind and person, respect them for their virtues, and love them—well, just because we can't help it.—*The Gavel*.

The True Story of Morgan.

"Batavia, my friends," said the fat passenger, "is the home of the late lamented Mr. Morgan." Mr. Morgan, in his day, was a goat rider of considerable celebrity. But he went back on the goat. Here is the office of the *Advocate*, one of the weekly papers of Batavia. In this print shop, in the days of the *Advocate's* ancestor, Mr. Morgan printed a book, and told all about the bad habits, the deceitful tricks, and the bad ways of

the goat. He gave the frolicsome animal of the Lodge away, bad. He described his amusements; he told how he did it and what he called it. He just told all about it, and literally took the goat by the horns, which, Mr. Morgan averred, were not the only kind of horns taken in the Lodge.

The dejected animal brooded over his wrongs. He felt that Mr. Morgan's offense was rank. It couldn't have been much ranker than the goat, but the goat didn't think of that. He only thought of revenge. He had his revenge. One summer night the goat backed out of his closet, got out of a window in the Lodge room and slid noiselessly down the lightning rod (we can see the same lightning rod a few blocks further on). That very night the doomed and recreant Brother Morgan was out taking a walk in the starlight. The great expositor strayed carelessly down one street and up another, his hands clasped behind his back and his head bent in thought. As he walked, with an uneven gait, his back swayed to and fro with what an ordinary goat might consider a challenge gesture. He did not look around, and so he did not see a terrible figure that followed him. A gloomy, threatening, fearful shape; a part of the night, but not of it. Now and then, as it came close to Mr. Morgan, it would raise itself up in the air with its head bent down, as though in mockery of its victim's attitude, and for a brief second it would retain this attitude, looking in the gloom like a shadowy letter S with legs. Then it would let down and pause to eat a circus poster, and having finished this frugal lunch, it

would hasten on after the doomed Morgan.

By and by the traitor stood on the bridge over the Towanda. He folded his arms, crossed his legs and leaned easily upon the parapet. At that instant the goat ran up to short range, unlimbered, and went into battery, action rear. He straightened himself up like a lightning rod, then he curved himself into an interrogation point, then he shot himself out horizontally and came down in one time and two motions.

He butted Mr. Morgan. He only butted him once; but once was all the bill called for. It was an immense success. The doors weren't open ten minutes before the house was crowded; standing room all gone, and the last man that came in had to leave his cane outside. The goat's neck cracked like a torpedo with the concussion, and it is on the records of the Lodge that he wore a porous plaster on his back for the next two weeks. Nothing like it had ever happened in his family since his great grandfather hired himself out to Augustus Cæsar for a Roman catapult.

As for Mr. Morgan, he was amazed, and pained, and disappointed. Disappointed because he could not die right away, and be done with it. He was at a loss to know just what had happened, and was surprised that no one else felt the shock of the earthquake. When he landed against the side of a mountain about four miles the other side of the creek, he began to realize the terrible truth. He was seized with an intense, sickening fear of all goats, and no wonder. The next day, when he was standing at

the mantelpiece eating his dinner, he laid his hand on his heart, which had been knocked clear up into the back of his neck, and took a solemn oath that he would go where he never again could see, hear, feel or smell a goat—especially feel. Mr. Morgan seems to have been a man who didn't have any too much regard for the sanctity of an oath, but circumstances assisted him in keeping his vow. He started to escape from the presence of goats next day.

Naturally, when he hid himself from the nod of the headstrong and erratic goat, he disappeared from the eyes of men. He couldn't help it. Wherever he found men, there were goats. If he slept in the stable, the goat was there, breathing sweet perfume from his cashmere locks. He found them on the dreary mountain side, fattening on the dried moss of centuries. If he went to the crowded cities the goat, while he solemnly chewed bits of twine and tomato can labels, looked at Mr. Morgan convivially, as who should say, "Brother Morgan, you has my eye." If he went into the pathless desert, the goat met him and hospitably invited him to "have a cactus." And so he fled, speeding with the wings of fear, and bones of aching memories to spur him on, far, far from the haunts of men and goats. And he was never seen again, and he never came back. This is the true story of Morgan's disappearance, for are we not here in the very village where he lived? Are we not standing on the very ground where it all occurred? Do not we know, since we are here? It has been said that Morgan's fate was an awful one, that may not be told. It has

been said that the Free and Expected Masons ate him up; that they run him through a straw cutter; that they bought his boy a tin horn; that they told his wife his gun wasn't loaded, and then buried him at a lonely spot in the dark forest, where two cross roads meet, with an ash stake driven through his heart. "Many are the wild and unreal stories told of his disappearance, but——"

The sad passenger paused impressively.

"But?" the fat passenger said, interrogatively.

"Butt," the sad passenger said conclusively.—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

This Grand Body met at Montreal on the 22nd ult. Following is the able address of the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham:—

Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Quebec:—

It is my pleasing duty fraternally to welcome you to the eleventh annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. Your attendance in such large numbers, indicates your unabated zeal in the discharge of your important duties as officers and representatives of this sovereign Grand Body, and as members of our ancient and honorable fraternity.

It now behooves us carefully to review the labors of the past year,—zealously and prudently to perform the duties of this annual assembly,—and wisely to draft the designs on the trestle-board for the continuing and perfecting, in the days to come, of our grand undertaking. May our labors having been begun in order, be continued in peace, and closed in harmony.

THE CRAFT AT HOME.

It is most gratifying to be able to announce that, in many portions of our jurisdiction there has been, during the past year, a manifest increase of interest and zeal both among the rulers of the craft and the workmen in all parts of the temple; that peace and harmony have generally prevailed,—and that a well-grounded and

increased prosperity may justly be anticipated.

It is moreover note-worthy that very few cases of dissonance have been submitted to me for adjudication.

On the 12th day of November last, Friendship Lodge, Cookshire, was duly constituted and its hall consecrated. In these duties I had the efficient assistance of the Deputy of the St. Francis District, and a large number of other Brethren. This Lodge has begun its career auspiciously, and with good prospects of continued prosperity.

A Petition was received by me, praying for the establishment of a new Lodge in the village of Lachute. It was duly signed and recommended by one of the Lodges in the city of Montreal, and by the District Deputy Grand Master. A dispensation, therefore, was granted by me, and on the 31st ult. the Lodge was duly organized by the R. W., the District Deputy, assisted by other Brethren from Montreal and elsewhere. I trust that circumstances may favor the granting thereto of a Warrant of Constitution at the present Communication of Grand Lodge.

TIDINGS FROM ABROAD.

Our relations to nearly all the sister Grand Lodges of the world continue to be most pleasant and harmonious; and I beg heartily and fraternally to acknowledge our great obligation to nearly all these Grand Bodies, their Grand Masters, their Committees on Jurisprudence and Foreign Correspondence, to their Grand Secretaries, and other officers and members, for the very great and intelligent interest which they have taken in the home and foreign affairs of this Grand Lodge, and for the efficient aid which they have rendered to us, especially during the past two years, and in fact ever since the formation of this Grand Body.

RECOGNITION.

It will afford you much satisfaction to learn that during the year this Grand Lodge has been unconditionally recognized by the old and renowned Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and that Grand Representatives have been appointed and commissioned to and from the following Grand Bodies:

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

At Quebec. Grand Lodges. From Quebec
 T. P. Prentiss.... Wash. Ter.... J. M. Fletcher.
 D. Anderson.... B. Columbia. J. S. Thompson
 A. G. Isaacson.... Manitoba.... — Bedson.
 G. O. Tyler.... Delaware.... W. J. Stewart.
 J. B. Charleson.. Tennessee.... G. C. Connor.
 R. Ramsay, M.D. Indian Ter.... A. Welsh.
 W. S. Evans.... Oregon.... R. R. Francis.
 S. B. Newcomb, from Quebec, near New Mexico; and Geo. O. Tyler, from Georgia, near Quebec.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

I deem it my duty to say a word in well-deserved commendation of the zeal and efficiency of the District Deputy Grand Masters. They have, to a very praise-worthy extent, faithfully labored to promote the interests of the Craft within their respective Districts, as I think their reports, about to be submitted to Grand Lodge, will very clearly show.

I beg to submit, for the consideration of the Board, and of Grand Lodge, whether the District of Bedford be not too large. It seems to me as though it must require more time and attention than is ordinarily at the disposal of any one Brother, to visit sufficiently often all the Lodges therein, and to supervise them thoroughly.

I beg also to suggest to Grand Lodge whether it would not be well to empower the Grand Master to appoint, or to arrange otherwise for the appointment of a special Deputy, to supervise the Lodge "Cœurs Unis," in the city of Montreal, and whose work is done in the French language. A Deputy cannot always be obtained for the Metropolitan District, who can speak both the English and the French languages fluently, and it seems to be necessary that the Brother supervising this Lodge should, if possible, be a proficient in both languages. This practice is happily followed in some other Grand Lodge jurisdictions on this continent, wherein are Lodges working in the French, Italian and German languages, as is likely some time to be the case here.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

As you are aware, a "new departure" was taken by me the past year, in holding meetings of the officers and members also of the several Lodges in each of the five Districts of the Province. In conducting these meetings I was ably assisted by the D. D. G. M.'s, and other Grand and Past Grand Officers; by the officers of the respective Lodges, and by visiting and other Brethren. To all such, I beg to return my especial thanks, as also for the many fraternal courtesies extended to me in connection with their assemblies.

Among the objects sought to be attained was the communication of important information concerning the Craft; the awakening of a greater interest and zeal; the improvement of work and governance, and the becoming better and more intimately acquainted with the rulers and members of the Fraternity throughout our jurisdiction.

The meeting held at Sherbrooke was chiefly devoted to the exemplification of work, and it is evident that the labors and exercises at such gatherings may be of great variety and importance.

All these District Meetings were well attended, and many of the Grand Lodge, and other Officers and Brethren, have been

pleased to communicate to me the opinion that they were productive of very considerable good in their respective Districts; and have also expressed the hope that the holding of such meetings annually might hereafter be the fixed policy of this Grand Lodge.

WINTER AND SUMMER FESTIVALS.

The Brethren of the city of Quebec, with "their friends" and invited guests, celebrated the St. John's Festival of last mid-winter by a magnificent Masonic Ball. Famous as are the public Masonic Festivities of the Brethren of the "Ancient Capital," it is thought that the last festival eclipsed its predecessors in the brilliancy of the assemblage, the admirable manner in which it had been arranged and was conducted, and the pleasant remembrances and happy associations connected therewith. I beg of the good Brethren of the famous old city to accept my hearty fraternal thanks for their many courtesies on that very interesting occasion, and in connection with the successful District Meetings held near the same time.

The energetic and zealous D. D. G. M. of the St. Francis District invited the Lodges of his District to celebrate the mid-summer Festival of St. John's, by a trip to the far-famed Lake Memphremagog, and by a dinner and ball at the Revere House. It was fairly successful, considering the other local gatherings at the time. Several Brethren from Montreal and other parts of the Province kindly attended.

Other festivals were held, of which I have no especial report, but they will doubtless be duly noted by the D. D. G. M.'s.

It seems well for Freemasons, with their families and friends, to perpetuate the celebrations of these ancient solstitial festivals, now denominated in Christian countries, and especially among Masons, St. John's Days. I deem this goodly custom to be promotive of the general welfare of the Fraternity.

WORK.

From my own observation, and from other sources of information, it appears that of late there has been a very decided improvement in the work in many Lodges. It is quite obvious to what source that is attributable (but it also appears that in some cases, the irregular use of what was intended for good is the cause of serious evil. This must be put an end to.)

In very many instances there is yet doubtless very great room for improvement. There is far too little of that generous, fraternal rivalry of *who can best work*. The Worshipful Masters and their officers should, during their term of office, seek to make their Lodge the best worked Lodge in their District, or even in the Province. This is a noble ambition, and is worthy of

the best Masons in our jurisdiction. It is, moreover, intended the coming year to have the officers of such first-class working Lodges exemplify the work, or a part of it, before their respective District Assemblies, and perhaps before Grand Lodge. A Lodge reputed to be the best, or among the best working Lodges in the District or Province, would not long have to complain of the non-attendance, either of its own members, or of visitors both from home and abroad. That Brother is to be viewed with compassion, who speaks disparagingly of excellence in ritualism. Of course, to be perfect, or nearly so, in ritual, is to be in possession of one only of the prime qualifications of a thoroughly educated Master of a Lodge, or other officer; but it is one of the most important, when other requisite qualifications are added thereto. Strive earnestly, therefore, and labor zealously to attain perfectness in work, as well as to acquire all the other necessary attributes of a "perfect master" or a "model officer" in your respective rank.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

It appears to me to be exceedingly desirable that the Officers especially of some one Lodge, or those of several Lodges united, should take advantage of the provisions of the Constitution for the establishment of Lodges or schools of instruction and drill in work. This may be done in the rural parts of our jurisdiction, as well as in the cities. They have a successful existence in jurisdictions wherein Masonry is attaining its highest development, and I am of the opinion that much good would result therefrom in our Province. They are a fruitful source of benefit to the Craft, when conducted under wise rules and regulations, and with due official supervision. Four of our winter months afford the best of opportunities for holding them.

Young officers especially should have such comparatively private opportunities for the practice and exemplification of their work, under the direction of a well-skilled instructor, outside the regular Lodge meetings. It is one thing to know the work, and it is quite another, without embarrassment and hesitation, to perform it satisfactorily before an assembled Lodge. It is only the few who can, by mere self-training, do this. The timid, bashful workman would often, with such opportunities for practice, drill and instruction as these Lodges of improvement afford, become the best of Officers.

Which Lodge, Lodges or Officers will have the high honor of first successfully inaugurating this good movement, and solving this important problem?

LAYING A FOUNDATION STONE.

On the 8th of June last a special communication of the Grand Lodge was held

in the Village of Frelighsburg, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Bishop Stewart Memorial Church. The minutes thereof will give a tolerably full account of the ceremonies on that very interesting occasion.

The invitation to the Grand Lodge was received through the Grand Junior Warden, R. W. Bro. Marvin, for himself and other members of the Church Committees; from the Rector, the Rev. J. B. Davidson, M.A.; and sanctioned by His Lordship, Bishop Bond, of the Diocese of Montreal.

The attendance of the officers and members of the Grand Lodge—of Brethren from Montreal and elsewhere throughout the Province, and especially from the District of Bedford, in which the beautiful village of Frelighsburg is situated, and also of Royal Arch Companions, present in their distinctive regalia, by special invitation from me, was very large, considering that the place is not yet directly accessible by railway.

The day was fine; the gathering present was estimated to be about two thousand; and all the exercises of the occasion appeared to be to the acceptance of the assembled Craft, and to the public generally.

All the Officers, Brethren and Companions present—the Grand Officers, and the Past Officers and others who occupied the places and most acceptably performed the duties of those Grand Officers unavoidably absent—well deserve fraternal commendation from me, and also from Grand Lodge.

I beg also to record my especial commendation of the R. W. Grand Junior Warden, Bro. Marvin, for his zealous and successful labors which, well assisted by others, rendered the day and the occasion so memorable. It must have been a source of much gratification to him to have the first foundation stone of a church edifice laid by the Grand Lodge of Quebec, take place in the village wherein he resides, and during his term of office.

After the completion of the Masonic ceremonies in laying the foundation stone in the north-east corner of the building, His Lordship the Bishop, assisted by a large number of his clergy, laid the superincumbent corner stone, with the solemn and impressive services of the church, after which appropriate and eloquent discourses were delivered by His Lordship, by the Rector, and by the Rural Dean and others. The Bishop in his address most courteously referred to the services of the Grand Lodge on the occasion, as did also the Rector. The officers and members of the Grand Lodge also gratefully remember the courtesies extended to them by the brethren and friends at Frelighsburg. The saintly Bishop Stewart, whose name the church commemorates, was a zealous member of

our fraternity, and the volume of the Sacred Law, borne in the procession, was presented by him to Prevost Lodge, Dunham.

PUBLIC MASONIC PROCESSIONS.

The union of Craft and Capitular Masons in the processions, at the laying of foundation stones, being a departure from the custom hitherto prevailing in most jurisdictions of the Dominion, it is fitting that I should submit to Grand Lodge some of my reasons for the adoption of what I deemed most suitable and proper.

The occasion on which Masons may most becomingly appear in public, clothed in their distinctive regalia,—are those of funerals, the laying of foundation or cope stones, attending public Divine service, and at certain social festivals.

It is generally held that Craft and Capitular Masonry unitedly form and comprehend the substance of pure Ancient Freemasonry; although for the greater convenience of governance, they are generally ruled one jurisdictionally, by separate Grand Bodies. In our Constitution, as in most others, provision is now made for the union in funeral processions of Craft and Royal Arch Masons; and since their principles, traditions, and sublime symbolism are substantially alike, and confessedly derived from the same source, it seems to me, therefore, most unfitting to exclude Royal Arch Masons from a participation with their fellows, in duties, privileges and ceremonies, which to so great an extent comport with their symbolic labors.

Moreover, there do not appear to be good reasons why all Craftsman governing different portions of a complete system, should not on all such public occasions, be practically, as they are deemed to be theoretically, one and inseparable; and although by almost common consent and time immemorial custom, the superior rulers and workmen of the third degree are conceded the posts of honor and of labor, nevertheless all true and worthy brethren of every grade of ancient Masonry ought, in my opinion, to be held as of right entitled, on all such occasions, to be associated with their fellow-workmen.

Besides, if the becoming and successful performance of such public duties is of advantage to one portion of the Craft, why may not the other inter-lated and cognate portion be made sharers of such labors and privileges, and hence better promote the general welfare?

I observed, also, that at the laying of the foundation stone of a public building in Halifax, Nova Scotia, during the past year, on the invitation of the Grand Master, the Craft and Royal Arch Masons joined in the procession, to the general acceptance of the brethren there.

The union of Craft and Capitular Masons on all such public occasions, appears also to be the general rule in the United States of America.

It seems to me to be desirable, therefore, to follow the same practice in our jurisdiction.

MASONIC LIFE INSURANCE.

Brethren in different parts of the Province have frequently enquired of me as to the desirability of establishing within our jurisdiction a Masonic Life Insurance Association. Aneut which I beg to say that it seems to me, if a sufficient number of leading brethren, of whom we have not a few, could be induced to form themselves into such an association, mutual or other, and would give the necessary time and attention to the important and responsible affairs of such an organization, free or almost wholly free of charge, and if a thoroughly informed and efficient one of their number would act as the executive officer of the society, at a comparatively low salary, and that if the affairs of the association were conducted on strictly business principles, and in accordance with the now tolerably well-known laws of risk and liability governing other like well-conducted associations, the rates of life insurance might possibly be made very considerably lower than usual, and that a Masonic Life Insurance Association might be made a permanent success within our jurisdiction, as has, I believe, been the case elsewhere.

Grand Lodge itself can have no financial or other like connection with such an organization, and can neither have nor incur any responsibility therefor. I have been informed that an association of the kind has been formed in the St. Francis District, but I am unable to give any information concerning its status and prospects.

I beg, therefore, to leave this important matter for the due consideration of the members of the Craft, desirous of securing the advantages anticipated to accrue therefrom.

LODGE ROOMS.

Many Lodge rooms while comfortable as to size—well furnished—and otherwise very suitable for Masonic uses, are very imperfectly ventilated. This is a great evil and demands immediate remedy. Not a few Lodges are often in a double sense unconsciously the victims of incipient or advanced consumption in great part from the somnific and even deadly effects of breathing in their otherwise splendid halls, overheated, foul, fetid and poisonous air. This is the case not only in the sweltering heat of midsummer, but oftentimes as bad or worse in midwinter. Let there, I beseech you, be at once put into all such badly ventilated rooms and halls, a sufficient number of good-sized outlets running from the

ceiling up through the roof into the open air and well protected above from the storm, and have a corresponding or sufficient number of inlets for fresh air beneath, so that there will be a constant but well regulated circulation of the pure fresh air of heaven throughout the Lodge room, carrying up and out that which has become vitiated and wholly unfit to breathe. This done, what a change for the better among officers and workmen. Comfort and cheerfulness would take the place of supreme discomfort and languor, and other things being equal, drowsiness and somnolence amongst the occupants of the cushioned seats would be among the things that were. I beg of you, therefore, officers and brethren, to see to it that your Lodge rooms are well ventilated. I speak of this important matter from personal experience and observation.

LODGE DUES.

It appears that difficulties occasionally arise anent Lodge dues, and the suspensions for non-payment seems at times somewhat numerous. Various methods have been suggested for remedying the evil. It appears to me that if Lodges were sufficiently careful in the selection of their material—if the amount required for dues were put at the lowest sum actually necessary to defray working expenses, if the utmost promptness were persistently followed in their collection before large arrears accumulate, if a few minutes at each Lodge meeting were set apart especially for payment of dues, if necessary allowances were made for members who may be poor or in temporary financial embarrassment, if a sufficient reduction were made for "country" and other non-resident members, and if the officers of Lodges labored diligently to make the Lodge meetings interesting, instructive and profitable to the members, it does seem, as there are not a few instances to show, that the evil complained of would be reduced to a minimum.

Moreover, if a brother has been suspended for non-payment of dues, it hardly seems just to require him, on his restoration, to pay the dues having accrued during the period of his suspension. If such were not required, it might facilitate desirable restorations.

Two Lodges have submitted to me for confirmation a system of life-membership, but not being as yet satisfied that the system has worked well in jurisdictions wherein it has been adopted, and deeming it to be of very great importance, I have deferred action thereon, desiring to have it more fully considered by the Lodges themselves, and by the Board of General Purposes, and by the Grand Lodge.

In this connection, it may be well for me to recommend each Lodge not having done so, carefully to consider the advisability of

following the example of Grand Lodge, and have their Treasurer annually give a guarantee bond or other security to the Lodge, and also to require the Finance Committee duly and regularly to invest or deposit the funds of the Lodge according to the By-laws, and make report thereof monthly or quarterly to the Lodge, producing at the same time the proper vouchers or certificates of said investment or deposit of funds; and that no monies be drawn therefrom, except by due authorization of the committee, or the Lodge, or both. A detailed annual finance and audit report should on no account be omitted. The financial affairs of a Lodge should always be conducted on strict business principles.

ASYLUM FUND.

Many years ago several of the Lodges in this Province, then under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of "Canada," paid considerable sums towards a fund for a then proposed "Masonic Asylum." These funds have never been appropriated therefor, and are now held by the Grand Lodge of "Canada," together with the interest having accrued thereon. Some time since, the Grand Lodge of "Canada" fraternally took certain action having in view the returning of said subscriptions to these several Lodges in this Province. I beg, therefore, to suggest that without further delay, each contributory Lodge in this Province be required forthwith to report to the Grand Secretary, the date and amount of its subscription to the said fund, and that at this Communication, the Board of General Purposes consider and report to Grand Lodge, a course of procedure to be adopted in the application for, and return to said Lodges of the amount, principal and interest of their subscription to said "Asylum Fund."

DONATIONS AND REQUESTS.

Wealthy members of our fraternity would doubtless think me remiss did I fail to remind them of the great amount of really unending good which they might do, if, out of their abundance, they would make donations or requests to the charitable funds of Grand Lodge. These, according to the will of the donor, might be made permanent investments called after his own name, and the revenue therefrom be forever applied to the specific form of benevolence prescribed in the grant.

REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Early during the past year, an able committee was appointed by me to revise the Constitution of Grand Lodge, and to make report thereof at this Annual Communication, but it appears that it has not been practicable for them to perform the important duty devolved upon them. It is, therefore, deemed advisable to continue the committee for the coming year, with

the assurance that a careful revision will be made next winter, and their report be printed, and copies thereof be distributed to the officers of Grand Lodge, and to all the Worshipful Masters of Lodges, at least two months previous to the next Annual Communication. This will afford a full opportunity for its careful examination, and the arranging of any proposed amendments thereto, before being called upon to vote for its adoption.

I beg to suggest the advisability of retaining the general framework of our present constitution, making only such changes, alterations and amendments as experience seems to have rendered desirable or necessary; and that there be added thereto a complete set of Masonic forms of all kinds, and a full, minute and well-arranged index.

GRAND LODGE LIBRARY.

As a tolerably good beginning has been made towards the formation of a Grand Lodge Library, it seems very desirable that some systematic arrangements be made for its management and supervision. I beg therefore, to suggest that the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary be constituted a permanent Library Committee; that the Grand Secretary be appointed Librarian; that suitable rules be adopted for the obtaining and returning of books; that the ordinary outlays for binding, purchasing of new books, periodicals, &c., be under the direction of the committee, with the sanction of the Grand Master; that all extraordinary outlays for and proposed extensive additions to the Library, shall be submitted to Grand Lodge for its approval, and that an annual report of the state of the Library be made by the Librarian to Grand Lodge.

I may also with propriety suggest to the older Brethren especially the great advantages which would accrue to Grand Lodge, and to the Craft in general, should they donate to the Grand Lodge their valuable esoteric books and manuscripts, and perhaps other precious volumes, during their life time, or arrange that it shall be done at their death. All such and other like donations to the Grand Lodge Library, will be gratefully and fraternally received, suitably acknowledged, and duly cared for and preserved for proper use.

GENERAL EXPENSES.

It appears to be desirable that Grand Lodge should make some suitable provision for defraying the actual expenses of the Grand Master in attending District and other meetings, in different parts of our jurisdiction; and in the performance of other imperative duties requiring travelling outlays. Grand Lodge has not been neglectful of such matters hitherto, but

definite provision therefor would be much more business-like and satisfactory.

It seems also that it would be much better if some system of per diem and mileage were adopted for the payment of the members of the Board of General Purposes, in attendance at the annual or other meetings of the Board.

CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES.

It also appears as though the good work of reducing the number of lodges in the City of Montreal and in a few other parts of the Province, could be carried still further with signal benefit to the Craft. Since the transition period of our history, there still remain certain duplicate lodges, which it is hoped may ere long become happily united. In such cases it seems to me that consolidation and union would give increased strength and prosperity, and be otherwise promotive of great good. The Brethren directly interested are entreated to give this very important matter their most serious consideration, and to use their best endeavors to secure this very desirable consummation.

LODGE SEALS.

It is a requirement of the Constitution that "every Lodge shall have a Masonic Seal, to be affixed to all documents proper to be issued," and that "an impression of the seal is to be sent to the Grand Secretary, and whenever changed, an impression of the new seal shall in like manner be transmitted." I beg, therefore, to call the attention of Worshipful Masters to their duty in respect to this, and admonish them to see to it, that if their Lodges have been hitherto remiss, the omission may be immediately supplied. District Deputy Grand Masters are also admonished to inquire into and make report of any failure on the part of Lodges to comply with these important commands of the Constitution. The Grand Secretary should also be required to submit his Book of the Copies or Impressions of Lodge Seals to the Board of General Purposes, for inspection and report.

I beg also to suggest that every Lodge be required to deposit with the Grand Secretary a copy of its By-laws, and all amendments made thereto from time to time. These being carefully collated and preserved in the Grand Lodge Library, would make a valuable addition thereto, and would be very convenient for reference and such like.

STANDING ORDER OF GRAND LODGE

I am informed that the standing order of Grand Lodge, which is printed annually on the first page of the cover, and on the title page of the Annual Proceedings—namely, "ordered to be read in all Lodges, and preserved"—is not so generally complied with as it ought to be.

If such things are so, it will readily account for the great lack of information among the Craft generally as to the doings of our own and other Grand Lodges throughout the world. Fifteen to thirty minutes of each Lodge meeting, occupied by the Worshipful Masters in reading, until completed, the entire Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, including the report on foreign correspondence, would be of the greatest possible good, in the Masonic enlightenment of the Brethren, in the increase of their zeal, and in the promotion of the best interests of the Fraternity in general.

These proceedings are ordered not only "to be read," but also "to be preserved." It would be interesting to know how many lodges have carefully preserved the complete file of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Quebec from its formation, and how many have had them bound in suitably sized volumes from time to time. This very important matter should be carefully inquired into by the R. W. the D. D. G. M.'s, and reported upon to Grand Lodge. If there are Lodges which have sadly neglected this duty hitherto, it may not be too late to remedy this grave error as to the preservation of our interesting and valuable Proceedings, as the loss, if such exists, will be more and more seriously felt, and more difficult to repair, as time rolls on. I firmly rely on the Worshipful Masters, on District Deputy Grand Masters, and others, to give immediate attention to these imperative duties, which ought on no account to be neglected.

CUBA AND COLON.

The gratifying intelligence has been received that these two Bodies have adjusted their differences, and when the official documents come to hand, it appears probable that we shall be enabled to extend fraternal recognition to the now governing Grand Body of the Island of Cuba, and perchance to exchange Grand Representatives therewith.

G. L. OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

I beg to report that I have given very considerable attention to the application for fraternal recognition by the "Grand Lodge of New South Wales." A careful examination of the papers submitted, and of an official reply to a communication sent, asking for additional information, has as yet failed to satisfy me that the course pursued in its formation fully accorded with that adopted and carried out by Quebec. I therefore very much regret that I cannot at present recommend Grand Lodge to extend recognition to this Grand Body, the more especially as it has been intimated to me that some other Grand Lodges are deferring action therewith, awaiting the decision of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. I reluctantly advise still further postpone-

ment of its consideration, with the expression of the hope that circumstances may soon arise so that we may be enabled to extend thereto fraternal recognition.

EARLY RECORDS OF G. L. OF VERMONT.

A neatly-bound volume of the "Early Records of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, from 1794 to 1846," has been kindly presented to our Grand Lodge Library by that sister Grand Body. An additional copy with a suitable superscription, and accompanied with a complimentary official letter has also been received by me from the same fraternal source, for my own library. In your behalf and my own, I beg to return, therefore, hearty thanks.

Other like donations will doubtless be duly acknowledged in the Report of the Grand Secretary, or otherwise, in our printed Proceedings.

HISTORICAL INCIDENTS.

By the favor of the Deputy Grand Master, I was recently enabled to forward to R. W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Truro, who is one of the learned historians and antiquaries of the Grand Lodge of England, and of world-wide repute as a Masonic writer, a copy of the Warrant of Albion Lodge, Quebec, No. 2, on our Registry, and also a sketch of their centenary medal, and a copy of the authorization from the Grand Lodge of England, for Albion to use the same; the receipt of which has been gratefully and fraternally acknowledged by Bro. Hughan.

Albion was originally a military lodge, attached to the 4th Battalion, Royal Artillery. Its warrant was of date Dec., 1761; at first No. 9, but after the union No. 17 on the Registry of the United Grand Lodge of England. The present warrant is a duplicate, of date London, 27 Jan., 1829—the Duke of Sussex, G. M.; Lord Dundas, D. G. M., and W. H. White and Edward Harper, Grand Secretaries. Since the latter date Albion has been permanently located in the City of Quebec, as a civil Lodge.

Through the assistance of leading Brethren in Quebec, it is anticipated that the original Warrant of Albion Lodge, and other valuable papers and documents relating to it and other Lodges, as well as to the earliest Provincial Grand Lodges, may yet be obtained.

In Bro. Hughan's Numerical and Nomenclatorial Register of English Lodges, in a list of twenty-seven ancient Lodges, under the heading, "Special Centenary Jewels," second on the list is the following record: "17, Albion Lodge, Quebec, (now under Grand Lodge of Quebec)," and, it is the only one in the list under the jurisdiction of a Sovereign Grand Lodge other than that of England.

In the "Early Records of the Grand Lodge of Vermont," I find that "Dorchester Lodge, Vergennes, Vt., now No. 1 on the Registry of that flourishing sister Grand Body, and the third Lodge established within the limits of the Green Mountain state, was chartered by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec in 1791. The intimate friendly relations of that Grand Body to this, are not, therefore, so much to be wondered at, since the Premier Lodge on her Registry hails from Quebec as its chartered birth-place.

Such and such like historical facts forcibly remind us that had the Lodges and Brethren of this Province been, at an early day, true to themselves and to their bounden duties, the Sovereign Grand Lodge of Quebec, instead of having just passed the tenth year of its existence, might soon have been celebrating its Hundredth Anniversary, as one of the oldest Grand Lodges on the Continent of America; outrivalling in age the United Grand Lodge of England itself, and having a long record in imitation of her noble deeds of charity and Masonic beneficence, and having exercised its legitimate influence as a Grand Body, through these past generations, in moulding the intellectual, social and moral destiny of our people.

But thus generally has it ever been with unorganized "colonial" Free-Masonry. Its career has, in great part, been chequered, incohesive, uncontinuous—by far too dependent, dissevered, and consequently unproductive of good, as compared with the renowned sources whence it sprung.

Witness the wondrous Masonic progress in the United States of America, in our own country, and in other lands, east and west, as a consequent chiefly of the formation of separate and independent Grand Lodges, holding and exercising exclusive and undivided sovereign territorial jurisdiction, as compared with the state of the Craft in most of the "colonial" Masonic dependencies; and is it not a fact, that since the formation, a quarter of a century ago, of the Canadian Mother Grand Lodge (now *de facto* and *de jure* "Ontario") that more has been accomplished by her for the cause of Masonry during the short period of her independent, sovereign existence, than had been done by the whole of the dependent "Colonial Masonry" in all of British North America for the past hundred years; and are not all the other sovereign Grand Lodges of the Dominion commencing upon a like prosperous career? and is it not far more in accordance with the genius, the traditions, and the constitutions of Freemasonry; and far better from every possible point of view (except the mercenary, one of a few pounds, shillings, and pence, coming annually into the treasury) for the British Mother Grand Lodges to have (instead of what has gene-

rally prevailed "colonially" and to a feeble extent still exists) a world-enroling aggregation of independent, sovereign Grand Bodies like themselves, connected with these mother Grand Lodges in a perpetual alliance of fraternal amity?

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

Various committees have been appointed by me for collecting and depositing in the archives of Grand Lodge, the ancient and other documents, papers, records, periodicals, volumes and such like, which could be procured within our jurisdiction, relating to the history of Freemasonry in this province from the earliest times; and also such as specially pertain to the history of the Lodges now on our Registry. If not pleasantly disappointed by reports thereof, this year, I fear little can be accomplished in this way. There are many such valuable documents, papers, &c., believed to exist in the Province, and they ought if possible to be in possession of Grand Lodge for future use in the preparation and publication of a general history of the Craft and of this Grand Lodge. Some are probably lost beyond recovery, others will soon disappear unless speedily procured. How to obtain them is the question.

Of course the labor connected therewith will be very considerable, and without the efficient co-operation of a large number of leading brethren, very little could be accomplished by any one brother in rescuing from oblivion these precious materials. While many Lodges and Brethren would doubtless take pleasure in donating to Grand Lodge certain documents and papers on being officially applied to and receiving due acknowledgment therefor, certain moderate outlays would occasionally be necessary in order to obtain others both at home and abroad, and for the procuring of copies of records and papers relating to Quebec, in the archives of other Grand Lodges.

If Grand Lodge agrees with me as to the desirability of making an early and effective effort in this direction, and will arrange for a limited outlay when required—I would suggest, with some hesitation and reluctance, for obvious reasons, that the duties suggested be, by formal resolution, devolved on the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary, with power to add to their number.

GRAND LODGE HONORS.

In view of the many favors hitherto bestowed on this Grand Lodge, and of the many valuable services rendered to Quebec by eminent Brethren, both at home and abroad; and in order to show, in some slight degree at least, a due appreciation of our many obligations, and seeking in a becoming way to honor ourselves, according to goodly custom, by having, with their consent, the names of illustrious Brethren

on our roll of members—I beg to propose that Grand Lodge constitute M. W. Bro. T. D. Harrington, of Prescott, Ontario; M. W. Bro. the Hon. J. H. Drummond, of Portland, Me.; and R. W. Bro. Col. W. J. B. McLeod Moore, of Laprairie, P. Q., Honorary members of this Grand Lodge; and that it confer the honorary rank of Grand Senior Warden of Quebec on R. W. Bro. J. H. Neilson, of Dublin, Ireland; and on R. W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Tiuro, England; and I beg also to request that Grand Lodge confer the honorary rank of Grand Junior Warden on V. W. Bro. Col. Wm. Brinsmaid, of Burlington, Vt. I am sure that it will give Grand Lodge as much satisfaction to confirm these proposals as it gives me to make them.

ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

As the Grand Lodge, at its last Annual Communication, adopted the report of the Board of General Purposes, to the effect that "the whole matter pertaining to our relations to the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and to other Grand Bodies, be left in the hands of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master," I beg to report that much time and attention has been given by me to this very important duty.

Shortly after the close of the last Annual Communication, an "open letter" was received by me from a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, near that Grand Body, containing a statement of his views of Quebec matters, and of the relations of Quebec and Scotland, and addressed to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

I lost no time in replying thereto by printed circular, as the Grand Lodge of Kentucky was shortly to assemble. The letter and reply will be published in our proceedings, and will soon be in your hands for perusal. Suffice it at present to say that the Grand Lodge of Kentucky so viewed matters that her action thereon was worthy of that chivalric Grand Body, and eminently satisfactory to Quebec. This is the only American Grand Lodge with which any official communication has taken place during the past year, anent the Quebec-Scotland matter.

The voice of nearly every Grand Lodge in the Dominion, and in the United States of America, has been heard in condemnation of the action of Scotland, in the invasion by her of our jurisdiction, by the establishment therein of two private Lodges, and of a Provincial Grand Lodge. Early during the year I prepared and caused to be printed, in lieu of our Foreign Correspondence, two pamphlets containing extracts from the proceedings of the greater part of the Grand Lodges in the Dominion and in the United States. These were ex-

tensively circulated, both at home and abroad, and they might well, with similar extracts from subsequent proceedings, be bound along with our own proceedings for the current year. My official and other correspondence in relation to Quebec-English and Quebec-Scottish affairs, has been very extensive and various. My policy and procedure, as well as my principal foreign communications, have generally been submitted in advance to my principal fellow-officers in Grand Lodge, and they have in every instance, I believe, given their hearty, fraternal approval thereof.

In all that I have done thus far in regard to the adjustment of inter-jurisdictional matters between us and these Grand Lodges of Great Britain, I have sincerely sought to obtain peace, harmony and unity, peacefully and with honor, and as I said in another place, a year ago, "I have too firm a faith in the intelligence and fraternal prudence and good-will of these Brethren now in dissent here, and in the wisdom and ability of the rulers and fathers of the Craft in the mother-land, to have any present doubts as to the ultimate result. I trust, therefore, at no distant day, to be able to communicate . . . the consummation so devoutly to be desired."

The correspondence and events of the intervening months have served measurably to strengthen the *then* expectations; but should it be that these seemingly well-grounded anticipations of a peaceful, honorable and constitutional adjustment of these unhappy international differences is not soon realized, the Grand Lodge of Quebec will be fully prepared for any other contingency which may unhappily arise; and in case it is unfortunately required (which we fervently trust may not be), there will be in readiness to submit, for the approval of Grand Lodge, at an Emergent Communication, if need be, such a course of action as, I believe, will be strictly warranted by the Constitutions and ancient practice of the fraternity, and will, in my opinion, be generally sanctioned and sustained by the Craft, as "Quebec" has hitherto been by nearly all the regular sister Grand Lodges of the world.

We have not by any means, as some brethren timidly suppose, exhausted all the constitutional measures at our command, in defence of the exclusive undivided sovereignty of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and of the numerous sister Grand Lodges in fraternal accord and alliance with her and whose international sovereign rights and prerogatives we are bound to sustain and defend as sacredly as our own.

But as the correspondence relating to these international matters of imminent importance is still being carried on, and is therefore necessarily incomplete, and as events of more or less importance are now

transpiring, which, to a greater or less extent, may materially affect the final adjustment of these interjurisdictional matters as well as affect the peace, unity and welfare of the Craft both at home and abroad; I do not deem it wise or prudent to submit the correspondence to Grand Lodge at its present Communication, and I therefore beg most respectfully to suggest the sanctioning by Grand Lodge of a course similar to that occasionally pursued in Parliament, when a motion is made asking for the production by the Government of papers relating to important pending negotiations and transpiring events, the Premier in reply thereto, feels justified in affirming that the interests of the State would not be subserved by the production of said papers and correspondence at the present time, but that they will be submitted in full to the House on some future day; and in general every well disposed member on either side readily acquiesces in the decision of the Government, as announced by its chief.

I therefore fraternally request Grand Lodge to exercise and extend a like confidence, and for the reasons assigned and for others which must be quite obvious, to acquiesce in the above proposal, the more especially as at no very distant day, the whole of the correspondence will be submitted to Grand Lodge, and if deemed best, published in full in our proceedings; and hence I now submit to Grand Lodge the advisability of re-affirming the resolution of last year, leaving the whole matter of our interjurisdictional and other relations to these and other Grand Lodges in the hands of the Grand Master for the coming year, or until the holding of an Emergent Communication of Grand Lodge, should such be deemed necessary or advisable.

FROM LABOR TO REST.

No instances of death within our jurisdiction have been reported to me during the past year. Should such losses have been suffered, they will doubtless be duly noted by the R. W. the District Deputy Grand Masters. Not a few eminent brethren in other jurisdictions have been called "from labor to rest," since we last met, chief amongst whom, as a worthy Brother, as a courteous and efficient officer, and as a warm personal friend, was the late distinguished Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, R. W. Brother John Hervey. He was born April, 1807, and died July, 1880. He was for thirteen years Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England. His name had become "familiar as an household word" throughout the Masonic world. His loss will be universally mourned, and his memory will be fondly cherished by many generations of Craftsmen.

I suggest that a memorial page of our proceedings be dedicated to his memory.

CLOSING WORDS.

Brethren, let me in closing, fraternally remind you all of your supreme duty of unwavering loyalty to this grand old Fraternity, of which you have the honor to be members. Loyalty is the crowning attribute of a true and genuine Freemason. Devoted loyalty to the craft, to their solemn obligations, to their Grand Lodge, to their private Lodges, to the great principles of the order; loyalty to themselves, their Brethren, their families, their fellow-men, their country, and to the Most High, will ever distinguish all worthy Craftsmen. The loyal Freemason is an exemplar of brotherly love, relief and truth; of prudence, temperance, fortitude and justice; of secrecy, fidelity and obedience; of faith, hope and charity, and of every social and moral virtue. Freemasonry is a veritable gospel of peace, charity, loyalty and goodwill. Its foundation and cope stones are the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. The reasons of its being, and the amelioration of humanity, and the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe. The Freemason who is drawing near to perfectness in loyalty, is rapidly approaching the summit of his profession, and is acquiring due preparedness for his departure to the "Land of the Leal."

And may the favor of the Most High rest upon us in all the purposes of our present assembly, and may He vouchsafe His rich blessing to all true and loyal Craftsmen throughout the universe.

JOHN H. GRAHAM,
G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.
Montreal, P. Q., Sept. 22, 1880.

Farewell Address and Presentation to
Rt. Ex. Comp. Wm. M. Somerville.

A Regular Convocation of Carleton Royal Arch Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Ottawa, on the evening of the 11th inst. There was a large attendance of the Companions. After the regular proceedings of the evening, a pleasing incident occurred in the presentation of a farewell address and a jewel to Rt. Ex. Comp. Wm. M. Somerville, Past Z. and Past Grand Superintendent of the Central District, who is about to remove to Florida. The address, as follows, was read by Ex. Comp. L. W. P. Coutlee:—

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

At a Regular Convocation of Carleton Royal Arch Chapter, No. 16, G. R. C., held at the Masonic Hall, Ottawa, Ont., on Monday evening, the 13th September, A. D. 1880, A. I. 2410, A. L. 5880, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by Rt. Ex. Companion John Moore, and seconded by V. Ex. Companion Enoch B. Butterworth.

Whereas, we the Companions of Carleton Royal Arch Chapter, No. 16, on the Registry of the Grand Chapter of Canada, have heard with very much regret that our Right Ex. Companion, Wm. M. Somerville, is about to leave this city for Florida, and thereby sever his immediate connection with this Chapter, and

Whereas, that since his joining this Chapter, some ten years ago, he has shown himself a most zealous, untiring and efficient officer, having during that period filled with honor to the Chapter and credit to himself the principal offices of the same, and latterly discharged the duties of Treasurer in a highly satisfactory manner.

Resolved, that we, his Companions, cannot allow him to depart from amongst us without expressing our deep regret at losing his valuable services, and in a tangible form mark our appreciation of the same.

Resolved, that we present him with the jewel of a Past Z. in gold, and a copy of these resolutions suitably engrossed, and that the same be entered upon the minutes.

Resolved, that we sincerely hope he will soon be restored to his usual health, and that the Great Jehovah may ever watch over and have him in His holy keeping.

L. W. P. COUTLEE, { SEAL } WM. ANDERSON,
First Prin. Z. Scribe E.

The jewel that accompanied the address was an elegant one, of heavy gold, of a Past Z., with rubies and brilliants, and bore the following inscription:—

FROM
Carleton Royal Arch Chapter, No. 16,
Grand Registry of Canada,
to
RIGHT EXCELLENT COMP. W. M. SOMERVILLE,
in recognition
of his untiring services in the interest
of Royal Arch Masonry.
Ottawa,
11th October,
A. D. 1880—A. I. 2410—A. L. 5880.

Rt. Ex. Companion Somerville made a suitable response, regretting his removal from the city, but stating that although he would be absent

from his Companions, his heart would always be with them in the laudable work of the Chapter. He hoped to visit them some time in the future, and trusted to find them as prosperous as at present.

A number of the Companions present made brief addresses, complimentary to R. Ex. Comp. Somerville, and the expressions of regret at his removal from the city were heartfelt and sincere.

The address-resolutions were beautifully engrossed on parchment and illustrated the work being executed by Mr. Cicero Hine, of Ottawa. As a specimen of penmanship the engrossing is highly creditable, while the design—the border taking in Masonic emblems—very pretty. The jewel was furnished by Mr. Amos Chatfield. It was handsome in design and beautiful in finish.

The Canadian Craftsman.

Port Hope, October 15th, 1880.

Grand Lodge Proceedings (Canada.)

In the August No. of the CRAFTSMAN we gave the address of the M. W. the Grand Master, at the twenty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, held in the city of Guelph, on the 14th day of July last. Since then the "Report of the Proceedings" has been printed and sent to the members of Grand Lodge. But as there are a large number of those who read the CRAFTSMAN and who will never see the Report, nor hear it read (as ordered), we think it advisable to publish a synopsis of the proceedings, and at the same time to make such comments as our editorial wisdom suggests.

In the first place, then, we notice that there were 223 Lodges represented, being two more than last year, and that 145 were represented by their duly qualified officers, while at the Annual Communication of 1879

there were only 116 Lodges so represented. The number of unrepresented Lodges, however, was 110, or one third of the number of Lodges on the Register, and five in excess of last year. The total number of votes entitled to be cast was 850; last year 776.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in *Ample Form*, with the usual ceremonies, a deputation from the City Council of the city of Guelph was introduced, and in a few appropriate words welcomed the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge to the Royal City; to which the Grand Master replied, and on behalf of Grand Lodge thanked the corporation and the people of Guelph for the hearty welcome accorded them, and for their liberality and consideration in affording them the excellent accommodation, which was most suitable in all respects. The session of Grand Lodge was by consent of the city authorities held in the Town Hall. He was glad, he said, to see among the Guelph friends so many members of the Ancient Craft, and was much gratified at their cordial reception and the friendly feeling exhibited on every hand.

A deputation from the city Lodges, consisting of V. W. Bro. Hugh Walker, W. Bros. Alexander Bruce, H. Lockwood, A. McBean, and H. D. Morehouse, was then announced, received, and presented the following address:

*To James A. Henderson, Esq., Q. C., D. C. L.,
the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the
Grand Lodge of Canada:*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR.—The Brethren of the various Lodges of the city of Guelph wish to tender to you, and through you to the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, a most hearty and fraternal greeting on this the first occasion of the visit of the Grand Lodge to the Royal City.

They estimate at its full value the great privilege and honor of having in their midst the officers and members of such a distinguished body, and wish that during your stay with them you will not only be pleased with your visit, but will form such pleasant associations with the Brethren as will long hold an abiding place in your memory.

They wish especially to congratulate you on presiding over the Grand Lodge for the first time in this city, and they beg to assure you that in common with their Brethren throughout the Province, they entertain for you the highest sentiments of respect and esteem, and trust that you will long be spared to hold an exalted position in the Order, and to share with former Grand Masters the kindly recollections and associations they entertain towards their Grand Officers, who have ever been most worthy exemplars and guides in all the duties and obligations that are the honor and glory of Freemasons.

The M. W. the Grand Master in reply said he had very great pleasure, on behalf of the Grand Lodge, in expressing the high appreciation they entertained in receiving this address. As stated in that address, this was the first time the Grand Lodge had visited Guelph, but he hoped it would not be the last. They had been accorded a most kindly and cordial welcome. Their impression of Guelph and surrounding country was of the most favorable character. The fertility of the soil, the enterprise and intelligence of the merchants, manufacturers and agriculturists were observable on every hand, and as strangers they felt they were in the midst of a most industrious and prosperous community. He had no fear but their success in the future would be as marked as in the past, and that this city and county would continue to hold the high place they occupied as a most prosperous and important portion of the Province. On behalf of the Grand Lodge he again expressed hearty thanks for their cordial reception, and cordially reciprocated the kind feelings manifested on all hands, and by all classes of the community.

It would be here in order to remark that several distinguished brethren from sister jurisdictions visited Grand Lodge during the session and were received with the honors due to their rank. Amongst the visitors may be mentioned R. W. Bros. C. E. Young, John A. Lockwood, and Horatio W. P. Hodson,

Past District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, and R. W. Bro. I. H. Stearns, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Quebec; all of whom were cordially welcomed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Master's address has already appeared in the CRAFTSMAN (August No.) and there is therefore no necessity for reproducing it; but there are one or two subjects treated of, to which we desire to call the special attention of our brethren; and we notice particularly what he says with regard to "Mixed Funerals." We discussed this question in an article in the CRAFTSMAN some time ago (November, 1878), and we are gratified to find that our views, then expressed, coincide so thoroughly with those of the Grand Master. It was only two, or three months ago that we noticed in the published account of a Masonic funeral, in a local newspaper, that Oddfellows and Orangemen; as such, took part in the procession. We hope, since the Grand Master has spoken so plainly on the subject, and his utterances were adopted through the Report of the Board of General Purposes by Grand Lodge, that we shall have no more "Mixed Funerals."

Another important subject considered by the Grand Master in his address was that of "physical disqualification;" and he expressed the opinion that "unless a candidate be in a condition to receive, perform and communicate all parts of the ceremonies and duties of the Order, he is not eligible for the degrees." The Grand Master's remarks on this subject were based on two applications made to him for leave to initiate; in one case, a candidate who had lost part of one of his feet, and who used mechanical appliances to walk, and was unable properly to dispense with them during initiation; and in the other, the person had a diseased hip joint, and could not stand upright, with both feet on the ground. In other respects both were qualified,

but on account of those physical defects, they were debarred the privilege of being initiated. He suggested that some rule should be laid down by Grand Lodge, and thus relieve the Grand Master from the semblance of acting with unnecessary strictness. The Board in their report on the Address expressed their opinion that his decision was in accordance with the landmarks and with precedent in this jurisdiction, but did not suggest any rule to guide in such cases—nor do we think it possible to do so. The ancient charges, as quoted by the Grand Master, can be the only guide, and we think that the decision as to what constitutes physical qualifications should rest with the Grand Master as one of his prerogatives. The Grand Master also stated that he had refused to grant a dispensation to bury a Mason, with the rites of the Order, who had died while under suspension for non-payment of dues.

Dispensations for the formation of six new Lodges were issued; and Charters were granted to 11 Lodges, as authorized at the last Communication of Grand Lodge.

The reports of the various District Deputy Grand Masters were presented. From these we gather that Masonry is in a prosperous condition throughout the jurisdiction, and the Lodges generally working satisfactorily and harmoniously. In every District, Dispensations had been granted to enable the members of Lodges to attend Divine Service. This practice becoming now so general will tend, as R.W. Bro. Walkem, D.D.G.M. St. Lawrence District, expresses the hope, "to remove from the minds of some of the uninitiated the false impression which is diligently created and fostered by the enemies of the Craft, that the profession of Masonry is inconsistent with a spirit of loyalty and devotion to our received religion."

From the Report of the Finance Committee, for the year ending the 31st December, 1879, we glean the following facts: The total receipts

from all sources (including interest,) amount to \$15,460.60, as against \$16,570.79 for the previous year. The principal items of expenditure are: Salaries of Grand Secretary and Assistant, \$2,400; expenses of Grand Secretary's office, \$550.48; or a total of \$2,950.48. Expenses of Board of General Purposes, \$620; sundry other expenses (printing, &c.) \$1,749.42; Benevolence, \$7,547.50; or a total expenditure of \$12,867.12. The receipts for the half year ending 30th June, 1880, are also given, and amount to \$7,159.60. The financial position of Grand Lodge at the latter date was as follows:

Investments in Stocks.....	\$55,400.00
Cash in Bank.....	7,094.95
	\$62,494.95

Representing the following amounts at the credit of the respective funds, viz:—

General Fund.....	\$27,972.46
Asylum Fund.....	8,903.55
Benevolent Fund (Investment)...	24,201.33
" " (current).....	1,417.61
	\$62,494.95

The Board call attention to the fact that the expenditure for the year 1879 exceeds the receipts by \$1,021.27 and recommends that every effort should be made to keep the expenditure within the income.

The following is the Report of the Board on the condition of Masonry:

1. Reports from the D.D. Grand Masters of the St. Clair, London, Wellington, Hamilton, Niagara, Toronto, Georgian, Ontario, Prince Edward, St. Lawrence and Ottawa Districts have been received and examined, from which the Board are pleased to learn that Freemasonry continues to flourish in the Districts, that harmony prevails, and that very few causes of complaint were found, and these of but a trivial character as to be easily adjusted, with the exception of Carleton Place Locals, in which a contention has occurred, wherein it appears to the Board that the conduct of the W.M. of that Lodge was highly reprehensible.
2. The Board regret that the District Deputy Grand Masters for the Wilson and Huron Districts, have not sent in reports in accordance with the Constitution.
3. The Board notice with great gratification that the laudable practice of attendin

Divine Service on the Masonic festival days of Saints John is largely increasing.

The Board are also gratified to learn that Lodges of Instruction have been held in London and St. Clair Districts, two in the former and one in the latter, which were well attended. The Board strongly recommend that this practice be more generally carried out, whereby the principles of Masonry may become more thoroughly understood and generally disseminated amongst the Brethren, thus creating a greater unanimity of action amongst the Lodges.

The Board are also pleased to learn that several new Lodge rooms have during the past year been erected and dedicated, the one at Picton, in Prince Edward District, deserving special mention, this hall being handsome and commodious, as well as expensively decorated, and forming an attractive resort for the Brethren.

The Board regret to learn that several of the Lodges are not in a thrifty financial position, and as a remedy for this would recommend that Lodges be requested to make provision in their By-laws for commutation of annual dues.

The Board find that seven dispensations have been granted by the M. W. the Grand Master during the last year for establishing new Lodges, all of which are reported to be working well.

Applications have been received from St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 62, Caledonia, to withdraw from the Niagara District, and be attached to the Hamilton District, and from Brock Lodge, Cannington, to withdraw from Toronto District and be attached to the Ontario District. The Board beg to recommend that these applications be granted, subject to the conditions of the report of the Committee on Redistribution of Districts adopted at last meeting of Grand Lodge, page 108 of the proceedings. Fraternaly submitted.

JAMES MOFFAT,
President of the Board.

The Board on foreign Grand Lodges reported that the Grand Lodge of Cuba and the Grand Lodge of Colon had settled their differences and united under the name of the United Grand Lodge of Colon and the Island of Cuba, and recommended that the said Grand Lodge be recognized and welcomed as a sister Grand Lodge. They also recommended that the Grand Lodge of New Mexico be recognized and welcomed as a regular Grand Lodge; but in regard to the Grand Lodge of Spain it was recommended that action be postponed

until further information is received. The report was adopted.

The motion to change the end of the fiscal year from the thirty-first of December to the thirty-first of May, was carried.

The resolution to provide that the order of proceedings at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge shall include the attendance of Grand Lodge at Divine Service, was lost.

The motion to expunge clause 8 "of the Grand Lodge" in the book of Constitution, which provides for proxies, together with several amendments to the original resolution, were lost.

The motion to hold the next Annual Communication at the city of Hamilton, was carried.

The following are the elected officers for the ensuing year:—

M. W. Bro. Jas. A. Henderson, O. C., Kingston, Grand Master.

E. W. Bro. Jas. Moffat, London, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. R. J. Hovenden, Toronto, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. Bro. Hugh Walker, Guelph, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. Bro. Rev. William Hay, Scotland, Grand Chaplain.

R. W. Bro. Edward Mitchell, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. Bro. R. L. Gunn, Hamilton, Grand Registrar.

R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Hamilton, Grand Secretary.

And by an open vote of Grand Lodge,
Bro. W. W. Summers, Hamilton, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. T. C. Macnabb, Chatham, St. Clair District; R. W. Bro. Robt. Mackay, St. Thomas, London District; R. W. Bro. G. C. Eden, Woodstock, Wilson District; R. W. Bro. DeW. H. Martyn, M. D., Kincardine, Huron District; R. W. Bro. Alexander Irvine, Harriston, Wellington District; R. W. Bro. J. M. Meakins, Hamilton, Hamilton District; R. W. Bro. Geo. Walker, Beamsville, Niagara District; R. W. Bro. Bernard Saunders, Toronto, Toronto District; R. W. Bro. John Nettleton, Collingwood, Georgian District; R. W. Bro. G. H. F. Dartnell, Whitby, Ontario District; R. W. Bro. T. K. Ross, M. D., Odessa, Prince Edward District; R. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Kingston, St. Lawrence District; R. W. Bro. Samuel Rogers, Ottawa, Ottawa District.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. W. Bro. J. E. Beeton, St. Catharines, Grand Senior Deacon.

V. W. Bro. M. D. Dawson, London, Grand Junior Deacon.

V. W. Bro. F. Rowland, Kingston, Grand Supt. of Works.

V. W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinson, Toronto, Grand Director of Ceremonies.

V. W. Bro. Charles Lemon, Hamilton, Asst. Grand Secretary.

V. W. Bro. A. Jamieson, Watford, Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies.

V. W. Bro. John Nichol, Listowel, Grand Sword Bearer.

V. W. Bro. W. E. Roxburgh, Norwood, Grand Organist.

V. W. Bro. B. Rothwell, Ameliasburg, Asst. Grand Organist.

V. W. Bro. A. A. Henderson, Ottawa, Grand Pursuivant.

V. W. Bros. W. L. Thackaberry, Chatham, S. S. Clutton, Aylmer, Lewis Beam, Waterford, J. L. Richmond, Stratford, S. S. McCormack, Orangeville, W. H. Bell, Port Robinson, J. Ross Robertson, Toronto; Isaac Huber, Bracebridge, A. H. Melville, Lindsay, C. E. Clark, Shannonville, J. R. Dargavel, Newboro', W. Cunningham, Pakenham, Grand Stewards.

In conclusion, we observe that, although the Masons of Guelph did all in their power to provide for the comfort of the members of Grand Lodge, it has been proved a mistake to hold the Annual Communications in a place possessing the limited accommodation of that city. We heard of several delegates to Grand Lodge who, finding they could not obtain suitable accommodation, returned to their homes the same day. And in this connection we throw out a suggestion which we should like to see considered and discussed. Why should not the offices of Grand Lodge be fixed at Toronto, and the Annual Communications be permanently held there? No one can question the adaptability of that city for the purpose. We should like to have an expression of opinion from some of our correspondents on this question.

The Grand Lodge of Québec.

The Eleventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of

Québec, was held at Montreal, on the 28rd ult., M. Wor. Bro. J. H. Graham, G. M., on the Throne; the Grand Wardens in their respective stations; Rt. Wor. Bro. W. Miller acted as Deputy Grand Master. A large number of representatives and delegates were present, including Past Grand Masters Dunbar and Tait. The Grand Lodge being opened in ample form, letters of apology for absence were received from P. G. M. Simpson, Rt. Wor. Bro. Col. J. B. McLeod, Moore, Judge D. G. M. Ricksby and others. The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations of Grand Lodge during session, and the usual motion referring to the reading of the minutes of the previous session was adopted. The Grand Chaplain, Rt. Wor. Bro. Scrimger, then delivered an admirable address. Vote of thanks for same was moved by Rt. Wor. Bro. W. Simpson Walker, and seconded by Rt. Wor. Bro. Bown, and unanimously carried. Grand Lodge called to refreshment.

At 3 p.m., Grand Lodge was called to labor. Rt. Wor. Bros. A. F. Simpson, Robt. Ramsay, Graham, Issacson, Jr., Thos. Simpson and Charleson received and welcomed with the Grand honors as the respective Representatives of the following Grand Jurisdictions, viz.: Wisconsin, New Mexico, Missouri, Manitoba, Minnesota, and Tennessee.

The Grand Master then delivered an able address, which was referred to a Committee composed of M. Wor. Bros. Tait and Dunbar, and Rt. Wor. Bro. T. P. Butler. Committee on Credentials next reported.

The Grand Secretary's report was an able document, showing the receipts for the year to have been \$1,826.50. He also stated that the Library now contained some two hundred volumes, besides periodicals and proceedings. Chateauguay warrant had been returned, although the Lodge was in good financial condition. The Grand Treasurer's report was very satisfactory. The District

Deputy Grand Master's reports were then read, showing that the condition of Masonry throughout the Province was on a sound basis. The D. D. G. M. of Montreal, Rt. Wor. Bro. Le-Mesurier, suggested the amalgamation of certain Lodges, and pointed out the absurd expense attendant upon having so many Lodge-rooms in the city. His report was both able and exhaustive. The D. D. G. M. of Quebec and Three Rivers, Rt. Wor. Bro. Charleson, reported an infringement of jurisdiction by the initiation of a candidate residing in the Province of Quebec, by Campbelltown Lodge of New Brunswick; the matter was referred to the Board of General Purposes, who directed the Grand Secretary to enter into correspondence with the Grand Secretary of New Brunswick regarding the same, when the matter will doubtless be amicably settled. Rt. Wor. Bro. Wm. Miller, at this stage of the proceedings, presented the Grand Lodge with original charter, granted to Albion Lodge, No. 2, G. R. Quebec, June 12th, A. D. 1752, and signed Lawrence Dermott, D. G. M., Perry, J. G. W., and Thos. Harper, G. S. W., received in A. L. 5787—vide Vol. VIII. and letter H. The seal is in excellent condition. We think this charter makes Albion Lodge the oldest warranted Masonic body on this continent, certainly the oldest in the Dominion. Thanks were tendered to Rt. Wor. Bro. Miller for so valuable a presentation. The D. D. G. M. of Bedford District, Rt. Wor. Bro. S. P. Martin, recommended the sequestration of several charters and the amalgamation of two of the Lodges. He spoke a great deal about suspension for non-payment of dues, and declared that Brethren in smaller places especially, were frequently carried away by the so-called higher degrees, thus neglecting the parent lodge. The D. D. G. M. of St. Francis District, R. W. Bro. Keyes, who was unavoidably absent, reported all satisfactory in his District. The D. D. G.

M. of Ottawa District, Rt. Wor. Bro. Lyon, gave an able report, and recommended that the warrants of Onslow and Aylmer Lodges be recalled. Reports referred to Board of General Purposes, and Grand Lodge was called off.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at 8 p.m. Rt. Wor. Bro. Hobart Butler gave notice of motion for next year "that in future the election of Grand Officers for the Grand Lodge of Quebec shall be held immediately after the Grand Master's address." The Board of General Purposes reported favorably on applications for relief to amount of one hundred and ten dollars; reported that it is not in the power of any Lodge to grant life membership, until the Constitution of Grand Lodge be altered; no Grievances or Appeals; recognition of so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales laid over. A communication was received from Dr. Bain, the District Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Montreal, Scotch Register, was here read, requesting that a Committee be appointed by Grand Lodge of Quebec to meet a similar Committee appointed by the District Grand Lodge of Montreal, Scotch Register, to confer relative to the position, &c., of that body and the Grand Lodge of Quebec. The following distinguished Brethren were elected with instructions to report as early as possible to Grand Lodge, viz.: M. Wor. Bros. Tait, Dunbar, and White, and Rt. Wor. Bros. Butler and Isaacson. The Board of General Purposes on the state of Masonry animadverted very strongly upon the Board of Relief in Montreal having no funds. Grand Lodge called off.

Grand Lodge resumed labor next morning at 9.30, and although we anticipated the proceedings would close that forenoon, it was found necessary to have an afternoon session. The Board of General Purposes brought in several reports, amongst others one suggesting the abolition of its semi-annual meeting in March,

which with the others was adopted. A warm discussion relative to the standing of certain brethren, who had some time since been made honorary members of a Lodge by open vote, contrary to the Constitution, took place, but Grand Lodge decided on motion of Rt. Wor. Bro. Lemeseurier, seconded by Rt. Wor. Bro. R. Ramsay,—That as the Lodge had committed the error unwittingly, and as these brethren had been received as honorary members for a lengthened period, they should be considered healed. The Grand Master ruled that an honorary member of a private Lodge was eligible for an office in Grand Lodge. A debate took place on the notice of motion of Rt. Wor. Bro. T. P. Butler, relative to making Grand Lodge itinerant—it was voted down, and immediately a similar notice of motion for next annual session was given. The question of life membership was referred to the Committee on the Constitution to report next year. Rt. Wor. Bro. R. Ramsay, as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory and New Mexico, read two reports on the condition of Masonry in these two young and interesting jurisdictions. In his report on the latter he was justly severe on the Grand Lodge of Missouri in not sequestrating the charter of Silver Creek Lodge, in that jurisdiction. This reporting by Grand Representatives is a new departure in Canadian Grand Lodges, which the Grand Master of Quebec favorably noticed. The following brethren were then duly elected and installed, after which followed the usual formal votes, when the Grand Lodge closed one of the the most interesting and harmonious gatherings in its history:—

M. Wor. Bro. J. H. Graham, Richmond, Grand Master.

Rt. Wor. Bro. T. P. Butler, Montreal, Deputy Grand Master.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Hobart Butler, Bedford, Grand Senior Warden.

Rt. Wor. Bro. John Shaw, Quebec, Grand Junior Warden.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Edson Fitch, D. D. G. M. District of Quebec and Three Rivers.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Joseph Mitchell, Montreal, D. D. G. M. Montreal.

Rt. Wor. Bro. G. A. Hill, West Shefford, D. D. G. M. Bedford.

Rt. Wor. Bro. E. R. Johnston, Standstead, D. D. G. M. St. Francis.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Arthur Lyon, Shannonville, D. D. G. M. Ottawa.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Rev. John Scrimger, Montreal, Grand Chaplain.

Rt. Wor. Bro. I. H. Stearns, Montreal, Grand Treasurer.

Rt. Wor. Bro. J. Massie, Jr., Cowansville, Grand Registrar.

Rt. Wor. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, Montreal, Grand Secretary.

Bro. Isaac Richardson, Montreal, Grand Tyler.

The Hon. Judge Townshend, 38°, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Ireland, Col. W. J. B. MacLeod Moore, 38°, Great Prior of Canada, and M. Wor. Bro. T. D. Harington, 38°, P.G.M. Grand Lodge of Canada, were, on the recommendation of the Grand Master, endorsed by the Board of General Purposes, unanimously elected Honorary members of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Notes of the Chicago Triennial Conclave

There is evidently a difference of opinion regarding the recent Knights Templar demonstration in Chicago. According to some authorities it was a grand success, while others have no hesitation in pronouncing it a grand fizzle. "Upon the whole the affair must be put on record as the grandest showing the Order has ever made, and Chicago may take to herself the pleasant reflection that a similar event could not have been accomplished in any other city in the world." So speaks the New York *Dispatch*. But

The *Liberal Freemason* (Boston), feels compelled to say "that such exhibitions as were seen in Chicago, are demoralizing to the best interests of Templar Freemasonry. A great opportunity was lost for gaining honor to a city, and it is to be hoped that

incompetent hands will be held aloof from all future Triennials."

The *Voice of Masonry* (Chicago), declares that "all in all, it was a grand affair, yielding a vast amount of enjoyment, promoting Knightly acquaintance and courtesy, showing what the Order can do when it will, portraying the grand idea that the Masonic institution is a mighty power for good in the world, and developing less of discomfort than might reasonably have been expected."

The *Masonic Advocate* says:—"The question now presents itself, what good has been accomplished by the great gathering of Sir Knights at Chicago? How is Templar Masonry to be benefitted by it? It may be well to consider whether the time and money spent could not have been used for a better purpose."

And Brother Moore, in the *Masonic Messenger*, deems the Grand Encampment a useless Body, and regards such exhibitions as that at Chicago as of no benefit to the Order. He expresses a fervent wish that the adjournment had been to Alaska instead of San Francisco.

The London *Freemason* admits that such assemblages are very magnificent, and may have their good side, but thinks that such manifestations are somewhat questionable both in policy and utility.

And the following is from the *Chicago Times*:—

"It would be ungracious, perhaps, to criticise the management of the public demonstrations and festivities attending the Knight's Templar Conclave just ending in Chicago if the matter were not attracting the attention of everybody in the city, and occasioning a vast amount of reluctant complaint from the visiting Knights and other guests. The visitors all came here in good spirits and the best of humor, expecting, from the reputation which Chicago had gained as a host, to have an excellent time and participate in a glorious demonstration, and yet they were prepared to submit to the many small annoyances which are inseparable from such an occasion. The Knights would unquestionably have borne without a murmur more even than small annoyances, but the repeated *fiascos* and impositions of

the week have put an end to their patience, and to their friends they freely express their disgust with the proceedings.

"It appears that there is not a single visiting Commandery which has not been subjected to some special petty imposition or annoyance, aside from the common infictions, which might have been easily avoided by proper management. The temper of the visiting Knights toward the Triennial Committee is far from pleasant. But the Knights are not the only persons who have been imposed upon. The people of Chicago and the north-west, who have turned out in great numbers to witness advertised spectacles, have been deceived, disappointed and imposed upon at every turn, until forbearance has ceased to be a virtue.

"It is impossible for a journal which prints the news to ignore what everybody is talking about, and the *Times* has no apology to ask of any one for presenting the exact facts in regard to the *fiascos* of the Triennial Conclave."

The "Grand Reception Musicale et Dansante" at the Grand Exposition Building was rather too crowded for comfort. The building will accommodate 10,000 people, and 20,000 could not find standing room, but, according to the *Chicago Tribune*, 60,000 invitations were issued.

The following statement of the number of Knights Templar on the roll of the Grand Encampment of the United States, were present at the Triennial Conclave:

	1878.	1879.	1880.
Grand Commanderies.....	31	31	31
Subordinate Commanderies....	466	553	552
No. Knighted.....	2,705	2,481	2,780
No. of Knights.....	46,893	47,517	47,059
Com. sub. to G. E.....	21	22	24
No. Knighted.....	61	102	102
No. Members.....	1,429	1,476	1,320

Total No. affiliated Sir Knights, July, 1880..... 43,409
Add delinquents reported last year..... 2,485

Total enrollment, Aug. 1, 1880..... 50,894

A resolution was proposed at the Conclave to dispense with all parades at the Triennial meetings, which, after a warm discussion, was laid on the table. It is matter of regret that our American Frates cannot be induced to do away with these displays, which, to say the least, are most un-Masonic.

The following officers were elected for the next three years:—

Sir Benjamin Dean, of Boston, Most Eminent Grand Master.

Sir Robt. E. Withers, of Alexandria, Va., Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master.

Sir Charles Roome, of New York, Very Eminent Grand Generalissimo.

Sir John P. S. Gobin, of Lebanon, Pa., Very Eminent Grand Captain General.

Sir Hugh McCurdy, of Corunna, Mich., Very Eminent Grand Senior Warden.

Sir Wm. La Rue Thomas, of Danville, Ky., Very Eminent Grand Junior Warden.

Sir John W. Simons, of New York City, Very Eminent Grand Treasurer.

Sir Theodore S. Parvin, of Iowa City, Very Eminent Grand Recorder.

The next Triennial Conclave will be held in San Francisco, in 1888.

Though in attendance at the grand display in Chicago, we prefer giving the opinions of others in regard to it, as we took no part whatever in the procession, the ball, the fireworks, or other entertainments provided for the enjoyment of the visitors, owing to the over-crowding everywhere, and having two ladies to look after. Our opinion is, however, that in whatever way the committee of management failed to give satisfaction was not due to a desire to slight those coming from a distance, or to allow them to be imposed upon, but rather to the fact that the crowd of Sir Knights and their friends who rushed to Chicago on the occasion was greatly in excess of what was looked for, and, consequently, the arrangements were totally inadequate. We met but two or three Chicago Sir Knights, and found them most anxious to do anything in their power to enhance our pleasure.

One thing we would recommend the American Templars to do, and that is to abolish their competitive drill, a feature that must at all times result in giving offence to some, while the decisions are sure to be disputed.

The ruling out of Monroe Commandery, of Rochester, N. Y., after permitting them to drill, was most unfair and unjust, and created more ill-feeling than all the rest of the causes of complaint put together. The universal opinion we heard expressed was that Monroe Commandery was entitled to the first prize, and

if perfection of drill was the sole point of excellence by which the decision should be given, we must say we concur in that opinion, for a finer looking body of men or more perfect in their movements could not be picked from the whole population of the United States. The failure to do justice in this instance led to most unfavorable remarks, and the insinuation was frequently made that no more dependence could be placed in the decisions given at this competitive drill, though men of distinction were the judges, than in the verdict given in a boat race, or base ball match. This is not as it should be, and it would be much better to abolish the competitive drill altogether than to have the impression go widely abroad, as it did in this instance, that an honorable decision on the merits of competing Commanderies could not be depended upon.

Grand Lodges of Scotland and Quebec.

We are glad to learn that the difficulty between these two Grand Bodies is at last virtually settled. At the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, held on the 28rd ult., a committee was appointed, consisting of M. W. Bros. Thomas White, P. G. M., M. M. Tait, P. G. M., R. W. Bros. T. P. Butler and J. H. Isaacson, Grand Secretary, to confer with another committee appointed by the District Grand Lodge of Scotland, composed of R. W. Bro. George A. Baynes, D. D. G. M. Grand Lodge of Scotland, W. Bros. W. S. Walker, Charles D. Harrison and Henry Stewart. After a lengthy deliberation the following terms of settlement were unanimously adopted:—

“The three Lodges now working in the Province of Quebec under warrants from the Grand Lodge of Scotland to resign allegiance to that Grand Body, and to come under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, under the following conditions:—

The said Lodges to retain their present warrants which shall be endorsed by the Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of Quebec; their mode of work; the rank of their officers (who will have the same titles as officers holding similar rank in the Grand Lodge of Quebec); their clothing and Lodge property, and said lodges to be put to no expense in joining said Grand Lodge of Quebec.

To this arrangement the Grand Lodge of Scotland is no doubt a consenting party; at all events, she cannot object to it, as it is a principle of Masonic law that Lodges in unoccupied territory can transfer their allegiance to that Grand Lodge which is afterwards duly constituted and exercises jurisdiction in that territory. We hope therefore to hear that the Grand Lodge of Scotland, at its next Quarterly Communication, (which meets this month) will sanction the terms of settlement, (if this has not already been done) and that representatives between these two Grand Lodges, so long estranged, have been exchanged.

The Working Tools of a Freemason.— The Compasses.

No. IX.

BY BRO. G. F., JR.

We now come to the last of the Working Tools presented to the Neophyte as he passes through the mysteries of the first three degrees of Symbolic or Blue Masonry, and having indeed felt himself in the Valley of the Shadow of Death, he more thoroughly appreciates the divine lessons taught by the Compasses, as the Worshipful Master explains to him that "the Compasses enabled (the Operative Mason) with accuracy and precision to ascertain and determine the limits and proportions of the several parts" of his work, so do they remind the Speculative Brother of God's unerring and impartial justice, which having defined for our instruction, the limits of good and evil, will either reward or punish us as we have obeyed or disregarded His Divine Commands.

What a grand theo-philosophy vitalizes the whole symbolism of Freemasonry! Men

tell us of this and that science, but is there any that is equal to ours? We at least are not aware of any. We take up a common instrument of labor and it becomes a component part of such a God-inspiring philosophy that it is appreciated by king and peasant alike, and scouring the bitterness of creed and bigotry of sect, regardless of clime, nationality and color, it is admired and studied by all its followers with love, ardor and enthusiasm. And amongst these wondrous Working Tools there are none superior to the thoughts inspired in the Freemason's breast by a contemplation of the doctrines taught by the symbolism of the Compasses.

The Compasses teach us that the Great Architect of the Universe, the Mason's God, has in various ways and at different times, so clearly defined the laws that should guide our course of action through life, that man knows when he errs, and that is, every man is aware when he is breaking his Maker's edicts. Some may say to this, that such is not the case, because the semi-civilized barbarian is daily guilty of sins which he regards as virtues, but which in the eyes of his more enlightened Brother are dark and treacherous crimes or bestial immorality. True, but the God of the Freemason has Himself declared that to whom much is given, much will be required, and consequently we repeat the lessons taught by the Compasses are correct, for God has laid down a circumscribed line of action for man to follow, and if he oversteps that well-defined and clearly marked limit, then a just and great and mighty Creator will punish the transgressor, for the Infinite cannot with due respect unto Himself, permit the puny mind of the finite man to attempt to thwart the incomprehensible intelligence of the Deity. Such is the symbolism of the Compasses, and no more direct proof of the liberal theo-philosophy of the Craft could be adduced than this little simple instrument of architecture affords.

Essays might be written upon it, but for our object? It is clear, plain, forcible, distinct. We believe that as the student of our mysteries applies himself to the symbolism of these Working Tools, the greater pleasure he will find in the rich treasures that lie hidden beneath their more apparent meaning. These sketches have been mere outlines to prove that even in the smallest matter in our ritual there is a meaning, not only for the organ of vision, but a grand characteristic occult meaning, apparent only to the mind's eye, and that the closer attention is paid to the latter study, the greater pleasure will the Mason feel in delving deeper and deeper into the arcana of Masonic science. We close then our remarks on the Work-

ing Tools of the Freemason, so far as the Lodge is concerned, in the beautiful language of our Ritual. Thus, my Brethren, the Working Tools of a Master Mason teach us to bear in mind, and act according to the laws of the Divine Creator, so that when we shall be summoned from this sublunary abode, we may ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns forever and ever. So MOTE IT BE!

Masonic Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

To the Editor of THE CRAFTSMAN.

DEAR SIR,—The event of the month has been the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and the session passed over quietly; nevertheless, to many of us it will afford a subject for many pleasing memories, as it was the means of bringing together into one room many of the dear old faces we love to look upon, and some we never see now except at these annual gatherings. It says something of the vitality of the institution when we see men coming such long distances from the far east as well as from the far west to unite with us once a year round the Altar of Masonry. No matter how old we get, the fire of Masonry on our altar seems to never grow dim or lose its freshness, and it develops one very curious trait in man that even the strongest non-conformist is here found to be a strong stickler for what may be termed Ultra-Ritualism—a rigid adherence to and no deviation from prescribed forms and ceremonies being absolutely the order of the day. What a curious speculation it is when we realize the fact that the tenets of our order together with its forms and ceremonies handed down from time immemorial by tradition, which is usually not the best mode of preserving exactitude, should in this instance have succeeded to such a degree that, go where you may, no matter what language you speak or is spoken in the country you go to, there you will find our rites and ceremonies celebrated and the "universal language" of Masonry so conserved that no difficulty will arise in your recognizing your brethren or being recognized by them. Is not this something marvellous when we remember how much stories of the common things of life lose or gain in their perigrations, be the journey only a short one. Pleasant though our annual gathering is, there are certain things that are well worth being looked to with the idea of instituting some little improvement in the mode of handling them. 1st—See the large amount of valuable time

consumed, and with so small a result of business transacted—this should not be so. Another item is when the first and subsequent sessions are adjourned, one never knows with any degree of certainty to an hour or so when labor will be resumed, notwithstanding the hour is solemnly announced from the East with the addition of the word "sharp" rendered emphatic until you come to practically realize its emptiness. Here in this way is practically wasted several valuable hours a day, the employment of which would much facilitate business and tend to conserve the good tempers of anxious brethren. Every one knows in how much better a state of mind a man is to transact business when he approaches it free from annoyance, than he can possibly be when he is exasperated by the want of punctuality of those whose appearance he is obliged to wait for, and nothing so aggravates the soul of a punctual man as to have his time frittered away by the shiftlessness of those who have never learned that "time and tide wait for no man," and from all appearances are never likely to appreciate the value of a lost quarter of an hour, and seem to fancy that to you it is also a matter of supreme indifference. Another defect in management is not fixing, on the first day of meeting, a set time for the election of officers for the ensuing year. To me it appears that the time most suitable would be on the first day, say at eight o'clock p. m., announcement of which should be made early, or could be placed on the "agenda" usually enclosed with each summons. Everyone then would have due notice, and no one could claim to have been taken by surprise and thus deprived of his right to vote. Outside delegates could have no objection to this idea—they are sent and come to devote their whole time and attention to Grand Lodge matters, but there are many local men engaged in mercantile pursuits whose time during daylight is not at their own disposal. Some of them may, perhaps, be able to spend an hour or two of daylight at the session, but when many men having votes are employed in one establishment, it is simply impossible for them all to get away together during daytime, but a very large percentage of them can, and do, put in their appearance during the evening session. In any case, when the hour is announced thus early no dissatisfaction can result; other engagements can be put aside for this one, or, if not, no one can claim that a hole and corner job has been perpetrated, or that men were foisted into office by a back door movement.

The foreign Lodge question received what may be termed a passing notice, but from some mysteriously significant hints it was gathered that no long time would

elapse before the difficulty with "Scotland" would be arranged to the satisfaction of all concerned. Those who had faith in the "able seamen" at the helm, and those who believed it was bad policy to swap horses when you are crossing the stream, were contented to wait the developments of the next few days, and are now contentedly waiting for the summons to assemble and ratify the basis of settlement agreed to on both sides, on terms alike creditable to both parties in the strife. Let it not be imagined that either side gloats over the other, but that by a policy of mutual forbearance, and the exercise of brotherly love, that the difficulties in the way have been surmounted, and there now remains but "one mere river to cross" before the actual supremacy will be no longer a thing on paper, but *in fait accompli*, and this, thanks to the moderation and good sense of leading men on both sides. I believe the warm welcome that will be afforded these brethren will make them regret they so long spurned the olive branch of peace so cordially tendered them, and that they were not long ago with us and of us. In any case, we are pleased that brotherly love reigns once more, and pray may it long be continued. We will now "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." May we never lose sight of this lesson.

It is a matter of congratulation that the motion to make our Grand Lodge itinerant did not succeed. Other reasons apart, it appears that Montreal is the most convenient point, being more easy of access, and affording better hotel accommodation. It would appear, too, to be the experience of some of the oldest Grand Lodges in the world to have their annual meetings in one fixed place. No doubt the columns of the CRAFTSMAN would be available to any brother desirous of pointing out the benefits to accrue from the suggested change. Any matter of supposed probable benefit to the Craft should not be hastily disposed of.

Fraternally Yours,

TIMOTHY RIDICULE.

Montreal, Oct., 1880.

[The pages of the CRAFTSMAN are always open for the discussion of matters of interest to the Craft, and we shall be glad to hear from any of our brethren desirous of expressing their views on this or other equally important subjects.—ED. CR.]

For want of space we are compelled to hold over until our next issue a lengthy account of the centenary of Masonry in Nova Scotia. We prefer doing this to condensing the proceedings, believing our Nova

Scotia brethren would prefer having the full particulars in a form they can preserve.

TORONTO DISTRICT.—The D.D.G.M., R. W. Bro. Saunders, accompanied by V. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, W. Bro. Vair, and Bros. Posltethwaite, W. Roaf and Eakins, paid an official visit on the 12th inst., to Sharon Lodge, No. 97, Sharon. The Lodge, though small, makes up in enthusiasm for the paucity of its membership, and from amongst its Brethren have formed a Masonic Band, in order to assist in the ceremonies, and otherwise aid their Lodge. The visiting Brethren, by request, assumed the chairs of W. M., S. W., and J. W., V. W. Bro. Robertson conferring the 2nd degree, and W. Bro. Vair the 3rd. The W. M., Bro. Weyling, was ably assisted by the Officers and Brethren of Sharon Lodge in doing everything possible for the reception and comfort of the visitors, who were also serenaded by the band of the Lodge, and they left with the feeling that they were "sorry to part" from, and would be "happy to meet again" the hospitable Brethren of Sharon Lodge.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. J. Hale Powers & Co, Publishers, Cincinnati, O., for a handsome chromo of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in his Regalia as M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England. The picture is a very fine one, and should have a large sale among the members of the Craft in Canada. The same firm have also sent us a very fine half-chromo Master Mason's chart, which is executed in a most artistic manner. Both of the above are among the best specimens of this kind of work we have seen in a long time, and reflect the highest credit on the engraver and publishers.

In this issue we complete a series of articles on the "Working Tools of a Freemason," by G. F., Jr. We are sure they have been read with great interest by our readers, who will be gratified to learn that this able writer has promised a second series on the "Working Tools" used in the Chapter.