

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Lodge

OF

ANCIENT . FREE . AND . ACCEPTED . MASONS,

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

VOL. XVIII.

1900 AND 1901.



PORTLAND :
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1901.

GRAND ✦ LODGE ✦ OF ✦ MAINE.

— 1900 —

Eighty-first Annual Communication.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
Tuesday, May 1, 1900. }

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine, met in Annual Communication in Corinthian Hall, at nine in the morning.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	Grand Master;
R. W. ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	Deputy Grand Master;
“ WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,	Senior Grand Warden;
“ FRANKLIN R. REDLON,	Junior Grand Warden;
“ MARQUIS F. KING,	Grand Treasurer;
“ STEPHEN BERRY,	Grand Secretary;
“ CHARLES D. SMITH,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. EDWIN C. DUDLEY,	Grand Marshal;
“ ERMON D. EASTMAN,	“ Senior Deacon;
“ CHARLES W. CROSBY,	“ Junior Deacon;
“ JAMES E. KINGSLEY,	“ Steward;
“ ROBERT W. CARR,	“ “
“ ALBERT M. AMES,	“ “
“ WILLIAM N. HOWE,	“ Sword Bearer;
“ LEVI E. JONES,	“ Stan'rd Bearer;
M. W. FRANK E. SLEEPER,	“ Lecturer;
W. WALTER S. SMITH,	“ Organist;
“ WARREN O. CARNEY,	“ Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by Bro. MURRAY B. WATSON, as Grand Chaplain.

On motion of Bro. JOSEPH A. LOCKE,

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the records of the last annual communication, and that as printed they be confirmed.

Voted, That the Grand Tyler be authorized to employ assistants, not exceeding three, to aid him in the work of his office during the session of the Grand Lodge, and that the Committee on Pay Roll be authorized to place the names of such employees upon the pay roll, and that they receive the usual *per diem* for their services.

Voted, That an Assistant Grand Secretary be appointed for this communication.

Bro. ARTHUR H. BERRY was appointed Assistant Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master ordered that all Master Masons, in good standing, be admitted as visitors during this communication.

CREDENTIALS.

Bro. WILLIAM N. HOWE presented the report of the Committee on Credentials, as follows:

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, }
MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 1, 1900. }

Your Committee on Credentials have attended to their duties, and ask leave to report that they find the lodges represented as follows:

- 1 *Portland*, by Thomas E. McDonald, M; Charles C. Berry, SW; George H. Allan, JW.
- 2 *Warren*, by Francis L. Talbot, M.
- 3 ——— *Lincoln*, not represented.
- 4 *Hancock*, by J. Walter Weeks, M.
- 5 *Kennebec*, by James J. Jones, Proxy.
- 6 *Amity*, by William H. Eells, Proxy.

- 7 *Eastern*, by Warren S. Kane, M; Walter F. Bradish, Proxy.
- 8 *United*, by Edward H. Willis, Proxy.
- 9 *Saco*, by Philip C. Tapley, M.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, by Daniel W. Maxfield, Proxy.
- 11 *Pythagorean*, by Tobias L. Eastman, Proxy.
- 12 *Cumberland*, by Frank W. Winter, M; Newell P. Haskell, SW; Chas. E. Robinson, Proxy.
- 13 *Oriental*, by Frank A. Webb, M; Luther F. McKenney, Proxy.
- 14 *Solar*, by Walter S. Glidden, SW; John Scott, JW; W. Scott Shorey, Proxy.
- 15 *Orient*, by George H. Gardiner, Proxy.
- 16 *St. George*, by Oscar E. Starrett, Proxy.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, by Winslow E. Howell, M; Charles F. Tobie, SW; Frank C. Allen, JW; George H. Owen, Proxy.
- 18 *Oxford*, by William J. Jones, M; Herman L. Bartlett, SW; George Hazen, JW; George W. Holmes, Proxy.
- 19 *Felicity*, by James M. Nevens, Proxy.
- 20 *Maine*, by William M. Pratt, M; Elvarus A. Russell, SW.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, by David C. Searles, Proxy.
- 22 *York*, by Charles H. Cole, Proxy.
- 23 *Freeport*, by Ernest E. Pinkham, M.
- 24 *Phoenix*, by Clifford J. Pattee, JW.
- 25 *Temple*, by Levi Elwood Jones, Proxy.
- 26 *Village*, by Charles L. Mosher, Proxy.
- 27 *Adoniram*, by Joshua W. Small, Proxy.
- 28 *Northern Star*, by Fred S. Parsons, Proxy.
- 29 *Tranquil*, by Lavator O. Morse, M; Murray B. Watson, SW; Charles E. Merrill, Proxy.
- 30 *Blazing Star*, by John J. Calhoun, M; Fred A. Porter, Proxy.
- 31 *Union*, by George C. Hawes, M.
- 32 *Hermon*, by Fred. D. Loring, M; James M. Larrabee, Proxy.
- 33 *Waterville*, by John M. Webber, M.
- 34 *Somerset*, by Amos K. Butler, JW; W. R. G. Estes, Proxy.
- 35 *Bethlehem*, by James E. Kingsley, M; Waterman N. Redmond, SW; George W. Williams, JW; Fred'k W. Plaisted, Proxy.
- 36 *Casco*, by Edwin M. White, M; Louis P. Pomeroy, SW.
- 37 ——— *Washington*, not represented.
- 38 *Harmony*, by Stephen P. Libby, Proxy.
- 39 *Penobscot*, by E. H. Witham, Proxy.
- 40 *Lygonia*, by Elvert E. Barker, M; James E. Parsons, Proxy.
- 41 *Morning Star*, by Thomas T. Jenkins, M.
- 42 *Freedom*, by Autine W. Sawyer, SW.

- 43 *Alna*, by George H. Weeks, Proxy.
- 44 *Piscataquis*, by Will S. Owen, Proxy.
- 45 *Central*, by Gustavus J. Nelson, M; Willis W. Washburn, Proxy.
- 46 *St. Croix*, by William H. Keene, M.
- 47 *Dunlap*, by Frederick P. Abbott, Proxy.
- 48 *Lafayette*, by Ellsworth E. Peacock, M.
- 49 *Meridian Splendor*, by Wilson M. Stuart, M.
- 50 *Aurora*, by Asa P. St. Clair, Proxy.
- 51 *St. John's*, by Edward A. Chelsey, Proxy.
- 52 *Mosaic*, by William M. Steward, M.
- 53 *Rural*, by William P. Marble, M; Joseph E. Nash, SW.
- 54 *Vassalboro*, by Joseph Wall, M; Charles H. Lightbody, SW.
- 55 *Fraternal*, by John M. Akers, Proxy.
- 56 *Mount Moriah*, by Almon P. Pingree, M; Luther Trumbull, SW.
- 57 *King Hiram*, by William F. Putnam, Proxy.
- 58 *Unity*, by Albert W. Ward, Proxy.
- 59 *Mount Hope*,—*Charter surrendered 1879*.
- 60 *Star in the East*, by John H. Morrison, Proxy.
- 61 ———*King Solomon's*, not represented.
- 62 ———*King David's*, not represented.
- 63 *Richmond*, by Henry K. Stinson, M.
- 64 *Pacific*, by Stilman J. Ridlon, M.
- 65 *Mystic*, by Sumner D. Greeley, M.
- 66 *Mechanics'*, by Robert M. Hutchinson, M; Anson A. Powers, SW.
- 67 *Blue Mountain*, by Daniel F. Field, M.
- 68 *Mariners'*, by James E. Wentworth, M.
- 69 *Howard*, by Frank W. Haley, JW; Lewis Atwood, Proxy.
- 70 *Standish*, by William S. Thompson, M.
- 71 *Rising Sun*, by Ashur B. Hutchins, M.
- 72 *Pioneer*, by George H. McNally, Proxy.
- 73 *Tyrian*, by Fred E. Dwinal, Proxy.
- 74 *Bristol*, by Calvin V. Robbins, Proxy.
- 75 *Plymouth*, by Walter G. Loud, M.
- 76 *Arundel*, by W. Francis Goodwin, Proxy.
- 77 *Tremont*, by Eben F. Richardson, Proxy.
- 78 *Crescent*, by Alvra W. Leighton, SW.
- 79 *Rockland*, by Jacob R. Stewart, Proxy.
- 80 *Keystone*, by Leander F. McIntyre, M; Corydon Felsler, Proxy.
- 81 *Atlantic*, by James E. Leighton, M; Fred H. Cobb, SW; Elihu H. Rice,
JW.
- 82 *St. Paul's*, by Perry B. Cooper, Proxy.
- 83 *St. Andrew's*, by George M. Fletcher, Proxy.

- 84 *Eureka*, by Charles G. Crocker, M.
- 85 *Star in the West*, by E. D. Chase, SW.
- 86 *Temple*, by Oliver A. Cobb, Proxy.
- 87 *Benevolent*, by Camillus K. Johnson, Proxy.
- 88 *Narraguagus*, by Phineas B. Guptill, M.
- 89 *Island*, by Edwin S. Preble, M.
- 90 *Hiran Abiff*,—*Charter revoked 1868*.
- 91 *Harwood*, by Willis H. Allen, M.
- 92 *Siloam*, by George G. Weeks, M.
- 93 *Horeb*, by Benjamin H. Chesley, Proxy.
- 94 *Paris*, by A. C. Thomas King, Proxy.
- 95 *Corinthian*, by Lynne H. Blanchard, M; Edward G. Varney, Proxy.
- 96 *Monument*, by George A. Gorham, Jr., Proxy.
- 97 *Bethel*, by Newton E. Richardson, M; Herbert C. Rowe, JW; Charles Mason, Proxy.
- 98 *Katahdin*, by John Jackman, M.
- 99 ——— *Vernon Valley*, not represented.
- 100 ——— *Jefferson*, not represented.
- 101 *Nezinscot*, by Harry W. Burlin, M; Francis T. Faulkner, Proxy.
- 102 *Marsh River*, by Forrest K. Roberts, M.
- 103 *Dresden*, by John S. Snow, JW.
- 104 *Dirigo*, by Alonzo D. Miller, Proxy.
- 105 *Ashlar*, by Lewis V. Winship, M.
- 106 *Tuscan*, by James H. Leighton, M.
- 107 *Day Spring*, by Ai Q. Mitchell, Proxy.
- 108 *Relief*—*Charter recalled 1894*.
- 109 ——— *Mount Kinzo*, not represented.
- 110 *Monmouth*, by Horace S. Bent, M.
- 111 *Liberty*, by Percy Leman, M.
- 112 *Eastern Frontier*, by Chandler C. Harvey, M.
- 113 *Messalonskee*, by Orestes E. Crowell, Proxy.
- 114 *Polar Star*, by John W. Ballou, Proxy.
- 115 *Buxton*, by John Berryman, Proxy.
- 116 *Lebanon*, by George E. Porter, Proxy.
- 117 *Greenleaf*, by William R. Copp, M; James C. Ayer, Proxy.
- 118 ——— *Drummond*, not represented.
- 119 *Pownal*, by Albert M. Ames, Proxy.
- 120 *Meduncook*,—*Charter surrendered, 1884*.
- 121 *Acacia*, by William D. Trufant, M.
- 122 *Marine*, by Frank A. Gross, M.
- 123 *Franklin*, by James H. Howes, Proxy.
- 124 *Olive Branch*, by Henry D. Worth, M.

- 125 *Meridian*, by Leon L. Libby, Proxy.
- 126 ——— *Timothy Chase*, not represented.
- 127 *Presumpscot*, by Harrison R. Waterhouse, Proxy.
- 128 *Eggemoggin*, by Fred J. Sargent, M.
- 129 *Quantabacook*, by Edwin R. Keene, M.
- 130 *Trinity*, by Leon S. Howe, M.
- 131 *Lookout*, by Merritt G. Huntley, SW.
- 132 *Mount Tir'em*, by Daniel Brown, Proxy.
- 133 *Asylum*, by J. Putnam Stevens, M; Charles W. Crosby, Proxy.
- 134 *Trojan*,—*Consolidated with Star in the West Lodge, No. 85, in 1888.*
- 135 *Riverside*, by Charles W. Besse, SW.
- 136 *Ionic*,—*Charter surrendered in 1882.*
- 137 *Kenduskeag*, by F. Ernest Harvey, M.
- 138 *Lewy's Island*, by Theodore Morrison, M.
- 139 *Archon*, by Charles Hale Thurlow, M.
- 140 *Mount Desert*, by Melville L. Allen, M.
- 141 *Augusta*, by Charles W. Fletcher, M; Irving O. Gage, SW.
- 142 *Ocean*, by Charles H. Brown, M.
- 143 *Preble*, by Charles S. Holmes, Proxy.
- 144 *Seaside*, by Oscar S. Yates, Proxy.
- 145 *Moses Webster*, by Claes E. Bowman, M; Llewellyn F. Arey, Proxy.
- 146 *Sebasticook*, by John H. McGorrill, Proxy.
- 147 *Evening Star*, by Alfred Cole, Proxy.
- 148 *Forest*, by Hiram Stevens, Proxy.
- 149 *Doric*, by Walter C. Jackson, M; Edward P. Blanchard, SW.
- 150 *Rabboni*, by Frank A. Conant, SW.
- 151 *Eccelsior*, by Albert W. Hasson, Proxy.
- 152 *Crooked River*, by Sumner J. Skillings, Proxy.
- 153 *Delta*, by John A. Farrington, Proxy.
- 154 *Mystic Tie*, by George N. Coburn, SW; Eugene S. Twaddle, Proxy.
- 155 *Ancient York*, by Lora I. Philbrook, SW; William H. Douglas, JW;
Harry E. Plummer, Proxy.
- 156 *Wilton*, by Daniel J. Norton, M.
- 157 *Cambridge*, by Jacob T. Brown, Proxy.
- 158 *Anchor*, by Austin S. Thompson, JW.
- 159 *Esoteric*, by Albert K. Cushman, M.
- 160 *Parian*, by John E. Gray, Proxy.
- 161 *Carrabassett*, by Alpheus Nason, M; Ivory Lowe, Proxy.
- 162 *Arion*, by George H. Moore, Proxy.
- 163 *Pleasant River*, by Austin W. Sherburne, M.
- 164 *Webster*, by George W. Jordan, Proxy.
- 165 *Molunkus*, by John W. Caldwell, Proxy.

- 166 *Neguemkeag*, by George S. Perkins, JW.
 167 *Whitney*, by Herbert J. DeShon, Proxy.
 168 *Composite*, by Perley E. Speed, SW.
 169 *Shepherd's River*, by John Grafton, Proxy.
 170 *Caribou*, by Arthur A. Garden, SW.
 171 *Naskeag*, by Stephen E. McFarland, M.
 172 *Pine Tree*, by William H. Bither, JW.
 173 ————*Pleiades*, not represented.
 174 *Lynde*, by Frank H. Jewell, M.
 175 *Baskahegan*, by David C. Parker, Proxy.
 176 *Palestine*,—*Consolidated with Dunlap, No. 47, Sept. 23, 1895.*
 177 ————*Rising Star*, not represented.
 178 *Ancient Brothers'*, by John R. Webber, M; Albert M. Penley, Proxy.
 179 *Yorkshire*, by William B. Littlefield, Proxy.
 180 *Hiram*, by Frank I. Brown, M; Albert A. Cole, Proxy.
 181 *Reuel Washburn*,—*Consolidated with Oriental Star, No. 21, in 1882.*
 182 *Granite*, by Willard E. Bryant, Proxy.
 183 *Deering*, by Walter S. Coleman, M; Silas B. Adams, SW; Chas. D. Moses, JW; Francis E. Chase, Proxy.
 184 *Naval*, by Horace Mitchell, Proxy.
 185 *Bar Harbor*, by Eben K. Whittaker, M; Frank M. Conners, Proxy.
 186 *Warren Phillips*, not represented.
 187 *Ira Berry*, by Otis Littlefield, M; Ithamar E. Stanley, Proxy.
 188 *Jonesport*, by Samuel B. Cummings, M.
 189 *Knox*, by Arthur F. Sellers, M.
 190 *Springvale*, by William J. Gowen, JW.
 191 *Davis*, by Oscar Sweet, M; Chas. B. Richardson, Proxy.
 192 *Winter Harbor*, by Amos E. Small, M; Charles H. Davis, SW.
 193 *Washburn*, by Frank Gould, M.
 194 *Euclid*, by Omer D. Eames, M.
 195 *Reliance*, by Rollins Y. Stinson, Proxy.
 196 *Bay View*, by Edward Whitehouse, Proxy.
 197 *Aroostook*, by John M. Ramsey, Proxy.
 198 ————*St. Aspinquid*, not represented.
 199 *Bingham*, by David G. Bean, JW.
 200 *Columbia*, by Hiram Hunt, M; James E. Bigney, Proxy.
 201 *David A. Hooper*, by Gilbert F. Hooper, SW.
 202 *Mount Bigelow*, by Walter E. Hinds, M.
 203 *Mount Olivet*, by Thomas Sukeforth, M.

Number of chartered lodges, 195; represented, 183; delegates, 239.

Your committee further finds that the following Permanent Members are present:

M. W.	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. G. M.
"	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ALBRO E. CHASE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HORACE H. BURBANK,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	JOSEPH A. LOCKE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
R. W.	THADDEUS R. SIMONTON,	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. S. G. W.
"	SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	LEANDER M. KENNISTON,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	DANIEL P. BOYNTON,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	GEORGE R. SHAW,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HERBERT HARRIS,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ALBERT M. PENLEY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ELMER P. SPOFFORD,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	JOHN W. BALLOU,	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. J. G. W.
"	A. M. WETHERBEE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ARCHIE LEE TALBOT,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ALGERNON M. ROAK,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	EDMUND B. MALLET,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	SAMUEL L. MILLER,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HOWARD D. SMITH,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	WM. FREEMAN LORD,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	GUSTAVUS H. CARGILL,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	MOSES TAIT,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	BENJAMIN L. HADLEY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ENOCH O. GREENLEAF,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	MILLARD M. CASWELL,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"

And Grand Officers as follows:

M. W.	WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	- - -	Grand Master.
R. W.	ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	- - -	Deputy Grand Master.
"	WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,	- - -	Senior Grand Warden.
"	FRANKLIN R. REDLON,	- - -	Junior Grand Warden.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	- - -	Grand Treasurer.
"	STEPHEN BERRY,	- - -	Grand Secretary.
"	CHARLES D. SMITH,	- - -	Cor. Grand Secretary.
"	ALFRED SMALL,	- - -	D. D. G. M. 2d Dist.
"	DAVID W. CAMPBELL,	- - -	" 3d "
"	THEODORE A. SMITH,	- - -	" 4th "
"	ADELBERT MILLETT,	- - -	" 7th "
"	S. AUGUSTUS PARKER,	- - -	" 8th "
"	CHAS. E. MESERVEY,	- - - as	" 9th "
"	JOHN R. McDOUGALL,	- - -	" 10th "
"	CHARLES B. ADAMS,	- - -	" 11th "
"	JAMES H. WITHERELL,	- - -	" 12th "
"	GRANVILLE D. PERKINS,	- - -	" 13th "
"	FREEMAN M. GRANT,	- - -	" 14th "
"	FRED RAYMOND,	- - -	" 15th "
"	ALBERT H. BURROUGHS,	- - -	" 17th "
"	ISAAC F. JEWETT,	- - -	" 18th "
"	EVERETT M. STAPLES,	- - -	" 19th "
"	PHILIP J. MILLS,	- - -	" 20th "
"	CHAS. F. PAINE,	- - -	" 21st "
"	MILTON L. MERRILL,	- - -	" 22d "
"	GEORGE H. GODING,	- - -	" 24th "
"	J. FRANK BRYSON,	- - -	" 25th "
W. & Rev.	GEORGE F. DEGAN,	- - -	Grand Chaplain.
W.	EDWIN C. DUDLEY,	- - -	" Marshal.
"	ERMON D. EASTMAN,	- - -	" Senior Deacon.
"	CHARLES W. CROSBY,	- - -	" Junior Deacon.
"	JAMES E. KINGSLEY,	- - -	" Steward.
"	ROBERT W. CARR,	- - -	" "
"	ALBERT M. AMES,	- - -	" "
"	WILLIAM N. HOWE,	- - -	" Sword Bearer.
"	LEVI E. JONES,	- - -	" Stand'd Bearer.
M. W.	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	- - -	" Lecturer.
W.	WALTER S. SMITH,	- - -	" Organist.
"	WARREN O. CARNEY,	- - -	" Tyler.

There are also present the following Grand Representatives from other Grand Lodges:

Alabama—	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Nebraska—	EDWARD P. BURNHAM.
Arizona—	AUGUSTUS BAILEY.	Nevada—	LEANDER M. KENNISTON.
Arkansas—	JOHN W. BALLOU.	N. Hampshire—	HOWARD D. SMITH.
Belgium—	ELMER P. SPOFFORD.	New Jersey—	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
British Columbia—		New York—	MARQUIS F. KING.
	THADDEUS R. SIMONTON.	New Zealand—	HERBERT HARRIS.
California—	HENRY R. TAYLOR.	North Carolina—	WM. R. G. ESTES.
Canada—	SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE.	North Dakota—	ALGERNON M. ROAK.
Colorado—	FRANK E. SLEEPER.	Nova Scotia—	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Delaware—	AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM.	Ohio—	WILLIAM J. BURNHAM.
Dist. of Columbia—	STEPHEN BERRY.	Oregon—	ERMON D. EASTMAN.
Florida—	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Peru—	ALFRED S. KIMBALL.
Georgia—	“ “ “	Quebec—	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Idaho—	ALBRO E. CHASE.	Rhode Island—	HORACE H. BURBANK.
Illinois—	JOSEPH A. LOCKE.	South Dakota—	
Indian Territory—			FRANCIS T. FAULKNER.
	JOSEPH M. HAYES.	Tennessee—	HUGH R. CHAPLIN.
Kansas—	ARCHIE LEE TALBOT.	Texas—	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Louisiana—	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Vermont—	GEORGE R. SHAW.
Manitoba—	A. M. WETHERBEE.	Virginia—	WINFIELD S. CHOATE.
Maryland—	SAMUEL L. MILLER.	Washington—	ENOCH O. GREENLEAF.
Michigan—	FESSENDEN I. DAY.	West Virginia—	ALBERT M. PENLEY.
Mississippi—	CHAS. I. COLLAMORE.	Wisconsin—	EDMUND B. MALLET.
Missouri—	DANIEL P. BOYNTON.		

Fraternally submitted,

WM. N. HOWE,	} Committee.
CHARLES B. ADAMS,	
FRANCIS L. TALBOT,	

The report was accepted and permission was given to the committee to add and amend.

The Grand Master then appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Doings of the Grand Officers.

HENRY R. TAYLOR, JOSEPH A. LOCKE, HOWARD D. SMITH.

On the Pay Roll.

A. C. T. KING, WALTER S. GLIDDEN, CHARLES W. FLETCHER.

On Unfinished Business.

JOSEPH M. HAYES, ALBERT M. PENLEY, ENOCH O. GREENLEAF.

TRANSPORTATION.

BRO. STEPHEN BERRY submitted the following report, which was accepted :

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, Tuesday, May 1, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Transportation made the usual arrangements with railroad and steamboat lines, and the lodges and members were notified of the terms. Fraternaly submitted,

STEPHEN BERRY,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
W. FREEMAN LORD,		
CHARLES M. SLEEPER,		

The Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge :

As the accredited representatives of the more than twenty-two thousand Free and Accepted Masons of our State, we have again assembled in annual communication, to give an account of our stewardship, to decide such questions as may be presented for our determination, and to legislate for the best interests of the craft.

To one and all I extend a most cordial greeting. While the "ancient landmarks" of our institution are to be carefully preserved, and its fundamental principles guarded from innovation, it is equally true that we must meet the changing relations of life by new methods and new laws. No human government or institution ever came from its makers calculated to meet all the conditions of its future existence. Fundamental principles may and do remain, but to carry those into full effect will require new methods and new laws.

The constitution of our country, founded upon the principles of freedom and equal rights, has been amended from time to time to meet new conditions and new issues. And so with Masonry, while we pledge our unqualified allegiance to its great truths, we must, to perpetuate those truths, add to and change our constitution and laws, as the necessities of the time may require.

All such legislation should be with that conservatism and sound judgment which has ever been a distinguishing characteristic of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and adopted only after the most careful and mature consideration.

Before entering upon the active business of the Grand Lodge, it is meet that we pause to pay loving tribute to the memory of those, our brethren, whose journeys here have ended, who have laid aside their working tools and are at rest.

On April 6th, I received notice of the death of our Senior Past Grand Master, Hiram Chase, at his home in Belfast.

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Your committee further finds that the following Permanent Members are present:

M. W.	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. G. M.
"	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ALBRO E. CHASE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HORACE H. BURBANK,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	JOSEPH A. LOCKE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
R. W.	THADDEUS R. SIMONTON.	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. S. G. W.
"	SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	LEANDER M. KENNISTON,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	DANIEL P. BOYNTON,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	GEORGE R. SHAW,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HERBERT HARRIS,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ALBERT M. PENLEY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ELMER P. SPOFFORD,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	JOHN W. BALLOU,	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. J. G. W.
"	A. M. WETHERBEE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ARCHIE LEE TALBOT,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ALGERNON M. ROAK,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	EDMUND B. MALLET,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	SAMUEL L. MILLER,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	HOWARD D. SMITH,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	WM. FREEMAN LORD,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	GUSTAVUS H. CARGILL,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	MOSES TAIT,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	BENJAMIN L. HADLEY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	ENOCH O. GREENLEAF,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"
"	MILLARD M. CASWELL,	-	-	-	-	-	-	"

And Grand Officers as follows:

M. W.	WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	- - -	Grand Master.
R. W.	ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	- - -	Deputy Grand Master.
"	WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,	- - -	Senior Grand Warden.
"	FRANKLIN R. REDLON,	- - -	Junior Grand Warden.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	- - -	Grand Treasurer.
"	STEPHEN BERRY,	- - -	Grand Secretary.
"	CHARLES D. SMITH,	- - -	Cor. Grand Secretary.
"	ALFRED SMALL,	- - -	D. D. G. M. 2d Dist.
"	DAVID W. CAMPBELL,	- - -	" 3d "
"	THEODORE A. SMITH,	- - -	" 4th "
"	ADELBERT MILLETT,	- - -	" 7th "
"	S. AUGUSTUS PARKER,	- - -	" 8th "
"	CHAS. E. MESERVEY,	- - - as	" 9th "
"	JOHN R. MCDUGALL,	- - -	" 10th "
"	CHARLES B. ADAMS,	- - -	" 11th "
"	JAMES H. WITHERELL,	- - -	" 12th "
"	GRANVILLE D. PERKINS,	- - -	" 13th "
"	FREEMAN M. GRANT,	- - -	" 14th "
"	FRED RAYMOND,	- - -	" 15th "
"	ALBERT H. BURROUGHS,	- - -	" 17th "
"	ISAAC F. JEWETT,	- - -	" 18th "
"	EVERETT M. STAPLES,	- - -	" 19th "
"	PHILIP J. MILLS,	- - -	" 20th "
"	CHAS. F. PAINE,	- - -	" 21st "
"	MILTON L. MERRILL,	- - -	" 22d "
"	GEORGE H. GODING,	- - -	" 24th "
"	J. FRANK BRYSON,	- - -	" 25th "
W. & Rev.	GEORGE F. DEGAN,	- - -	Grand Chaplain.
W.	EDWIN C. DUDLEY,	- - -	" Marshal.
"	ERMON D. EASTMAN,	- - -	" Senior Deacon.
"	CHARLES W. CROSBY,	- - -	" Junior Deacon.
"	JAMES E. KINGSLEY,	- - -	" Steward.
"	ROBERT W. CARR,	- - -	" "
"	ALBERT M. AMES,	- - -	" "
"	WILLIAM N. HOWE,	- - -	" Sword Bearer.
"	LEVI E. JONES,	- - -	" Stand'd Bearer.
M. W.	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	- - -	" Lecturer.
W.	WALTER S. SMITH,	- - -	" Organist.
"	WARREN O. CARNEY,	- - -	" Tyler.

There are also present the following Grand Representatives from other Grand Lodges:

Alabama—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Nebraska—EDWARD P. BURNHAM.
Arizona—AUGUSTUS BAILEY.	Nevada—LEANDER M. KENNISTON.
Arkansas—JOHN W. BALLOU.	N. Hampshire—HOWARD D. SMITH.
Belgium—ELMER P. SPOFFORD.	New Jersey—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
British Columbia—	New York—MARQUIS F. KING.
THADDEUS R. SIMONTON.	New Zealand—HERBERT HARRIS.
California—HENRY R. TAYLOR.	North Carolina—WM. R. G. ESTES.
Canada—SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE.	North Dakota—ALGERNON M. ROAK.
Colorado—FRANK E. SLEEPER.	Nova Scotia—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Delaware—AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM.	Ohio—WILLIAM J. BURNHAM.
Dist. of Columbia—STEPHEN BERRY.	Oregon—ERMON D. EASTMAN.
Florida—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Peru—ALFRED S. KIMBALL.
Georgia— " " "	Quebec—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Idaho—ALBRO E. CHASE.	Rhode Island—HORACE H. BURBANK.
Illinois—JOSEPH A. LOCKE.	South Dakota—
Indian Territory—	FRANCIS T. FAULKNER.
JOSEPH M. HAYES.	Tennessee—HUGH R. CHAPLIN.
Kansas—ARCHIE LEE TALBOT.	Texas—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Louisiana—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Vermont—GEORGE R. SHAW.
Manitoba—A. M. WETHERBEE.	Virginia—WINFIELD S. CHOATE.
Maryland—SAMUEL L. MILLER.	Washington—ENOCH O. GREENLEAF.
Michigan—FESSENDEN I. DAY.	West Virginia—ALBERT M. PENLEY.
Mississippi—CHAS. I. COLLAMORE.	Wisconsin—EDMUND B. MALLET.
Missouri—DANIEL P. BOYNTON.	

Fraternally submitted,

WM. N. HOWE,	} Committee
CHARLES B. ADAMS,	
FRANCIS L. TALBOT,	

The report was accepted and permission was given to the committee to add and amend.

The Grand Master then appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Doings of the Grand Officers.

HENRY R. TAYLOR, JOSEPH A. LOCKE, HOWARD D. SMITH.

On the Pay Roll.

A. C. T. KING, WALTER S. GLIDDEN, CHARLES W. FLETCHER.

On Unfinished Business.

JOSEPH M. HAYES, ALBERT M. PENLEY, ENOCH O. GREENLEAF.

TRANSPORTATION.

BRO. STEPHEN BERRY submitted the following report, which was accepted:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, Tuesday, May 1, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Transportation made the usual arrangements with railroad and steamboat lines, and the lodges and members were notified of the terms. Fraternal submitted,

STEPHEN BERRY,	} Committee.
W. FREEMAN LORD,	
CHARLES M. SLEEPER,	

The Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

As the accredited representatives of the more than twenty-two thousand Free and Accepted Masons of our State, we have again assembled in annual communication, to give an account of our stewardship, to decide such questions as may be presented for our determination, and to legislate for the best interests of the craft.

To one and all I extend a most cordial greeting. While the "ancient landmarks" of our institution are to be carefully preserved, and its fundamental principles guarded from innovation, it is equally true that we must meet the changing relations of life by new methods and new laws. No human government or institution ever came from its makers calculated to meet all the conditions of its future existence. Fundamental principles may and do remain, but to carry those into full effect will require new methods and new laws.

The constitution of our country, founded upon the principles of freedom and equal rights, has been amended from time to time to meet new conditions and new issues. And so with Masonry, while we pledge our unqualified allegiance to its great truths, we must, to perpetuate those truths, add to and change our constitution and laws, as the necessities of the time may require.

All such legislation should be with that conservatism and sound judgment which has ever been a distinguishing characteristic of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and adopted only after the most careful and mature consideration.

Before entering upon the active business of the Grand Lodge, it is meet that we pause to pay loving tribute to the memory of those, our brethren, whose journeys here have ended, who have laid aside their working tools and are at rest.

On April 6th, I received notice of the death of our Senior Past Grand Master, Hiram Chase, at his home in Belfast.

It was his wish that the Grand Lodge perform his burial service, and on Sunday, April 8th, at his late residence, assisted by Bro. Frederick W. Plaisted as Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Edwin C. Dudley as Grand Marshal and the brethren of Phœnix Lodge, the full burial service was performed, after which the Grand Lodge accompanied the remains to the cemetery, where the body was placed in the family tomb.

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In Masonry he is best known to us and will be longest remembered. He was made a mason in Phœnix Lodge, December 14, 1846, and from that time until his death he took an active interest in the Institution. The first record of his appearance in the Grand Lodge was in 1849, as Junior Warden of Phœnix Lodge; in 1851, he was present as Master of same lodge and was appointed Grand Pursuivant *pro tem.*; in 1854, as Proxy for his lodge, and that year his father, Timothy Chase, was elected Grand Master; there is no record of his presence in 1850, '52 or '53; in 1855, he was again present as Master of Phœnix Lodge and was appointed Grand Senior Deacon; in 1856, elected Deputy

Grand Master and re-elected in 1857; in 1858 he was elected Grand Master and re-elected in 1859, M. W. Bro. Josiah H. Drummond serving as Deputy Grand Master during those two years; July 5, 1858, he laid the corner stone of the City Hall, Portland, and his address at the banquet which followed, won the highest praise. In the Grand Chapter he was Grand Steward for five years, from 1855 to 1859; Grand Principal Sojourner 1860-61 and '62; Grand Scribe in 1864 and Deputy Grand High Priest in 1865. In the Grand Council he was fourth officer in 1856 and third in 1857 and 1858. At the date of death he was senior member of the Order of High Priesthood. His is the only instance in our Grand Lodge where father and son have occupied the high position of Grand Master. A kind and cordial gentleman, a faithful and uncompromising mason, his friendly greeting and helpful counsel will be greatly missed in our deliberations. He retained his deep interest in our order, and especially in the communications of the Grand Lodge, to the last. Shortly before his death, he said to the attending physician, "Doctor, I am willing to be sick a while, but you must have me well to attend the Grand Lodge the first of May"; but his wish was not to be gratified. The scythe of time cut the brittle thread of life, and we may believe that he now sits in that Celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides, and where his father had gone before him.

"How beautiful it is for a man to die
Upon the walls of Zion! to be called
Like a watch-worn and weary sentinel
To put his armor off, and rest in heaven."

We who know the Grand Lodge and the strength of our order in the State of Maine to-day, with its more than twenty-two thousand members, should not forget the work done by those who preserved and upheld it in its earlier days; when, small in numbers, but strong in character and devotion to principle, they defended our institution against the clamor of popular prejudice and the assaults of religious bigotry.

Happily all that has, in a great measure, passed away; and we

are proud to stand before the world to-day as promoters of good citizenship and right living, and teachers of the broadest principles of charity and brotherly love.

Four hundred of our brethren in subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction have died during the past year; while this is less than the two years preceding, it forcibly reminds us of the uncertainty of life.

While we remember with affection those of our own jurisdiction, we extend to those of our brethren throughout the world, who have met with like afflictions, our sincere sympathy.

I have received the following notices of deaths in our sister and foreign jurisdictions :

ARKANSAS.—James H. Van Hoose died at Fayetteville, May 6th, 1899, aged sixty-eight years. Forty-six years a mason, he was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in 1881; Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter in 1886; and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery in 1878.

Samuel Wright Williams died March 14, 1900, at the age of seventy-three. Made a mason in 1852, he was Grand Master in 1870 and '71; besides this, he held in masonic bodies and civil life many offices of trust and honor.

John J. Sumpter died June 22, 1899, aged fifty-seven years. Made a mason in 1867, he served as Master of his lodge seven years; he was also Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and Grand Council, Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand Commander.

COLORADO.—Tom Linton, known as the "Old Tyler," died in the city of Denver, January 11, 1900; he served as Grand Tyler from 1873 and held subordinate positions in other Grand Bodies.

Byron L. Carr died at Mineral Wells, Texas, April 22, 1899, at the age of fifty-eight years; he held the offices of Grand Master and Grand Commander.

CONNECTICUT.—Dwight Phelps died at Winstead, September 6, 1899, aged sixty-five years; he served as Grand Master in 1878 and Grand High Priest in 1880.

James Henry Welsh died at Danbury, Dec. 16, 1899, aged sixty-nine years. Grand Master in 1896, Grand High Priest in 1882,

Grand Master of Grand Council in 1887 and Grand Commander in 1882.

Clark Buckingham died at Wallingford, March 17, 1900, aged sixty-eight years. Grand Master in 1890.

Thus has Connecticut been called to mourn the death of three Past Grand Masters during the year.

ILLINOIS.—Harrison Dills died at his home in Warrensburg, Mo., Nov. 1, 1899, aged eighty-seven years; elected Grand Master of Illinois, in 1857, and served two years, later was Grand Treasurer for eleven years.

MICHIGAN.—John S. Cross died at his home in Bangor, Mich., Sept. 18, 1899, aged fifty years. He was Grand Master in 1890.

MINNESOTA.—Alphonso Barto died at his home in St. Cloud, Nov. 4, 1899, aged sixty-five years. Grand Master in 1891 and 1892.

MONTANA.—Henry Chapple died Jan. 10, 1900, aged thirty-eight years; in 1897, became Junior Grand Warden.

NEBRASKA.—Christian Hartman, Grand Treasurer of Nebraska Grand Lodge, died Sept. 28, 1899.

William R. Bowen died May 6, 1899, aged sixty-three years; at the time of his death he was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, and Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery.

OREGON.—Robert Clow died at his home in Junction City, Jan. 5, 1900, at the age of sixty-two years. Grand Master in 1877 and 1878.

George M. Stroud died April 14, 1899, in the 73d year of his age. Grand Master in 1881, Grand High Priest in 1893.

Thomas Givings Reames died February 21, 1900. Grand Master in 1885.

WEST VIRGINIA.—Alexander M. Evans died Oct. 16, 1899, aged fifty-seven years; he held the several offices of Grand Master and Grand High Priest.

IDAHO.—Geo. W. Richards, representative of our Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Idaho, died Oct. 30, 1899.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Edward Gustine, our representative near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, died April 4, 1898.

NEW YORK.—William H. Smith, our representative near the Grand Lodge of New York, died during the year.

NEW ZEALAND.—John Joyce, representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine near the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, died Dec. 1, 1899. He had been prominent in Masonry for many years.

NOVA SCOTIA.—Edmund T. Mahon died in Halifax, March 8, 1899, aged sixty-three years. He was Past Deputy Grand Master of Nova Scotia, and had held many other masonic offices.

The memories of these distinguished brethren are held in high esteem by their several jurisdictions, and we join with them in commending their examples to those who come after.

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

From the returns of the several lodges made through the D. D. Grand Masters, it appears the lodges, as a whole, are in a very prosperous condition, the total membership being 22,227, against 22,165, in 1899, a gain of 112; 829 initiated against 710 last year; 764 raised against 702 last year; 78 re-instated against 70 last year; 400 have died against 419 last year.

The reports show the same number of suspensions as last year, 271, 8 deprived of membership and 182 dimitted.

Attention of the brethren has before been called to the large number of suspensions from membership, and the causes suggested to be, carelessness in guarding the Tyler's door and not a sufficiently rigid examination by your committees. In many instances the brethren depend largely on the report of the investigating committee and committees should govern themselves accordingly. While we cheerfully welcome all who have shown themselves worthy, we should take care that the unworthy are rigidly excluded. The strength of this, or any other society, must depend in a great measure upon the character of its members, and all societies are as likely to be judged by their shortcomings, as from the good qualities manifested.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year I have granted dispensations as follows :

For Elections.

March 27, 1900, Polar Star Lodge, No. 114, Bath, to elect Senior Warden.

Nov. 8, 1899, St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, Rockville, to elect Warden.

Jan. 1, 1900, Bay View Lodge, No. 196, East Boothbay, to elect Senior Warden.

Dec. 23, 1899, Mystic Tie Lodge, No. 154, Weld, to elect Senior Warden.

The officer elected in each case declining the office.

Nov. 28, 1899, Drummond Lodge, No. 118, Parsonsfield, to elect all officers at special meeting; the lodge having failed to elect at regular meeting.

To occupy Halls temporarily.

July 13, 1899, Meridian Lodge, No. 125, Pittsfield, to hold meetings in Odd Fellows' Hall, while the lodge hall was undergoing repairs.

Oct. 17, 1899, Lafayette Lodge, No. 48, Readfield, for same.

To appear in public.

To attend church in observance of St. John's Day and other purposes.

June 5, 1899, Rabboni Lodge, No. 150, Lewiston.

June 5, 1899, Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, Wiscasset.

June 1, 1899, Meridian Lodge, No. 125, Pittsfield.

June 10, 1899, Lygonia Lodge, No. 40, Ellsworth.

June 7, 1899, Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, Ellsworth.

May 31, 1899, Bingham Lodge, No. 199, Bingham.

June 23, 1899, Wilton Lodge, No. 156, Wilton.

May 31, 1899, St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, Rockport.

June 24, 1899, Bethlehem Lodge, No. 35, Augusta.

June 28, 1899, Asylum Lodge, No. 133, Wayne.

Dec. 25, 1899, Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, Wiscasset, to appear in

public Jan. 1, 1900, in observance of the anniversary of the death of Washington.

January 9, 1900, Bristol Lodge No. 74, in connection with their installation.

Business at Special Meetings.

Aug. 23, 1899, to Amity Lodge, No. 6, Camden, to transact business at special meeting.

May 9, 1899, to Hermon Lodge, No. 32, Gardiner, to transact business of regular meeting at special meeting to be called for that purpose, and to receive and refer petitions at said special meeting.

June 28, 1899, to Casco Lodge, No. 36, Yarmouth, to receive and refer applications at special meeting.

Residence in Jurisdiction of lodges less than six months.

June 5, 1899, Warren Lodge, No. 2, East Machias.

June 5, 1899, Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport.

Jan. 8, 1900, United Lodge, No. 8, Brunswick, residence in State less than one year.

April 7, 1900, Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, Ellsworth, to confer three degrees on candidate at same meeting.

To receive, refer and ballot on applications at same meeting.

March 9, 1900, Rabboni Lodge, No. 150, Lewiston.

October 21, 1899, Mount Olivet Lodge, No. 203, Washington.

May 27, 1899, Freeport Lodge, No. 23, Freeport.

March 13, 1900, King Solomon's Lodge, No. 61, Waldoboro.

August 14, 1899, Howard Lodge, No. 69, Winterport.

March 2, 1900, Rising Star Lodge, No. 177, Penobscot.

Feb. 15, 1900, Pownal Lodge, No. 119, Stockton Springs.

Sept. 27, 1899, David A. Hooper Lodge, No. 201, West Sullivan.

Dec. 26, 1899, Meridian Lodge, No. 125, Pittsfield.

Dec. 26, 1899, Washington Lodge, No. 37, Lubec.

To receive and refer application at special meeting.

Oct. 21, 1899, Lookout Lodge, No. 131, Cutler.

To ballot on application at special meeting.

August 12, 1899, Hermon Lodge, No. 32, Gardiner.

August 26, 1899, Tuscan Lodge, No. 106, Addison.

DECISIONS.

1. Has a candidate for membership who has been rejected through mistake the right to apply for membership again within six months?

A candidate for membership only, can apply immediately after his rejection, to the same or any other lodge. A candidate for the degrees of Masonry, even though there is supposed to be a mistake in the rejection, must wait the prescribed six months and then make a new application. The record stands that he was rejected and that must govern.

There is no limitation of time within which a brother who has taken a dimit from one lodge must apply to another for membership.

2. A lodge has a by-law exempting honorary members from annual dues, and further providing that Past Masters shall be honorary members.

Question. Can the lodge pass a by-law requiring Past Masters to pay annual dues?

Ans. Yes, as to the future, notwithstanding they have been exempted from dues in the past, but I doubt the power of a lodge to impose dues for the past on those who, under the then existing by-laws, were exempt from dues.

3. Can a masonic lodge appear in a fourth of July procession?

Not as a lodge or with masonic clothing or insignia, but there is no masonic law which will prevent the members of a lodge appearing together on public occasions, but such appearances are not advisable.

4. There is no masonic law limiting the time within which a candidate must present himself for the second degree after having taken the first degree.

5. The power of District Deputy Grand Masters to grant dispensations is entirely taken away by the amendments to the constitution adopted in 1899.

6. A candidate living about midway between two lodges applied to the one which was in fact farther from his residence than the other; his application was accepted, and the first and second degrees conferred, when the accepting lodge was notified by the other lodge that the candidate was in its jurisdiction, but consenting that the lodge who had accepted the candidate might confer the remaining degree, which was done. The question is asked: Of which lodge is the brother a member?

Answer. We must assume, from the statement of the case, that all parties acted in good faith, believing that the lodge which received the application had jurisdiction, and that that lodge, when notified by the other of the true state of facts, proceeded, with the consent of the other, to confer the remaining degree. The lodge which received the application, on being informed of the true state of affairs, should have at once asked for a waiver of jurisdiction in the regular way; but having gone on with the consent of the other, I am of the opinion that it is now too late to raise the question and that the candidate is a member of the lodge conferring the third degree.

7. A Master may call any brother to preside *in his presence and under his direction*, and so long as the Master is present and directing the proceedings of the lodge, the work may go on, but no longer.

8. Has a mason who is suspended for non-payment of dues the *right* to sit in his own or any other lodge?

As the question is put, has a brother "who is suspended for non-payment of dues a *right* to sit in his own or any other lodge," I should answer that if the suspending lodge is within this jurisdiction he has not the *right* to sit in his own or any other lodge in this jurisdiction, yet, while he cannot claim admission as a matter of *right*, if a lodge sees fit they may permit him to visit.

Suspension from membership for non-payment of dues does not suspend from all masonic rights; see Sec. 117 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, which provides that "No lodge shall suspend or expel a mason from the rights of masonry for non-payment of

dues. The penalty of such delinquency shall be forfeiture or suspension of membership."

I have assumed that the suspension referred to is *suspension from membership*, as that is the only suspension permitted by the section of the Constitution referred to.

As to the propriety of admitting a member, suspended from membership for non-payment of dues, it would be well to call to mind Standing Regulation No. 8, wherein Masters are enjoined not to allow any person to visit their respective lodges without being vouched for by some well known brother present, or being found by strict examination *to be a mason in good standing*.

9. The following statement of facts is presented:

An application is presented by a sea captain. He hailed originally from the Provinces, and it had always been his dwelling place when on land until the last few years. For the past three years his wife has been with him on his voyages and his two sons and daughter have been living in this place. He claims his home is upon the sea, but when ashore, if for any length of time, (but it is never above a few weeks) he stops with his daughter at this place. Has the lodge, at place of writing, jurisdiction?

Answer. If the applicant had taken up his residence in your town there would be no difficulty in the matter, but, as you write, he claims his home is upon the sea. Now, we cannot of course recognize that any man can have a residence upon the sea, but disregarding that claim, there is no claim of residence in this state, even when not absent on voyages. The applicant once had a masonic residence in the Provinces, and that he has not lost because he has not moved into this state and taken up his residence here. Courtesy to the Provincial jurisdiction would therefore require that application be made for waiver of jurisdiction.

The foregoing are but a few of the many questions, which have been answered during the year. In this part of my labor, I have not hesitated to call to my aid the ripe judgment of my predecessors, and take this occasion to thank M. W. Brothers Drummond and Locke for their many kindnesses.

CONVENTIONS.

Conventions for instruction in masonic work have been held by M. W. Brother Frank E. Sleeper, Grand Lecturer, at

Biddeford, Tuesday, January 9, 1900.

Pittsfield, Tuesday, January 16, 1900.

Ellsworth, Tuesday, January 23, 1900.

The report of the Grand Lecturer is laid before you for your information.

From the report of the Grand Lecturer and the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, it is manifest that these conventions are of great benefit to the craft in general, and very materially assist the officers of subordinate lodges in their work.

It must be borne in mind that it puts officers of lodges to considerable expense to attend these conventions where but three are held in the whole State. To remedy this somewhat, and to reach more of the officers, I think more should be held; the expense attending would be vastly outweighed by the benefits derived. I would like the expression of the wishes of the Grand Lodge in this matter.

In several of the districts, conventions for instruction have been held, and, judging from the reports, they have been of great benefit; I heartily approve of them, and trust that they may be encouraged by a full attendance of officers.

If district conventions can follow those held by the Grand Lecturer, at which all District Deputies should attend, they together would afford much better opportunities for instruction.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters are submitted for your information and action. In them you will find very interesting information upon the condition of the craft, and valuable suggestion which we should do well to consider.

Among the suggestions to which I would especially call attention, one, probably made before in similar papers, is the examination of candidates in the preceding degrees, before advancement.

This matter is also called to your attention in the report of your Committee on Condition of Fraternity in 1899.

We have a provision in our Constitution, Sec. 104, requiring that No candidate should be permitted to receive the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason, without a sufficient knowledge of the preceding degree, to prove himself as a mason of such degree in the usual manner, unless in case of absolute necessity, but it may be doubted if a constitutional provision will enforce itself without further legislation. Some jurisdictions require a vote of the lodge, after examination, upon advancement, called a vote on proficiency. A provision of this nature would certainly place an additional safeguard for the performance of this important work.

At the time of initiation the whole work is fresh in the mind of the candidate, and he should then reach such a state of proficiency as will impress upon his mind the valuable lesson we seek to inculcate, and enable him to make himself known to the brethren of the craft wherever he may be.

F. L. Oak, appointed District Deputy of the first district, declined, and I appointed Cyrus W. Hendrix in his place. In the 23d district, H. G. Allen declined, and Frank Wilson, of Sanford, was appointed.

BY-LAWS.

I have approved changes in by-laws of the following lodges :

York Lodge, No. 22, Kennebunk.

Revised code of Oxford Lodge, No. 18, Norway.

Island Lodge, No. 89, Islesboro.

Dunlap Lodge, No. 47, Biddeford.

MEXICO.

Circular and Constitution have been received from the Gran Dieta of Mexico and have been turned over to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Masonry seems to be in a somewhat unsettled condition in Mexico, and there seems no other course open but to await the outcome.

EXCHANGE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Nov. 7, 1899, I appointed William C. Howie representative near the Grand Lodge of Idaho, in place of George W. Richards, deceased.

Oct. 24, 1899, I recommended M. W. Fessenden I. Day as representative of Michigan near the Grand Lodge of Maine. This is a re-appointment, as the term of representatives is limited by a regulation of the Grand Lodge of Michigan to three years.

July 12, 1899, I appointed Joseph Warren Fellows, of Manchester, as our representative near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in place of Edward Gustine, deceased.

March 21, 1900, I appointed George A. Benton, of Rochester, our representative near the Grand Lodge of New York, in place of William Howes Smith, deceased.

Under date of Dec. 18, 1899, I received a communication from M. W. Wm. M. Seeman, Grand Master of Washington, inviting an exchange of representatives, and upon his recommendation I appointed Levi Ankeny, Past Grand Master, as our representative near the Grand Lodge of Washington, and nominated R. W. Enoch O. Greenleaf, of Farmington, for appointment as representative of the Grand Lodge of Washington near the Grand Lodge of Maine, at the same time writing M. W. Bro. Seeman that "it is a matter of congratulation to us all, that the former very friendly and fraternal relations existing between these two Grand Jurisdictions has been so fully restored."

June 15, 1900, I appointed Wm. A. Gately, Assistant Grand Secretary, as our representative near the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, in place of George Wallace, resigned.

Jan. 15, 1900, I appointed Albert Krüger, of Anvers, our representative near the Grand Orient of Belgium, and on July 12, 1899, I nominated R. W. Elmer P. Spofford, of Deer Isle, as representative of the Grand Orient of Belgium, near the Grand Lodge of Maine.

March 8, 1900, I appointed R. W. Francis James Smith, of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, as representative of our Grand Lodge, in place of Brother John Joyce, deceased.

WAIVER OF JURISDICTION.

Upon request of Hermon Lodge, No. 32, Gardiner, Puritan Lodge, of Whitman, Mass., courteously granted waiver of jurisdiction over Henry Webster Cook, April, 1900.

Upon request of Polar Star Lodge, No. 114, Bath, Silentia Lodge, No. 198, of Brooklyn, N. Y., granted waiver of jurisdiction over Alexander McMullan, who had received two degrees in that lodge.

Springvale Lodge, No. 190, declined to waive jurisdiction over Joseph McLaughlin, a resident of Lebanon, Maine, in favor of Humane Lodge, No. 21, Rochester, N. H. No fault can be found with the action of Springvale Lodge under all the circumstances; they have several members residing in Lebanon, and therefore feel that they should not make a precedent by waiver over applicants who might reside nearer Humane Lodge.

Upon request of Oxford Lodge, I received, through the Grand Secretary, waiver over candidate by a lodge in Massachusetts. The correspondence was carried on directly between the lodges.

TRIALS.

I received the proceedings and testimony in trial of Paul A. Atherton, from Mount Desert Lodge, No. 140, and, March 28, 1900, referred the same to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals. Some time later I received from the Grand Secretary an appeal by the respondent in the same case, which was also referred to the same committee.

COMPLAINT.

I have received complaint from Somerset Lodge, No. 34, Skowhegan, against Carrabassett Lodge, No. 161, Canaan, for invasion of jurisdiction. Proper notice has been issued by the Grand Secretary, and the matter will come before the Grand Lodge at this communication for its action.

CHARITY FUNDS.

January 12, 1900, I examined the securities of the Charity Fund as reported in Grand Lodge Proceedings 1899, page 307, and find the fund as reported by the Treasurer.

NEW LODGES.

Petition, accompanied by recommendation of the District Deputy Grand Master and the consent of the lodges to be affected, has been received from Kingfield, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

APPLICATION FOR RESTORATION.

Arthur M. Foss, who was indefinitely suspended from all the rights and benefits of Masonry by Bar Harbor Lodge, No. 185, in 1890, now applies to the lodge for restoration. The doings of Bar Harbor Lodge were approved and confirmed; see Proceedings of Grand Lodge 1890, Page 703. This matter having been presented to and acted upon by the lodge before being presented to the Grand Lodge, may be considered a waiver of the notice required by Sec. 54 of the Constitution, it not appearing that the petition was presented to the lodge at the time therein required. The matter has been referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

I have this morning received a communication from the Secretary of Keystone Lodge, relating to a brother claimed to be a member of Keystone Lodge, and also claimed to be a member of Northern Star Lodge, which is submitted.

INSTALLATIONS.

October 30, 1899, I installed the officers of Richmond Lodge, No. 63, at Richmond.

November 28, 1899, I installed the officers of Bethlehem Lodge, No. 35, Augusta, and on January 23, 1900, I installed the officers of Augusta Lodge, No. 141, Augusta.

At each of the installations the brethren provided in the most ample manner for the entertainment of their friends, with music and refreshments.

October 25, 1899, I accepted an invitation to be present at the installation of officers of Rabboni Lodge, Lewiston. After the installation I delivered a short address.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

Sept. 25, 1899, the corner stone of a new Public Library was laid by the Grand Lodge at Clinton. The library is the gift of W. W. Brown, of Portland, to his native town, and is a lasting and beautiful memorial of his love for his old home.

After the corner stone was laid, addresses were delivered by the Grand Master and Bro. Frederick W. Plaisted, of Augusta. Rev. J. A. Weed delivered a historical address, and the people called for the donor, who was most cordially received and made very pleasing remarks.

I was assisted in the ceremony by the brethren of Seabasticook Lodge, and Bros. Fred'k W. Plaisted and W. Bro. E. H. Jones, of Augusta.

At Pittsfield, January 19, 1900, the Grand Lodge dedicated the lodge room of Meridian Lodge, No. 125. I was assisted by Rev. Geo. F. Degan, of Augusta, Grand Chaplain; W. Bro. Edwin C. Dudley, Augusta, as Grand Marshal; Albert M. Ames, Stockton Springs, Grand Steward; L. C. Morse, Liberty, as Grand Deacon; J. M. Simpson, Rumford Falls, as Grand Treasurer, and the brethren of Meridian Lodge.

Our brethren at Pittsfield are to be congratulated upon their beautiful and commodious apartments; it shows that they are alive to their wants and intend to labor earnestly for the advancement of Masonry.

On Feb. 26, 1900, the rooms of Lafayette Lodge, Readfield, were dedicated by the Grand Lodge. Although it was a bitter cold night, I had the assistance of many of the Augusta brethren, the Grand Lodge being constituted as follows:

M. W.	Winfield S. Choate, Augusta,	Grand Master.
W.	Charles W. Jones, Augusta,	as Deputy Grand Master.
	W. G. Boothby, Augusta,	" Grand Senior Warden.
W.	Thos H. Bodge, Augusta,	" " Junior Warden.
	E. A. Morgan, Readfield,	" " Treasurer.
	Daniel Whitehouse, Augusta,	" " Secretary.
W.	Treby Johnson, Augusta,	" " Chaplain.
W.	Edwin C. Dudley, Augusta,	" " Marshal.
	Everett S. Hall, Augusta,	" " Senior Deacon.
R. W.	Chas. W. Crosby, Readfield,	" " Junior Deacon.
	J. E. Harvey, Readfield.	" Architect.
W.	E. H. Jones, Augusta,	" Grand Steward.
	W. H. Davis, Augusta,	" " Steward.
R. W.	H. W. S. Lovejoy, Fairfield,	" " Tyler.

The brethren of Lafayette Lodge did everything in their power to entertain their friends, and I am glad to say that their zeal for the institution does not end in the gratification of material wants, but it has led them to provide for their lodge a home practically new, with new furniture and furnishings equal to any possessed by lodges of its size.

At Patten, March 29, 1900, the Grand Lodge dedicated the new building of Katahdin Lodge. I was assisted by Rt. W. J. Frank Bryson, Houlton, as Deputy Grand Master, W. Edwin C. Dudley, Augusta, as Grand Marshal, and the brethren of Katahdin Lodge.

The occasion of this dedication was made a holiday in Patten, and I am sure the visitors will remember the day with great pleasure.

Katahdin Lodge has done a great work; they have erected a new building, practically all for their own use, and have exhibited excellent judgment in the plan and taste in its decoration.

The hall would not hold the large number of people who desired to witness, at least part of, the exercises. The use of the Methodist church was kindly given and it was filled. The Grand Master delivered an address, after which the dedication took

place; this was followed by a banquet, and in the evening by a concert.

There seems to have been, during the last few years, a very general movement among the lodges of this jurisdiction to provide more commodious and beautiful lodge rooms. I sincerely trust this may continue, and that every lodge will do all it can to make their places of meeting attractive, and in keeping with the institution which we represent.

As Grand Master, I have received many very kind invitations, both in and out of the State, which it has been impossible for me to accept, although it would have given me great pleasure to have done so.

CEREMONIES COMMEMORATING THE ONE HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DEATH OF WASHINGTON.

In accordance with the vote of the Grand Lodge, M. W. Brother Josiah H. Drummond and myself attended at the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, at Alexandria, the evening of Dec. 13th, and at the ceremonies at Mount Vernon, Dec. 14, 1899.

Time will permit me to give to you only a brief account of the ceremonies. Doubtless you all took a deep interest in the observance, and through the public print obtained a full account.

To your representatives they were deeply interesting and most significant, significant not only as demonstrating the deep and lasting hold which the memory of the immortal Washington has upon the hearts of his countrymen, but deeply significant as showing to all who attended, the strong hold which Masonry has upon this nation.

On the evening of Dec. 13th the Grand Lodge of Virginia met at the Opera House, Alexandria. There were present as visitors, many of the representatives from the several Grand Jurisdictions.

The Grand Masters and representatives of the several States were accorded introductions and cordial welcomes, and all acknowledged the honor conferred. At the close of the session, a banquet was served at the Armory, which was filled to its utmost

capacity. On Dec. 14th, the ceremonies at Mount Vernon were held; they consisted of an address by the Grand Master of Colorado, the Grand Lodge of that State having been a leading spirit in originating the observances, followed by masonic services at the tomb, and after that an address by President McKinley from the east front of the house, and an address by the Grand Master of Virginia. Thousands assembled on that day, and the exercises throughout were most impressive. In the evening of the 14th, at Washington, a large reception was held, and this was followed by a banquet given to the Grand Masters and Representatives of the several Grand Jurisdictions.

The masons of Maine would have been proud to have witnessed the great honor bestowed upon your distinguished representative, M. W. Bro. Drummond, and to have seen how anxious masons from every part of the country were to meet and greet him. Maine was first to be called in forming every procession, and whenever addresses were in order, M. W. Bro. Drummond was first called to respond. I assure you, brethren, that throughout the length and breadth of this nation and, more than that, throughout the world, his name, in Masonry, is a household word.

These observances make a most important chapter in the history of Masonry. More Grand Lodges were represented on this occasion than were ever before gathered in our country, and with them gathered many of the leading men of the day, the President and members of his cabinet; Senators of the United States and Representatives in Congress; the Commander of the Army and representatives of the Navy; all united in doing honor to Masonry and to the memory of Washington, the idol of our people, the architect of the greatest nation of modern times.

Washington has justly been called the architect of the Republic. He saw its foundation laid deep and strong upon that bed rock of all good government, the equality of all men before their Creator; he saw its walls buttressed and bounded by freedom and impartial justice, and every State a tower pilaster or pillar to strengthen, beautify and adorn.

Solomon, King of Israel, Hiram of Tyre, and Hiram the widow's

son, constructed that temple which has forever linked their names with the institution of Masonry.

The fathers of Masonry have built for us our masonic temple.

We, my brethren, stand before that Temple to-day, and view with pride its magnificent proportions and its beautiful adornment. We know that its foundation will never fail, because it rests upon a firm belief in the existence of an all wise God. We know its wall shall never crumble nor decay, for they are buttressed and bounded by faith, hope and charity. We know its beauty shall never fade, for its adornments are the towers, the spires and the minarets of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

The architects of our temple receive our willing homage, their lives are builded into its walls, their works are our inheritance.

Truly may we say of them :

“The architect
Built his great heart into these sculptured stones
And with him toiled his children,—and their lives
Were builded with his own, into the walls
As offerings unto God.”

Let us, brethren, holding fast to the ancient landmarks, and setting our faces against innovation and so-called improvements, take up the work of this communication, in the present as others have in the past, determined to do our full duty for the good of our noble order.

WINFIELD S. CHOATE, *Grand Master.*

GRAND LECTURER'S REPORT.

SABATTUS, April 29, 1900.

To the Most Worshipful WINFIELD S. CHOATE,
Grand Master of Masons in Maine.

In accordance with your orders I have called three conventions for masonic instruction during the year, viz: at Biddeford January 9th, at Pittsfield January 16th, and at Ellsworth January 23d.

These conventions, especially that at Ellsworth, were very fully attended by brethren, great interest was manifested, and I believe great good resulted. At Biddeford were nine Deputies, at Pittsfield eight, and at Ellsworth four. One Deputy was present at two conventions. I regret to be obliged to say that the Deputies from Districts No. 1, 9, 11, 18, and 25 were not present at either convention, and from those five districts I have received more letters of inquiry relative to ritual than from the other twenty districts combined.

Districts No. 1 and 25 were not in any way represented, and Nos. 9, 10, 11, 15, 17, 20 and 24 were each represented from only one lodge. This is in part accounted for because conventions have been held repeatedly at Portland, Lewiston and Rockland, and lodges in those neighborhoods did not so much feel the necessity of them.

At Biddeford were representatives of 19 lodges, at Pittsfield those of 28, and at Ellsworth those of 27, with about 200 out of town masons at the latter place.

Hard and continuous work was demanded during the forenoon and afternoon sessions, while in the evening a degree was worked by the local lodge or a selected lodge, which in every instance was worthy of great praise.

Fraternally submitted,

FRANK E. SLEEPER, *Grand Lecturer.*

The address and report were referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Grand Treasurer reported as follows:

To the Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In compliance with the Constitution, the subscriber submits a report of his transactions, exhibiting the amount received and paid out during the masonic year, and on what account.

1899.		RECEIPTS.	
May 3.	By cash balance,		\$ 6,657.26
	“ “ from District Deputy Grand Masters as follows:		
1900.			
Mar. 16.	Alfred Small, 2d District,		155.60
	Dispensation to Washington Lodge, ..		3.00
	19. Theodore A. Smith, 4th District,		194.40
	20. Philip J. Mills, 20th District,		98.00
	21. Granville D. Perkins, 13th District,		263.20

Mar. 22.	Isaac F. Jewett, 18th District,	164.00
	John R. McDougall, 10th District,	231.20
23.	David W. Campbell, 3d District,	217.60
26.	Fred Raymond, 15th District,	236.60
29.	Charles E. Meservey, 9th District, acting, Charles B. Adams, 11th District,	380.60 400.80
April 2.	Albert H. Burroughs, 17th District,	618.40
3.	Fred C. Barton, 6th District,	265.00
4.	J. Frank Bryson, 25th District,	111.40
7.	Frank Wilson, 23d District,	141.80
	James H. Witherell, 12th District,	217.80
13.	Charles F. Paine, 21st District,	320.80
14.	George H. Goding, 24th District,	379.20
16.	Joseph W. Simpson, 16th District,	288.40
17.	Allen P. Clark, 5th District,	256.00
18.	Milton L. Merrill, 22d District,	168.40
23.	Freeman M. Grant, 14th District,	346.40
24.	Cyrus W. Hendrix, 1st District,	129.40
	Adelbert Millett, 7th District,	123.00
26.	S. Augustus Parker, 8th District,	165.80
27.	Everett M. Staples, 19th District,	237.80
April 25.	By cash from Stephen Berry, Grand Secretary, Reg- istration, Diplomas, etc.,	20.34
28.	“ from Grand Chapter, 3-10 expense Grand Secretary's Office,	140.39
	“ from Grand Commandery, 2-10 expense Gr. Secretary's Office,	93.59
May 1.	“ from Grand Master, dispensations to lodges,	39.00
		<u>\$13,065.18</u>

1899.

DISBURSEMENTS.

May 4.	To cash paid orders Committee on Pay Roll,	\$ 2,117.62
“ “ “	for service in coat room,	13.50
“ “ “	for Walter S. Smith, Grand Organist, ..	10.00
“ “ “	American Bank Note Comp'y, Diplomas, Loss on Denver City Railway Bond, not including interest, etc.,	240.00 591.00
	To cash paid stenographer for Committee on Corre- spondence,	39.00
“ “ “	J. Ross Robinson, Masonic History of Canada,	7.50
“ “ “	Smith and Sale advertising in Masonic Journal,	5.00

To cash paid	Board Masonic Trustees, use of halls, . . .	125.00
" " "	Portland Savings Bank, rent of offices, .	400.00
" " "	Mrs. Nora O'Toole, care of offices,	54.00
" " "	Warren O. Carney, Grand Tyler, ser- vices and expenses,	54.00 30.45
" " "	Frank E. Sleeper, Grand Lecturer, vote of Grand Lodge,	25.00
	Expense of Biddeford Convention, . . .	13.23
	Expense of Pittsfield Convention,	26.16
	Expense of Ellsworth Convention,	31.70
" " "	Stephen Berry, Grand Secretary, salary, printing Proceedings,	500.00 874.29
	mailing Proceedings, postage, etc,	42.34
	printing letter-heads, notices, etc.,	75.20
	mail and express,	37.27
	Incidentals for office,	13.95
" " "	Marquis F. King, Gr. Treasurer, salary and surety bond,	250.00
	stamps, envelopes and express,	5.40
" " "	Josiah H. Drummond, Chairman Com- mittee on Foreign Correspondence, . .	100.00
	expense to Washington Memorial,	60.00
" " "	Winfield S. Choate, Grand Master, ex- pense to Washington Memorial,	60.00
	other expenses,	35.25
" " "	D. D. Gr. Masters, expenses as follows . .	
	Cyrus W. Hendrix, 1st District,	6.00
	Alfred Small, 2d District,	20.10
	David W. Campbell, 3d District,	21.95
	Theodore A. Smith, 4th District,	31.90
	Allen P. Clark, 5th District,	25.15
	Fred C. Barton, 6th District,	12.35
	Adelbert Millett, 7th District,	17.85
	S. Augustus Parker, 8th District,	10.40
	Charles E. Meservey, 9th District, acting,	11.74
	John R. McDougall, 10th District,	34.96
	Charles B. Adams, 11th District,	15.00
	James H. Witherell, 12th District,	26.37
	Granville D. Perkins, 13th District, . . .	28.65
	Freeman M. Grant, 14th District,	13.30
	Fred Raymond, 15th District,	23.70

Joseph W. Simpson, 16th District, . . .	32.10
Albert H. Burroughs, 17th District, . . .	9.24
Isaac F. Jewett, 18th District,	25.12
Everett M. Staples, 19th District, . . .	8.00
Philip J. Mills, 20th District,	20.70
Charles F. Paine, 21st District,	25.76
Milton L. Merrill, 22d District,	23.30
Frank Wilson, 23d District,	15.31
George H. Goding, 24th District,	23.72
J. Frank Bryson, 25th District,	6.80
Cash to new account	6,792.85
	<hr/>
	\$1,3065.18
Fraternally submitted,	
MARQUIS F. KING, <i>Grand Treasurer.</i>	

The report was referred to the Committee of Finance.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Grand Secretary reported as follows :

MAFONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 1, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

The duties of Grand Secretary have been punctually discharged during the past year.

But one brother has registered during the past year, and he is the only one remaining on the list.

One application for a free bed at the hospital has been received, notwithstanding the long time which has elapsed since the Grand Master has had such a bed at his disposal. The lodges are generally learning that fact, and arrange to send the applicants on their own account.

I would suggest that it is very important that Masters should see that Secretaries transmit promptly a list of newly-elected officers to the Grand Secretary. When a new Secretary is elected it sometimes happens that for months every communication goes to the old Secretary and is neglected. The new officers should instantly get in touch with the Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

STEPHEN BERRY, *Grand Secretary.*

The Report was referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

RETURNS.

The Committee on Returns submitted the following report:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, Tuesday, May 1, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Returns would report that returns have been received from all the 195 chartered lodges.

The following summary shows the comparison with the last four years:

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Initiated,.....	831	746	774	710	829
Raised,.....	837	721	768	702	764
Affiliated,.....	137	118	80	95	116
Re-instated,.....	50	59	54	70	78
Dimitted,.....	209	160	169	200	182
Died,.....	366	339	407	419	400
Suspended,.....	0	1	0	1	0
Expelled,.....	3	2	2	2	0
Susp. from membership,.....	283	224	305	271	271
Deprived of membership,.....	22	18	13	15	8
Number of members,.....	21,953	22,085	22,191	22,165	22,277
Rejected,.....	222	174	196	149	187

The initiations have increased one-sixth; the raised over eight per cent.; the affiliations twenty-two per cent., and the re-instatements eleven per cent.

The dimissions have decreased ten per cent., and the deaths nearly five per cent.

We have therefore more than made good our trifling leeway of last year, and have a gain in membership of 112.

The death rate is 18 to a thousand, against 19 last year, 18½ in 1898, and 15½ in 1897.

The accompanying abstract will show the work in detail.

Fraternally submitted,

STEPHEN BERRY,
MOSES TAIT,
ELMER E. SPOFFORD, } Committee.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS, 1900.

Nos.	LOGGES.	Initiated.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Re-instated.	Dimitted.	Died.	Suspended.	Expelled.	N. P. Dues.		No. Members.	Rejected.
										Suspended.	D. of Mem.		
1	Portland,	8	10	1	0	1	5	0	0	3	1	340	1
2	Warren	5	5	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	103	1
3	Lincoln,	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	73	1
4	Hancock,	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	79	0
5	Kennebec,	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	148	0
6	Amity,	8	7	3	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	194	5
7	Eastern,	5	4	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	119	0
8	United,	25	15	0	0	3	2	2	0	4	0	133	0
9	Saco,	8	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	129	2
10	Rising Virtue,	4	4	2	0	0	6	0	0	2	0	154	7
11	Pythagorean,	3	3	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	94	0
12	Cumberland,	10	10	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	79	3
13	Oriental,	6	6	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	158	0
14	Solar,	7	2	1	0	5	7	0	0	2	0	245	0
15	Orient,	3	3	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	156	1
16	St. George,	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	102	1
17	Ancient Landmark, ..	18	18	2	0	2	9	0	0	1	0	448	5
18	Oxford,	4	3	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	2	161	2
19	Felicity,	3	2	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	102	1
20	Maine,	3	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	113	0
21	Oriental Star,	11	12	1	1	1	5	0	0	5	0	193	3
22	York,	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	110	0
23	Freeport,	4	6	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	139	1
24	Phoenix,	6	2	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	154	0
25	Temple,	8	9	0	0	4	0	0	0	9	0	75	1
26	Village,	5	5	1	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	95	1
27	Adoniram,	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	54	0
28	Northern Star,	5	4	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	94	0
29	Tranquil,	11	9	2	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	263	3
30	Blazing Star,	26	26	1	4	3	2	0	0	3	0	178	3
31	Union,	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	101	0
32	Hermon,	15	12	2	1	5	4	0	0	1	0	338	7
33	Waterville,	16	14	9	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	240	5
34	Somerset,	5	4	4	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	172	3
35	Bethlehem,	16	10	2	1	1	10	0	0	1	0	306	2
36	Casco,	2	2	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	158	1
37	Washington,	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94	1
38	Harmony,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	126	3
39	Penobscot,	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	140	0
40	Lygonia,	4	5	0	3	3	5	0	0	0	0	213	1
41	Morning Star,	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	104	0
42	Freedom,	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	35	0
43	Alna,	4	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	135	1
44	Piscataquis,	6	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	109	3
45	Central,	2	2	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	103	1
46	St. Croix,	4	3	1	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	182	0
47	Dunlap,	5	8	0	1	1	3	0	0	7	0	240	3
48	Lafayette,	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	98	0
49	Meridian Splendor, ..	0	2	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	85	0
50	Aurora,	0	1	0	1	1	7	0	0	5	0	249	0
51	St. John's,	2	2	0	0	4	4	0	0	1	0	96	0

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	R.	A.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	N. P. S.	Dues. D.	Mem.	R.
52	Mosaic,	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	155	0
53	Rural,	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	0
54	Vassalboro,	2	1	0	1	10	1	0	0	0	0	44	0
55	Fraternal,	2	2	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	64	1
56	Mount Moriah,	3	3	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	50	0
57	King Hiram,	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	95	0
58	Unity,	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	49	0
59	Mt. Hope, (ch. sur.)												
60	Star in the East,	2	2	0	1	0	3	0	0	3	0	170	4
61	King Solomon's,	3	3	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	111	0
62	King David's,	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	82	0
63	Richmond,	3	3	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	124	0
64	Pacific,	2	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	13	0	91	0
65	Mystic,	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	2	0	106	1
66	Mechanics',	6	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	95	0
67	Blue Mountain,	3	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	91	2
68	Mariners',	3	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	104	0
69	Howard,	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	98	1
70	Standish,	8	8	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	74	0
71	Rising Sun,	4	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	84	0
72	Pioneer,	10	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	85	0
73	Tyrian,	3	3	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	195	4
74	Bristol,	2	2	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	135	1
75	Plymouth,	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	61	0
76	Arundel,	2	2	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	60	0
77	Tremont,	6	6	1	0	1	3	0	0	4	0	137	0
78	Crescent,	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	100	0
79	Rockland,	6	5	1	2	0	5	0	0	25	0	221	0
80	Keystone,	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	99	0
81	Atlantic,	10	8	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	0	274	2
82	St. Paul's,	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	0	2	0	173	0
83	St. Andrew's,	9	9	0	0	1	6	0	0	3	0	212	1
84	Eureka,	1	4	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	106	4
85	Star in the West,	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	89	0
86	Temple,	5	5	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	174	1
87	Benevolent,	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	55	0
88	Narraguagus,	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	94	0
89	Island,	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	1
90	H. Abiff, (ch. rev.)												
91	Harwood,	6	6	1	0	5	6	0	0	14	0	149	0
92	Siloam,	14	13	1	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	156	2
93	Horeb,	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	5	0	111	0
94	Paris,	1	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	103	1
95	Corinthian,	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	82	2
96	Monument,	5	5	0	2	0	3	0	0	3	0	178	6
97	Bethel,	5	5	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	98	1
98	Katabdin,	3	3	0	0	1	5	0	0	10	0	73	0
99	Vernon Valley,	7	6	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	90	0
100	Jefferson,	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	65	0
101	Nezinscot,	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	95	0
102	Marsh River,	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	69	0
103	Dresden,	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	11	0	34	0
104	Dirigo,	2	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	94	0
105	Ashlar,	9	7	2	0	1	8	0	0	16	0	262	2

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	R.	A.	R.	D.	D	S.	E.	N.	P.	Dues.	Mem.	R.
										S.	D.	D.		
106	Tuscan,	4	3	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	127	0
107	Day Spring,	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	42	0
108	Relief, (ch. rev.)													
109	Mount Kineo,	2	3	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	156	0
110	Monmouth,	6	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	109	2
111	Liberty,	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	96	0
112	Eastern Frontier, ..	2	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	9	0	101	0
113	Messalonskee,	2	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	93	0
114	Polar Star,	11	13	3	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	240	1
115	Buxton,	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	94	0
116	Lebanon,	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	78	0
117	Greenleaf,	3	4	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	176	1
118	Drummond,	3	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	0
119	Pownal,	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	87	0
120	Meduncook, (ch. s.) ..													
121	Acacia,	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	6	0	0	63	0
122	Marine,	11	11	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	3	0	144	1
123	Franklin,	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	67	0
124	Olive Branch,	2	3	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	74	0
125	Meridian,	5	4	3	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	135	1
126	Timothy Chase, ...	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	116	0
127	Presumpscot,	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	96	0
128	Eggemoggin,	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	85	0
129	Quantabacook,	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	81	0
130	Trinity,	3	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	110	1
131	Lookout,	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	35	0
132	Mount Tire'm,	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	75	0
133	Asylum,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	0
134	Trojan, (const'd)													
135	Riverside,	1	1	0	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	94	0
136	Ionic, (ch. sur.)													
137	Kenduskeag,	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	93	0
138	Lewey's Island,	5	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	5	0	0	113	2
139	Archon,	3	3	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	55	0
140	Mount Desert,	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	121	0
141	Augusta,	11	7	1	2	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	242	2
142	Ocean,	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	46	0
143	Preble,	8	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	82	1
144	Seaside,	13	14	3	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	159	2
145	Moses Webster, ...	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	0
146	Seabasticook,	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	88	0
147	Evening Star,	3	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	0
148	Forest,	2	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	101	1
149	Doric,	6	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	111	0
150	Rabboni,	10	10	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	185	2
151	Excelsior,	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	44	0
152	Crooked River,	4	4	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	86	0
153	Delta,	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	72	0
154	Mystic Tie,	5	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	63	1
155	Ancient York,	3	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	113	5
156	Wilton,	5	4	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	125	1
157	Cambridge,	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	67	0
158	Anchor,	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	0
159	Esoteric,	4	4	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	166	0

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	R.	A.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	N.P. S.	Dues. D.	Mem.	R.
160	Parian,	3	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	86	0
161	Carrabassett,	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	90	0
162	Arion,	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	49	0
163	Pleasant River,	4	4	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	106	1
164	Webster,	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	1
165	Molunkus,	5	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	60	0
166	Neguemkeag,	1	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	41	0
167	Whitney,	4	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	82	0
168	Composite,	6	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	6
169	Shepherd's River,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	0
170	Caribou,	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	102	0
171	Naskeag,	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	59	0
172	Pine Tree,	3	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	19	0	111	5
173	Pleiades,	10	10	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	119	0
174	Lynde,	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	72	0
175	Baskahegan,	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	97	0
176	Palestine, (con.)												
177	Rising Star,	3	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	62	0
178	Ancient Brothers',	12	11	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	154	1
179	Yorkshire,	3	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	3	1	63	3
180	Hiram,	12	7	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	185	9
181	Reuel Washburn,	<i>Co</i>	<i>nso</i>	<i>lid</i>	<i>at</i>	<i>ed.</i>							
182	Granite,	5	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	83	1
183	Deering,	8	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	222	2
184	Naval,	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	0
185	Bar Harbor,	11	10	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	139	2
186	Warren Phillips,	10	10	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	165	3
187	Ira Berry,	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	0
188	Jonesport,	6	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	101	1
189	Knox,	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	59	0
190	Springvale,	5	7	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	94	5
191	Davis,	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	92	0
192	Winter Harbor,	4	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	89	1
193	Washburn,	5	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	49	1
194	Euclid,	3	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	101	1
195	Reliance,	12	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	141	1
196	Bay View,	4	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	62	0
197	Aroostook,	4	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	76	2
198	St. Aspinquid,	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	49	0
199	Bingham,	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	3
200	Columbia,	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	36	3
201	David A. Hooper,	10	10	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	51	1
202	Mount Bigelow,	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0
203	Mount Olivet,	6	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	0
		829	764	116	78	182	400	0	0	271		8,22,277	187

SOMERSET VS. CARRABASSETT LODGE.

A complaint of Somerset Lodge, of Skowhegan, against Carrabassett Lodge, of Canaan, was presented

and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

JURISDICTION OF PORTLAND LODGES.

A petition from three of the lodges in Portland, praying for concurrent jurisdiction to all four of the lodges of said city, was presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

LIBRARY.

BRO. ALBRO E. CHASE, for the Committee on Library, made the following report, which was accepted and the recommendations adopted :

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 1, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee on Library respectfully report that during the year they have had sent to the bindery, to be bound, thirty-one volumes of Proceedings.

That they have purchased the History of Freemasonry in Canada, by Bro. J. ROSS ROBERTSON, at an expense of \$7.50 for the two volumes.

That they have received the Centennial Book of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 4, of Providence, R. I., and the Centennial Souvenir of the death of GEORGE WASHINGTON from the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and have acknowledged the gifts.

Your committee recommend that a sum not exceeding thirty dollars be placed at their disposal for the purchase of Proceedings and other masonic works of value; and that power be given them to have bound such sets of Proceedings as may be completed during the year.

Fraternally submitted,

W. S. CHOATE,
ALBRO E. CHASE, } *Committee.*
JOSEPH A. LOCKE, }

NINTH DISTRICT.

On motion,

Voted, That Bro. CHARLES E. MESERVEY, who had acted as District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth District, be invited to sit as D. D. Grand Master, and that his name be placed upon the Pay Roll.

FINANCE.

Bro. CHASE, for the Committee of Finance, submitted the following:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 2, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

The duties required of the Committee of Finance, by the Constitution, have been duly performed by them, and we would report that the books of account of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are correct and properly vouched for, and that the records are neatly written out in full.

The receipts for the past year have been as follows:

May 2, 1899.	Cash on hand to new account,	\$6,651.26	
	Cash receipts for the year,	6,413.92	
			\$13,065.18
	The expenditures have been,	\$6,272.33	
May 1, 1900.	Cash on hand to new account,	6,792.85	
			\$13,065.18

The Treasurer has furnished a detailed account of these receipts and expenditures. The amount of the invested fund to the credit of the Charity Fund is \$32,306.01.

The committee submit the following recommendations:

That for compensation for their services for the year ending May 7, 1901, there be paid to the following officers the respective sums set against their names:

To the Chairman Committee on Correspondence,	\$100.00
To the Grand Lecturer,	25.00
To the Grand Treasurer,	250.00

out of which sum the Grand Treasurer shall furnish a satisfactory bond of a surety company.

That there be transferred to the Charity Fund, from the funds of the Grand Lodge, the accrued interest for the past year in the several institutions for savings, and the further sum of \$800.00.

Fraternally submitted,

EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	} Committee.
ALBRO E. CHASE,	
GEO. R. SHAW,	

Report accepted and recommendations adopted.

The Grand Treasurer's report was then accepted.

DOINGS OF THE GRAND OFFICERS.

Bro. HENRY R. TAYLOR reported as follows:

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE,

PORTLAND, May 1, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers report as follows:

We recommend that the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, the report of the Grand Lecturer and reports of District Conventions be referred to the Committee on Condition of the Fraternity, and also such portions of the Grand Master's address as relates to the investigation of the character of candidates.

That the decisions of the Grand Master be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

That so much of the Grand Master's address as refers to the death of our Senior Past Grand Master HIRAM CHASE, be referred to a special committee consisting of Most Worshipful Brothers JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, EDWARD P. BURNHAM and WM. R. G. ESTES, and that a memorial page in our records be set apart to his memory.

This Grand Lodge is to be congratulated upon the fact that it was represented at the observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Bro. GEORGE WASHINGTON by our M. W. Grand Master and Most Worshipful Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, and we appreciate fully the courtesies extended to them and through them to this Grand Lodge.

We call the attention of the brethren to the suggestion of the Grand Secretary, that newly-elected Masters shall cause the Secretaries of their respective lodges to immediately after election, transmit to the Grand Secretary a list of the newly-elected officers.

Fraternally submitted,

HENRY R. TAYLOR, }
 JOSEPH A. LOCKE, } *Committee.*
 HOWARD D. SMITH, }

Report accepted and recommendations adopted.

The Grand Secretary's report was then accepted.

At 11.30 the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 2 P. M.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
 Tuesday, May 1, 1900. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at two o'clock.

KEYSTONE LODGE.

A paper from Keystone Lodge, of Solon, submitting a question of lodge membership, was presented and referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND submitted the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in print, which was accepted, and permission given to add to it. (*See Appendix.*)

HISTORY.

BRO. SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE presented the following, which was accepted:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 1, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on History of Masonry in Maine report as follows:

We have received the following:

Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, Wiscasset. Address by Rev. John Gregson, at memorial services, Jan. 7, 1900, "Washington's Bequest to his Fellow Citizens." Print. Octavo, 26 pages.

Winter Harbor Lodge, No. 192. Organization, 1884, to Jan. 1, 1900. Octavo, 40 pages.

Phoenix Lodge, No. 24, Belfast. 1890 to 1900, by Geo. E. Johnson. Mss. 31 pages.

Reliance Lodge, No. 195, Stonington. Organization, July 13, 1889, to Jan. 1, 1900, by Henry N. Haskell. Print. Small octavo, 16 pages.

Timothy Chase Lodge, No. 126, Belfast. 1890 to Dec. 31, 1899, by Geo. A. Quimby; mss. 23 pages.

Fraternally submitted,

S. J. CHADBOURNE,	} <i>Committee.</i>
HORACE MITCHELL,	
JOSEPH A. LOCKE,	

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

The following Grand Representatives presented their Commissions and were welcomed by the Grand Master :

R. W. ALFRED S. KIMBALL, from the Grand Lodge of Peru.

" ENOCH O. GREENLEAF, from the Grand Lodge of Washington.

" ELMER P. SPOFFORD, from the Grand Orient of Belgium.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

At three o'clock, the hour of election, Past Grand Master JOSEPH A. LOCKE was called to the East. He appointed the following committees to receive, sort and count votes :

I. AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, EDWIN K. SMITH, FRANCIS T. FAULKNER.

II. FESSENDEN I. DAY, LEANDER M. KENNISTON, WALTER F. BRADISH.

These committees having attended to their duties reported the election of

WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Augusta;
ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Norway;
JAMES E. PARSONS,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Ellsworth;
JOHN H. MCGORRILL,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Fairfield;
MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland;
STEPHEN BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.

Committee of Finance—EDWARD P. BURNHAM, SACO; ALBRO E. CHASE, Portland; GEORGE R. SHAW, Portland.

Trustees Charity Fund for three years—EDWARD P. BURNHAM, SACO; FESSENDEN I. DAY, Lewiston.

The Grand Master then resumed the East.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

BRO. WM. R. G. ESTES submitted the following report:

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 1, 1900.

The Committee on Amendments to the Constitution recommend the adoption of the *first* of the three proposed amendments to Section 117, by addition. See page 243, Proc. of 1899, namely:

“A brother suspended from membership for non-payment of dues will be restored by the payment or remission of the amount due at the time of his suspension, at any time within five years thereafter: but after that time he can be restored only upon his application and a two-thirds vote of the lodge, after payment or remission of the amount in arrears.”

We recommend that the two other proposed additions to the same section (117) be not adopted.

HORACE H. BURBANK,	} Committee.
WM. R. G. ESTES,	
A. M. WETHERBEE,	

Report accepted and amendment adopted.

WORK.

Two o'clock Wednesday was assigned for the exemplification of the work, and it was

Ordered, That no other business shall be transacted at that session.

At 4.20 the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 2 P. M. Wednesday.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
WEDNESDAY, May 2, 1900. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 2 P. M.

An exemplification of the third degree was presented by Bethlehem Lodge, No. 35, of Augusta, JAMES E. KINGSLEY, Master, and a vote of thanks was extended to the lodge for the exceptionally fine rendition of the work.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion of Bro. ALFRED S. KIMBALL,

Voted, that the Committee on Pay Roll be made a Committee on Leave of Absence, with power.

At 5.25 the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 9 Thursday morning.

THIRD DAY—MORNING.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
THURSDAY, May 3, 1900. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 9 A. M.

MEDUNCOOK LODGE.

A petition from ten former members of Meduncook Lodge, No. 120, of Friendship, and six others, praying for the return of the charter of that lodge, was received and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and charters.

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS.

BRO. AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM reported as follows :

PORTLAND, May 3, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Dispensations and Charters have carefully considered the matters referred to them and respectfully present the following report:

In the matter of the petition of Master Masons, residents of Kingfield and vicinity, for a dispensation for a new lodge at Kingfield, to be named Mt. Abram Lodge, said petition being endorsed favorably by the District Deputy Grand Master of said district and the consent of the five lodges nearest to Kingfield having been obtained, we recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

In the matter of the petition of Atlantic Lodge, No. 81, Portland Lodge, No. 1, and Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 17, praying that this Grand Lodge would grant concurrent jurisdiction to Deering Lodge, No. 183, and your petitioners, over all territory which is now held by them severally, we recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw, and that the jurisdiction of Deering Lodge, No. 183, remain as provided by this Grand Lodge at its session in 1899.

In the matter of a petition of the former members of Meduncook Lodge, No. 120, of Friendship, Me., praying for the restoration of the charter of said lodge, surrendered to the Grand Lodge in 1884, your committee has not been furnished with sufficient information to enable it to act understandingly on the matter, and therefore recommend that the petition be referred to the M. W. Grand Master, with authority to restore the charter if he deems it advisable.

Respectfully submitted,

AUG. B. FARNHAM,	} <i>Committee.</i>
A. L. TALBOT,	
E. B. MALLET,	

Report accepted and recommendations severally adopted.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, reported that they had not had sufficient time to consider the matter of lodge membership presented by Keystone Lodge, and asked that it be left in their hands to report to the Grand Master, and the request was granted.

STANDING REGULATION, NO. 32.

BRO. DRUMMOND also moved that Standing Regulation, No. 32, be amended by repealing all after the word, "case," (the same being a prohibition of business after the concluding of the election,) and the motion was adopted.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

BRO. CHARLES I. COLLAMORE submitted the following report:

PORTLAND, May 3, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully presents the following report:

In the case of Mt. Desert Lodge, No. 140, at Mt. Desert, against Bro. PAUL R. ATHERTON, wherein Bro. PAUL R. ATHERTON was expelled from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, we recommend the following:

Resolved, that the doing of Mt. Desert Lodge, No. 140, in expelling Bro. PAUL R. ATHERTON from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In this case an appeal from the rulings of the Master and from the decision of the lodge, has been filed with your committee, but not having been served upon the lodge in accordance with law, is hereby dismissed.

In the matter of the petition of Bro. ARTHUR M. FOSS for restoration from the sentence of indefinite suspension, passed upon him by Bar Harbor Lodge, No. 185, March 13, 1890, which sentence was confirmed by this Grand Lodge May 6, 1890, he having been unanimously restored to all the rights and benefits of Masonry, and to membership in that lodge, April 19, 1900, your committee recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That it appearing in evidence that he has made restoration in all but one case, the doings of said lodge be approved and confirmed whenever said petitioner shall have made restitution complete.

In the case of the complaint of Somerset Lodge, No. 34, of Skowhegan, against Carrabassett Lodge, No. 161, of Canaan, in which it is alleged that Carrabassett Lodge received the application of a resident of Skowhegan, accepted and initiated him Dec. 27, 1898, and passed him Jan. 10, 1899; that thereupon Somerset Lodge protested and the matter became the subject of correspondence and conference.

Your committee find this case surrounded by grave complications.

Carrabassett Lodge did invade the jurisdiction of Somerset Lodge. The evidence gives an opportunity for strong suspicion of fraud in the application.

Grand Master LOCKE in May, 1899, decided in this case, "That the applicant's actual residence was within the jurisdiction of Somerset Lodge, and that the applicant must take his chances of obtaining a waiver of jurisdiction from Somerset Lodge, although said lodge had voted to withdraw the complaint."

No legal waiver was ever made by Somerset Lodge, but Carrabassett Lodge conferred the M. M. degree upon the applicant on October 17, 1899.

In this your committee believe Carrabassett Lodge committed a serious error. We therefore recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved, That Carrabassett Lodge be directed to file charges against and try Bro. GEO. G. WASHBURN for obtaining the degrees by untrue statements in his petition, and that a full report of their doings and the evidence in the case—whatever the result may be—be returned to this Grand Lodge at or before the next annual communication for action thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. I. COLLAMORE, }
 EDWARD P. BURNHAM, } *Committee.*
 JOS. M. HAYES, }

The report was accepted, and the recommendations were severally adopted, Bar Harbor Lodge being ordered to report to the Grand Master when the condition should be complied with.

PAY ROLL.

Bro. A. C. T. KING, for the Committee on Pay Roll, reported a schedule, which was accepted and ordered to be paid.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE—MILEAGE.

BRO. ALBRO E. CHASE, for the Committee of Finance, reported the following:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 3, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge in the year 1895, the question of the revision of the mileage and per diem to be paid to the members of this Grand Lodge was referred to the Committee of Finance. In 1896, 1897 and 1898, the committee reported and asked for further time, because the railroads in the State had not been fully completed. No report was made last year because the committee could not get the requisite information in season to make a report. During the past year their attention has been given to this subject, and it has been found to be one of difficult solution. The present arrangement, in general, was adopted in 1883.

While at the present time there are not so many incongruities as there were at that time, yet, owing to the same causes that caused a revision at that time, it would seem advisable to make a change at this time. Any change cannot help being a little from a true and just bearing in all cases, from the nature of the locations of the lodges in this jurisdiction, and from the diversified manner of reaching this Grand Lodge. The completion of two extensive lines of railroads, and the construction of several lines of electric roads have, however, reduced the inequalities.

Whether the Grand Lodge shall make a general revision or not, there still remains the fact that those who come from places at a greater distance than one hundred miles from Portland should not continue to receive the present mileage.

The present membership of the Grand Lodge can increase but slowly,* since to it will be added in the future only those who shall have filled the Wardens' positions, and a very few new lodges. The present mileage pays for more than five thousand more miles than the railroad, steamboat and stage lines allow.

It appears to your committee to be the fairest way to pay as near as may be the actual traveling expenses, and an adequate per diem. Since it would be impossible to fix the sum at every communication, the committee believe that the travel should be computed by taking the fare charged by the railroad or steamboat from Portland to the station in the town where a lodge is located, and if a stage fare must be paid that the same should be added thereto; and that the per diem should be placed at two dollars per day. Your committee further believe that this arrangement would preclude the necessity of granting any leave of absence during the continuance of the

communication, except in the case of sickness of the delegate or of a member of his family.

Should such action as here outlined prevail, it would not increase the expenses of this Grand Lodge by two hundred dollars, it being understood that the per diem would be for three days.

In order to bring the matter before the Grand Lodge the committee recommend that Standing Regulation, No. 1, be repealed, and that the following be adopted to be known as Standing Regulation, No. 1:

1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer pay to one delegate who shall be present on the first day of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and (unless excused by the Grand Lodge on account of his own sickness or that of his family) attend during the session, for mileage such sum as is granted by the several railroads or steamboats to Portland from the station or landing place in the town where the lodge is located, together with such additional sum for stage fare from the place of location of the lodge to such station or landing place when such is paid; and two dollars for each day's actual attendance, not exceeding three days, when the delegate is a member of the lodge he represents; and the same mileage and per diem to District Deputy Grand Masters and all permanent members. When a lodge is represented by more than one brother, the senior officer shall receive the mileage and per diem.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	} <i>Committee.</i>
ALBRO E. CHASE,	
GEO. R. SHAW,	

The report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

MEMORIAL TO P. G. M. HIRAM CHASE.

Bro. DRUMMOND, for the special committee on a memorial to Bro HIRAM CHASE, asked that they be allowed further time, which was granted.

He also offered the following resolution, which was adopted as a Standing Regulation:

Resolved, That in the case of the death of a Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer, the M. W. Grand Master be authorized, in his discretion, to appoint a special committee to prepare a memorial and present the same to the Grand Lodge at its next session.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

BRO. DRUMMOND reported as follows:

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 3, 1900.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which were referred the decisions of M. W. Grand Master LOCKE, announced last year, ask leave to report that they have considered the same and recommend that they be approved, except the last part of the decision in relation to Past Masters.

1. We think this matter is controlled by the express terms of Section 124 of the Constitution, which provides that when the Master has served a full term, he shall have a Past Master's diploma. The Constitution makes *service* the grounds for the giving of this diploma, and when a Master has been declared by competent authority to have been regularly installed, we cannot go behind that declaration, so far as his right to preside is concerned, and his right to preside carries with it the right to receive a diploma, when his term has expired.

Whether such a Past Master has a right to sit in a convention of Past Masters is for that body to determine and not for this Grand Lodge.

2. Your committee fully endorse the decision in relation to life membership, but they deem it important to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the fact, that, in very many instances, and apparently in the large majority of cases in which that system has been adopted, the result has been disastrous to the lodge. The reasons for the failure of the system are an inadequate rate for the privilege and the spending of the money for current expenses.

A system of life membership, with rates graded according to age and mathematically determined from statistics based on experience, is all right provided the money is invested and no more of it expended yearly than the amount of the annual dues. But in all the systems which we have noticed all these conditions are practically disregarded. The result has been, that the money has been spent, and the lodge found itself with an empty treasury and a large list of members exempt from dues, and the burden of maintaining the lodge thrown upon only a part of its members, who are thereby induced to dimit and leave the lodge to its fate.

Another practice has grown up, and your committee fear that it has already become an abuse, viz: The election of honorary members and their exemption from dues. In some lodges, every Master on retiring from the chair is made an honorary member of this kind. This practice seems to us objectionable, not only because it weakens the lodge financially, but because it lowers the dignity of the office of Master. The service rendered by a Master is more than repaid by the honor of an election to that office, and a pecuniary reward greatly belittles it. If a brother is not willing to render

his best service in such an office, for the honor of holding it, it is pretty certain that he does not sufficiently appreciate Masonry to make him fit to hold the office.

The use of lodge funds for the purchase of jewels for presentation to retiring officers is almost universally condemned and forbidden, because those funds are held only for the payment of necessary expenses and for the purposes of charity. The exemption of any member easily able to pay dues, comes within the same principle as to the use of lodge funds and is open to the same objections.

If reward can be spoken of in connection with masonic service, the highest reward possible is found in the consciousness of having performed masonic duty with an eye single to the interests of masonry, and in the appreciation of that service by our brethren and their consequent fraternal esteem.

3. In order to prevent misconstruction, your committee desire to say that they do not understand that the answer to the question in relation to the acceptance of Catholics is a *decision*: we understand that it is *advisory*.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
MARQUIS F. KING,	
HORACE H. BURBANK,	

Report accepted and permission given committee to report next year on the other subjects referred.

CONDITION OF THE FRATERNITY.

Bro. HENRY R. TAYLOR submitted the following:

IN GRAND LODGE, May 3, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Condition of the Fraternity have attended to their duties and beg leave to report:

Our deductions are based chiefly upon the reports of District Deputy Grand Masters, twenty-five of which we have carefully reviewed.

Nearly all testify to the value, efficiency and benefits derived by the craft from conventions, those of the Grand Lecturer and those of the District Deputies. Their comments and recommendations imply that even *more meetings* throughout the different districts would be desirable.

The collection of dues has been urged with increasing frequency, and has been apparently recognized as an important factor in the stability, welfare and usefulness of a lodge. Some instances are indeed worthy of particular mention, and (may we not add) "worthy of emulation."

Marine Lodge, with a membership of 144, reports "all dues collected," and Solar Lodge, with a membership of 256, reports, only *one member* in arrears."

Referring to lodge No. 61, there are apprehensions expressed regarding the safety of the lodge room from "cowans and eavesdroppers."

If well founded, your committee would recommend that the D. D. G. M. of the 10th District be directed to investigate *at once* the condition of said lodge room, with its surroundings, and immediately report upon the same to the M. W. Grand Master.

That portion of the Grand Master's address relating to "proficiency of candidates" and to examination of petitions, each deserves more than casual perusal,

"Is he worthy and well qualified" is not an idle demand. Not from the Worshipful Master alone, but from every member, should come to this question, a true, carefully considered, and a comprehensive answer. Let "Committees of Inquiry" be not remiss in their important duties. Neglect of investigation—a passive reliance upon a general or specious reputation—a negative ignorance of anything *bad* without a positive knowledge of *good* qualities, is *not* sufficient investigation.

Let the "guards of the outer door" be faithful to the trusts which the lodge reposes in them.

Fraternally submitted,

HENRY R. TAYLOR,	} Committee.
ALBERT M. PENLEY,	
HOWARD D. SMITH,	

Report accepted and recommendation adopted.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION—TIME OF MEETING.

Bro. ALBRO E. CHASE proposed the following:

I move the following amendments to the Constitution:

Amend Art. III, Sec. 3, by inserting in the second line before the word *first* the words "Monday preceding the," and in the second line strike out the words "nine" and "A" and insert "seven-thirty and P," so that it shall read:

Sec. 3. The annual communication of the Grand Lodge shall be holden in Portland on the Monday preceding the first Tuesday in May, at 7.30 o'clock P. M.

Also amend Art. I, of part second, Sec. 59, by striking out the words "day of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge" and insert the words "First Tuesday in May," so that it shall read:

"The Trustees of the Charity Fund shall meet at Portland at five o'clock in the afternoon of the first Tuesday in May, &c."

Amendment entertained and referred to the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution.

NEW PAY ROLL.

On motion of Bro. CHASE,

Voted, That the printing of a new Pay Roll be referred to the Committee of Finance, with power.

INSTALLATION AND APPOINTMENTS.

Past Grand Master JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND was called to the East, and Past Grand Master JOSEPH A. LOCKE presented M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE, Grand Master elect, who was installed by P. G. Master DRUMMOND, with prayer by Rev. and Wor. GEORGE F. DEGAN, Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:

R. W.	CHARLES D. SMITH,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland
"	CYRUS W. HENDRIX,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st Dist.,</i>	Caribou
"	ALFRED SMALL,	" 2d "	Lubec
"	DAVID W. CAMPBELL,	" 3d "	Cherryfield
"	THEODORE A. SMITH,	" 4th "	Sedgwick
"	ALLEN P. CLARK,	" 5th "	Foxcroft
"	FRED C. BARTON,	" 6th "	Bradley
"	ADELBERT MILLETT,	" 7th "	Searsmont
"	S. AUGUSTUS PARKER,	" 8th "	Belfast
"	G. DUDLEY GOULD,	" 9th "	Warren
"	JOHN R. McDUGALL,	" 10th "	Boothbay Harbor
"	THOMAS H. BODGE,	" 11th "	Augusta
"	JAMES H. WITHERELL,	" 12th "	Oakland
"	GRANVILLE D. PERKINS,	" 13th "	Madison
"	PEREZ S. BURR,	" 14th "	Freeport
"	FRED RAYMOND,	" 15th "	Livemore Falls
"	JOSEPH W. SIMPSON,	" 16th "	Rumford Falls
"	ALBERT H. BURROUGHS,	" 17th "	Westbrook
"	TOBIAS L. EASTMAN,	" 18th "	Fryeburg
"	EVERETT M. STAPLES,	" 19th "	Biddeford
"	PHILIP J. MILLS,	" 20th "	Lincoln
"	CHARLES F. PAINE,	" 21st "	Bar Harbor
"	MILTON L. MERRILL,	" 22d "	St. Albans

R. W.	FRANK WILSON,	<i>D. D. G. M. 23d Dist.,</i>	Sanford
"	LIONEL O. BRACKETT,	" 24th "	Auburn
"	GEO. A. GORHAM, JR.,	" 25th "	Houlton
W. & Rt. Rev.	ELMER F. PEMBER,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Bangor
"	JOHN GIBSON,	" "	Cape Elizabeth
"	GEORGE M. HOWE,	" "	Lewiston
"	GEORGE F. DEGAN,	" "	Augusta
W. & Rt. Rev.	ROBERT CODMAN, JR.,	" "	Portland
W.	EDWIN C. DUDLEY,	" <i>Marshal,</i>	Augusta
"	ERMON D. EASTMAN,	" <i>Senior Deacon,</i>	Portland
"	CHARLES W. CROSBY,	" <i>Junior Deacon,</i>	Kent's Hill
"	WILLIAM A. REMICK,	" <i>Steward,</i>	Bucksport
"	JAMES E. KINGSLEY,	" "	Augusta
"	ROBERT W. CARR,	" "	Bowdoinham
"	ALBERT M. AMES,	" "	Stockton Springs
"	WILLIAM N. HOWE,	" <i>Sword Bearer,</i>	Portland
"	LEVI E. JONES,	" <i>Standard Bearer,</i>	Winthrop
"	WILLIAM L. POWERS,	" <i>Pursuivant,</i>	Gardiner
"	WARREN MORSE,	" "	Warren
M. W.	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	" <i>Lecturer,</i>	Sabattus
W.	WALTER S. SMITH,	" <i>Organist,</i>	Portland
"	WARREN O. CARNEY,	" <i>Tyler,</i>	Portland

The remaining officers, elect and appointed, who were present, were then installed by P. G. M. DRUMMOND, and proclamation was made.

The Grand Master then assumed the East, and thanked M. W. BRO. DRUMMOND for his assistance.

GRAND SECRETARY'S SALARY.

On motion of Bro. MARQUIS F. KING,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary's salary be fixed at \$600 a year.

WILLIAM O. FOX.

On motion of Bro. SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,

Voted, That Bro. ALBRO E. CHASE be requested to prepare a Memorial of Bro. WILLIAM O. FOX, Past Grand Treasurer, for publication.

Bro. CHASE submitted the following, which was accepted:

WILLIAM OSBORNE FOX, the subject of this sketch, was a lineal descendant of those of the Fox family, who were of the first settlers of Portland. In Portland was he born on September 12, 1825, and his boyhood and education were those of the youth of the Portland of those days. He was fitted for and entered Bowdoin College, but, having determined to become a civil engineer, he left college and entered upon the practice of his profession in the West, aiding in the survey of the first railroad in the city of Chicago and the survey of other railroads from Chicago to St. Louis. He was also engaged by a New York syndicate in the making of a survey for a canal on the Isthmus of Panama.

Upon the breaking out of the civil war he enlisted in the First Maine Regiment, where he honorably served until his discharge. He was a member of Bosworth Post, G. A. R. He was for some time an officer in the Portland Custom House, and in 1873 he was elected an assessor of the city, to which office he was returned by successive elections until 1896. He died of meningitis, after a short illness, June 4, 1899.

He was married to MARY G. C. CARTER, daughter of CALEB CARTER, and is survived by two sons, JAMES C. FOX, and SELDEN C. FOX, both residents of this city.

Bro. FOX was raised a Master Mason, in Portland Lodge, No. 1, Sept. 11, 1850, and was elected a member of the lodge October 9, 1850, and held a continuous membership during his life. He was the Treasurer at the time of his death, having held that office continually by successive elections for thirty-eight years. He was exalted a Royal Arch Mason Jan. 30, 1866, in Greenleaf Chapter, and held the office of Scribe therein.

He received the Order of Knighthood in St. Alban Commandery, March 29, 1866, and dimitted from that commandery in 1875 to be one of the charter members of Blanquefort Commandery. During his connection with St. Alban Commandery he held among other offices that of Treasurer.

Bro. FOX was a member of the the A. & A. Rite, becoming a member of the several bodies therein in 1863. At the time of his death he was Treasurer of the Yates Lodge of Perfection, and of the Portland Council Princes of Jerusalem, which offices he had filled for many years.

In this Grand Lodge he was the Treasurer from October 18, 1870, to May, 1883, and since that time he has held the office of Pursivant.

Such was the outward life of this quiet, unostentatious brother. In every place which he was called to fill, its duties were performed conscientiously, punctually and honorably. But who can ever forget his cordial greeting, his earnest desire to meet and to greet his brethren at these meetings? Bro. FOX was a constant attendant upon the meetings of the craft and his presence is missed as well as his kindly voice. While never obtrusive with his ideas, yet he was always found advocating what would be for the best interests of the craft. "A man without guile or malice in his heart."

The Grand Master announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Credentials.

WM. N. HOWE, FRANCIS L. TALBOT, CHAS. B. ADAMS.

On Grievances and Appeals.

CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, JOSEPH M. HAYES, EDWARD P. BURNHAM.

On Publication.

FESSENDEN I. DAY, W. SCOTT SHOREY, MANLY G. TRASK.

On History.

SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, HORACE MITCHELL, JOSEPH A. LOCKE.

On Dispensations and Charters.

AGG. B. FARNHAM, ARCHIE L. TALBOT, EDMUND B. MALLET.

On Amendments to the Constitution.

HORACE H. BURBANK, WM. R. G. ESTES, ALDEN M. WETHERBEE.

On Masonic Jurisprudence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, MARQUIS F. KING, HORACE H. BURBANK.

On Foreign Correspondence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, EDWARD P. BURNHAM, ALBRO E. CHASE.

On Condition of the Fraternity.

HENRY R. TAYLOR, HOWARD D. SMITH, ALBERT M. PENLEY.

On Library.

W. S. CHOATE, (*ex-officio*), ALBRO E. CHASE, JOSEPH A. LOCKE.

On Transportation.

STEPHEN BERRY, W. FREEMAN LORD, CHAS. M. SLEEPER.

On Returns.

STEPHEN BERRY, MOSES TAIT, ELMER E. SPOFFORD.

BRO. DRUMMOND submitted the following, which was accepted:

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 3, 1900.

The committee appointed to present a tribute to the memory of Past Grand Master HIRAM CHASE, ask leave to report.

We refer to the account of BRO. CHASE's masonic history given by our M. W. Grand Master in his address.

BRO. CHASE came into the Grand Lodge at a time when the veteran masons, who were active before the days of Anti-Masonry, were beginning to feel that they must be relieved of the cares incident to the administration of masonic affairs in Maine, and that those who had come into the Institution since those days must take their places. But the latter were young in Masonry, and with very limited experience, and with little opportunity to increase their knowledge by reading. CHARLES W. MOORE'S Masonic Monthly Magazine was the only continuous publication at that time, and the only books were the old Monitors published thirty or forty years previously. Indeed, the 1816 edition of Webb's Monitor (which had not then been reprinted) was the Text Book in use in our lodges.

It is in one respect fortunate that such was the case. For the magazine taught Masonry according to the "original plan," and strenuously opposed all modern innovations, and of course the old Monitors were in accord with these teachings.

But the situation was quite a grave one; almost all the lodges had suspended work during the anti-masonic times, and were just beginning to resume labor, with the large part of the former members gone, while but few of those living had the work or a knowledge of the methods in which the masonic business of the lodge should be transacted.

There was consequently a necessity that the Grand Master should give much time and labor to the duties of his office, and moreover, be well skilled in masonic polity. The result was that the oldest masons were unwilling to hold the office for more than a single year: so FREEMAN BRADFORD was Grand Master in 1853, TIMOTHY CHASE in 1854, JOHN MILLER in 1855, and JABEZ TRUE in 1856.

At the annual communication in 1856, it seemed that one of the younger men must succeed Bro. TRUE, and after consultation and anxious deliberation among the veterans, Bro. HIRAM CHASE was selected to be his successor the next year and he was elected Deputy Grand Master. But when the year had expired and Bro. CHASE was told of the purpose entertained, he was unwilling, without further preparation, to assume the responsibilities of the position and Past Grand Master DUNLAP finally consented to serve again for a single year, and Bro. CHASE was re-elected Deputy Grand Master. But in 1857 he was elected Grand Master by a substantially unanimous vote. He entered upon the duties of the office with much diffidence and the avowed intention of retiring at the end of the year. But his administration was such a complete success that the wish came up to the Grand Lodge of 1859 from all over the State, universally, that he would consent to serve another year: to this were added the earnest persuasions of his associates, and he was induced to leave the matter to the Grand Lodge, which settled it by giving him a unanimous re-election. His administration the

second year was a repetition of the success of the previous year. The constitution then limited eligibility to the Grand Mastership to two successive years and he retired at the end of his second term.

The veterans had no occasion to regret their opinion of Bro. CHASE's ability and inclination to administer the affairs of Masonry according to the old ways. There was then the natural fear that the younger men would be inclined to undertake to fashion Masonry according to modern ideas. But those who had these fears for Bro. CHASE, were very happily disappointed. He had learned Masonry as it came from the fathers and he so taught it.

While his predecessors had done much to re-organize Masonry in Maine after the disasters of the "dark days," it fell to the lot of Bro. CHASE to carry on the work at a time when interest in Masonry was reviving and the calls upon him were consequently more frequent.

The masons of Maine owe him much for the sagacity, prudence and practical ability he displayed in what he did to put Masonry on a proper basis in this time of its re-organization. If he had been imbued with the ideas held by many in these later times, our Grand Lodge would have never gained the reputation which it has justly earned for close adherence to the principles and landmarks of the Institution and the ancient usages of the craft.

But his service in this direction did not cease with his retirement from office. He has been a constant attendant on the Grand Lodge ever since, and by his wise counsels has done very much to keep the craft in the path in which they started, and in which he aided them so greatly to walk while he was their chief.

Others have spoken of his character as a man in all the walks of life; but we may be permitted to say that his probity of character, his gracious manner in his intercourse with his brethren and his unquestioned sincerity under all circumstances, added great weight to his influence among the craft and in the community.

We shall miss his presence in the Grand Lodge, especially those of us who have wrought together with him these many, many years; but we know that the influence of his works remains with us, and will remain with us and those who shall come after us, long after we shall have joined him, where parting never comes.

We recommend that this minute be spread upon the record, and that a page in our Proceedings, suitably inscribed, be devoted to his memory.

Fraternally submitted.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, }
EDWARD P. BURNHAM, } *Committee.*
WM. R. G. ESTES, }

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Bro. JOSEPH M. HAYES reported as follows :

IN GRAND LODGE, PORTLAND, May 3, 1900.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Unfinished Business submit the following report:
That all business presented during this session has been completed.

Fraternally submitted,

JOS. M. HAYES,
ALBERT M. PENLEY, } *Committee.*
ENOCH O. GREENLEAF, }

Report accepted.

The minutes were then read and approved, and at 11.40 the Grand Lodge was closed, prayer being offered by the Rt. Rev. ROBERT CODMAN, JR., Grand Chaplain.

Attest :



Stephen Berry

Grand Secretary.

The eighty-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge will be held at Masonic Hall, Portland, Tuesday, May 7, 1901, at 9 o'clock A. M.

• Reports of • District Deputy Grand Masters.
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**FIRST DISTRICT.**

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my official report as District Deputy of the First Masonic District.

January 10th, I made my official visit to Washburn Lodge, No. 193. Installed the officers and witnessed work in the Master's degree, which was very well done; the records are in good hands, the finances in good shape, and this lodge is rapidly coming to the front.

February 12th, visited Trinity Lodge, No. 130, and saw the Master's degree worked in a very satisfactory manner. This lodge is doing good work and plenty of it; the Secretary understands his duty, and attends to it.

March 14th, visited Eastern Frontier Lodge, No. 112. The E. A. degree was conferred on two candidates in a manner that I have seldom seen equalled. The records are in good hands and well kept.

Owing to blocking snow-storms and other circumstances over which I have no control, I have not been able to visit Pioneer Lodge at Ashland, but have had some correspondence with the Master, and have learned from other sources that they are having plenty of work and are doing well.

Caribou Lodge, No. 170, being my masonic home, I have attended nearly all of its meetings. This lodge has done but little work the past year, but the prospect for the future looks brighter; the financial condition of the lodge is good.

Thanking you, Most Worshipful, for the honor conferred, and the brethren of this district for courtesies extended, I am yours fraternally,

C. W. HENDRIX, *D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.*

Caribou, April 19, 1900.

SECOND DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Masonic District. I have visited all the lodges in my district and witnessed the work in each of them. It is with great pleasure that I am enabled to report, that the several lodges in the Second Masonic District are up to date, and perform their work in a very uniform manner. The records of each lodge are correctly and neatly kept, and each lodge is apparently in a prosperous condition.

My first official act was in granting permission, June 8th, to Lewy's Island Lodge, No. 138, Princeton, to attend divine service as a body. This is a practice of this lodge from year to year, and a very commendable one, and should be encouraged by the several District Deputy Grand Masters throughout the state, until each lodge adopts the practice of the brethren of Lewy's Island Lodge.

June 19th, accompanied by a large delegation of brethren from Washington Lodge, No. 37, Lubec, I made my first official visit to Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport, and witnessed the exemplification of the work in the third degree. Bro. WALTER F. BRADISH, Past District Deputy Grand Master, occupied the chair on this occasion, and the work was rendered in a very creditable manner. Some slips of the tongue were noticed, which were kindly acknowledged by the officers when brought to their notice. The visiting brethren were entertained in a very satisfactory manner, when called from labor to refreshment.

In November, by request of Washington Lodge, I petitioned the M. W. Grand Master for a dispensation to accept, initiate, craft and raise a candidate, in less time than authorized by the Grand Lodge Rules and Regulations, and the reasons given therefor appearing satisfactory to the Grand Master, a dispensation was granted, November 21st, by the lodge observing "Standing Regulation, No. 7"; which was fully complied with, all of the brethren being duly notified. The Entered Apprentice degree was duly conferred upon the candidate, at a special meeting of Washington Lodge; the second and third at the District Convention, December 13th, at which time the convention was held with Washington Lodge, Lubec, by the several lodges comprising the Second Masonic District.

The convention was called to order by the District Deputy Grand Master, ALFRED SMALL, who, in a few brief remarks, stated the object of the meeting, after which a lodge of Master Masons was opened in due form by W. M. IRVING W. CASE, of Washington, who called upon Crescent Lodge, of Pembroke, to exemplify the work in the Entered Apprentice degree.

Past D. D. G. M. EVERETT H. FISHER occupied the East, the regular Master not being present. As no regular candidate had been provided for this occasion, a brother kindly volunteered, and acted well his part. The work was very satisfactory, and the corrections which followed were very few indeed.

A lodge of Fellow Crafts was opened, and Worshipful Master CASE called upon the officers of Eastern Lodge to assume the different stations and confer the degree. But D. D. G. M. WALTER F. BRADISH occupied the East; and the candidate was introduced and examined as to his proficiency in the preceding degree, by Past Master WHEELER S. HAWKES, acting as Junior Warden. The examination passed in a manner highly satisfactory to the large number of brethren assembled. The candidate was fittingly prepared and advanced to the second step in Masonry, in due and ancient form. The floor work of this degree was very pleasing, as performed with that grace and dignity so natural to the veteran Senior Deacon, Bro. FRANK BEAL, of Eastern Lodge. The criticisms of this work were very few, the errors being merely slips of the tongue, which were fully rectified. At the close of this work the lodge was called from labor to refreshment, and repaired to the vestry of the First Christian Church, where a banquet was prepared by the ladies of this society, which elicited great praise for the excellence of the cooking, and the admirable service of the tastefully and becomingly attired waiters.

The lodge was called from refreshment to labor by Worshipful Master CASE, and the several stations filled by the officers of Washington Lodge, who exemplified the work of the third degree in their usual manner. This being my home lodge, modesty forbids my spreading the cement of praise to any great extent. Suffice it to say, it was a splendid sample of the work as performed by this lodge.

At the close of the work, the necessary corrections were made, and a large number of the brethren responded to the invitation of the W. M. for remarks, which were highly enjoyed. The convention was voted a success by the large number in attendance, some two hundred, and marked in the calendar as one of the green spots in a mason's journey, "on the level of time," thus bringing together yearly the brethren of the several lodges in the district, comparing work, forming new associates and strengthening anew the bonds of fraternity.

January 23d, I attended a school for instruction by the Grand Lecturer, FRANK E. SLEEPER, at Ellsworth. This being my initiatory trip for an occasion of this kind, it afforded me great pleasure and satisfaction, "and the attentive ear received the sound from the instructive tongue," which was duly spread among the brethren of the Second District.

March 5th, I made an official visit to St. Croix Lodge, Calais, expecting to

witness work on the third degree, but the candidate failed to appear, and the evening was passed in a very satisfactory manner with the brethren present. An examination of the records and other property of the lodge was made, and as Past D. D. G. M. STEPHEN D. MORRELL is the custodian of this department, comments are unnecessary.

March 21st, I made my official visit to Crescent Lodge, Pembroke, and witnessed the work of the third degree. The officers of this lodge were newly elected, but performed their work like veterans. Some corrections were made that were kindly received by the brethren. This lodge has always performed its work well, and under the charge of W. M. HERBERT H. BEST and his efficient officers, the cause of Masonry must surely thrive. The records are faithfully looked after by the veteran Bro. GEO. H. ALLAN, who always prides himself on having his reports ready for the District Deputy on the first of March.

April 3d, was made to Lewy's Island Lodge, Princeton, where I witnessed work in the Fellow Craft degree on a brother who kindly volunteered for the occasion. This being my first occasion of meeting with this lodge, I found myself agreeably surprised and pleased by the great interest manifested in the cause of Masonry by this lodge. A new body of officers were serving at this time, and in my judgment I should say the honors were not undeserved, as they are mostly young men and very zealous in their work. Very few corrections were called for; and if a school for instruction could be arranged the coming year by the Grand Lecturer, say at Machias, so that the brethren from this far away point could attend at a small expense, this lodge would be second to none in the State. The records are neatly kept, and their financial standing first-class.

The following evening, I made my second official visit to St. Croix Lodge, Calais, and had the pleasure of witnessing the work of the third degree. W. M. W. H. KEENE is a good ritualist, and received all the corrections by the Deputy in a fraternal spirit. This lodge enjoys the privilege of having a number of Past D. D. G. M.'s on their rolls fully qualified to correct all errors and make them an up to date lodge. When called from labor to refreshment, we found the tables properly clothed, and furnished with refreshments supplied by Bro. COLLINS, who thoroughly understands his business. A spirit of genuine fraternity is always to be found among the brethren of this lodge, and our best wishes for their welfare attend them.

April 9th, Monday evening, by special invitation of Eastern Lodge, Eastport, I made my second visit, accompanied by some twenty-five of the brethren of Washington Lodge and other well known masons, and witnessed the work of the third degree, on two very bright and interesting candidates. The work was performed by a new body of officers, with W. M. WARREN S. KANE in the East, who is a very smooth worker, and I have no doubt

Eastern Lodge will flourish under his management. Past Junior Grand Warden, Bro. W. J. FISHER, was invited to give the lectures belonging to this degree, and notwithstanding his seventy-eight years of age, he still possesses the "retentive memory," and performed his work to the admiration of the nearly one hundred brethren assembled. Corrections were made where required, after which notification was given that the presence of the brethren was required in the banquet room, where the tables were found to be amply provided with the good things of life, to which full justice was given. Before separating for the night, with the assistance of Past D. D. G. M. JAMES B. NEAGLE, of Lubec, the Past Master's degree was conferred upon Bros. KANE and P. M. BREWSTER, to their entire satisfaction.

Washington Lodge, being my masonic home, and being present at all of its meetings the past year, I deemed an official visit unnecessary, as all of them partook more or less of this character. This lodge, under the watchful care of W. M. IRVING W. CASE, who is serving his third term as Master, will compare well with the several lodges in the district. The officers are nearly all young men, and much interested in their work. February 21st I installed Bro. CASE as Master, who on assuming the gavel proceeded to install the remaining officers. On completion of the lodge work, the doors were opened to masons' families and invited guests, who were entertained with readings and dramatic recitations in commemoration of our beloved Brother GEORGE WASHINGTON, whom all delight to honor. Refreshments were served, and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

In closing, I report with pleasure, that peace and harmony prevail in all the lodges under my jurisdiction, and a fair amount of work has been accomplished through the past year, while the outlook for the present is bright. My appointment as District Deputy Grand Master, although accepted with great reluctance, has proved a very pleasing occupation to me for the past year, and I trust also to the brethren.

And now, Most Worshipful Grand Master, I wish to thank you for my appointment and the honor thus conferred, and to tender my sincere thanks and gratitude to the officers and brethren of the Second Masonic District, for the many courtesies and cordial greetings which I have received.

I earnestly hope my official acts have met with your approval, and will also add, that if the several lodges throughout the state perform their work as accurately as those comprising the Second District, the Grand Lodge may well feel proud of Masonry in Maine.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

ALFRED SMALL, *D. D. G. M. & M. D.*

Lubec, April 16, 1900.

THIRD DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my first annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Third Masonic District.

My first official action was in response to the request of Grand Lecturer SLEEPER, to secure a full attendance from the lodges of this district at his convention in Ellsworth, January 23d. Gen'l Manager Dowst, of the W. C. R. R., promptly granted us "one fare" and Washington County was well represented. The instruction and counsel received there insured harmony and accuracy among the Deputies and inspired all with zeal for the work of the coming year. I trust that its influence extended as far in other directions as it did toward the East.

January 30th, I installed the officers of Harwood Lodge, No. 91, of Machias. The installation was public and the hall was filled with masons and their friends. The ceremony was rendered more impressive by appropriate singing by a quartette. P. D. D. G. M. J. HARRIS FOSTER acted as Grand Marshal. Refreshments were served in the hall and the evening passed socially with singing and selections by McCabe's orchestra. This lodge has fully recovered from the effects of their fire and are doing more work than for several years. The officers are of the younger class of masons, and by their efficiency and enthusiasm are sustaining well the high reputation of Harwood Lodge.

February 3d, I visited Tuscan Lodge, No. 106, of Addison Point, by invitation of W. M. M. L. CLEAVES, to inspect work in the third degree. The attendance was large, and the work was done in their usual prompt and correct manner. Tuscan continues to add to her numbers, and the funds in her treasury, for I saw a new safe in the hall. Their veteran Secretary, Bro. TRACY, is still at his post, and the records are models of accuracy.

February 6th, I installed the officers of Warren Lodge, No. 2, East Machias. Bro. C. HOLLIS WHITE acted as Grand Marshal, and a male quartet added much to the ceremony. The ladies were the guests of the evening, and later the tables were spread in the hall, and the stewards saw that they were properly furnished and each lady suitably provided for. East Machias has long been famous as the home of Masonry and of music, and until a late hour we practiced the social virtues, and enjoyed music of a high order in quartet and solo singing, character songs, violin, guitar and banjo selections.

February 7th, I visited Lookout Lodge, No. 131, of Cutler, accompanied by ten of the brethren of Warren Lodge, and publicly installed the officers. W. M. FRANCIS L. TALBOT, of Warren Lodge, acted as Grand Marshal, and

P. M. SILAS TURNER, of Lookout Lodge, as Grand Chaplain. Refreshments were served in the hall. Lookout Lodge now owns a fine new building, with hall and convenient ante-rooms above, and a hall for general purposes below. The brethren deserve the praise of all masons for the courage and ability they have displayed.

February 9th, I installed the officers of Jonesport Lodge, No. 188, assisted by Bro. J. A. CROCKER, of Howard Lodge, Winterport, as Grand Marshal. Music was furnished by an orchestra. Ladies and friends were present, and two hundred sat down to refreshments. The new hall is large and well planned for the uses of Masonry. More work is being done here than in any other lodge in the district. The most of the new names will have to appear in next year's report, as they did not fairly begin until after the Grand Lecturer's convention at Ellsworth, from which they received quite an inspiration. A very flourishing lodge of the Eastern Star meet in this hall and have presented to Jonesport Lodge a fine piano.

February 10th, I installed the officers of Tuscan Lodge, No. 106, of Addison Point. P. M. U. N. CURTIS assisted as Grand Marshal, and P. M. V. L. PLUMMER as Grand Chaplain. Their large hall was crowded, and after the ceremony we adjourned to the Westcogus Hall below, where a supper was served by one of the ladies' societies of the village.

February 14th, I installed the officers of Pleiades Lodge, No. 173, of Millbridge, assisted by Bro. WARREN L. PRAY as Grand Marshal and Rev. Bro. H. A. HARDWAY as Grand Chaplain. Several brethren from Narraguagus Lodge were present, and P. M. F. I. CAMPBELL assisted as organist. Refreshments were served in the banquet hall, and social games, speeches and recitations by Bro. B. W. BROWN followed.

February 27th, I inspected work in the Master's degree in my home lodge. It was carefully and impressively done.

March 1st, Narraguagus Lodge, No. 88, of Cherryfield, held a public installation of officers in connection with Dirigo R. A. Chapter. A supper was served by the ladies of the Congregational Society in their chapel at 6.30 P. M. We then adjourned to Union Hall, which had been properly decorated and furnished for the installations. P. M. E. K. WILSON assisted me as Grand Marshal, and Rev. Bro. H. E. LOMBARD as Grand Chaplain. The chapter installation followed, conducted by R. E. P. G. S. H. R. TAYLOR, of Machias, assisted by P. H. P. SAMUEL N. CAMPBELL as Grand Marshal. The Apollo Male Quartet, of Bangor, sang the appropriate music of the ceremonies, and afterwards delighted the audience with a variety of beautiful selections.

March 12th, I inspected work in Pleiades Lodge, No. 173, of Millbridge, by invitation of W. M. J. A. WALLING. Bro. WALLING's excellent record as Deputy in this district is a guarantee that the work was well done.

March 15th, by invitation of Harwood Lodge, No. 91, of Machias, I held a masonic convention in their beautiful hall. Gen'l Manager Dowst again granted us "one fare," and about one hundred brethren, representing all the other lodges in the district, made, with the brethren of Harwood, a large and enthusiastic gathering. I called the convention to order and duly opened it in the Master Mason's degree at 2 P. M. The E. A. degree was exemplified by Warren Lodge, No. 2, FRANK L. TALBOT, W. M. The F. C. degree was exemplified by Lookout Lodge, No. 131, FOREST S. STEVENS, W. M. At 8 P. M. the M. M. degree was exemplified by Narragagus Lodge, No. 88, P. B. GUPTILL, W. M. In order that the work might be carefully followed and noticed, I appointed Committees on Criticism from the Masters of the several lodges of the district for the E. A. and F. C. degrees, and P. D. D. G. M.'s WALTER F. BRADISH, of the Second District; NEHEMIAH GUPTILL and LINCOLN H. LEIGHTON of this district, for the M. M. degree. These committees reported at the close of each degree, when the errors, omissions or differences were discussed and finally passed on by me. The work was done correctly and in a very impressive manner by all of the lodges, especially by Lookout Lodge, of Cutler. The lodges have met so often in district conventions that there is a substantial agreement in the floor work as well as in the ritual. The presence of Bro. WALTER F. BRADISH, of the Second District, was especially fortunate, as the work of the two districts was compared and harmony in both promoted. I was ably seconded and supported by P. G. M. HENRY R. TAYLOR, who does not allow his interest in anything masonic to wane, and still keeps bright by constant use, the critical knowledge of the mysteries of Masonry which distinguished him as the head of our Grand Body.

We regretted the absence, through continued illness, of W. M. WILLIS H. ALLEN, of Harwood, who had been enthusiastic in promoting the convention. But the brethren, led by S. W. LORING B. WILDER, did all that brotherly love could suggest, and to all our thanks are gratefully extended. I trust that the masonic convention of the Third District has come to stay. Its benefits are obvious, and the W. C. R. R. allows the brethren to attend with little expense or loss of time. It has afforded me an opportunity to inspect work which I would not otherwise have had, since all of the lodges had planned for public installations, which have a recognized value in Masonry.

I have found all the lodges working in harmony as men and as masons, and in an agreement with the ritual and masonic usages and customs highly commendable. They are generally prosperous, although in some cases laboring under debts which are not burdensome. The Treasurers and Secretaries are men of experience in their stations, and the returns and records show their ability and accuracy.

I thank you, Most Worshipful, for the opportunities I have enjoyed dur-

the past year of meeting so many of the brethren and of joining with them in promoting the good of our order.

Fraternally submitted,

DAVID W. CAMPBELL, D. D. G. M. 3d M. D.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth District.

I have visited officially every lodge in the district once during the past year, with the exception of my home lodge, Eggemoggin Lodge, No. 128, which I thought was not necessary, as I have attended nearly every meeting and witnessed work in all three degrees, which was very well performed. Records are in the hands of Bro. BRIDGES and are kept in an exceedingly fine manner. Dues quite well collected.

November 27th, I visited Ira Berry Lodge, No. 187, Bluehill. This was a special meeting called by my request, with quite a large number present. Work was exemplified in the Entered Apprentice degree in a very able manner. The records are in the hands of Bro. F. A. DAVIS, and are neatly and correctly kept. The dues are well collected. Although they have had no work since February, 1899, there is a good degree of interest. After the lodge was closed the W. M. invited all present to partake of refreshments and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

January 15th, by invitation, I again visited this lodge and installed the officers, assisted by P. M. J. C. HOOPER, of Eggemoggin Lodge, as Grand Marshal. I think that Ira Berry Lodge have made a wise selection in the choice of their W. M. and other officers. After installation, refreshments were served and a social time enjoyed with the brethren.

December 9th, I visited Reliance Lodge, No. 195, at Stonington. Witnessed work in the Entered Apprentice degree, which was performed in a very able and proficient manner. The records are in the hands of Bro. SRINSON, are very neatly and correctly kept, and show a good attendance. This lodge is in a flourishing condition financially, as they are having quite a lot of work, but they are somewhat slack in collecting dues, to which I called their attention. Refreshments were much enjoyed after the lodge was closed.

December 19th, I made my official visit to Marine Lodge, No. 122, Deer Isle. This was a very stormy night, but a large number were present.

Witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree. This is a very fine working lodge. The officers are all young masons and they take a great interest in the work and have thoroughly memorized the ritual. They have lately upholstered their hall and made other improvements, making it one of the finest masonic homes in the country. Bro. JOYCE keeps the books in a very fine manner. The dues are remarkably well collected, every member having paid his dues, which I think is a pretty good record. After the lodge closing we were invited to partake of a very fine supper and a most enjoyable evening was passed.

January 30th, by invitation, I again visited this lodge and witnessed work in the Fellow Craft degree, which was performed in a very pleasing manner after which I installed the officers, assisted by P. M. JOYCE as Grand Marshal and Bro. CHAPIN as Grand Chaplain. After installation, interesting remarks were made by the brethren and a fine collation was served.

December 27th, I made my official visit to Rising Star Lodge, No. 177, Penobscot, and at their request I installed the officers, assisted by P. M. BENJ. CUSHMAN as Grand Marshal. I had previously visited this lodge and witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree, which was very ably done. The records are in the hands of Bro. CUSHMAN, and are well kept. Dues are well collected. After installation, refreshments were served and a social time was spent.

January 4th, I visited Hancock Lodge, No. 4, Castine. Witnessed work on the Master Mason's degree, which was very satisfactorily done. This is the home of P. D. D. G. Masters WHEELER, SHEPHERD and DAVIES, who were all present at this meeting. I wish to compliment this lodge and its Secretary on the manner in which they collect their dues. At the time of my visit, out of the seventy-nine members there were only five who had not paid their dues. After the working of the degree I installed the officers elect, assisted by P. M. JOHN F. REA as Grand Marshal. After installation we repaired to the Castine House, where refreshments were served.

January 13th, by request of my own lodge, I installed their officers, assisted by P. M. J. H. HOOPER as Grand Marshal, and P. M. F. G. HIGGINS as Grand Chaplain. This was for masons and their families and there were about one hundred and fifty present. Interesting remarks were made by the brethren and ladies, after which we repaired to the banquet room, where a fine collation was served to all present, and a most enjoyable evening was passed.

January 23d, I attended a convention for instruction at Ellsworth, called by M. W. FRANK E. SLEEPER, Grand Lecturer. This was a very instructive session and I received much benefit from the meeting. Large number present. Lodges represented from Fourth District, Hancock, No. 4, Castine, W. Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden; Ira Berry, No. 187,

Blue Hill, W. Master, Senior Warden and Senior Steward; Marine, No. 122, Deer Isle, member; Rising Star, No. 177, Penobscot, W. Master and member; Eggemoggin, No. 128, Sedgwick, Senior Warden, Treasurer, Marshal and three members. I wish a large number from this district could have been present, but owing to the great distance and bad traveling there were not as many there as would otherwise have been.

February 7th, I visited Naskeag Lodge, No. 171, at Brooklin. This was a stated meeting. Quite a large number present. Work was exemplified in the Entered Apprentice degree and was well performed. The records are kept in a very neat and precise manner. They are somewhat behind on dues, but this matter was brought up and I think the fault will be remedied. They have had no work for over four years, but they expect to have some soon, and that will encourage them. After lodge, refreshments were served, to which we all did justice.

In conclusion, allow me, Most Worshipful, to thank you for the honor conferred upon me by my appointment, and to express my appreciation to the officers and brethren of the several lodges for the uniform kindness and courtesy which they have shown me while making my official visits.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

THEO. A. SMITH, *D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.*

Sedgwick, March 20, 1900.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith respectfully submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Fifth Masonic District.

August 21st, I made my first official visit with Doric Lodge of Monson. Although the weather was warm and sultry, there was nevertheless a good sized attendance at the meeting. Work was presented in the M. M. degree in a most impressive manner, two candidates being raised. This lodge well merits its reputation of doing good work. Brother HAYNES' thorough fitness for the duties of Secretary is manifested by the excellent appearance of the records. I find this lodge in a good condition financially and with bright prospects for a lot of work during the rest of the year. The meeting was followed by a banquet.

September 1st, I went to Milo by appointment, to be present at a special meeting of Piscataquis Lodge, for work in the M. M. degree, but owing to some oversight I was not notified of the cancellation of the meeting, hence

I was disappointed in not being able to meet the brethren and witness the lodge work.

October 20th, I again visited Piscataquis Lodge, and publicly installed the officers, assisted by Past Master A. E. LEONARD acting as Grand Marshal. At the close of the installation services we were delightfully entertained with songs and recitations, also by selections from a graphophone. Past D. D. G. M. HAMLIN was present and added interest to the occasion by appropriate remarks. An oyster supper followed.

November 6th, made a second visit to Doric Lodge, at Monson, and witnessed work in the third degree, two candidates being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Visitors from several of the neighboring lodges were expected to be present, but owing to weather conditions but few responded to their invitations. The meeting, however, was full of interest to those who were there, and at its close all partook of one of Doric's famous suppers. The spirit of unity which pervades the members of this lodge makes it particularly strong and progressive.

November 13th, visited officially Pleasant River Lodge, at Brownville, it being their annual meeting. Election of officers was the first business, after which work in the degree of Master Mason was presented. It was smoothly and promptly done and must have very favorably impressed the candidate. A pleasing feature of the meeting was the excellent examination which the candidate passed in the preceding degrees. A delegation from Composite Lodge was present and all agreed that a profitable meeting had been passed. At intermission an excellent banquet was served in a near by hall by the ladies. I think the financial condition of this lodge warrants better furnishings for its home. The records, which have been neatly kept by Bro. CHASE, show dues fairly well paid up and progress made during the year.

December 11th, made a second visit to Pleasant River Lodge and privately installed the officers, assisted by Past D. D. G. M. E. M. JONSTON acting as Grand Marshal. The night being a stormy one, but few were present. Following the installation services light refreshments were served, and cigars smoked, which were sent as a token of remembrance from Manila, by a member of this lodge now serving as a volunteer in the U. S. Army.

December 15th, by invitation of W. M. WORTH, I made an official visit to Olive Branch Lodge, at Charleston, and witnessed work in M. M. degree. It being an annual meeting election of officers occurred, and report of Treasurer was read, which showed this lodge to be in a healthy condition financially. Work was then presented in the M. M. degree in a most thorough manner, the candidate first passing in open lodge a very creditable examination in the preceding degrees. A strong characteristic of the officers of Olive Branch Lodge is to get very near to the wording of the ritual in their work. I enjoyed a hearty welcome and a very pleasant meeting. Past

D. D. G. M. T. J. PEAKS was present, and added very materially to the interest of the occasion by general remarks and in discussing the details of the work. The records, which have for so many years been kept by Bro. SMITH, show the same degree of neatness as of yore.

January 4th, publicly installed the officers of Mosaic Lodge. A good number of invited friends were present and a pleasing entertainment was interspersed with the installation service. In this work I was assisted by Past D. D. G. M. E. A. THOMPSON as Grand Marshal.

January 8th, publicly installed the officers of Doric Lodge, at Monson, Past D. D. G. M. A. F. JACKSON acting as Grand Marshal. The service was preceded by an installation of the officers of Euclid Chapter, O. E. S. Instrumental music added pleasure to the services of the evening. Banquet followed.

January 13th, I visited Mt. Kineo Lodge, at Guilford, and privately installed the officers, assisted by Past D. D. G. M. J. T. ROBERTS as Grand Marshal. The annual reports were read at the meeting, showing this to be one of the strongest lodges in the district. A banquet followed.

January 16th, attended lodge of instruction at Pittsfield, presided over by F. E. SLEEPER, Grand Lecturer, and received a substantial benefit. An earlier session, however, would have been of great assistance to me when making official visits during the fall months.

February 10th, visited Composite Lodge, at La Grange. Work in M. M. degree was performed most creditably. The officers are alert and well versed and thoroughly merit a good report. The records, which are so well looked after by Brother DYER, show two meritorious conditions of the lodge, in that it is free from debt and that the brethren are using proper precaution when balloting on applications. A pleasant and social time was spent at the table of refreshment during intermission.

February 12th, made an official visit to Penobscot Lodge, at Dexter. Found a very large number of brethren present, presided over by a set of newly-elected officers, who nevertheless rendered the work of raising one candidate to the sublime degree of Master Mason, after the manner of experienced hands. Records show that a special effort is being made to collect unpaid dues. A number of applications were presented at the meeting, showing the lodge to be in a progressive condition.

I have made two appointments with W. M. FOLSON, of Columbia Lodge at Greenville, to be present at a stated meeting, but each time circumstances have prevented my attending, which I most sincerely regret. A personal acquaintance with most of the members of this lodge prompts me to say that progress is bound to follow Columbia Lodge.

I have attended nearly all of the meetings of Mosaic Lodge, which is my home masonically, and can report most favorably on the quality and earnest-

ness of its officers and all conditions of the lodge, with the exception of the debt which has for so many years been a burden to us. I trust that the move which is now on foot to raise funds to meet the indebtedness may prove successful.

In closing my report, I wish to say that during my term of office as District Deputy I have received from all the lodges the most courteous treatment and hearty welcome, for which I am very grateful, and to you, Most Worshipful, I extend my sincere thanks for placing me in a position to enjoy so many pleasant occasions,

Fraternally yours,

ALLEN P. CLARK, *D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.*

SIXTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor of submitting my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth Masonic District for the past masonic year.

October 13th, I publicly installed the officers of Star in the East Lodge, No. 60, at Old Town, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal. There was a large number present. The Apollo Quartet, of Bangor, furnished appropriate music during the ceremonies. A fine banquet was served, after which all returned to the lodge room, where a fine musical programme was presented by the quartet. I have been present at most of the meetings of this my home lodge during the year, and while we have not had the usual amount of work, Star in the East is in good condition. The records are in good hands and the dues well collected.

November 15th, I made my official visit to Kenduskeag Lodge, No. 137, at Kenduskeag. I was accompanied by twenty-eight of the Bangor brethren; and there were present brethren from Hampden, Hermon, Charleston, Corinth and Carmel. Work was presented in the M. M. degree. There were two candidates. The work was done in a pleasing and impressive manner. Bro. HARVEY, the Master, is a good worker, and is well supported by his officers. There has been a great improvement in the work of this lodge since my visit one year ago. Records are in good hands and dues well collected. At the close of the lodge a fine banquet was served by the ladies.

December 29th, made my official visit to Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, at Bangor. Witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree. The work was

very fine, all the officers performing their parts in a very impressive manner. The ritual was very closely followed, and the floor work nicely done. Fine singing by the Apollo Quartet added very much to the enjoyment of the evening. There was a large number present. Records well kept and dues well collected. Banquet and speaking at close.

December 26th, I publicly installed the officers of Lynde Lodge, No. 174, at Hermon. I was assisted by Wor. Bro. FRED PAINE as Grand Marshal. There was a large number of brothers and friends present. The officers of the Chapter of Eastern Star were also installed the same evening. The ceremonies were interesting to me and were very nicely performed. Fine singing added much to the enjoyment of the evening, and a bountiful collation was served to which all did justice. As the hour was late I did not stop to the entertainment given by the members of the lodge and chapter.

December 27th, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Mystic Lodge, No. 65, at Hampden, assisted by Wor. Bro. W. W. EMERSON of that lodge as Grand Marshal. Fine singing was rendered by the Male Quartet, which added much to the beauty of the ceremonies. After the installation we partook of a bountiful supper, and returning to the lodge room were entertained by the quartet, also with readings and recitations by a number of young ladies. Lodge closed without ceremony, which concluded a most enjoyable evening.

December 29th, paid an official visit to Howard Lodge, No. 69, at Winterport, and by invitation installed the officers, with the exception of the Senior Warden. I was assisted by Wor. Bro. A. J. CROCKER as Grand Marshal. Installation was private. I also took up some parts of the work and lectures, after which we repaired to the banquet hall, where an oyster supper was served. Lodge in about the same condition as reported last year. The records are still in the hands of Bro. J. H. BAKER, and are nicely kept and the dues well collected.

January 9, 1900, I installed the officers of Benevolent Lodge, No. 87, at Carmel, with the assistance of Wor. Bro. GEORGE D. PINKHAM as Grand Marshal. The installation was public and the hall was filled with the brethren and friends. I also had the assistance of the Male Quartet of Carmel. After the installation a bountiful supper was served in town hall, when all returned to the lodge room and had the pleasure of listening to a nice entertainment by the quartet and local talent. The records are still in the hands of Bro. C. K. JOHNSON and are very nicely kept.

January 16th, I attended the masonic convention held at Pittsfield by the Grand Lecturer and received much valuable information in masonic work. In my opinion these conventions are of great value to the craft, and should be attended by all brethren who can.

January 26th, I officially visited St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 83, at Bangor.

This meeting was called at 4 p. m. Work was on the M. M. degree and was very well rendered, careful attention being given to the floor work as well as to the ritual. The singing by the Apollo Quartet during this work was the finest I ever listened to. After the work a fine banquet was served, to which nearly two hundred masons did ample justice. Returning to the lodge room, I installed their officers, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal, and the Apollo Quartet. The records are still in the hands of Bro. FRED W. ADAMS and are well written, in correct form, and show this lodge to be in the best financial condition of any in the district, and that the dues are well collected.

January 27th, accompanied by Bro. L. W. GILMAN, S. W. of St. Andrew's Lodge of Bangor, I made an official visit to Lynde Lodge, No. 174, at Hermon, and witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree. This was the first time the present officers had worked this degree and the work was not quite up to the work of the lodges in this district that have been favored with more work, and still was better than one would expect under the circumstances. This lodge is in good financial condition; records in good form and dues well collected.

January 30th, by invitation, I installed the officers of Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, at Bangor. I was assisted in the installation ceremonies by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER, of Star in the East Lodge, as Grand Marshal, and the Apollo Quartet. The installation was private, but there was a good attendance. Refreshments and speaking at the close.

January 31st, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Mechanics' Lodge, No. 66, at Orono, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal and also by a fine choir. There was a large number of brethren and friends present.

On March 7th, I made my official visit to this lodge and witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree, which was rendered in a very able manner, the officers and members showing great interest in the work. There is a marked improvement in the work of this lodge. The records are still in the hands of Past D. D. G. M. DURGIS, and are neatly and correctly kept; dues well collected. After the close of the lodge a fine supper was served.

March 22d was the date of my official visit to Mystic Lodge, No. 65, at Hampden, and I saw the E. A. degree exemplified. The officers were not all present, and as this was the first time the degree had been worked since installation, the work was not up to the standard of this district; but I am satisfied that with practice and work they will give a good account of themselves. The records are in correct form and dues well-collected.

At my official visits during the year I made such criticisms as were necessary, and offered such suggestions and recommendations as seemed to me to

be for the best interests of the different lodges, all of which were kindly received.

I have issued six Past Masters' diplomas during the year.

My official duties have been very pleasant, and will long be remembered by me.

In closing my report I thank you, Most Worshipful, for the honor conferred, and tender my sincere regards to the brethren of this district for their kindness to me.

Fraternally submitted,

FRED C. BARTON, *D. D. G. M. 6th M. D.*

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Seventh Masonic District.

I have visited all the lodges in the district except one, and am happy to report them in good condition, with officers, without exception, anxious to be correct in their work and interested in the welfare of the fraternity.

September 30th, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Liberty Lodge, No. 111, Liberty, assisted by P. M. O. W. RIPLEY as Grand Marshal, and P. M. L. C. MORSE as Grand Chaplain. There was quite a good attendance of brethren and invited guests. The services were interspersed with appropriate music by a fine choir. After the installation there was some good masonic talk by several of the brethren, followed by a bountiful banquet.

October 14th, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Quantabcook Lodge, No. 129, Searsmont, assisted by P. M. A. G. CASWELL as Grand Marshal, and Rev. Bro. G. M. BAILEY, of Rising Star Lodge, as Grand Chaplain. A quartet furnished good music during the ceremonies. After the installation refreshments were served.

January 16th, I attended a convention for instruction, held at Pittsfield under the direction of our Grand Lecturer, M. W. FRANK E. SLEEPER, which was well attended. I found the instruction received there of great value to me in my official duties, as many of the questions asked me were the same as those considered in the convention.

February 8th, I visited Unity Lodge, No. 58, Thorndike. There being no work, the ritual was discussed and I imparted such instruction as I thought

necessary. The records are safe in the hands of Past D. D. G. M. ALBERT W. WARD. This lodge is in good financial condition.

February 10th, I visited Liberty Lodge, No. 111, Liberty. Work was exemplified in the M. M. degree. The new officers performed their respective parts very well and very few corrections were called for. The records are well kept by Bro. A. P. CARGILL, who is serving his twenty-eighth consecutive term as Secretary of this lodge. The dues are unusually well collected, therefore it is unnecessary to state that the financial standing is good. At this visitation I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. GUSTAVUS H. CARGILL, P. J. G. W., whose interest in the fraternity is unabating.

March 3d, I visited Quantabacook Lodge, No. 129, Searsmont. Work was exemplified in the M. M. degree, which was very well done; better even than I was expecting to see, as the new officers had not done any work since their installation. This lodge being my masonic home, I know by being present at nearly every communication that the officers are efficient and interested in the welfare of the lodge. The records are well kept and safe in the hands of Past D. D. G. M. LOIMA C. POOR.

March 13th, I visited Star in the West Lodge, No. 85, Unity. There being no work, we spent some time in going over the ritual and in giving such instruction as I was able to. The records are well kept and the finances of the lodge are well looked after.

March 14th, I visited Marsh River Lodge, No. 102, Brooks. There being no work, the evening was spent in going over portions of the ritual, making such corrections as were necessary, and giving such instruction as I was able. Records are well kept.

March 15th, I visited Sebasticook Lodge, No. 146, Clinton. The brethren were unable to present any work, but from what I know of this lodge, I am confident it is able to do as good work now as it has in the past. Records are well kept and financial condition good.

Circumstances that could not be avoided have prevented my visiting Central Lodge, No. 45, China. As I have good reports of this lodge I feel that the craft will have proper instruction.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the brethren of this district for the uniform kindness and courtesy with which they have received me, and you, Most Worshipful, for the honor conferred upon me by appointing me your representative in this district.

Fraternally submitted,

ADELBERT MILLETT, D. D. G. M. 7th M. D.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Herewith I submit my annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Eighth Masonic District.

I have personally visited five of the seven lodges in the district and find them well officered and working discreetly and harmoniously for the up-building of Masonry. This is also true of the two which I failed to visit.

My labors have been materially lightened by the thorough work done by my predecessors in office, and every lodge shows evidence of the instruction that has been so freely bestowed.

The Secretaries have been prompt in forwarding their returns and dues, the papers showing care in preparation.

The following is a detailed statement of my work among the lodges:

December 2, 1899, visited Excelsior Lodge, Northport, and publicly installed its officers, assisted by P. M. WILLIAM C. LIBBY as Grand Marshal. Banquet.

January 17, 1900, I visited Pownal Lodge, Stockton, and publicly installed its officers by the aid of P. M. W. C. LIBBY as Grand Marshal.

The installation was followed by a turkey supper, speech making, a musical entertainment and a general good time. This lodge since my visit has been doing good work, having made five or six members, and is in a very prosperous condition.

January 23d, Mariner's Lodge, Searsport, and Searsport Chapter, Searsport, held in conjunction a double public installation. I was assisted in the service of the lodge ceremony by P. M. W. C. LIBBY, while Comp. C. E. MESERVEY, of Rockland, installed the Chapter Officers. This was a very enjoyable occasion. A banquet followed, an intermingling of speech making, musical features, readings, &c., concluding the ceremonies of the evening. This lodge is in a thrifty condition, records well kept and a large degree of interest maintained.

February 12th, visited and installed the officers of Phoenix Lodge, of Belfast, and on March 3d again met with them and witnessed work in the third degree. The officers manifested interest, but were not accurate in the rendering of the ritual. They however manifested a desire for rehearsal and instruction, which I will endeavor to give them the coming year.

February 23d, visited Timothy Chase Lodge, of Belfast, and installed its officers. This lodge has done no work the past year, but it has been one of the most prosperous lodges in our district and I trust will rally again in the near future. Phoenix Lodge is doing quite a lot of work and the field is not large enough to furnish material for both; hence when one

is making masons the other lodge is usually inactive. It is in good condition financially, and we have a right to expect good returns later.

January 18th, was invited to visit Island Lodge, Islesboro, but was unable to attend from circumstances that could not be controlled. I appointed P. D. D. G. M. OSCAR HILLS to attend officially for me, and he did so, and installed its officers, assisted by P. D. D. G. M. R. A. PACKARD. He reports a most pleasant time, such as Islesboro alone can furnish. The records are kept in fine condition by the veteran Secretary, THOMAS R. WILLIAMS, with a continuous record of our twenty years of faithful and active discharge of the many duties connected with the office.

King David's Lodge, of Lincolnville, endeavored to have me visit them on two or three different occasions, both for installation and inspection of work, but owing to various causes I was unable to reach them. I learn that they are doing some work, that harmony prevails where discord once threatened, and the interest is well kept up.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I wish to extend to you my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me by the appointment to a position so responsible, and through you to the several lodges comprising the 8th Masonic District for the courtesy with which, as your representative, I have been received.

Fraternally submitted,

S. AUGUSTUS PARKER, *D. D. G. M. 8th M. D.*

NINTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my report of the work performed by me in the Ninth Masonic District in conjunction with R. W. BRO. PETERSON, the regularly appointed Deputy for this district.

In order that the records may clearly show my connection with the office of District Deputy, I purpose at the outset of this report to insert your letter to me authorizing me to act.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,

AUGUSTA, February 9, 1900.

C. E. MESERVEY, Esq.,

Dear Sir and Brother:—F. A. PETERSON, D. D. G. M., writes me that you will assist him in his work in the Ninth District. I wish you would do so and

this is to authorize you to act. I do not know just how the work stands at present, but hope with Bro. PETERSON you will be able to see all the lodges.

Very truly and fraternally,

W. S. CHOATE, *Grand Master.*

November 7, 1899, Bro. PETERSON visited Rockland Lodge, No. 79, at Rockland, when work was presented in the E. A. degree. I was not present, but Bro. PETERSON assures me that the work was well rendered and the ritual closely followed. March 27, 1900, Bro. PETERSON again visited this lodge and I accompanied him. At this meeting, at the request of Bro. PETERSON, I examined the books of the Secretary and found what any one who knows Bro. MATHER, the Secretary of Rockland Lodge, would expect, a set of books the model of neatness and correctness. I also found the cleanest ledger that I have examined in this district. The dues are unusually well collected, there being a very small amount outstanding as shown by the ledger, an example which it would be well for other lodges in this district to follow.

March 20th, in company with Bro. PETERSON, I visited Orient Lodge, No. 15, at Thomaston. We were unfortunate in the selection of an evening, as several of the officers were absent on account of sickness, and the candidate was absent for the same cause. Under these circumstances, it was not deemed advisable to attempt any exemplification of the work, so the lodge was not even opened. I availed myself of this opportunity to examine the books of the Secretary. The records were very neatly and properly kept, being full and complete. The ledger showed a large amount of dues uncollected, brethren, who it was admitted were abundantly able to pay, several years in arrears. The lodge appears to be in a flourishing condition and in good hands.

March 23d, Bro. PETERSON visited Amity Lodge, No. 6, at Camden. I was not able to accompany him, being detained by other engagements. The work presented was in the F. C. degree, and Bro. PETERSON reports that it was well and impressively rendered. In short, Bro. PETERSON says that "Amity is all right." From my knowledge of the usual character of the work and acquaintance with the brethren of Amity Lodge, I have no doubt of the correctness of Bro. PETERSON's statement.

March 24th, I accompanied Bro. PETERSON on a visit to Knox Lodge, No. 189, at South Thomaston. There was no regular work, so the E. A. degree was exemplified, and it was clearly demonstrated that under the guidance of Worshipful Master SELLERS, who has held the position before, the brethren would be all right to perform good work whenever any was offered. I am informed that they have since conferred the E. A. and F. C. degrees. I examined the books of the Secretary. I found the records well kept.

The ledger plainly indicated that the financial part of the lodge, so far as the collection of dues is concerned, was somewhat neglected. This is one of the youngest lodges in the district. They own their lodge building, and have nearly completed paying for it. They occupy the whole building, so of course they derive no revenue from it.

March 26th, I visited St. George Lodge, No. 16, at Warren. There was a large attendance and the M. M. degree was conferred on one candidate in a most satisfactory manner. The ritual was closely followed and very impressively rendered. This lodge owns the building which they occupy and have it all paid for, as well as another small building adjoining it. I examined the books and found the records in good condition and the dues well collected. The lodge is in a flourishing condition, and the officers full of enthusiasm. At this meeting I had the pleasure of meeting that veteran mason, Bro. A. M. WETHERBEE, Past Senior Grand Warden.

April 9th, found me with St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, at Rockport. On my arrival I found that it was not generally known that I was expected to be present, although I had previously notified the Master of my intention to visit the lodge at this meeting. Several applications were accepted at this meeting and more were presented, showing a marked revival of interest in Masonry in the village of Rockport. The E. A. degree was conferred on one candidate, and although most of the officers were new to their present positions, the work was very well performed. The second and third sections of the lecture connected with this degree were given in full and very correctly. The records were all right. I was assured by the Secretary that the ledger was all right and that the dues were well collected. The Secretary not knowing of my intended visit, did not have the ledger with him.

April 12th, I met with Union Lodge, No. 31, at Union. The weather was threatening, the traveling anything but inviting, some of the brethren indisposed and the candidate unable for some cause to be present. These causes having their usual effect, the attendance was very light and no attempt was made to exemplify the work, though the Master volunteered to do so. Knowing the reputation of this lodge for good work, and having been assured by Bro. PETERSON, who visited it last year, that they were in close accord with the ritual, I did not think it necessary to require any exemplification of the work. I examined the books and found the records correctly kept, full and complete. The records and the ledger showed that the lodge had taken action in the matter of collection of dues, and while there is still quite an amount outstanding, good results had been accomplished during the last few months.

These are all the lodges which I have been able to visit officially since being called upon to assist Bro. PETERSON in his work. I am, however, able to make some report as to the condition of the remaining lodges in this district.

Aurora Lodge, No. 50, at Rockland, is my masonic home and I have attended nearly all of the meetings during the past year. Until recently Aurora Lodge has not been doing any work. There is now quite an amount of work on hand, the officers are showing considerable enthusiasm, the interest among the members is increasing, and the outlook for a prosperous year is most encouraging. The records still remain in the hands of Bro. ROBINSON, who has held the office of Secretary many years, and who is thoroughly familiar with the duties of the office.

In corresponding with Bro. JAMES M. SMITH, I find that Eureka Lodge, No. 84, at St. George, has not done much work during the past year, although the interest in masonic work has been well maintained. A few years ago this lodge built a masonic hall which they now own. At that time the yearly dues were advanced quite materially, and for this reason the ledger shows quite an amount of dues outstanding. The indebtedness caused by the building of the hall has been reduced, so that the lodge at its last annual meeting voted to reduce the dues one-half, believing that this would enable them to meet their obligations and at the same time relieve the members.

I have personally talked with the Master of Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, at Vinalhaven, as to the condition of the craft on this beautiful island. I ascertained that they had been doing some work and had finished up what they had just before receiving notice from me that I was assisting Bro. PETERSON. I was satisfied that no special benefit would result from a visit by me at a meeting where there was no work, so did not attempt to arrange for one.

Mount Olivet Lodge, No. 203, at Washington, is the youngest lodge in this district, and one of the youngest, if not the youngest, in the state. I was quite anxious to visit Mount Olivet, but was unable to arrange a time when it was convenient for me and for the officers and members of this lodge. I requested the Master to call a special meeting for my convenience, but ascertaining that the date which I selected was an inconvenient one for them I withdrew the request. That left me no opportunity to visit them before making this report, which is already overdue. From talking with several of the members, none of whom happened to be officers, I am pretty well assured that the lodge is all right, and that the Grand Lodge of Maine made no mistake in granting a charter to this lodge.

In closing this account of my stewardship, I wish to express to you my sincere appreciation of your kindness in extending the time in which to make this report. I was able to settle with the Grand Treasurer as required, but nearly all of the work of inspecting which I have been able to do has been done during the extension of time you so kindly granted me.

Yours fraternally,

C. E. MESERVEY, *Acting D. D. G. M. 9th M. D.*

Rockland, April 14, 1900.

TENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first report as D. D. G. M. of the Tenth Masonic District.

On January 9th, I attended the convention for instruction held in Biddeford; it was a very instructive meeting. I was accompanied on that occasion by P. D. D. G. M. W. T. MARR, S. W. W. H. HODGDON, J. W. M. A. PERKINS, Treasurer C. E. KENDRICK, also by Bro. F. C. BLAKE, all of Sea Side Lodge.

I have endeavored to communicate all instructions received at that time to the several lodges in my district and I think all have profited by it.

My first official visit was to Dresden Lodge, No. 103, on January 19th, and witnessed work on the F. C. degree, with which no fault could be found; it was a very pleasant occasion and one that all seemed to enjoy very much; the records are neatly kept and dues fairly well collected. At the close, refreshments were served, which were very much enjoyed.

On February 24th, I visited Sea Side Lodge, No. 144, officially. This is my home lodge. I witnessed work in the M. M. degree, with which but little fault could be found. The officers were nearly all new to the offices they filled, but for all that the work went as smoothly as though they had filled them for the past year. I account for it in part by the fact that the officers are all interested, and part of them attended the meeting of the Grand Lecturer and are trying to keep up with the regulation work. They returned the largest number of initiates, viz: fourteen, and they well deserve their success. The records are still in the hands of Bro. HENRY S. PERKINS, who is in earnest that the duties of Secretary shall be as promptly done as those of the working officers. The records are in good condition and neatly kept and the dues well collected.

December 29, 1899, by special request of Sea Side Lodge, I publicly installed the officers with the assistance of Past D. D. G. M. W. T. MARR as Grand Marshal, and although the night was stormy there was a large number present. Fine singing was rendered by the Christian Endeavor choir, which added much to the beauty of the ceremonies. Some interesting remarks were made by Rev. Bro. McCORMICK, Bros. MCCOBBE, KENDRICK and others; the lodge closed, and all repaired to the banquet hall, where a bountiful supper was enjoyed, after which all returned to the masonic hall and enjoyed a social time. This was considered one of the most pleasant occasions of the season.

February 9th, by special invitation of W. M. GEO. L. WELT, of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 61, I attended a special communication and wit-

nessed work on the M. M. degree, which was well and correctly done, it being the best I have seen during the year, and is a great credit to the officers and members of King Solomon's Lodge. The Senior Deacon being absent on special business, his place was ably filled by P. D. D. G. M. MILLER, who contributed to the work his well known skill in all that pertains to the lodge room. At the close of the work I installed the officers, assisted by P. D. D. G. M. MILLER as Grand Marshal. The records are well kept and dues fairly well collected. After the lodge was closed, we were invited to G. A. R. Hall, where the ladies had provided a fine supper, which was very much enjoyed by all. As our P. D. D. G. M. MARR stated to you last season, I do not approve of the lodge room. I think that arrangements could be easily made to obtain the secrets of the Order, and should especially recommend that the Grand Lodge take action in this matter.

February 24th, I made my official visit to Anchor Lodge, No. 158, at South Bristol, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, which was done in a very creditable manner, a goodly number being present; there was also a large delegation from Bay View Lodge present, and although this lodge has little work, yet they are masters of the situation and honest workers. The W. M., Bro. E. P. GAMAGE, presides over the lodge work with dignity, and is well supported by his subordinates and brethren. The records are in the honest hands of Bro. W. H. MCFARLAND and are well kept. Refreshments followed the work.

March 27th, I officially visited Bristol Lodge, No. 74, of Bristol Mills. The attendance was not as large as was desired. W. Bro. ALBERT H. HUNTER was in the chair. There being no candidate, work was exemplified on the M. M. degree in a very creditable manner. This lodge owns its hall, which is well located; the dues are all well collected and the records are in excellent hands; the officers and members are much interested in the welfare of the lodge. I was accompanied by P. M. O. S. YATES, this formerly being his home lodge. He was very cordially received by his brethren of Bristol Lodge.

January 7th, by special invitation, I installed the officers of Riverside Lodge, No. 135, with the assistance of P. D. D. G. M. W. T. MARR as Grand Marshal. This installation was public and a goodly number were present. There was, by special request, some fine music, which added very much to the beauty of the ceremonies. Very interesting remarks were made by the brethren, after which there was a fine supper served in the hall below. They made this a very pleasant occasion for the D. D. G. M. I have not had the pleasure of witnessing work done by this lodge, but I am convinced they can do good work when occasion requires. The records, in the hands of Bro. J. J. BOND, are well kept and the finances are carefully looked after.

March 28th, officially visited Alna Lodge, No. 43, of Damariscotta.

Work was in M. M. degree, which was performed in a creditable and impressive manner. The officers of this lodge are much interested in the work and are trying to strictly conform to the ritual. The records, in the hands of Bro. E. E. PHILBROOK, are well kept, and dues being carefully looked after.

March 30th, officially visited Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, of Wiscasset. They exemplified work in the M. M. degree. Some of the officers lacked the confidence which they will have with more experience. The records, in the hands of Bro. W. D. PATTERSON, are correctly kept and are a credit to Lincoln Lodge; dues fairly well collected.

J. R. McDOUGALL, D. D. G. M. 10th Masonic District:

By your appointment, I visited Bay View Lodge. It is in very good condition and I think is maintaining its standard of work, which you know has always been good. The records are still in the hands of Bro. V. K. MONTGOMERY, and are very neatly kept. The lodge the past winter has made quite extensive repairs to their hall, having put up a steel ceiling with many improvements. I think they have as nice a hall as there is in the Tenth District; the work is all paid for, and they have quite a sum in the treasury.

Yours fraternally,

W. IRVING ADAMS.

In conclusion, I will say that I have visited every lodge but one in the Tenth District and find them in good condition and doing a fair amount of work. I have given such instructions as I thought for the good of the craft.

I have been kindly received by the officers and brethren of the different lodges, for which I wish to express heartfelt thanks, and to assure them that the remembrance of the past masonic year will always be a pleasure and a gratification to me.

I also desire, Most Worshipful, to thank you for the honor conferred by my appointment.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN R. McDOUGALL, *D. D. G. M. 10th M. D.*

Boothbay Harbor, April 12, 1900.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit herewith a report of my official acts for the masonic year ending May 1, 1900, in the high and honorable office to which

you so kindly saw fit to appoint me, viz: District Deputy Grand Master of the Eleventh District of Maine, and in making this report, I am continually reminded of the responsibility of the position, and assure you I have endeavored to carry out all the duties devolving upon me as best lay in my power and for the greatest good of our beloved fraternity.

My first official visit was made June 20, 1899, to Hermon Lodge No. 33, of Gardiner, Worshipful Master WILLIAM L. POWERS, at which meeting the degree of M. M. was the work in hand. Owing to a heavy thunder shower at 6.30 P. M., I was delayed about an hour in reaching the meeting and was deprived of the pleasure of hearing the examination of the candidate, as to his proficiency in preceding degrees, which part of the work I am very desirous of having done in each and every case. During the preparation of the candidate for work I had the pleasure of examining the books of the lodge in the hands of Worshipful Brother JAMES M. LARRABEE, Secretary, than whom no more efficient or painstaking officer can be found. On account of a disastrous fire which destroyed many valuable masonic records of Hermon Lodge, it has been necessary to make an entirely new set of books, and a more conveniently ruled and itemized membership and cash account book it will be hard to find. The conferring of the degree was admirably done, with excellent floor work and very close adherence to the ritual, the lecture being given with the aid of stereopticon and new screen, which is most attractive and impressive to candidate. Hermon Lodge, in the hands of its present officers, cannot fail to hold its high position already gained among the active lodges of the Eleventh District. Refreshments were served at time of calling from labor to refreshment, and I was pleased to note by the large number who remained for the finish of the work that the supper was not the principal attraction.

Tuesday evening, August 15th, I, in company with W. Bro. THOMAS H. BODGE, W. M. of Bethlehem Lodge, visited Morning Star Lodge, No. 41, at Litchfield Corner, and to say that it was an enjoyable occasion puts it but mildly. We arrived before the opening, which was given in due form and very correctly. After the business of the stated communication, work was suspended in the M. M. degree, and a lodge of F. C. opened, and one brother was creditably passed to the degree of a F. C., after which work was resumed in the M. M. degree, and the same brother was duly raised to this sublime degree. This is the home lodge of R. W. Bro. H. R. STARBIRD, Past D. D. G. M., and it was very pleasing to meet him again and see the lively interest in the welfare of the lodge taken by him, as well as several other Past Masters. Good music, which is always a great assistance to the work, was given by W. Bro. GILBERT, at present the efficient Secretary, whose books were found to reflect great credit for their attention to detail, and furnish abundant proof to all that the continued re-election of this

brother to this responsible position is certainly putting the right man in the right place. Within the past year the lodge has erected a good stable for housing the members' horses during the meetings, which will certainly attract many who would not go and leave their teams exposed to all kinds of weather, for "a merciful man is merciful to his beast." After a bountiful home prepared supper, we passed a time in social intercourse, and left for home with a very warm place in our hearts for the W. M. and brothers of Morning Star Lodge, No. 41.

September 22d, it was my good fortune and great pleasure to be invited to install the officers elect of Morning Star Lodge, at Litchfield Corner, on September 27th. I accepted same, and in company with M. W. Bro. W. S. CHOATE, Brothers STANLEY K. HAWKINS and L. L. COOPER, we made a delightful trip to the home of the above named lodge, and with the assistance of Bro. W. CHAPEN LYNDSTON as Grand Marshal, I performed the ceremony of installation, which was interspersed with very choice music by Mr. L. SMITH, of Auburn, accompanied on the organ by his young son. After due proclamation and the charges, we were all very highly entertained by readings and quaint sayings by Mr. DENNETT, also of Auburn. These three gentlemen add greatly to the good time always enjoyed at a masonic installation, both socially and as an intellectual treat. Later in the evening, I assure you, all enjoyed a bountiful repast which was carefully served by the newly installed officers, except the W. Master.

On Saturday, October 7th, in company with yourself and Brothers BLANCHARD and HAWKINS, I went to Monmouth by invitation to install the officers for the ensuing year. To say we had a delightful trip is putting it mildly. We found the largest number of people gathered which Monmouth Lodge had ever entertained, showing a lively interest in our noble fraternity. After the installation ceremonies, a fine entertainment was given by local talent, followed by a splendid banquet, after which numerous toasts were responded to by the brothers present. I was ably assisted in the work of installation by that tried and true brother, R. W. D. P. BOYNTON as Grand Marshal, and Bro. JOHN McILROY, of Monmouth, as Grand Chaplain.

Wednesday evening, December 6th, I was pleased to be present and install the officers of Kennebec Lodge, No. 5, Hallowell. A large gathering of the members and their families, with visiting friends, were present. The installation ceremonies were followed by a banquet, to which all did ample justice. I regret to add in this connection that Kennebec Lodge reports no work for the past year, neither have they any in view. I hope for better prospects in the near future for this noble old lodge and wish I might assist them in gaining some new material. However, I believe 'tis better none than poor quality.

On Saturday evening, December 16th, I inspected work in third degree

carefully exemplified by the officers and members of Monmouth Lodge, of Monmouth. Under the protecting care of R. W. Past D. D. G. M. D. P. BOYNTON, I found the well known high standard of work in this lodge maintained. Wor. Bro. H. S. BENT, W. M., is highly favored in having a set of officers who I find from the records are present and assisting him at each meeting, thus greatly lessening the arduous duties of the W. M. I hope to have the pleasure of meeting with them often in the future. After the work, a pleasant social hour was enjoyed as well as an appetizing supper.

Monday evening, March 12, 1900, I had the pleasure of an evening with Temple Lodge, No. 25, of Winthrop, and inspected the work in F. C. degree done in a very easy, creditable and pleasing manner. The officers have the work and good of the fraternity thoroughly at heart, and the large attendance of members and visitors, including W. M. H. S. BENT, of Monmouth Lodge, with several of the Past Masters of the same lodge, leads me to believe that the interest in the western side of the Eleventh District is in full vigor. An enjoyable time was had over a good supper, and sociability was at its usual high standard in the home lodge of our Junior Past D. D. G. M., L. E. JONES, who was present and has reason to be proud of Temple, No. 25.

Saturday evening, March 17th, I had the pleasure of meeting with Dirigo Lodge, of China, held at Weeks' Mills. The officers of this lodge show careful study in learning the work, but on account of small amount of work done in the past two years have not attained that connected manner of delivery which makes the work impressive to the candidate. The W. M., Dr. C. J. LINCOLN, was elected to the chair without previous experience as a presiding officer, but has the good of the fraternity truly at heart, and I doubt not that Dirigo will show in the future as good work as any lodge in the district. Refreshments were served and I instructed the brothers in the signs and grips, and trust I may be able to pass another pleasant evening with the lodge before long.

My official visit to our home lodge, Bethlehem, No. 35, was one of great pleasure to me on the evening of April 5th. The work in the M. M. degree, as performed at that time, would certainly do great credit to any lodge. W. M. JAS. E. KINGSLEY, a thorough and painstaking officer and worker in every station to which he has been elected in our noble fraternity, has given the work his most careful thought, and by the energy and care which he displays in every undertaking has imparted to his officers that interest which always produces good results. He is fortunate in having with him a corps of brothers who have been very regular in attendance, and that is one of the assurances of always having good work. The lodge is in very prosperous condition, having 300 members in good standing and none who are not in the same enviable position. The records, in the hands of Bro. JAMES E. BLANCHARD, are a model of excellence, as also the finances in the hands of Bro.

TREBY JOHNSON. A fine banquet was served and a social time passed with the visitors from other lodges in and out of this district.

Tuesday evening, April 10th, I made an official visit to Augusta Lodge, No. 141, and in the hands of W. M. Bro. CHARLES W. FLETCHER the high standard of work done in this lodge is certainly being maintained. The officers, each and all, have given close attention to memorizing the ritual and the floor work is above criticism. The examination of the candidate as to his proficiency was a pleasing feature. I have visited the lodge socially in all three degrees the past year and have enjoyed very much my meetings with them. A new Secretary was elected at the last annual meeting, Wor. Bro. CLAUDE W. TOWNSEND, who, from the care displayed in all his former masonic work, will serve the lodge in his new capacity with equal zeal. A bountiful supper was served at close, and about 150 brothers remained to enjoy the same.

Tuesday evening, April 24th, by invitation of Worshipful Master F. D. LORING, of Hermon Lodge, No. 33, at Gardiner, I inspected work in Entered Apprentice degree, and can conscientiously say I have never seen better work, or a larger number of members present at the work in one of the minor degrees, showing close application on the part of the officers, and appreciation of good work on the part of the members. The floor work was precise and excellent, and the ritual beautifully rendered. The lodge is enjoying great prosperity, and I am greatly pleased to add this to my report of work in third degree, as well as condition of books and records in the hands of Wor. Bro. JAMES M. LARRABEE. A splendid banquet followed the work.

The following is a summary of the returns of the lodges in the Eleventh District: Members, 1,404; initiates, 61; fees, \$120.00; annual dues, \$280.-80; total, \$400.80. I have conferred the Past Master's degree on four candidates and issued a diploma to each.

Mere written words, Most Worshipful, cannot convey to you my appreciation of the honor you have conferred on me in making me your representative in your home district, and I will ever recall with great pleasure my masonic, as well as social, relations with you.

Thanking the officers and members of each lodge in the district for kindnesses shown me in all my intercourse with them, I respectfully submit the foregoing for your kind consideration, and I am

Fraternally and cordially yours,

CHARLES B. ADAMS, *D. D. G. M. 11th M. D.*

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Twelfth Masonic District.

November 27th, visited Waterville Lodge, No. 33, and witnessed work in M. M. degree, Rt. W. Bro. WALKER acting as S. W. The opening and closing was very correct. The work was done in an impressive manner, and while I made some corrections, yet the work on the whole was what would be called good work. The records are nicely kept and show great care. At this meeting were visitors from Vassalboro, Neguemkeag and Rural Lodges. After the work we were invited to the banquet hall, where refreshments were served. Then followed remarks by many of the brethren. All seemed to enjoy the evening very much.

December 11th, visited Lafayette Lodge, No. 48, Readfield. As their lodge rooms were being repaired, they met at A. O. U. W. Hall and worked the F. C. degree. Made some correction, and advised the officers to study more closely the ritual and monitor. The Secretary, Bro. MORGAN, was not present, but I have no doubt the books are in their usual good condition. The members of Lafayette Lodge are remodeling their hall so that it will be nearly new, and when it is completed they will have good reason to be very proud of their beautiful masonic home. I met at this special meeting Past D. D. G. Masters CROSBY and LOVEJOY. After the lodge meeting we had a banquet, then returned to lodge room and went over part of the ritual in E. A. and M. M. degrees. I gave them what instructions I could.

December 12th, visited Asylum Lodge, No. 133, Wayne. The opening and closing ceremonies were well done. The records are well kept by Bro. B. F. BRADFORD. As they had no work to present for inspection, we went over most of the ritual in all the degrees. The W. M., J. PUTNAM STEVENS, had only been installed a short time previously. I doubt not, when they have a candidate wishing to gain admission, he will find them ready, and I trust capable of performing their several parts. After the usual closing ceremonies lunch was served and a pleasant time passed.

Dec. 13th, officially visited Vassalboro Lodge, No. 54, No. Vassalboro, and had the pleasure of having Rt. W. Bro. WALKER accompany me on this trip. The officers had only been installed a short time and some of them were not very familiar with the work. The E. A. degree was conferred upon a candidate. W. M. JOSEPH WALL gave the second and third lectures in a very correct and creditable manner. The records are faithfully kept by Bro. HENRY EWER. This was the first candidate they have had for a year. I found they issued nine dimitts during the year.

December 14th, visited Negumkeag Lodge, No. 166, Vassalboro. The lodge was opened on M. M. degree. As there was no work we went over a large part of the work and lectures of the three degrees. The officers of this lodge are anxious to do good work, and I have no doubt from the way they opened and closed their lodge they will be well prepared when a candidate is received. W. M. WILLIS B. CROSBY makes a good presiding officer, and the records are well kept by Bro. CHARLES A. STILSON.

December 16th, officially visited Rural Lodge, No. 53, Sidney. They expected a candidate that evening, but as he did not appear, they exemplified the work in parts of the three degrees. W. M. W. P. MARBLE had presided only one meeting before this. The interest he manifested in this work impressed me that he would make a good Master. The records are well kept by Bro. J. F. WARREN. The members of this lodge have lots of push and energy and have fixed up their hall so it makes them a nice home.

December 19th, visited Vernon Valley Lodge, No. 99, Mt. Vernon. They worked the E. A. degree in a very creditable manner for new officers. After that they had a banquet in the room below and then returned to the hall, where we went over F. C. and M. M. degrees. The W. M., W. T. MORRILL, does his work in an impressive manner, in fact all the officers performed their parts well, and showed much interest in the work. The records are now in the hands of Bro. F. W. FOSS. Bro. BURBANK retired after serving the lodge as Secretary twenty-seven years. The masons presented him with a very fine lamb-skin apron as a token of their appreciation of his long and faithful service.

January 5th, I publicly installed the officers of Messalonskee Lodge, No. 113, Oakland, this being a joint installation with Drummond Royal Arch Chapter.

January 9th, I attended Bro. SLEEPER'S Lodge of Instruction at Biddeford. It was very profitable to us all.

It has been gratifying to note the improvement in the several lodges in this district. In conclusion allow me, Most Worshipful, to thank you for the honor conferred upon me, and I take this opportunity to thank the officers and members of the Twelfth District who have so royally entertained me. I sincerely trust that my successor may meet with the same kindness and courtesy which has been extended to me.

Faternally submitted,

JAMES H. WITHERELL, D. D. G. M., 12th M. D.

Oakland, April 10, 1900.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Thirteenth Masonic District.

September 18th, publicly installed the officers of Euclid Lodge, No. 194, Madison, assisted by W. Bro. LEONARD O. PAINE as Marshal, also by a fine orchestra. There were present some two hundred. At the close of the ceremonies we repaired to the banquet hall, where a fine banquet was served.

September 30th, publicly installed the officers of Lebanon Lodge, No. 116, at South Norridgewock. Previously to the ceremonies a banquet was served to the brethren and ladies.

October 18th, attended the annual communication of Keystone Lodge, No. 80, Solon, and publicly installed the officers of the lodge in the presence of the brethren and their families. After the ceremonies there was a concert in the public hall below the lodge room. A fine banquet was served at noon.

November 11th, I visited Bingham Lodge, No. 199, at Bingham. There being no work on hand, the W. Master kindly exemplified the F. C. degree, which was very well done. This lodge has done much work this year, and seems to be in a very prosperous condition. Records in the hands of Bro. GEORGE C. EAMES and are very well kept.

November 14th, I visited Carrabassett Lodge, No. 161, Canaan. As the lodge had no work at this time, the E. A. degree was exemplified. This being the officers' first time in their present positions, it was necessary for me to make a few corrections. Records well kept.

November 16th, by invitation, I visited Somerset Lodge, No. 34, Skowhegan. Witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was very well and impressively done. There was a very large number of the brethren present. On this occasion I had the pleasure to meet M. W. Bro. WM. R. G. ESTES, P. G. M., and FRANCIS H. WING, Past D. D. G. M. The records are still in the keeping of Bro. C. M. LAMBERT, who has served in the office for a long time and keeps a fine record.

January 10th, I visited Keystone Lodge, No. 80, Solon. There being no candidate, work was exemplified in the F. C. degree, which was quite well done considering that so many officers were absent. The records are still in the hands of Bro. PERRY S. LONGLEY, and are neatly and correctly kept.

January 10th, visited Lebanon Lodge, No. 116, South Norridgewock, and witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which on the whole was an average of the work done in this district. Made a few corrections, which were kindly received. This lodge has had much work this year and seem to be interested

in doing it well. The records are still in the hands of Bro. WARD and are all right.

January 16th, I attended the convention called for instruction, by the Grand Lecturer, at Pittsfield, which has proved of great benefit to me in masonic work. These conventions are of great value to the craft and should be well attended.

February 27th, visited Northern Star Lodge, No. 28, North Anson. Work was presented in the E. A. degree, which was well done considering the officers had not done much work in their present positions. The records of this lodge are in the hands of Bro. W. C. SIMMONS and are a model of neatness.

March 8th, visited Siloam Lodge, No. 92, Fairfield. Work was presented in the M. M. degree. This lodge has had considerable work this year, and the officers are doing it in a very fine and impressive manner, following the ritual very closely. The records are in the hands of Bro. CHAPMAN and are all right.

Euclid Lodge, No. 194, Madison, is my home lodge. I therefore did not consider it necessary to visit it officially, as I have attended nearly all of its meetings. They have done a small amount of work and have done it well.

In conclusion, I will say that I have visited every lodge in the district, and I find, with one or two exceptions, peace and harmony prevail. The officers of all of the lodges seem to want to do every thing they can to have the work done correctly. They have received all of my suggestions with kindness, and I desire to thank them one and all for the kindness and courtesy with which I have been received, and to assure them that the remembrance of the past year will always be a pleasure to me. I also desire to thank you, Most Worshipful, for the honor conferred on me by my appointment as D. D. G. Master of this district.

Fraternally submitted,

GRANVILLE D. PERKINS, *D. D. G. M. 13th M. D.*

Madison, March 26, 1900.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor of submitting to you my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Fourteenth Masonic District, and it is with great pleasure that I assure you of the most satisfactory condition of affairs in this district. The lodges are working together in harmony, and a general good feeling prevails among the members of the several lodges.

January 9, 1900, I attended the convention for instruction in masonic work, at Biddeford. The meeting was called to order by W. M. Bro. FRANK E. SLEEPER, Grand Lecturer. A careful study was given to the ritual in all three degrees. Only those who attend such conventions can appreciate the benefit that may be received.

March 12th, I visited Ancient York Lodge, No. 155, Lisbon Falls. Owing to unavoidable circumstances, the officers were unable to work the E. A. degree as was expected. There was a large attendance and good interest is shown in the affairs of the lodge. They have a large hall, which is well furnished. The records are neatly kept by Bro. WILLIAM PARKIN.

March 13th, I visited Acacia Lodge, No. 121, Durham. This lodge has not had any work for the past year, yet they exemplified the work in the M. M. degree in a correct manner. After lodge was closed refreshments were served and a social time was enjoyed.

March 14th, I made an official visit to Village Lodge, No. 26, Bowdoinham. Work was exemplified in the M. M. degree, by such brothers as F. K. JACK, W. M., H. E. CORNISH, Sec., and other well qualified officers. The work was carried on very smoothly and the ritual closely followed. This is the home lodge of P. D. D. G. M. ROBERT W. CARR, whom I had the pleasure of meeting on this occasion.

March 16th, I had the pleasure of visiting Polar Star Lodge, No. 114, Bath, and witnessed the work in the E. A. degree, which was performed in a most satisfactory and pleasing manner; but few corrections or suggestions were necessary. There was a large attendance. The records are fine and show a good attendance throughout the year.

March 20th, I officially visited United Lodge, No. 8, Brunswick. Work in the F. C. and M. M. degree, which was done in a correct and satisfactory manner. This lodge is enjoying great prosperity and the officers are fully qualified to fill their respective positions. I feel that I should not be doing my full duty, if I failed to make special mention of the work of Wor. Master HENRY C. UPTON. In the two degrees I found no occasion to make correction in his work, and but few errors were noted in the work of other officers. The records are finely kept by Bro. A. J. HUTCHINSON.

March 26th, I met with Richmond Lodge, No. 63, Richmond. Work in the F. C. and M. M. degrees. This lodge has a good membership, a nice hall and good material for first-class work. They have been a little unfortunate this year, as their Master has been obliged to be out of town most of the time and the officers have done little work together. The work was as good as could be expected under the circumstances. The records are well kept by Bro. WILLIAM R. FAIRCLOUGH.

April 2d, my official visit to Solar Lodge, No. 14, Bath, was made, and work in the M. M. degree was executed in a most commendable manner.

The officers show a great interest in their work. The Secretary, Bro. ALBERT L. STROUT, had an excellent record to show in every particular, and is worthy of imitation. His report is as follows:

Total membership,	245
Total membership paid to January 1, 1900,	241
Total amount uncollected to January 1, 1900,	1

Freeport Lodge, No. 23, is my home lodge. I made no official visit, but was present at all the meetings when there was work. Bro. W. C. Fogg still has charge of the records, and his long and continued service in the affairs of this lodge is a sufficient proof that his part of the work will be carefully attended to.

I have made no mention of the fine collations which were served, but will state here, that at every visit, very appropriate banquets were given.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I desire to extend my thanks to the officers and brethren of the several lodges, for the uniform courtesy with which I have been received, and to you, M. W. Grand Master, for the honor conferred by appointing me D. D. G. M. for the Fourteenth Masonic District.

Fraternally submitted,

F. M. GRANT, *D. D. G. M. 14th M. D.*

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as D. D. G. M. of the 15th Masonic District.

On January 9th, I attended the lodge of instruction at Biddeford. There was a good attendance and a very interesting and instructive session.

January 17th, I made my first official visit to Wilton Lodge, No. 156. There was a good attendance and several visitors from Farmington and other lodges. The work was the M. M. degree, which was well done. I have visited Wilton Lodge occasionally for the past five years, and I notice a marked improvement from year to year, both in the interest of the members and in the rendering of the ritual.

Wilton is one of our active lodges and carefully select their material, which is the surest way to success. The records are correctly kept and dues well collected. At the close a banquet was served and a social hour enjoyed.

February 9th, I visited Franklin Lodge, No. 123, at New Sharon. This was their regular meeting. Although it was a stormy night, there were not so many out as we should like to have seen. Not having any work, they

exemplified the E. A. degree, which was fairly well done, considering that they had no work for several years, but I think they would be able to render the work understandingly when presented. The records are in the hands of Past D. D. G. M. JAMES H. HOWES, which is a sufficient guaranty of their correctness, and the dues are fairly well collected. At the close, a social hour, with refreshments, was enjoyed by all.

February 20th was the date of my official visit to Mystic Tie Lodge, No. 154, of Weld. This was a special meeting, but there was a good attendance, with several visitors from Wilton. The work was the M. M. degree and was done in as correct and dignified manner as I have ever seen. The ritual was followed so closely that there was no occasion for corrections. The records, in the hands of P. D. D. G. M. LYMAN L. JONES, are neatly and correctly kept, and the dues are well collected. At the close, a banquet was served and a good time was enjoyed.

March 12th, was the date of my visit with Maine Lodge, No. 20, of Farmington. The work was the conferring of the F. C. degree on three candidates. After passing a very satisfactory examination, the work was exceptionally well done and the ritual closely followed. At this meeting I had the pleasure of meeting Past D. D. G. M. E. O. GREENLEAF, who still takes an active part in his lodge. The records are in the hands of GEO. B. CRAGIN and are correctly and neatly kept, while the dues are well collected. Banquet at the close.

March 13th, I visited Davis Lodge, No. 191, of Strong. This was a special meeting, called for my convenience. There being no work on hand, they exemplified the E. A. degree in a very impressive manner, one that would give a candidate the true idea that Masonry is designed to teach. The records are correctly kept and the dues well collected. Refreshments at the close.

March 14th, I visited Blue Mountain Lodge, No. 67, of Phillips. This was a regular meeting, but unfortunately the Master was detained at Farmington by the severe illness of his wife, and the candidate from Rangeley could not come on account of sickness in his family, so we had to work under difficulties. They had intended to work the M. M. degree, but owing to the absence of the candidate and of the Master, they exemplified the F. C. degree, which was fairly well done. Records are well kept and dues well collected. At the close a banquet was served and a social hour enjoyed.

March 16th, was the date that I was to be with Mt. Bigelow Lodge, No. 202, of Flagstaff. I got as far as Kingfield and stopped over night, and it snowed in the night and rained hard next day until night. I telephoned to Carrabassett, at noon, but no stage had got through and there was no way to get there, so I returned home and have not been able to get there since.

April 5th, I visited Whitney Lodge, No. 167, of Canton. This was a regular meeting. There being no work on hand, the E. A. degree was exemplified in a very satisfactory manner. Records are correctly kept and dues well collected. At the close a social hour was enjoyed.

Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, is my home lodge. I have been present at nearly every meeting and made such suggestions and corrections as I thought were for the benefit of the order, and they have been very kindly received.

Peace and harmony prevail throughout the district. I wish to express my thanks to the several lodges throughout the Fifteenth Masonic District for the kindness and courtesy with which I have been received by *all*.

In closing, Most Worshipful, allow me to thank you for the honor conferred upon me by the appointment, the duties of which I have endeavored to fulfill to the best of my ability.

Faternally submitted,

FRED RAYMOND, *D. D. G. M., 15th M. D.*

Livermore Falls, Me., April 21, 1900.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my first annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Sixteenth District.

I am pleased to report that all the lodges in the Sixteenth District are in excellent condition, financially, and are conforming strictly to the ritual in their work.

November 7, 1899, I visited King Hiram Lodge, No. 57, Dixfield, and publicly installed their officers. There was a very good attendance. After the installation ceremonies, refreshments were served and a social hour was enjoyed.

February 20, 1900, I again visited King Hiram Lodge and witnessed work in the E. A. degree; the work was very well done, few corrections being necessary. This lodge seems to be entering on an era of prosperity. Quite a number of applications have been received lately. The records, in the hands of Bro. C. L. DILLINGHAM, are well kept. Dues well collected.

November 10, 1899, I publicly installed the officers of Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, assisted by Bro. D. B. PERRY as Grand Marshal. There was a large number present, and all seemed much interested in the ceremonies, which were held in the I. O. O. F. Hall. A very nice programme was furnished by the committee, which consisted of singing and readings, assisted

by the band, who kindly volunteered their services. After the installation the company all sat down to a fine oyster supper, after which a social hour was enjoyed.

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, being my own lodge, I have not visited it officially, but I have been present at nearly every meeting. It is keeping up its interest in the ritual and perfectness in the work. The records, in the hands of Bro. FRED A. PORTER, are models of neatness. The dues are well collected. Finances all right.

November 23, 1899, I publicly installed the officers of Bethel Lodge, No. 97, assisted by P. J. G. W. GOODWIN R. WILEY as Grand Marshal. There was a very good attendance, all of whom seemed to be much interested. The installation ceremonies were very much added to by singing by the choir and readings; after which we adjourned to the vestry of the Congregational Church, where a bountiful supper was spread, which closed a very pleasant evening.

March 8, 1900, I again visited Bethel Lodge and witnessed the work in the E. A. and M. M. degrees. There was a large number present, some of whom came from a long distance, as this lodge's jurisdiction extends to the New Hampshire line. The work was very well done; very few corrections had to be made. The officers are much interested in doing the work correctly. The lodge has been doing quite a lot of work lately. The records are well kept, and dues fairly well collected.

December 11, 1899, I visited Evening Star Lodge, No. 147, Buckfield. The work was in the E. A. degree, and was done in a very creditable manner. I was much pleased with the way the lectures and charge were given, orally and in full. The officers are much interested in the work, and predict a good share of work this season. The records, in the hands of Bro. ALFRED COLE, are in good shape. Dues are quite well collected. Refreshments after the work.

January 9, 1900, I attended the masonic convention at Biddeford, with much benefit to myself. I made it a point to notify every lodge in my district, and urged them to send a representative to at least one of these conventions. I think it is the duty of every lodge to have some member attend one of these conventions each year, as there is nothing to equal them for instruction in the work.

January 16th, I was in Pittsfield, and attended the masonic convention there; and stayed to the dedication, on the nineteenth, of the hall of Meridian Lodge, No. 125, Pittsfield. There was a large attendance. DeMolay Commandery attended in a body. The ceremonies were very impressive.

February 8th, I visited Crooked River Lodge at Bolster's Mills. As there was no candidate, the lodge exemplified the work in the Third degree, which was done very well, few corrections having to be made. This

lodge's fraternal visits with Oxford Lodge of Norway keep the brethren well posted in the ritual. The lodge is all right financially: own their hall and have a balance in the treasury. The records are in good hands and are well kept.

February 9th, I visited Oxford Lodge, Norway. They have been doing quite a lot of work, although there was none at the time of my visit, but they had several applications to be acted on. The records are in the hands of Bro. HOWARD D. SMITH, and are kept in a model manner. After the lodge closed a social hour was enjoyed; refreshments.

February 13th, I visited Paris Lodge, No. 94, South Paris. The work was in the E. A. degree, which was done very creditably, considering that this was the first work the new officers had done. The officers are all interested in doing the work according to the ritual. The records are well kept. Dues fairly well collected. Quite a number of visitors from my own lodge, Blazing Star, were present at the time of my visit. Refreshments after the work.

February 14th, I visited Granite Lodge, No. 182, West Paris. There was quite a good attendance, considering that the roads were almost impassable for teams on that day. The work was in the E. A. degree, and was rendered in a very impressive manner. The officers are all that could be asked—wide awake and interested. The records are well kept; dues fairly well collected; finances good.

March 13th, I visited Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, Bryant's Pond. The work was in the M. M. degree, and was rendered very impressively. This lodge has a reputation for good work, which was fully sustained at the time of my visit. The lodge has very fine quarters, and is all right every way. The records are well kept; dues well collected.

All the lodges in the Sixteenth District examine their candidates in open lodge.

In closing, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you most sincerely for the honor of my appointment as D. D. G. M. of the Sixteenth District, and the officers and members of the different lodges for their kindness and courtesy during my official visits, and the Secretaries, for their promptness in making their returns.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SIMPSON, *D. D. G. M. 16th M. D.*

Rumford Falls, March 26, 1900.

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Seventeenth District.

June 18th, I visited Deering Lodge and witnessed the conferring of the M. M. degree on two candidates. The work was perfect in every detail, music being furnished by a quartet, adding very much to the impressiveness of the occasion. This lodge is fully sustaining its reputation for doing very excellent work. The records, in the hands of Bro. F. E. CHASE, are clear, concise and correctly kept. The financial condition of the lodge is good, and prosperity attends it. The attendance for the evening was quite large, and after closing, a very social hour was enjoyed over light refreshments.

November 16th, I visited Standish Lodge. The work for the occasion was the conferring the M. M. degree on one candidate. The work as a whole was very creditably done. Wor. Bro. THOMPSON has his officers well in hand, and sets them a high standard by his own correct work. Much interest is manifested by the members of this lodge at the present time, and I bespeak for it a very healthy future. The attendance was good although the traveling was bad and some of the members came long distances. The true masonic spirit prevails in this lodge, and it is well worth a long ride to meet with them. A bountiful collation was served at the close of the work.

December 27th, I publicly installed the officers of Atlantic Lodge. There were present some three hundred members and their guests. The service was interspersed with music and at the close a fine banquet was served.

January 1st, assisted by Wor. Bro. O. L. COUSSENS as Grand Marshal, I installed the officers of Temple Lodge. There was a good attendance, and a collation was served at the close, over which a social hour passed.

January 13th, I visited Presumpscot Lodge, and after installing its officers, I had the pleasure of witnessing the work in the E. A. degree, and considering that the officers were filling their positions for the first time, the work was quite well done. Some corrections were made and instruction given, which were courteously received. The records are correctly kept and their financial condition is all right. A hot oyster supper was served at the close of the work, which seemed to be just about right before taking a ten mile drive in a snow storm.

January 23d, I visited Hiram Lodge, and here again I found the work to be in the E. A. degree, upon four candidates, which was exceedingly well done. Promptness, precision and a proper conception of the ritual were particularly noticeable, and withal an apparent desire to favorably impress those who were so fortunate as to be the recipients. The records, in the

hands of Bro. SCAMMAN, are all right: dues well collected, and altogether a prosperous lodge.

February 12th, with the assistance of Wor. Bro. HERBERT N. MAXFIELD as Grand Marshal, I installed the officers of Deering Lodge, which, to myself, was a very pleasant occasion, for this is one of the lodges which never fails to extend the glad hand to a visiting brother, no matter whether he be a "bearer of burdens" or a representative of the Grand Lodge, although always extending the courtesy that belongs to the latter.

March 7th, I visited Warren Phillips Lodge. The work was in the E. A. degree, which was done quite correctly, keeping very close to the ritual, although it was the first work of the new year. This is one of the lodges in this district with a strong desire to do good work, and its past record shows the result of the same. The records, in the hands of Bro. A. N. WATERHOUSE, are a model in all that pertains to perfection in that line. This lodge is prosperous, having a good round sum well invested. A bountiful collation and a social hour followed the closing.

March 14th, I visited Harmony Lodge. There has been no work in this lodge for more than a year, on account of the true masonic principles having been waived to make way for personal matters that should never have entered the lodge. But we hope that "Peace and good will" may soon abound, and Harmony Lodge shine forth again as one of the bright masonic lights. The E. A. degree was exemplified, but rather lacking in that perfectness which has marked the work of the lodge in past years. The records are correctly kept by Bro. ROBE. Not having any work for so long a time rather shortened the lodge up on its running finances, but it has a good large charity fund safely deposited. A collation was served at the close, followed by a social talk with the brethren until nearly midnight. "May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement them."

March 15th, I visited Ancient Landmark Lodge. The work was the E. A. degree which was done in a manner highly creditable to Wor. Bro. W. E. HOWELL and his line of officers, all of whom have fine voices, speaking every word clearly and distinctly, accompanied with a dignified bearing, placing the full importance of our secret mysteries before the candidate in such a manner that he could not fail to be impressed with the precepts which were thus taught him. There were present on this occasion about three hundred brethren, and the supreme quiet and close attention that was maintained throughout the work showed their appreciation of it. A fine banquet and a very social hour followed the closing, which was participated in by all present.

March 20th, I visited Casco Lodge, accompanied by about forty brethren of Warren Phillips and Temple Lodges. The work was on the E. A. degree, which, as a whole, was very well done, the lectures being especially well

rendered. The attendance on the part of the members of this lodge was very meagre, on account, I supposed, of the bad traveling. The records are correctly and neatly kept by Bro. STODDARD, and the financial condition healthy. A collation was served, followed by pleasant conversation, which was pronounced by the visiting brethren to be a very enjoyable occasion.

March 27th, I visited Temple Lodge. This is a my home lodge, and although the work presented (E. A. degree) was the first under the new line of officers, it was done very closely to the ritual. I have no doubt that under the guiding hand of Wor. Bro. FRED E. FREEMAN the good record of the past will be fully maintained. The records are still in the hands of Bro. O. A. CONN, and their correctness can be vouched for at all times. The financial condition is good. Many visiting brethren were present from adjoining lodges, adding very much to the social occasion after the closing.

March 18th, I visited Atlantic Lodge and witnessed the conferring of the M. M. degree, which was well done. We look for, and expect to see a line of officers working the second year to do very fine work, and that is what Atlantic Lodge is seeking to do, and consequently keeps very close to the standard. There was a very large attendance, and close attention was given to the work, especially so to the giving of the lectures and charge, the brethren all remaining until the close. The records, in the hands of Bro. FOX, are correctly kept and the lodge is well situated financially. A fine banquet was served after the closing, but on account of the lateness of the hour I was obliged to leave the brethren hurriedly, satisfied, however, of their "sincerity in the business in which they were then engaged."

March 30th, I visited Portland Lodge, and was received with all the honors—a custom which this lodge always adheres to. The work for the evening was the M. M. degree, which was done in a very beautiful and perfect manner, appropriate music being rendered by the lodge quartet, adding to the work that solemnity and impressiveness which should always characterize the conferring of that sublime degree. The lecture was given in a very instructive manner, and the charge, as presented by Rev. Bro. WORCESTER, was well calculated to impress upon the candidate the dignity and high importance of Masonry, and the duties which as a member of that Institution, he was to assume. The records of this lodge are still in the hands of Bro. GOULD, and are concise and correct. Its finances are sound and prosperity attends it. Nearly three hundred brethren were present at this meeting, and close attention was given throughout the work. A fine banquet, music and speeches, closed this very pleasant occasion and my last official visitation.

In closing, Most Worshipful Sir, permit me to express to you my appreciation of the high honor conferred upon me, and to the brethren throughout this district. my deepest gratitude for the very kind and courteous treatment

received at their hands, assuring you and them, that it will always be a pleasure to look back to what I shall term the masonic year of my life.

Fraternally submitted,

ALBERT H. BURROUGHS, *D. D. G. M. 17th M. D.*
Westbrook, April 5, 1900.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Eighteenth Masonic District.

I am happy to be able to report having visited all the lodges in the district, and that the craft are enjoying a fair degree of prosperity.

October 12th, I visited Delta Lodge, No. 153, Lovell. The Master being absent there was no work in the degrees, the evening being spent in social intercourse with the brethren, which I hope was profitable as well as agreeable. I have every reason to believe that work is performed by this lodge in a highly creditable manner.

October 13th, I visited Greenleaf Lodge, No. 117, at Cornish. As there was no candidate, the time was very profitably taken up in discussing the many questions that are continually arising in a lodge of alert and progressive masons such as are found here. After closing, we repaired to the banquet hall, where a bountiful collation was spread, which was attended to in a very thorough manner. The attendance at this lodge is remarkably good, showing a deep interest among the members.

October 14th, I visited Shepherd's River Lodge, No. 169, at Brownfield. Here there was no candidate, and the evening was spent passing the lectures among the brethren, which was done in a manner showing that proficiency which comes only with constant study. This is numerically the smallest lodge in the district, but in efficiency it stands in the front rank.

January 10th, I visited Mt. Moriah Lodge, No. 56, at Denmark. There being no work in the degrees, the brethren thought that the evening could be spent to the best advantage in the Master reciting, and having corrections made when mistakes occurred, which I am pleased to state were few. Mt. Moriah Lodge has been severely afflicted the past year, by death among its membership, among whom was its Master, S. ERNEST GILMAN, who was a very bright, progressive young man.

January 13th, accompanied by Bro. GEO. H. RICE, S. Warden of Mt. Tir'em Lodge, I visited Oriental Lodge, No. 13, at Bridgton. Here I found

work to be done in the E. A. degree, which, as is usual with this lodge, was of a high degree of excellency. Oriental Lodge is very fortunate in having a large number of young members who take great pride in doing the work *right*, and also of having the counsel and presence in the lodge room of a good number of the older members, who do not let their interest in masonry wane. After labors were concluded a banquet was spread, to which ample justice was done.

February 12th, I visited Pythagorean Lodge, No. 11, at Fryeburg. There I witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was very close to the ritual. This lodge has for its working officers young men who seem to be striving to show "who best can work and best agree." Pythagorean Lodge is certainly maintaining its high standard of excellency.

Mt. Tir'em Lodge, No. 132, my home lodge, I have not visited officially, not deeming it necessary, as I have been present at all the meetings in the past year, which has been an "off" one so far as work is concerned, but the new officers are zealous and proficient, and when work comes to its doors it will be done in a creditable manner.

The records of the lodges in the Eighteenth Maine District are in very fine shape, the several lodges having the custom of keeping the same Secretary in office year after year, thus securing accuracy and uniformity which can be obtained in no other manner.

In closing, I wish to thank the brethren for their uniform courtesy, and you, Most Worshipful, for the honor conferred upon me.

Fraternally submitted,

ISAAC F. JEWETT, *D. D. G. M. 18th M. D.*

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my official report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Nineteenth Masonic District.

I have attended to the duties of my office to the best of my ability.

October 28, 1899, I visited Goodwin's Mills and inspected the Grange Hall, and gave permission to members of Arion Lodge, No. 162, to hold meetings there, until such time as they could have a hall of their own. This lodge lost everything by fire a year ago, and have just purchased an entire outfit, consisting of collars, jewels and everything necessary to work the masonic degrees, and under the able leadership of their W. M., HENRY P. MOODY, they are looking forward to a prosperous year.

November 24th, visited Yorkshire Lodge, No. 179; witnessed work in the third degree, which was very nicely done; the ritual was followed closely, and the floor work showed practice, being carried out with a precision and finish that was exceptionally good. After the work, a collation was served in the banquet hall, followed by remarks from members of the lodge and visitors which were both interesting and helpful.

December 20th, visited Ocean Lodge, No. 142. Publicly installed the officers elect. After the installation, a banquet was served in the hall, followed by remarks and a pleasant social hour.

January 9, 1900, attended the masonic convention at Biddeford, which was conducted by FRANK E. SLEEPER, Grand Lecturer, and attended by District Deputies and masons from all over the western part of the State.

February 27th, visited Arundel Lodge, No. 76. Publicly installed the officers elect, assisted by W. F. WALKER as Marshal, Past District Deputy ISAAC P. GOOCH, and a quartette of excellent vocalists, who added in no small degree to the beauty of the ceremony. After the installation a banquet was served, followed by a musical programme and the customary good fellowship.

March 5th, visited Dunlap Lodge, No. 47. Witnessed work in the M. M. degree. The work was beautifully done. All the chairs are filled by young men of good presence, who enter into their work with an enthusiasm and vigor that I have never seen surpassed. The ritual work is nearly perfect in this lodge, it being the outcome of several successive years of study and work toward that end. The lodge is in good financial condition and has work at nearly every meeting.

March 7th, visited Saco Lodge, No. 9, witnessed work in the third or M. M. degree, which was finely done, the work of the W. M., PULLIP C. TAPLEY, being of a particularly high order. The records, in the hands of Bro. GEO. A. EMERY are models of neatness and beauty of penmanship. The lodge is in good financial condition and is taking in a number of young men of excellent character.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you most sincerely for the honor you have conferred upon me by appointing me your representative in the Nineteenth District, and through you, the officers and members of the lodges in this district, for their kindness and courtesy throughout the year; and the Secretaries, for their promptness in making their returns.

Respectfully submitted,

EVERETT M. STAPLES, *D. D. G. M. 19th M. D.*

Biddeford, April 3, 1900.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to present my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Twentieth Masonic District.

I have visited all of the lodges in this district and find them in good condition financially, and the outlook for the coming year is very bright, as they have an abundance of work at present and a good outlook for the future. The officers and members are working hard to have the work perfect and to confer the degrees in the best possible manner.

On September 16th, I visited Baskahegan Lodge, No. 175, at Danforth, for the purpose of installing the officers for the ensuing year, and also to make my official visit. No candidates being present, I was obliged on February 20, 1900, to make another official visit to see the work exemplified. The Entered Apprentice degree was conferred on two candidates, the work being very nicely performed. The records, in the hands of Bro. PARKER, are well and properly kept.

On October 14, 1899, I publicly installed the officers of Forest Lodge, No. 145, at Springfield, after which refreshments were served and a good time enjoyed. On February 10, 1900, I made my official visit to this lodge, when the Master Mason's degree was conferred on one candidate. The officers showed evidence of considerable study, but the lack of practice was apparent. From the amount of work now before them, I have no doubt but that the end of the year will show a great improvement. On the lodge being called from labor, refreshments were served by the ladies, and a very pleasant time enjoyed. The records are neatly and correctly kept by Bro. TRASK.

On November 11, 1899, I visited Pine Tree Lodge, No. 172, at Mattawamkeag, for the purpose of publicly installing the officers. Supper was served prior to the opening of the lodge. My official visit was made on March 10, 1900, when work was exemplified in the Fellow Craft degree. The work was well done, with the exception of a lack of uniformity caused by the officers having been incorrectly taught. Bro. SMITH still has charge of the records, which is a proof of their correctness.

On January 9, 1900, I installed the officers of Horeb Lodge, No. 03, at Lincoln. This is my home lodge. Although the lodge has done no work for the past year, they have plenty at present, and I think at the end of the year will show a good record, as the officers and members are working hard to bring the work up to standard. For neatness and correctness in keeping the records, Bro. PLUMLY has no peer. I have not missed a meeting of this lodge for ten years, and so have made no official visit.

On January 16th, I attended the Grand Lecturer's meeting in Pittsfield. This was my first attendance at a meeting of this kind, and I was very much pleased with the meeting, and received a great deal of benefit from it, and I think that the Twentieth District needs one of these meetings as much as any district in the State.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you, sincerely, for the honor of my appointment as your representative in the Twentieth District; the officers and brothers of the several lodges for their kindness and courtesy on every occasion, and the Secretaries for their promptness in making their returns. Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP J. MILLS, *D. D. G. M. 20th M. D.*

Lincoln, March 16, 1900.

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Twenty-first Masonic District.

I have visited all of the lodges in the district officially, except Esoteric Lodge, and have been privileged to visit some of them more than once, though not officially.

On December 26th, I visited Rising Sun Lodge, No. 71, at Orland, and witnessed work in the M. M. degree. Although the members of this lodge are widely scattered, some of its officers having three miles to travel to lodge, yet I found a good interest manifested and the work was well done. Bro. ASHER B. HURCHINS is still in the East and is a very able and efficient Master. Their dues are well collected and the lodge is in good condition, its records being neatly and correctly kept.

On December 27th, I visited Felicity Lodge, of Bucksport, where I was pleased to meet a goodly number of the brethren. The Fellow Craft degree was conferred on one candidate, the officers rendering their parts in a very commendable manner. The records of this lodge are well kept and its dues are promptly collected.

On December 28th, I publicly installed the officers of Rising Sun Lodge, there being a large number of the brethren present, and with invited guests the hall was well filled. After the installation an excellent supper was served and some time spent in social enjoyment.

On January 4th, I installed the officers of Bar Harbor Lodge. This is my home lodge and I have not visited it officially except on this date, but have

been present at most of its meetings during the year. Its officers are all young, enthusiastic masons, and in good working order, following the ritual very closely in their work. Bro. B. L. HADLEY still handles the records and looks sharply after the dues.

On January 12th, I visited David A. Hooper Lodge, at West Sullivan, and by invitation installed their officers. On this occasion the M. M. degree was conferred on one candidate, the work being done very finely for a young lodge. There were several visitors present from Winter Harbor Lodge, two or three from Lygonia, and one or two from other lodges. The officers take a great interest in the work and have their parts well committed. After the work refreshments were served, after which we again repaired to the lodge room, where, with the assistance of Past D. D. G. M. JAMES E. PARSONS and Past Master EDWIN F. CLAPHAM, I conferred the Past Master's degree on W. M. OLIVER G. NEWMAN.

On February 3d, I made an official visit to Mount Desert Lodge and witnessed the conferring of the M. M. degree, there being a goodly number of the brethren present. The work was done in a most commendable manner. W. Bro. ALLEN is an exceptionally good ritualist, and delivers his lectures in a tone that is very impressive and instructive. I found upon an examination of the Secretary's books that the dues were not as well collected as they should be, and called attention to this fact, and think the matter will be looked after in the future. This is a strong and good working lodge.

On February 15th, I again visited this lodge and publicly installed their officers. A large number of the brethren with their wives and invited friends were present, a male quartet furnished them with excellent music, and at the close of the service, refreshments were served and the evening was enjoyed by all.

On February 14th, I visited Winter Harbor Lodge officially and witnessed work in the Entered Apprentice degree. This is a good working lodge: the officers are interested and follow very closely the ritual in their work. Their records are well and properly kept and the dues are well collected. At the close of the work, refreshments were served and some time spent in asking questions about the use of different words and instruction given on points at issue.

On March 8th, I visited Tremont Lodge, No. 77, at South West Harbor. The lodge did not have any work and at my request the work of the M. M. degree was exemplified. The members all seem to be interested but they are not quite up on the ritual. I had hoped to visit this lodge earlier but was unable to, but shall try and visit them again soon, and go over parts of the ritual with them. Their records are well kept and their dues well collected, there being but a small amount uncollected.

On March 28th, I visited Lygonia Lodge, No. 40, at Ellsworth, and had

the pleasure of seeing the M. M. degree conferred on three candidates, the work being done in a very commendable and praiseworthy manner. Wor. Bro. PARKER is an exceptionally fine ritualist, making the lectures very impressive and instructive. The officers are all well qualified and have attained a very high degree of proficiency in the work. On this occasion there was quite a number of visiting brethren present and a large number of their own members, in all about one hundred. After the work, we repaired to the G. A. R. Hall, where a splendid banquet was served, after which some time was spent in speech-making and social enjoyment, and at a late hour we adjourned, all agreeing that it had been one of the most pleasant evenings of their masonic life. The records are in fine shape and the dues are promptly collected.

I had arranged to meet with Esoteric Lodge, also of Ellsworth, on the 29th, but was suddenly called away to attend a funeral, and so was obliged to defer my visit until a later day, but I saw W. M. Bro. A. K. CUSHMAN and also Bro. T. E. HALE, Secretary of the lodge, and examined the books, which I found to be in excellent shape and with but a small amount of dues uncollected. I have seen several of the officers of this lodge work and know that they have a good working lodge and are having a good amount of work. I shall visit them in the near future.

On January 23d, I attended the Grand Lecturer's convention at Ellsworth, where I met nearly all of the D. D. G. M.'s of the district. The convention was well attended, and was very instructive. In the evening the work of the M. M. degree was exemplified by a lodge composed of officers from the two lodges in Ellsworth. The Apollo Quartet of Bangor furnished music in the evening, and I think the day was a very profitable one to all who attended.

I called a convention of the lodges in my district to meet with Bar Harbor Lodge on February 22d, for instruction and improvement in the work. We had expected two hundred or more of the brethren on this occasion, but the traveling was very hard and the weather in the morning gave indications that a storm was near at hand, which early in the afternoon burst upon us in all its fury.

At 2 o'clock P. M., the convention was called to order by the D. D. G. M. and Bro. B. L. HADLEY was appointed Secretary of the convention. After a few words of welcome by the D. D. G. M., Winter Harbor, No. 192, of Winter Harbor, A. E. SMALL, Wor. Master, was called upon to exemplify the work of the Entered Apprentice degree. Bro. SMALL and his corps of officers assumed the stations and opened a lodge of Entered Apprentices and performed the work in a very satisfactory manner. An opportunity was given for discussion, questions were asked and instruction given on different points and corrections made when necessary. Mount Desert

Lodge, No. 140, M. L. ALLEN, Wor. Master, was then called upon to exemplify the work of the Fellow Craft degree. BRO. ALLEN and his officers then assumed the stations and opened a lodge of Fellow Crafts and exemplified the work in a manner that reflected much credit upon them. Questions were asked and corrections made as in the previous degree, and at 6 P. M. the craft were called from labor to refreshment, and we repaired to G. A. R. Hall, where a fine banquet had been prepared by Harmony Chapter, O. E. S., during which excellent music was furnished by the Bar Harbor Band. At 8 P. M. the craft were called from refreshment to labor, and as this was the regular meeting night of Bar Harbor Lodge, they having an actual candidate in readiness, this lodge, EBEN K. WHITTAKER, Wor. Master, assumed their respective stations, and conferred the M. M. degree on Bro. DANA B. KEITH. This was the second time Wor. Master WHITTAKER, had conferred this degree, but the work was well done, all the officers taking their parts in a very creditable manner. After the work, corrections were made and instructions given on points at issue. Refreshments were then served, and an hour spent in speech making and remarks for the good of the Order. Seven of the nine lodges in the district were represented, and nine lodges outside the district, making sixteen in all, and a total of one hundred and seventy-six brethren. The convention was declared a success, and a committee was appointed to make arrangements to make the organization permanent. A vote of thanks was extended to Bar Harbor Lodge for the right royal manner in which it had entertained its visitors, and the convention was then closed.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you for the honor conferred upon me by my appointment to this office, and also the officers and brethren of the several lodges for their every kindness and courtesy.

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES F. PAINE, *D. D. G. M. 21st M. D.*

Bar Harbor, April 3, 1900.

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Twenty-second Masonic District for your consideration.

The appointment as D. D. G. M. of this district coming to me as it did as a complete surprise, and a business engagement having prevented my attendance on the Grand Lodge, I was installed at Madison by R. W. GRANVILLE D. PERKINS, D. D. G. M. of the Thirteenth Masonic District.

Previous to my installation two requests claimed my attention, both of which I referred to you. The first was from Meridian Lodge, of Pittsfield, asking a dispensation for a public procession and church service on St. John's Day. I attended the service and listened to an eloquent sermon by Bro. COONS, presenting the grand fraternal principles which underlie our order. A banquet, procession and lodge service followed. The second was from the same lodge for a dispensation to occupy Odd Fellows Hall in that village for masonic purposes while their own was being thoroughly rebuilt. They informed me that it was your wish that I should personally inspect Odd Fellows Hall, which I did on July 15th. I found the hall very convenient and its use by them perfectly safe and proper.

October 14th, by invitation, I installed the officers of Parian Lodge, of Corinna, assisted by R. W. N. R. PACKARD. The ceremony was semi-public, and their hall crowded. A banquet at Eagle Hall pleasantly concluded the evening.

January 4th, I granted a dispensation to Pacific Lodge, of Exeter, to publicly install their officers, at Stetson, but much to my regret, was unable to be present.

January 14th, by request, I installed the officers of Meridian Splendor Lodge, of Newport, assisted by P. M. ERNEST S. PLUMMER. The ceremony was public to the Order of the Eastern Star, which lodge was present, and also installed officers the same evening. Refreshments and a social hour followed.

January 16th, attended the lodge of instruction held at Pittsfield, by M. W. FRANK E. SLEEPER, Grand Lecturer. This being the first lodge of the kind ever held in my own district, I was particularly anxious that it should be a success. Nor was I disappointed. I consider these lodges of very great value to the craft. I wish it could be found feasible to hold them earlier in the year, that the Deputies might have the benefit of them before visiting their lodges. Right here let me acknowledge the special kindness of Bro. SLEEPER on that occasion.

In the evening, Meridian Splendor Lodge held a communication and conferred the M. M. degree. I suppose the presence of the Grand Lecturer, so many D. D. G. Masters and other prominent masons, acting as critics even in a friendly way, served to embarrass W. M. LIBBY and some of the other officers, for, as a matter of fact, their work that night was not up to their usual high mark. We, however, appreciated their kindness in working for our benefit as also their cordial welcome and generous banquet.

January 19th, attended the dedication of the Masonic Hall of Meridian Lodge, at Pittsfield. The services, conducted by the officers of the Grand Lodge, were very impressive, and will, I doubt not, bear fruit. Banquet was served at the Lancey House, and a fine evening programme followed. As

the electric lights failed, there was, for a few moments, a general desire for more light, which was, happily, soon supplied. This hall is a gem. I consider it one of the best, if not the best, in the State outside of the large cities.

February 28th, attended a meeting of Plymouth Lodge, called to confer the M. M. degree. There was a good attendance and interest. Bro. LOUD makes an excellent Master, and Bro. CONDON is faithful with his records.

March 1st, went to East Dixmont to meet the brethren of Archon Lodge, by appointment, but the blizzard utterly prevented a meeting. Next day the storm was, if anything, worse. I had a very pleasant chat with W. M. THURLOUGH and several of the brethren. Their experienced Secretary, Bro. B. F. PORTER, brought in his books for inspection. Needless to say, they were correct.

March 10th, visited Parian Lodge, of Corinna. The M. M. degree was given to two candidates, Parian Lodge working one, and the officers of Pacific Lodge, by invitation, the other. This lodge, under W. M. JONES, maintains its reputation for good work. Records of Bro. NUTTER all right.

March 13th, in company with P. M. FRED LUCAS, I visited Cambridge Lodge. Found the attendance small. Work in the E. A. degree was exemplified in a creditable manner. W. M. RING is well fitted for his position, and the records are correctly kept by Bro. LABREE. I wish this lodge could be assisted or encouraged in some way, for they are a little band of faithful masons struggling for the life of their lodge.

March 14th, attended a regular meeting of Pacific Lodge, of Exeter. Most of the members of this lodge live at some distance from their hall, many of them in the adjoining towns of Stetson and Garland. This causes some effort on their part to attend the meetings, which they seem to enjoy all the more for that reason. Work in the M. M. degree was exemplified, the brethren freely questioning as the work progressed. As might be expected, they are a good working lodge, and the records, in the experienced hands of Bro. KNIGHT, are well kept. A banquet pleasantly closed the exercises. The hotel being temporarily closed, I was most hospitably entertained by W. M. RIDLON at his pleasant home in Stetson.

March 15th, met the brethren of Meridian Splendor Lodge, of Newport, in a regular communication. On account of a large meeting of Odd Fellows at Corinna, the attendance was smaller than would otherwise have been the case. Work in E. A. degree was exemplified. W. M. STEWART has only been in the chair since January, but is rapidly acquiring the necessary experience. Records, in the hands of Bro. SMITH, in almost perfect order. For some reason they have had no initiates for the past year.

Corinthian being my home lodge, and I being so often in attendance there, I did not deem it necessary to visit officially, but did so August 19th, by special request of W. M. VARNER, as the lodge had no official visit during

his year in the chair. Bro. VARNEY was an exceptionally faithful and conscientious Master, but makes the mistake of undervaluing his own work, which was of a high order. Records, in the hands of Bro. LINN, are neat and correct. Last month I had the pleasure of seeing the same lodge, under its new officers (Bro. LINN BLANCHARD, W. M.), confer the F. C. degree on two candidates, and was surprised at the proficiency they had attained in so short a time.

The year's work is ended. I have the satisfaction of believing that I have tried to do my duty, and that the lodges of the Twenty-second District have been harmonious, prosperous and happy. I have had the pleasure of meeting the brethren of every lodge, witnessing their really good work, installing their officers when requested so to do, and enjoying their generous hospitality, and I am more than ever impressed with the belief that ours is not only the oldest but the strongest and best order in existence, and that its members, if true to its teachings, will in generous manhood never be called to take second place.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I desire to extend my sincere thanks to the officers and brethren of the several lodges for their uniform courtesy and kindness, and to you for the honor of my appointment.

Fraternally submitted,

MILTON L. MERRILL, *D. D. G. M. 22d M. D.*

St. Albans, April 2, 1900.

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Twenty-third District.

In January I visited the convention held at Biddeford, presided over by Grand Lecturer FRANK E. SLEEPER, which was a very interesting meeting. I had notified every lodge in this district of the meeting, but only two lodges were represented: Freedom, of Limerick, and Springvale, of Springvale.

February 5th, I visited Buxton Lodge, No. 115, and publicly installed its officers. They have had no work for the year, but their interest does not flag. It is one of the largest and strongest lodges in the district; its records, under the care of W. Bro. CYRIL P. HARMON, as finely and correctly kept as ever, and its finances, in charge of Bro. JOHN BERRYMAN, are sufficient

guaranty that it will continue to be strong, and that quality rather than quantity will be its watchword.

February 14th, I visited Freedom Lodge, No. 42, by request, and installed its officers, I again visited them April 11th, and witnessed work in the E. A. and M. M. degrees, which was creditably done. The officers and members are taking a lively interest in the lodge, and are doing all in their power to make it one of the best and most progressive lodges in the district.

March 14th, I visited Day Spring Lodge, No. 107, at West Newfield, where work in the E. A. degree was exemplified in a most excellent manner. P. D. D. G. M. *AI Q. MITCHELL* is in the East, and he and his officers are to be congratulated upon having so fine a working lodge, the ritualistic and floor work being of the finest. *BRO. GEORGE A. HANNAFORD* is still in charge of the records, which is a guaranty of their correctness.

April 10th, I visited Adoniram Lodge, No. 27, at Limington, where they worked the E. A. degree in a fine manner, although the Master was unable to be present. This is the oldest lodge in the twenty-third, having been chartered in 1818. The hall is one in which they have always held their meetings, and the furniture the same first used. One of the most interesting features was the chart, a pen and ink drawing by *Squire McARTHUR*, a charter member, and by him presented to the lodge. *W. Bro. HARDY H. McKENNEY* still continues as Secretary, which shows that Adoniram will insist that so good and faithful an official should retain so important an office.

April 20th, I visited Drummond Lodge, No. 118, at Parsonsfield, where two candidates were passed to the F. C. degree. Owing to very bad traveling and much sickness in that jurisdiction, there was not so full an attendance as could be wished, the Master, Senior Warden and Secretary being absent, and taking that fact into consideration, the work was well done. *W. Bro. ALBERT R. LEAVITT* being absent, I could not inspect his records, but I have no doubt that he still continues to do that good work in that office for which he has been so many times complimented.

Preble Lodge, No. 143, my home lodge, I have visited as often as possible; they have had a goodly lot of work and have as usual done it well. April 4th, they worked the M. M. degree on two candidates in a manner that spoke well for their zeal. All the members are much interested, and the same spirit of brotherly love that has actuated them so many years prevails. *W. Bro. LECKENBY* still has charge of the records, which are models of correctness and beauty.

I had intended visiting every lodge, but as some of them made dates for the same evening, and the time was so limited, I was obliged to send *W. Bro. CALVERT LONGBOTTOM* to Springvale, No. 190, at Springvale, and *Fraternal, No. 55*, at Alfred. He reports a splendid time and most excellent

work. Springvale Lodge is one of the largest and best working lodges in the district, and its members very zealous. With P. D. D. G. Masters OGDEN and DEXTER taking a lively interest in its welfare, it goes without saying that they will continue to do good work, thrive and prosper.

Fraternal Lodge, I am glad to say, has got out of the rut and is doing considerable and good work. Bro. J. M. AKERS, for many years its very efficient Secretary, is now Treasurer, and Bro. FRED SHERMAN, an active mason, has succeeded to the office of Secretary.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I desire to thank you for the honor conferred upon me, also the brethren of the lodges that I have visited for the brotherly love and kindness shown me. In almost every instance fine banquets have been given and then an hour of social chat or music and recitation. They are one and all deeply interested in their respective lodges and anxious to gain all the knowledge possible. The financial condition of all the lodges is excellent, without exception, the balance being on the right side of the ledger.

Fraternally submitted,

FRANK WILSON, *D. D. G. M. 23d M. D.*

Sanford Me., April 23, 1900.

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Twenty-fourth Masonic District.

I have visited all the lodges in the district (with the exception of Cumberland) once officially, and several of them unofficially, the most important occasion being upon the invitation of Tyrian Lodge, of Mechanic Falls, to Tranquil and Cumberland Lodges.

The attendance was large, with a good delegation from each of the visiting lodges. The work was the Master Mason's degree, and was finely done: at the close an elaborate banquet was served in Murray Hall.

My first official act was to install the officers of Cumberland Lodge on December 9, 1899, upon the request of Wor. Bro. LORING, the retiring Master, and assisted by Wor. Bro. HENRY W. LORING as Marshal, and Wor. Bro. JOHN D. ANDERSON as Chaplain.

The evening of December 16th, accompanied by Wor. FRANK W. WINTER, Master of Cumberland Lodge, No. 12, visited Nezinscot Lodge, No. 101, at Turner. Having no work, the third degree was exemplified in a generally

correct manner, and in many respects worthy of imitation. But few corrections were necessary. The records are still in the hands of Wor. Bro. SETH D. ANDREWS who has served the lodge thirty years in that capacity. Financial condition good.

January 9, 1900, attended the masonic convention at Biddeford, and noticed a great improvement over last year's work; not so many corrections needed.

January 10th, was present at the annual communication of Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, at Auburn, by request of Wor. ALBERT E. VERRILL, Master, and witnessed the conferring of the Master Mason's degree upon two candidates, which was done in a very impressive manner and the ritual closely followed. There was a very large attendance of the brethren, a local newspaper giving it as three hundred. The records need no comment, as they are still in charge of Bro. JAMES F. ATWOOD. The finances are in good shape and steadily gaining. I had the pleasure of the company on the visit of Bro. NEWELL P. HASKELL, Senior Warden of Cumberland Lodge.

January 22d, was present at a special communication of Ashlar Lodge, No. 105, Lewiston, by invitation of Wor. EDWARD S. STETSON, and saw the third degree conferred upon two candidates in a generally correct form. The second section upon one by Bro. LEWIS V. WINSHIP, S. W. (Wor. Master elect), and the lecture by Bro. ROLAND L. WOODBURY, J. W. (S. W. elect), in a very nearly perfect rendering of the ritual. The attendance fully equalled, if it did not exceed, that of Tranquil Lodge. The music by Ashlar Quartet was fine and impressive. Records, in care of Wor. FRED I. MORRILL, are neat and accurate, dues well collected, and financial condition solid.

January 26th, by invitation of Wor. FRED A. RICHARDSON, I attended a special communication of Webster Lodge, No. 164, at Sabattus, and witnessed work in the Entered Apprentice degree. It being a very inclement night, there was not the usual attendance, and several of the offices had to be filled from the non-workers, nevertheless the degree was well conferred and *all* performed their several parts with credit to themselves. The records are still in the hands of R. W. JUDSON BANGS, and are in good shape, with dues well collected, debts all paid, and a comfortable surplus in the treasury.

February 8th, attended the stated communication of Tyrian Lodge, No. 73, at Mechanic Falls, by appointment with Worshipful MAURICE C. B. PRINCE, Master. The work of the evening was the Entered Apprentice degree, and considering that it was the first work done by the new officers, was *well* done, and every appearance would indicate that the lodge was in good hands. I had the pleasure of the company of Bro. CYRUS S. WITHAM,

Junior Warden of Cumberland Lodge, on this visit. The records remain in the care of Bro. LEWIN JEFFERIES and are all right. Financial condition good.

February 14th, by invitation of Wor. WILLIAM B. SKELTON, Master of Rabboni Lodge, No. 150, at Lewiston, made an official visit at a special communication called for the purpose of conferring the Master Mason's degree upon three candidates. The attendance was large, and the work was well performed. Wor. Bro. SKELTON presides with grace and ability, and is well supported by his officers. Wor. LEWIS V. WINSHIP, Master of Ashlar Lodge, conferred the second section upon one candidate in a very correct manner. The records, still in charge of Bro. GEORGE F. TURNER, are *very neat*, and show a good average attendance, dues well collected, and finances in good shape.

March 12th, made an official visit to Ancient Brothers' Lodge, No. 178, at Auburn, at a special communication called for the purpose of conferring the Master Mason's degree upon two candidates. The work was finely rendered in every part. The Wor. Master, Bro. JOHN R. WEBBER, fully sustained my idea of the perfect Master, in correct ritualism, diction and impressiveness. All the other officers appeared interested, and severally performed their parts in a highly creditable manner. The records remain in the care of Bro. FOREST E. LUDDEN, and are in good form, showing a fair average attendance of members during the year. The finances are in an improved condition, and show a balance upon the right side of the ledger.

I have not visited Cumberland Lodge, No. 12, officially, but have been present at nearly all of the meetings, and offered such suggestions from time to time as seemed needed. The Wor. Master, Bro. FRANK W. WINTER, is well equipped for the business and work of the lodge, and, supported by an intelligent set of working officers, does work that will compare creditably with the average of the district. The lodge has been prosperous during the past year, having done more than the usual quantity of work. The calls for charity have been larger than for several years, but upon the whole the financial condition is improving. Records in fair condition, dues well collected.

In the abstract of returns in the district 61 have been initiated, 20 have died, 6 dimitted, 16 suspended *s. p. d.*, 1 re-instated, and 12 have affiliated from other lodges. The present membership of the lodges in the district is 1,286; Grand Lodge dues at 20 cents, \$257.20; 61 initiations at \$2.00, \$122.00; total Grand Lodge dues \$379.20.

In conclusion, M. W., I wish to express my most sincere thanks to the several lodges in the Twenty-fourth Masonic District for the uniform courtesy and kindness with which I have been received as your representative.

The inner man has been abundantly provided for, and the social occasions much enjoyed.

Hoping that all the lodges may continue as prosperous and united in the future as in the past, and thanking you, Most Worshipful, for the honor of my appointment, I remain

Yours fraternally,

GEORGE H. GODING, *D. D. G. M. 24th M. D.*

Lewiston Junction, April 14, 1900.

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor herewith to submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Twenty-fifth Masonic District.

March 7th, I officially visited Monument Lodge, No. 96, at Houlton. This lodge being my masonic home I attend most of its meetings. On the above occasion work was done in the M. M. degree in a fairly creditable manner; the floor movements were exceedingly well executed; some corrections and suggestions were found necessary and duly made.

On March 21st, I again visited Monument Lodge, and installed the officers elected for the ensuing year. This lodge is in good condition, and steadily increasing in membership. Records are correctly and neatly kept by Bro. STETSON, and dues well collected. A history of Monument Lodge is now being prepared by P. M. Bro. CHAS. P. TENNEY and Bro. CHAS. E. F. STETSON, Secretary, which, when completed, will be of great interest and value.

On March 14th, I had an appointment with Aroostook Lodges, No. 197, at Blaine, and started to fulfill the same, but on arriving at Monticello found the road blocked by a wrecked freight train, which made it necessary for me to return home as it would be impossible for me to get through that night. I have, however, visited Aroostook Lodge on two occasions previously, and from Secretary Bro. JNO. M. RAMSEY have learned that they are in good condition and prosperous.

On March 28th, I visited Molunkus Lodge No. 165, at Sherman Mills. As no candidate was available, the evening was devoted to the ritual, thoroughly going through the E. A., and F. C. degrees; they have, however, two candidates ready for the M. M. degree, but circumstances over which they had no control prevented either from being present. More interest on the part of the members of this lodge and a better collection of dues would put

the lodge in a more flourishing condition. Bearing in mind the fact that the membership is small and scattered, yet if each member would make a special effort to be present at its meetings better results might be obtained.

On March 29th, I attended the dedication of the new hall of Katahdin Lodge, No. 98, at Patten, and on the 30th I attended a special meeting of the same lodge, and witnessed work in the F. C. degree, and will say that I never saw that degree worked any better. As you know, Katahdin Lodge has just completed new and beautiful quarters, in which they take a just pride, and I predict for them a most prosperous future.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I would say that the present indications point to a very prosperous future in the Twenty-fifth District.

Thanking you for the honor of my appointment, and the brethren for many kindnesses extended, I am

Yours respectfully and fraternally,

J. FRANK BRYSON, *D. D. G. M. 25th M. D.*

Houlton, Me., April 20, 1900.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Trustees of the Charity Fund.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND,
TUESDAY, May 1, 1900.

The Trustees met in the Grand Master's office at 5 P. M.

Present—WINFIELD S. CHOATE, *President*,
ALFRED S. KIMBALL,
WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,
STEPHEN BERRY, *Secretary*,
FRANK E. SLEEPER,
A. M. WETHERBEE,
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,
FESSENDEN I. DAY,
EDWARD P. BURNHAM,
ARCHIE L. TALBOT.

Various brethren were heard in regard to applications.

The Secretary presented ninety-one applications for aid, with a schedule of the same, which were referred to a committee of two.

The Grand Treasurer presented his annual report, as follows:

To the Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge.

The subscriber reports, in brief, the transactions of his office for the past year, as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Balance as per last report,	\$1,343.42
Income from investments,	1,697.55
Unexpended balance returned by the Grand Master,	170.00
	<u>\$3,210.97</u>

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid to beneficiaries,	\$1,348.00
Added to Savings Banks investments,	434.51
Paid for rent of safe,	10.00
Cash to new account,	1,418.46
	<u>\$3,210.97</u>

The Charity Fund consists of—

	Par Value	Income.
25 shares Canal National Bank Stock,	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 125.00
37 shares Casco National Bank Stock,	3,700.00	296.00
14 shares First National Bank Stock,	1,400.00	84.00
11 shares National Traders Bank Stock,	1,100.00	66.00
10 shares Merchants National Bank Stock,	750.00	60.00
20 shares Westbrook Trust Company,	2,000.00	120.00
10 shares C. B. and Q. R. R. Stock,	1,000.00	110.00
1 City of Portland bond,	1,000.00	60.00
1 Town of Brunswick bond,	1,000.00	40.00
1 City of Saco bond,	500.00	20.00
1 Mousam Water Company bond,	500.00	25.00
2 Rockland Water Company bonds,	1,500.00	75.00
2 Union Electric Company bonds,	1,000.00	60.00
1 Denver City Tramway Company bond,	500.00	20.63
1 Muncie Water Company bond,	500.00	30.00
1 Maine Central R. R. bond,	500.00	35.00
2 Kennebec Light & Heat Co. bonds,	1,000.00	50.00

Cash deposited in—

Maine Savings Bank,	2,220.62	78.38
Portland Savings Bank,	2,246.76	79.32
Augusta Savings Bank,	586.24	20.68
Skowhegan Savings Bank,	574.34	17.35
Waterville Savings Bank,	581.92	20.53
Wiscasset Savings Bank,	591.62	23.88
Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution,	2,134.04	80.76
Bath Savings Institution,	585.80	20.65

Brunswick Savings Institution,.....	588.72	17.77
Gardiner Savings Institution,.....	580.07	20.47
Portland National Bank,.....	1,165.88	41.13
	<u>\$32,306.01</u>	<u>\$1,697.55</u>

Respectfully submitted,

MARQUIS F. KING, *Grand Treasurer.*

PORTLAND, April 28, 1899.

This certifies that we have this day examined the securities mentioned in the foregoing list and find them to be as stated and on deposit in the safe of the Union Safe Deposit & Trust Co. of Portland.

EDWARD P. BURNHAM,
ALBRO E. CHASE.

Report accepted.

Adjourned until 5:30 Wednesday afternoon.

WEDNESDAY, May 2, 1900.

Met at 5:30 P. M., in the Grand Master's office.

Present—WINFIELD S. CHOATE, *President,*

ALFRED S. KIMBALL,

WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,

STEPHEN BERRY, *Secretary,*

FRANK E. SLEEPER,

A. M. WETHERBEE,

CHAS. I. COLLAMORE,

ARCHIE L. TALBOT.

The Committee on Applications for Aid reported a schedule, which was accepted.

Voted, That one represent seven dollars.

Voted, That \$1,355 be appropriated to pay the schedule.

Voted, That the bond of the Grand Treasurer for \$10,000 be approved and placed in the charge of the Secretary.

Adjourned *sine die.*

Attest :

STEPHEN BERRY, *Secretary.*

Regulations of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

ARTICLE I.

The fund is applicable to the following cases, viz:

First, to poor and worthy members of lodges under this jurisdiction, in cases where the funds of their own lodges are not adequate to the exigency of the case.

Secondly, to poor and worthy masons resident in this state, not members of any subordinate lodge, and being in circumstances to render such membership not a masonic duty.

Thirdly, to poor and worthy masons being sojourners in this state.

Fourthly, to other cases of distress.

ARTICLE II.

The widows and orphans of deceased masons are to be relieved as the husband or parent would be upon the principle stated in preceding article.

ARTICLE III.

Applications for relief are to be made to the Recording Grand Secretary, in writing, signed by the applicant, or some Master Mason in his behalf who is personally cognizant of his circumstances, stating the peculiar circumstances of the case, accompanied with a certificate from the Master of the lodge to which the applicant belongs, or of the nearest lodge, vouching for his masonic standing and his need of the relief prayed for.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 5, 1858.

Voted, That every brother entrusted with funds be required to take receipts for the same, when paid, and forward said receipts forthwith to the Grand Treasurer.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 8, 1862.

Voted, That each Almoner be provided by the Grand Treasurer with one printed blank receipt for each person for whom such Almoner draws money from the Charity Fund, which receipts such Almoner is to cause to be signed by the beneficiaries respectively, and file the same with the Grand Treasurer.

Voted, That no Almoner who fails to file with the Grand Treasurer a receipt from each person for whose benefit money has been appropriated by this Board for the full amount of such appropriation when the money has

been drawn by such Almoner, shall be considered worthy to be entrusted with the sacred office of Almoner for this Charity Fund.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 4, 1871.

Voted, That hereafter no application for relief be considered by the Trustees, unless made in writing, according to Article III of the Regulations of the Charity Fund.

Voted, That the Secretary be directed to make a list of such applications, including all that come to his hands up to Monday evening preceding the day of the Annual Communication; and that all applications presented after that time be referred to the next annual meeting of the Trustees.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary notify every lodge of this action, at least one month before the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 8, 1872.

Resolved, That applications for relief from the Grand Charity Fund *must* state the amount expended in charity during the past year, by the lodge making such application, the names of recipients, and the condition of the finances of the lodge at last annual meeting, or such applications will not be considered by the Trustees.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 6, 1885.

Voted, That hereafter all applications for relief, not seasonably presented in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, be passed over.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 5, 1886.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary, when he sends his papers to the different lodges for their returns, issue a circular to each lodge, notifying them that applications to the Board of Trustees for relief must be made in accordance with the rules of the Board of Trustees,—otherwise they will not be considered.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 3, 1899.

Voted, That whenever the Grand Treasurer has any money to invest, or considers any change should be made in the investments, it shall be necessary that such investments and re-investments shall first receive the written approval of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Bro. EDWARD P. BURNHAM, and the Grand Secretary, or either two of them.

A true copy from the Record of Regulations and Votes.

Attest: STEPHEN BERRY, *Sec'y of Board of Trustees.*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge.

1900



WINFIELD S. CHOATE, Grand Master,	Ex-Officio.
ALFRED S. KIMBALL, Deputy Grand Master,	“
JAMES E. PARSONS, Senior Grand Warden,	“
JOHN H. MCGORRILL, Junior Grand Warden,	“
STEPHEN BERRY, Rec. Grand Secretary,	“
FRANK E. SLEEPER,	elected May 3, 1898, for three years.
A. M. WETHERBEE,	“ “ 3, “ “ “ “
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	“ “ 2, 1899, “ “ “
FESSENDEN I. DAY,	“ “ 2, “ “ “ “
EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	“ “ 1, 1900, “ “ “
ARCHIE L. TALBOT,	“ “ 1, “ “ “ “

Amenments · to · Constitution.

Adopted since Edition of 1893.

SEC. 35. The clothing of a Grand Officer shall be as the Grand Lodge shall, from time to time, prescribe. Permanent members of the Grand Lodge shall wear the apron prescribed for Grand Officers.

An officer of a lodge shall wear a blue velvet collar, a silver jewel, and white or figured apron. [1896, p. 64.]

Grand Lodge Clothing under the Foregoing Provision.

Voted, That the clothing of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

The aprons of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple, having the emblem of his office suitably embroidered on the edgings thereof, with purple edging and strings.

The aprons of the other Grand Officers shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple, with purple strings and edging,

That the jewels of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

That of the Grand Master, the Compasses extended to forty-five degrees, with the segment of a circle at the points and a gold or metal gilt plate included, on which is represented an eye, eradiated, with a triangle, also eradiated.

That of the Deputy Grand Master, the Compasses and Square united with a five-pointed star in the centre.

That of the Senior Grand Warden, the Level; Junior Grand Warden, the Plumb; The Grand Treasurer, a Key; Recording

Grand Secretary, Crossed Pens ; Corresponding Grand Secretary, Crossed Pens ; Grand Chaplain, Book with a Triangle ; Grand Marshal, Crossed Rods ; Grand Deacons, Dove and Olive Branch ; Grand Stewards, Cornucopia ; Grand Sword Bearer, Crossed Swords ; Grand Standard Bearer, Banner ; Grand Pursuivants, a Rod and Sword, crossed ; Grand Organist, Lyre ; Grand Tyler, Sword.

Each Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master and Past Grand Warden may be distinguished by the jewel prescribed for the office he has filled, with this difference, that such jewel shall be fixed within a circle or oval, of gold or metal gilt. It shall be worn over the left breast.

The Collars of the Grand Officers shall be a purple velvet collar suitably embroidered. [1896, pp. 64 and 65.]

SEC. 94. Every candidate must apply to the lodge in this state nearest his residence, *except* that he must apply to a lodge in the town in which he resides, if one is located there. But when a municipality, or a part of one, is annexed to another under the law of the state, the Grand Lodge may modify this rule in particular cases as it may deem wise. [1898, p. 65.]

SEC. 85. Each lodge shall pay annually towards the support of the Grand Lodge twenty cents each for all of its members, including honorary members and those absent from the State, and two dollars for every candidate initiated. Each lodge shall be entitled to receive as many diplomas from the Grand Lodge as they make Master Masons. And no dues will be remitted, unless upon petition of the lodge and the report of a committee of the Grand Lodge thereon. [1898, p. 66.]

SEC. 96. No candidate whose application may be rejected by a lodge, shall be initiated in any lodge under this jurisdiction other than the one which rejected him, except after five years from such rejection, unless the lodge recommend him to another lodge by a unanimous vote—the vote to be taken by the secret ballot ; *Provided, however*, that if the candidate shall, at the end of five years from such rejection, be a resident within the jurisdic-

tion of the rejecting lodge, consent shall be granted unless there are more than three negative ballots. And if any mason knowingly assist, or recommend for initiation, to any lodge whatever, any candidate rejected as aforesaid, except as above provided, such mason shall be expelled from the Institution. [1898, p. 66.]

SEC. 25. The District Deputy Grand Masters shall visit the several lodges in their respective districts, once at least in every year; preside in the same, when present; and shall inspect their by-laws, records and mode of working; but if unable to visit any lodge, they may appoint some suitable brother to perform that duty.

They shall communicate to the lodges all such edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, as may be received by them from the Recording Grand Secretary; shall receive and receipt for all dues to the Grand Lodge; receive the returns of the lodges, and make their remarks thereon.

They shall, on or before the first day of April in each year, make a report of their doings to the Grand Master; and they shall attend annually in the Grand Lodge; and they shall pay to the Grand Treasurer all moneys in their hands, or transmit the returns and money to the Grand Treasurer, on or before the fifteenth day of April. They shall be re-imbursed their expenses in visiting the lodges, their accounts being first examined and passed by the Committee of Finance.

Each District Deputy Grand Master, on receiving from the Grand Treasurer the jewel of his office, and the record of the district over which he is appointed, shall give a receipt to the Grand Treasurer, in substance as follows, viz ;

"Whereas, I, ————, have been appointed and duly commissioned District Deputy Grand Master for the ———— Masonic District, and have received the collar and jewel appertaining to said office, and the book of records of said district, I hereby promise to return the same at the expiration or revocation of my commission, to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Maine ;

and in default thereof, I promise to pay the Treasurer of said Grand Lodge the sum of fifty dollars." [1899, p. 243.]

SEC. 127. No lodge shall form a public procession, funeral processions excepted, without permission from the Grand Master. And it is proper, as a mark of respect for the Chief Magistrate of the Nation or State, to permit lodges to appear in public either upon occasions of a public reception of him, or of public mourning for his death. [1899, p. 243.]

SEC. 91. Every lodge must preserve one copy of the printed Proceedings in the hall, and when a volume is completed should bind it for the use of the lodge. [1899, p. 245.]

ADD TO SECTION 117.

A brother suspended from membership for non-payment of dues will be restored by the payment or remission of the amount due at the time of his suspension, at any time within five years thereafter; but after that time he can be restored only upon his application and a two-thirds vote of the lodge, after payment or remission of the amount in arrears. [1900, p. 46.]

Standing * Regulations,

AMENDED SINCE EDITION OF CONSTITUTION, 1893.



1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer pay to one delegate who shall be present on the first day of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and (unless excused by the Grand Lodge on account of his own sickness or that of his family) attend during the session, for mileage such sum as is granted by the several railroads or steamboats to Portland from the station or landing place in the town where the lodge is located, together with such additional sum for stage fare from the place of location of the lodge to such station or landing place when such is paid; and two dollars for each day's actual attendance, not exceeding three days, when the delegate is a member of the lodge he represents; and the same mileage and per diem to District Deputy Grand Masters and all permanent members. When a lodge is represented by more than one brother, the senior officer shall receive the mileage and per diem. [1900, p. 52.]

19. The Grand Secretary shall notify each Grand Officer, elect or appointed, who has not been installed in the Grand Lodge, of his election or appointment and transmit to him an abstract of Section 10 of the Constitution.

[1894, p. 57, *re-enacted*.]

32. *Resolved*, That, when the hour arrives for the election of the officers of the Grand Lodge, as is provided in the Constitution, the Grand Lodge shall go into an executive session for that purpose, and none but members of the Grand Lodge shall be

present without the consent of the M. W. Grand Master in each case. [1898, p. 68. Amended 1900, p. 49.]

22. Repealed 1898, p. 68.

33. *Voted*, That the jurisdiction of Deering Lodge, No. 183, be, and remain until the further order of the Grand Lodge, as it was before the annexation of the City of Deering to the City of Portland. [1899, p. 238.]

34. *Resolved*, That in the case of the death of a Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer, the M. W. Grand Master be authorized, in his discretion, to appoint a special committee to prepare a memorial and present the same to the Grand Lodge at its next session. [1900, p. 52.]

	List of Lodges by Districts.	
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DISTRICT NO. 1.

District Deputy Grand Master—CYRUS W. HENDRIX, Caribou.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 72 Pioneer, <i>Ashland</i> . | 170 Caribou, <i>Caribou</i> . |
| 112 Eastern Frontier, <i>Fort Fairfield</i> . | 193 Washburn, <i>Washburn</i> . |
| 130 Trinity, <i>Presque Isle</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 2.

District Deputy Grand Master—ALFRED SMALL, Lubec.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7 Eastern, <i>Eastport</i> . | 78 Crescent, <i>Penbrooke</i> . |
| 37 Washington, <i>Lubec</i> . | 138 Lewy's Island, <i>Princeton</i> . |
| 46 St. Croix, <i>Calais</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 3.

District Deputy Grand Master—DAVID W. CAMPBELL, Cherryfield.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 Warren, <i>East Machias</i> . | 131 Lookout, <i>Cutler</i> . |
| 88 Narraguagus, <i>Cherryfield</i> . | 173 Pleiades, <i>Millbridge</i> . |
| 91 Harwood, <i>Machias</i> . | 188 Jonesport, <i>Jonesport</i> . |
| 106 Tuscan, <i>Addison Point</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 4.

District Deputy Grand Master—THEODORE A. SMITH, Sedgwick.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4 Hancock, <i>Castine</i> . | 177 Rising Star, <i>Penobscot</i> . |
| 122 Marine, <i>Deer Isle</i> . | 187 Ira Berry, <i>Bluehill</i> . |
| 128 Eggemoggin, <i>Sedgwick</i> . | 195 Reliance, <i>Stonington</i> . |
| 171 Naskeag, <i>Brooklin</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 5.

District Deputy Grand Master—HAROLD E. MORRILL, Monson.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 39 Penobscot, <i>Dexter</i> . | 149 Doric, <i>Monson</i> . |
| 44 Piscataquis, <i>Milo</i> . | 163 Pleasant River, <i>Brownville</i> . |
| 52 Mosaic, <i>Foxcroft</i> . | 168 Composite, <i>La Grange</i> . |
| 109 Mount Kineo, <i>Guilford</i> . | 200 Columbia, <i>Greenville</i> . |
| 124 Olive Branch, <i>Charleston</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 6.

District Deputy Grand Master—FRED C. BARTON, Bradley.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10 Rising Virtue, <i>Bangor</i> . | 83 St. Andrew's, <i>Bangor</i> . |
| 60 Star in the East, <i>Oldtown</i> . | 87 Benevolent, <i>Carmel</i> . |
| 65 Mystic, <i>Hampden</i> . | 137 Kenduskeag, <i>Kenduskeag</i> . |
| 66 Mechanics', <i>Orono</i> . | 147 Lynde, <i>Hermon</i> . |
| 69 Howard, <i>Winterport</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 7.

District Deputy Grand Master—ADELBERT MILLETT, Searsmont.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 45 Central, <i>China</i> . | 111 Liberty, <i>Liberty</i> . |
| 58 Unity, <i>Thorndike</i> . | 129 Quantabacook, <i>Searsmont</i> . |
| 85 Star in the West, <i>Unity</i> . | 146 Seabasticook, <i>Clinton</i> . |
| 102 Marsh River, <i>Brooks</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 8.

District Deputy Grand Master—S. AUGUSTUS PARKER, Belfast.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 27 Phoenix, <i>Belfast</i> . | 119 Pownal, <i>Stockton Springs</i> . |
| 62 King David's, <i>Lincolnton</i> . | 126 Timothy Chase, <i>Belfast</i> . |
| 68 Mariners', <i>Searsport</i> . | 151 Excelsior, <i>Northport</i> . |
| 89 Island, <i>Islesboro'</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 9.

District Deputy Grand Master—G. DUDLEY GOULD, Warren.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 6 Amity, <i>Camden</i> . | 82 St. Paul's, <i>Rockport</i> . |
| 15 Orient, <i>Thomaston</i> . | 84 Eureka, <i>Tenant's Harbor</i> . |
| 16 St. George, <i>Warren</i> . | 145 Moses Webster, <i>Vinalhaven</i> . |
| 31 Union, <i>Union</i> . | 184 Knox, <i>South Thomaston</i> . |
| 50 Aurora, <i>Rockland</i> . | 203 Mt. Olivet, <i>Washington</i> . |
| 79 Rockland, <i>Rockland</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 10.

District Deputy Grand Master—JOHN R. McDOUGALL, Boothbay Harbor.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 3 Lincoln, <i>Wiscasset</i> . | 135 Riverside, <i>East Jefferson</i> . |
| 43 Alna, <i>Damariscotta</i> . | 144 Seaside, <i>Boothbay Harbor</i> . |
| 61 King Solomon's, <i>Waldoboro</i> . | 158 Anchor, <i>South Bristol</i> . |
| 74 Bristol, <i>Bristol</i> . | 196 Bay View, <i>East Boothbay</i> . |
| 103 Dresden, <i>Dresden</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 11.

District Deputy Grand Master—THOMAS H. BODGE, Augusta.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 5 Kennebec, <i>Hallowell</i> . | 41 Morning Star, <i>Litchfield Corners</i> . |
| 25 Temple, <i>Winthrop</i> . | 104 Dirigo, <i>Weeks' Mills</i> . |
| 32 Hermon, <i>Gardiner</i> . | 110 Monmouth, <i>Monmouth</i> . |
| 35 Bethlehem, <i>Augusta</i> . | 141 Augusta, <i>Augusta</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 12.

District Deputy Grand Master—JAMES H. WITHERELL, Oakland.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 33 Waterville, <i>Waterville</i> . | 99 Vernon Valley, <i>Mt. Vernon</i> . |
| 48 Lafayette, <i>Readfield</i> . | 118 Messalonskee, <i>Oakland</i> . |
| 53 Rural, <i>Sidney</i> . | 133 Asylum, <i>Wayne</i> . |
| 54 Vassalboro, <i>North Vassalboro</i> . | 166 Neguenkeag, <i>Vassalboro</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 13.

District Deputy Grand Master—GRANVILLE D. PERKINS, Madison.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 28 Northern Star, <i>North Anson</i> . | 116 Lebanon, <i>Norridgewock</i> . |
| 34 Somerset, <i>Skowhegan</i> . | 161 Carrabassett, <i>Canaan</i> . |
| 80 Keystone, <i>Solon</i> . | 194 Euclid, <i>Madison</i> . |
| 92 Siloam, <i>Fairfield</i> . | 199 Bingham, <i>Bingham</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 14.

District Deputy Grand Master—PEREZ S. BURR, Freeport.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 8 United, <i>Brunswick</i> . | 63 Richmond, <i>Richmond</i> . |
| 14 Solar, <i>Bath</i> . | 114 Polar Star, <i>Bath</i> . |
| 23 Freeport, <i>Freeport</i> . | 121 Acacia, <i>Durham</i> . |
| 26 Village, <i>Bowdoinham</i> . | 155 Ancient York, <i>Lisbon Falls</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 15.

District Deputy Grand Master—FRED RAYMOND, Livermore Falls.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 20 Maine, <i>Farmington.</i> | 156 Wilton, <i>Wilton.</i> |
| 21 Oriental Star, <i>Livermore Falls.</i> | 167 Whitney, <i>Canton.</i> |
| 67 Blue Mountain, <i>Phillips.</i> | 191 Davis, <i>Strong.</i> |
| 123 Franklin, <i>New Sharon.</i> | 202 Mount Bigelow, <i>Flagstaff.</i> |
| 154 Mystic Tie, <i>Weld.</i> | v. d. Mount Abram, <i>Kingfield.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 16.

District Deputy Grand Master—JOSEPH W. SIMPSON, Rumford Falls.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 18 Oxford, <i>Norway.</i> | 100 Jefferson, <i>Bryant's Pond.</i> |
| 30 Blazing Star, <i>Rumford Falls.</i> | 147 Evening Star, <i>Buckfield.</i> |
| 57 King Hiram, <i>Dixfield.</i> | 152 Crooked River, <i>Bolster's Mills.</i> |
| 94 Paris, <i>South Paris.</i> | 182 Granite, <i>West Paris.</i> |
| 97 Bethel, <i>Bethel.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 17.

District Deputy Grand Master—ALBERT H. BURROUGHS, Westbrook.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Portland, <i>Portland.</i> | 86 Temple, <i>Westbrook.</i> |
| 17 Ancient Land-Mark, <i>Portland.</i> | 127 Presumpscot, <i>North Windham.</i> |
| 36 Casco, <i>Yarmouth.</i> | 180 Hiram, <i>South Portland.</i> |
| 38 Harmony, <i>Gorham.</i> | 183 Deering, <i>Portland.</i> |
| 70 Standish, <i>Standish.</i> | 186 Warren Phillips, <i>Cumb'd Mills.</i> |
| 81 Atlantic, <i>Portland.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 18.

District Deputy Grand Master—TOBIAS L. EASTMAN, Fryeburg.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 11 Pythagorean, <i>Fryeburg.</i> | 132 Mount Tir'em, <i>Waterford.</i> |
| 13 Oriental, <i>Bridgton.</i> | 153 Delta, <i>Lovell.</i> |
| 56 Mount Moriah, <i>Denmark.</i> | 169 Shepherd's River, <i>Brownville.</i> |
| 117 Greenleaf, <i>Cornish.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 19.

District Deputy Grand Master—EVERETT M. STAPLES, Biddeford.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 9 Saco, <i>Saco.</i> | 142 Ocean, <i>Wells' Depot.</i> |
| 22 York, <i>Kennebunk.</i> | 162 Arion, <i>Goodwin's Mills.</i> |
| 47 Dunlap, <i>Biddeford.</i> | 179 Yorkshire, <i>North Berwick.</i> |
| 51 St. John's, <i>South Berwick.</i> | 184 Naval, <i>Kittery.</i> |
| 76 Arundel, <i>Kennebunkport.</i> | 198 St. Aspinquid, <i>York Village.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 20.

District Deputy Grand Master—PHILIP J. MILLS, Lincoln.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 93 Horeb, <i>Lincoln</i> . | 172 Pine Tree, <i>Mattawamkeag</i> . |
| 148 Forest, <i>Springfield</i> . | 175 Baskahegan, <i>Danforth</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 21.

District Deputy Grand Master—CHARLES F. PAINE, Bar Harbor.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 19 Felicity, <i>Bucksport</i> . | 159 Esoteric, <i>Ellsworth</i> . |
| 40 Lygonia, <i>Ellsworth</i> . | 185 Bar Harbor, <i>Bar Harbor</i> . |
| 71 Rising Sun, <i>Orland</i> . | 192 Winter Harbor, <i>Winter Harbor</i> . |
| 77 Tremont, <i>Tremont</i> . | 201 David A. Hooper, <i>West Sullivan</i> . |
| 140 Mount Desert, <i>Mount Desert</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 22.

District Deputy Grand Master—MILTON L. MERRILL, St. Albans.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 49 Meridian Splendor, <i>Newport</i> . | 125 Meridian, <i>Pittsfield</i> . |
| 64 Pacific, <i>Exeter</i> . | 139 Archon, <i>East Dixmont</i> . |
| 75 Plymouth, <i>Plymouth</i> . | 157 Cambridge, <i>Cambridge</i> . |
| 95 Corinthian, <i>Hartland</i> . | 160 Parian, <i>Corinna</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 23.

District Deputy Grand Master—FRANK WILSON, Sanford.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 27 Adoniram, <i>Limington</i> . | 115 Buxton, <i>West Buxton</i> . |
| 42 Freedom, <i>Limerick</i> . | 118 Drummond, <i>Parsonsfeld</i> . |
| 55 Fraternal, <i>Alfred</i> . | 143 Preble, <i>Sanford</i> . |
| 107 Day Spring, <i>West Newfield</i> . | 190 Springvale, <i>Springvale</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 24.

District Deputy Grand Master—LIONEL O. BRACKETT, Auburn.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 12 Cumberland, <i>New Gloucester</i> . | 105 Ashlar, <i>Lewiston</i> . |
| 29 Tranquil, <i>Auburn</i> . | 150 Rabboni, <i>Lewiston</i> . |
| 73 Tyrian, <i>Mechanic Falls</i> . | 164 Webster, <i>Sabattus</i> . |
| 101 Nezinscot, <i>Turner</i> . | 178 Ancient Brothers', <i>Auburn</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 25.

District Deputy Grand Master—GEO. A. GORHAM, JR., Houlton.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 96 Monument, <i>Houlton</i> . | 165 Molunkus, <i>Sherman Mills</i> . |
| 98 Katahdin, <i>Patten</i> . | 197 Aroostook, <i>Blaine</i> . |

Officers of the Grand Lodge, 1900.

M. W.	WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Augusta
R. W.	ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Norway
"	JAMES E. PARSONS,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Ellsworth
"	JOHN H. MCGORRILL,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Fairfield
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland
"	STEPHEN BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland
"	CHARLES D. SMITH,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland
"	CYRUS W. HENDRIX,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st Dist.,</i>	Caribou
"	ALFRED SMALL,	" 2d "	Lubec
"	DAVID W. CAMPBELL,	" 3d "	Cherryfield
"	THEODORE A. SMITH,	" 4th "	Sedgwick
"	HAROLD E. MORRILL,*	" 5th "	Monson
"	FRED C. BARTON,	" 6th "	Bradley
"	ADRLBERT MILLETT,	" 7th "	Searsmont
"	S. AUGUSTUS PARKER,	" 8th "	Belfast
"	G. DUDLEY GOULD,	" 9th "	Warren
"	JOHN R. MCDOUGALL,	" 10th "	Boothbay Harbor
"	THOMAS H. BODGE,	" 11th "	Augusta
"	JAMES H. WITHERELL,	" 12th "	Oakland
"	GRANVILLE D. PERKINS,	" 13th "	Madison
"	PEREZ S. BURR,	" 14th "	Freeport
"	FRED RAYMOND,	" 15th "	Livermore Falls
"	JOSEPH W. SIMPSON,	" 16th "	Rumford Falls
"	ALBERT H. BURROUGHS,	" 17th "	Westbrook
"	TOBIAS L. EASTMAN,	" 18th "	Fryeburg
"	EVERETT M. STAPLES,	" 19th "	Biddeford
"	PHILIP J. MILLS,	" 20th "	Lincoln
"	CHARLES F. PAINE,	" 21st "	Bar Harbor
"	MILTON L. MERRILL,	" 22d "	St. Albans
"	FRANK WILSON,	" 23d "	Sanford
"	LIONEL O. BRACKETT,	" 24th "	Auburn
"	GEO. A. GORHAM, JR.,	" 25th "	Houlton
W. & Rev.	ELMER F. PEMBER,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Bangor
"	JOHN GIBSON,	" "	Cape Elizabeth
"	GEORGE M. HOWE,	" "	Lewiston
"	GEORGE F. DEGAN,	" "	Augusta
W. & Rt. Rev.	ROBERT CODMAN, JR.,	" "	Portland
W.	EDWIN C. DUDLEY,	" <i>Marshal,</i>	Augusta
"	ERMON D. EASTMAN,	" <i>Senior Deacon,</i>	Portland
"	CHARLES W. CROSBY,	" <i>Junior Deacon,</i>	Kent's Hill
"	WILLIAM A. REMICK,	" <i>Steward,</i>	Bucksport
"	JAMES E. KINGSLEY,	" "	Augusta
"	ROBERT W. CARR,	" "	Bowdoinham
"	ALBERT M. AMES,	" "	Stockton Springs
"	WILLIAM N. HOWE,	" <i>Sword Bearer,</i>	Portland
"	LEVI E. JONES,	" <i>Standard Bearer,</i>	Winthrop
"	WILLIAM L. POWERS,	" <i>Pursuivant,</i>	Gardiner
"	WARREN MORSE,	" "	Warren
M. W.	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	" <i>Lecturer,</i>	Sabattus
W.	WALTER S. SMITH,	" <i>Organist,</i>	Portland
"	WARREN O. CARNEY,	" <i>Tyler,</i>	Portland

* Appointed June 11th in place of Bro. Allen P. Clark declined.

List of Subordinate Lodges,

WITH . THEIR . PRINCIPAL . OFFICERS,

AS RETURNED MARCH 1, 1900.

-
- Acacia, 121, Durham. William D. Trufant, m; William W. Brown, sw;
Joseph W. Thomas, jw; Everett L. Macomber, s. Meeting Tuesday
on or before full moon; election, December. 14
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. Charles L. Cousins, m; Joshua W. Small, sw;
Benjamin Small, jw; Hardy H. McKenney, s. Meeting Tuesday on or
before full moon; election, December. 23
- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. George H. Larrabee, m; Rupert B. Matthews, sw;
Wilbur G. Knowlton, jw; Edward E. Philbrook, s. Meeting Wednes-
nesday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Amity, 6, Camden. Alfred F. Beverage, m; Edward D. Harrington, sw;
Samuel W. Coombs, jw; Charles A. Wilson, s. Meeting Friday on or
before full moon; election, October. 9
- Anchor, 158, South Bristol. Elliot P. Gamage, m; John F. French, sw;
Austin S. Thompson, jw; Walter H. McFarland, s. Meeting Wednes-
day on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Ancient Brothers', 178, Auburn. John R. Webber, m; J. Stanley Durkee,
sw; William E. Perry, jw; Forrest E. Ludden, s. Meeting Monday
on or after full moon; election, October. 24
- Ancient Landmark, 17, Portland. Winslow E. Howell, m; Charles F.
Tobie, sw; Frank C. Allen, jw; John S. Russell, s. Meeting first
Wednesday; election, December. 17
- Ancient York, 155, Lisbon Falls. Harry Doughty, m; Irving L. Philbrook,
sw; William H. Douglass, jw; William Parkin, s. Meeting Monday,
on or before full moon; election, September. 14
- Archon, 139, East Dixmont. C. Hale Thurlough, Monroe, m; Fred L. O.
Hussey, sw; Fred M. Johnston, jw; Benjamin F. Porter, s. Meeting
Thursday on or before full moon; election, October. 22

- Arion, 162, Goodwin's Mills. Henry P. Moody, Waterboro, m; Wm. M. Staples, West Kennebunk, sw; Loring W. Hill, jr; J. Burton Roberts, Dayton, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, November. 19.
- Aroostook, 197, Blaine. Wm. A. Beals, m; Charles G. Briggs, sw; Nelson E. Dorrity, jr; John M. Ramsey, s. Meeting Saturday on or after full moon; election, December. 25
- Arundel, 76, Kennebunkport. Isaac P. Gooch, m; Charles S. Gilman, sw; W. Francis Goodwin, jr; Fordyce B. Perkins, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, February. 19
- Ashlar, 105, Lewiston. Lewis V. Winship, m; Roland L. Woodbury, sw; Charles O. Morrell, jr; Fred I. Morrell, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 24
- Asylum, 133, Wayne. J. Putnam Stevens, Portland, m; J. Frank Gordon, sw; Luther M. Norris, jr; B. Frank Bradford, s. Meeting Tuesday before full moon; election, September. 12
- Atlantic, 81, Portland. James E. Leighton, m; Fred H. Cobb, sw; Elihu H. Rice, jr; Daniel W. Fox, s. Meeting third Wednesday; election, December. 17
- Augusta, 141, Augusta. Chas. W. Fletcher, m; Irving O. Gage, sw; Fred O. Boynton, jr; Claude W. Townsend, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election; January. 11
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. Albert H. Newbert, m; Warren L. Rhodes, sw; Alfred L. Carlton, jr; Lorenzo S. Robinson, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 9
- Bar Harbor, 185, Bar Harbor. Eben K. Whittaker, m; Winslow E. Braun, sw; William L. Pierce, jr; Benjamin L. Hadley, s. Meeting third Thursday, election, December. 21
- Baskahegan, 175, Danforth. William J. Kingston, m; C. M. Bither, sw; Leo H. Tuck, jr; David C. Parker, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, August. 20
- Bay View, 196, East Boothbay. Frank Seavey, m; George W. Gatchel, sw; Harvey R. Barlow, jr; Victor K. Montgomery, s; Meeting Thursday or or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Benevolent, 87, Carmel. Albert M. Day, m; Charles H. Blagden, sw; Dexter D. Roberts, jr; Camillus K. Johnson, s. Meeting, Wednesday week of full moon; election, December 27th. 6
- Bethel, 97, Bethel. Newton E. Richardson, m; William E. Abbott, sw; Herbert C. Rowe, jr; Davis G. Lovejoy, s. Meeting second Thursday; election, November. 16
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. James E. Kingsley, m; Waterman N. Redmond, sw; George W. Williams, jr; James E. Blanchard, s. Meeting first Monday; election, November. 11

- Bingham, 199, Bingham. Samuel A. Smith, m; David G. Bean, sw; Tilson H. Foss, jw; George C. Eames, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, June. 13
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford Falls. John J. Calhoun, m; Virgil A. Linnell, sw; Gerald A. Peabody, jw; Fred A. Porter, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October. 16
- Blue Mountain, 67, Phillips. Daniel F. Field, m; Burton A. Davenport, sw; Daniel F. Hoyt, jw; Daniel L. Dennison, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, September. 15
- Bristol, 74, Bristol Mills. Albert H. Hunter, m; Matthias A. Benner, sw; Joseph E. Crooker, jw; Edwin J. Ervine, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Buxton, 115, West Buxton. John H. Severance, m; Howard M. Davis, sw; Frank H. Baker, jw; Cyril P. Harmon, s. Meeting Monday evening on or before full moon; election, January. 23
- Cambridge, 157, Cambridge. Walter H. Ring, m; Melvin W. Knowles, sw; J. C. Morrill, jw; J. B. LaBree, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 22
- Caribou, 170, Caribou. Bertram L. Fletcher, m; A. A. Garden, sw; A. G. Danforth, jw; D. E. Johnson, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, December. 1
- Carrabassett, 161, Canaan. Alpheus Nason, m; George H. Ames, sw; Horace A. Nason, jw; Harry B. Harris, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Tuesday in October. 13
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Edwin M. White, m; Louis P. Pomeroy, sw; Milton M. Fitts, jw; Monroe Stoddard, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, October. 17
- Central, 45, China. Gustavus J. Nelson, m; George L. Gilman, sw; Charles W. Abbott, jw; Willis W. Washburn, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, September. 7
- Columbia, 200, Greenville. Hiram Hunt, m; George W. Brown, sw; Jesse M. Prentiss, jw; Henry W. Budden, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 5
- Composite, 168, LaGrange. Harry A. Fowles, m; Perley E. Speed, sw; Herbert J. Bantan, jw; Andrew H. Dyer, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October. 5
- Corinthian, 95, Hartland. Lynne H. Blanchard, m; Fred Lucas, sw; C. P. Barnes, jw; Thomas A. Linn, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, August. 22
- Crescent, 78, Pembroke. Herbert H. Best, m; Alyra W. Leighton, sw; Allen H. Brown, jw; George W. Allan, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December. 2

- Crooked River, 152, Bolster's Mills. Albion M. Hancock, m; Walker B. Mills, sw; James M. Meserve, jw; Harry I. Lowell, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, November. 16
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Frank W. Winter, Upper Gloucester, m; Newell P. Haskell, sw; Cyrus S. Witham, East Raymond, jw; Geo. H. Goding, Lewiston Junction, s. Meeting Saturday before full moon; election, November. 24
- David A. Hooper, 201, West Sullivan. Oliver G. Newman, m; Gilbert F. Hooper, sw; Bradbury Smith, jw; Howard H. Havey, s. Meeting first Saturday; election, December. 21
- Davis, 191, Strong. Oscar Sweet, m; Henry P. Churchill, sw; Frank O. Welch, jw; Edward H. Vaughan, s. Meeting Friday evening of week in which moon is full; election, September. 15
- Day Spring, 107, West Newfield. Ai Q. Mitchell, m; Everett E. Ham, sw; George H. Straw, jw; George O. Hannaford, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, September. 23
- Deering, 183, Portland. Walter S. Coleman, m; Silas B. Adams, sw; Charles D. Moses, jw; Francis E. Chase, Woodfords, s. Meeting second Monday; election, February. 17
- Delta, 153, Lovell. Elmon J. Noyes, m; James H. Walker, sw; George Marston, jw; Edward L. Bell, s. Meeting second Thursday; election, December. 18
- Dirigo, 104, Weeks' Mills. Chas. J. Lincoln, m; John A. Peva, sw; Eugene C. Rowe, jw; Orrin F. Sproul, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, September. 11
- Doric, 149, Monson. Walter C. Jackson, m; Edward P. Blanchard, sw; William A. Mills, jw; Edwin R. Haynes, s. Meeting Monday on or after full moon; election, December. 5
- Dresden, 103, Dresden Mills. Wilbur F. Cate, m; Geo. W. Palmer, sw; John S. Snow, jw; Nathaniel F. Leeman, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October. 10
- Drummond, 118, Parsonsfield. John H. Benson, m; George G. Edwards, sw; Samuel G. Pease, jw; Albert R. Leavitt, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, September. 23
- Dunlap, 47, Biddeford. John F. Burnham, m; James H. Bradbury, sw; James E. Etchells, jw; Nahum S. Drown, s, (box 205). Meeting first Monday; election, December. 19
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. Warren S. Kane, m; Walter J. Gannett, sw; Henry W. Rice, jw; Wheeler C. Hawkes, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December 27th. 2
- Eastern Frontier, 112, Fort Fairfield. Chandler C. Harvey, m; George W. Richardson, sw; James R. Hopkins, jw; Frank P. Grant, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 1

- Eggemoggin, 128, Sedgwick. Fred J. Sargent, m; Henry A. Small, sw; Fitz Henry Smith, jw; Groves S. Bridges, s. Meeting second Monday; election, January. 4
- Esoteric, 159, Ellsworth. Albert K. Cushman, m; James A. Bowden, sw; Harvard C. Jordan, jw; Thomas E. Hale, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, January. 21
- Euclid, 194, Madison. Omer D. Eames, m; Samuel E. Remick, sw; Lewis K. Williams, jw; Irvin L. Russell, s. Meeting first Monday; election, September. 13
- Eureka, 84, Tenant's Harbor. Charles G. Crocker, m; Fred O. Bartlett, sw; Albion H. Andrews, jw; Walter H. Mathews, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, January. 9
- Evening Star, 147, Buckfield. Washington Heald, m; Horace A. Murch, sw; Arthur E. Cole, jw; Alfred Cole, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, September. 16
- Excelsior, 151, Northport. Rodol A. Packard, m; Mark D. Mendal, sw; Seymour S. Chapman, jw; Fred B. Glidden, s. Meeting Wednesday nearest full moon; election, December. 8
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Howard F. Gilley, m; Nash McKay, sw; Geo. M. Ware, jw; Sewall L. Heywood, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December. 21
- Forest, 148, Springfield. Charles D. Chase, m; Herbert E. Murdock, sw; Hiram E. Stevens, jw; Lysander W. Trask, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 20
- Franklin, 123, New Sharon. Jabez S. Mooers, m; Benj. F. Makepeace, sw; Manley H. Blaisdell, jw; James H. Howes, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September. 15
- Fraternal, 55, Alfred. James H. Littlefield, m; Charles E. Lander, sw; Fred A. Hobbs, jw; Fred J. Sherburne, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. John P. Fogg, m; Autine S. Sawyer, sw; Edwin Cobb, jw; Fred W. Libby, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Freeport, 23, Freeport. Ernest E. Pinkham, m; Geo. P. Coffin, sw; Ralph M. Anderson, jw; Winthrop C. Fogg, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 14
- Granite, 182, West Paris. Chauncey M. Childs, m; Charles F. Barden, sw; Arthur L. Mann, jw; Walter F. Carr, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November. 16
- Greenleaf, 117, Cornish. Wm. R. Copp, m; Stephen Rounds, sw; Charles H. Badgley, jw; Geo. H. Parker, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December. 18

- Hancock, 4, Castine. J. Walter Weeks, m; William A. Walker, sw; James F. Hooper, jw; Charles H. Hooper, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, December. 4
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. Moses E. Little, m; Chas. E. Cobb, sw; Melville W. Cressey, jw; William P. F. Robie, s. Meeting Wednesday on or preceding full moon; election, December. 17
- Harwood, 91, Machias. Willis H. Allen, m; Loring B. Wilder, sw; Isaac S. Heaton, jw; Carl M. Hutchinson, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December 27th. 3
- Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Frederick D. Loring, m; Henry A. Wood, sw; Henry Farrington, jw; James M. Larrabee, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 11
- Hiram, 180, South Portland. Frank I. Brown, m; William E. St. John, sw; Fred G. Hamilton, jw; Stephen Scamman, Knightville, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November. 17
- Horeb, 93, Lincoln. Frank R. Linton, m; Daniel W. Ballantyne, sw; Nathan R. Smith, jw; Charles F. Plumly, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Monday in December. 20
- Howard, 69, Winterport. Charles S. Nason, m; Charles R. Hill, sw; Frank W. Haley, jw; John H. Baker, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December. 6
- Ira Berry, 187, Bluehill. Otis Littlefield, m; Thos. Grieve, sw; Charles A. Snow, jw; Frank A. Davis, s; Meeting third Monday; election, December. 4
- Island, 89, Islesboro'. Edward S. Preble, m; William F. Keller, sw; Austin Trim, jw; Thomas R. Williams, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, February. 8
- Jefferson, 100, Bryant's Pond. James M. Day, m; Arthur C. Ricker, sw; George W. Q. Perham, jw; James L. Bowker, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 16
- Jonesport, 188, Jonesport. Samuel B. Cummings, m; Nehemiah Guptill, sw; Darius D. Kelley, jw; Clifton M. Rogers, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 3
- Katahdin, 98, Patten. John Jackman, m; Alonzo A. Porter, sw; Ferdie G. Huston, jw; Lorin B. Huston, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, December. 25
- Kenduskeag, 137, Kenduskeag. F. Ernest Harvey, m; Daniel W. Parkhurst, sw; Albert L. Spratt, jw; John H. Everett, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 6
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. John M. Robinson, m; Fitz Morris Fish, sw; Herbert C. Barrell, jw; Fred A. Tenney, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November. 11

- Keystone, 80, Solon. Leander F. McIntire, m; William W. Jackman, sw; Fred Magoon, jw; Perry S. Longley, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, third Wednesday of October. 13
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Alton E. Andrews, m; Oliver E. Keene, sw; Wilder P. Drinkwater, jw; Edward M. Coleman, s. Meeting Tuesday evening nearest full moon; election, December. 8
- King Hiram, 57, Dixfield. Don A. Gates, m; James S. Sturtevant, sw; Lewis H. Reed, jw; Charles L. Dillingham, s. Meeting Tuesday on or after full moon; election, October. 16
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro. George L. Welt, m; John M. Richards, sw; Walter E. Clark, jw; S. A. Jones, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Knox, 189, South Thomaston. Arthur F. Sellers, m; Alden W. Butler, sw; Arthur Pierce, jw; J. M. Bartlett, s. Meeting first Saturday; election, January. 9
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. Elsworth E. Peacock, m; Elliott J. Beal, w; Leon O. Tebbetts, jw; Ernest A. Morgan, s. Meeting first Saturday; election, February. 12
- Lebanon, 116, South Norridgewock. Charles W. Farrand, m; Eben S. Miller, sw; Ernest W. Gilman, jw; Charles A. Ward, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 13
- Lewey's Island, 138, Princeton. Theo. Morrison, m; Fred A. Johnson, sw; William Roberson, Jr., jw; Samuel O. Hoar, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December, St. John's Day. 2
- Liberty, 111, Liberty. Percy Leman, Libertyville, m; Albert D. Ramsey, Center Montville, sw; Willis J. Greeley, jw; Ambrose P. Cargill, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 7
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. John E. Dickinson, m; Charles M. Leavitt, sw; Frank A. Creamer, jw; William D. Patterson, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Lookout, 131, Cutler. Forrest S. Stevens, m; Melle G. Huntley, sw; Coleman Casseboom, jw; Caleb G. Aldrich, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 3
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. Elvert E. Parker, m; F. Carroll Burrill, sw; Horatio N. Joy, jw; James E. Parsons, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 21
- Lynde, 174, Hermon. Frank H. Jewell, m; J. Mellen Taylor, sw; Fred A. Wing, jw; Frank P. Whitaker, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 6
- Maine, 20, Farmington. William M. Pratt, m; Elvarus A. Russell, sw; Newell R. Knowlton, jw; George B. Cragin, s. Meeting Monday in week of full moon; election, October. 15

- Marine, 122, Deer Isle. Frank A. Gross, m; Eugene A. Green, sw; Hudson H. Pressey, jw; Moses S. Joyce, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 4
- Mariner's, 68, Searsport. James E. Wentworth, m; Fred M. Perkins, sw; Charles A. Whittier, jw; Chas. E. Adams, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January. 8
- Marsh River, 102, Brooks. Forrest K. Roberts, m; Charles H. Irving, sw; Albert R. Pilley, jw; Elmer G. Roberts, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 7
- Mechanics', 66, Orono. Robert M. Hutchinson, m; Anson A. Powers, sw; Nathan C. Grover, jw; Albert J. Durgin, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December 27th. 6
- Meridian, 125, Pittsfield. Orville H. Drake, m; Benj. E. Cornell, sw; Louis O. Haskell, jw; Henry W. Lancey, s. Meeting Friday evening on or before full moon; election, January. 22
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Wilson M. Stuart, m; Sumner T. Stuart, sw; Burnham C. Truworthy, jw; Charles E. Smith, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 22
- Messalonskee, 113, Oakland. Frank E. Burrill, m; J. Edward Harris, sw; Lester M. Andrews, jw; Orestes E. Crowell, s. Meeting on the first Saturday; election, December. 12
- Molunkus, 165, Sherman Mills. Freeman C. Harris, m; Daniel H. Perry, sw; George W. Upton, jw; John Gosnell, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, October. 25
- Monmouth, 110, Monmouth. Horace S. Bent, m; Fred K. Blake, sw; Willis L. McKechnie, jw; George H. Stetson, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 11
- Monument, 96, Houlton. James Archibald, m; Arthur G. Rich, sw; Alpheus A. Hutchinson, jw; Chas. E. F. Stetson, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, March. 25
- Morning Star, 41, Litchfield Corners. Thomas T. Jenkins, m; Geo. E. Ring, sw; Frank E. Lane, jw; Irving W. Gilbert, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 11
- Mosaic, 52, Foxcroft. Wm. M. Steward, m; Ralph W. Hughes, sw; Willard W. Blethen, jw; James T. Roberts, Dover, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 5
- Moses Webster, 145, Vinalhaven. C. E. Boman, m; Freeman L. Roberts, sw; Thomas B. Lane, jw; Alexander Davidson, s. Meeting second Tuesday; election, November. 9
- Mount Abram, u. d., Kingfield. Ward S. Dolbier, m; Otis F. Alvord, sw; Lavella A. Norton, jw; Ralph D. Simons, s. 15

- Mount Bigelow, 202, Flagstaff. Walter E. Hinds, m; Grant Fuller, sw; Charles L. Rogers, jw; Carlton W. Savage, s. Meeting second Saturday; election, September. 15
- Mount Desert, 140, Mount Desert. Melville L. Allen, m; John A. Somes, sw; Howard Norwood, jw; Lyman H. Somes, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, January. 21
- Mount Kineo, 109, Guilford. Alexander F. Edes, m; Geo. L. Barrows, sw; Joseph T. Davidson, jw; David Pearson, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 5
- Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. Almon P. Pingree, m; Luther Trumbull, sw; Henry W. Evans, jw; Sidney T. Brown, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 18
- Mount Olivet, 203, Washington. Thomas Sukeforth, m; Willis E. Deering, sw; Walter Morse, jw; Wm. M. Staples, Razorville, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September. 9
- Mount Tir'em, 132, Waterford. Geo. A. Miller, m; Geo. H. Rice, sw; Clarence H. Pride, jw; Isaac F. Jewett, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 18
- Mystic, 65, Hampden. Sumner D. Greeley, m; C. Fremont Cowan, sw; John E. Emerson, jw; William H. Tribou, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 6
- Mystic Tie, 154, Weld. Orletus Phillips, m; Geo. N. Coburn, sw; Geo. F. Williams, jw; Lyman L. Jones, s. Meeting Tuesday of week of full moon; election, December. 15
- Narraguagus, 88, Cherryfield. Phineas B. Guptill, m; Edward C. Davis, sw; Lynn C. Haycock, jw; Geo. G. Freeman, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before the full moon; election, January. 3
- Naskeag, 171, Brooklin. Stephen E. McFarland, m; Albert W. Kane, sw; Sterling Carter, jw; Henry S. Kane, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 4
- Naval, 184, Kittery. David G. Walker, m; Henry I. Durgin, sw; C. Clifford Muchmore, jw; Levi L. Goodrich, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, July. 19
- Neguemkeag, 166, Vassalboro. Willis B. Crosby, m; George D. Cook, sw; George S. Perkins, jw; Charles A. Stilson, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, September. 12
- Nezinscot, 101, Turner. Oliver A. Sprague, m; E. Herbert Cole, sw; Willard B. French, jw; Seth D. Andrews, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, June. 24
- Northern Star, 28, North Anson. James H. Stevens, m; Herbert H. Marston, sw; Gould A. Porter, jw; Wilbur C. Simmons, s. Meeting Tuesday on or next preceding full moon; election, December. 13

- Ocean, 142, Wells Depot. Charles H. Brown, m; Horace S. Mills, sw; Perley C. Goodwin, jw; Frank L. Buker, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 19
- Olive Branch, 124, Charleston. Henry D. Worth, m; Wilbur R. Clark, sw; H. Warren, Foss, jw; Oscar L. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December. 5
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. Charles G. Brackett, m; William A. Hastings, sw; Charles A. Creighton, jw; James A. Levensaler, s; Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 9
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. Frank A. Webb, m; David C. Saunders, sw; Charles J. Stone, jw; D. Eugene Chaplin, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October. 18
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore Falls. Charles H. Gibbs, m; Charles H. Randall, sw; Howard A. Wells, jw; George O. Eustis, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, June. 15
- Oxford, 18, Norway. William J. Jones, m; Hermon L. Bartlett, sw; George Hazen, jw; Howard D. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or next before full moon; election, September. 16
- Pacific, 64, Exeter. Stillman J. Ridlon, m; Angus Delaney, sw; Arthur F. Buswell, jw; David E. Knight, Garland, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January. 22
- Parian, 160, Corinna. Oliver L. Jones, m; Lewis Hutchins, sw; I. M. Bates, jw; George W. Nutter, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, January. 22
- Paris, 94, South Paris. Albert D. Park, m; Fred H. Evans, sw; Percy M. Walker, jw; Horatio Woodbury, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, at first stated meeting in year. 16
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. A. R. Levenseller, m; William E. Robinson, sw; F. M. Howard, jw; Charles S. Hutchinson, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, at last stated meeting preceding 27th December. 5
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Upham A. Hoyt, m; Will G. Sawtelle, sw; Clifford J. Pattee, jw; James Pattee, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 8
- Pine Tree, 172, Mattawamkeag. Virgil W. Hobbs, m; William H. Bither, sw; Walter E. Haynes, jw; George W. Smith, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October. 20
- Pioneer, 72, Ashland. George S. Orcutt, m; H. Lindley Dobson, sw; James R. Elder, jw; Willard L. Colburn, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 1
- Piscataquis, 44, Milo. Martin L. Durgin, m; Albert C. Cushman, sw; Percie M. Hamlin, jw; Albert W. Murray, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September. 5

- Pleasant River, 163, Brownville. Austin W. Sherburne, m; Ezekiel L. Chase, sw; D. W. Hayes, jw; Walter G. Sherburne, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, November. 5
- Pleiades, 173, Millbridge. Justin A. Walling, m; Warren Sawyer, sw; Jasper Wyman, jw; Ansell M. Sawyer, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 3
- Plymouth, 75, Plymouth. Walter G. Loud, m; Henry S. Thorn, sw; Frank H. Pickard, jw; William H. Condon, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 22
- Polar Star, 114, Bath. Eben J. Marston, m; George M. Duley, sw; Geo. F. Wallace, jw; Herbert D. Maxwell, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, March. 14
- Portland, 1, Portland. Thomas E. McDonald, m; Charles C. Berry, sw; George H. Allan, jw; George F. Gould, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, November. 17
- Pownal, 119, Stockton Springs. Samuel H. West, m; Clifford N. Fletcher, sw; Ernest A. Partridge, jw; Albert M. Ames, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 8
- Preble, 143, Sanford. Fred Hodgson, m; Edmund F. Low, sw; Charles W. Blagden, jw; Joseph Leckenby, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Presumpscot, 127, North Windham. Winfield S. Allen, m; William C. Noyes, sw; Fred H. Dole, jw; William H. Cram, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 17
- Pythagorean, 11, Fryeburg. Dean A. Ballard, m; Arthur C. Ferguson, sw; John W. Hutchins, jw; Tobias L. Eastman, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 18
- Quantabacook, 129, Searsmont. Edwin R. Keene, North Appleton, m; Charles S. Adams, sw; Lucian H. Thomas, jw; Loima C. Poor, s. Meeting first Saturday; election, October. 7
- Rabboni, 150, Lewiston. Wm. B. Skelton, m; Frank A. Conant, sw; Rodney A. Swift, jw; George F. Turner, s. Meeting Wednesday after full moon; election, September. 24
- Reliance, 195, Stonington. William McKenzie, m; Luther W. Weed, sw; Stephen E. Allen, jw; Rollins Y. Stinson, s. Meeting first Saturday; election, December. 4
- Richmond, 63, Richmond. Henry H. Stinson, m; Walter E. Whitney, sw; Thomas J. Southard, jw; William R. Fairclough, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October. 14
- Rising Star, 177, Penobscot. George E. Parsons, m; Fred B. Mitchell, sw; Freeman N. Bowden, jw; Benj. H. Cushman, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December. 4

- Rising Sun, 71, Orland. Ashur B. Hutchins, m; Fred M. Keyes, sw; Edwin L. Jordan, jw; Seth R. Hutchins, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, December. 21
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Charles J. Wardley, m; Frank J. Cole, sw; Fred C. Chalmers, jw; John H. Kerr, s. Meeting last Tuesday; election, December. 6
- Riverside, 135, East Jefferson. Maiden I. Johnson, m; Charles W. Besse, sw; William A. Jackson, jw; Joseph J. Bond, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Rockland, 79, Rockland. Clarence E. Daniels, m; Henry J. Keating, sw; Joseph H. Clark, jw; Albert I. Mather, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 9
- Rural, 53, Sidney. William P. Marble, m; J. Emery Nash, sw; George R. Campbell, jw; James F. Warren, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 12
- Saco, 9, Saco. Philip C. Tapley, m; Frank L. White, sw; John W. Shaw, jw; George A. Emery, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 19
- Saint Andrew's, 83, Bangor. Edwin Lord, m; Benj. B. Merrill, sw; John M. Prilay, jw; Fred W. Adams, s. Meeting last Friday; election, December. 6
- Saint Aspinquid, 198, York Village. Charles L. Bowden, m; George N. Thompson, sw; Daniel A. Stevens, jw; John C. Stewart, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 19
- Saint Croix, 46, Calais. William H. Keen, m; Isaac N. Jones, sw; Hiram A. Brown, jw; Stephen D. Morrell, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December, St. John's Day. 2
- Saint George, 16, Warren. R. O. Wade, m; Matthew Allan, sw; George J. Newcomb, jw; Henry Vaughn, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October. 9
- Saint John's, 51, South Berwick. Joshua E. L. Bradeen, m; John B. Whitehead, sw; Frank Beaven, jw; Edward A. Chesley, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, March. 19
- Saint Paul's, 82, Rockport. Lorin A. Brewster, m; Joseph H. Richards, sw; Charles J. Gregory, jw; Perez B. Cooper, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October. 9
- Seaside, 144, Boothbay Harbor. Dennis S. Wylie, m; William H. Hodgdon, sw; Merrill A. Perkins, jw; Henry S. Perkins, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Sebasticook, 146, Clinton. Willard W. Eastman, m; George A. Bingham, sw; Will M. Runnells, jw; Ruel W. Gerald, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October. 7

- Shepherd's River, 169, Brownfield. Frederick A. Thayer, m; Elsworth E. Gilpatrick, sw; Charles A. Thom, jw; Hubert F. Fitch, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 18
- Siloam, 92, Fairfield. George G. Weeks, m; Chas. H. Crummett, sw; B. H. Lawrence, jw; Geo. M. Chapman, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, December. 13
- Solar, 14, Bath. Landgon T. Snipe, m; Walter S. Glidden, sw; John Scott, jw; Albert L. Strout, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December. 14
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. William R. Elliott, m; Lawrence Cockburn, sw; Amos K. Butler, jw; Charles M. Lambert, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 13
- Springvale, 190, Springvale. Willie F. Ferguson, m; George H. Drew, sw; William J. Gowen, jw; Wm. H. Wood, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Standish, 70, Standish. William S. Thompson, m; Lewis W. Moulton, sw; Edward W. Dolloff, jw; Rufus E. Gray, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, January. 17
- Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. George F. Cathcart, m; Charles Green, sw; Joseph Sykes, jw; Charles A. Dillingham, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, September. 6
- Star in the West, 85, Unity. Benjamin A. Fogg, m; E. D. Chase, sw; Fred A. Whitten, jw; R. M. Berry, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 7
- Temple, 25, Winthrop. Everett W. Macomber, m; Horace A. Keyes, sw; Harry W. Stevens, jw; J. Ewan McIlroy, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 11
- Temple, 86, Westbrook. Frederick W. Freeman, m; Abner L. Hawkes, sw; Fred E. Burns, jw; Oliver A. Cobb, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, December. 17
- Timothy Chase, 126, Belfast. James H. Howes, m; Hiram L. Partridge, sw; John W. Knight, jw; Charles E. Johnson, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, January. 8
- Tranquil, 29, Auburn. Lavator O. Morse, m; Murray B. Watson, sw; Charles L. Turgeon, jw; James F. Atwood, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January. 24
- Tremont, 77, Southwest Harbor. Byron H. Mayo, m; Franklin S. Doliver, sw; James S. Fernald, jw; William R. Keene, Manset, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 21
- Trinity, 130, Presque Isle. Leon S. Howe, m; Rufus F. Stowe, sw; J. L. Wellington, jw; R. H. McDonald, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 1

- Tuscan, 106, Addison Point. James H. Leighton, m; Osmond A. Holmes, sw; Harrison N. Look, jw; Amasa D. Tracy, Westcogus, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 3
- Tyrian, 73, Mechanic Falls. M. C. B. Prince, m; M. W. Morrill, sw; E. A. Hammond, jw; Lewin Jefferies, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October. 24
- Union, 31, Union. George C. Hawes, m; William C. Morton, sw; Edward E. Bowes, jw; Charles M. Lucas, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. Henry C. Upton, m; Hiram A. Webber, sw; Wm. Louis Gahan, jw; Adelbert J. Hutchinson, s. Meeting second Tuesday; election, December. 14
- Unity, 58, Thorndike. Phineas P. Shibles, m; Daniel H. Clark, sw; Lincoln G. Monroe, jw; Albert W. Ward, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, September. 7
- Vassalboro', 54, North Vassalboro'. Joseph Wall, m; Chas. H. Lightbody, sw; William S. Bradley, jw; Henry A. Ewer, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, September. 12
- Vernon Valley, 99, Mt. Vernon. William T. Morrill, m; Melvin S. Gordon, sw; B. Ralph Cram, jw; Fred W. Foss, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November. 12
- Village, 26, Bowdoinham. Franklin K. Jack, m; William W. Brown, sw; Elbridge S. Blodgett, jw; Henry E. Cornish, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October. 14
- Warren, 2, East Machias. Francis L. Talbot, m; Millard H. Wiswell, sw; Elmer E. Gardner, jw; Harry M. Gardiner, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December 27th. 3
- Warren Phillips, 186, Cumberland Mills. Albert L. Parker, m; K. S. Raymond, sw; Henry S. Cobb, jw; Almon N. Waterhouse, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, October. 17
- Washburn, 193, Washburn. Frank E. Gould, m; Robert W. Chapman, sw; Henry Wilder, jw; Edward M. Hines, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 1
- Washington, 37, Lubec. Irving W. Case, m; Montford S. Hill, sw; William Merriman, jw; Natt. W. Brown, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December. 2
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. John M. Webber, m; Cyrus W. Davis, sw; John H. Burleigh, jw; Anson O. Libby, acting s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 12
- Webster, 164, Sabattus. Fred A. Richardson, m; William H. Wright, sw; John F. Hirst, jw; Judson Bangs, s. Meeting Thursday on or next before full moon; election, December. 24

- Whitney, 167, Canton. George H. Strout, m; Herbert V. Foster, sw; John N. Foye, jw; Herbert J. DeShon, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, September. 15
- Wilton, 156, Wilton. Daniel J. Norton, m, Leon A. Bump, sw; Edgar C. Bump, jw; Fred E. Trefethen, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, September. 15
- Winter Harbor, 192, Winter Harbor. A. E. Small, m; C. H. Davis, sw; H. E. Sumner, jw; B. F. Sumner, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 21
- York, 22, Kennebunk. William Titcomb, m; Charles R. Littlefield, sw; George G. H. Randall, jw; George A. Gilpatrick, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 19
- Yorkshire, 179, North Berwick. Charles W. Goodwin, m; Alna L. Getchell, sw; Frank U. Grover, jw; Brainerd S. Drake, s. Meeting last Friday; election, December. 19

ADDRESSES.

- WINFIELD S. CHOATE, *Grand Master*, - Augusta, Me.
- MARQUIS F. KING, *Grand Treasurer*, - - Portland, Me.
- STEPHEN BERRY, *Grand Secretary*, - - Portland, Me.
- JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, - - - - Portland, Me.
- Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.*

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M. W.	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	Portland,	P. G. M.
"	WILLIAM P. PREBLE,	New Brighton, N. Y.,	"
"	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	Saco,	"
"	CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	Bangor,	"
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	Portland,	"
"	WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,	Skowhegan,	"
"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	Lewiston,	"
"	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	Sabattus,	"
"	ALBRO E. CHASE,	Portland,	"
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	Machias,	"
"	HORACE H. BURBANK,	Saco,	"
"	AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM,	Bangor,	"
"	JOSEPH A. LOCKE,	Portland,	"
R. W.	GUSTAVUS E. SARGENT,	Boston,	P. S. & W.
"	THADDEUS R. SIMONTON,	Camden,	"
"	SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	Augusta,	"
"	JOHN B. REDMAN,	Ellsworth,	"
"	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	Bath,	"
"	LEANDER M. KENNISTON,	Camden,	"
"	MANLY G. TRASK,	Bangor,	"
"	DANIEL P. BOYNTON,	Monmouth,	"
"	GEORGE R. SHAW,	Portland,	"
"	HERBERT HARRIS,	Bangor,	"
"	WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	Augusta,	"
"	ALBERT M. PENLEY,	Auburn,	"
"	ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	Norway,	"
"	ELMER P. SPOFFORD,	Deer Isle,	"
"	WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,	Lewiston,	"
"	JOHN W. BALLOU,	Bath,	P. J. G. W.
"	A. M. WETHERBEE,	Warren,	"
"	EDWIN HOWARD VOSE,	Calais,	"
"	ARCHIE LEE TALBOT,	Lewiston,	"
"	GOODWIN R. WILEY,	Bethel,	"
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	Gardiner,	"
"	BENJAMIN AMES,	Thorndike,	"
"	WILFORD J. FISHER,	Eastport,	"
"	SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	Denmark,	"

R. W. ALGERSON M. ROAK,	Auburn,	P. J. G. W.
" EDMUND B. MALLET,	Freeport,	"
" SAMUEL L. MILLER,	Waldoboro,	"
" HOWARD D. SMITH,	Norway,	"
" WM. FREEMAN LORD,	Auburn,	"
" GUSTAVUS H. CARGILL,	Liberty,	"
" MOSES TAIT,	Calais,	"
" BENJAMIN L. HADLEY,	Bar Harbor,	"
" ENOCH O. GREENLEAF,	Farmington,	"
" MILLARD M. CASWELL,	Bridgton,	"
" FRANKLIN R. REDLON,	Portland,	"



PERMANENT . MEMBERS . DECEASED.

M. W. WILLIAM KING,	P. G. M.	R. W. SAM. L. VALENTINE, P. D. G. M.
" SIMON GREENLEAF,	"	" JOHN J. BELL,
" WILLIAM SWAN,	"	" GEORGE THACHER, P. S. G. W.
" CHARLES FOX,	"	" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	"	" JOEL MILLER,
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	"	" EZRA B. FRENCH,
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	"	" WILLIAM ALLEN,
" REUEL WASHBURN,	"	" ISAAC DOWNING,
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,	"	" DAVID BUGBEE,
" HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	"	" EDMUND B. HINKLEY,
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	"	" F. LORING TALBOT,
" JOHN T. PAINE,	"	" WILLIAM O. POOR,
" ALEX'R H. PUTNEY,	"	" ARLINGT'N B. MARSTON,
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	"	" WILLIAM H. SMITH,
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	"	" J. W. MITCHELL, P. J. G. W.
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	"	" REUBEN NASON,
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	"	" FRYE HALL,
" JOHN MILLER,	"	" STEPHEN WEBBER,
" JABEZ TRUE,	"	" WILLIAM SOMERBY,
" HIRAM CHASE,	"	" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	"	" WILLIAM KIMBALL,
" JOHN H. LYNDE,	"	" JOHN WILLIAMS,
" DAVID CARGILL,	"	" STEPHEN B. DOCKHAM,
" ALBERT MOORE,	"	" OLIVER GERRISH,
R. W. PELEG SPRAGUE,	P. D. G. M.	" JOSEPH COVELL,
" AMOS NOURSE,	"	" FRANCIS J. DAY,
" DAVID C. MAGOUN,	"	" THOMAS K. OSGOOD,
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	"	" HENRY H. DICKEY,
" JAMES M. CHILD,	"	" CHARLES W. HANEY,
" ELISHA HARDING,	"	

Brethren Died during the Year,

FROM MARCH 1, 1899, TO MARCH 1, 1900.

THOSE MARKED * WERE RETURNED AS BURIED WITH MASONIC RITES.

- 1 Portland, Portland. Henry B. Jordan, March 18; William O. Fox, Past Grand Treasurer, June; Leander Morton, Sept. 2; William H. Preble, December; John H. Long, Jan. 21.
- 2 Warren, East Machias. Gilbert W. Hathaway,* April 30; John Sanborn,* August; Job Small,* November; Caleb Gilman,* December, buried at Meddybemps by St. Croix Lodge of Calais.
- 3 Lincoln, Wiscasset. James M. Knight, Nov. 9; Geo. W. Shea, Feb. 17.
- 4 Hancock, Castine. David T. Patchin, June 20; Jerry Jones, Sept. 15.
- 5 Kennebec, Hallowell. J. Lynn Anderson, June 20; Alden A. Heath, Aug. 4; Charles E. Runnells, Aug. 19; Gorham S. Johnson, Jan. 17; Augustine Lord, Feb. 11.
- 6 Amity, Camden. Geo. B. Ludwig,* March 4; Samuel W. Heal,* March 11, aged 83; William H. Twombly, April 16, aged 78, in Reading, Mass.; Frederick T. Phelps, July, aged 69, in Portland; Seth Calderwood,* Nov. 1, aged 76; Edwin S. Rose,* Dec. 25.
- 7 Eastern, Eastport. William Berry,* Nov. 28; Jacob A. Eckstorm, December.
- 8 United, Brunswick. Geo. E. Whitney, April 11; William Barron, July 20.
- 9 Saco, Saco. Milton W. Hall, Jan. 9.
- 10 Rising Virtue, Bangor. William F. Noyes, April 23; George L. Durham, Aug. 27; Joseph F. Snow, Oct. 26, ex-Mayor of Bangor; Jewell S. Porter, Nov. 4; Frederic A. Cummings, Dec. 12, ex-Mayor and ex-Postmaster of Bangor; David Bugbee, December 19, Past Master and Past Senior Grand Warden, aged 83.
- 11 Pythagorean, Fryeburg. John Bachelder, May 10; Frank Locke, Jan. 25; Charles J. Carney, Feb. 1.

- 12 Cumberland, New Gloucester. George W. Plummer,* August 31, was initiated May 31, 1852, Master seven terms, D. D. G. M. Third District, 1863; Samuel P. Cummings,* Sept. 20; blacksmith and veteran civil war; Ernest G. True,* Dec. 9, a fine young man, Supervisor of schools, and had held several town offices.
- 13 Oriental, Bridgton. Isiaah D. Gore, March 21, burial at Westbrook; Charles N. Harmon, April 29, burial at Harrison.
- 14 Solar, Bath. Henry D. Parsons, March 23; Leonard Williams, April 21, at Boston, Mass.; Ferdinand W. Coombs, May 24; Orren F. Battey, June 26, at Worcester, Mass.; Edwin Reed, Nov. 21, at Woolwich; William F. Dunton, Feb. 10; Daniel E. Pierce, Feb. 21.
- 15 Orient, Thomaston. Oliver Page, Jan. 17; Jonathan Strong, Feb. 24.
- 16 St. George, Warren. John H. Singleton, July 17.
- 17 Ancient Land-Mark, Portland. George P. Morris, April 19; James E. McDowell, May 17; Henry F. Perry, Past Master, May 21; George H. Fuller, August; Watson A. Dakin, Oct. 22; Weston F. Milliken, Nov. 19; John C. Porter, Nov. 19; Henry A. Harding, Jan. 14; Orrin S. Fogg, Feb. 6, Honorary Member.
- 18 Oxford, Norway. Coleman F. Lord,* April 17; Seward S. Stearns,* Aug. 9th; Cyrus S. Tucker,* Oct. 31; David F. Perley.
- 19 Felicity, Bucksport. Richard C. Leach, May 27; Charles A. Rice, Aug. 19.
- 20 Maine, Farmington. Joseph E. Blabon, Dec. 10, eldest member.
- 21 Oriental Star, Livermore Falls. Granville Richmond, April 3; Samuel Crafts, May 10; Orrin R. Stetson, May 14; Thomas F. Palmer, Sept. 5; William K. Ripley, Sept. 24.
- 22 York, Kennebunk. S. Gardiner Pinkham, April 13; Roland B. Bonney, Nov. 30; Charles C. Stevens, Dec. 1.
- 23 Freeport, Freeport. Alfred Soule, March 11; James Brewer, Aug. 5; Ira S. Coffin, Jan. 19; Winfield S. Potter, Feb. 28.
- 24 Phoenix, Belfast. John M. Fletcher, Past Master, Aug. 7; Joseph S. Thombs, Nov. 29; Samuel G. Thurlow, Feb. 20, in Belmont.
- 26 Village, Bowdoinham. Robert Jack, May 2.
- 28 Northern Star, North Anson. Jesse M. Boardman, May.
- 29 Tranquil, Auburn. Dexter M. Verrill,* March 14; James H. Thompson,* April 17; Horace N. Johnson,* Oct. 28.
- 30 Blazing Star, Rumford Falls. Alex. Erickson, May, in Finland, of consumption; Mark L. Richardson, Feb. 11, of consumption.
- 31 Union, Union. John E. Hanley,* Feb. 19.
- 32 Hermon, Gardiner. Horace W. Robinson, Sept. 29; P. H. Gilson, Nov. 26; John M. Turner, Dec. 24; Samuel W. Rice, Jan. 24.

- 33 Waterville, Waterville. Levi A. Dow, April 22, at Skowhegan; Herbert G. Foster, Aug. 31.
- 34 Somerset, Skowhegan. Robert McKenzie,* May 19; Adam Cockbarn, Oct. 10; Bryce M. Hight, Oct. 27; Henry A. Hurd, Nov. 26.
- 35 Bethlehem, Augusta. Elisha F. Pinkham,* April 24; A. L. Stimpson, Aug. 2; Edward H. Bean, Sept. 9; Columbus Churchill,* Sept. 24; Henry R. Hopkins,* Nov. 17; James Wardwell; Samuel L. Griffin,* Dec. 9, buried by Aroostook Lodge at Blaine; Charles H. Whitten,* Jan. 2; Arthur N. J. Lovejoy, Feb. 4; John E. Avery, Past Master, Feb. 24.
- 36 Casco, Yarmouth. Harlan B. Prince, March 5; Chester Waterhouse, May 18; Ervin T. Dunham, June 1; James M. Noyes, Aug. 30; Lyman B. True, Oct. 25; Albert H. Ross, Jan. 26.
- 39 Penobscot, Dexter. W. B. Goff, June 4.
- 40 Lygonia, Ellsworth. William Watts,* July 10; Jonathan Dow,* Aug. 2; John Cook,* Nov. 23; John Davis,* Dec. 22; Benj. Kittredge,* Feb. 23.
- 41 Morning Star, Litchfield. Daniel A. Campbell, Dec. 22; Enoch Adams, Jan. 22.
- 42 Freedom, Limerick. Ira S. Libby.
- 43 Alna, Damariscotta. Samuel Borland, July 16.
- 44 Piscataquis, Milo. Val. A. Fabyan, March 15; William Downes, July 15; Stephen D. Millett, Dec. 7; Edward Thompson, Jan. 20.
- 45 Central, China. Stephen M. Spiller, May; Freeman C. Hall,* June 2, at Lisbon Falls; James Soule,* Jan. 31.
- 46 St. Croix, Calais. George J. Brewer, at Washington, D. C.; Walter P. Pike, Aug. 8; Charles Walker, Nov. 18; Lysander W. Kelsey,* Dec. 3.
- 47 Dunlap, Biddeford. Charles E. Pillsbury, June; Moses W. Webber, June 19; Thomas H. Emery, Aug. 24.
- 48 Lafayette, Readfield. Hartley W. Knight, Oct. 4; William P. Underwood, Oct. 14.
- 49 Meridian Splendor. Simeon Gilman, May 19; Christopher C. Pickering, June 26; Levi R. Burrill, Feb. 26.
- 50 Aurora, Rockland. Charles F. Kittredge,* May 27; Samuel Bryant,* Past Master, June 15, raised April 18, 1855, Master six years; Israel L. Snow,* July 25; Zadoc F. Brewster,* Aug. 21; William H. Hamilton, August, lost at sea with his vessel and crew; James Adams, Oct. 22; Charles A. Sylvester,* Nov. 6.
- 51 St. John's, South Berwick. Fred P. Stackpole, Aug. 30; Abner Oakes, Sept. 2, oldest Past Master; Daniel W. Spencer, Sept 26; Charles A. Spence, Dec. 3.

- 54 Vassalboro, North Vassalboro. Henry Pishon, March.
- 55 Fraternal, Alfred. John H. Sayward, November; Allen J. Smith, December.
- 56 Mount Moriah, Denmark. S. Ernest Gilman, Sept. 9; George W. Walker; Isaac E. Osgood.
- 57 King Hiram, Dixfield. Benjamin L. Rowe, Aug. 31; Albion P. Marsh, Oct. 5.
- 58 Unity, Thorndike. Joseph R. McMannus, July 29; John N. Tilton, Sept. 22; Llewellyn Kenney, Jan. 4.
- 60 Star in the East, Old Town. Ezra Perkins, May 22; Alpheus O. Freese, Dec. 24; Olin B. Bridge,* Feb. 15.
- 61 King Solomon's, Waldoboro. Joseph E. Clark, May 7; Lyman E. Winslow, Nov. 21.
- 62 King David's, Lincolnville. Stanton H. Freeman, Nov. 2; William L. Monroe; Robert D. McCobb.
- 63 Richmond, Richmond. John V. Newbury, July 7; Dexter G. Webber, Nov. 14, at Lewiston; Benjamin F. Kidder, Feb. 26, at Fort Payne, Alabama.
- 64 Pacific, Exeter. Calvin S. Davis, Feb., 1890, in Michigan; Frank B. Seward, Jan. 4, 1900, in Worcester, Mass.
- 65 Mystic, Hampden. Walter F. Whitney, Nov., 1898—was at sea in the great gale and has never been heard from; Horace L. Hopkins, May 2.
- 66 Mechanic's, Orono. James E. Dike, April 20.
- 67 Blue Mountain, Phillips. Frank A. Kimball, Sept. 12, in Gardiner; Charles A. Baker, Dec. 9, in Kingfield.
- 68 Mariners', Searsport. J. F. Bickmore,* Aug. 17; Isaac W. Harriman,* Aug. 25; Edward P. Nichols, November.
- 70 Standish, Standish. Sewell E. Libby, June 12.
- 73 Tyrian, Mechanic Falls. G. M. Holt, June 20; E. D. Moore, June 21; J. S. Briggs,* Sept. 17; J. Q. A. Waterman,* Feb. 12.
- 74 Bristol, Bristol Mills. Charles E. Chamberlain,* Past Master, June 10; Alvin A. Fossett, July 9; Eben B. Ford, Jan. 9; Samuel H. Woodbury; Stephen Harding, killed at sea, date unknown.
- 75 Plymouth, Plymouth. Simeon P. Waterhouse,* May 31.
- 76 Arundel, Kennebunkport. Melville H. Walker, April 6; Daniel H. Hawkins, Sept. 5; Henry S. Ward, Oct. 9.
- 77 Tremont, South West Harbor. William A. Spear,* M. D., March 6; Charles E. Stanley,* Nov. 28; Jacob W. Carroll, Dec. 13.
- 78 Crescent, Pembroke. John Wincher, May 30; Albert R. Lincoln, Oct. 18; Benjamin Lincoln, Nov. 30.
- 79 Rockland, Rockland. Daniel C. Perkins, April 25; Iddo K. Elwell,

- Oct. 10; Seth Calderwood, November; John C. Jones, January; Preston S. Rich, February.
- 80 Keystone, Solon. Stanton Day, December; John H. Fraine, March 28, 1898.
- 81 Atlantic, Portland. Charles F. Manning, March 7; Charles L. Shaw,* June 16; Algernon D. Pearson,* Past Master, Dec. 3; John C. Smith, Dec. 3; Robert Ingalls, Jan. 25.
- 83 St. Paul's, Rockport. Thomas Perry, April 7; Philander J. Carleton, May 22; Samuel S. Shepherd, Oct. 1; Leander H. Paul, Dec. 1; Charles C. Carey, Dec. 15; James P. Paul, Jan. 5.
- 82 St. Andrew's, Bangor. Daniel Morris, Nov. 22, 1898; Burleigh Pease, March 10, 1899; Horace Haynes, April 11; John C. Norton, April 14; Charles E. Getchell, May 3; Samuel A. Stoddard, Jan. 26.
- 84 Enreka, St. George. John Williams, May 7; Levi Hart, June 19; Josiah Whitehouse, July 7; Leslie Wheeler, Aug. 14; William K. Davis, Dec. 14.
- 85 Star in the West. William A. Bartlett, Feb. 15; I. M. Knowles, February; Atwood Whitaker, February.
- 86 Temple, Westbrook. Josiah B. Webb, May 20, aged 73 yrs., 4 mos.; John L. Best, Dec. 8, aged 59.
- 88 Narraguagus, Cherryfield. George S. Lewis, July; James A. Small, July.
- 91 Harwood, Machias. Willis L. Bridgman, in the State of Washington; Lowell Caswell, June 24; William Libby, July 6; Andrew J. Longfellow, Aug. 29; Frank S. Gilmore; Loring F. Lambert, Jan. 16.
- 92 Siloam, Fairfield. Simeon Merrill, June 4.
- 94 Paris, South Paris. Frank P. Libby, April 7, in Norway; Albion Hersey, April 15, in Cumberland.
- 96 Monument, Houlton. George C. Clark,* Nov. 2; Darius M. Clough; John Vincent, killed in mill in Minnesota.
- 97 Bethel, Bethel. William F. Lovejoy, March 12; Samuel D. Philbrook, June; Richard A. Frye, Jan. 28.
- 98 Katahdin, Patten. Robert W. Kerr, July; William B. Mitchell, July; Albert H. Rowe, Sept.; Oliver Cobb; Sumner P. Bradford, March 1.
- 99 Vernon Valley, Mt. Vernon. Orman F. French, April 17; George W. Prescott, Oct. 24.
- 100 Jefferson, Bryant's Pond. Otis S. Dudley,* March 13.
- 101 Nezinscot, Turner. Eland Fuller, Dec. 28.
- 102 Marsh River, Brooks. C. E. Foss, June 5; Ezra Pattee, Dec. 20.
- 103 Dresden, Dresden Mills. Seth L. Groves, July 18; Fred H. Bickford, Sept. 11.

- 104 Dirigo, Week's Mills. John B. Dodge, May 30; Nathaniel Jones, Jan. 28.
- 105 Ashlar, Lewiston. Charles Y. Clark, March; Frank H. Johnson, March; Edgar B. Hoyt, May; Samuel H. Lewis, August; Royal Quimby, Sept.; William F. Wood, Dec.; Isaac S. Tapley, Feb.; Jotham P. Norton, Feb.
- 106 Tuscan, Addison Point. John H. Tabbutt, Jan. 11.
- 107 Day Spring, West Newfield. C. J. Adams, April 9, Treasurer for many years; Josiah Durgin, last but one of charter members.
- 109 Mount Kineo, Guilford. A. R. Weld, April 25; D. D. Flint, May 25; Henry Means, Nov. 10.
- 110 Monmouth, Monmouth. John F. Frost,* Feb 1.
- 111 Liberty, Liberty. John C. Cotton, March 15; Samuel T. Young, Aug. 30.
- 113 Messalonskee, Oakland. Andrew J. Libby, June 15, aged 64, a leading citizen; Alvin Atwood, Past Master, Nov. 17, in Mass.; Frank L. Given,* Past Master, Nov. 19, aged 39.
- 114 Polar Star, Bath. Charles McIntire, April 18; Frank E. Pond, Oct. 10; Frank Wyman, lost at sea.
- 117 Greenleaf, Cornish. John Bradeen, June 20; Isaac N. Brackett, June 25; Moses B. Davis, July 3.
- 119 Pownal, Stockton Springs. William S. Mudgett, Oct. 6, at National Home, Hampton, Va.; Emery Marden, Oct. 11; Albert Shute, Oct. 23.
- 121 Acacia, Durham. William B. Newell, June 25; Frank W. Parker, July 19.
- 122 Marine, Deer Isle. Benjamin J. Sylvester, May 7; Belcher Torrey, June 26; Charles A. Spofford, July 4; Seth Webb, Oct. 21; Frederick Eaton, Nov. 6; Charles H. Lufkin, Dec. 28.
- 123 Franklin, New Sharon. John C. Whitmore,* May 9, Secretary from 1889 to 1894.
- 124 Olive Branch, Charleston. Merritt D. Strout, April 14; Lyman Parkman, Feb. 1; Daniel H. Bridgham, Feb. 2.
- 125 Meridian, Pittsfield. Oliver L. Maloon, Oct. 30; Warren L. Parks, Dec. 9.
- 126 Timothy Chase, Belfast. David L. Peavey, October, in Germany; John Hassell, Dec. 7; David Cook, Dec. 26; S. Riley Cottrell, Jan. 5; Frank A. Gilkey, Jan. 23.
- 127 Presumpscot, North Windham. John W. Lombard,* March 8.
- 128 Eggemoggin, Sedgwick. Elbridge Bowdoin, Oct. 23; Eben M. Garland.
- 129 Quantabacook, Searsmont. Daniel W. Cressey; Orin W. Small; Samuel B. Ripley, Feb. 14.

- 130 Trinity, Presque Isle. B. B. Lancaster,* Oct. 23.
- 131 Lookout, Cutler. Moses B. Stevens,* March 21.
- 132 Mount Tir'em, Waterford. George L. Warren,* Past Master, July 5.
- 135 Riverside, Jefferson. Herbert L. Partridge, July 23, Rufus A. Ware, July 30; Joseph Speed, August 20.
- 138 Lewy's Island. John C. Bacon, Aug. 31; James M. Heath, Dec. 27; Harris Davis, Jan. 6.
- 139 Archon, East Dixmont. John Haskell, July 8. Lorenzo D. Bickford, Sept. 3; Edmund H. Nealley, Feb. 24.
- 141 Augusta, Augusta. John H. Parsons, April 14; Oliver G. Turner, Feb. 8; Edmund McMurdie, Feb. 11.
- 142 Ocean, Wells Depot. Haven D. Littlefield,* Feb. 12.
- 144 Seaside, Boothbay Harbor. William M. Knight,* Aug. 3; John F. Sargent,* Jan. 3.
- 146 Seabasticook, Clinton. Thomas F. Stinchfield, Aug. 13; Wilber P. Dixon, Dec. 4.
- 148 Forest, Springfield. Eugene Blanchard, May 7, in the West; John Thompson, Jan. 12, at Prentiss.
- 149 Doric, Monson. Edward A. Hewey,* Jan. 11; John C. Tripp,* Feb. 22.
- 151 Excelsior, Northport. Herbert J. Sprague, Feb. 7, at Bangor.
- 151 Crooked River, Otisfield. Irving W. Parker, May 31, at Sharon, Mass., aged 33; Willis C. Lowell, June 10, at Everett, Mass., aged 38; John C. Huston, Nov. 9, aged 84; Isaac Sands, Jan. 12, aged 81; Henry A. Peaco, Jan. 12.
- 153 Delta, Lovell. Howard Charles, July 26.
- 154 Mystic Tie, Weld. Azel E. Houghton, May 5, a charter member.
- 155 Ancient York, Lisbon Falls. Cornelius T. Small, August 23; Charles H. Keopka, August 27.
- 156 Wilton, Wilton. Warren Leland,* March 24; George M. Brown, May 21.
- 157 Cambridge, Cambridge. H. O. Bartlett, Nov. 21; F. S. Bunker, Jan. 31.
- 159 Esoteric, Ellsworth. Curtis A. Havey, Oct. 4, at Franklin.
- 160 Parian, Corinna. Samuel Davis, Aug. 18.
- 162 Arion, Goodwin's Mills. Edmund B. Hanson, April 9, aged 46 yrs. 7 mos; William F. Warren, Dec. 24, at Maine General Hospital, aged 56.
- 163 Pleasant River, Brownville. W. B. Wilkins, Aug. 4.
- 165 Molunkus, Sherman Mills. Everett W. Phillips, May 2; Milo J. Mariam, Aug. 2.
- 167 Whitney, Canton. Timothy C. Lucas, July 10; William H. H. Washburn, Sept. 28.

- 170 Caribou, Caribou. C. B. Varnum, Aug. 31.
171 Naskeag, Brooklin. George M. Snow, April.
173 Pleiades, Millbridge. George Googins, Past Master, Sept. 26; Edwin E. Wallace.
174 Lynde, Hermon. Josiah G. Eaton.
175 Baskahegan, Danforth. George W. Kelley, July 26, at Island Falls—a charter member.
177 Rising Star, Penobscot. Frank M. Clement, Past Master, April 12; Richard Nichols,* May 27.
178 Ancient Brothers, Auburn. Ardon A. Tubbs, Dec. 21.
179 Yorkshire, North Berwick. H. K. Colbath, M. D., July 28.
180 Hiram, South Portland. Andrew T. Forbes, March 7, at sea; Geo. C. Mountford, Nov. 25; William B. Jordan, Feb. 22.
182 Granite, West Paris. Samuel B. Locke, May 5.
185 Bar Harbor, Bar Harbor. Bryant Bradley, May 10, a charter member and first Secretary, serving six years; Danforth P. Marcyes, Oct. 30, a Past Master of this and of Tremont Lodge, No. 77, and a most honored member.
186 Warren Phillips, Cumberland Mills. H. A. Hunt, Sept. 21; William H. Lewis, Nov. 19.
189 Knox, South Thomaston. George W. Burding, November.
190 Springvale, Springvale. Amos W. Low,* October 17.
192 Winter Harbor, Winter Harbor. Robert R. Joy, May 11; Ezra W. Tufts, Jan. 16.
194 Euclid, Madison. Daniel L. Will, Nov. 30.
197 Aroostook, Blaine. Frank A. Luce,* Nov. 5, Master of the lodge.
200 Columbia, Greenville. John H. Eveleth, Nov. 7.

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

M. W. Hiram Chase,

Grand Master 1858 and 1859.

Born in Charlestown, Massachusetts.

Died in Belfast, Maine, April 5, 1900.

AGED 82 YEARS, 4 MONTHS.

“Long have mine eyes met yours in kindly glance,
My hand clasped yours, and I have trod
The busy streets, not as a stranger might,
But ever as a brother, well beloved.”

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

R. W. David Bugbee,

Senior Grand Warden 1862.

Born in Pomfret, Vermont, June 24, 1816.

Died in Bangor, Maine, Dec. 19, 1899,

AGED 83 YEARS, 5 MONTHS, 25 DAYS.

“How fast they fall—those we have known—
As leaves from Autumn branches blown,
So quickly sear!
Yes, one by one they drop away
As withered leaves that fall and stray
And disappear.”

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

R. W. William Osborne Fox,

Grand Treasurer 1879—1883.

Born in Portland, Sept. 12, 1825.

Died in Portland, June 4, 1899,

AGED 73 YEARS, 8 MONTHS, 23 DAYS.

“Farewell, our brother, now, and be thy rest
As blest as angels have, and may the green
Acacia be as fragrant on thy grave
As it is hallowed in our thoughts. Farewell.”

* Recapitulation--1900. *

Lodges enrolled,	203
" extinct,	8
" working,	195
" under dispensation,	0
" granted dispensation at communication, 1900,	1
" represented at communication 1900,	183
Number of representatives,	239
Lodges to make returns,	195
Making returns in time,	195
Initiated,	829
Raised,	764
Affiliated,	116
Re-instated,	78
Corrections,	15
Total increase,	—973
Dimitted,	182
Died,	400
Suspended for unmasonic conduct,	0
Expelled,	0
Lost membership by non-payment of dues,	279
Total decrease,	—861
Net increase,	112
Members, March 1, 1900,	22,277
Grand Lodge Receipts,	\$8,281.47
" " Disbursements,	\$7,630.23
Amount of Charity Fund,	\$32,306.01

Grand Lodges and

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND MASTERS.
Alabama, Dec. 5, 1900.	B. Dudley Williams, Oxford.
Arizona, Nov. 14, 1899,	William F. Nichols, Willcox.
Arkansas, Nov. 15, 1898,	Robert M. Smith, Hot Springs.
Belgium,	Ilenri Bergé, Brussels.
British Columbia, June 22, 1899,	R. Eden Walker, New Westminster.
California, Oct. 10, 1899,	Charles L. Patton, San Francisco.
Canada, July 19, 1899,	E. T. Malone, Toronto.
Cuba, March 25, 1900,	Juan B. Hernandez Barriero, Havana.
Colorado, Sept. 19, 1899,	Alphonse A. Burnand, Leadville.
Connecticut, Jan. 17, 1900,	John O. Rowland, New Haven.
Delaware, Oct. 4, 1899,	William W. Black, Jr., Laurel.
Dist. of Columbia, Nov. 8, 1899,	William G. Henderson, Washington.
England, 1900,	Prince of Wales.
Florida, Jan. 16, 1900,	Silas B. Wright, DeLand.
Georgia, Oct. 31, 1899,	W. A. Davis, Macon.
Idaho, Sept. 12, 1899,	John C. Muerman, Moscow.
Illinois, Oct. 3, 1899,	Charles E. Hitchcock, Peoria.
Indiana, May 22, 1900,	Olin E. Holloway, Knightstown.
Indian Territory, Aug. 8, 1899,	Peter B. Arthur, Leon.
Iowa, June 5, 1900,	Willard L. Eaton, Osage.
Ireland, 1900,	Duke of Abercorn, Dublin.
Kansas, Feb. 21, 1900,	Charles J. Webb, Topeka.
Kentucky, Oct. 17, 1899,	John A. Ramsey, Owingsville.
Louisiana, Feb. 12, 1900,	Robert H. Cage, New Orleans.
Maine, May 1, 1900,	Winfield S. Choate, Augusta.
Manitoba, June 14, 1899,	John Leslie, Winnipeg.
Maryland, Nov. 21, 1899,	Thomas J. Shryock, Baltimore.
Massachusetts, Dec. 27, 1899,	Charles T. Gallagher, Boston.
Michigan, Jan. 23, 1900,	Lucian E. Wood, Niles.
Minnesota, Jan. 17, 1900,	Alonzo Brandenburg, Fergus Falls.
Mississippi, Feb. 9, 1899,	William Starling, Natchez.
Missouri, Oct. 17, 1899,	Rev. C. H. Briggs, Fayette.
Montana, Sept. 20, 1899,	Anthony H. Barrett, Butte.
Nebraska, June 7, 1899,	William W. Keysor, Omaha.

Addresses of Grand Officers.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

Henry C. Armstrong, Montgomery.
 George J. Roskrige, Tucson.
 Fay Hempstead, Little Rock.
 Rian-Nedgrot, Brussels.
 Walter J. Quinlan, Nelson.
 George Johnson, San Francisco.
 John J. Mason, Hamilton, Ont.
 Aurelio Miranda, Havana.
 Ed. C. Parmelee, Denver.
 John H. Barlow, Hartford.
 Benjamin F. Bartram, Wilmington.
 William R. Singleton, Washington.
 Edward Letchworth, London.
 Wilbur P. Webster, Jacksonville.
 William A. Wolihin, Macon.
 Theophilus W. Randall, Boise.
 Joseph H. C. Dill, Bloomington.
 William H. Smythe, Indianapolis.
 Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka.
 Theodore S. Parvin, Cedar Rapids.
 Henry E. Flavelle, Dublin.
 Albert K. Wilson, Topeka.
 Henry B. Grant, Louisville.
 Richard Lambert, New Orleans.
 Stephen Berry, Portland.
 William G. Scott, Winnipeg.
 Jacob H. Medairy, Baltimore.
 Sereno D. Nickerson, Boston.
 Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater.
 Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul.
 John L. Power, Jackson.
 John D. Vincil, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
 Francis E. White, Omaha.

CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.

William Y. Titcomb, Anniston.
 Morris Goldwater, Prescott.
 Frank Hill, Little Rock.
 None.
 W. A. D. Smith, New Westminster.
 William A. Davies, San Francisco.
 Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
 Francisco de P. Rodriguez, Havana.
 Lawrence N. Greenleaf, Denver.
 John H. Barlow, Hartford.
 Lewis Jackson, Wilmington.
 William R. Singleton, Washington.
 None.
 James M. Hilliard, Pensacola.
 Fred G. Mock, Nampa.
 Joseph Robbins, Quincy.
 Thomas B. Long, Terre Haute.
 Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka.
 James C. W. Coxe, Washington.
 None.
 John C. Postlethwaite, Jewell City.
 James W. Staton, Brooksville.
 Herman C. Duncan, Alexandria.
 Josiah H. Drummond, Portland.
 James D. O'Meara, Winnipeg.
 Edward T. Schultz, Baltimore.
 None.
 Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater.
 Irving Todd, Hastings.
 Andrew A. Barkley, Crawford.
 John D. Vincil, St. Louis.
 Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
 Charles J. Phelps, Schuyler.

GRAND LODGES.

GRAND MASTERS.

Nevada, June 13, 1899,	John M. McCormack, Reno.
New Brunswick, Aug. 22, 1899,	J. Gordon Forbes, St. John.
New Hampshire, May 16, 1900,	George I. McAllister, Manchester.
New Jersey, January 24, 1900,	Joseph E. Moore, Jersey City.
New Mexico, Oct. 2, 1899,	Elias E. Day, Las Cruces.
New South Wales, June 14, 1899,	John Cochrane, Remington.
New York, May 3, 1900,	Charles W. Mead, New York.
New Zealand, April 26, 1900,	Alexander Stuart Russell, Auckland.
North Carolina, Jan. 9, 1900.	B. S. Royster, Oxford.
North Dakota, June 19, 1900,	Edwin H. James, St. Thomas.
Nova Scotia, June 14, 1899,	Thomas B. Flint, Yarmouth.
Ohio, Oct. 25, 1899,	E. L. Lybarger, Spring Mountain.
Oklahoma, Feb. 13, 1900,	William M. Anderson, Enid.
Oregon, June 14, 1899,	John M. Hodson, Portland.
Pennsylvania, Dec. 27, 1899,	George E. Wagner, Philadelphia.
Peru, 1898,	J. Arturo Ego-Aguirre, Lima.
P. E. Island, June 26, 1899,	John A. Meservey, Charlottetown.
Quebec, Jan. 25, 1899,	Benjamin Tooke, Montreal.
Rhode Island, May 21, 1900,	Frederick G. Stiles, Providence.
Scotland, 1899,	Lord Saltoun, Philorth, Fraserburgh.
South Australia, April 19, 1899,	Samuel J. Way, Adelaide.
South Carolina, Dec. 12, 1899,	Orlando Sheppard, Edgefield.
South Dakota, June 13, 1899,	William H. Roddle, Brookings.
Tasmania, Jan. 28, 1897,	Charles E. Davies, Hobart.
Tennessee, Jan. 31, 1900,	James H. McClister, Morristown.
Texas, Dec. 5, 1899,	R. M. Lusk, Bonham.
Utah, Jan. 16, 1900,	George V. Schramm, Ogden.
Vermont, June 14, 1899,	W. Scott Nay, Underhill.
Victoria, Dec. 20, 1899,	Lord Brassey, Melbourne.
Virginia, Dec. 13, 1899,	George W. Wright, Marion.
Washington, June 12, 1900,	Stephen J. Chadwick, Colfax.
West Virginia, Nov. 15, 1899,	Neil Robinson, Charleston.
Wisconsin, June 13, 1899,	Charles E. Whelan, Madison.
Wyoming, Sept. 13, 1899,	E. P. Bowman, Newcastle.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.

Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson.	A. D. Bird, Reno.
J. Twining Hartt, St. John.	John V. Ellis, St. John.
Frank D. Woodbury, Concord.	Albert S. Waite, Newport.
Thomas H. R. Redway, Trenton.	Charles Belcher, Newark.
Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque.	Max Frost, Santa Fé.
Arthur H. Bray, Sydney.	John B. Trivett, Sydney.
Edward M. L. Eblers, New York.	Jesse B. Anthony, Utica.
Malcolm Niccol, Auckland.	C. A. D. Hardy, Rakaia.
John C. Drewry, Raleigh.	John A. Collins, Enfield.
Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.	Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
Hon. William Ross, Halifax.	W. Ernest Thompson, Halifax.
J. H. Bromwell, Cincinnati.	William M. Cunningham, Newark.
James S. Hunt, Stillwater.	James S. Hunt, Stillwater.
James F. Robinson, Eugene.	Robert Clow, Junction City.
William A. Sinn, Philadelphia.	Michael Arnold, Philadelphia.
Manuel J. Cáceres, Lima.	None.
Neil McKelvie, Summerside.	Donald Darrach, Kensington.
John H. Isaacson, Montreal.	Wm. H. Whyte, Montreal.
Edwin Baker, Providence.	Henry W. Rugg, Providence.
D. Murray Lyon, Edinburg.	None.
J. H. Cunningham, Adelaide.	None.
Charles Inglesby, Charleston.	Charles Inglesby, Charleston.
George A. Pettigrew, Flandreau.	Samuel A. Brown, Sioux Falls.
John Hamilton, Hobart.	None.
John B. Garrett, Nashville.	Henry H. Ingersoll, Knoxville.
John Watson, Houston.	Thomas M. Matthews, Athens.
Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City.	Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City.
Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington.	Marsh O. Perkins, Windsor.
John Braim, Melbourne.	Daivid Meadowcroft, Melbourne.
George W. Carrington, Richmond.	J. W. Eggleston, Richmond.
Thomas M. Reed, Olympia.	William H. Upton, Seattle.
George W. Atkinson, Charleston.	George W. Atkinson, Charleston.
John W. Laffin, Milwaukee.	Aldro Jenks, Dodgeville.
William L. Kuykendall, Saratoga.	William L. Kuykendall, Saratoga.

REPRESENTATIVES

of the Grand Lodge of Maine near other Grand Lodges.

- Alabama*—B. DUDLEY WILLIAMS, Oxford.
Arizona—MARTIN WILLIAM KALES, Phoenix.
Arkansas—OLIVER C. GRAY,
Belgium—ALBERT KRUGER, Aneyers.
British Columbia—E. D. McLAREN, Vancouver.
California—NATHAN W. SPAULDING, Oakland.
Canada—COLIN W. POSTLETHWAITE, Toronto.
Colorado—EDWARD C. PARMELEE, Denver.
Cuba—AURELIO MIRANDA, Havana.
Connecticut—ARTHUR C. WHEELER, Norwalk.
Delaware—JACOB H. EMERSON, Middletown.
District of Columbia—WILLIAM A. GATLEY, Washington.
Florida—WILLIAM S. WARE, Jacksonville.
Georgia—WILLIAM K. MILLER, Augusta.
Idaho—WILLIAM C. HOWIE, Mountain Home.
Illinois—CHARLES H. BRENNAN, Chicago, 1007 Adams St.
Indiana—WALTER VAIL, Michigan City.
Indian Territory—JAMES R. SHEEHAN, Vinita.
Kansas—DAVID B. FULLER, Eureka.
Louisiana—SAMUEL M. TODD, New Orleans.
Manitoba—ROBERT STIRTON THORNTON, Deloraine.
Maryland—THOMAS H. HOOVER, Union Bridge.
Michigan—WILLIAM WENTE, Manistee.
Minnesota—JOHN H. RANDALL, Minneapolis.
Mississippi—JOHN F. McCORMICK, Biloxi.
Missouri—ETHELBERT F. ALLEN, Kansas City.
Montana—CORNELIUS HEDGES, Helena City.
Nebraska—THOMAS K. SUDBOROUGH, Omaha.
Nevada—SAMUEL S. SEARS,
New Brunswick—JOHN STAR DE WOLF CHIPMAN, St. Stephen,
New Hampshire—JOSEPH W. FELLOWS, Manchester.
New Jersey—JAMES S. AITKIN, Trenton.
New Mexico—ALPHEUS A. KEEN, Albuquerque.
New York—GEORGE A. BENTON, Rochester.
New Zealand—FRANCIS JAMES SMITH, Christchurch.
North Carolina—DAVID BELL, Enfield.
North Dakota—ROBERT D. HOSKINS, Bismarck.
Nova Scotia—JOHN W. RUHLAND, Halifax.
Ohio—O. P. SPERRA, Ravenna.
Oregon—JOHN McCRACKEN, Portland.
Peru—FRANCISCO L. CROSBY, Lima.
Prince Edward Island—GEORGE W. WAKEFORD, Charlottetown.
Quebec—JOHN HELDER ISAACSON, Montreal.
Rhode Island—EDWARD L. FREEMAN, Central Falls.
South Australia—EBENEZER COOKE, Adelaide.
South Carolina—CLAUDE E. SAWYER, Aiken.
South Dakota—SAMUEL H. JUMPER, Aberdeen.
Tasmania—W. STROUD, (Dep. G. Sec.) Hobart.
Tennessee—NATHAN S. WOODWARD, Knoxville.
Texas—T. W. HUDSON, Collinsville.
Utah—WILLIAM THOMAS DALBY, Salt Lake City.
Vermont—ALBRO F. NICHOLS, St. Johnsbury.
Victoria—BENJAMIN DOUGHTY SMITH, Melbourne.
Virginia—CHARLES A. NESBIT, Richmond.
Washington—LEVI ANKENY, Walla Walla.
West Virginia—HUGH STERLING, Wheeling.
Wisconsin—MELVIN S. YOUNGS, Milwaukee.

REPRESENTATIVES

of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Maine.

- Alabama*—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Arizona—AUGUSTUS BAILEY, Gardiner.
Arkansas—JOHN W. BALLOU, Bath.
Belgium—ELMER P. SPOFFORD, Deer Isle.
British Columbia—THADDEUS R. SIMONTON, Camden.
California—HENRY R. TAYLOR, Machias.
Canada—SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, Augusta.
Colorado—FRANK E. SLEEPER, Salsitus.
Cuba—E. HOWARD VOSE, Calais.
Connecticut—AUSTIN D. KNIGHT, Hallowell.
Delaware—AUGUSTUS B. FAENHAM, Bangor.
District of Columbia—STEPHEN BERRY, Portland.
Florida—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Georgia—“ “ “ “
Idaho—ALBRO E. CHASE, Portland.
Illinois—JOSEPH A. LOCKE, Portland.
Indiana—EDWIN F. DILLINGHAM, Bangor.
Indian Territory—JOSEPH M. HAYES, Bath.
Kansas—ARCHIE LEE TALBOT, Lewiston.
Louisiana—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Manitoba—A. M. WETHERBEE, Warren.
Maryland—SAMUEL L. MILLER, Waldoboro.
Michigan—FESSENDEN I. DAY, Lewiston.
Minnesota—JOHN B. REDMAN, Ellsworth.
Mississippi—CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, Bangor.
Missouri—DANIEL P. BOYNTON, Monmouth.
Montana—HENRY R. MILLETT, Gorham.
Nebraska—EDWARD P. BURNHAM, Saco.
Nevada—LEANDER M. KENNISTON, Camden.
New Brunswick—DENISON E. SEYMOUR, Calais.
New Hampshire—HOWARD D. SMITH, Norway.
New Jersey—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
New Mexico—MANLY G. TRASK, Bangor.
New York—MARQUIS F. KING, Portland.
New Zealand—HERBERT HARRIS, Bangor.
North Carolina—WILLIAM R. G. ESTES, Skowhegan.
North Dakota—ALGERNON M. ROAK, Auburn.
Nova Scotia—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Ohio—WILLIAM J. BURNHAM, Lewiston.
Oregon—ERMON D. EASTMAN, Portland.
Peru—ALFRED S. KIMBALL, Norway.
Prince Edward Island—JAMES ADAMS, Bangor.
Quebec—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Rhode Island—HORACE H. BURBANK, Saco.
South Australia—BENJAMIN AMES, Thorndike.
South Carolina—SAMUEL G. DAVIS, Denmark.
South Dakota—FRANCIS T. FAULKNER, Turner.
Tasmania—WILFORD J. FISHER, Eastport.
Tennessee—HUGH R. CHAPLIN, Bangor.
Texas—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Utah—
Vermont—GEORGE R. SHAW, Portland.
Victoria—GOODWIN R. WILEY, Bethel.
Virginia—WINFIELD S. CHOATE, Augusta.
Washington—ENOCH O. GREENLEAF, Farmington.
West Virginia—ALBERT M. PENLEY, Auburn.
Wisconsin—EDMUND B. MALLET, Freeport.

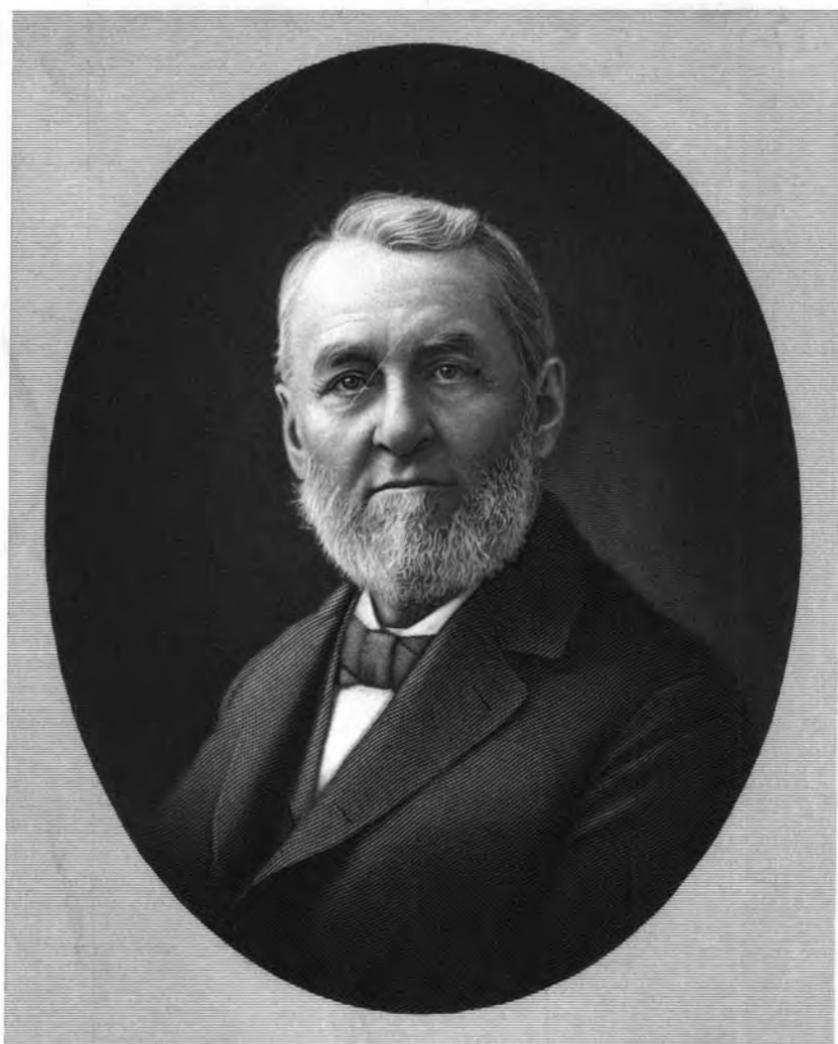
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Eng. by W. T. B. after B. 1840. N.Y.

Josiah H. Drummond

GRAND ❖ LODGE ❖ OF ❖ MAINE.

→ 1901 ←

Eighty-second Annual Communication.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND.

Tuesday, May 7, 1901. }

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine, met in Annual Communication in Corinthian Hall, at nine in the morning.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W.	WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	Grand Master;
R. W.	ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	Deputy Grand Master;
"	JAMES E. PARSONS,	Senior Grand Warden;
"	JOHN H. MCGORRILL,	Junior Grand Warden;
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	Grand Treasurer;
"	STEPHEN BERRY,	Grand Secretary;
"	CHARLES D. SMITH,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. & Rev.	ELMER F. PEMBER,	Grand Chaplain;
"	JOHN GIBSON,	" "
W.	EDWIN C. DUDLEY,	" Marshal;
"	ERMON D. EASTMAN,	" Senior Deacon;
"	CHARLES W. CROSBY,	" Junior Deacon;
"	ROBERT W. CARR,	" Steward;
"	ALBERT M. AMES,	" "
"	WATERMAN N. REDMOND,	as " "
"	WILLIAM N. HOWE,	" Sword Bearer;
"	LEVI E. JONES,	" Stan'rd Bearer;
W.	WALTER S. SMITH,	" Organist;
"	WARREN O. CARNEY,	" Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by Bro. ELMER F. PEMBER, Grand Chaplain.

On motion of Bro. JOSEPH A. LOCKE,

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the records of the last annual communication, and that as printed they be confirmed.

Voted, That the Grand Tyler be authorized to employ assistants, not exceeding three, to aid him in the work of his office during the session of the Grand Lodge, and that the Committee on Pay Roll be authorized to place the names of such employees upon the pay roll, and that they receive the usual *per diem* for their services.

Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND moved that \$500 be appropriated for the relief of the sufferers by fire at Jacksonville, Florida, and the motion was referred to the Committee of Finance.

The presence of M. W. GEORGE I. McALLISTER, Grand Master, and M. W. CHARLES C. HAYES, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, was announced, and Past Grand Masters DRUMMOND and LOCKE, with an escort, were deputed to introduce them. On being introduced they were received with due honors and were welcomed by the Grand Master.

TRANSPORTATION.

Bro. STEPHEN BERRY submitted the following report, which was accepted:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, Tuesday, May 7, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The Committee on Transportation made the usual arrangements with railroad and steamboat lines, and the terms were sent out in the annual notices.

Fraternally submitted,

STEPHEN BERRY,
W. FREEMAN LORD, } Committee.
CHAS. M. SLEEPER, }

CREDENTIALS.

Bro. WILLIAM N. HOWE reported as follows :

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, }
MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1901. }

Your Committee on Credentials have attended to their duties, and beg leave to report that they find the lodges represented as follows :

- 1 PORTLAND, by Charles C. Berry, M; George H. Allan, SW; Warren W. Cole, JW; Thomas E. McDonald, Proxy.
- 2 WARREN, by Millard H. Wiswell, M; Francis L. Talbot, Proxy.
- 3 LINCOLN, by William D. Patterson, Proxy.
- 4 HANCOCK, by William A. Walker, M.
- 5 KENNEBEC, by Elwin M. Henderson, Proxy.
- 6 AMITY, by Charles G. Weaver, Proxy.
- 7 EASTERN, by Walter J. Garnett, SW; Walter F. Bradish, Proxy.
- 8 UNITED, by Edwood H. Willis, Proxy.
- 9 SACO, by Philip C. Tapley, M; Ralph H. Burbank, Proxy.
- 10 RISING VIRTUE, by Frank J. Cole, M.
- 11 PYTHOGOREAN, by Arthur C. Furgurson, SW; James W. Eastman, Proxy.
- 12 CUMBERLAND, by Newell P. Haskell, SW; Flavius B. Shackford, Proxy.
- 13 ORIENTAL, by John L. Meserve, Proxy.
- 14 SOLAR, by Walter S. Glidden, M; John Scott, SW; W. Scott Shorey, Proxy.
- 15 ORIENT, by Edward S. Weston, Proxy.
- 16 ST. GEORGE, by Oscar E. Starrett, SW.
- 17 ANCIENT LAND-MARK, by Winslow E. Howell, M; Charles F. Tobie, SW; Frank C. Allen, JW; Geo. H. Owen, Proxy.
- 18 OXFORD, by Herman L. Bartlett, M; Frank N. Barker, SW; George W. Holmes, Proxy.
- 19 FELICITY, by James M. Nevens, Proxy.
- 20 MAINE, by Elvarus A. Russell, M.
- 21 ORIENTAL STAR, by Charles H. Gibbs, M; Howard A. Wells, SW.
- 22 YORK, by Albert W. Meserve, Proxy.
- 23 FREEPORT, by Tim Pratt, M; Geo. P. Coffin, SW; Freeman M. Grant, Proxy.
- 24 PHENIX, by Clifford J. Pattee, M.
- 25 TEMPLE, by Levi E. Jones, Proxy.
- 26 VILLAGE, by Robert W. Carr, Proxy.
- 27 ADONIRAM, by Frank M. Bradbury, Proxy.
- 28 NORTHERN STAR, by Fred S. Parsons, Proxy.
- 29 TRANQUIL, by Lavator O. Morse, M; Murray B. Watson, SW; Chas. L. Turgeon, JW; Elbridge G. Heath, Proxy.

- 30 BLAZING STAR, by Gerald A. Peabody, SW; Cyrus P. Eaton, Proxy.
- 31 UNION, by Wm. C. Morton, M.
- 32 HERMON, by Frederick D. Loring, M.
- 33 WATERVILLE, by John M. Webber, Proxy.
- 34 SOMERSET, by Amos K. Butler, M; William R. G. Estes, Proxy.
- 35 BETHLEHEM, by Waterman N. Redmond, M; Fredk. W. Plaisted, Proxy.
- 36 CASCO, by Edwin M. White, M.
- 37 WASHINGTON, by William A. McConnell, Proxy.
- 38 HARMONY, by Everett P. Hanson, Proxy.
- 39 PENOBSCOT, by E. H. Witham, Proxy.
- 40 LYGONIA, by Frank C. Burrill, M; Linwood H. Cushman, Proxy.
- 41 MORNING STAR, by George E. Ring, M.
- 42 FREEDOM, by Edwin H. Johnston, SW; Frank D. Fenderson, Proxy.
- 43 ALNA, by Geo. H. Larrabee, M.
- 44 PISCATAQUIS, by Albert C. Cushman Proxy.
- 45 CENTRAL, by Geo. L. Gilman, M.
- 46 ST. CROIX, by Isaac N. Jones, M.
- 47 DUNLAP, by Adelbert B. Shehan, Proxy.
- 48 LAFAYETTE, by Leon O. Tibbetts, SW.
- 49 MERIDIAN SPLENDOR, by Sumner T. Stuart, M; A. Leslie Oakes,
Proxy.
- 50 AURORA, by Lorenzo S. Robinson, Proxy.
- 51 ST. JOHN'S, by Walter H. Downs, Proxy.
- 52 MOSAIC, by Liston P. Evans, Proxy.
- 53 ———RURAL, not represented.
- 54 VASSALBORO, by Joseph Wall, M.
- 55 FRATERNAL, by James H. Littlefield, M; Geo. H. Smith, SW; John M.
Akers, Proxy.
- 56 MOUNT MORIAH, by Lathur Trumbull, M; Almon P. Pingree, Proxy.
- 57 KING HIRAM, by James E. Washburn, Proxy.
- 58 UNITY, by Alden J. Whitney, M.
- 59 MOUNT HOPE,—*Charter surrendered 1879.*
- 60 STAR IN THE EAST, by Chas. Green, M; Joseph Sykes, JW.
- 61 KING SOLOMON'S, by Jefferson P. Vannah, Proxy.
- 62 KING DAVID'S, by Leslie D. Ames, Proxy.
- 63 RICHMOND, by George Newell, Proxy.
- 64 PACIFIC, by Stillman J. Ridlon, M.
- 65 MYSTIC, by Sumner D. Greeley, M.
- 66 MECHANICS', by Irving S. Knapp, JW.
- 67 BLUE MOUNTAIN, by Albert F. Earnshaw, SW; Fremont E. Timber-
lake, Proxy.
- 68 MARINERS', by James E. Wentworth, M.

- 69 HOWARD, by Newell F. Perry, SW.
70 STANDISH, by Lewis W. Moulton, Proxy.
71 RISING SUN, by Ashur B. Hutchins, M.
72 PIONEER, by William E. Hopper, JW.
73 TYRIAN, by Elon A. Hammond, SW; James W. Wayne, Proxy.
74 BRISTOL, by Carl Z. Bailey, Proxy.
75 PLYMOUTH, by Charles T. Harris, M.
76 ARUNDEL, by Charles S. Gilman, M; Isaac P. Gooch, Proxy.
77 TREMONT, by George Harman, M.
78 CRESCENT, by Alvra W. Leighton, M.
79 ROCKLAND, by Jacob R. Stewart, Proxy.
80 KEYSTONE, by Leander F. McIntire, M; Corydon Felker, Proxy.
81 ATLANTIC, by Frederick H. Cobb, M; Elihu H. Rice, SW; Frank W. York, JW.
82 ST. PAUL'S, by Joseph H. Richards, SW.
83 ST. ANDREW'S, by Edwin Lord, M; Lindley W. Gilman, Proxy.
84 ———EUREKA, not represented.
85 STAR IN THE WEST, by Elihu D. Chase, M; Fred A. Whitten, SW; Fred A. Whitehouse, Proxy.
86 TEMPLE, by Oliver A. Cobb, Proxy.
87 BENEVOLENT, by Joseph Carter, M.
88 NARRAGUAGUS, by Phineas B. Guphill, M.
89 ISLAND, by Edwin S. Preble, M.
90 HIRAM ABIFF,—*Charter revoked 1868.*
91 HARWOOD, by Loring B. Wilder, M.
92 ———SILOAM, not represented.
93 HOREB, by Daniel W. Ballantyne, M.
94 PARIS, by Fred H. Evans, M; Percy M. Walker, SW; Walter L. Gray, JW; A. C. Thomas King, Proxy.
95 CORINTHIAN, by David E. Firth, Proxy.
96 MONUMENT, by James Archibald, Proxy.
97 BETHEL, by Herbert C. Rowe, M; Ernest C. Bowler, Proxy.
98 KATAHDIN, by Ferd G. Huston, SW.
99 VERNON VALLEY, by William T. Morrill, M.
100 JEFFERSON, by James M. Day, M.
101 NEZINSCOT, by Oliver A. Sprague, M; Francis T. Faulkner, Proxy.
102 MARSH RIVER, by Albert R. Pilley, M.
103 DRESDEN, by John S. Snow, JW.
104 DIRIGO, by Alonzo D. Miller, Proxy.
105 ASHLAR, by Lewis V. Winship, M.
106 TUSCAN, by Osmond A. Holmes, SW.
107 DAY SPRING, by Ai Q. Mitchell, Proxy.

- 108 RELIEF—*Charter recalled 1894.*
 109 MOUNT KINEO, by Jesse Barber, Proxy.
 110 MONMOUTH, by Horace S. Bent, M.
 111 LIBERTY, by Percy Leman, M; Oren W. Ripley, Proxy.
 112 EASTERN FRONTIER, by Charles H. Stevens, M.
 113 MESSALONSKEE, by J. Edward Harris, SW; Orestes E. Crowell, Proxy.
 114 POLAR STAR, by John W. Ballou, Proxy.
 115 BUXTON, by John Berryman, Proxy.
 116 LEBANON, by Geo. P. Gilman, Proxy.
 117 GREENLEAF, by Daniel G. Chaplin, M; James C. Ayer, Proxy.
 118 ————DRUMMOND, not represented.
 119 POWNAL, by Samuel H. West, M.
 120 MEDUNCOOK—*Charter surrendered 1884.*
 121 ACACIA, by William D. Trufant, M.
 122 MARINE, by Moses D. Joyce, M; John J. Spofford, Proxy.
 123 FRANKLIN, by Benjamin F. Makepeace, M; Manley H. Blaisdell, SW.
 124 OLIVE BRANCH, by Wilbur R. Clark, M.
 125 MERIDIAN, by Benjamin E. Cornell, M.
 126 TIMOTHY CHASE, by Elisha H. Haney, M.
 127 PRESUMPSCOT, by Harrison R. Waterhouse, Proxy.
 128 EGGEMOGGIN, by Henry A. Small, M.
 129 QUANTABACOOK, by Edwin R. Keene, Proxy.
 130 TRINITY, by Leon S. Howe, M.
 131 LOOKOUT, by Merritt G. Huntley, M.
 132 Mount Tir'em by William Douglass, Proxy.
 133 ASYLUM, by James M. Moulton, Proxy.
 134 TROJAN,—*Consolidated with Star in the West Lodge, No. 85, in 1888.*
 135 RIVERSIDE, by Charles W. Besse, M.
 136 IONIC,—*Charter surrendered in 1882.*
 137 KENDUSKEAG, by Hosea B. Emery M; F. Ernest Harvey, Proxy.
 138 LEWY'S ISLAND, by Benj. F. Chadbourne, Proxy.
 139 ARCHON, by Fred L. O. Hussey, M.
 140 MOUNT DESERT, by Clifford B. Richardson, M.
 141 AUGUSTA, by Manning S. Campbell, Proxy.
 142 OCEAN, by Charles H. Brown, M.
 143 PREBLE, by George Harding, Proxy.
 144 SEASIDE, by Merrill A. Perkins, JW.
 145 MOSES WEBSTER, by Claes E. Bowman, M; Ruel K. Roberts, Proxy.
 146 SEBASTICOOK, by Benjamin T. Foster, Proxy.
 147 ————EVENING STAR, not represented.
 148 FOREST, by William E. Murdock, Proxy.
 149 DORIC, by Edward P. Blanchard, M.

- 150 RABONI, by Frank A. Conant, M.
 151 EXCELSIOR, by Rodel A. Packard, M.
 152 CROOKED RIVER, by J. Bennett Pike, Proxy.
 153 DELTA, by Elmon J. Noyes, M; John A. Farrington, Proxy.
 154 MYSTIC TIE, by Eugene S. Twaddle, M.
 155 ANCIENT YORK, by Harry E. Plummer, Proxy.
 156 WILTON, by Leon A. Bump, M; Charles F. Rowell, Proxy,
 157 CAMBRIDGE, by Alfred H. Willis, Proxy.
 158 ANCHOR, by Nelson W. Gamage, Proxy.
 159 ESOTERIC, by Curtis R. Foster, Proxy.
 160 PARIAN, by John E. Gray, JW.
 161 CARRABASSETT, by Alpheus Nason, M.
 162 ARION, by Adelbert S. Taylor, Proxy.
 163 PLEASANT RIVER, by Daniel W. Hayes, M; George W. McClain, Proxy.
 164 WEBSTER, by Edwin Woodside, Proxy.
 165 MOLUNKUS, by Freeman C. Harris, Proxy.
 166 NEGUEMKEAG, by Harold E. Cook, M.
 167 WHITNEY, by Frank E. Bicknell, Proxy.
 168 COMPOSITE, by Perley E. Speed, M; Nathan Elden, Proxy.
 169 SHEPHERD'S RIVER, by Melvin Gould, M.
 170 CARIBOU, by Albert J. Taylor, M.
 171 NASKEAG, by Horace M. Pease, M.
 172 PINE TREE, by Virgil W. Hobbs, M; William H. Bither, SW.
 173 PLEIADES, by Nelson C. Wallace, Proxy.
 174 LYNDE, by J. Mellen Taylor, M.
 175 BASKAHEGAN, by Leo. H. Tuck, Proxy.
 176 PALESTINE,—*Consolidated with Dunlap, No. 47, Sept. 23, 1895.*
 177 ————RISING STAR, not represented.
 178 ANCIENT BROTHERS', by Albert M. Penley, Proxy.
 179 YORKSHIRE, by Wm. B. Littlefield, Proxy.
 180 HIRAM, by Albert A. Cole, Proxy.
 181 REUEL WASHBURN,—*Consolidated with Oriental Star, No. 21, in 1882.*
 182 GRANITE, by Arthur L. Mann, SW.
 183 DEERING, by Silas B. Adams, M; Chas. D. Moses, SW; Herbert B. Seal, JW; Francis E. Chase, Proxy.
 184 NAVAL, by Ernest L. Chaney, Proxy.
 185 BAR HARBOR, by Samuel J. Clement, Proxy.
 186 WARREN PHILLIPS, by Henry S. Cobb, SW; Fred A. Cole, JW; Oscar L. Cousens, Proxy.
 187 IRA BERRY, by Charles A. Snow, JW; Ithamar E. Stanley, Proxy.
 188 JONESPORT, by Samuel B. Cummings, M.
 189 KNOX, by Alden W. Butler, M.

- 190 SPRINGVALE, by Charles H. Ogden, Jr., SW.
 191 DAVIS, by Charles B. Richardson, Proxy.
 192 WINTER HARBOR, by Hilliard G. Smallidge, SW.
 193 WASHBURN, by Robert W. Chapman, M.
 194 EUCLID, by Samuel E. Remick, M.
 195 RELIANCE, by Luther W. Weed, SW.
 196 BAY VIEW, by Frank Seavey, M.
 197 AROOSTOOK, by Charles G. Briggs, Proxy.
 198 ST. ASPINQUID, by John C. Stewart, Proxy.
 199 BINGHAM, by William H. Collins, Proxy.
 200 COLUMBIA, by Geo. W. Brown, M.
 201 DAVID A. HOOPEE, by Gilbert F. Hooper, M.
 202 ———MOUNT BIGELOW, not represented.
 203 MOUNT OLIVET, by John C. Howes, Proxy.

Number of chartered lodges, 195; represented, 190; delegates, 251.

Your committee further find that the following Permanent Members are present:

M. W.	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	- - - - -	P. G. M.
"	EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	- - - - -	"
"	CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	- - - - -	"
"	WILLIAM R. G. ESTES,	- - - - -	"
"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	- - - - -	"
"	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	- - - - -	"
"	ALBRO E. CHASE,	- - - - -	"
"	HENRY R. TAYLOR,	- - - - -	"
"	HORACE H. BURBANK,	- - - - -	"
"	AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM,	- - - - -	"
"	JOSEPH A. LOCKE,	- - - - -	"
R. W.	THADDEUS R. SIMONTON,	- - - - -	P. S. G. W.
"	SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE,	- - - - -	"
"	JOSEPH M. HAYES,	- - - - -	"
"	LEANDER M. KENNISTON,	- - - - -	"
"	DANIEL P. BOYNTON,	- - - - -	"
"	GEORGE R. SHAW,	- - - - -	"
"	HERBERT HARRIS,	- - - - -	"
"	ALBERT M. PENLEY,	- - - - -	"
"	WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,	- - - - -	"
"	JOHN W. BALLOU,	- - - - -	P. J. G. W.
"	A. M. WETHERBEE,	- - - - -	"
"	EDWIN HOWARD VOSE,	- - - - -	"
"	ARCHIE LEE TALBOT,	- - - - -	"

R. W.	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	- - - - -	P. J. G. W.
"	BENJAMIN AMES,	- - - - -	"
"	ALGERNON M. ROAK,	- - - - -	"
"	EDMUND B. MALLET,	- - - - -	"
"	SAMUEL L. MILLER,	- - - - -	"
"	HOWARD D. SMITH,	- - - - -	"
"	WM. FREEMAN LORD,	- - - - -	"
"	MOSES TAIT,	- - - - -	"
"	BENJAMIN L. HADLEY,	- - - - -	"
"	ENOCH O. GREENLEAF,	- - - - -	"
"	MILLARD M. CASWELL,	- - - - -	"
"	FRANKLIN R. REDLON,	- - - - -	"

And Grand Officers as follows :

M. W.	WINFIELD S. CHOATE,	- - - - -	Grand Master.
R. W.	ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	- - - - -	Deputy Grand Master.
"	JAMES E. PARSONS,	- - - - -	Senior Grand Warden.
"	JOHN H. MCGORRILL,	- - - - -	Junior Grand Warden.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	- - - - -	Grand Treasurer.
"	STEPHEN BERRY,	- - - - -	Grand Secretary.
"	CHARLES D. SMITH,	- - - - -	Cor. Grand Secretary.
"	ALFRED SMALL,	- - - - -	D. D. G. M. 2d Dist.
"	THEODORÉ A. SMITH,	- - - - -	" 4d "
"	HAROLD E. MORRILL,	- - - - -	" 5th "
"	FRED C. BARTON,	- - - - -	" 6th "
"	ADELBERT MILLETT,	- - - - -	" 7th "
"	G. DUDLEY GOULD,	- - - - -	" 9th "
"	JOHN R. MCDOUGALL,	- - - - -	" 10th "
"	THOMAS H. BODGE,	- - - - -	" 11th "
"	JAMES H. WITHERELL,	- - - - -	" 12th "
"	GRANVILLE D. PERKINS,	- - - - -	" 13th "
"	PEREZ S. BURR,	- - - - -	" 14th "
"	FRED RAYMOND,	- - - - -	" 15th "
"	JOSEPH W. SIMPSON,	- - - - -	" 16th "
"	ALBERT H. BURROUGHS,	- - - - -	" 17th "
"	TOBIAS L. EASTMAN,	- - - - -	" 18th "
"	EVERETT M. STAPLES,	- - - - -	" 19th "
"	PHILIP J. MILLS,	- - - - -	" 20th "
"	CHARLES F. PAINE,	- - - - -	" 21st "
"	MILTON L. MERRILL,	- - - - -	" 22d "
"	FRANK WILSON,	- - - - -	" 23d "
"	LIONEL O. BRACKETT,	- - - - -	" 24th "
"	GEO. A. GORHAM, JR.,	- - - - -	" 25th "

W. & Rev. ELMER F. PEMBER,	- - - -	Grand Chaplain.
" JOHN GIBSON,	- - - -	" "
W. EDWIN C. DUDLEY,	- - - -	" Marshal.
" ERMON D. EASTMAN,	- - - -	" Senior Deacon.
" CHARLES W. CROSBY,	- - - -	" Junior Deacon.
" ROBERT W. CARR,	- - - -	" Steward.
" ALBERT M. AMES,	- - - -	" "
" WILLIAM N. HOWE,	- - - -	" Sword Bearer.
" LEVI E. JONES,	- - - -	" Stand'd Bearer.
" WALTER S. SMITH,	- - - -	" Organist.
" WARREN O. CARNEY,	- - - -	" Tyler.

There are present the following Grand Representatives from other Grand Lodges:

Alabama—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Nebraska—EDWARD P. BURNHAM.
Arizona—AUGUSTUS BAILEY.	Nevada—LEANDER M. KENNISTON.
Arkansas—JOHN W. BALLOU.	New Hampshire—HOWARD D. SMITH.
British Columbia—	New Jersey—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
THADDEUS R. SIMONTON.	New York—MARQUIS F. KING.
California—HENRY R. TAYLOR.	New Zealand—HERBERT HARRIS.
Canada—SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE.	North Carolina—WM. R. G. ESTES.
Colorado—FRANK E. SLEEPER.	North Dakota—ALGERNON M. ROAK.
Cuba—E. HOWARD VOSE.	Nova Scotia—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Connecticut—AUSTIN D. KNIGHT.	Ohio—WM. J. BURNHAM.
Delaware—AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM.	Oregon—ERMON D. EASTMAN.
Dist. of Columbia—STEPHEN BERRY.	Peru—ALFRED S. KIMBALL.
Florida—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Quebec—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Georgia— " " "	Rhode Island—HORACE H. BURBANK.
Idaho—ALBRO E. CHASE.	South Australia—BENJAMIN AMES.
Illinois—JOSEPH A. LOCKE.	South Dakota—
Indian Territory—JOSEPH M. HAYES.	FRANCIS T. FAULKNER.
Kansas—ARCHIE LEE TALBOT.	Tennessee—HUGH R. CHAPLIN.
Louisiana—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.	Texas—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND.
Manitoba—A. M. WETHERBEE.	Utah—EDWIN C. DUDLEY.
Maryland—SAMUEL L. MILLER.	Vermont—GEO. R. SHAW.
Michigan—FESSENDEN I. DAY.	Virginia—WINFIELD S. CHOATE.
Minnesota—JOHN B. REDMAN.	Washington—ENOCH O. GREENLEAF.
Mississippi—CHAS. I. COLLAMORE.	West Virginia—ALBERT M. PENLEY.
Missouri—DANIEL P. BOYNTON.	Wisconsin—EDMUND B. MALLET.

Fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM N. HOWE, }
 FRANCIS L. TALBOT, } *Committee.*
 CHARLES B. ADAMS, }

The report was accepted and sent to the Committee on Pay Roll, who were authorized to add and amend.

VISITORS.

The Grand Master ordered that all Master Masons in good standing be admitted as visitors during this communication.

He then announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Doings of the Grand Officers.

HENRY R. TAYLOR, JOSEPH A. LOCKE, HOWARD D. SMITH.

On the Pay Roll.

A. C. T. KING, WALTER S. GLIDDEN, THOMAS H. BODGE.

On Unfinished Business.

JOSEPH M. HAYES, ALBERT M. PENLEY, ENOCH O. GREENLEAF.

The Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

It is with great pleasure that we extend cordial greetings to each other, and an equally great pleasure to me to welcome you to the first communication of our Grand Lodge in the twentieth century.

We pass from year to year with but little thought of the rapid flight of time, but in entering upon a new century our thoughts are almost involuntarily turned to the contemplation of the past, and the consideration of the great events which have marked its progress, and we may seek to peer into the future and try to discern what it may have in store for us.

As we as masons behold the magnificent progress and development of the nineteenth century, we may well pause and ask ourselves if we have kept pace with all that is wisest and best, and

aided in that progress and development in such a way as to justify our existence as a great factor in civilization.

In the consideration of the question of our progress, we must constantly bear in mind that the progress of our order during the last century has been large during the last fifty years; the first half was beset with difficulties if not with dangers; opposed by those who, ignorant of its true principles and teachings, thought they saw in it a menace to the church and State, it was only by the firm convictions, unwavering loyalty and devotion of its leaders, that it was enabled to sustain itself against all opposition, and at last place itself upon the firm foundation on which it now stands, and to reach the splendid development of our day.

It has seemed strange to me that those, who sought the overthrow of Masonry, should not have considered the wisdom of the wise Gamaliel, who, when consulted as to what should be done to the early Christians, said, "refrain from these men and let them alone, for if this counsel or this work be of men it will come to naught, but if it be of God ye cannot overthrow it." Had they comprehended the profound wisdom thus expressed they would then have known that if Masonry was what they claimed, it would surely come to naught, but if it was what we know it to be, founded on principles of right and justice, then they could not overthrow it.

It would be useless for me to attempt to speak to you in detail of the progress of Masonry throughout the world during the century just past, but I will call your attention to a few facts relating to its development in the United States, which the masons of Maine ought to know, and which must lead them to have a more steadfast faith in our order and a firm conviction that its future is secure.

At the close of the eighteenth century there were fourteen Grand Lodges in existence in the United States. All of the original thirteen States of the Union, except Delaware, had organized a Grand Lodge; these, with Vermont and Kentucky, made up the fourteen. The dates of their several organization are as follows: Massachusetts 1777, Virginia 1778, Maryland 1783, Pennsylvania

1786, Georgia December 16th, and New Jersey Dec. 18, 1786, North Carolina 1787, New York 1787, South Carolina 1787, Connecticut July 8 and New Hampshire July 18, 1789, Rhode Island 1791, Vermont 1794 and Kentucky 1800. Delaware followed in 1806, and from that date the other Grand Lodges in the United States organized as follows: Ohio 1808, District of Columbia 1810, Louisiana 1812, Tennessee 1813, Indiana January 12 and Mississippi July 27, 1818, Maine 1820, Alabama and Missouri 1821, Florida 1830, Arkansas 1832, Texas 1837, Illinois 1840, Wisconsin 1843, Iowa January 8 and Michigan September 14, 1844, California April 28 and Kansas March 17, 1850, Oregon 1851, Minnesota 1853, Nebraska 1857, Washington 1858, Colorado 1861, Nevada Jan. 16 and West Virginia May 11, 1865, Montana 1866, Idaho 1867, Utah 1872, Indian Territory Oct. 5 and Wyoming Dec. 15, 1874, South Dakota, 1875, New Mexico 1877, Arizona 1882, North Dakota 1889, Oklahoma 1892.

The fourteen Grand Jurisdictions which were in existence at the beginning of the century now have a membership of 322,259. Those organized during the century have a membership of 476,961.

The returns of the lodges in the U. S. in 1892-93 showed a membership of 689,587. Those of 1898-1899 a membership of 799,220, or an increase during six years of 109,633, or more than 18,000 per year.

There are 50 Grand Lodges in the United States, one in each State, and one each in the District of Columbia and the territories of Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Indian.

These are but few of the facts which forcibly illustrate the growth of Masonry during the century just past; they show that that growth is marked and steady, and we may well look forward to a still greater increase in the future.

As we meet from year to year we miss from among us many of our brethren, who have been called from their labors. While the permanent membership of the Grand Lodge has not been invaded during the past year, three hundred and ninety-nine of our brethren have died; many of them have been prominent in our order,

and we trust that all have left behind memories which will be cherished by their brethren and that their good works will help those who may follow in their footsteps.

Our sister jurisdictions have been called to part with many honored and distinguished brethren, brethren who have labored long and earnestly in our cause and have left a record of good works worthy of emulation.

ALABAMA.—Henry Clay Armstrong died on the 17th day of December, 1900. Brother Armstrong had devoted much time to Masonry, he had been Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter for three years and Grand Master for two years, and at the time of his death he was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Council, and Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery. His loss is deeply mourned by the brethren of Alabama.

At the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Virginia in December, 1899, at Alexandria, I remember well his eloquent response for his Grand Jurisdiction.

ARKANSAS.—Robert Maxwell Smith was lost in the terrible disaster at Galveston, Texas, where he was a visitor; his body has never been recovered. He was Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas. His progress in Masonry was rapid; made a mason in 1892, elected Grand Senior Warden in 1896, Deputy in 1897 and Grand Master in 1898.

W. H. Gee died May 28, 1900. Grand Master in 1887 and 1888. The Grand Master speaks of him as "a zealous, faithful member of our beloved institution."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—William Reynolds Singleton, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia since 1875, died February 23, 1901. He was also chairman of the Committee on Correspondence. Made a mason in 1840, he gave over sixty years of good and faithful service to the cause.

IOWA.—Edward Carlton Blackman, Past Grand Master, died at his home in Burlington, October 7, 1900. He was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge 1887 and 1888. Made a mason in 1856, he

gave his best efforts for the order in the many high offices to which he was called by his brethren.

KANSAS.—Silas E. Sheldon, died April 19, 1900. Bro. Sheldon was Grand Master in 1886, Grand High Priest in 1881, Grand Commander in 1876, and held many other positions of trust and confidence in the order, and gave to all conscientious labor.

Cyrus K. Holliday, Past Deputy Grand Master, died March 29, 1900; for nearly fifty years he was an active and energetic member of our fraternity, and won the esteem and confidence of his brethren.

MICHIGAN.—Michigan has been called upon to mourn the loss of two Past Grand Masters during the year. Edwin L. Bowring, Grand Master of Michigan in 1895, died suddenly at his home October 26, 1900. An active and enthusiastic mason, he was taken in the full strength of manhood to the Celestial Lodge where so many brethren have gone before.

Alanson Partridge died July 7, 1900; he was Grand Master of Michigan in 1882, and held many other high offices in the fraternity, having been Master of Birmingham Lodge for twenty-eight years. By his genial personality and wise counsel he won the confidence and love of his brethren,

MISSISSIPPI.—John F. McCormick, Past Grand Master, died April 10, 1900. Bro. McCormick, at the time of his death, was our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. He was held in high esteem, not only by the craft but by his fellow citizens. I have expressed to our sister jurisdiction our sympathy in their loss, and requested the Grand Master to nominate a successor as Grand Representative for Maine.

NEBRASKA.—James A. Tulleys, Grand Master in 1880, died January 21, 1901. In 1894 he was appointed Grand Custodian of the Grand Lodge, which position he held until his death. His services were characterized by ability, zeal and fidelity to the fraternity.

TENNESSEE.—George Hamilton Morang, Grand Master in 1895 and for four years chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, died July 27, 1900. Honored by the craft and by

his fellow citizens, his memory will long be cherished by those who knew him.

VIRGINIA.—John Howard Wayt, died February 13, 1901. He served the Grand Lodge as Grand Master 1890-91, and declined a re-election. Grand Master Kerns, in announcing the death of Bro. Wayt, says: "No higher type of a just and upright mason moved among us."

WISCONSIN.—John Warren Laffin, for seventeen years Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, died August 30, 1900. The high praise of the work done in the order is the noblest memorial to the memory of this brother.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—Thomas Trounce, died July 30, 1900. He held many offices in the fraternity and was Grand Master in 1885. He was active for the good of the order and his sterling qualities endeared him to his brethren.

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

It gives me great satisfaction to announce to you that the progress of the craft during the last year has exceeded our most sanguine expectations, and from the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters it appears that peace and harmony generally prevail throughout this jurisdiction.

From the returns of the lodges made to the Grand Secretary's office it appears that there has been a substantial gain in membership during the past year, the total membership being 22,690, against 22,277 in 1900, a gain of 413; 1,077 initiated against 829 in 1900; 1,038 raised against 764 last year; 67 re-instated, last year 78; 399 have died against 400 last year. The number rejected is 240, showing that the lodges are carefully considering the fitness of candidates.

The reports show that 1 has been suspended, 2 expelled, 268 suspended from membership and 25 deprived of membership, a total of 296 against 279 in 1900.

While this condition is most encouraging, I would again call your attention to the large number of brethren who have been

deprived of the benefits of the order on account of their failure to comply with the rules and regulations established for our government, and would urge upon all lodges the exercise of the utmost care, before the admission of new members; quality, not quantity, should be the rule by which we should be guided.

I am informed by the Grand Treasurer that in all departments our financial condition is very satisfactory.

I feel justified from these facts in congratulating you upon the auspicious beginning of the new masonic year and the new century, and earnestly hope that this progress and development may continue.

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION.

We have two lodges working under dispensations at the present time. One at Kingfield, Mt. Abram, and one at Millinocket, Nollesemic.

The dispensation for the lodge at Kingfield was granted by the Grand Lodge at the last annual communication, that at Millinocket I granted under date of Nov. 17, 1900, with Chas. J. MacNutt as Master.

From the reports of the District Deputies of the 15th and 25th Districts, both lodges seem to be in a very prosperous condition, with capable and energetic officers.

PETITION FOR DISPENSATION.

March 25, 1901, I received and referred to Committee on Dispensations and Charters, petition for lodge at Howland; the petition was accompanied by all necessary papers except the consent of Horeb Lodge, No. 93, Lincoln, which was withheld. This matter will be presented to you for determination at this communication.

In the report of the D. D. G. M. for the Fifth District you will find particular reference to this matter.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year the following dispensations have been granted :

For Elections.

Sept. 5, 1900, Plymouth Lodge, No. 75, Plymouth, to elect officers at their regular meeting in October, having failed to elect in September, there being but five members present.

Dec. 13, 1900, Crescent Lodge, No. 78, Pembroke, to elect officers and transact other business of annual meeting at regular meeting in December, the annual meeting in November not being held on account of severe storm.

January 12, 1901, Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, Bangor, to elect Junior Warden at special meeting, the Junior Warden elect having declined the office.

To Occupy Halls Temporarily.

May 16, 1900, King Hiram Lodge, No. 57, Dixfield, to hold meeting and work in a larger hall one night.

June 7, 1900, Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, Rumford Falls, same.

April 13, 1901, Ancient York Lodge, No. 155, Lisbon Falls, to hold meetings in hall formerly occupied by it. The hall of Ancient York was destroyed by fire and they are obliged to seek new accommodations. I was happy to learn that their charter, records and books passed through the fire uninjured.

May 2, 1900, Bethlehem Lodge, No. 35, Augusta, to confer the Third degree before the Grand Lodge at Portland.

January 7, 1901, Pacific Lodge, No. 64, Exeter, to hold a meeting in the town of Stetson for the purpose of installing officers.

January 12, 1901, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 124, East Corinth, to hold meeting in the town of Charleston for same purpose.

February 25, 1901, Cambridge Lodge, No. 157, to hold a meeting for work in the town of Wellington, that being within the jurisdiction of said lodge.

February 8, 1901, Bar Harbor Lodge, No. 185, to hold meeting at Ellsworth and confer the degrees before masonic convention on candidate already accepted by said lodge.

To receive and ballot upon application at same meeting.

May 11, 1900, Oriental Lodge, No. 13, Bridgton.

March 15, 1901, Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, Newport.

April 6, 1901, Mariners' Lodge, No. 68, Searsport.

To receive and act upon applications where candidate has not resided in this State one year.

May 5, 1900, Frontier Lodge, No. 112, Fairfield.

January 1, 1901, Lygonia Lodge, No. 40, Ellsworth.

February 27, 1901, Kennebec Lodge, No. 5, Hallowell.

April 18, 1901, St. George's Lodge, No. 16, Warren.

February 11, 1901, Marine Lodge, No. 122, Deer Isle, to ballot upon application at special meeting, it having been received and referred at a regular meeting.

To attend divine services.

June 5, 1900, St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, Rockport.

June 9, 1900, Eastern Frontier Lodge, No. 112, Fort Fairfield.

June 9, 1900, Lygonia Lodge, No. 40, Ellsworth.

June 11, 1900, Esoteric Lodge, No. 159, Ellsworth.

June 13, 1900, Nezinscot Lodge, No. 101, Turner.

June 18, 1900, Washington Lodge, No. 37, Lubec.

June 18, 1900, Trinity Lodge, No. 130, Presque Isle.

June 20, 1900, Bingham Lodge, No. 199, Bingham.

June 21, 1900, Wilton Lodge, No. 156, Wilton.

June 21, 1900, Lewy's Island Lodge, No. 138, Princeton.

June 21, 1900, Siloam Lodge, No. 92, Fairfield.

July 13, 1900, Meridian Lodge, No. 125, Pittsfield.

December 24, 1900, Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport.

February 26, 1901, Reliance Lodge, No. 195, Stonington.

February 26, 1901, Marine Lodge, No. 122, Deer Isle.

DECISIONS.

Although I have been called upon to answer many questions relating to jurisprudence during the year, I find on examination that a very large proportion have been on questions which have

been before decided and but few are new. Among the latter are these :

A waiver of jurisdiction is granted and application made and candidate accepted; he fails to take his degrees during the year and then makes a second application to same lodge; is it necessary to get a second waiver of jurisdiction?

Answer. No, not if the candidate is still under the jurisdiction of the lodge granting the waiver. If at the time of the second application, the candidate is under the jurisdiction of a lodge other than the one granting the waiver this decision will not apply.

In 1857, a candidate took the first and second degrees, but for personal reasons and on account of absence from this State he had not taken the third; in 1900 he returned to this State and desires to be made a Master Mason in the same lodge that conferred the first and second degrees. Can he do so?

Answer. Yes, there is no limitation of time within which the second or third degrees must be taken. Although the residence of the candidate may be now outside of this jurisdiction, the fact that the lodge in Maine conferred the first and second degrees, gives it jurisdiction to complete the work. Substantially the same question was decided in 1900.

This latter decision led to one of the interesting occasions of the year. In 1857, forty-three years ago, Col. Israel B. Norcross took the first two steps in Masonry in Rising Virtue Lodge, in Bangor; at that time Colonel Jere Fenno was Senior Warden of the lodge, and in the absence of the Master presided and conferred the degrees; in 1900 Col. Norcross returned from his western home and desired to take the third degree, and on Oct. 26, 1900, it being the 80th birthday of Col. Fenno, in the presence of some 350 members of Rising Virtue Lodge and visitors, with Col. Fenno acting as Worshipful Master, assisted by M. W. Chas. I. Collamore as Senior Warden, Wm. Thompson as Junior Warden, W. Charles York as Senior Deacon, W. Frank T. Sparks as Junior Deacon, W. Walter S. Bolton as Marshal, W. P. H. Coombs as Senior Steward, W. A. G. Noyes as Junior Stew-

ard, and Rev. E. F. Pember as Chaplain, the ceremony was performed. Other Past Masters assisting were Thos. T. Taber, John H. Kerr, D. W. Maxfield and W. H. Knowles. The work throughout was most impressive and reflected great credit upon Brother Fenno, who, notwithstanding his advanced years, showed himself a thorough master of the situation. The work, with the banquet and speeches which followed, made the occasion one long to be remembered.

CONVENTIONS.

Grand Lecturer M. W. Brother Frank E. Sleeper has held three conventions for masonic instruction.

Guilford, November 23, 1900.

Augusta, December 4, 1900.

Camden, December 13, 1900.

I have again received reports from the District Deputy Grand Masters upon these conventions, and it is manifest that they are of great benefit, not only to those who attend, but through them to the whole fraternity. Their influence in promoting uniformity and excellence of work cannot be over estimated, and I would most earnestly urge all officers of the lodges, and especially all D. D. G. Ms. to be present, if possible, at least once during the year. The report of the Grand Lecturer is laid before you for your information.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

The reports of the several District Deputy Grand Masters are laid before you for information and consideration.

I wish to call the attention of all officers of lodges to a practice which fortunately is growing, and one which meets my hearty approval, that of requiring an examination before the lodge of every candidate before he is allowed advancement. Last year I took occasion to call your attention to this matter, and again I wish to impress its importance upon all who have to do with it.

The position of District Deputy Grand Master is one of great importance: brought into the closest relations with the several

lodges, their opportunities to impart instruction and wise counsel are far beyond those enjoyed by any other officer, and I desire to commend the able, thorough and conscientious work of the District Deputies during the last two years.

The practice which is becoming quite general, and which it is hoped will become universal, that of holding district conventions, should be encouraged; following the conventions held by the Grand Lecturer, they afford opportunities for instruction which can be obtained in no other way.

BY-LAWS.

I have approved the by-laws of the following lodges:

Arion Lodge, No. 162, Goodwin's Mills.

Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport.

Quantabacook Lodge, No. 129, Searsmont.

Springvale Lodge, No. 190, Springvale.

And amendments to the by-laws of

Excelsior Lodge, No. 151, Northport.

Portland Lodge, No. 1, Portland.

Seaside Lodge, No. 144, Boothbay Harbor.

Shepherd's River Lodge, No. 169, Brownfield.

Hiram Lodge, No. 180, South Portland.

INSTALLATIONS.

I have installed the officers of the following lodges during the year:

Morning Star Lodge, No. 41, Litchfield, Sept. 18, 1900.

Kennebec Lodge, No. 5, Hallowell, Nov. 20, 1900.

Portland Lodge, No. 1, Portland, Nov. 28, 1900.

Bethlehem Lodge, No. 35, Augusta, Nov. 26, 1900.

Augusta Lodge, No. 141, Augusta.

Waterville Lodge, No. 33, Waterville.

I have been obliged to decline many kind invitations of lodges to install officers, and to visit them on interesting occasions.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

The death of Past Grand Master Hiram Chase, left Utah without a Representative near our Grand Lodge, and August 25, 1900, I nominated W. Edwin C. Dudley, of Augusta, for that position, and he has been duly commissioned by the Grand Master of Utah.

TRIALS.

In accordance with the resolve passed at the annual communication, 1900, (page 50 of the proceedings) Carrabassett Lodge, No. 161, Canaan, preferred charges against Geo. E. Washburn and he was tried thereon and found not guilty. The report of proceedings was received by me January 11, 1901, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to be returned to the Grand Lodge as provided in the resolve.

June 5, 1900, I received proceedings of Oxford Lodge, No. 18, Norway, against Fred A. Crockett. The plea was guilty, and the punishment imposed, a reprimand. I sustained the proceedings of the lodge, and directed the W. M. to require Bro. Crockett to appear before the lodge and receive such reprimand as the W. M. should, in his good judgment, impose.

June 24, 1900, I received the proceedings of Portland Lodge, No. 1, against Fred G. Mitchell and Dana H. Miles.

In the case of Dana H. Miles, I sustained the proceedings and directed the W. M. to carry out the sentence of the lodge, viz: a reprimand. In the case against Fred G. Mitchell, the sentence being indefinite suspension from all masonic rights, the proceedings were referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to report at this communication.

I have also received the proceedings of Central Lodge, No. 45, China, against John B. Doe; the respondent was found guilty of the charge and sentenced to expulsion. The proceedings were referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to report to the Grand Lodge for your action at this time.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At Fairfield, October 18th, 1900, the new lodge rooms of Siloam Lodge, No. 92, were dedicated by the Grand Lodge. The officers taking part were as follows:

M. W.	Winfield S. Choate, Augusta,	Grand Master.
R. W.	Thos. H. Bodge, Augusta,	<i>as</i> Deputy Grand Master.
	Geo. M. Chapman, Fairfield,	“ Senior Grand Warden.
R. W.	John H. McGorrill, Fairfield,	Junior “ “
	B. H. Lawrence, Fairfield,	<i>as</i> Grand Treasurer.
	J. E. Blanchard, Augusta,	“ “ Secretary.
W.	F. E. McFadden, Fairfield,	“ Architect.
W.	Edwin C. Dudley, Augusta,	Grand Marshal.
W. & Rev.	Geo. F. Degan, Augusta,	Grand Chaplain.
W.	C. W. Crosby, Readfield,	<i>as</i> “ Senior Deacon.
W.	H. W. S. Lovejoy, Fairfield,	“ “ Junion Deacon.
W.	E. H. Jones, Augusta,	“ “ Senior Steward.
	H. F. Totman, Fairfield,	“ “ Junior Steward.
	Edbert Kelley, Fairfield,	“ “ Tyler.

The occasion was one of importance to our brethren of Siloam Lodge; the building in which the lodge has now found a beautiful home is new; nothing has been left undone to make the lodge room one of the best in the State. The brethren are to be commended for the zeal and enthusiasm which enabled them to accomplish this splendid result.

INTERNATIONAL MASONRY.

I have received communications from the Grand Lodge of Switzerland, asking for correspondence and negotiations with the Grand Lodge of Maine looking to “The establishment of continuous relations between the different Masonic Powers of the Globe, irrespective of their denomination or their Rite, with a view to their mutual support in the research of scientific, philosophical and socialogical truths.”

The communication states that at the International Masonic Congresses held in Paris 1899, Antwerp 1894, the Hague 1896,

and Paris 1900, the opinion was expressed that it would be desirable to find means for establishing a mutual understanding among the masonic lodges of the Globe, with a view to an efficacious co-operation of Freemasonry throughout the world.

The points to which especial attention is called, and the questions to which answers are requested, are :

1. Would this Grand Lodge be disposed to assent to the proposal of creating a permanent International Office, in the style of the International Office for the postal service or of other International Offices of the same description, for the purpose of establishing lasting relations between the Grand Lodges of the Globe?
2. On what conditions would that assent depend?
3. Would we be disposed to take part, either by correspondence or by delegates, in a Congress which would be prepared to study this question?
4. What time would suit us best for such a convocation?
5. What is the number of lodges belonging to our Grand Lodge?
6. What is the number of masons appertaining to our Grand Lodge?

I commend this important matter to your careful consideration.

The events of the past few years have so extended the jurisdiction of the United States, that we are brought into close relations with countries and peoples, before almost strangers to us. Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippine and Sandwich Islands, gems of the Atlantic and Pacific, and they all have masons, have claims upon our people and upon the masons of this nation, which they never before possessed, and it would seem that intimate relations such as proposed would not only help to carry the grand principles of liberty and good government to the people of those islands, but must also be a potent factor in promoting peace throughout the world.

GRAND LODGE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

In September, 1900, I received through the Grand Secretary, a communication announcing the organization of a Grand Lodge

for Western Australia, with Sir Gerard Smith, Grand Master, and J. D. Stevenson, Grand Secretary, and soliciting from the Grand Lodge of Maine official and fraternal recognition and exchange of representatives.

The communication has been referred to the Committee on Correspondence to report at this communication.

MASONRY IN KENTUCKY.

There has been issued and sent, doubtless, to all the Grand Masters in the United States, documents and publications relating to the "Ancient York Masons," in Kentucky.

A proclamation was issued by the Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons in that State, stating that the lodges organized under authority from the Grand Lodge of the Ancient York Masons had no authority for their existence, having no charter or dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. This has been followed by a proclamation by the "Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," in which he claims that the Grand Lodge which he represents and the subordinate lodges are legally constituted, instituted strictly in accordance with the Ancient Constitutions and Land Marks of Ancient Craft Masonry, and further he makes a counter proclamation in which he declares the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of the State of Kentucky and the lodges under its jurisdiction clandestine, and not entitled to any lawful masonic recognition.

We at present recognize the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. as the one entitled to recognition.

I have referred the matter to the Committee on Correspondence for investigation and report to this Grand Lodge.

OHIO.

I have received a communication from the "Grand Master Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio," in which he claims that the body over which he presides is entitled to recognition by the masonic fraternity, and asking for an investiga-

tion of the claims made in its behalf. I would suggest that the communication be referred to the appropriate committee, to report later to the Grand Lodge.

MASONIC BOARD OF RELIEF AND EGGEMOGGIN LODGE.

I have received copies of letter and telegrams passed between the Board of Relief at Oakland, California, and Eggemoggin Lodge, No. 128, of Sedgwick, relating to relief furnished a brother of said lodge and expenses of burial. I suggest that the matter be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence for consideration.

NORTHERN STAR AND KEYSTONE LODGES.

In the matter in question between these lodges as to the membership of Abel W. Rowell, the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported to me in August, and their conclusions were approved and a copy of their report sent to each lodge.

MAKING PUBLIC THE ACTION OF LODGES.

My attention has been called, by distinguished members of the Craft, to what seems to be the growing practice of publishing in the newspapers accounts of the private business of the lodges, such as names of candidates, working certain degrees, accepting petitions, and other matters, which relate to the special business of the lodge.

I think it would be well for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to take this matter under consideration and report what, if any, action is necessary.

IN CONCLUSION.

My brethren, twice have you honored me, by placing me in the high position of Grand Master of Masons of our beloved State; at this communication you will elect another to this place; permit me again to express to you my deepest feelings of gratitude to you for your confidence and esteem. Whatever success has been

ours, I know has been due in a great measure to the cordial co-operation of my brethren and their enthusiasm for our order.

Masonry is stronger in Maine to-day than ever before ; its development during the last fifty years has been marked and constant, and it rests with us, brethren, to so labor for it that its future shall be secure.

If I am asked what one thing will be most helpful, and tend in the greatest measure to our success, now and in the future, I would say the recognition by every mason of his own individual duty and responsibility.

We have each voluntarily taken upon ourselves certain duties and obligations. We have each promised that those duties shall be fully and conscientiously discharged, and that every obligation shall be met in the true spirit of our fraternity ; shall it be done ? Upon each one rests the responsibility ; not the responsibility to do that which is distasteful to us, but that which must be to every true mason a pleasure and satisfaction.

The strength of every institution is the united strength of all its members ; let every brother ask himself whether he is an element of weakness or of strength in our Temple.

Every stone in the temple of our first Grand Master had its appointed place. It was quarried and fitted for that place, and whether it was in the foundation laid where it might be unseen forever, or the stone which the builders rejected, but which became the head of the corner, it was equally necessary to the completeness and stability of the whole. With us, my brethren, from the youngest entered apprentice to the Worshipful Master in the east, we have individual duties and responsibilities ; let each of us labor in the cause until the sun goes down, then shall our rest be peaceful and our memories shall be honored.

As masons, let us ever bear in mind that material monuments are not the best and most enduring. As is so well said, "He who would perpetuate his name to posterity must embalm it in acts of charity and deeds of pure beneficence." Men have endeavored to defy the ravages of time and to perpetuate their names and deeds to posterity by building splendid tombs and temples. How

vain the effort! their monuments have become dust, and their names are forgotten: The seven wonders of the world are almost unknown; they, like their builders, have returned to dust.

“I met a traveller from an antique land
 Who said: two vast and trunkless legs of stone
 Stand in the desert. Near them on the sand,
 Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown
 And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
 Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
 The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed;
 And on the pedestal these words appear:
 ‘My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:
 Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!’
 Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
 Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,
 The lone and level sands stretch far away.”

Such must in the end be the despair which shall come to him who vainly seeks in such a way to impress his life and actions upon posterity; but he who, by an honest and upright life, wins the approbation of his fellow-men, shall have the satisfaction of knowing that the world has been made better because he lived.

We stand upon the threshold of a new masonic year in a new century; into our care is committed the future of Masonry in Maine; let us see to it that the trust confided to our keeping is discharged to the best of our abilities.

The address was referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Grand Treasurer reported as follows:

To the Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In compliance with the Constitution, the subscriber submits a report of his transactions, exhibiting the amount received and paid out during the masonic year, and on what account.

1900.

RECEIPTS.

May	1.	Cash on hand,	\$6,792.85
	8.	“ from Stephen Berry, Grand Secretary, Dispensation for Mount Abram Lodge,	25.00

Nov. 12.	Dispensation for lodge at Millinocket,.....	25.00
1901.	Collections of District Deputies as follows:	
Mar. 14.	Alfred Small, 2d District,.....	185.80
15.	Tobias L. Eastman, 18th District,.....	198.40
16.	Theodore A. Smith, 4th District,	173.80
20.	Perez S. Burr, 14th District,.....	317.40
26.	George A. Gorham, Jr., 25th District,.....	160.80
27.	Charles F. Paine, 21st District,.....	368.00
27.	John R. McDougall, 10th District,.....	247.60
28.	Philip J. Mills, 20th District,.....	120.40
28.	Harold E. Morrill, 5th District,.....	276.20
30.	James H. Witherell, 12th District,.....	228.40
April 6.	Albert H. Burroughs, 17th District,.....	635.40
6.	G. Dudley Gould, 9th District,.....	450.60
8.	Fred C. Barton, 6th District,.....	262.60
8.	Granville D. Perkins, 13th District,.....	279.20
8.	Frank Wilson, 23d District,.....	176.40
8.	David W. Campbell, 3d District,.....	215.60
16.	Cyrus W. Hendrix, 1st District,.....	150.20
16.	Thomas H. Bodge, 11th District,.....	419.20
16.	Milton L. Merrill, 22d District,.....	189.80
16.	Joseph W. Simpson, 16th District,.....	336.20
18.	Everett M. Staples, 19th District,.....	361.20
18.	Fred Raymond, 15th District,.....	247.20
23.	Adelbert Millett, 7th District,.....	121.80
27.	Lionel O. Brackett, 24th District,.....	383.00
27.	S. Augustus Parker, 8th District,.....	173.00
May 2.	Cash from Grand Master, dispensations to lodges,....	18.00
3.	" " Grand Secretary, diplomas, etc.,.....	14.05
3.	" " Grand Chapter, 3-10 office expense,.....	139.35
3.	" " Grand Commandery, 2-10 office expense,...	92.90
3.	" from interest on deposits,.....	64.80
		\$13,850.15

1900.

DISBURSEMENTS.

May 4.	Paid orders Committee on Pay Roll,.....	\$ 2,060.68
	" Warren O. Carney, Grand Tyler,.....	30.00
	" Walter S. Smith, Grand Organist,	10.00
	" Typewriter for Com. on Correspondence,	25.05
	" Trustees Masonic Hall,	125.00
	" Portland Savings Bank, rent of offices,	400.00
	" Mrs. Nora O'Toole, care of offices,	56.00

" Dow & Pinkham, insurance,.....	81.00
" American Bank Note Co., for diplomas,	340.00
" George D. Loring, binding Proceedings,.....	50.15
" Frank E. Sleeper, Grand Lecturer,.....	25.00
Expense of Guilford Convention,.....	26.11
Augusta Convention,.....	15.20
Camden Convention,.....	22.90
Postage and telephone,.....	2.27
" J. H. Drummond, Committee on Correspondence,.	100.00
" W. S. Choate, Grand Master, expense,.....	34.00
" M. F. King, Grand Treasurer, salary and surety bond,	250.00
stamps, envelopes and express,	5.20
" Stephen Berry, Grand Secretary, salary,	600.00
printing Proceedings,.....	839.85
mailing Proceedings, etc.,	42.72
printing notices, etc.,	62.25
mail and express,	28.03
incidentals for office,	6.66
Expenses of D. D. Grand Masters as follows:	
Cyrus W. Hendrix, 1st District,.....	23.85
Alfred Small, 2d District,.....	14.23
David W. Campbell, 3d District,.....	26.35
Theodore A. Smith, 4th District,.....	26.00
Harold E. Morrill, 5th District,.....	27.38
Fred C. Barton, 6th District,	12.93
Adelbert Millett, 7th District,.....	10.50
S. Augustus Parker, 8th District,.....	4.00
G. Dudley Gould, 9th District,.....	22.15
John R. McDougall, 10th District,.....	39.22
Thomas H. Bodge, 11th District,	11.00
James H. Witherell, 12th District.....	21.55
Granville D. Perkins, 13th District,.....	27.40
Perez S. Burr, 14th District,.....	11.90
Fred Raymond, 15th District,	34.10
Joseph W. Simpson, 16th District,.....	26.45
Albert H. Burroughs, 17th District,.....	11.65
Tobias L. Eastman, 18th District,.....	23.70
Everett M. Staples, 19th District,.....	21.10
Philip J. Mills, 20th District,.....	13.10
Charles F. Paine, 21st District,.....	27.45
Milton L. Merrill, 22d District,.....	22.04

Frank Wilson, 23d District,.....	10.14
Lionel O. Brackett, 24th District,.....	7.90
George A. Gorham, Jr., 25th District,.....	25.15
	<hr/>
	\$5,739.31
Transferred to Charity Fund,....	800.00
Cash to new account,.....	7,310.84
	<hr/>
	\$13,850.15

Fraternally submitted,

MARQUIS F. KING, *Grand Treasurer.*

The report was referred to the Committee of Finance.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Grand Secretary made the following report, which was accepted:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

The last registered brother has dropped from the rolls, and there are no longer any registered with the Grand Lodge.

The returns were received promptly, and generally in excellent condition. A few are beautifully written, but some are carelessly made, giving initials instead of full first names, while one or two are almost indecipherable. The Secretaries are nearly all getting to understand the importance of bringing forward the number of members correctly, and making the recapitulation agree with the present number.

Piscataquis Lodge, at Milo, returns fifteen past masters, a roll unbroken by death for twenty-five years.

Masters still need to be reminded that they should see that the Secretary promptly reports their election to the Grand Secretary. When there is a change of Master and Secretary, which is not reported, and the Secretary is dilatory in sending his returns, and takes no notice of letters asking for them, there is a difficulty in getting in communication again with the lodge, and it is likely to get considerably stirred up by the letters to various members asking information. It must be said, however, that there is no class of men so considerate, so courteous, and so pleasant to do business with, as the experienced Secretaries of lodges, which is probably due to the fact that they are generally selected as the most efficient, as well as the most attached to the interests of the fraternity.

The perseverance and devotion which is displayed in sustaining some of the

smaller lodges which have little work, deserves the notice and commendation of the craft. I find one which has had no work for five years.

Fraternally submitted,

STEPHEN BERRY, *Grand Secretary.*

GRAND LECTURER'S REPORT.

The Grand Lecturer's report was presented and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers:

SABBATUS, ME., May 1, 1901.

To Most Worshipful WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of Masons in Maine.

Many District Deputy Grand Masters expressed a desire to have a convention for masonic instruction held in their districts during the past year, but I have been able to hold only three, for which the following notice was issued:

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND LECTURER,

SABBATUS, November 5, 1900.

BRETHREN:

I am directed by the Grand Master to call conventions for instruction in masonic work as follows:

At Guilford, Friday, November 23, 1900, at 10.00 A. M.

At Augusta, Tuesday, December 4, 1900, at 10.00 A. M.

At Camden, Thursday, December 13, 1900, at 10.00 A. M.

Every District Deputy Grand Master is expected to attend at least one of these conventions.

All Master Masons are cordially invited to be present.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK E. SLEEPER, *Grand Lecturer.*

At the convention at Guilford were present the D. D. G. M.'s from the 5th, 21st, 22d and 25th Districts, representatives from ten lodges, and about forty brethren, a small attendance, but all present manifested deep interest, and were brethren not previously able to attend a convention. The meeting was a very profitable one.

The convention at Augusta was pronounced by the local press, as well as by all present, "an unqualified success." D. D. G. Masters from the 6th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 18th and 24th Districts, and representatives from twenty-seven lodges were present, and the work was said to be "most helpful and satisfactory to all." The Augusta brethren furnished a hot turkey supper

to all comers, comprising about 250 brethren, and also, in the evening, conferred the M. M. degree on three candidates in a manner which displayed great proficiency in knowledge of ritual and floor work.

The presence of the Grand Master, and his words of cheer and advice, added to the interest of this convention.

The convention at Camden was attended by D. D. G. Masters from the 7th and 9th Districts, 1 Past Grand Master, 2 Past Senior Grand Wardens, 1 Past Junior Grand Warden, and about 125 masons representing 19 lodges.

Amity Lodge extended graceful courtesies. The work of the convention was thoroughly performed, every brother present appearing to be attentive and interested.

In these, as in all the conventions which I have conducted, I endeavored to make every individual present feel that the meeting was especially for him, and I have never been disappointed in securing interest and proficiency in the work.

The number of D. D. G. Masters not attending any convention this year was too large, viz: from Districts Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20 and 23. Several of these Deputies had previously attended two or more conventions and their absence was perhaps excusable, but I have good reasons for believing that one or two others needed the instruction which they could have obtained at a convention.

I regret that professional business would not allow me the necessary time to hold other conventions, as I think more than three yearly would be profitable to our Institution in this State.

Fraternally submitted,

FRANK E. SLEEPER, *Grand Lecturer.*

FLORIDA.

A communication from a Past Master in Florida was presented, but the Grand Lodge, without hearing the paper, ordered it to be returned to the sender with the notice that it did not come through the proper channel.

The Dispensation, Records and papers of Mount Abram Lodge, U. D., at Kingfield, were presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

RETURNS.

The Grand Secretary submitted the report of the Committee on Returns, which was accepted, as follows:

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, Tuesday, May 7, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Returns would report that returns have been received from all the 195 chartered lodges, and from the two under dispensation.

The following summary shows the comparison with the last four years:

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Initiated,.....	746	774	710	829	1077
Raised,.....	721	768	702	764	1038
Affiliated,.....	118	80	95	116	100
Re-instated,.....	59	54	70	78	67
Dimitted,.....	160	169	200	182	151
Died,.....	339	407	419	400	399
Suspended,.....	1	0	1	0	1
Expelled,.....	2	2	2	0	2
Susp. from membership, ..	224	305	271	271	268
Deprived of membership,..	18	13	15	8	25
Number of members, ..	22,085	22,191	22,165	22,277	22,690
Rejected,.....	174	196	149	187	249

The initiations have increased twenty-nine per cent.; the raised over thirty-five per cent.; the affiliations have fallen off fourteen per cent.; and the re-instatements the same amount.

The dimissions have decreased seventeen per cent.; while the deaths hold the same.

The gain is 413, almost two per cent., and greater than any year since 1883.

The death rate is $17\frac{1}{2}$ to a thousand, against 18 last year, 19 in 1899, $18\frac{1}{2}$ in 1898, and $15\frac{1}{2}$ in 1897.

The accompanying abstract will show the work in detail.

Fraternally submitted,

STEPHEN BERRY,
MOSES TAIT,
ELMER E. SPOFFORD, } Committee.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS, 1901.

Nos.	LODGES.	Initiated.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Re-instated.	Dimitted.	Died.	Suspended.	Expelled.	N. P. D.		No. Members.	Rejected.
										Suspended.	D. of Men.		
1	Portland,.....	16	14	2	0	1	6	1	0	1	0	347	3
2	Warren,.....	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	104	0
3	Lincoln,.....	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	70	1
4	Hancock,.....	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	80	0
5	Kennebec,.....	5	4	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	146	1
6	Amity,.....	6	5	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	198	2
7	Eastern,.....	11	8	2	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	127	3
8	United,.....	11	21	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	153	1
9	Saco,.....	22	22	1	4	1	4	0	0	6	0	146	7
10	Rising Virtue,.....	4	5	4	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	158	5
11	Pythagorean,.....	8	7	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	100	2
12	Cumberland,.....	5	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	85	7
13	Oriental,.....	9	7	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	168	2
14	Solar,.....	5	9	1	0	2	7	0	0	2	0	244	1
15	Orient,.....	6	6	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	156	1
16	St. George,.....	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	102	0
17	Ancient Landmark,...	19	17	1	0	1	9	0	0	0	0	456	7
18	Oxford,.....	6	5	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	163	3
19	Felicity,.....	4	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	104	0
20	Maine,.....	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	118	0
21	Oriental Star,.....	4	3	2	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	193	4
22	York,.....	9	9	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	119	0
23	Freeport,.....	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	143	0
24	Phoenix,.....	2	4	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	151	1
25	Temple,.....	4	5	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	79	0
26	Village,.....	3	3	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	92	0
27	Adoniram,.....	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	55	0
28	Northern Star,.....	6	7	2	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	99	0
29	Tranquil,.....	13	11	1	2	3	4	0	0	8	1	261	4
30	Blazing Star,.....	16	14	2	1	0	3	0	0	3	0	187	6
31	Union,.....	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	101	0
32	Hermon,.....	19	21	5	0	4	10	0	0	3	0	347	11
33	Waterville,.....	21	18	1	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	252	5
34	Somerset,.....	7	9	0	2	3	5	0	0	1	0	174	3
35	Bethlehem,.....	25	30	1	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	321	4
36	Casco,.....	5	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	157	1
37	Washington,.....	3	3	0	0	1	4	0	0	10	0	82	1
38	Harmony,.....	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	124	2
39	Penobscot,.....	5	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	143	0
40	Lygonia,.....	16	12	0	3	2	4	0	0	0	0	222	0
41	Morning Star,.....	3	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	102	0
42	Freedom,.....	4	4	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	38	0
43	Alna,.....	3	3	0	3	3	2	0	0	3	0	133	0
44	Piscataquis,.....	4	5	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	110	5
45	Central,.....	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	10	0	90	0
46	St. Croix,.....	6	5	1	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	183	1
47	Dunlap,.....	5	6	1	0	0	8	0	0	11	0	228	4
48	Lafayette,.....	2	2	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	97	1
49	Meridian Splendor,...	9	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	88	0

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	R.	A.	E.	D.	D.	S.	E.	N.P. Dues.		Mem.	R.
										S.	D.		
50	Aurora,.....	15	15	4	2	0	8	0	0	2	0	260	1
51	St. John's,.....	8	8	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	101	3
52	Mosaic,.....	6	5	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	160	0
53	Rural,.....	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	1
54	Vassalboro,.....	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	45	0
55	Fraternal,.....	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	64	0
56	Mount Moriah,.....	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	48	0
57	King Hiram,.....	12	11	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	105	2
58	Unity,.....	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	1
59	Mt. Hope, (ch. sur.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
60	Star in the East, ...	2	1	2	0	2	3	0	0	2	0	166	2
61	King Solomon's,...	3	2	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	109	0
62	King David's, ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	81	0
63	Richmond,.....	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	7	0	117	0
64	Pacific,.....	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	90	0
65	Mystic,.....	4	3	1	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	104	0
66	Mechanics',.....	3	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	98	1
67	Blue Mountain,...	6	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	95	0
68	Mariners',.....	5	5	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	106	0
69	Howard,.....	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	99	0
70	Standish,.....	8	8	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	83	0
71	Rising Sun,.....	3	3	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	84	0
72	Pioneer,.....	5	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	90	2
73	Tyrian,.....	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	194	0
74	Bristol,.....	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	14	0	124	0
75	Plymouth,.....	1	1	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	57	0
76	Arundel,.....	10	9	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	66	1
77	Tremont,.....	5	5	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	139	0
78	Crescent,.....	6	5	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	103	4
79	Rockland,.....	6	7	0	5	0	8	0	0	0	0	225	0
80	Keystone,.....	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	103	0
81	Atlantic,.....	10	8	0	2	3	8	0	0	1	0	272	5
82	St. Paul's,.....	12	7	0	0	3	5	0	0	7	0	166	0
83	St. Andrew's,.....	9	7	1	0	3	3	0	0	3	0	211	3
84	Eureka,.....	2	2	0	1	1	2	0	0	3	0	103	1
85	Star in the West,...	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	14	0	69	0
86	Temple,.....	6	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	175	2
87	Benevolent,.....	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	54	1
88	Narraguagus,.....	3	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	95	0
89	Island,.....	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	73	0
90	H. Abiff, (ch. rev.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
91	Harwood,.....	3	2	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	146	0
92	Siloam,.....	17	15	0	0	0	4	0	0	5	0	162	6
93	Horeb,.....	6	6	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	114	1
94	Paris,.....	6	7	0	1	3	2	0	0	1	0	105	4
95	Corinthian,.....	7	6	1	0	0	2	0	0	8	0	78	3
96	Monument,.....	5	5	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	177	3
97	Bethel,.....	11	13	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	105	0
98	Katahdin,.....	12	12	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	83	0
99	Vernon Valley,.....	2	3	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	90	0
100	Jefferson,.....	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	0
101	Nezinscot,.....	2	3	0	1	0	3	0	0	7	0	89	1
102	Marsh River,.....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	68	0
103	Dresden,.....	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	35	0

Nos.	Lodges.	In.	R.	A.	R.	D.	D.	S.	E.	N.	P.	D.	Mem.	R.
										S.	S.	D.		
158	Anchor,	6	6	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	47	3
159	Esoteric,	13	13	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	176	0
160	Parian,	4	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	85	0
161	Carrabassett,	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	92	1
162	Arion,	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	1
163	Pleasant River,	7	6	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	168	0
164	Webster,	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	51	0
165	Molunkus,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	6	0	51	0
166	Neguemkeag,	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	0
167	Whitney,	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	82	0
168	Composite,	7	5	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	73	2
169	Shepherd's River,	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	39	0
170	Caribou,	3	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	100	1
171	Naskeag,	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	61	0
172	Pine Tree,	1	2	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	110	1
173	Pleiades,	4	8	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	125	0
174	Lynde,	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	71	0
175	Baskahegan,	8	9	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	105	0
176	Palestine, (con.)													
177	Rising Star,	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	59	0
178	Ancient Brothers',	16	19	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	168	5
179	Yorkshire,	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	4
180	Hiram,	9	10	2	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	192	4
181	Reuel Washburn,	Com	soli	dat	ed									
182	Granite,	5	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	83	0
183	Deering,	6	6	3	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	225	2
184	Naval,	10	12	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	89	0
185	Bar Harbor,	11	11	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	149	2
186	Warren Phillips,	5	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	170	1
187	Ira Berry,	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	54	0
188	Jonesport,	16	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	114	0
189	Knox,	4	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	62	0
190	Springvale,	6	6	0	0	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	93	4
191	Davis,	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	94	0
192	Winter Harbor,	4	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	93	0
193	Washburn,	9	8	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0
194	Euclid,	7	6	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	105	1
195	Reliance,	11	11	1	0	1	1	0	0	14	0	0	137	2
196	Bay View,	4	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	64	0
197	Aroostook,	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	73	0
198	St. Aspinquid,	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	47	0
199	Bingham,	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	1
200	Columbia,	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	1
201	David A. Hooper,	8	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	2
202	Mount Bigelow,	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	28	1
203	Mount Olivet,	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	43	0
U. D.	Mount Abram,	8	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	0
U. D.	Nollesemic,	24	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	6
		1077	1038	100	67	151	399	1	21	268	25	22,690	240	

LIBRARY.

Brother ALBRO E. CHASE, for the Committee on

Library presented the following report, which was accepted, and the recommendation adopted, viz :

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee on Library report that during the year twenty-eight volumes of proceedings have been bound; that a medal of the Masonic Home of Kentucky, and the proceedings at the fiftieth anniversary of Meridian Lodge, No. 77, of Meriden, Conn., have been received and acknowledgments promptly made.

The committee recommend that a sum not exceeding thirty dollars be placed at their disposal for the purchase of proceedings and other masonic works of value; and that power be given them to have bound such sets of proceedings as may be completed during the year.

Fraternally submitted,

W. S. CHOATE,	} Committee.
ALBRO E. CHASE,	
JOSEPH A. LOCKE,	

FLORIDA.

Bro. ALBRO E. CHASE, for the Committee of Finance, submitted the following :

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your committee to whom was referred the motion of Brother DRUMMOND, P. G. M., with reference to the donation to the relief of our suffering brethren at Jacksonville, Fla., have considered the same and beg leave to report :

The serious disaster that has happened to our brethren in our sister jurisdiction brings forcibly to our minds a similar disaster that overtook the brethren in this city thirty-five years ago, and those who remember the terrible times of those days can appreciate in a personal way the dire distress that follows such severe conflagrations. And as we were remembered in our calamity by the brethren, so now we, having arisen from our despondency and distress, feel to contribute to the aid of our brethren; therefore

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars be appropriated from the funds of this Grand Lodge to the relief of our brethren at Jacksonville, Fla.; and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to wire the Grand Master of Florida that a draft for that amount will be forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

Fraternally submitted,

EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	} Committee.
ALBRO E. CHASE,	
GEO. R. SHAW,	

The report was accepted and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

VISITORS.

M. W. GEORGE I. McALLISTER was called upon to address the Grand Lodge. He eulogized Past Grand Master DRUMMOND—presented the greetings of nearly 10,000 masons of the old Granite State—spoke of the condition of Masonry in New Hampshire, and expressed the hope that in this new century we should maintain the same high standard that we have set up in the last.

He was followed by M. W. CHARLES C. HAYES, in a similar strain, confirming what Grand Master McALLISTER had said, and expressing the pleasure he felt at noting the prosperity of the craft in the Pine Tree State, and at the sight of this magnificent gathering.

DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Bro. HENRY R. TAYLOR offered the following:

PORTLAND, May 7, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Doings of Grand Officers report as follows:

We recommend that the Reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, including the reports of District Conventions, and the report of the Grand Lecturer, be referred to the Committee on Condition of the Fraternity.

That the decisions of the Grand Master, the question of "making public the actions of lodges" and the question of the matter of the "Board of Relief of California and Eggemoggin Lodge" be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

That the communication and request of the "Grand Lodge of Switzerland as to International Masonry," also the communication of the Grand Master F. and A. Masons of the State of Ohio, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

We approve the consideration by the various committees of the matters referred to them by the Grand Master in his report.

We earnestly commend the suggestions of the Grand Master relating to "examination of candidates," and recommend that the same be referred to the Committee on Condition of the Fraternity for more extended consideration.

HENRY B. TAYLOR, }
 JOSEPH A. LOCKE, } *Committee.*
 H. D. SMITH, }

The report was accepted and the recommendations were adopted.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until two P. M.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
 Tuesday, May 7, 1901. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at two P. M.

The Dispensation, Records and papers of Nollesemic Lodge, U. D., at Millinocket, were presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

HISTORY.

Bro. SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE reported as follows:

IN GRAND LODGE, MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1901.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee on History ask leave to report.

Histories have been received as follows for the year 1900-1901:

1900, Sept. 8. Naval Lodge, 184, Kittery, from 1890 to 1900, by Past Master Frederic W. Cross. Print, octavo, 18 pages.

1901, Feb. 12. Phoenix Lodge, 24, Belfast, from 1817 to 1900, by John L. Locke. Print, 12 mo., 112 pages.

March 30. Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth, from 1890 to 1900, by Henry L. Moor and others. Print, octavo, 21 pages.

April 24. Marsh River, 102, Brooks, from 1890 to 1899, by Marcellus J. Dow, mss., 10 pages.

May 7. Hancock, 4, Castine, from 1890 to 1900, by George A. Wheeler, P. M., mss., 27 pp., to be printed immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

S. J. CHADBOURNE, }
JOSEPH A. LOCKE, } *Committee.*

Report accepted.

ELECTION.

The hour of election having arrived, the Grand Master appointed two committees to receive, sort and count votes for Grand Officers, viz :

I. AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, A. M. WETHERBEE, EDMUND B. MALLET.

II. JOHN W. BALLOU, HERBERT HARRIS, ENOCH O. GREENLEAF.

These committees having attended to their duties, reported the election of

ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Noirway;
WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Lewiston;
HUGH R. CHAPLIN,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Bangor;
ADELBERT MILLETT,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Searsmont;
MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland;
STEPHEN BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.

Committee of Finance—EDWARD P. BURNHAM, Saco; ALBRO E. CHASE, Portland; GEO. R. SHAW, Portland.

Trustees Charity Fund for three years—FRANK E. SLEEPER, Sabattus; A. M. WETHERBEE, Waiten.

Reports accepted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion of Bro. JOSEPH A. LOCKE,

Voted, That the Committee on Pay Roll be a Committee on Leave of Absence, with power.

Voted, That no business be transacted Wednesday afternoon except the reception of matters and their reference to committees.

The Grand Master presented a paper in respect to a Masonic Home, which was referred to the Trustees of the Charity Fund.

UTAH.

Wor. EDWIN C. DUDLEY presented his credentials as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Utah, and was duly welcomed.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until two o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
 Wednesday, May 8, 1901. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at two o'clock P. M.

ORIENT LODGE.

An application was received from Orient Lodge, No. 15, of Thomaston, asking for a copy of their charter to work under, so as to enable them to place their old charter in a safe deposit vault as a protection against loss by fire.

It was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

EXEMPLIFICATION OF WORK.

At 2.30 the officers of Tranquil Lodge, of Auburn, entered and assumed the several stations, and proceeded to exemplify the third degree by conferring it upon a candidate.

After the ceremonies had ended and the officers of Tranquil Lodge had retired, the thanks of the Grand Lodge were extended to that lodge for the able and efficient rendering of the work.

At 5.10 the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 9 Thursday Morning.

THIRD DAY—MORNING.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, }
 Thursday, May 9, 1901. }

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 9 A. M.

BELGIUM,

The following cablegram from our Grand Representative near the Grand Orient of Belgium, was presented:

ANTWERP, May 7, 1901.

BERRY, *Grand Secretary*, Portland, Maine:

Fraternal greetings—heartiest wishes.

KRUGER.

On motion of Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,

Voted, That our relations with the Grand Orient of Belgium be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence to be reported on next year.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Bro. DRUMMOND reported as follows :

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 9, 1901.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which were referred the decisions of the M. W. Grand Master announced last year, as well as those announced at this communication of the Grand Lodge, ask leave to report.

That they have examined the decisions and recommend that all be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
MARQUIS F. KING,	
HORACE H. BURBANK,	

Report accepted.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

Bro. CHAS. I. COLLAMORE reported the following :

PORTLAND, May 9, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals respectfully present the following report :

In the case of Portland Lodge, No. 1, at Portland, against Bro. FRED G. MITCHELL, where Bro. MITCHELL was indefinitely suspended from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, we recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the doings of Portland Lodge, No. 1, indefinitely suspending Bro. FRED G. MITCHELL from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of Central Lodge, No. 45, China, against Bro. JOHN B. DOE, wherein Bro. JOHN B. DOE was expelled from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, we recommend the passage of the following :

Resolved, That the doings of Central Lodge, No. 45, in expelling Bro. JOHN B. DOE from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, be approved and confirmed.

In the case of complaint of Somerset Lodge, No. 34, of Skowhegan, against Carrabassett Lodge, No. 161, of Canaan, in which the Grand Lodge last year directed said Carrabassett Lodge to file charges against Bro. GEO. W. WASHBURN, for obtaining the degrees by untrue statement in his application, they

have the record of said trial before them, acquitting him. They would report thereon as follows, viz :

Your committee, taking into consideration the facts presented to this Grand Lodge last year, are not satisfied that the action of the Lodge in acquitting Bro. WASHBURN was in good faith and in accordance with the facts which have been presented to your committee.

We therefore recommend that the case be continued till the next annual communication, and that the new Grand Master appoint a commission of three, who, upon due notice to Brother WASHBURN and all parties interested, shall investigate the matter and all facts connected with the case, and report their doings at the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

C. I. COLLAMORE,
JOSEPH M. HAYES,
EDWARD P. BURNHAM, } *Committee.*

The report was accepted and the recommendations severally voted upon and adopted.

SPURIOUS GRAND LODGES.

Bro. DRUMMOND offered the following report, which was accepted :

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 9, 1901.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to which were referred documents from certain parties in Ohio and Kentucky, claiming to represent Grand Lodges in those jurisdictions, and desiring an investigation into the claims made in their behalf, have examined the documents and ask leave to report.

There is no need of any investigation, as the history of those organizations, from their very inception to the present time, is well known to the craft. They both spring from the same source and were organized in such utter defiance of masonic law and usage as to make them gross frauds upon the community; not merely irregular, but utterly spurious and clandestine. They know that no regular Grand Lodge in the world will recognize them; and these circulars are sent out merely to gain a little notoriety. They should not be allowed to succeed even in this, and should be treated as nearly as possible with the contempt of silence.

We report that no action of this Grand Lodge is necessary.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,
EDWARD P. BURNHAM,
ALBRO E. CHASE, } *Committee.*

FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS.

Bro. ALBRO E. CHASE reported as follows :

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND, May 9, 1901.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Finance have attended to the duties enjoined upon them by the Constitution, and upon an examination of the books of account of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, we found the accounts correct and properly vouched for. The book of records was also found to be neatly written out in full.

The receipts for the past year have been as follows :

May 1, 1900.	Cash on hand to new account,	\$6,792.85	
	Cash receipts for the year,	7,057.30	
		<hr/>	\$13,850.15
	The expenditures have been,	\$6,539.31	
May 7, 1901.	Cash on hand to new account,	7,310.84	
		<hr/>	\$13,850.15

The detailed account of these items has been given by the Grand Treasurer, and will be found in his account.

The amount of the invested fund to the credit of the Charity Fund is \$33,526.93.

The committee submit the following recommendations :

To the Chairman Committee on Correspondence,	\$100.00
To the Grand Lecturer,	25.00
To the Grand Treasurer, including the cost of his bond,	250.00

as compensation for their services for the year ending May 1, 1902.

We further recommend that the Grand Treasurer, by and with the advice and consent of the Committee on Finance, be and hereby is empowered to invest such moneys as may require investment, to re-invest such sums as may come from the payment or call of investments, and to change or to exchange securities from time to time.

We also recommend that the Treasurer be and hereby is empowered to attend any and all meetings of corporations in which the Grand Lodge of Masons in Maine holds stock, provided the attendance is not at any expense to this Grand Lodge, and to vote at such meetings such stock as is held by this Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	} Committee.
ALBRO E. CHASE,	
GEO. R. SHAW,	

Report accepted and recommendations adopted.

The Grand Treasurer's report was then accepted.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Bro. HORACE H. BURBANK submitted the following:

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 8, 1901.

The Committee on Amendments to the Constitution have considered the proposed amendments found on page 55 of the Proceedings of 1900, namely:

I. Amend Art. III, Sec. 3, so that it shall read as follows:

"Sec. 3. The annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be holden in Portland on the Monday preceding the first Tuesday in May, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M." And,

II. Amend Art. 1, of part second, Sec. 59, so that it shall read as follows:

"The Trustees of the Charity Fund shall meet at Portland at five o'clock in the afternoon of the first Tuesday in May," etc.

And we recommend that said proposed amendments be not adopted.

Fraternally submitted,

HORACE H. BURBANK, }
WM. R. G. ESTES, } *Committee.*

Report accepted and recommendation adopted.

CONDITION OF THE FRATERNITY.

Bro. HENRY R. TAYLOR presented the following report, which was accepted:

IN GRAND LODGE, May 9, 1901.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

We have carefully examined all the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, twenty-five in number.

Some briefly outline their usual routine of visit and entertainment. Others afford us a more intimate and comprehensive knowledge of the actual work and condition of each lodge in their respective districts.

With exception of the Eighth District, each report indicates that the lodges have not been neglected by the appointed visiting officer.

The general condition is sound, prosperous and progressive.

A few exhibit uncollected dues, while yearly, a larger number are being placed upon the list as owning (wholly or in part) the buildings occupied by them.

The helping hand has been freely, and we trust judiciously, extended.

Without a disposition to "publish its charity from the house-tops," we find Columbia Lodge of Greenville, by no means a large or wealthy lodge, contributed two hundred dollars for the relief of two distressed and worthy brothers.

There have been three Masonic Conventions, and two District Conventions in other localities. All have been well attended, and in every instance pronounced highly beneficial to the craft.

We trust that both classes of conventions may become more frequent and extensive. We believe that the progress, usefulness and uniformity of work throughout this jurisdiction has been largely stimulated and promoted by these occasions.

One subject in the Grand Master's address, referred by the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers to your present committee, relating to "examination of candidates," should be carefully read and rigidly observed by every lodge officer and member in Maine.

Instances are constantly recurring whereby a lodge has ascertained, *too late*, that through negligence of its Investigating Committee or unquestioning acceptance of unworthy material it has admitted an unsound ashlar within its otherwise harmonious and symmetrical edifice.

To "Guard well the outer door" is not an idle or meaningless admonition. Its true observance will diminish many sources of discord or disgrace.

The tests, which Masonry demands from every applicant, are to be strictly answered in both the *letter* and the *spirit*.

Fraternally submitted,

HENRY R. TAYLOR, }
H. D. SMITH, } *Committee.*
ALBERT M. PENLEY, }

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS.

Bro. AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM reported as follows:

PORTLAND, May 9, 1901.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

Your Committee on Dispensations and Charters have carefully considered the matters referred to them and respectfully present the following report:

In the matter of the petition of Master Masons of Mt. Abraham Lodge, of Kingfield, for a charter, we recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that the dispensation be continued until the charter is issued.

In the matter of the petition of Master Masons of Nollesemic Lodge, of Millinocket, for a charter, we recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that the dispensation be continued until the charter is issued.

In the matter of a petition for a lodge at Howland, to be named Mohawk Lodge, said petition being favorably endorsed by Composite Lodge, No. 168, of La Grange, one of the lodges whose jurisdiction would be affected, and the consent of Horeb Lodge, No. 93, of Lincoln, whose jurisdiction would also be affected, being withheld, your committee are of the opinion that the best

interests of Masonry would not be promoted by granting the prayer of the petitioners for a lodge at Howland at this time, and would therefore recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

In the matter of petition from Orient Lodge, No. 15, of Thomaston, for a duplicate charter to work under, so as to enable them to place their old charter in safe deposit vault for safe keeping against loss by fire, we recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution :

Resolved, That in consequence of the condition of the charter of Orient Lodge, No. 15, a certified copy of the same be issued to said lodge as the authority under which the lodge shall work: that it be authorized to retain the original charter in its archives and that this vote, attested by the M. W. Grand Master and Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, be endorsed upon both.

Respectfully submitted,

AUG. B. FARNHAM,	} <i>Committee.</i>
A. L. TALBOT,	
EDMUND B. MALLETT,	

The report was accepted and their recommendations and the accompanying resolution severally adopted.

BRO. HARRY E. PLUMMER, on behalf of Ancient York Lodge, No. 155, at Lisbon Falls, asked for a certified copy of their charter, it having been injured by passing through a fire.

The request was granted on the same conditions.

BRO. WM. D. PATTERSON, on behalf of Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, at Wiscasset, made a like request, which was granted on similar conditions.

PORTRAIT.

The Grand Secretary was authorized to publish the portrait of P. G. M. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND in the proceedings.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in print, which was accepted, and permission was given to add thereto. (*See Appendix.*)

He also presented the following:

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 9, 1901.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence having considered the request for the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia ask leave to report:

That we have not received the proceedings of the organization of this Grand Lodge, but we find a full account of them in the official Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England, by which it appears that the action was regular and was participated in by a majority of the lodges, and we therefore recommend:

That the Grand Lodge instituted in Western Australia, October 11, 1899, of which Sir GERARD SMITH is Grand Master and J. D. STEVENSON is Grand Secretary, is hereby recognized, and that our M. W. Grand Master be authorized to request an exchange of Grand Representatives.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	
ALBRO E. CHASE,	

Report accepted, recommendations adopted, and the new Grand Lodge recognized.

In the matter of the communication from the Grand Lodge of Switzerland, respecting International Masonry, the committee asked for further time, which was granted.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE—EGGEMOGGIN LODGE.

Bro. DRUMMOND submitted the following:

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 9, 1901.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which was referred the correspondence between the Masonic Board of Relief, of Oakland, California, and Eggemoggin Lodge of this jurisdiction, have examined and considered the same and ask leave to report.

That the W. Master of Eggemoggin Lodge received a dispatch dated Jan. 24, 1900, from the Secretary of the Board of Relief at Oakland, Cal., as follows:

"Your Brother CHARLES ATWOOD DEAN here sick—destitute. Shall we assist—what amount—answer."

The Master of the lodge replied under date of January 25th, "Assist Bro. DEAN fifteen dollars."

That this reply was received is shown by letter from the Secretary asking for a remittance, "Referring to your telegram."

The Secretary also wrote after receiving this reply, but ignoring it and stating what was being done for Bro. DEAN.

On March 13, 1900, the Secretary of Eggemoggin Lodge forwarded \$15.00, "The amount we agreed to contribute for the relief of Bro. DEAN."

In February, the dues of Bro. DEAN, \$1.00, were received, paid in advance.

Later the Secretary of the lodge received a letter from the Secretary of the Board, acknowledging the receipt of the \$15.00 and stating that that sum was "only a small portion of the amount we have and are expending for the relief of Bro. C. A. DEAN, a member of your lodge," and saying further, "Will you please inform us by return mail if your lodge proposes to assist any further in helping to care for him." The Secretary of the lodge replied at once, "We are sorry to have to inform you that our financial conditions are in such condition that it is simply impossible for us to re-imburse you for the expenses of Bro. DEAN." But on the next day the Secretary received a despatch, "Bro. DEAN died last night, destitute. Shall we bury at your expense? Cost about sixty dollars—answer." To which he immediately replied, "Do not see how we can assist in Bro. DEAN's case."

Another dispatch was received and answered, but they are not material.

The next thing was the receipt of a letter by our M. W. Grand Master from the M. W. Grand Master of California, enclosing the receipt for dues, the correspondence between the parties and a bill amounting to \$149.00—\$92.00 was for aid furnished Bro. DEAN, and \$57.00 for the expenses of his burial, with a credit of the \$15.00 paid, and the M. W. Grand Master of California trusts that our M. W. Grand Master will "see that this amount is refunded."

This Grand Lodge has already often decided that masonic charity can neither be bought nor sold. It has repudiated the modern invention, that when a man becomes a mason he *buys the right* to be relieved to the full extent of his wants when in distress, even to his full support. It still requires candidates to declare in their petition for admission that they are "uninfluenced by mercenary motives." It holds that when a mason joins a lodge, he does not increase or change his right to relief in distress. The lodge is in this respect an association of brethren, and is bound by the same principles as the individual brother. It maintains the ancient doctrine, that a mason's right of

relief grows out of *his being a mason*, and is limited not only by the extent of his distress but also by the ability of his brother, of which such brother is the sole judge under his masonic obligations. It finds nowhere in ancient usage or law any warrant for the modern doctrine held to by a few, that one brother can determine the ability of another and relieve distress in his name and on his account without his consent, and even—as in this case—against his protest. It follows that masonic charity creates no pecuniary debt, either upon the part of the brother relieved or any one else.

Your committee have no occasion to submit any argument in support of these principles: and they find that there is no reason for any action of this Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, *for the Committee.*

Report accepted and adopted.

PAY ROLL.

Bro. A. C. T. KING, for the Committee on Pay Roll, reported the schedule completed, and it was ordered to be paid.

MAKING PUBLIC THE ACTION OF LODGES.

Bro. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, asked further time to complete the report on the subject of the Making Public the Action of Lodges, with liberty to report to the Grand Master, and the request was granted.

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 9, 1901.

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as relates to publishing proceedings of lodges in newspapers, have considered the same, and examined the clippings submitted, and ask leave to report:

It has been the custom to publish officially the proceedings of Grand Lodges for the information of masons under their obedience, but great care has been taken that nothing not proper for publication shall be so printed. The business of the Grand Lodge is almost wholly of such a character that it is not only proper, but desirable, that these official publications be made for the information of individual masons, and really for the information of the public,

which has the right to know something of the character and objects of any organization existing in the community.

In recent years it has also been the custom to publish brief abstracts in the secular newspapers, or at any rate to allow that to be done; but that has always been done under the supervision of some officer, or some person in whom the Grand Lodge has confidence that the privilege will not be abused.

But when we come to subordinate lodges, the matter is an entirely different one. As already stated, the business of a Grand Lodge is almost wholly of a public nature, but the proceedings in a lodge are of a more personal and private character, closely resembling those of a family. Indeed, the lodge is frequently termed a masonic family, and there are special reasons why their proceedings should be treated even more sacredly than the acts of individuals in their homes, and it has been the policy of our institution to regard and keep the action of our lodges as masonic secrets. While this is readily understood and admitted by the craft, yet there is a tendency of late to forget our ancient rules.

The enterprise of newspapers in the anxiety of their managers to be the first to publish news, has a tendency to make them go beyond the limits of propriety, but yet experience shows that almost all reporters will yield to the reasonable wishes of parties concerned, and while it is difficult for a reporter hungry for an item, to resist the temptation to publish anything which he may think would be of interest to the public, yet we have found that so far as Masonry is concerned, they are ready and willing to yield to the usages and wishes of the craft.

There are many transactions that every one understands cannot be made public without committing an offence against Masonry. This cannot be left to the judgment of irresponsible parties, and the only safe rule is to abstain entirely from giving the proceedings of lodges to the public. For instance, every one understands that to make public the fact that a certain candidate was rejected is a masonic offence of a grave character; but if, as in some of the items submitted to us, it is allowed to give the name of a petitioner and that is done, and it turns out afterwards that the party does not become a mason, the public know as well as we do, that he has been rejected, and the transaction is none the less an offence, committed indirectly, than if it had been committed directly.

We were the more earnest in relation to this matter on account of the clipping submitted, in which the proceedings of the annual meeting of one of our lodges are detailed in the best style of sensational reporting. But upon inquiry, we learned that neither the lodge, nor its officers, had any part or lot in it or knew of it, but that it was the act of a brother with but little experience in Masonry, but whose connection with the public newspapers had led him to make this report. But we understand also, upon being told that it was not the

proper thing to do, he readily acceded to the suggestion, and we can safely say that he will not again offend.

Your committee recommend that it be declared to be the sense of this Grand Lodge that, while the list of officers elected or installed may be published, no proceedings whatever of subordinate lodges, save upon public occasions, shall be given to the press.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	} Committee.
MARQUIS F. KING,	
HORACE H. BURBANK,	

Approved,

ALFRED S. KIMBALL, *Grand Master.*

FLORIDA.

Brother DRUMMOND, as Grand Representative of Florida, presented the thanks of that Grand Lodge for the generous donation to the sufferers at Jacksonville.

INSTALLATION AND APPOINTMENTS.

BRO. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Past Grand Master, was then called to the East, and Grand Master CHOATE presented his successor, M. W. ALFRED S. KIMBALL, who was installed as Grand Master, with prayer by Bro. ELBRIDGE G. HEATH, as Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments:

R. W.	CHAS. D. SMITH,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
"	GEORGE S. ORCUTT,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st Dist.</i>	Ashland.
"	MILLARD D. LAWRENCE,	" 2d "	Calais.
"	OSMOND A. HOLMES,	" 3d "	Addison Point.
"	FRANK A. GROSS,	" 4th "	Deer Isle.
"	HAROLD E. MORRILL,	" 5th "	Monson.
"	F. ERNEST HARVEY,	" 6th "	Kenduskeag.
"	WILLIS W. WASHBURN,	" 7th "	China.
"	ALBERT M. AMES,	" 8th "	Stockton Springs.
"	G. DUDLEY GOULD,	" 9th "	Warren.

R. W.	JOHN H. MAYERS,	<i>D. D. G. M. 10th Dist.</i>	Dresden.
"	THOMAS H. BODGE,	" 11th "	Augusta.
"	JOHN M. WEBBER,	" 12th "	Waterville.
"	GEORGE G. WEEKS,	" 13th "	Fairfield.
"	HARRY E. PLUMMER,	" 14th "	Lisbon Falls.
"	CHARLES F. ROWELL,	" 15th "	Wilton.
"	DON A. GATES,	" 16th "	Dixfield.
"	GEORGE H. OWEN,	" 17th "	Portland.
"	TOBIAS L. EASTMAN,	" 18th "	Fryeburg.
"	CHARLES M. SLEEPER,	" 19th "	South Berwick.
"	JOHN E. CLARK,	" 20th "	Winn.
"	ASHUR B. HUTCHINS,	" 21st "	Orland.
"	*MILTON L. MERRILL,	" 22d "	St. Albans.
"	HARDY H. MCKENNEY,	" 23d "	Limington.
"	LIONEL O. BRACKETT,	" 24th "	Auburn.
"	GEO. A. GORHAM, JR.,	" 25th "	Houlton.
W. & Rev.	ELMER F. PEMBER,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Bangor.
"	JOHN GIBSON,	" "	Cape Elizabeth.
"	JOSEPH B. SHEPHERD,	" "	Portland.
"	GEORGE M. HOWE,	" "	Lewiston.
"	WILLIAM E. BROOKS,	" "	South Paris.
W.	BIAL F. BRADBURY,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Norway.
"	JAMES E. KINGSLEY,	" <i>Senior Deacon,</i>	Augusta.
"	FRANCIS L. TALBOT,	" <i>Junior Deacon,</i>	East Machias.
"	CURTIS R. FOSTER,	" <i>Steward,</i>	Ellsworth.
"	RALPH H. BURBANK,	" "	Saco.
"	LORENZO S. ROBINSON,	" "	Rockland.
"	CONVERS E. LEACH,	" "	Portland.
"	WILLIAM N. HOWE,	" <i>Sword Bearer,</i>	Portland.
"	JAMES H. WITHERELL,	" <i>Standard Bearer,</i>	Oakland.
"	OSCAR R. WISH,	" <i>Pursuivant,</i>	Portland.
"	ALBERT H. BURROUGHS,	" "	Westbrook.
M. W.	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	" <i>Lecturer,</i>	Sabattus.
W.	WALTER S. SMITH,	" <i>Organist,</i>	Portland.
"	WARREN O. CARNEY,	" <i>Tyler,</i>	Portland.

* Appointed in place of Amos W. Moulton, declined.

These officers were also installed by P. G. M. DRUMMOND, and proclamation made, after which the Grand Master assumed the East and thanked Bro. DRUM-

MOND for his assistance, and for the excellent advice which he had given to the officers and brethren.

The Grand Master then announced the

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Credentials.

WILLIAM N. HOWE, RALPH H. BURBANK, JOHN M. S. HUNTER.

On Grievances and Appeals.

CHAS. I. COLLAMORE, JOSEPH M. HAYES, W. S. CHOATE.

On Publication.

FESSENDEN I. DAY, W. SCOTT SHOREY, MANLY G. TRASK.

On History.

HERBERT HARRIS, SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, JOSEPH A. LOCKE.

On Dispensations and Charters.

AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, ARCHIE L. TALBOT, EDMUND B. MALLET.

On Amendments to the Constitution.

HORACE H. BURBANK, W. R. G. ESTES, ALDEN M. WETHERBEE.

On Masonic Jurisprudence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, MARQUIS F. KING, HORACE H. BURBANK.

On Foreign Correspondence.

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, EDWARD P. BURNHAM, ALBRO E. CHASE.

On Condition of the Fraternity.

HENRY R. TAYLOR, HOWARD D. SMITH, ALBERT M. PENLEY.

On Library.

G. M. (*ex-officio*), ALBRO E. CHASE, JOSEPH A. LOCKE.

On Transportation.

STEPHEN BERRY, W. FREEMAN LORD, JAMES E. PARSONS.

On Returns.

STEPHEN BERRY, MOSES TAIT, MILLARD F. HICKS.

Commission to Investigate Proceedings Carrabassett Lodge.

HORACE H. BURBANK, ALBRO E. CHASE, WILLIAM J. BURNHAM.

THANKS.

BRO. STEPHEN BERRY offered the following, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be returned to Past Grand Master WINFIELD S. CHOATE, for the efficient, able, **courteous** and patient discharge of his duties for the past two years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Bro. JOSEPH M. HAYES presented the following report, which was accepted:

IN GRAND LODGE, PORTLAND, May 9, 1901.

Your Committee on Unfinished Business would report that all business presented to the Grand Lodge at the present communication is completed.

JOS. M. HAYES,
ALBERT M. PENLEY,
ENOCH O. GREENLEAF, } *Committee.*

The minutes were read and approved, and at 11.30 the Grand Lodge was closed, prayer being offered by Bro. ELBRIDGE G. HEATH, officiating as Grand Chaplain.

Attest:

Stephen Berry

Grand Secretary.



The eighty-third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge will be held at Masonic Hall, Portland, Tuesday, May 6, 1902, at 9 o'clock A. M.

• Reports of • District Deputy Grand Masters

FIRST DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my official report as D. D. G. M. of the First Masonic District of Maine. I have visited every lodge in the district, and found peace and harmony to prevail.

December 19th, visited Washburn Lodge, No. 193. No work appearing, I answered some questions and gave such advice as I thought necessary. This lodge has done the most work of any one in the district and is in good shape.

February 27th, visited Eastern Frontier, No. 112. Saw work in the E. A. degree. The W. M. in the chair for the first time. The work was very well done; it being the home of Past D. D. SAWYER, it has the benefit of his knowledge and experience, and it is sure to go about right.

March 27th, visited Pioneer Lodge, No. 72, at Ashland. They had made arrangements to work the E. A. degree, but on account of the traveling the candidate was unable to be present. Listened to the lectures, which were passed very well. This lodge is doing considerable work and is in good shape.

April 1st, visited Trinity Lodge, No. 130, at Presque Isle. Witnessed the raising of two candidates in a manner that was very nearly perfect. The records are in the best of hands, and this lodge is all right.

Caribou Lodge, No. 170, is my masonic home, and I have attended nearly all of its meetings. It is doing plenty of work. The records are in good hands and harmony prevails.

As my official labors are drawing to a close, I wish to extend my thanks to you, M. W., for the honor conferred, and to the brethren throughout the district, for their courtesy and kindness to me, and I trust that my successor may meet with the same treatment at their hands.

Fraternally submitted,

Caribou, April 15, 1901.

C. W. HENDRIX, *D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.*

SECOND DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Masonic District. I am happy to report, that I have visited all the lodges in my district, at least once, and some of them for the second time, and found the craft enjoying a fair degree of prosperity.

My first official act for the year was in writing the Grand Master to grant a dispensation to Lewy's Island Lodge, for permission to attend divine service on St. John's Day, which was kindly granted. District Deputy Grand Masters formerly granted permission to lodges for this purpose, but for some reason this practice was annulled by the Grand Lodge.

On December 13th a convention of the lodges of the Second District was held with the brethren of Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport, and some two hundred of the brethren from the remote corners of the district were in attendance. The convention was called to order at 2 P. M., by the District Deputy Grand Master, who welcomed the brethren at our annual gathering, and called their attention to the amendment to the Constitution, to be acted on by the session of the Grand Lodge in May, 1901. It was earnestly hoped that this amendment would not be adopted, as it would deprive two of the lodges in this district of representation in the Grand Lodge, unless with serious inconvenience and greatly increased expense, as Washington Lodge and Lewy's Island Lodge would have to start their delegates on the road to Portland on Saturday, in order to arrive on time for the opening of the session, as the railroad facilities in this section are so arranged that it would be impossible to make proper connections.

It was unanimously voted that the senior officer of the several lodges communicate with the Grand Lodge at its annual meeting, and earnestly pray that this injustice to them should not have a passage. To Crescent Lodge, of Pembroke, was assigned the duty of conferring the E. A. degree at this convention, but the Master not being present, W. M. IRVIN W. CASE, of Washington Lodge, of Lubec, kindly assented to preside as Master for the occasion, and the degree was worked in a very skillful manner by the Pembroke brethren. There was very little to criticise, notwithstanding a large portion of the officers were acting for the first time.

The F. C. degree was assigned to Lewy's Island Lodge, with the understanding that if unable to attend, St. Croix Lodge in their absence should work the degree. W. M. W. H. KEEN and the officers of St. Croix Lodge occupied the different stations and performed the work in a very creditable and pleasing manner.

The convention was then called from labor to refreshment, and repaired to

the vestry of the Baptist Church, on Washington street, where a banquet was prepared by the ladies of that society, and some three hundred masons sat down to a feast of good things that would cause a hungry tramp to die with envy with a passing glance. The ladies of this society do nothing in a half-way manner, and the attendants, in their dainty costumes, performed the service in a very skillful manner, and no one, from the highest to the lowest, was neglected for a single moment. A unanimous vote of thanks was tendered the ladies of this society for the rich and attractive banquet prepared by them for the occasion.

The convention was again called to labor; and M. W. WARREN KANE and the officers of Eastern Lodge filled the several stations, and exemplified the work of the Master's degree on two candidates, who were introduced and examined as to their proficiency in the preceding degrees. They acquitted themselves in a manner highly appreciated by the brethren present. The work of the degree was performed in a very skillful and pleasing manner, and fully up to the practice and work of the lodges in this district. A number of speeches were made by the brethren present, which were greeted with rounds of applause, when the convention was declared closed at a late hour, and the brethren separated to meet again in convention the following year, at the wish of the District Deputy and assent of the lodges.

January 4th, I paid an official visit to Eastern Lodge, to witness the work of its officers before their retirement from office, as a new board was to occupy the several stations in the coming year. The work was very pleasing indeed, and the veteran Bro. JOHN FISHER proved conclusively that age had not impaired his usefulness, nor had his right hand lost its cunning. Such corrections as were necessary in the work were made, which were very few indeed. WHEELER C. HAWKES, as Secretary, by the neat appearance of the records, shows that he is the man in the right place. This lodge is enjoying an unusual season of prosperity, and adding some fine material to their numbers. The initiates are fully instructed, and when fully invested, are ready to fill any position to which they may be called in the lodge work. At the close of the session, the Stewards entertained the brethren in the banquet hall, where a fine collation was prepared, that was fully appreciated, notwithstanding the hour was a late one.

January 16th, I installed the officers of Washington Lodge, my masonic home. W. M. IRVIN W. CASE has been re-elected for his third term as Master, and takes great interest in his masonic work. He is ably assisted by an efficient board of officers, who take great pride in having their work up to the mark. Everything connected with this lodge is in flourishing condition, although the additions to membership are slow and sure. The outer door is securely guarded, and none are suffered to pass its portals unless duly qualified. Three additions have been made during the past year, with other applications now

pending. The interior of the hall is to be renovated the present season, and steel ceiling and walls to be put in, for which proposals are now being received. When the proposed plans are fully carried out, the brethren of Washington Lodge can well feel proud of their masonic home.

February 22d, the doors of Washington Hall were thrown open, as has been the custom, and it was filled to overflowing with masons' families and invited guests, who enjoyed the evening in social converse, games and different amusements. Ice cream, cake and fruit in abundance, were served by fine looking young ladies, and the entertainment was voted the social event of the year.

February 16th, I made an official visit to St. Croix Lodge, and witnessed the exemplification of the work in the Master's degree, by the newly elected Master, Bro. ISAAC N. JONES, and his officers, who were doing this work for the first time. It would naturally be supposed, under the circumstances, that some mistakes would occur, but the work was carried through in a very pleasing and impressive manner. The corrections that were made were mostly slips that were readily noticed by the officers and members when their attention was called to them. This is a large lodge and the attendance is not what would naturally be expected, more attention being paid to the work in the higher degrees. This perhaps is commendable, but dutiful "sons" never forget their "mother," for by neglecting the home that gave them masonic birth, the other bodies must in a short time suffer for material with which to maintain their standing. This seems to be a prevailing fault with all the lodges, to neglect the "blue" for the "purple," and should be corrected. The records of this lodge are still in the hands of the old veteran, Brother STEPHEN MORRELL, and is a guarantee that they are neat and correct in every particular. We were pleased to meet our old time friend and brother, Past Master VOSE, whose zeal for Masonry seems to grow more intense with the passing years. Such men are to be treasured as great riches, as character and dignity follow in their footsteps. This lodge has been prosperous the past year, and six new members have been added by initiation. At the close of the work, a banquet was served, as is the usual custom in this lodge, and is always a season of pleasure to those present.

The following evening, an official visit was made to the brethren of Lewy's Island Lodge, where we were pleased to greet our old friends after our year's separation. We found everything as pleasant and agreeable as kind hearts could make it. Bro. THEODORE MORRISON still occupied the East, while some changes had been made among the floor officers. The work on the first degree was exemplified for our inspection, and was first class in almost every respect. The work was done by the Master in a thorough manner, and the candidate was not left groping in the dark as to the mysteries of this beautiful degree. All necessary corrections were made and were received in the spirit

of brotherly love. This lodge also has been enjoying a season of prosperity, having added to their membership by initiation six new brethren. The brethren of this lodge are bright masons and good ritualists, and are perfecting themselves in the work by holding schools of instruction. The records are looked after by Past District Deputy FRANK CHADBOURNE, who keeps them in a business manner. The returns for this lodge were made up during my visit, and passed into my keeping as the first on the list. The following day, being unable to leave there until late in the afternoon, I enjoyed a sleigh ride with W. M. MORRISON, some ten or more miles to the logging camp of Bro. JOHN BREEN, and enjoyed a lumberman's dinner of baked beans, cooked as no one but a lumberman can cook them. Our trip was heartily enjoyed as the weather and sleighing were all that could be desired.

March 13th, on being notified by the Master of Crescent Lodge, Pembroke, that they would be ready to receive me on that date, accompanied by Bros. WILLIAM MERRIAM and WILLIAM MCCONNEL, we were present at the opening of the lodge, and its newly elected officers. With Bro. A. W. LEIGHTON as its Master, we witnessed the work on two candidates in the first degree. The work was done fairly well for new officers. Some corrections were made that were fully appreciated. With a little more familiarity the lodge will occupy the position of former years and rank well with any in the district. A bountiful supper was prepared in the banquet room, and heartily appreciated by some who had been fasting since noon. The Pembroke brethren entertain right royally, and none need go away unsatisfied.

March 25th, by invitation of Eastern Lodge, a delegation from Washington Lodge accompanied the District Deputy on a visit to that body. A large number of masons were present to witness the work of the third degree on two candidates by the new board of officers. We found our old veteran Senior Deacon, FRANK BEAL, occupying the chair as Master, who presided with that same dignity and correct work that is characteristic of the man. The work was done in an admirable manner, and needed no corrections. Eastern Lodge is to be congratulated for the season of prosperity they are now enjoying. All the different bodies are having an abundance of work. We were much pleased to notice two of the brethren, who were raised at our previous meeting, wearing the jewels of their stations as officers of the lodge. During our stay, with the assistance of Past District Deputies BRADISH and NEAGLE, the Past Master's degree was conferred on Bro. BEAL, much to his satisfaction. An oyster stew was served at the conclusion of the work. In my official capacity, I have distributed nine Past Master's diplomas, and there are yet several who have not received them, proving that some one has been remiss in his duty.

I wish to thank the Secretaries of the lodges in the Second District for their promptness in forwarding the Grand Lodge returns, as it is a source of satis-

faction to me to be informed that the Second District is for the second time the first on the list of the files of the Grand Treasurer.

In closing my report, I wish to say that during two terms of office, as District Deputy Grand Master, I have received from all the lodges the most courteous treatment and hearty welcome, for which I am very grateful, and earnestly hope that my successor in office may receive the same hearty and fraternal greetings that have been accorded me. To you, Most Worshipful Grand Master, I wish to extend my most sincere thanks, for placing me in the position of your representative in the Second Masonic District, the duties of which I have tried to fulfill to the best of my ability, and for the many pleasant hours passed among my brethren.

Fraternally yours,

ALFRED SMALL, *D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.*

Lubec, Me., April 4, 1901.

THIRD DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Third Masonic District.

In December, by invitation of W. M. J. A. WALLING, I visited Pleiades Lodge, of Milbridge, accompanied by several brethren of Narraguagus Lodge, and witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was performed with the accuracy and life which the presence of visitors always inspires.

Later in the month, W. M. WALLING invited Narraguagus Lodge to work the M. M. degree on a F. C. of Pleiades, in Milbridge. The novelty of the invitation, as well as the high reputation of Pleiades for masonic knowledge, put the brethren of Narraguagus on their mettle. Worshipful Master GUPTILL and his associates spent several evenings in careful preparation, and the brethren of Pleiades, as well as the candidate, were well pleased with the impressive and forcible rendering of the ceremony. A real masonic banquet followed, with P. M. FRED I. CAMPBELL as toast master. All joined heartily in toasts and responses, and the ties which have bound these lodges so many years were more closely knit together. No masonic event of the year in my district was more profitable or enjoyable, and it should become a general custom among the lodges.

January 22d, I installed the officers of Warren Lodge, No. 2, of East Machias, and was greeted by a true masonic audience. P. M. TALBOT leaves the lodge in excellent condition, and a corps of officers well prepared for their duties.

January 23d, I installed the officers of Harwood Lodge, No. 91, of Machias. The welfare of this lodge has been affected by the increase of secret orders in town, but has recovered, and under the lead of W. M. L. B. WILDER, is working with renewed interest.

January 26th, I installed the officers of Tuscan Lodge, No. 106, of Addison, assisted by W. M. P. B. GUPTILL, of Narraguagus Lodge, as Grand Marshal.

Bro. TRACY resigned the office of Secretary after a service of a quarter of a century, marked by particular accuracy and a thorough knowledge of his official duties.

February 5th, I installed the officers of Pleiades Lodge, No. 173, of Milbridge. The ladies were present and followed the ceremony with new interest, as a lodge of Eastern Star has been constituted among them.

Feb. 6th, I publicly installed the officers of Jonesport Lodge, No. 188, of Jonesport. This lodge continues to prosper and is doing more work than any other in the district.

February 19th, I publicly installed the officers of Narraguagus Lodge, No. 88, after a supper at the vestry of the Baptist Church. I have inspected work here in all the degrees several times, and am pleased to say that the reputation of this lodge will not suffer in the hands of the present officers.

March 8th, I installed the officers of Lookout Lodge, No. 131, of Cutler, assisted by Bro. ROYAL FOSTER, of Warren Lodge, as Grand Marshal. The ladies were present and an oyster stew was served in the lower hall. The brethren have carpeted the lodge and preparation room, and have added some valuable members to their roll.

On account of sickness and death of prominent brethren in Machias, and my own affairs, I was unable to find a convenient time for a Masonic Convention, which Harwood Lodge had again invited. I pass the invitation on to my successor.

I leave the lodges working with sufficient accuracy, living in harmony and generally striving to exemplify the principles of Masonry.

Fraternally submitted,

DAVID W. CAMPBELL, *D. D. G. M. 3d M. D.*

Cherryfield, April 13, 1901.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District.

December 22d, I made my official visit to Reliance Lodge, No. 195, Stonington. This was a special meeting, and a very large number were present. Witnessed work on the Master Mason's degree, which was very ably done. I am glad to report that this lodge has made very great improvement in collecting their dues. The records are in the hands of Bro. STINSON, and are neat and correct and show a good attendance. After closing, refreshments were served which we all enjoyed,

December 29th, by request, I installed the officers of Rising Star Lodge, No. 177, Penobscot, assisted by P. M. J. H. HOOPER, of Eggmoggin Lodge, as Grand Marshal. Ladies and invited friends were present. After the installation ceremony, refreshments were served and a pleasant time spent socially. February 20th I made my official visit to this lodge. This was a special meeting and a small number were present. Work was exemplified on the Entered Apprentice degree and was well performed. The records are still in the hands of Bro. CUSHMAN, and are kept in their usual manner. Dues very well collected.

January 3d, I visited Hancock Lodge, No. 4, Castine. Work was exemplified on the F. C. degree and was well performed. This is one of the banner lodges in collecting dues. The records are still kept by Bro. HOOPER in his unexcelled manner. After witnessing work, the brethren invited their families and friends to the hall and I installed the officers, assisted by P. M. JOHN F. REA as Grand Marshal, and Bro. WOOD as Grand Chaplain. Interesting remarks were made by the brothers and also by the ladies.

The officers that were installed are proficient in the work, and they expect to do as good work as any lodge in the county, and I have no doubt they will. After installation refreshments were served to all present.

February 18th, I visited Ira Berry Lodge, No. 187, Bluehill. This was a regular meeting, and quite a large number were present. As there was no work we carefully went over the ritual. The records are faithfully kept by Bro. DAVIS. Dues very well collected. After closing, the W. M. invited all present to the banquet hall, where refreshments were served.

February 19th, I visited Marine Lodge, No. 122, Deer Isle. This was a special meeting with a very large number present. Work on the Master Mason's degree was performed in the usual manner of this lodge, which is extra fine, and I think cannot be excelled. The records are kept by Bro. JOYCE and are all right. The dues are remarkably well collected. The lodge is in a flourishing condition. After closing, refreshments were served, and an enjoyable time spent with the brethren.

February 27th, I visited Naskeag Lodge, No. 171, Brooklin. This was a special meeting. Exemplification of work on the Entered Apprentice degree, which was very well performed. The records are kept by Bro. KANE in a very fine manner. Dues are well collected, and show an improvement over

last year. After lodge was closed we were invited to the banquet hall, where refreshments were served, to which we all did justice.

I have visited officially every lodge in this district, with the exception of my home lodge, Eggmoggin, No. 128. But as I have been present at every meeting and witnessed work in all three degrees, I thought it unnecessary to visit it officially. The records are in the hands of Bro. BRIDGES, and are kept in just the way they should be. Dues very well collected.

January 22d, by request, I installed the officers of Eggmoggin Lodge, assisted by P. M. J. H. HOOPER as Grand Marshal, and P. M. F. G. HIGGINS as Grand Chaplain. Ladies, friends and Naskeag Lodge, Brooklin, were invited to be present, and a very large number accepted the invitation. Appropriate selections were rendered by the choir during the ceremony. After partaking of a very fine supper, all returned to the masonic hall, where music and readings were the order of the evening, and a very pleasant time was spent.

I have the pleasure to report that all the lodges of this district are in a fairly flourishing condition financially.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you for the honor you have conferred upon me by my re-appointment to this office, and also the officers and members of the several lodges for the kindness and courtesy shown me during my visits to their respective lodges, and especially the Secretaries for their promptness in making returns.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

THEO. A. SMITH, *D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.*

Sedgwick, March 25, 1901.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Fifth Masonic District. Having been appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Bro. ALLEN P. CLARK, I was installed by him at Dover, June 19th.

October 5th, I made my first official visit to Olive Branch Lodge, at Charleston, by invitation of the Wor. Master. It was a cold and stormy night, and not many of the brethren were present. All of the officers were present, however, also nine or ten brethren from Pleasant River Lodge, twenty miles away. The F. C. and M. M. degrees were worked on one candidate in a very fine manner. Bro. WORTH is a very strict ritualist, and he is well supported by his officers. I could see very little to criticise. They have had only one candidate this year, but they work as though they had been in constant practice.

The records are in the hands of Bro. SMITH, who is entering upon his twenty-sixth year as Secretary. Dues are fairly well collected. A banquet was served at the close.

October 29th, by invitation, I visited Pleasant River Lodge, at Brownville, accompanied by eight of my brethren from Doric Lodge. It was a special meeting and the work was on the M. M. degree, which was very well done. They have had a fair amount of work this year, and are in a good, healthy condition. Their hall is a rented one and is too small and poorly ventilated for their purpose. About seventy-five brethren were present, nearly half of whom were members of neighboring lodges, fifteen of them being from Composite Lodge, at La Grange. We enjoyed a profitable and pleasant evening. The records are all right, and dues well collected. Banquet at Hotel Herrick, at the close.

November 12th, I visited officially Doric Lodge, at the request of the Wor. Master. Work was presented in the M. M. degree, and was well done. I have attended every meeting of this, my own lodge, and I do not hesitate to say that they well keep up their reputation of doing good work, a noticeable feature being that nearly all of its Past Masters regularly attend the meetings, thereby giving their influence as well as their past experience to the lodge. A goodly number of brethren were present from Columbia Lodge, on a fraternal visit. A history is being prepared by Bros. JOHN F. SPRAGUE, ALBERT W. CHAPIN and EDWIN R. HAYNES. At the close a banquet was served by the ladies of the Eastern Star, with the assistance of our veteran Steward, Bro. R. T. THOMAS.

November 19th, I privately installed the officers of Pleasant River Lodge, assisted by P. M. E. C. RIDER as Grand Marshal, and Rev. Bro. W. CURTIS as Grand Chaplain.

November 23d, I attended the school of instruction at Guilford. Four District Deputies were present, and six lodges were represented. At the request of the Grand Lecturer, I notified the Master of every lodge in the district, either personally or by letter, of the date of the convention, and I am sorry to have to report that five of them failed to respond, although some of them sent some one else to represent the lodge. I received very much benefit from the convention, and I believe that every Master should attend one of them during his term of office.

December 1st, official visit to Composite Lodge, at La Grange. The M. M. degree was worked by a new set of officers, and considering the fact that they had never conferred this degree before, it was very well done. A good deal of interest was manifested, the hall being well filled. A petition was presented by the brethren of this lodge who live at Howland, twelve miles away, for permission to form a new lodge at that place. As this would take nearly half of the members away from Composite Lodge, it created quite a

lively discussion and considerable opposition. I was glad to note that this discussion created no ill feeling, each brother stating his views frankly, and admitting that if he lived at Howland he would feel just as the Howland brethren did.

The petition was laid on the table for a month, and I learned later that the petition was granted, but that Horeb Lodge, at Lincoln, whose jurisdiction they would invade, withheld their consent, consequently they could not proceed further with their project. I do not believe in dividing small lodges as a rule, thereby making two weak lodges, but when forty-five masons who live as far from their lodge as these brethren do, are set on forming a new lodge, it would seem as though their prayer should be granted. The records in the hands of Bro. DYER, are neatly and correctly kept, and the dues are well collected. At the close of the meeting a banquet was served in the hall.

December 29th, I privately installed the officers of Mt. Kineo Lodge, at Guilford, assisted by Past Master C. W. MORRILL as Gr. Marshal, and Past Master A. W. ELLIS as Grand Chaplain. After the installation, the new officers conferred the M. M. degree on two candidates in a very creditable manner, showing hard study on their part, which will only require practice to bring them up to the standard. This lodge is the largest in the district and they have done the largest amount of work this year. The records are well kept and dues well collected. At the close an oyster supper was served in the banquet room over the hall.

1901, January 1st, I installed the officers of Columbia Lodge, at Greenville, assisted by Past Master HIRAM HUNT as Grand Marshal, after which I gave them some instruction in the work. This lodge is small and they have not done much work. The outer door has been closely guarded. Many have knocked who have not entered, but those who have entered are "true and trusty." One application was voted on and accepted and another was received, so that the new officers will soon have work. A committee reported having raised, by private subscription, about two hundred dollars which was paid to two unfortunate brethren, which shows that a spirit of brotherly love prevails. The records are neatly kept by Bro. H. W. BUDDEN.

January 7th, I privately installed the officers of Doric Lodge, assisted by the retiring Master, Bro. W. C. JACKSON, and P. D. D. G. M. A. F. JACKSON as Grand Marshal and Grand Chaplain.

January 12th, I received a petition signed by eighteen brethren of Howland, for permission to form a new lodge at that place. As it was endorsed under seal by the Secretary of Composite Lodge, stating that they had giving their consent, I signed the petition.

January 31st, by invitation, I visited Mosaic Lodge, at Foxcroft. A new set of officers conferred the M. M. degree on two candidates. One of them was taken into the lodge room and passed a very good examination in the F. C. degree.

This lodge is in a flourishing condition. A committee appointed to solicit subscriptions to raise a debt of \$800.00 on their hall, made their report that the money had all been subscribed, only a few dollars remaining unpaid, so that the lodge is now out of debt. The records are well and neatly kept. Banquet at close.

February 1st, I publicly installed the officers of Olive Branch Lodge, at East Corinth, they having a dispensation from the Grand Master allowing them to do so. I was assisted by P. D. D. G. M. ALLEN P. CLARK, of Dover, who acted as Grand Marshal. After the installation an oyster and pastry supper was served, and then a fine entertainment was presented by local talent. All were unanimous in pronouncing it one of the best times in the history of the lodge.

March 1st, by appointment, I visited Piscataquis Lodge, at Milo. As they had no work, they exemplified the M. M. degree in a satisfactory manner. During intermission, refreshments were served in the banquet room. After the work I was called upon for remarks, and I made criticisms on the work where I thought they were needed, after which we had an informal talk on the ritual, which, it seems to me, resulted in much good. They have had a number of applications the past year, but have accepted only two, which shows that they are using care in selecting material. They have a beautiful hall free from debt. The brethren are harmonious, and the business of the lodge is well conducted.

March 4th, by appointment, I visited Penobscot Lodge, at Dexter. Work was presented in the M. M. degree. The candidate was introduced and passed an examination in the F. C. degree. The work was finely done. The floor work of the Senior Deacon was fine, and all the officers showed a disposition to do the work as perfectly as possible. A large number of brethren were present, although there were four entertainments of various kinds the same evening. The business of the lodge is conducted in a business like manner and the dues are well collected. A banquet was served during intermission.

In summing up my report, I will say that I have visited all the lodges in the district, and have been kindly and cordially received. I have made such suggestions and criticisms as I thought were for the good of the brethren. I have examined the books and have found that all of the Secretaries understand their duties perfectly, and, with one exception, they have sent in the Grand Lodge returns on time.

I have issued six Past Master's diplomas during the year.

I find that only one lodge in the district has a full set of Grand Lodge proceedings properly bound. The others have never had them bound, and, in many cases, they have been lost or destroyed. I have called their attention to the matter, and I trust that the error will be corrected as far as possible in the future.

Hoping that I have been of some benefit to the lodges in the district, permit me to thank you, Most Worshipful, for the honor you have conferred upon me, also the brethren for their kindness and hospitality.

Fraternally submitted,

HAROLD E. MORRILL, *D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.*

Monson, May 2, 1901.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my third annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth Masonic District, and it is with great pleasure that I assure you of the most satisfactory condition of the lodges in this district.

The records of the several lodges are in good hands, the dues well collected and the lodges generally in good financial condition, the most of them owning their hall and having a good fund in the treasury.

As I was not at the Grand Lodge to be installed with the other District Deputy Grand Masters, I was installed by Past Grand Master CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, at Bangor, on a certain day of the week in June, 1900.

October 8th, I installed the officers of Star in the East Lodge, No. 60, at Old Town, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER, of that lodge, as Grand Marshal. Installation was private. I have been present at most of the meetings of this, my home lodge, during the year, and so did not make an official visit. This lodge was unfortunate in having its Wor. Master move to Massachusetts during his term of office, but Bro. CHARLES GREENE, the Senior Warden, presided over the lodge, and did the work in such an able manner that in September he was unanimously elected Wor. Master; since which time we have not had the usual amount of work, but what we have had has been done in a very creditable manner.

December 1st, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Lynde Lodge, No. 174, at Hermon, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal. There was a large number present. At the close a banquet was served and a social hour enjoyed.

December 4th, I attended the masonic convention, at Augusta, and received much valuable information from the Grand Lecturer.

December 18th, accompanied by Wor. Bro. F. C. BARKER, of Pacific Lodge, at Exeter, I visited Mystic Lodge, No. 65, at Hampden, and installed their officers. There was a good attendance of the brethren and friends. We then repaired to the banquet hall, where a fine supper was served, after which

there was singing and recitations by several young ladies, all of which were finely rendered.

December 28th, I publicly installed the officers of Howard Lodge, No. 69, at Winterport, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal, also by a fine choir. The hall was crowded with members and invited guests. After the installation an oyster supper was served in the hall below, to which all did ample justice. Returning to the lodge room, we had the pleasure of listening to a fine selection of music, recitations, speeches, &c., which concluded a most enjoyable evening.

January 16th, by invitation, I installed the officers of Mechanics' Lodge, No. 66, at Orono, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal. The installation was private. At the close a fine supper was served.

June 25th, I made my official visit to St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 83, at Bangor. Their beautiful hall was well filled with their own members and visiting brethren, showing that there is great interest among the members of this lodge. The meeting was called at 4.30 P. M., and the Master Mason's degree was conferred on three candidates. Although the ritual was not perfectly rendered, yet on the whole there was but little chance for criticism. At the close a fine banquet was served, after which I installed their officers, assisted by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal. The Apollo Quartet furnished appropriate music during the work and installation, which added much to the enjoyment of the evening.

January 29th, I visited Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, at Bangor, and by invitation, installed their officers; I was assisted in the installation ceremonies by Wor. Bro. V. E. TUCKER as Grand Marshal. Installation was private, but there was a large number of the brethren present. Banquet at the close.

March 30th, was the date of my official visit to Mystic Lodge, No. 65, at Hampden. I witnessed the conferring of the Master Mason's degree on three candidates, which was fairly well done. I was pleased to note the improvement in the work since my visit one year ago. Invitations were extended to St. Andrew's Lodge of Bangor, Lynde of Hermon, and Howard of Winterport, and there was a goodly number present. Banquet and social hour at the close.

April 19th, I visited Howard Lodge, No. 69, at Winterport, and witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree. There was so much sickness in town that there was not a large number of the brethren present. This lodge has had very little work for the past few years, but this past winter they had a public installation, since which time they have had several candidates. The work was not up to that done by the lodges in this district that have been favored with more work, but as a matter of fact, was as good as one could expect under the circumstances. The officers are interested, and all they need is more work. Banquet and social hour when called "from labor to refreshment."

April 23d, I officially visited Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, at Bangor, at a special meeting, and witnessed the conferring of the F. C. degree on three candidates. I was very much interested in the work, as it was the first time I had witnessed this degree conferred while making an official visit. The work was very well performed, and but few criticisms were needed. The officers of this lodge are very much interested in their work, and I have no doubt but the members will have a chance to see some excellent work during the present year.

During the past three years I have endeavored to perform the duties of this office to the very best of my ability, and to render to each lodge its "just due without distinction." I have made such criticisms as I deemed necessary, and offered such suggestions as seemed to me to be for the best interest of the several lodges.

In closing this brief report of my official acts, I thank you, Most Worshipful, for the honor of this third appointment, and to the officers and brethren of the Sixth District I extend my heartfelt thanks for their extreme kindness and courtesy to me.

Fraternally submitted,

FRED C. BARTON, *D. D. G. M. 6th M. D.*

Bradley, April 30, 1901.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Seventh Masonic District.

As there has been no material change in the condition of the various lodges in this district since my last report, it will not be necessary to make a special report of each lodge.

I have either visited, or when I have been unable to keep an appointment, requested a brother to visit for me, all the lodges in the district.

In every lodge there was found peace and harmony, the financial interests well looked after, the records well kept and work well done. There has been an increase over last year in the amount of work done in the district.

Death has removed quite a number of brethren from us, among whom we have lost Past D. D. G. M. L. C. POOR, of Quantabacook Lodge. Brother POOR faithfully served his lodge and district, retaining an unabated interest in Masonry and a willingness to serve his lodge or brethren in any capacity.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you, Most Worshipful, for the honor con-

ferred upon me by appointing me your representative in the Seventh District. I wish also to thank R. W. Bro. JOHN H. MCGORRILL, J. G. W., Past R. W. ALBERT W. WARD, Bros. GUSTAVUS J. NELSON and R. M. BERRY, for assistance rendered me in visitations and advice, and the officers and brethren of the various lodges for their uniform courtesies.

Fraternally submitted,

ADELBERT MILLETT, *D. D. G. M. 7th M. D.*

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

A brief report of Masonry as I have found it in the Eighth Masonic District of Maine.

Owing to circumstances which have greatly interfered with all plans during the past year, I have been unable to devote that attention to Masonry to which the Eighth is entitled. So far as I am able to judge, I am pleased to say that the interest seems greater than in the preceding year, more and better work having been done.

The officers of the several lodges are an intelligent, painstaking, earnest class, and are to be complimented on the rendering of the work, both in the effectiveness of it and in closely following the ritual. The records are well kept, dues closely watched, and on the whole a healthy condition exists.

For the second time I desire to thank the constituency of the Eighth, for the many courtesies extended.

Yours fraternally,

S. AUGUSTUS PARKER, *D. D. G. M. 8th M. D.*

Belfast, Me., April 29, 1901.

NINTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth Masonic District. I have visited all the lodges in my district and witnessed the work in each of them, and it is with great pleasure

that I am enabled to report much uniformity in the work as rendered by the several lodges in this district.

My first official visit was to Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, at Vinalhaven, on the evening of June 19, 1900, and I was very cordially received by Wor. Master CLAES E. BOMAN. The M. M. degree was conferred on two candidates in a very excellent manner, and very closely to the ritual. An orchestra and a male quartet helped to render the work very impressive and pleasing to the candidates as well as to the members present. I found this lodge composed of a goodly number of young men, who are much interested in the fraternity. One of the candidates raised at this meeting was a son of the Wor. Master. The records are in the hands of Bro. ALEXANDER DAVIDSON and are well kept, and the dues are well collected. This lodge has very nice and pleasant apartments and owns the building in which it holds its meetings. After the lodge closed, refreshments were served in the banquet hall, and then we returned to the lodge room, where the orchestra and quartet very pleasantly entertained us with vocal and instrumental music for an hour or more, and I came away very much pleased with the condition of things in Moses Webster Lodge.

August 10th, I visited Mount Olivet Lodge, No. 203, at Washington, and was cordially received by Wor. Master THOMAS SUKEFORTH and the members of the lodge. I had the pleasure of being accompanied on this visit by Past Junior Grand Warden A. M. WETHERBEE and others from my own lodge. The work was the M. M. degree, and very well rendered indeed for a lodge so young, this being the youngest lodge in this district. The records are in the hands of Wor. Bro. W. M. STAPLES, and are neatly kept, and dues well collected. At the close of the lodge a collation was served, and a very social hour enjoyed.

October 22d, I privately installed the officers of my home lodge, St. George Lodge, No. 16, assisted by P. M. WARREN MORSE as Grand Marshal. Following the installation refreshments were served.

November 27th, by invitation, I again visited Moses Webster Lodge, No. 145, at Vinalhaven, and publicly installed the officers, assisted by Past D. D. G. M. GEORGE ROBERTS, of that lodge, as Grand Marshal. An orchestra furnished music for the occasion. Ladies and friends were present. Refreshments were served at the close of the installation, after which a very fine literary and musical programme was rendered.

November 28th, I made an official visit to Aurora Lodge, No. 50, at Rockland, and witnessed the work of the third or M. M. degree upon two candidates, which was well rendered. Wor. Master A. H. NEWBERT followed very closely to the ritual and performed his work very impressively. But few corrections were necessary. This lodge has had considerable work during the past year, adding twelve new members and had more applications to be acted on at

next meeting. Wor. Bro. L. S. ROBINSON still has the records, which are neatly and correctly kept, and dues well collected.

December 13th, I attended the convention for instruction in masonic work at Camden. The meeting was called to order by R. W. F. E. SLEEPER, Grand Lecturer, and a short session was held in the forenoon, and four hours of hard study in the afternoon, going over the ritual work in all three degrees.

These conventions are very interesting and profitable to all, and should bring larger attendance. In the evening I was requested to consider this my official visit to Amity Lodge, No. 6, and the work of the M. M. degree was conferred in a very able and impressive manner, notwithstanding the large number of visitors present, which would tend to embarrass the officers and cause them to make some slips of the tongue, this being their first candidate on the third degree since installation. Among the distinguished visitors present besides the Grand Lecturer was R. W. ADELBERT MILLETT, D. D. G. M. of the Seventh District, who assisted me in the inspection of the work. Amity Lodge is in a very prosperous condition, having pleasant lodge apartments. Records well kept and dues well collected. Visitors were present during the day and evening from twenty-seven lodges, and the members of Amity are entitled to the gratitude of all, for the cordial and hospitable manner in which they received and entertained the visiting brethren.

December 20th, I publicly installed the officers of Union Lodge, Wor. Bro. FRED LUCAS acting as Grand Marshal. A goodly number of the brethren were present with their ladies and invited friends. After the installation, which was interspersed with music, a collation was served in the banquet hall, and a very pleasant and social hour was enjoyed.

December 29th, I visited Orient Lodge, No. 15, at Thomaston, accompanied by eight members of my own lodge, among whom was Past Junior Grand Warden A. M. WETHERBEE. We were very cordially received by the brethren. The M. M. degree was conferred, and the work was very close to the ritual, the W. M., CHARLES G. BRACKETT, rendering his work very correctly. The records are neatly and correctly kept by Bro. JAMES A. LEVENSALE, and through his efforts the dues have been better collected during the past year. Refreshments were served and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

January 15, 1901, I again visited Orient Lodge, and installed the officers, assisted by Wor. Bro. JOHN LEVENSALE as Grand Marshal.

January 31st, I officially visited Union Lodge, No. 31, at Union, and saw the third degree conferred in a very able and impressive manner, the officers all following closely to the ritual. The Master, WILL C. MORTON, though young in Masonry, fills his station with a good degree of dignity and ability. The records are in the hands of Bro. CHAS. M. LUCAS, who, by the form and neatness of his records, shows that he is the right man in the right place. Through his extra efforts the dues are being well collected. After the busi-

ness of the evening was completed, refreshments were served in the banquet hall.

February 4th, I visited St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, at Rockport, arriving there in the heaviest snow storm of the season. This severe storm was quite a disappointment to the members of this lodge, as the lodges in Camden and Rockland had been invited, and a large attendance was expected, and it was intended to make this a very interesting as well as profitable meeting, but owing to the storm only a few visitors were present, and a small attendance of their own members. The work was in the M. M. degree and very well rendered. ROBERT N. MILLETT, Master. E. E. FALES, Secretary, keeps a very neat and pretty record. Dues well collected.

February 16th, accompanied by the Master of my own lodge, I visited Eureka Lodge, at Tenant's Harbor, where I had the pleasure for the first time during my visitations, to witness the work of the second degree. The officers of this lodge are young men and rendered the work in a very pleasing manner, and very correctly. The financial standing of the lodge is very good. The records are in the hands of Past Master W. H. MATHEWS, whose knowledge of Masonry well qualifies him for the responsible duties of this office. I had the pleasure of meeting Past D. D. G. M. J. M. SMITH on this visit. Refreshments were served in the banquet hall.

February 23d, visited Knox Lodge, No. 189, at South Thomaston, and witnessed the exemplification of the work of the E. A. degree, as there were no candidates for initiation at this time. The Master, A. W. BUTLER, who had been installed only a short time, is young in Masonry, but with a little more careful study will be able to acquit himself with honor. The records are in the hands of Bro. M. E. BASSICK, who keeps a nice record, and collects the dues well. Several visitors were present at this meeting from my own lodge, and Eureka Lodge, Tenant's Harbor.

February 26th, made an official visit to Rockland Lodge, at Rockland, when Wor. Bro. SAMUEL A. KEYES, Master, and the officers of that lodge, conferred the M. M. degree in a very able and impressive manner, each officer following very closely to the ritual. The records are kept by Wor. Bro. A. I. MATHER, and are a model of neatness and perfection. Dues are well collected. This meeting was replete with interest all the way through. After the lodge closed an excellent supper was officially inspected, with good results.

March 4th, my last official visit was to St. George Lodge, No. 16, at Warren, my own Masonic home. Although I had attended nearly every meeting during the year, the Master, Wor. Bro. MATHEW ALLEN, invited me to make an official visit. The work was in the M. M. degree, and very few criticisms were necessary, as this lodge has kept up its reputation for good work, and compares very favorably with the other lodges in the district. A number of visiting brethren from Eureka Lodge, Tenant's Harbor, were present and ex-

pressed themselves as being well pleased with the work. Refreshments were served and a pleasant hour spent after the lodge closed.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful Grand Master, I wish to thank you for the honor conferred upon me by my appointment, and to express my appreciation and gratitude to the officers and brethren of the several lodges for the many courtesies and cordial greetings which I have received.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

G. DUDLEY GOULD, *D. D. G. M. 9th M. D.*

Warren, Me., April 1, 1901.

TENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Tenth Masonic District.

I am pleased to report that to the best of my knowledge all the lodges in the Tenth District are in excellent condition financially, and confining themselves more strictly to the ritual than ever before.

December 14, 1900, by special invitation, I publicly installed the officers elect of Seaside Lodge. There was a large number present, and all seemed interested in the ceremonies. A very nice programme was furnished by the committee, which consisted of vocal and instrumental music. After the installation, the company all sat down to a fine supper, after which a social hour was enjoyed.

My first official visit was at Seaside Lodge, Boothbay Harbor, on December 21st. I had given notice that I would hold a school of instruction that evening. This meeting was well attended by members of several lodges in the district, and was acknowledged by all as a move in the right direction, as all were given an opportunity to thoroughly understand the work as taken up. The W. M. and other officers of Seaside Lodge are to be commended on the thoroughness of their work and faithful attendance. The records, in the hands of Bro. H. S. PERKINS, are, as usual, carefully looked after, and dues well collected.

By special invitation of W. M. J. E. DICKINSON, on February 7, 1901, I made my official visit to Lincoln Lodge, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree. I made some corrections. The work was done in a very satisfactory manner. The records kept by Bro. PATTERSON are excellent, and the dues are fairly well collected.

On January 2d, by special invitation, I publicly installed the officers elect of Riverside Lodge, East Jefferson, assisted by Bro. W. I. JACKSON as Grand Marshal and Bro. E. G. MESERVE as Grand Chaplain. The ceremony of initiation and remarks were attentively listened to. After closing, we were invited to the dining room, where we were greeted by the wives with the brethren, and partook of a bountiful repast.

February 20th, by invitation of Bro. C. W. BESSE, W. M. of Riverside Lodge, I made my official visit, and as they had no work at this time they proceeded to exemplify the work of the third degree in a very fine manner, being as good as any I have seen during the year. At the close of the work, a banquet was served in the dining room, after which a social hour was enjoyed in the lodge room.

On the evening of December 12th, by special invitation, I publicly installed the officers-elect of Anchor Lodge, at South Bristol, in the presence of a very large delegation of ladies and invited guests. It was a very pleasant occasion, and one that all seemed very much to enjoy. Speech-making followed, with a general good time by all until refreshments were announced, when all were bountifully cared for.

February 23d, I made my official visit to Anchor Lodge, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree, and although the officers were all new to their several stations, and most of them young in Masonry, yet the work was finely executed. There was small need of criticism, and these young officers are a great credit to Anchor Lodge. Under their guidance and skill, the future for this lodge looks very bright and prosperous.

October 12th, I publicly installed the officers elect of Dresden Lodge. There was a good attendance of members and their ladies. After the installation, pleasant remarks were made by a number of the brethren, after which a banquet was served and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Feb. 27th, by special invitation of Bro. W. F. CATE, W. M., I made my official visit to Dresden Lodge, and witnessed work on the M. M. degree. The candidate was a very bright young man and thoroughly appreciated the work that was conferred upon him. The officers of this lodge showed that they had carefully committed the work. I made what corrections were necessary, and after the lodge closed a pleasant hour was spent in social talk, after which a fine supper was served. The records are well kept, and dues fairly well collected.

March 13th, I made my official visit to Alna Lodge, Damariscotta. Not having a candidate, work was exemplified in the M. M. degree. This lodge still holds its reputation as a smooth working lodge, the officers taking particular care to have their several parts executed rightly and impressively. The Secretary not being present, I was unable to examine the records, but from the past feel assured that they are well and correctly kept. I made such

corrections and suggestions as I thought were needed, which were kindly received, after which remarks for the good of the Order were made by the members of the lodge and visiting brothers. All were then invited to the banquet room, and an oyster stew was served for which Alna Lodge is noted.

I notified King Solomon's Lodge, of Waldoboro, early in the season that I should be pleased to visit them any time they might give me notice, but not receiving word from them, have therefore continued to wait till too late to give them notice of an official visit. Knowing well their excellent standard of work there last year, and as they have continued Bro. WELT as W. M., I feel safe in saying that they should be rated among the best workers of the Tenth District.

Having received notice to visit Bristol Lodge, Bristol Mills, on March 23d, and being away from home, the weather and traveling being very bad, I was unable to attend. I feel at liberty to say that Bristol Lodge still maintains its high standard in expounding the work of the several degrees, and that the records are safe and well kept while in the hands of Bro. E. J. ERVINE.

Most Worshipful, I feel that an explanation to you why I have not visited Bay View Lodge, E. Boothbay, is unnecessary, as you well know the circumstances. I feel that I should say that to the best of my knowledge, Bay View Lodge has able and efficient officers and must be qualified to do good work.

I also feel safe to say that the records, in the hands of Bro. V. K. MONTGOMERY, will be correctly kept and dues carefully looked after.

In conclusion, I wish to say, during the past two years which I have served as D. D. G. M. of the Tenth Masonic District I have had but one thought; one purpose; one desire; and that to promote the work in the Tenth District, and at all times to do it impartially. And now, Most Worshipful, I desire to thank you for the confidence you reposed in me in re-appointing me to this most responsible position, and the officers and brethren for the kindness and courtesy with which I have been received both officially and personally, and I assure you that there are many things in connection with your lodges that will be cherished by me as among the most pleasant remembrances of life.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN R. McDOUGALL, *D. D. G. M. 10th M. D.*

E. Boothbay, April 1, 1901.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my report as D. D. G. M. of the Eleventh Masonic District for the present year.

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During last year I was privileged to accompany R. W. CHARLES B. ADAMS upon several of his visits, and I could not but regret that his removal made it necessary for another to assume the responsible duties he had so ably discharged. I feel under deep obligations to you for having thought me worthy of the trust, and I have discharged it to the best of my abilities.

My first visit was to Morning Star Lodge, No. 41, of Litchfield, which was inspected August 7, 1900. I found the records still in the hands of W. Bro. IRVING W. GILBERT, which is to say they are neatly and correctly kept. The work in the Third degree was performed most creditably by W. M. THOMAS T. JENKINS and other officers, and I have only words of commendation for the manner in which the ritual was rendered. Upon this visit I was accompanied by Bro. L. D. HAZLEWOOD. Following the work refreshments were served, at which our ladies were also most hospitably entertained.

October 8th, accompanied by W. Bro. CHESTER M. CLARK, I went to Weeks' Mills, to visit Dirigo Lodge, No. 104. Owing to a heavy rain storm, which set in during the afternoon, only about forty were present at the installation ceremony, which I performed with the assistance of W. Bro. CLARK as Marshal. At this time I examined the records and conversed with the brethren concerning the ritual, and prospects. No work having been done since, it is my only visit, but as there is some good material within the jurisdiction of the lodge, I shall hope they may have work soon.

October 18th, by your courtesy, I had the honor of acting as Deputy Grand Master at the dedication of the Masonic Hall at Fairfield.

I was requested to install the officers of Rural Lodge, No. 53, Sidney, which I did October 30th, with the assistance of Bro. ROLAND E. GOOCH as Marshal. At this installation more brethren and invited guests were present than the hall could accommodate, but all were later provided with a bountiful repast and entertainment at the Town and Grange Halls.

At the request of M. W. FRANK E. SLEEPER, I concluded arrangements for a convention for instruction in masonic work, held in Masonic Hall, Augusta, December 4th. It was with some misgivings I commenced, as nearly all such conventions held in Augusta heretofore have been illy attended. I am happy to say this was a complete success in every way, twenty-three lodges being represented. I am under deep obligations to the lodges of this city for their hearty co-operation, and for the splendid entertainment extended to all visitors; dinner and supper were provided for every one. Following the work of the convention proper, W. M. CHARLES W. FLETCHER and officers of Augusta Lodge, No. 141, worked the M. M. degree in a most exemplary and pleasing manner, calling forth much praise from the many representatives of other lodges.

February 6th, again assisted by Bro. RONALD E. GOOCH as Marshal, I publicly installed the officers of Lafayette Lodge, No. 48, Readfield. The

traveling was anything but good, still the hall was filled with brethren and invited guests, testifying to their great interest in Masonry. It was particularly pleasing to me to install the officers of this lodge, though out of my district, as I was born within its jurisdiction, and had I not left the farm should doubtless have petitioned for membership therein. R. W. Bros. LOVEJOY and CROSBY were present, also W. Bros. BEAN and RUSSELL, each of whom has been a member of that lodge for more than fifty years.

March 4th, I inspected the work of Temple Lodge, No. 25, of Winthrop. Owing to a storm and difficult traveling the attendance was small, but W. M. HORACE A. KEYES showed he was well versed in the ritual and work. R. W. Bro. L. E. JONES showed his loyalty by acting as Senior Warden. Bro. H. E. FOSTER is now Secretary, and I found the records well kept. The dues of this lodge have not been so well collected as they should have been, and I recommended an earnest effort be made to collect arrearages.

March 5th, I inspected Augusta Lodge, No. 141, and found W. M. IRVING O. GAGE and officers proficient in the ritual and floor work of the M. M. degree, and the records, in the hands of W. Bro. CLAUDE W. TOWNSEND, correctly kept.

March 25th, W. M. WATERMAN N. REDMOND and officers of Bethlehem Lodge, No. 35, worked the M. M. degree for inspection in a highly satisfactory manner. Bro. JAMES E. BLANCHARD is nearing the close of his second decade as Secretary, and I wish every Secretary might examine his books and profit thereby, as they certainly could not be improved upon.

It seemed hardly necessary for me to visit for inspection the two last mentioned lodges, as I have been able to visit each frequently, and never hesitate to recommend anything I consider for the good of the work or fraternity; and the superior work of Bethlehem Lodge before the Grand Lodge last year, and that of Augusta Lodge at the Grand Lodge of Instruction, has proven conclusively how correctly and carefully the work is rendered.

April 24th, I visited Kennebec Lodge, No. 5, Hallowell, and witnessed work in the M. M. degree. W. M. FITZ MORRIS FISH is correct and painstaking in all his work and ably seconded by his officers. This lodge has had more work than usual during the past year, and the indications are that it will continue. Bro. FRED A. TENNEY is making an effort to collect old accounts, and has succeeded so well the finances are in much better condition than for years, and all his work as Secretary is most commendable.

April 30th, in company with a considerable number of brethren from Augusta, I inspected Hermon Lodge, No. 32, of Gardiner. W. Bro. JAMES M. LARRABEE is still Secretary, which proves the records are well kept and the dues collected. W. M. FREDERICK D. LORING and officers worked the M. M. degree in an admirable manner, and I cannot believe better work should be expected from any lodge. Hermon Lodge has had a remarkable amount

of work during W. Bro. LORING's incumbency, and in their new and beautiful hall only good work could be expected.

Monmouth Lodge, No. 110, has had no work and I have made no visit there this year, as I was present at the last inspection. I corresponded with W. M. HORACE S. BENT, but he could give no encouragement, and I concluded it not advisable to go over. I have seen and talked with the Secretary, Bro. E. A. DUDLEY, and he reports a prospect for applications before long.

It has been my privilege to visit nearly all the lodges in this district occasionally for several years past, and I think there is a marked degree of improvement in the work, and conformity to the ritual in nearly all. Following the work in every instance refreshments have been served, which tends to develop sociability in our Institution and enhances the pleasures of the meetings. The condition of the craft within this district is certainly generally satisfactory and flourishing.

I wish to thank you, Most Worshipful, for the honor you have conferred upon me, and in receiving it I have endeavored to honor the Institution by giving it my best attention, and doing what I could to continue the foundations strong and sure, and have received hearty support from all the officers and brethren.

Fraternally submitted,

THOMAS H. BODGE, *D. D. G. M. 11th M. D.*

Augusta, May 2, 1901.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Twelfth Masonic District.

June 5th, visited Asylum Lodge, No. 133, Wayne. I met the W. M., J. PUTNAM STEVENS, at Winthrop, and we drove over to Wayne together. They had some work, and it was well done. Bro. STEVENS called on the officers for the lectures, and Past Master F. L. CHENERY worked the F. C. degree, assisted by P. D. D. G. M. CROSBY as S. D. This work was not only well done, but very correctly, and I am inclined to think it is a good plan to call on the officers for different parts of the work. There were present on this occasion seven Past Masters. The records are in good condition, and show great care by the Secretary, Bro. B. F. BRADFORD.

December 3d, I had the pleasure of visiting Waterville Lodge, No. 33,

Waterville, and it was a source of much gratification to find it in such a prosperous condition. To the present officers much credit is due for the work they have done this past year, and for the present good condition of this lodge. The work for the evening was that of the third degree, and it showed the thorough and careful preparation of the officers. The opening and closing was well and creditably done, as was the remainder of the work, the candidate of the evening being the fifteenth that W. M. JOHN M. WEBBER has raised the last year. The records are neatly and correctly kept by acting Secretary ANSON O. LIBBY. The lodge is in a very prosperous condition, showing a surplus of several hundred dollars. Four applications were balloted upon at this meeting, three of which were accepted. After the raising we were invited to the banquet hall, where refreshments were served. All present had an enjoyable evening.

December 4th, I attended Grand Lecturer SLEEPER'S Lodge of Instruction at Augusta. There was a good attendance and we received much good information. We were all entertained by the lodges in Augusta, Rt. W. Bro. BODGE looking out for all.

December 11th, I visited Vernon Valley Lodge, No. 99, Mt. Vernon, and had the pleasure of installing the officers, Bro. WM. M. TYLER acting as Grand Marshal. As there was no work for inspection, we went over the ritual of the third degree and made such corrections as were necessary. From the manner in which this work was conducted, there is no doubt in my mind that W. M. Bro. WILLIAM T. MORRILL and his corps of excellent officers will do good and impressive work when they have a candidate. The records are well kept by Secretary FRED W. FOSS. This lodge has a new organ, and now at their meetings they have good music.

December 15th, Messalonskee Lodge, No. 113, entertained Rural Lodge, No. 53, of Sidney, at their lodge rooms. The work of the evening was that of the M. M. degree and it was well done. W. M. FRANK E. BURRILL is a very earnest worker, and with his good support the work they present for inspection is very close to the ritual. The records are very minutely kept by Rt. W. Bro. ORESTES E. CROWELL. After the closing both lodges repaired to the supper room, where a fine banquet was served and the time was spent in a most social manner.

December 17th, Lafayette Lodge, No. 48, Readfield, called a special meeting to exemplify the work. It was here that I had the pleasure of meeting two Past D. D. G. Masters, CROSBY and LOVEJOY, they acting as S. W. and S. D. respectively, and their work was correctly and impressively done. The regular officers need more practice, as it is only by a careful study of the ritual that they can do good work and have it correct. This lodge has a beautiful room and are in good financial condition. They have a fine looking

gavel made of ivory and ebony, which was presented to them at the dedication of their new hall, February 26, 1900, by Bro. GEO. A. RUSSELL.

On September 21st, Bro. E. O. BEAN was presented with an apron by the members of Lafayette Lodge, it being the fiftieth anniversary of his being raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

December 22d, visited Rural Lodge, No. 53, Sidney. This was a special meeting and the third degree was exemplified in a very impressive manner, the floor work being very nicely done. The books, in the hands of Bro. J. F. WARREN, are well kept. This lodge is doing quite a lot of work for so small a jurisdiction, and have that fraternal way of entertaining that makes it a very pleasant place to visit. They had invited Messalonskee, No. 113, to visit them on this occasion, but only three members were present. I issued a P. M. diploma to WILLIAM P. MARBLE. After the closing we were treated to one of their famous suppers, at which, as usual, we had a very enjoyable time.

December 26th, a special meeting of Vassalboro Lodge, No. 54, No. Vassalboro, was called at my request. I had the pleasure of having Past D. D. G. Master CHARLES B. ADAMS, of the Eleventh District, accompany me on this occasion. The lodge was opened in the M. M. degree, but as there was no special work, that of the Third degree was exemplified. The officers have taken great care in the preparation of their work, and Bro. JOSEPH WALL, especially, performs his part in a very impressive manner, bringing out the meaning clearly to the candidate. The records are clearly and concisely kept by Bro. H. A. EWER. Bro. CHAS. B. ADAMS conferred the degree of P. M. on W. M. JOSEPH WALL, and I issued him a P. M. diploma. After the lodge meeting a banquet was served, at which all had a very enjoyable time.

January 3, 1901, I visited Neguemkeag Lodge, No. 166, Vassalboro. There was no work, but judging from the manner in which the opening and closing were conducted and the interest taken by the officers in going over the ritual, I should say that when they have a candidate they will be able to do very creditable work. The records are neatly and correctly kept by C. S. STETSON. At this meeting I gave a P. M. Diploma to Bro. WILLIS B. CROSBY. Refreshments were served in banquet room and all had a very pleasant time.

January 5th, I installed the officers of Messalonskee Lodge, No. 113, assisted by Rt. W. ORESTES E. CROWELL as Grand Marshal, and Rt. W. J. WESLEY GILMAN as Grand Chaplain. I issued a P. M. diploma to FRANK E. BURRELL. Refreshments were served.

I cannot close my report, Most Worshipful, without mention of the sudden and untimely death of one of our beloved brothers, JOHN WESLEY GILMAN, who was called to the Grand Lodge above on January 17, 1901, without a moment's warning. He was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason March 22, 1866, in Messalonskee Lodge, No. 113. He served in various stations, and was our honored and respected Master four years. May 6, 1886,

he was appointed D. D. G. M. of the Twelfth Masonic District, and served in that office two years, and as I look over his records he kept at that time, I find his work very accurately and neatly done. He was Secretary of Messalonskee Lodge for fifteen years, and during that time his counsel and advice was dear to the members of our lodge. He was an efficient officer, a courteous brother, and as a mason, beloved and respected by all the craft.

I have visited each lodge in this district during the past year and find them all doing good work, and most of them doing it in a very correct and impressive manner. I have found the officers in each lodge willing and anxious to receive all the information I could give them. Peace and harmony prevail, and I have found much improvement in the uniformity and impressiveness of the work. The records are well kept in the several lodges, and dues fairly well collected. I have been very courteously received by the officers and members of the lodges in the Twelfth, and if my successor finds the same kind fellowship extended to him which I have received it will make his work enjoyable. My duties as D. D. G. M. have been very pleasant to me, as I have seen a great improvement in the correctness of the work and found a true fraternal feeling among the brethren. I take this opportunity of heartily thanking the officers and members of each lodge in this district for the very kind and courteous treatment extended to me during my term of office.

In conclusion, permit me, Most Worshipful Grand Master, to thank you for the confidence reposed in me in appointing me to this important office. I shall always remember with pleasure the happy times I have had with the officers and members of the Twelfth district.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES H. WITHERELL, *D. D. G. M. 12th M. D.*

Oakland, April 6, 1901.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Thirteenth Masonic District.

September 15th, installed the officers of Lebanon Lodge, No. 116, at South Norridgewock, assisted by W. Bro. GEO. O. CARR as Marshal. After the installation refreshments were served.

September 17th, installed the officers of Euclid Lodge, No. 194, at Madison, assisted by W. Bro. OMER D. EAMES as Marshal. After the installation refreshments were served in the banquet hall.

October 17th, publicly installed the officers of Keystone Lodge, No. 80, at Solon, assisted by Bro. C. H. SEVERY as Marshal. This was the annual communication of the lodge. Refreshments were served at noon.

October 20th, I visited Bingham Lodge, No. 199, at Bingham; witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was very well done, and made a few corrections and suggestions, which were kindly received. Records are in the keeping of Bro. GEO. C. EAMES, and are very well kept.

December 1st, I visited Lebanon Lodge, at South Norridgewock, and witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was well done; made such corrections and suggestions as I deemed necessary, which were kindly received. After the work refreshments were served. Records, in the keeping of Bro. CHARLES A. WARD, are very well kept.

December 3d, I visited Somerset Lodge, No. 34, at Skowhegan. Witnessed work in M. M. degree on three candidates, which was the best work that I have seen for the year, each officer doing his part in an impressive manner. At this lodge I had the pleasure of meeting M. W. Bro. W. R. G. ESTES, P. G. Master of our Grand Lodge. The records are still in the keeping of Bro. C. M. LAMBERT, who has kept the books of the lodge for a long time, and they are all right.

December 4th, I visited Carrabassett Lodge, No. 161, Canaan. Witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was quite well done; made such corrections as I deemed necessary, which were kindly received. After the work refreshments were served. Records are in the hands of Bro. HARRY B. HARRIS and are well kept.

January 29th, I visited Northern Star Lodge, No. 28, North Anson. It was expected that there would be work in the M. M. degree, but the roads were so bad that the candidate could not get through the large drifts of snow, and as the officers had been elected and not installed, with the assistance of Bro. LEONARD P. LINCOLN as Marshal I installed them. I think that I can avouch for Northern Star Lodge doing good work for the present year. Records are still in the hands of W. Bro. W. C. SIMMONS, and are a model of neatness.

January 30th, I visited Keystone Lodge, No. 80, Solon. Witnessed an exemplification of the work in E. A. degree. There does not seem to be so much interest manifested in this lodge as there ought to be. Records are still in the hands of Bro. PERRY S. LONGLEY and are all right.

March 7th, I visited Siloam Lodge, No. 92, Fairfield, and witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was very well done. This lodge is doing the most work of any lodge in the district at the present time. They have a number of candidates for the degrees. At this meeting I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. JOHN H. MCGORRILL, Junior Grand Warden of our Grand Lodge for the present year. Records, in the keeping of Bro. CHAPMAN, all right.

Euclid Lodge, No. 194, Madison, is my home lodge, and I have not visited it officially, but have attended the most of its meetings. The lodge has done a small amount of work in very fair shape. Records, in the keeping of Bro. IRVING L. RUSSELL, and are all right.

The year's work is ended. I have the satisfaction of believing that I have tried to do my duty, and that the lodges of the Thirteenth District have been prosperous and harmonious. I have had the pleasure of meeting the brethren of every lodge, witnessing their good work, installing their officers when requested so to do, and enjoying their hospitality, and I am more than ever impressed that ours is as fine an order as there is in existence.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I desire to extend my sincere thanks to the officers and brethren of the several lodges for their courtesy and kindness to me, and to you, M. W., for the honor of my second appointment.

Fraternally yours,

GRANVILLE D. PERKINS, *D. D. G. M. 13th M. D.*

Madison, March 25, 1901.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourteenth Masonic District.

August 7th, I visited Acacia Lodge, No. 121, of Durham, and witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree on three candidates. But very few corrections were needed. All of the officers performed their duties in a very creditable manner. Wor. Bro. WM. D. TRUFANT is an exceptionally good ritualist and a very easy worker. The records are well kept by Bro. E. S. MACOMBER and the lodge is in a good financial condition.

October 6th, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Ancient York Lodge, of Lisbon Falls, assisted by Wor. Bro. HARRY PLUMMER as Grand Marshal. The installation ceremony was interspersed with music and recitations.

December 4th, I attended the Lodge of Instruction at Augusta. If we could have more of these meetings in the state, it seems to me it would be a great help to the officers of the subordinate lodges in getting the correct wording of the ritual.

December 29th, I visited officially Ancient York Lodge, No. 155, of Lisbon Falls, in company with Brother TIM PRATT, and inspected the work in the Master Mason's degree on one candidate. The work was very well done; but

few corrections were necessary. Wor. Brother PHILBROOK delivered the lecture in a very impressive manner. The records are still in the hands of Bro. WM. PARKIN, who has filled the office of Secretary for nearly twelve years, and the records kept in a very correct manner. The dues are well collected and the lodge is in a good condition financially.

January 2d, I visited Village Lodge, No. 26, of Bowdoinham. The work for the evening was the Master Mason's degree, and but very few corrections were necessary. This lodge is noted in the Fourteenth District for the high standard of its work. The floor work is very good, and worthy of imitation. W. M. F. K. JACK is a very easy worker. G. S. ROBERT W. CARR was present at this meeting. The Secretary, Bro. PURINTON, has held that office only a short time, but the books are kept in first class shape, and show that a great deal of care is taken to have them correct. The lodge is in good financial condition.

January 30th, by invitation of the W. M., I visited Polar Star Lodge, No. 114, of Bath. The work for the evening was the Master Mason's degree, and all of the officers performed their duties in a very creditable manner. The floor work was particularly good. W. M. CHAS. B. FURBER was elected Master of this lodge from the floor, but his correct rendering of the ritual and prompt attention to his duties are ample proof that he merits the confidence reposed in him by his lodge. This lodge is in a prosperous condition. The records are still in the hands of Bro. MAXWELL.

February 25th, I visited United Lodge, No. 8, of Brunswick. The Master Mason's degree was conferred on two candidates. W. M. HENRY C. UPTON and all of the other officers deserve honorable mention for their correct rendering of the ritual and the impressiveness of the ceremonies. D. D. G. M. LIONEL O. BRACKETT, of Auburn, and delegations from Acacia, Village and Polar Star Lodges were present. The financial condition of this lodge is improving. The records, in the hands of P. M. A. J. HUTCHINSON, are well kept.

March 4th, I visited Richmond Lodge, No. 63, of Richmond. One candidate was passed to the degree of F. C. Considering that this was the first time the officers had worked this degree in their present positions, the work was very well done. The S. D. delivered his lecture in a very impressive and correct manner. I was very much pleased with the business-like manner and energy with which the W. M. dealt with the business concerns of the lodge. The records are well kept by Bro. FAIRCLOUGH. This lodge is improving financially.

Freeport Lodge, No. 23, is my home lodge and I have not visited it officially. The officers of the lodge are all young masons. The lodge is having a prosperous year, and the officers, under the guidance of W. M. TIM PRATT, who is a good ritualist, are showing a steady improvement in their work. This

lodge met with a sad loss on March 17th, by the death of the Tyler, Bro. WM. M. CURTIS, one of its oldest members. He was initiated in 1853, and held the office of Tyler for thirty-five years. The records are still in the hands of Bro. W. C. FOGG, and are well kept, and the dues well collected.

I have not visited Solar Lodge, No. 14, of Bath, but from correspondence with the Secretary, I learn that the lodge is doing well and is improving financially. I have issued two Past Master's Diplomas during the year. It has been a pleasure to report to you the condition of the lodges in the Fourteenth District.

The lodges have enrolled at the present writing 1,177 members in good standing, 41 have been initiated during the year, and all are improving in their financial condition.

In closing my report, I thank you, Most Worshipful, for the honor conferred, and tender my sincere regards to the brethren of this district for their kindness to me.

Fraternally submitted,

PEREZ S. BURR, *D. D. G. M. 14th M. D.*

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my second annual report of the condition of the lodges composing the Fifteenth Masonic District.

It is again with pleasure that I can say that peace and harmony prevail throughout the Fifteenth Masonic District. I have visited all the lodges in the district and witnessed work or exemplification of the work in each lodge.

December 4th, I attended the Lodge of Instruction at Augusta. Grand Lecturer SLEEPER, nine District Deputies and a large delegation of Master Masons were present. It was conceded by all to be one of the very best conventions they ever attended, and the visiting brethren were royally entertained by the Augusta brethren. I think these conventions are of inestimable value to the District Deputies, and also to the craft.

February 7th, I made my first official visit to Whitney Lodge at Canton. This was the week of the big storm, and there were not so many present as there would have been, for the roads were impassable outside the village. The work was the First and Second degrees, and was well done. The officers are interested and follow the ritual very closely, and impress the candidate with the true dignity and importance of the lessons that should be deeply imprinted

on the heart of every mason. The records are well kept and dues well collected.

March 1st, I visited Franklin Lodge, No. 123, of New Sharon. This was their regular meeting and the work was the E. A. degree. The Master being a physician was called away, so a Past Master was called to preside. This was their second candidate for this year; the work was fairly well done, and I made such corrections and suggestions as seemed for the good of the lodge, which were kindly received, after which a banquet and social hour were enjoyed.

March 5th, I started for a week's trip through the snows of Northern Maine, and reached Weld that night at 6.30. This was the regular meeting of Mystic Tie Lodge, No. 154. They had no work so they exemplified the E. A. degree, which was well done. The officers take pride in their work, understand the ritual and render it very impressively. The records are well kept and dues well collected. Banquet at the close.

Wednesday, the 6th, I was with Blue Mountain Lodge, No. 67, of Phillips. This lodge has done considerable work the past year. They worked the Third degree on two candidates and it was very well done. The records are well kept and dues well collected. At the close a banquet and social hour were enjoyed.

Thursday, March 7th, was the date of my visit to Mount Abram Lodge, U. D., at Kingfield. There was a good attendance and the work was in the Third degree and was well rendered. They are having a large amount of work and carefully select their material. As this is a large, hustling village, there is quite an amount of material to select from. The records are in good hands. At the close a social hour was enjoyed and refreshments were served.

March 8th, I visited Davis Lodge, No. 191, of Strong, accompanied by the Master and Senior Deacon of Mt. Abram Lodge. Their candidate not appearing, they exemplified the M. M. degree; the work was well done. The records are well kept and the dues well collected. At the close of the work, a banquet was served in the banquet hall below, after which we returned to the lodge room and spent a profitable hour in reviewing the ritual.

March 9th, was the date of my visit to Mt. Bigelow Lodge, No. 202, of Flagstaff. This was a regular meeting. There was no work, so they exemplified the M. M. degree. The work was fairly well done. This lodge, although small in numbers, are active masons. They have built a new building, with hall and ante rooms up stairs, which are very nicely arranged for their convenience, and they appreciate having a masonic home where they can enjoy the privileges of Masonry. At the close, a banquet that was enjoyed by all was served at the hotel.

April 1st, I visited Maine Lodge, No. 20, of Farmington. Their candidate had been sick and was not able to take his degree, so they exemplified the

F. C. degree. The work was well rendered, and the S. D. lecture, by Past Master JOHN M. S. HUNTER, was especially well rendered. It was a pleasure to me to meet so many of the Past Masters of Maine Lodge, as it shows that they appreciate the honor conferred on them by their brethren. The records are in good hands, and dues well collected. Banquet at the close enjoyed by all.

April 3d, was the date of my visit to Wilton Lodge, No. 156, and was a very stormy night. Their candidate was unable to be there, and they exemplified the first section of the M. M. degree; we then spent the rest of the evening going over the ritual. This is a good working lodge, and the officers are well fitted for their positions. The records are neat and correct and dues well collected.

Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, is my home lodge, and I have attended most of the meetings for the year. The lodge has done some work, but there has been a lack of interest, and the work has not been what I would like to have seen. We hope for better interest in the future. I have tried to get them out to rehearse, but without success.

In closing, I wish to thank the officers and members of the lodges in the Fifteenth District for their kindness and courtesy, and for the kind welcome I have received on my official visits, as I shall look back on them with much pleasure.

And now, Most Worshipful, allow me to thank you again for the honor conferred upon me by your appointment as your representative in the Fifteenth Masonic District.

Fraternally submitted,

FRED RAYMOND, *D. D. G. M., 15th M. D.*

Livermore Falls, April 22, 1901.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to present to you my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Sixteenth Masonic District.

I have visited all the lodges in the district except one, and am pleased to report them in good condition, with capable officers who show a commendable desire to be as nearly as possible perfect in the work. There has been a considerable increase in the membership of the lodges, as you will see by my report.

November 6, 1900, I visited King Hiram Lodge, No. 57, Dixfield, and publicly installed the officers; there was quite a large company present, all of whom seemed much interested in the installation ceremonies, after which refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed.

April 1, 1901, I visited Evening Star Lodge, No. 147, Buckfield. The work was in the Master Mason's degree on two candidates, and was done in a manner almost perfect, the work of all the officers being of a high order. All brethren are much interested, several coming four or five miles, though the roads were very bad and the traveling almost impossible. This lodge is having lots of work this winter; after the work, refreshments were served. The records are well kept, dues well collected, finances all right.

March 5th, I again visited King Hiram Lodge, Dixfield, and witnessed work in the Master Mason's degree; the work was well done; very few corrections had to be made. This lodge is enjoying an era of prosperity which they well deserve. The officers are taking lots of pains to bring the work up to the highest standard; the records are well looked after by Bro. THOMPSON; the dues are well collected. The Master has removed to Millinocket, but when they have such Past Masters as Bro. DON S. GATES, the loss is not so seriously felt. Finances all right.

December 11th, I visited Bethel Lodge, No. 97, Bethel, and publicly installed their officers, assisted by P. J. G. W. GOODWIN R. WILEY as Grand Marshal; there was a large company present, all of whom seemed much interested; after the installation ceremonies we adjourned to the vestry of the Congregational Church, where a bountiful supper was spread, after which a social was enjoyed.

April 11th, I again visited Bethel Lodge; the work was in the Master Mason's degree and done very creditably, few corrections being necessary. The records, in the hands of Bro. LOVEJOY, are well kept; dues fairly well collected. About forty of the brethren from Oxford and Paris Lodges were present to witness the work. After the work we were called from labor to refreshment, following which speaking was in order; a very pleasant occasion.

March 29th, I visited Oxford Lodge, No. 18, Norway; the work was in the F. C. degree, and was all that could be desired. This lodge has a high standard in the Sixteenth District, which was fully maintained at the time of my visit. They have a very fine library, and are constantly adding to it; the records are still in the hands of Bro. HOWARD D. SMITH, and it is needless to say are all right; dues are well collected.

April 2d, I visited Paris Lodge, No. 94, South Paris. Although my visit was unexpected by the brethren, they extended to me a hearty welcome. The work was in the Entered Apprentice degree, and very well done, few corrections having to be made. The officers are interested in doing the work correctly and according to the ritual. The records are well kept and the dues fairly well collected; finances all right.

April 10th, I visited Jefferson Lodge, No. 100, Bryant's Pond; the work was in the E. A. degree. This lodge has a reputation for doing first class work, and the work on this occasion was done in a very smooth manner. The officers are all that could be desired. The records are all well kept and the dues very well collected. After the work refreshments were served. I was much pleased to see by the records that they had made an honorary member of that faithful brother, ALDEN CHASE, so long the Secretary of Jefferson Lodge.

April 2d, I visited Granite Lodge, No. 182, West Paris; the work was in the M. M. degree on two candidates, and was done in a very pleasing manner. The candidates could not help being deeply impressed by the manner in which the degrees were conferred. There was quite a large number of brethren present; very few corrections had to be made; the records are well kept; dues fairly well corrected.

Owing to sickness I did not visit Crooked River Lodge. This lodge is doing good work and has had several candidates this winter. Bro. GEO. W. HOLMES was, at my request, intending to make an official visit, but the roads were in such bad condition that he could not go.

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, being my own lodge, I have not visited it officially but have been present at most of the meetings. The lodge has been doing the usual large amount of work this winter, and are doing it well. The records are in the hands of Bro. F. A. PORTER; are models of neatness and correctness; dues are well collected. I will add that all the lodges in the Sixteenth District examined their candidates in open lodge.

In closing my report, I desire to thank the officers and members of all the lodges for the courtesy with which I have been received and entertained; and you, Most Worshipful, for the honor of my second appointment.

Fraternally submitted,

J. W. SIMPSON, *D. D. G. M. 16th M. D.*

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Seventeenth Masonic District.

June 25th, I visited Deering Lodge, No. 183, Portland, and witnessed the conferring of the E. A. degree, which was done in the most impressive and correct manner. There was a large attendance and very much interest manifested in the work. This lodge is all right in every particular, and the true fraternal spirit is always present.

November 1st, I visited Standish Lodge. The work of the evening was the conferring of the M. M. degree, and done in such a manner as to reflect great credit upon W. Bro. THOMPSON and his officers. This lodge is prospering finely, dues well collected, records well kept. A good average attendance, and financial conditions good. A fine collation and a very social hour closed a pleasant occasion.

December 20th, by invitation of the Wor. Bro. HOWELL, and assisted by Bro. ALFRED KING as Grand Marshal, I installed the officers of Ancient Landmark Lodge of Portland. This was a public installation, about three hundred being present. The Mozart Quartet rendered appropriate music. This very pleasant occasion closed with a fine banquet and pleasing entertainment.

December 26th, I installed the officers of Harmony Lodge, at Gorham. This was a joint installation of the lodge and chapter of the O. E. S., making a very social and pleasant occasion. A fine collation was served by the ladies.

February 6th, I visited Ancient Landmark Lodge and witnessed the conferring of the F. C. degree. The work was beautifully and correctly done and was witnessed by a large number of visiting brethren, who showed their appreciation of the officers' efforts by the close attention given. Bro. RUSSELL still takes care of the records of this lodge and they are always neat and correct. A fine banquet was served at the close.

February 20th, I visited Atlantic Lodge, Portland, and witnessed the conferring of the F. C. degree, which was done in the usual correct and impressive manner characteristic of this lodge. Records, in the hands of Bro. FOX, are neatly and correctly kept; dues well collected, and financially one of the strong lodges.

February 26th, I visited Hiram Lodge, at South Portland, and here also the work was in the F. C. degree, and as this lodge has an established reputation for doing fine work, further comment is unnecessary, except to say that on this occasion it was fully up to the standard. The records, in the hands of Bro. WEEKS, are neat and correct; dues fairly well collected, and a prosperous condition attends the lodge. A banquet and social hour was enjoyed by a large number of visiting brethren.

February 27th, I visited Harmony Lodge, and witnessed the conferring of the F. C. degree, which was quite correctly done, only a few errors occurring. Since my report of last year, this good old lodge has rallied again; harmony prevails, and without any doubt it will soon take its place in the front rank again. The records, in the hands of Bro. GUPPILL, is assurance enough that they will always be found correct, and the dues well collected.

March 2d, I visited Presumpscot Lodge, at North Windham, and witnessed the conferring of the M. M. degree on one candidate. Absence of officers, and small attendance generally, made it hard for Wor. Bro. ALLEN, yet the work

was done in a fairly creditable manner. The records are correctly kept; dues fairly well collected.

March 5th, I visited Casco Lodge, at Yarmouth. The F. C. degree was conferred and was very correctly done. The records, in the hands of Bro. MOORE, are neat and correct, and dues well collected. The financial condition of this lodge is good.

March 6th, I visited Warren Phillips Lodge, Westbrook. The work was in the E. A. degree, and as this lodge always aims to do fine work, on this occasion there was no exception. A fine stereopticon is used in this lodge, which, I think, adds much to the impressiveness of the work, besides making a more lasting impression upon the mind of the candidate. Bro. WATERHOUSE still looks after the records, and for correctness and neatness, cannot be surpassed. Dues are collected very closely and a good fund safely cared for. A fine collation was enjoyed at the close.

March 13th, I visited Portland Lodge, and witnessed the conferring of the M. M. degree. The work was well and correctly done, every officer taking his part in a very creditable manner, giving evidence of considerable study, and a strong desire to impress the candidate. Neat and correct records, and dues well collected, is to the credit of Bro. GOULD, and a large invested fund to the credit of the lodge. A fine banquet and social hour was enjoyed by the large number of brethren present.

March 20th, I visited Temple Lodge, in Westbrook, and witnessed work in the E. A. degree, and although some of the principal officers are doing their first work in the lodge, as a whole it was highly creditable. This being my home lodge, I can vouch for it in every particular. Records are well kept and dues well collected. The financial condition of the lodge is good.

In closing, I am pleased to report that the lodges in this district are in harmony with each other; fraternal visitations are frequent and the social part of our great institution well maintained. And now, M. W., permit me to thank you for the honor of a second appointment, and through you render my sincere thanks to the officers and members of the several lodges in this district for the uniform courtesy and hospitality extended to me on all occasions.

Fraternally submitted,

ALBERT H. BURROUGHS, *D. D. G. M. 17th M. D.*

Westbrook, March 30, 1901.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my official report for the masonic year just closed. It has been my pleasure to visit each of the several lodges in the Eighteenth District in good weather.

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On November 23, 1900, I, in company with a large delegation from my home lodge, visited Greenleaf Lodge, No. 117, Cornish, where I witnessed work in M. M. degree upon two candidates. The work was of the very best, in fact, it was as fine as I have ever seen in any lodge. This meeting had been arranged for weeks before it took place. Each lodge in this district had received an invitation to be present, and one hundred and six visitors availed themselves of the opportunity. I was very glad to see so many from all over the district. Greenleaf Lodge was in the pink of condition. Nearly all of its officers had seen long service, and, as I was privately informed, they had been having rehearsals, getting in trim for this occasion, which certainly was a credit to themselves. This is the only way perfection can be reached, and I wish more of the lodges would imitate their example. The Secretary, Bro. PARKER, makes a fine record. After the usual remarks the lodge was closed and all were treated to a fine supper in their banquet hall.

December 28th, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Pythagorean Lodge, No. 11, in the presence of a large audience. Of this, my home lodge, I naturally feel a little delicate about making any comments. I have attended its communications regularly. Work has been done nearly every meeting during the past year. Harmony and good will prevail.

January 29th, I visited Mount Tir'em Lodge, No. 132, of Waterford. Notwithstanding the cold weather, a goodly number of the brethren were in attendance. Work was exemplified in the E. A. degree in a very creditable manner. The remainder of the evening was taken up in asking and answering questions. While this lodge is having a season of rest from its labors, there is a goodly interest manifested for the welfare of the craft. The records are in the hands of Past District Deputy JEWETT, and are nicely kept.

January 30th, I visited Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 56, of Denmark. There being no work on hand, the evening was pleasantly and profitably devoted to the ritual. This is one of the old pioneer lodges—its jurisdiction small. It has a pleasant little home and its brethren seemed to be happy and harmonious. When suitable work presents itself, I have no doubt it will find its officers in condition to give the proper instruction. The records are nicely kept by Brother Doctor BROWN.

February 9th, I visited Shepherd's River Lodge, No. 169, of Brownfield. This was a special communication, called for my convenience. Work in the M. M. degree was very creditably done. This is the weakest lodge, numerically, in the district, but it ranks well in its work. Wor. Master GOULD is a zealous mason and a good worker. At the close of labor, refreshments, fit for the King to partake of, were served.

February 14th, I visited Delta Lodge, No. 153, of Lovell. There being no work on hand, the E. A. degree was exemplified in a fairly creditable manner. The balance of the evening was devoted to the ritual. I found the records well kept.

On March 2d, I visited Oriental Lodge, No. 13, of Bridgton. I witnessed work in the M. M. degree on two candidates. The reputation of this old lodge for a long number of years has been very flattering, and the new officers fully sustain that record at the present time. Over thirty years ago this lodge built a fine hall and necessarily got heavily in debt. I was informed that during the past year they had paid off their debt and now own one of the finest masonic homes in this part of the county. Quite a number of delegations from other lodges were present, among whom were Past D. D. JEWETT and Wor. Master RICE, of Waterford. At the close of the meeting, substantial refreshments were served.

The Secretaries in the different lodges in this district have seen long service in the various stations in their respective lodges and are well adapted to the important positions they hold. Their returns came in promptly and all were correct.

In closing, I desire to thank the officers and members of the lodges in this district for their uniformly kind and courteous treatment.

Fraternally submitted,

TOBIAS L. EASTMAN, *D. D. G. M. 18th M. D.*

Fryeburg, April 15, 1901.

NINETEETH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herewith submit my official report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Nineteenth Masonic District.

I have, with two exceptions, visited all the lodges in the district, and should have visited all if not unavoidably prevented.

June 30th, I visited York Lodge, No. 22, at Kennebunk, and witnessed the working of the M. M. degree, which was very well done, the ritual being closely followed. The work of the Master of the lodge, WILLIAM TITCOMB, and the Senior and Junior Wardens was particularly good. A large number of members and visitors were present and considerable interest was manifested. At the close of the meeting remarks were made and a delicious banquet was served. This lodge is in good financial condition, have beautiful rooms and a good membership. The records are neatly and correctly kept by the hand of Bro. GEO. A. GILPATRICK.

July 11th, visited Naval Lodge, No. 184, at Kittery, and witnessed the working of the Third degree by the officers of the lodge. The work of W. M. DAVID G. WALKER was very finely done, he being one of the most

perfect ritualists I have ever seen in the Master's chair, and having a very pleasing manner of address. The lodge is in excellent financial condition and the Secretary is able and correct in his work. The other officers filled their positions well. Refreshments followed the work.

October 16th, visited Arundel Lodge, No. 76, located at Kennebunkport, and witnessed work in the Third degree. Past District Deputy ISAAC P. GOOCH was W. M. of the lodge. Bro. GOOCH is a correct and very impressive officer, and he has a corps of young and able officers, who, under the direction of their W. M., produced work which was a credit to themselves and the Order. The lodge room was filled to overflowing with the members of the lodge and visitors, and deep interest was shown in the work. After the work a banquet was served and highly enjoyed by all present.

October 26th, visited Yorkshire Lodge, No. 179, at North Berwick. The same officers were in the chair as at my visitation of last year, and the improvement in the work over that of last year was very marked. This lodge has had a very successful year, taking in ten new members, and improving in financial standing and social interest, as well as in the correctness of ritual and painstaking floor work. At the close of work a sumptuous banquet was served in the banquet room adjoining the hall, and interesting remarks were made by the brethren, including pastors of two of the local churches. Such occasions greatly strengthen the Order.

November 1st, I visited Arion Lodge, No. 162, at Goodwin's Mills, and witnessed work in the Third degree, which was fairly well done, considering that this lodge has had no work for nearly four years, when they lost all of their lodge furnishings by fire. I feel in hopes that this lodge is now going to enjoy a period of prosperity, as considerable interest is manifested among the members, and they have several applications for membership. At the close of the work a banquet was served in the banquet room, followed by pleasant intercourse socially. This lodge is fortunate in having an able and interested Secretary in the person of J. BURTON ROBERTS; who has done much to hold the lodge together through its period of depression and bring about its present good condition.

November 5th, visited Saint John's Lodge, No. 51, at South Berwick. The Third degree was worked in an impressive manner, the work of the Senior Deacon being very fine. The lodge is fortunate in having very nice quarters and in being in fairly good financial condition. At the close of the work refreshments were served in the banquet room, followed by some very interesting and instructive remarks by members of the lodge and visitors.

April 1st, visited Dunlap Lodge, No. 47, at Biddeford. Witnessed work in the Third degree, which was very finely done. The W. M., JAMES H. BRADBURY, is a perfect ritualist and has a fine presence and good delivery. The work of the S. W. was faultless and pleasing, and the other officers all did

work of a high order. This lodge has magnificent quarters richly furnished. The floor work was prompt, military and impressive, and taken all together I consider the evening's work one of the most successful I have ever witnessed. The lodge is in flourishing financial condition and its roll of membership embraces men of sound business and social standing in the city.

I have visited Saco Lodge, No. 9, though not officially. I have seen the Third degree worked, and consider the work done by its officers this year ahead of the work of last year. This lodge has had a greater number of initiates this year than any other lodge in this district, and is in excellent financial condition.

The work in nearly every lodge is better and more correct than last year. Among the improvements I wish particularly to mention the examination of candidates in open lodge, which is now almost universal throughout the district; also the improvement in floor work and seriousness of deportment among officers and members during the work.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you most sincerely for the honor you have conferred upon me, and through you the officers and members of the lodges in this district, for the kindness and courtesy they have extended to me as your representative.

Respectfully submitted,

EVERETT M. STAPLES, *D. D. G. M. 19th M. D.*

Biddeford, April 17, 1901.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to present my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Twentieth Masonic District. I visited all of the lodges in this district and find them in good condition financially, and although no great amount of work has been done during the past year, the interest in Masonry is still good.

On September 8, 1900, I visited Baskahegan Lodge, No. 175, at Danforth. This being the night of installation, with the assistance of Past Master Bro. DINZEE as Grand Marshal, I installed their officers, after which the M. M. degree was conferred on one candidate, by the newly installed officers, in a very fine manner. At the closing of the lodge refreshments were served. The records are still in the hands of Bro. PARKER, and are neat and correct.

On October 6th, I visited Forest Lodge, No. 148, at Springfield. This being the night of their installation, which was open to the public, with the assistance of Past Master Bro. RALPH SCRIBNER as Grand Marshal, I installed

their officers. No candidate being present at this meeting, after installation, refreshments were served by the ladies, and a short entertainment was given by the young people. The records, in the hands of Bro. TRASK, are correct.

On December 4th, I installed the officers of Horeb Lodge, No. 93, at Lincoln, Past Master FRANK R. LINTON acting as Grand Marshal. This is my home lodge. Horeb is doing good work as usual. The records are now in the hands of Bro. LINTON, and are all right.

On March 3d, I visited Pine Tree Lodge, No. 172, at Mattawamkeag. Having no work, the evening was spent in passing lectures. The records are still in the hands of Bro. GEO. W. SMITH, which is proof of their being correct.

In closing, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you for the honor conferred and the brethren of this district for the courtesies extended. I have tried to do my duty.

Fraternally submitted.

Lincoln, March 18, 1901.

P. J. MILLS, D. D. G. M. 20th M. D.

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Twenty-first Masonic District.

November 23d, 1900, I attended the Grand Lecturer's convention at Guilford, and although the attendance was small yet the meeting was interesting and very instructive, the day being spent in going over the work of the several degrees, Grand Lecturer SLEEPER making corrections and explanations as occasion required.

On December 20th, I visited Tremont Lodge, No. 77, at South West Harbor, and publicly installed its officers, being assisted by Wor. Bro. WM. L. GILLEY as Grand Marshal. A good number of the brethren were present and some forty-five or fifty friends who came in to witness the installation. Excellent music was furnished and the occasion was an enjoyable one. After the installation we repaired to Odd Fellows' banquet room, where supper was furnished by the ladies of the O. E. S. We then returned to masonic hall, where a programme was arranged for the evening, consisting of singing, speaking, &c., and a very pleasant evening was spent.

On January 31st, I made an official visit to Tremont Lodge and inspected the records, which I found still in the hands of Bro. W. R. KEENE and very neatly and well kept. The dues are well collected and the lodge is in a good

financial condition. The W. M. is a young mason and had had no practice since being installed. The work of the F. C. degree was exemplified, the work being done very creditably, the S. D. giving the lecture in a very fine and impressive manner. Such corrections as were necessary were made and instruction given. With a little practice this lodge will do excellent work.

On December 31st, I visited Felicity Lodge, No. 19, Bucksport. The meeting was well attended, and I found the records in good shape. The finances are well and carefully handled. The dues are collected so well that at the close of the year there were less than thirty dollars due. The F. C. degree was conferred on one candidate, the work being well done, and but few corrections were needed. While this lodge has not done a great amount of work during the past year, the officers and members are interested, and with the good corps of officers they have, I see no reason why they should not maintain their present standard of good work.

On January 1st, I visited Rising Sun Lodge, No. 71, Orland, at which time the work of the E. A. degree was exemplified. The work was exceedingly well done, W. M. HUTCHINS giving the lecture in a very clear and impressive manner. The S. D. and other officers have their parts well committed, and the lodge is in good working order. The records are neatly and well kept, and the dues are well collected.

On January 2d, I publicly installed the officers of Rising Sun Lodge, assisted by Bro. F. E. COTTON as Grand Marshal. The brethren met at 7 P. M. in Masonic Hall, where a lodge of Master Masons was duly opened, and then adjourned to the Town Hall, where a large number had gathered, and after the installation we were invited to sit down to a most bountiful supper which had been prepared for the occasion, after which some time was spent in social enjoyment, all enjoying the evening very much.

January 4th, I made an official visit to David A. Hooper Lodge, No. 201. There was a large number of visitors from Winter Harbor Lodge and several from the lodges at Ellsworth. The M. M. degree was conferred, the work being done in a very creditable manner, the officers all taking their parts well. The records are neatly and well kept, and great care is used in getting in the dues. After the work, assisted by R. W. JAMES E. PARSONS, P. D. D. G. M., I installed the officers. This is the youngest lodge in the district but its members are interested, its officers well qualified for work, and altogether is a strong lodge for a young one. Refreshments were served after the work.

January 7th, I publicly installed the officers of Bar Harbor Lodge, No. 185, Bar Harbor, being assisted by Wor. Bro. H. E. WAKEFIELD as Grand Marshal. This is my home lodge, and I have been present at most of the meetings and witnessed work in all of the degrees several times. This lodge has a good corps of officers and does good work. The records are still in the hands of Bro. B. L. HADLEY, and are well kept, and the dues are collected

promptly. A good amount of work has been done the past year, and several candidates are now on the road.

January 21st, by invitation, I publicly installed the officers of Lygonia Lodge, No. 40, Ellsworth, R. W. Sen. G. Warden JAMES E. PARSONS assisting as Grand Marshal. The lodge met at its hall and opened a lodge of M. M., and then adjourned to Esoteric Lodge room, where a goodly number had gathered, and after the installation some time was spent in social enjoyment. Refreshments were served during the evening, and altogether it was a very pleasant time. This lodge is doing good work, and with Bro. PARSONS still caring for the records, it need not be said that the dues will be promptly and well collected and the finances of the lodge faithfully looked after.

On January 23d, I made an official visit to Winter Harbor Lodge, No. 192, Winter Harbor. The lodge had no regular work, but at my request the work of the E. A. degree was exemplified, being exceedingly well done. Although the officers had been installed but a short time, yet they had their parts committed so that they were able to go through the degree with but very little prompting, the ritual being followed very closely. Needed corrections were made and instruction given on the work of the different degrees. I found the dues well collected, and the records in good shape.

April 4th, I inspected the records of Lygonia Lodge, and found them in first-class shape with the dues well collected. Although I did not at this time witness work by the lodge, I have seen the officers work and know their ability to do good work.

On February 22d, according to previous appointment, the brethren of the Twenty-first District met in convention at Ellsworth for mutual instruction and improvement in the work. The convention was called to order at 2.30 P. M., and Bro. B. L. HADLEY was appointed Secretary of the convention. A lodge of Master Masons was then opened, and after a few remarks by the D. D. G. M., W. M. A. B. HUTCHINS, of Rising Sun Lodge, was called upon, who with his corps of officers assumed their stations and exemplified the work of the E. A. degree. The work was done in a highly commendable manner, it being necessary to make but very few corrections. An opportunity was given for criticism, questions were asked and instruction given on points at issue.

W. M. GEO. HARMAN, of Tremont Lodge, was then called upon, and with his corps of officers assumed their stations and exemplified the work of the F. C. degree. W. M. HARMAN had been unfortunate in being sick much of the time since his installation, and had not had a great amount of practice, but the ritual was closely followed by all the officers, the S. D. giving the lecture in a very pleasant manner, making the work very impressive throughout. An opportunity was given as before for criticism and questions, and instruction given where needed. The convention was then called from labor to re-

freshment, and all repaired to the banquet room, where the wants of the inner man were satisfied with the viands which had been prepared. I had hoped that the two lodges at Ellsworth would have a detail to work the M. M. degree in the evening, but at a late day found that they could not do so, and as I was anxious to have actual work, I applied to M. W. Grand Master CHOATE, for a dispensation for Bar Harbor Lodge to confer the M. M. degree at that time. The dispensation was very kindly granted, and at 7.30 P. M. the convention was called from refreshment to labor and Bar Harbor Lodge was called upon. W. M. EBEN K. WHITTAKER assumed the East, his officers taking their stations, and a lodge of Master Masons was duly opened. Bro. ABBOTT E. LAWRENCE having been duly initiated as an Entered Apprentice, passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft, was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

The work was done in such a manner as showed a high degree of proficiency. A very few corrections were made as to the use of different words, but on the whole, the work was so well done as to elicit favorable comment, thus sustaining the reputation Bar Harbor Lodge has for doing good work. Some time was spent in remarks, which were very interesting and profitable. Every lodge in the district was represented at this convention, and thirteen lodges outside the district, making in all twenty-two lodges, and a total of about two hundred and fifty-five or sixty brethren. I regard these district conventions as of great benefit to the craft, in bringing about a uniformity in the work, as well as resulting in a high degree of proficiency. At a late hour the convention adjourned, the brethren feeling that the day had been well spent.

March 16th, I made an official visit to Mount Desert Lodge, No. 140, Mount Desert. The lodge had no regular work at this time and the newly installed officers had only met once or twice for practice. Upon my request, the work of the E. A. degree was exemplified, a brother kindly consenting to act as candidate. Some corrections had to be made as to the use of words, and instruction given on different parts of the work. I found the records in good shape, and still in the hands of Bro. LYMAN H. SOMES. Since the close of accounts for 1899, this lodge has paid off the balance of their indebtedness on their hall, so that they now have a lodge home clear of debt and the lodge is in a prosperous condition. The dues have been well collected during the past year, some five hundred dollars having been collected, thus placing the lodge on a good, strong financial basis.

April 4th, I visited Esoteric Lodge officially, and examined the records, which I found to be neatly and well kept with an exceedingly small amount of dues uncollected. This lodge has a reputation for good work, but several of the officers are away, making it somewhat hard for the new officers, as the stations have to be filled from night to night. The officers are interested, and

with the work which the lodge has been having and has on hand, I have no doubt that this lodge will sustain its record for good work.

The several lodges in the Twenty-first District make a practice of requiring candidates to pass an examination in open lodge as to their proficiency in the preceding degree before advancing, which is a great benefit to the candidate as well as to the lodge, as they then are able to understand the beauties of Masonry and be of more use to the lodge if called upon to fill an office. The lodges throughout the district are in a good healthy condition. I have conferred the P. M. degree on three candidates, and have issued three P. M. diplomas.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful, I wish to thank you most sincerely for the honor conferred by appointing me a second time as D. D. G. M. I have derived a great deal of pleasure from my associations with the brethren as well as much profit. And to the brethren of the Twenty-first District, I would, through you, extend my cordial thanks for the many kindnesses shown and the support they have given me on all occasions.

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES F. PAINE, *D. D. G. M. 21st M. D.*

Bar Harbor, April 17, 1901.

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to herewith submit my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Twenty-second Masonic District.

As I last year reported every lodge in this district fully and in detail, I will at this time try to be as brief as possible. It is with keen satisfaction that I am able to state that the lodges as a whole in this district are much more prosperous than for many years. Nearly all are doing work, and several, notably Meridian, of Pittsfield, Meridian Splendor, of Newport, and my home lodge, Corinthian, of Hartland, are compelled to hold special communications and work more than one candidate at a meeting in order to keep up. The lodges have been fortunate in the choice of their officers, and the quality of the work done is highly creditable. The good effects of the Lodges of Instruction begin to be plainly visible in the correctness of the rendering and the improvement of the floor work.

I have had the pleasure of officially visiting every lodge in the district except two, Pacific and Plymouth. Past Master LEWIS HUTCHINGS kindly consented to visit Pacific for me and Past Master WALTER G. LOUD, Plymouth.

Owing to bad roads and the members being scattered, the Pacific meeting failed to materialize, but Bro. LOUD reported the work done at Plymouth as the best he ever witnessed in that lodge. Great credit is due the Secretaries of the several lodges for their care with the records, but I could but wish that some of them would be a little more particular in collecting the dues. It is usually a kindness to a brother to see that he keeps reasonably near square with his lodge.

I again had the pleasure of attending the Lodge of Instruction held by M. W. Grand Lecturer SLEEPER, at Guilford. It was, as it always is, not only instructive but very interesting.

And now, Most Worshipful, please accept my sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me. I also desire to thank the officers and brethren of the several lodges for their uniform kindness and courtesy.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

MILTON L. MERRILL, *D. D. G. M. 22d M. D.*

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

To M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Twenty-third District.

June 12, 1900, in company with other members of Preble Lodge, I visited Springvale Lodge, No. 190. Two candidates received the M. M. degree, the first candidate being raised by Springvale Lodge and the second by Preble Lodge. The work in both instances was beautifully done.

November 10th, at the request of Fraternal Lodge, No. 55, I went to Alfred and publicly installed its officers.

January 2d, at the request of Freedom Lodge, I went to Limerick, and assisted by W. Brothers FRANK M. BRADBURY and HARDY H. MCKENNEY, publicly installed its officers.

February 27th, I visited Day Spring Lodge, No. 107, and witnessed work in M. M. degree, which was exceedingly well done. P. D. D. G. M. MITCHELL was in the East, and that fact is a sufficient guaranty that the work was finely done; their floor work is excellent. The records, still under the care of Bro. HANNAFORD, show his great interest in his lodge.

March 5th, I visited Adoniram Lodge, at Limington, where two candidates were made Master Masons. The work was done well and very few corrections were necessary. I wish now, as I did last year, to impress upon this lodge the necessity of keeping its charter, signed by SIMON GREENLEAF as

M. W. G. M., in a more secure place than by being framed and hung in the lodge room, where it may be destroyed by fire. It should, as well as the chart done in pen and ink by "Squire" MCARTHUR, one of its charter members, be carefully preserved. The records of Adoniram Lodge are faithfully and carefully kept, being still in charge of W. Bro. MCKENNEY.

April 3d, I visited Freedom Lodge, at Limerick, where two candidates were made Master Masons. This lodge has progressed wonderfully in the last four years; all the members take a deep interest in it, and the class of members who belong, and who are coming in, augurs well for the prosperity of Freedom Lodge. The records are this year in new hands, but I think that Bro. HOLLAND will prove himself to be a worthy successor to W. Bro. LIBBY. The work was done in an excellent manner, only a very few corrections being necessary, and that mostly on floor work.

May 1st, I visited Fraternal Lodge, at Alfred, and witnessed work in the E. A. degree; the work was well done, so well done that I could only call their attention to a few things that almost every lodge I have visited mistake.

I intended going to Buxton, but on account of sickness in my family was unable so to do, but with Bro. BERRYMAN as Treasurer, W. Bro. HARMON as Secretary, and P. D. D. G. M. HARGRAVES, I think there can be no doubt as to the welfare of Buxton Lodge.

I wrote to W. Bro. LEAVITT, asking when I could come to Parsonsfield and visit Drummond Lodge. He replied that owing to sickness of many members, it was hard to get a quorum, but they should have work later, but so late that I could not visit it.

Since June I have not been at Springvale Lodge, No. 190, I wanted to go, but things so intervened that I could not, though I am informed that they are prosperous.

I have been to many meetings of my own lodge, but when work was done I have been to some other lodge, which holds its meetings the same night. They are doing finely and taking in only good members. W. Bro. LECKENBY, who for so many years has well and ably filled the position of Secretary, declined a re-nomination last December, and was succeeded by Bro. JOHN WRIGHT, who is doing good and efficient work in that office.

I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting the lodges in this district, and return my hearty thanks to the Masters, Wardens and brethren of the several lodges I have visited for the marked fraternal feeling manifested. At almost every visitation a fine banquet has been served. All the lodges in the Twenty-third District are doing well and have a good balance in the treasury.

In closing, I thank you, Most Worshipful, for my appointment, and I doubt not that my successor will have the same kindly reception from the several lodges that I have had.

Fraternally submitted,

FRANK WILSON, *D. D. G. M. 23d M. D.*

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I herein submit my report of the Twenty-fourth Masonic District.

November 3d, I visited Nezinscot Lodge, at Turner. This was the first time they had worked the M. M. degree, and the work of the evening was a credit to the lodge, and showed to my mind that they took a great interest in the duties that pertained to Masonry. Here I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. FAULKNER, who is ever ready to give a portion of his time to attend the meetings of his lodge. The records are still in the hands of Bro. ANDREWS, well kept and complete. Wor. OLIVER A. SPRAGUE is a strict ritualist—mistakes few and far between—with officers to assist that can be relied on for good work. The finances of this lodge are in good condition. After the work we enjoyed a social hour, with oysters and cigars, and left, feeling that this was a very pleasant lodge to meet.

December 1st, I had the pleasure of meeting the brethren of Cumberland Lodge, at New Gloucester. This is the home lodge of R. W. GEORGE H. GODING. The work was in the M. M. degree, and having three candidates I had a very good chance to witness the work of the lodge. Wor. Bro. WINTER is serving this lodge as Master. He has had experience and is a very pleasant Master to meet. The work was done in a very impressive manner. Records are well kept by Brother GODING. After the work, we repaired to the banquet hall, where we enjoyed a pleasant hour. A bountiful banquet was waiting, after which speech making was in order. After listening to, and meeting with so many from other lodges, and hearing the good report that this lodge is thinking of a new lodge room, besides installing the officers, I thought that it was time to say good bye to all, with the feeling that I had enjoyed a very good meeting.

December 4th, I attended the School of Instruction, at Augusta, and I think we ought to have more of them. Grand Lecturer SLEEPER is to be congratulated in having done his duty by all who visited the Capitol City, and the brethren excelled themselves in entertaining. They had work for the evening, and all left feeling that we had been well repaid for our time. I, for one, hope this will not be my last, as it was my first visit to one of the meetings of instruction.

March 11th, I was present at Ashlar Lodge, Lewiston, and installed the officers, assisted by R. W. E. K. SMITH as Marshal, and R. W. WILLIAM J. BURNHAM as Chaplain. Banquet.

March 12th, I had the pleasure of installing the officers of Tranquil Lodge, Auburn, assisted by Wor. JOHN R. WEBBER as Marshal, and Wor. E. G. HEATH as Chaplain. As this was public, a large gathering of the fraternity

and their ladies, and invited guests, who were not members of the Order, were present; and after the installation, as Tranquil is ever ready, they had a very fine entertainment, and Wor. M. MOORE and all the officers did all in their power to make every one feel that they were glad to meet them. The lodge room was elegant with plants, and every one enjoyed the meeting. A very fine banquet was waiting for all. Tranquil is an old lodge, and is a credit to Masonry.

March 18th, was home night, and Ancient Brothers' worked the M. M. degree. We had expected to have with us the Most Worshipful Grand Master and other officers, but letters of regret on account of sickness left us to meet and work without their presence. Members of Acacia Lodge, of Durham, and many others were here, to witness the work of the evening, which was well done, but as this is my own lodge others can judge it better than I. Rev. J. STANLEY DURKEE, Master, is always ready to speak, is a very good worker in the lodge and is every way fitted for the East. The records, in the hands of Bro. LUDDEN, are all right, and this lodge is prospering better than ever before as regards finances.

February 28th, I visited Webster Lodge, at Sabattus, and witnessed work on F. C. degree, which was well done, as I had every reason to believe it would be, since this is the home of our Grand Lecturer and does not lack for instruction. A lodge that enjoys having one who is always ready to be of use and always right, is, or should be, able to do work that will be a credit at any time. Records well kept by Bro. BANGS; dues well collected and all working for the good of the lodge. After work I installed the officers, assisted by R. W. A. M. PENLEY as Marshal, and W. T. LLOYD PRATT as Chaplain. A banquet followed, but the cars were waiting, so the social hour failed to pass.

March 27th, I met the brethren of Tranquil Lodge, LAVATOR O. MORSE, Master, and witnessed work on M. M. degree. The Master of this lodge is assisted by officers that are all and every one able to do work of high order, and are not only good ritualists, but have a very impressive way of working, so that the candidate sees only the beautiful in Masonry as he takes the degrees. The lodge is very prompt in meeting on time, and I think it is the right way; go to work, get through and get home on time. I met many here who had seen work in this lodge before, and Tranquil always has a good attendance. Records, in the hands of Bro. J. F. ATWOOD, are neat, and I wish I could say something new of them. They are models and complete. Finances good and a fine banquet at the close.

March 28th, I met the brethren of Tyrian Lodge, at Mechanic Falls. Work, E. A. degree. This is a pleasant place to go to spend and enjoy an evening, as they always like to welcome the brethren to their lodge. The work was the first this lodge has had for some time, but was well done, and no doubt exists in my mind but that this is a good working lodge at all times. Records well

kept by Bro. JEFFRIES. After a banquet we had the pleasure of riding through mud and over snow drifts with Bro. CHARLES ANDREWS, who has always been ready to take me out of town, and who will always get you there on time and bring you home the same clip.

April 1st was Ashlar's night, and the banquet came first. I was not there, but it was Ashlar's banquet, and I know it was elaborate, for I have been to them. I looked in, as I wished to speak of it, and found every seat taken, and I think all enjoyed having the banquet first. The work, which was the M. M. degree, was well done, the gathering was large, and all enjoyed it. They also worked the F. C. degree, so I had very good chances to take notice of the work. They did good work, and good work we expect; and when we find masons, like R. W. Bro. BURNHAM, ever present, taking the interest that he takes in Masonry, his own lodge ought to be able and willing to assist. Wor. Bro. WINSHIP is doing good work. Records well kept by Bro. FRED I. MORRILL. The quartet assisted in the work of the evening.

April 10th, I visited Rabboni Lodge, of Lewiston. This is the home lodge of R. W. E. K. SMITH, who is ever present, and enjoys all that pertains to Masonry. The work was on the M. M. degree. Wor. FRANK A. CONANT takes great interest, and is very impressive in the rendering of the ritual. Few mistakes were made, and all the officers acquitted themselves in a creditable manner. The quartet of this lodge was present and assisted, and a goodly number of masons from other lodges witnessed the work. A banquet followed the work, and the hour being late, speeches were very brief, but all enjoyed a good time.

And now, Most Worshipful, I have endeavored, to the best of my ability, to perform the duties of the office you saw fit to honor me with. I find myself under obligations to many of my masonic brethren for the kind and cordial greetings I have received on all occasions, and to the Grand Lecturer, who has ever been ready to assist me at all times. Thanking you for the honor, I am,

Fraternally yours,

LIONEL O. BRACKETT, *D. D. G. M. 24th M. D.*

Auburn, May 3, 1901.

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT.

TO M. W. WINFIELD S. CHOATE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

I have the honor to submit herewith my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Twenty-fifth Masonic District.

On November 23d, I attended the convention for instruction in masonic

work at Guilford. The attendance was good and the work was conducted in that instructive and interesting manner characteristic of Bro. SLEEPER. A careful study was given to the ritual in the three degrees of Masonry, and very helpful suggestions were made as to the floor work in each degree.

Early in the summer of 1900, a movement was begun by some of the masonic brethren in Millinocket to organize a masonic lodge in that place. Having obtained the necessary recommendations from all the lodges whose jurisdiction would be affected by the formation of the new lodge, and also my approval as D. D. G. M. of this district, about thirty Master Masons joined in a petition for a dispensation to the M. W. Grand Master. Dispensation for the new lodge, to be known as Nollesemic Lodge, was granted on November 17th. Regular communications of the lodge are held on the Thursday on or before the full moon in each month, but ever since the granting of the dispensation meetings for the conferring of degrees have been held every Tuesday and Thursday evening. Up to the time of the filing of the return with the Grand Lodge, twenty-four candidates had been initiated and numerous candidates were then awaiting initiation.

On January 10th, by invitation of the officers of the new lodge, I visited them unofficially and witnessed work in the E. A. degree. Three candidates were initiated. The work was done in a very commendable manner. I made a few corrections and suggestions, and impressed upon the officers the necessity of a strict adherence to the ritual.

On March 14th, I visited Nollesemic Lodge officially. The work was the conferring of the M. M. degree. A delegation of about twenty brethren from Katahdin Lodge, No. 98, of Patten, was present at this meeting. I was much pleased with the work; very few corrections had to be made. After the meeting, an excellent banquet was served at the hotel near the lodge room and a social time was enjoyed. The hall of the new lodge is very commodious and convenient for work, and the officers are fully qualified to fill their respective positions. Special credit should be given to the Master, Bro. CHARLES J. MACNUTT, for the energy and enthusiasm which he has thrown into the work. The records of the lodge are in the hands of Bro. WM. J. HEBBER, and I believe he will make a careful and efficient Secretary. The original organizers of the lodge and the new members whom I met, are all men of intelligence and refinement, such as we are all pleased to see become masons. I can, without hesitation, predict a bright future for Nollesemic Lodge.

On February 22d, I made my official visit to Katahdin Lodge, No. 98, of Patten, and inspected the work in the M. M. degree. The officers had been recently elected and this was the first time they had worked the M. M. degree. The intelligence and accuracy of their interpretation of this most beautiful degree was certainly worthy of great praise. The ritual was very closely followed, and I have seldom seen the degree worked so well. Katahdin Lodge

has a good membership, an excellent hall and good material for first-class work. The records of the lodge are well kept and dues are well collected.

On March 6th, I officially visited my home lodge, Monument, No. 96, of Houlton. This was a special communication of the lodge, called for my inspection of the work in the M. M. degree. The degree was conferred upon one candidate in a very satisfactory manner, and the ritual was quite closely followed. I made a few corrections and suggestions. There was a very large attendance and great interest was taken in the work. A delegation from Nollesemic Lodge, of Millinocket, was expected to be present, but was unable to attend. Banquet at the close of the meeting. Monument Lodge is in a very prosperous condition. It has a large membership, and the new members who have been recently admitted are men who will reflect credit upon the fraternity. I have always been a regular attendant upon the meetings of this lodge, and have noted with great pleasure the interest which the members take in its welfare. The records of the lodge are kept in an excellent manner by Bro. CHAS. E. F. STETSON, one of the most painstaking and efficient Secretaries that this lodge has ever had. The finances of the lodge are in good shape.

On March 13th, I attended the annual meeting of my home lodge and conferred the P. M. degree upon the newly elected Master, Bro. ARTHUR G. RICH.

On March 15th, I visited Molunkus Lodge, No. 165, of Sherman Mills. The Master, Bro. JOHN GOSNELL, was necessarily absent from the meeting. I regret to say that the attendance was very small. There being no candidate, and the attendance not being large enough to permit an exemplification of work, we gave our attention to a thorough study of the ritual of the M. M. degree. I think that the apparent lack of interest in this lodge is caused by their having had so little work to do recently. The members present were of the opinion that the prospect for the coming year was brighter, and I trust that the next D. D. G. M. who visits this lodge will see an improvement in its condition and a greater interest on the part of the members in attending its meetings.

On March 16th, I made my official visit to Aroostook Lodge, No. 197, of Blaine. After I had conferred the P. M. degree upon the Master, Bro. WM. A. BEALS, work was exemplified in the M. M. degree in a manner which showed a good understanding of the work upon the part of the officers. A few corrections and suggestions were found necessary, and were made as the exemplification of the work progressed. Banquet and a social time followed. The lodge is in good condition financially, and the records are correctly and neatly kept by Bro. JOHN M. RAMSEY.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the officers and brethren of the various

lodges in this district for the kind and courteous treatment received at their hands, and you, Most Worshipful, for the honor conferred upon me.

GEORGE A. GORHAM, JR., *D. D. G. M. 25th M. D.*

Houlton, April 20, 1901.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Trustees of the Charity Fund.

MASONIC HALL, PORTLAND,
TUESDAY, May 7, 1901.

The Trustees met in the Grand Master's office at 5 P. M.

Present—WINFIELD S. CHOATE, *President*,
ALFRED S. KIMBALL,
JAMES E. PARSONS,
STEPHEN BERRY, *Secretary*,
FRANK E. SLEEPER,
A. M. WETHERBEE,
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,
EDWARD P. BURNHAM,
ARCHIE L. TALBOT.

Many brethren were heard in regard to applications.

The Secretary presented ninety-five applications for aid, with a schedule of the same, which were referred to a committee of two.

The Grand Treasurer's report was presented as follows :

To the Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge.

The subscriber reports, in brief, the transactions of his office for the past year, as follows :

RECEIPTS.	
Balance as per last report,.....	\$1,418.46
Income from investments,.....	1,714.30
Unexpended balance returned by Joseph A. Locke,.....	14.00
Unexpended balance returned by the Grand Master,.....	120.00
	\$3,266.76

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid to beneficiaries,.....	\$1,355.00
Added to Savings Banks investments,.....	420.92
Paid for rent of safe,.....	10.00
Cash to new account,.....	\$1,480.84
	<u>\$3,266.76</u>

The Charity Fund consists of—

	Par Value.	Income.
25 shares Canal National Bank Stock,.....	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 150.00
37 shares Casco National Bank Stock,.....	3,700.00	296.00
14 shares First National Bank Stock,.....	1,400.00	84.00
14 shares National Traders Bank Stock,.....	1,400.00	84.00
10 shares Merchants National Bank Stock,.....	750.00	60.00
20 shares Westbrook Trust Co.,.....	2,000.00	120.00
10 shares C. B. and Q. R. R. Stock,.....	1,000.00	60.00
1 City of Portland bond,.....	1,000.00	60.00
1 Town of Brunswick bond,.....	1,000.00	40.00
1 City of Saco bond,.....	500.00	20.00
1 Mousam Water Co. bond,.....	500.00	25.00
2 Rockland Water Co. bonds,.....	1,500.00	75.00
2 Union Electric Co. bonds,.....	1,000.00	60.00
1 Denver City Tramway Co. bond,.....	500.00	25.00
1 Portland Water Co. bond,.....	1,000.00	40.00
1 Maine Central R. R. bond,.....	500.00	35.00
2 Kennebec Light & Heat Co. bonds,.....	1,000.00	50.00

Cash deposited in—

Maine Savings Bank,.....	2,299.00	81.16
Portland Savings Bank,.....	2,326.08	82.12
Augusta Savings Bank,.....	606.92	21.40
Skowhegan Savings Bank,.....	591.69	17.86
Waterville Saving Bank,.....	602.45	21.24
Wiscasset Savings Bank,.....	615.50	24.84
Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution,.....	2,214.80	78.18
Bath Savings Institution,.....	606.45	21.39
Brunswick Savings Institution,.....	606.49	18.31
Gardiner Savings Institution,.....	600.54	21.19
Portland National Bank,.....	1,207.01	42.61
	<u>\$33,526.93</u>	<u>\$1,714.30</u>

Respectfully submitted,

MARQUIS F. KING, *Grand Treasurer.*

The report was referred to a Committee of Finance, consisting of Bros. TALBOT and PARSONS.

A memorial from Bro. AUSTIN D. KNIGHT, of Hallowell, respecting a Masonic Home, referred to this Board by the Grand Lodge, was received and referred to a committee of the whole for future consideration.

The Committee of Finance reported that the Grand Treasurer's account was found correct and the securities intact, which report, together with the Grand Treasurer's report, were accepted.

Adjourned to 4:30 Wednesday P. M.

WEDNESDAY, May 8, 1901.

Met at 4:30 P. M. in the Grand Master's office.

Present—WINFIELD S. CHOATE, *President*,
ALFRED S. KIMBALL,
JAMES E. PARSONS,
STEPHEN BERRY, *Secretary*,
FRANK E. SLEEPER,
A. M. WETHERBEE,
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE.

The Committee on Applications for Aid reported a schedule, which was accepted.

Voted, That one represent seven dollars.

Voted, That \$1,376 be appropriated to pay the schedule.

Voted, That the renewal of the bond of the Grand Treasurer for \$10,000 be approved and placed in the charge of the Secretary.

Adjourned *sine die*.

Attest:

STEPHEN BERRY, *Secretary*.

Regulations of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

ARTICLE I.

The fund is applicable to the following cases :

First, to poor and worthy members of lodges under this jurisdiction, in cases where the funds of their own lodges are not adequate to the exigency of the case.

Secondly, to poor and worthy masons resident in this state, not members of any subordinate lodge, and being in circumstances to render such membership not a masonic duty.

Thirdly, to poor and worthy masons being sojourners in this state.

Fourthly, to other cases of distress.

ARTICLE II.

The widows and orphans of deceased masons are to be relieved as the husband or parent would be upon the principle stated in preceding article.

ARTICLE III.

Applications for relief are to be made to the Recording Grand Secretary, in writing, signed by the applicant, or some Master Mason in his behalf who is personally cognizant of his circumstances, stating the peculiar circumstances of the case, accompanied with a certificate from the Master of the lodge to which the applicant belongs, or of the nearest lodge, vouching for his masonic standing and his need of the relief prayed for.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 5, 1858.

Voted, That every brother intrusted with funds be required to take receipts for the same, when paid, and forward said receipts forthwith to the Grand Treasurer.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 8, 1862.

Voted, That each Almoner be provided by the Grand Treasurer with one printed blank receipt for each person for whom such Almoner draws money from the Charity Fund, which receipts such Almoner is to cause to be signed by the beneficiaries respectively, and file the same with the Grand Treasurer.

Voted, That no Almoner who fails to file with the Grand Treasurer a receipt from each person for whose benefit money has been appropriated by this Board for the full amount of such appropriation when the money has

been drawn by such Almoner, shall be considered worthy to be entrusted with the sacred office of Almoner for this Charity Fund.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 4, 1871.

Voted, That hereafter no application for relief be considered by the Trustees, unless made in writing, according to Article III of the Regulations of the Charity Fund.

Voted, That the Secretary be directed to make a list of such applications, including all that come to his hands up to Monday evening preceding the day of the Annual Communication, and that all applications presented after that time be referred to the next annual meeting of the Trustees.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary notify every lodge of this action, at least one month before the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 8, 1872.

Resolved, That applications for relief from the Grand Charity Fund *must* state the amount expended in charity during the past year, by the lodge making such application, the names of recipients, and the condition of the finances of the lodge at last annual meeting, or such applications will not be considered by the Trustees.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 6, 1885.

Voted, That hereafter all applications for relief, not seasonably presented in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, be passed over.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 5, 1886.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary, when he sends his papers to the different lodges for their returns, issue a circular to each lodge, notifying them that applications to the Board of Trustees for relief must be made in accordance with the rules of the Board of Trustees,—otherwise they will not be considered.

In Board of Trustees, Portland, May 3, 1899.

Voted, That whenever the Grand Treasurer has any money to invest, or considers any change should be made in the investments, it shall be necessary that such investments and re-investments shall first receive the written approval of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Bro. EDWARD P. BURNHAM, and the Grand Secretary, or either two of them.

A true copy from the Record of Regulations and Votes.

Attest: STEPHEN BERRY, *Sec'y of Board of Trustees.*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge.

—1901.—



ALFRED S. KIMBALL, Grand Master,		Ex-Officio.
WILLIAM J. BURNHAM, Deputy Grand Master,		"
HUGH R. CHAPLIN, Senior Grand Warden,		"
ADELBERT MILLETT, Junior Grand Warden,		"
STEPHEN BERRY, Rec. Grand Secretary,		"
CHARLES I. COLLAMORE,	elected May 2, 1899,	for three years.
FESSENDEN I. DAY,	" " 2,	" " " "
EDWARD P. BURNHAM,	" " 1, 1900,	" " "
ARCHIE L. TALBOT,	" " 1,	" " " "
FRANK E. SLEEPER,	" " 7, 1901,	" " "
A. M. WETHERBEE,	" " 7,	" " "

Amendments . to . Constitution.

Adopted since Edition of 1893.

SEC. 35. The clothing of a Grand Officer shall be as the Grand Lodge shall, from time to time, prescribe. Permanent members of the Grand Lodge shall wear the apron prescribed for Grand Officers.

An officer of a lodge shall wear a blue velvet collar, a silver jewel, and white or figured apron. [1896, p. 64.]

Grand Lodge Clothing under the Foregoing Provision.

Voted, That the clothing of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

The aprons of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple, having the emblem of his office suitably embroidered on the edgings thereof, with purple edging and strings.

The aprons of the other Grand Officers shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple, with purple strings and edging.

That the jewels of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

That of the Grand Master, the Compasses extended to forty-five degrees, with the segment of a circle at the points and a gold or metal gilt plate included, on which is represented an eye, eradiated, with a triangle, also eradiated.

That of the Deputy Grand Master, the Compasses and Square united with a five-pointed star in the centre.

That of the Senior Grand Warden, the Level; Junior Grand Warden, the Plumb; the Grand Treasurer, a Key; Recording

Grand Secretary, Crossed Pens; Corresponding Grand Secretary, Crossed Pens; Grand Chaplain, Book with a Triangle; Grand Marshal, Crossed Rods; Grand Deacons, Dove and Olive Branch; Grand Stewards, Cornucopia; Grand Sword Bearer, Crossed Swords; Grand Standard Bearer, Banner; Grand Pursuivants, a Rod and Sword, crossed; Grand Organist, Lyre; Grand Tyler, Sword.

Each Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master and Past Grand Warden may be distinguished by the jewel prescribed for the office he has filled, with this difference, that such jewel shall be fixed within a circle or oval, of gold or metal gilt. It shall be worn over the left breast.

The Collars of the Grand Officers shall be a purple velvet collar suitably embroidered. [1896, pp. 64 and 65.]

SEC. 94. Every candidate must apply to the lodge in this state nearest his residence, *except* that he must apply to a lodge in the town in which he resides, if one is located there. But when a municipality, or a part of one, is annexed to another under the law of the state, the Grand Lodge may modify this rule in particular cases as it may deem wise. [1898, p. 65.]

SEC. 85. Each lodge shall pay annually towards the support of the Grand Lodge twenty cents each for all of its members, including honorary members and those absent from the state, and two dollars for every candidate initiated. Each lodge shall be entitled to receive as many diplomas from the Grand Lodge as they make Master Masons. And no dues will be remitted unless upon petition of the lodge and the report of a committee of the Grand Lodge thereon. [1898, p. 66.]

SEC. 96. No candidate whose application may be rejected by a lodge, shall be initiated in any lodge under this jurisdiction other than the one which rejected him, except after five years from such rejection, unless the lodge recommend him to another lodge by a unanimous vote—the vote to be taken by the secret ballot; *Provided, however*, that if the candidate shall, at the end of five years from such rejection, be a resident within the jurisdic-

tion of the rejecting lodge, consent shall be granted unless there are more than three negative ballots. And if any mason knowingly assist, or recommend for initiation, to any lodge whatever, any candidate rejected as aforesaid, except as above provided, such mason shall be expelled from the Institution. [1898, p. 66.]

SEC. 25. The District Deputy Grand Masters shall visit the several lodges in their respective districts, once at least in every year; preside in the same, when present; and shall inspect their by-laws, records and mode of working; but if unable to visit any lodge, they may appoint some suitable brother to perform that duty.

They shall communicate to the lodges all such edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, as may be received by them from the Recording Grand Secretary; shall receive and receipt for all dues to the Grand Lodge; receive the returns of the lodges, and make their remarks thereon.

They shall, on or before the first day of April in each year, make a report of their doings to the Grand Master; and they shall attend annually in the Grand Lodge; and they shall pay to the Grand Treasurer all moneys in their hands, or transmit the returns and money to the Grand Treasurer, on or before the fifteenth day of April. They shall be re-imbursed their expenses in visiting the lodges, their accounts being first examined and passed by the Committee of Finance.

Each District Deputy Grand Master, on receiving from the Grand Treasurer the jewel of his office, and the record of the district over which he is appointed, shall give a receipt to the Grand Treasurer, in substance as follows, viz :

“Whereas, I, _____, have been appointed and duly commissioned District Deputy Grand Master for the _____ Masonic District, and have received the collar and jewel appertaining to said office, and the book of records of said district, I hereby promise to return the same at the expiration or revocation of my commission, to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Maine;

and in default thereof, I promise to pay the Treasurer of said Grand Lodge the sum of fifty dollars." [1899, p. 243.]

SEC. 127. No lodge shall form a public procession, funeral processions excepted, without permission from the Grand Master. And it is proper, as a mark of respect for the Chief Magistrate of the Nation or State, to permit lodges to appear in public either upon occasions of a public reception of him, or of public mourning for his death. [1899, p. 243.]

SEC. 91. Every lodge must preserve one copy of the printed Proceedings in the hall, and when a volume is completed should bind it for the use of the lodge. [1899, p. 245.]

ADD TO SECTION 117.

A brother suspended from membership for non-payment of dues will be restored by the payment or remission of the amount due at the time of his suspension, at any time within five years thereafter: but after that time he can be restored only upon his application and a two-thirds vote of the lodge, after payment or remission of the amount in arrears. [1900, p. 46.]

Standing * Regulations,

AMENDED SINCE EDITION OF CONSTITUTION, 1893.



1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer pay to one delegate who shall be present on the first day of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and (unless excused by the Grand Lodge on account of his own sickness or that of his family) attend during the session, for mileage such sum as is granted by the several railroads or steamboats to Portland from the station or landing place in the town where the lodge is located, together with such additional sum for stage fare from the place of location of the lodge to such station or landing place when such is paid; and two dollars for each day's actual attendance, not exceeding three days, when the delegate is a member of the lodge he represents; and the same mileage and per diem to District Deputy Grand Masters and all permanent members. When a lodge is represented by more than one brother, the senior officer shall receive the mileage and per diem. [1900, p. 52.]

19. The Grand Secretary shall notify each Grand Officer, elect or appointed, who has not been installed in the Grand Lodge, of his election or appointment and transmit to him an abstract of Section 10 of the Constitution.

[1894, p. 57, *re-enacted.*]

32. *Resolved*, That, when the hour arrives for the election of the officers of the Grand Lodge, as is provided in the Constitution, the Grand Lodge shall go into an executive session for that purpose, and none but members of the Grand Lodge shall be

present without the consent of the M. W Grand Master in each case. [1898, p. 68. Amended 1900, p. 49.]

22. Repealed 1898, p. 68.

33. *Voted*, That the jurisdiction of Deering Lodge, No. 183, be, and remain until the further order of the Grand Lodge, as it was before the annexation of the City of Deering to the City of Portland. [1899, p. 238.]

34. *Resolved*, That in the case of the death of a Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer, the M. W. Grand Master be authorized, in his discretion, to appoint a special committee to prepare a memorial and present the same to the Grand Lodge at its next session.

[1900. p. 52.]

List of Lodges by Districts.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

District Deputy Grand Master—GEORGE S. ORCUTT, Ashland.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 72 Pioneer, <i>Ashland.</i> | 170 Caribou, <i>Caribou.</i> |
| 112 Eastern Frontier, <i>Fort Fairfield.</i> | 193 Washburn, <i>Washburn.</i> |
| 130 Trinity, <i>Presque Isle.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 2.

District Deputy Grand Master—MILLARD D. LAWRENCE, Eastport.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 7 Eastern, <i>Eastport.</i> | 78 Crescent, <i>Pembroke.</i> |
| 37 Washington, <i>Lubec.</i> | 138 Lewy's Island, <i>Princeton.</i> |
| 46 St. Croix, <i>Calais.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 3.

District Deputy Grand Master—OSMOND A. HOLMES, Addison Point.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2 Warren, <i>East Machias.</i> | 131 Lookout, <i>Culler.</i> |
| 88 Narraguagus, <i>Cherryfield.</i> | 173 Pleiades, <i>Millbridge.</i> |
| 91 Harwood, <i>Machias.</i> | 188 Jonesport, <i>Jonesport.</i> |
| 106 Tuscan, <i>Addison Point.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 4.

District Deputy Grand Master—FRANK A. GROSS, Deer Isle.

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4 Hancock, <i>Castine.</i> | 177 Rising Star, <i>Penobscot.</i> |
| 122 Marine, <i>Deer Isle.</i> | 187 Ira Berry, <i>Bluehill.</i> |
| 128 Eggemoggin, <i>Sedgwick.</i> | 195 Reliance, <i>Stonington.</i> |
| 171 Naskeag, <i>Brooklin.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 5.

District Deputy Grand Master—HAROLD E. MORRILL, Monson.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 39 Penobscot, <i>Dexter</i> . | 149 Doric, <i>Monson</i> . |
| 44 Piscataquis, <i>Milo</i> . | 163 Pleasant River, <i>Brownville</i> . |
| 52 Mosaic, <i>Foxcroft</i> . | 168 Composite, <i>La Grange</i> . |
| 109 Mount Kineo, <i>Guilford</i> . | 200 Columbia, <i>Greenville</i> . |
| 124 Olive Branch, <i>Charleston</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 6.

District Deputy Grand Master—F. ERNEST HARVEY, Kenduskeag.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10 Rising Virtue, <i>Bangor</i> . | 83 St. Andrew's, <i>Bangor</i> . |
| 69 Star in the East, <i>Oldtown</i> . | 87 Benevolent, <i>Carmel</i> . |
| 65 Mystic, <i>Hampden</i> . | 137 Kenduskeag, <i>Kenduskeag</i> . |
| 66 Mechanics', <i>Orono</i> . | 147 Lynde, <i>Hermon</i> . |
| 69 Howard, <i>Winterport</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 7.

District Deputy Grand Master—WILLIS W. WASHBURN, China.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 45 Central, <i>China</i> . | 111 Liberty, <i>Liberty</i> . |
| 58 Unity, <i>Thorndike</i> . | 120 Quantabacook, <i>Searsmont</i> . |
| 85 Star in the West, <i>Unity</i> . | 146 Seabasticook, <i>Clinton</i> . |
| 102 Marsh River, <i>Brooks</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 8.

District Deputy Grand Master—ALBERT M. AMES, Stockton Springs.

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 27 Phoenix, <i>Belfast</i> . | 119 Pownal, <i>Stockton Springs</i> . |
| 62 King David's, <i>Lincolnton</i> . | 126 Timothy Chase, <i>Belfast</i> . |
| 68 Mariners', <i>Searsport</i> . | 151 Excelsior, <i>Northport</i> . |
| 89 Island, <i>Islesboro'</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 9.

District Deputy Grand Master—G. DUDLEY GOULD, Warren.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 6 Amity, <i>Camden</i> . | 82 St. Paul's, <i>Rockport</i> . |
| 15 Orient, <i>Thomaston</i> . | 84 Eureka, <i>Tenant's Harbor</i> . |
| 16 St. George, <i>Warren</i> . | 145 Moses Webster, <i>Vinalhaven</i> . |
| 31 Union, <i>Union</i> . | 184 Knox, <i>South Thomaston</i> . |
| 50 Aurora, <i>Rockland</i> . | 203 Mount Olivet, <i>Washington</i> . |
| 79 Rockland, <i>Rockland</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 10.

District Deputy Grand Master—JOHN H. MAYERS, Dresden. ●

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3 Lincoln, <i>Wiscasset.</i> | 135 Riverside, <i>East Jefferson.</i> |
| 43 Alna, <i>Damariscotta.</i> | 144 Seaside, <i>Boothbay Harbor.</i> |
| 61 King Solomon's, <i>Waldoboro.</i> | 158 Anchor, <i>South Bristol.</i> |
| 74 Bristol, <i>Bristol.</i> | 196 Bay View, <i>East Boothbay.</i> |
| 103 Dresden, <i>Dresden.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 11.

District Deputy Grand Master—THOMAS H. BODGE, Augusta.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 5 Kennebec, <i>Hallowell.</i> | 41 Morning Star, <i>Litchfield Corners.</i> |
| 25 Temple, <i>Winthrop.</i> | 104 Dirigo, <i>Weeks' Mills.</i> |
| 32 Hermon, <i>Gardiner.</i> | 110 Monmouth, <i>Monmouth.</i> |
| 35 Bethlehem, <i>Augusta.</i> | 141 Augusta, <i>Augusta.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 12.

District Deputy Grand Master—JOHN M. WEBBER, Waterville.

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| 33 Waterville, <i>Waterville.</i> | 99 Vernon Valley, <i>Mt. Vernon.</i> |
| 48 Lafayette, <i>Readfield.</i> | 118 Messalonskee, <i>Oakland.</i> |
| 53 Rural, <i>Sidney.</i> | 133 Asylum, <i>Wayne.</i> |
| 54 Vassalboro, <i>North Vassalboro.</i> | 166 Negeumkeag, <i>Vassalboro.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 13.

District Deputy Grand Master—GEORGE G. WEEKS, Fairfield.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 28 Northern Star, <i>North Anson.</i> | 116 Lebanon, <i>South Norridgewock.</i> |
| 34 Somerset, <i>Skowhegan.</i> | 161 Carrabassett, <i>Canaan.</i> |
| 80 Keystone, <i>Solon.</i> | 194 Euclid, <i>Madison.</i> |
| 92 Siloam, <i>Fairfield.</i> | 199 Bingham, <i>Bingham.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 14.

District Deputy Grand Master—HARRY E. PLUMMER, Lisbon Falls.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 8 United, <i>Brunswick.</i> | 63 Richmond, <i>Richmond.</i> |
| 14 Solar, <i>Bath.</i> | 114 Polar Star, <i>Bath.</i> |
| 23 Freeport, <i>Freeport.</i> | 121 Acacia, <i>Durham.</i> |
| 26 Village, <i>Bowdoinham.</i> | 155 Ancient York, <i>Lisbon Falls.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 15.

● District Deputy Grand Master—CHARLES F. ROWELL, Wilton.

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| 20 Maine, <i>Farmington.</i> | 156 Wilton, <i>Wilton.</i> |
| 21 Oriental Star, <i>Livermore Falls.</i> | 167 Whitney, <i>Canton.</i> |
| 67 Blue Mountain, <i>Phillips.</i> | 191 Davis, <i>Strong.</i> |
| 123 Franklin, <i>New Sharon.</i> | 202 Mount Bigelow, <i>Flagstaff.</i> |
| 154 Mystic Tie, <i>Weld.</i> | 204 Mount Abram, <i>Kingfield.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 16.

District Deputy Grand Master—DON A. GATES, Dixfield.

- | | |
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| 18 Oxford, <i>Norway.</i> | 100 Jefferson, <i>Bryant's Pond.</i> |
| 30 Blazing Star, <i>Rumford Falls.</i> | 147 Evening Star, <i>Buckfield.</i> |
| 67 King Hiram, <i>Dixfield,</i> | 152 Crooked River, <i>Bolster's Mills.</i> |
| 94 Paris, <i>South Paris.</i> | 182 Granite, <i>West Paris.</i> |
| 97 Bethel, <i>Bethel.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 17.

District Deputy Grand Master—GEORGE H. OWEN, Portland.

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|--|---|
| 1 Portland, <i>Portland.</i> | 86 Temple, <i>Westbrook.</i> |
| 17 Ancient Land-Mark, <i>Portland.</i> | 127 Presumpscot, <i>North Windham.</i> |
| 36 Casco, <i>Yarmouth.</i> | 180 Hiram, <i>South Portland.</i> |
| 38 Harmony, <i>Gorham.</i> | 183 Deering, <i>Portland.</i> |
| 70 Standish, <i>Standish.</i> | 186 Warren Phillips, <i>Cumb'd Mills.</i> |
| 81 Atlantic, <i>Portland.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 18.

District Deputy Grand Master—TOBIAS L. EASTMAN, Fryeburg.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 11 Pythagorean, <i>Fryeburg.</i> | 132 Mount Tir'em, <i>Waterford,</i> |
| 13 Oriental, <i>Bridgton.</i> | 153 Delta, <i>Lovell.</i> |
| 56 Mount Moriah, <i>Denmark.</i> | 169 Shepherd's River, <i>Brownville.</i> |
| 117 Greenleaf, <i>Cornish.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 19.

District Deputy Grand Master—CHARLES M. SLEEPER, South Berwick.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 9 Saco, <i>Saco.</i> | 142 Ocean, <i>Wells' Depot.</i> |
| 22 York, <i>Kennebunk.</i> | 162 Arion, <i>Goodwin's Mills.</i> |
| 47 Dunlap, <i>Biddeford,</i> | 179 Yorkshire, <i>North Berwick.</i> |
| 51 St. John's, <i>South Berwick.</i> | 184 Naval, <i>Kittery.</i> |
| 76 Arundel, <i>Kennebunkport.</i> | 198 St. Aspinquid, <i>York Village.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 20.

District Deputy Grand Master—JOHN E. CLARK, Winn.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 93 Horeb, <i>Lincoln.</i> | 172 Pine Tree, <i>Mattawamkeag.</i> |
| 148 Forest, <i>Springfield.</i> | 175 Baskahegan, <i>Danforth.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 21.

District Deputy Grand Master—ASHUR B. HUTCHINS, Orland.

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|--|--|
| 19 Felicity, <i>Bucksport.</i> | 159 Esoteric, <i>Ellsworth.</i> |
| 40 Lygonia, <i>Ellsworth.</i> | 185 Bar Harbor, <i>Bar Harbor.</i> |
| 71 Rising Sun, <i>Orland.</i> | 192 Winter Harbor, <i>Winter Harbor.</i> |
| 77 Tremont, <i>Tremont.</i> | 201 David A. Hooper, <i>West Sullivan.</i> |
| 140 Mount Desert, <i>Mount Desert.</i> | |

DISTRICT NO. 22.

District Deputy Grand Master—MILTON L. MERRILL, St. Albans.

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|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 49 Meridian Splendor, <i>Newport.</i> | 125 Meridian, <i>Pittsfield.</i> |
| 64 Pacific, <i>Exeter.</i> | 139 Archon, <i>East Dixmont.</i> |
| 75 Plymouth, <i>Plymouth.</i> | 157 Cambridge, <i>Cambridge.</i> |
| 95 Corinthian, <i>Hartland.</i> | 160 Parian, <i>Corinna.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 23.

District Deputy Grand Master—HARDY H. MCKENNEY, Limington.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 27 Adoniram, <i>Limington.</i> | 115 Buxton, <i>West Buxton.</i> |
| 42 Freedom, <i>Limerick.</i> | 118 Drummond, <i>Parsonsfeld.</i> |
| 55 Fraternal, <i>Alfred.</i> | 143 Preble, <i>Sanford.</i> |
| 107 Day Spring, <i>West Newfield.</i> | 190 Springvale, <i>Springvale.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 24.

District Deputy Grand Master—LIONEL O. BRACKETT, Auburn.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 12 Cumberland, <i>New Gloucester.</i> | 105 Ashlar, <i>Lewiston.</i> |
| 29 Tranquil, <i>Auburn.</i> | 150 Rabboni, <i>Lewiston.</i> |
| 73 Tyrian, <i>Mechanic Falls.</i> | 164 Webster, <i>Sabattus.</i> |
| 101 Nezinscot, <i>Turner.</i> | 178 Ancient Brothers', <i>Auburn.</i> |

DISTRICT NO. 25.

District Deputy Grand Master—GEO. A. GORHAM, JR., Houlton.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 96 Monument, <i>Houlton.</i> | 197 Aroostook, <i>Blaine.</i> |
| 98 Katahdin, <i>Patten.</i> | 205 Nollesemic, <i>Millinocket.</i> |
| 165 Molunkus, <i>Sherman Mills.</i> | |

Officers of the Grand Lodge, 1901.

M. W.	ALFRED S. KIMBALL,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Norway.
R. W.	WILLIAM J. BURNHAM,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Lewiston.
"	HUGH R. CHAPLIN,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Bangor.
"	ADELBERT MILETT,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Searsmont.
"	MARQUIS F. KING,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland.
"	STEPHEN BERRY,	<i>Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
"	CHAS. D. SMITH,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
"	GEORGE S. ORCUTT,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st Dist.</i>	Ashland.
"	MILLARD D. LAWRENCE,	" 2d "	Eastport.
"	OSMOND A. HOLMES,	" 3d "	Addison Point.
"	FRANK A. GROSS,	" 4th "	Deer Isle.
"	HAROLD E. MORRILL,	" 5th "	Monson.
"	F. ERNEST HARVEY,	" 6th "	Kenduskeag.
"	WILLIS W. WASHBURN,	" 7th "	China.
"	ALBERT M. AMES,	" 8th "	Stockton Springs.
"	G. DUDLEY GOULD,	" 9th "	Warren.
"	JOHN H. MAYERS,	" 10th "	Dresden.
"	THOMAS H. BODGE,	" 11th "	Augusta.
"	JOHN M. WEBBER,	" 12th "	Waterville.
"	GEORGE G. WEEKS,	" 13th "	Fairfield.
"	HARRY E. PLUMMER,	" 14th "	Lisbon Falls.
"	CHARLES F. ROWELL,	" 15th "	Wilton.
"	DON A. GATES,	" 16th "	Dixfield.
"	GEORGE H. OWEN,	" 17th "	Portland.
"	TOBIAS L. EASTMAN,	" 18th "	Fryeburg.
"	CHARLES M. SLEEPER,	" 19th "	South Berwick.
"	JOHN E. CLARK,	" 20th "	Winn.
"	ASHUR B. HUTCHINS,	" 21st "	Orland.
"	*MILTON L. MERRILL,	" 22d "	St. Albans.
"	HARDY H. MCKENNEY,	" 23d "	Limington.
"	LIONEL O. BRACKETT,	" 24th "	Auburn.
"	GEO. A. GORHAM, JR.,	" 25th "	Houlton.
W. & Rev.	ELMER F. PEMBER,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Bangor.
"	JOHN GIBSON,	" "	Cape Elizabeth.
"	JOSEPH B. SHEPHERD,	" "	Portland.
"	GEORGE M. HOWE,	" "	Lewiston.
"	WILLIAM E. BROOKS,	" "	South Paris.
W.	BIAL F. BRADBURY,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Norway.
"	JAMES E. KINGSLEY,	" <i>Senior Deacon,</i>	Augusta.
"	FRANCIS L. TALBOT,	" <i>Junior Deacon,</i>	East Machias.
"	CURTIS R. FOSTER,	" <i>Steward,</i>	Ellsworth.
"	RALPH H. BURBANK,	" "	Saco.
"	LORENZO S. ROBINSON,	" "	Rockland.
"	CONVERS E. LEACH,	" "	Portland.
"	WILLIAM N. HOWE,	" <i>Sword Bearer,</i>	Portland.
"	JAMES H. WITHERELL,	" <i>Standard Bearer,</i>	Oakland.
"	OSCAR R. WISH,	" <i>Pursuivant,</i>	Portland.
"	ALBERT H. BURROUGHS,	" "	Westbrook.
M. W.	FRANK E. SLEEPER,	" <i>Lecturer,</i>	Sabbatus.
W.	WALTER S. SMITH,	" <i>Organist,</i>	Portland.
"	WARREN O. CARNEY,	" <i>Tyler,</i>	Portland.

* Appointed in place of Amos W. Moulton, declined.

List of Subordinate Lodges,

WITH . THEIR . PRINCIPAL . OFFICERS,

AS RETURNED MARCH 1, 1901.

-
- Acacia, 121, Durham. William D. Trufant, M; William W. Brown, SW;
Josiah H. Williams, JW; Everett L. Macomber, S. Meeting Tuesday on
or before full moon; election, December. 14
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. John F. Moulton, M; James F. Pillsbury, SW;
Benjamin Small, JW; Hardy H. McKenney, S. Meeting Tuesday on or
before full moon; election, December. 23
- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. George H. Larrabee, M; Rupert B. Mathews, SW;
Wilbur G. Knowlton, JW; Edward E. Philbrook, S. Meeting Wednes-
day on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Amity, 6, Camden. Edward D. Harrington, M; Samuel W. Coombs, SW;
Louis M. Chandler, JW; Henry L. Maker, S. Meeting Friday on or
before full moon; election, October. 9
- Anchor, 158, South Bristol. Eliphalet P. Gamage, M; Everett W. Gamage,
SW; Allen G. Foster, JW; Walter H. McFarland, S. Meeting Wednes-
day on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Ancient Brothers', 178, Auburn. J. Stanley Durkee, M; William E. Perry,
SW; William E. Quimby, JW; Forrest E. Ludden, S. Meeting Monday
on or before full moon; election, October. 24
- Ancient Landmark, 17, Portland. Winslow E. Howell, M; Charles F. Tobie,
SW; Frank C. Allen, JW; John S. Russell, S. Meeting first Wednesday;
election, December. 17
- Ancient York, 155, Lisbon Falls. Irving L. Philbrook, M; William H. Doug-
lass, SW; L. H. Moulton, JW; William Parkin, S. Meeting Monday on or
before full moon; election, September. 14
- Archon, 139, East Dixmont. Fred L. O. Hussey, M; Fred M. Johnston, SW;
Edwin A. Chapin, JW; Benjamin F. Porter, S. Meeting Thursday on or
before full moon; election, October. 22

- Arion, 162, Goodwin's Mills. Ivory W. Murphy, West Kennebunk, m; Wm. M. Staples, Alewife, sw; Elmer N. Littlefield, jw; J. Burton Roberts, Dayton, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, November. 19
- Aroostook, 197, Blaine. Wm. A. Beals, m; Charles G. Briggs, sw; Nelson E. Dorrity, jw; John M. Ramsey, s. Meeting Saturday on or after full moon; election, December. 25
- Arundel, 76, Kennebunkport. Charles S. Gilman, m; Joseph H. Jeffery, sw; William H. Hutchins, Jr., jw; Fordyce B. Perkins, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, February. 19
- Ashlar, 105, Lewiston. Lewis V. Winship, m; Roland L. Woodbury, sw; Chas. O. Morrell, jw; Fred I. Morrell, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 24
- Asylum, 133, Wayne. B. Frank Bradford, m; J. Frank Gordon, sw; Luther M. Norris, jw; Frederick L. Chenery, s. Meeting Tuesday before full moon; election, September. 12
- Atlantic, 81, Portland. Frederick H. Cobb, m; Elihu H. Rice, sw; Frank W. York, jw; Daniel W. Fox, s. Meeting third Wednesday; election, December. 17
- Augusta, 141, Augusta. Irving O. Gage, m; Fred O. Boynton, sw; Freeborn Smith, jw; Claude W. Townsend, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 11
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. Albert H. Newbert, m; Alfred L. Carlton, sw; George E. Clark, jw; Lorenzo S. Robinson, s, (box 568.) Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 9
- Bar Harbor, 185, Bar Harbor. Eben K. Whittaker, m; William L. Pierce, sw; Edgar J. Trussell, jw; Benjamin L. Hadley, s. Meeting third Thursday; election, December. 21
- Baskahegan, 175, Danforth. Charles M. Bither, m; John H. Sargent, sw; Joseph W. Segee, jw; David C. Parker, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, August. 20
- Bay View, 196, East Boothbay. Frank Seavey, m; Geo. W. Gatchel, sw; Harvey R. Barlow, jw; Victor K. Montgomery, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Benevolent, 87, Carmel. Joseph Carter, m. Charles H. Blagden, sw; Dexter D. Roberts, jw; Camillus K. Johnson, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full moon; election, December 27th. 6
- Bethel, 97, Bethel. Herbert C. Rowe, m; Wilfred Bowler, sw; Elmer H. Young, jw; Davis G. Lovejoy, s. Meeting second Thursday; election, November. 16
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Waterman N. Redmond, m; Charles F. Cook, sw; Roland E. Gooch, jw; James E. Blanchard, s. Meeting first Monday; election, November. 11

- Bingham, 199, Bingham. Samuel A. Smith, m; David G. Bean, sw; Tilson H. Foss, jw; George C. Eames, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, June. 13
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford Falls. Virgil A. Linnell, m; Gerald A. Peabody, sw; Frank R. Reed, jw; Fred A. Porter, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October. 16
- Blue Mountain, 67, Phillips. Burton A. Davenport, m; Albert F. Earnshaw, sw; Eugene I. Herrick, jw; Daniel L. Dennison, s. Meeting Wednesday, week of full moon; election, September. 15
- Bristol, 74, Bristol Mills. Carl Z. Bailey, m; Joseph E. Crooker, sw; Charles T. Robbins, jw; Edwin J. Ervine, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Buxton, 115, West Buxton. Oscar D. Rand, m; Howard M. Davis, sw; James Sands, jw; Cyril P. Harmon, s. Meeting Monday evening on or before full moon; election, January. 23
- Cambridge, 157, Cambridge. Melvin W. Knowles, m; Walter H. Ring, sw; J. C. Morrill, jw; J. B. LaBree, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 22
- Caribou, 170, Caribou. A. J. Taylor, m; D. L. Teague, sw; Howard Dow, jw; Arthur A. Garden, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, December. 1
- Carrabassett, 161, Canaan. Alpheus Nason, m; George H. Ames, sw; Horace A. Nason, jw; Harry B. Harris, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Tuesday in October. 13
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Edwin M. White, m; Louis P. Pomeroy, sw; Mads J. Madsen, jw; Herbert M. Moore, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, October. 17
- Central, 45, China. George L. Gilman, m; Charles W. Abbott, sw; Arthur B. Skillin, jw; Willis W. Washburn, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, September. 7
- Columbia, 200, Greenville. George W. Brown, m; Jesse M. Prentiss, sw; Arthur L. Folsom, jw; Henry W. Budden, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 5
- Composite, 168, LaGrange. Perley E. Speed, m; Chauncey D. Doble, sw; Fred D. Sherrard, jw; Andrew H. Dyer, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October. 5
- Corinthian, 95, Hartland. Lynne H. Blanchard, m; Edwin G. Varney, sw; Charles P. Barnes, jw; Wilbert E. Dearborn, s, (box 96.) Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, August. 22
- Crescent, 78, Pembroke. Alvra W. Leighton, m; Arthur T. Flagg, sw; Lyman G. Smith, jw; Eugene S. Wilbur, West Pembroke, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December. 2

- Crooked River, 152, Bolster's Mills. William H. Noyes, m; Walker B. Mills, sw; James M. Meserve, jw; Harry I. Lowell, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, November. 16
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Frank W. Winter, Upper Gloucester, m; Newell P. Haskell, Portland, sw; Cyrus S. Witham, East Raymond, jw; Geo. H. Goding, Lewiston Junction, s. Meeting Saturday before full moon; election, November. 24
- David A. Hooper, 20r, West Sullivan. Gilbert F. Hooper, m; Samuel P. Havey, sw; John Mortimer, jw; Fred B. Havey, s. Meeting first Saturday; election, December. 21
- Davis, 191, Strong. Oscar Sweet, m; Frank O. Welch, sw; Winthrop L. Guild, jw; George R. Winslow, s. Meeting Friday evening of week in which moon is full; election, September. 15
- Day Spring, 107, West Newfield. Ai Q. Mitchell, m; Everett E. Ham, sw; George H. Straw, jw; George O. Hannaford, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, September. 23
- Deering, 183, Portland. Silas B. Adams, m; Charles D. Moses, sw; Herbert B. Seal, jw; Francis E. Chase, Woodfords, s. Meeting second Monday; election, February. 17
- Delta, 153, Lovell. Elmon J. Noyes, m; James H. Walker, sw; George Marston, jw; Edward L. Bell, s. Meeting second Thursday; election, December. 18
- Dirigo, 104, Weeks' Mills. Chas. J. Lincoln, m; Eugene C. Rowe, sw; Moody A. Hisler, jw; Orrin F. Sproul, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, September. 11
- Doric, 149, Monson. Edward P. Blanchard, m; William A. Mills, sw; Roy M. Hescocck, jw; Edwin R. Haynes, s. Meeting Monday on or after full moon; election, December. 5
- Dresden, 103, Dresden Mills. Wilbur F. Cate, m; Geo. W. Palmer, sw; John S. Snow, jw; Nathaniel F. Leeman, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October. 10
- Drummond, 118, Parsonsfield. John H. Benson, m; George G. Edwards, sw; Samuel G. Pease, jw; Albert R. Leavitt, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, September. 23
- Dunlap, 47, Biddeford. James H. Bradbury, m; James E. Etchells, sw; Fred. P. Abbott, jw; Nahum S. Drown, s, (box 205). Meeting first Monday; election, December. 19
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. Frank Bean, m; Walter J. Garnett, sw; William S. Mildon, jw; Wheeler C. Hawkes, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December 27th. 2
- Eastern Frontier, 112, Fort Fairfield. Charles H. Stevens, m; George W. Richardson, sw; James R. Hopkins, jw; Henry O. Perry, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 1

- Eggmoggin, 128, Sedgwick. Henry A. Small, m; John F. Lane, sw; Seth I. Smith, jw; Groves S. Bridges, s. Meeting second Monday; election, January. 4
- Esoteric, 159, Ellsworth. Harvard C. Jordan, m; Onesiphorus H. Bradbury, sw; Harry W. Osgood, sw; Thomas E. Hale, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, January. 21
- Euclid, 194, Madison. Samuel E. Remick, m; Forest J. Ward, sw; Delbert L. Churchill, jw; Irvin L. Russell, s. Meeting first Monday; election, September. 13
- Eureka, 84, Tenant's Harbor. Manfred Humphrey, m; Albion H. Andrews, sw; George H. Wall, jw; Walter H. Mathews, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, January. 9
- Evening Star, 147, Buckfield. John E. Moore, m; Arther E. Cole, sw; Fred R. Dyer, jw; Alfred Cole, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, September. 16
- Excelsior, 151, Northport. Rodel A. Packard, m; Isaac Hills, sw; George G. Race, jw; Fred B. Glidden, s. Meeting Wednesday nearest full moon; election, December. 8
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Howard F. Gilley, m; Nash McKay, sw; Geo. M. Ware, jw; Frederick Wood, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December. 21
- Forest, 148, Springfield. Charles D. Chase, m; Herbert E. Murdock, sw; Hiram E. Stevens, jw; Lysander W. Trask, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 20
- Franklin, 123, New Sharon. Benj. F. Makepeace, m; Manley H. Blaisdell, sw; John M. Rowe, jw; James H. Howes, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September. 15
- Fraternal, 55, Alfred. James H. Littlefield, m; George H. Smith, sw; John D. Bourne, jw; Fred J. Sherburne, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. James F. Chadbourne, m; Edwin Johnston, sw; Wm. Harthorne, jw; James L. Holland, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Freeport, 23, Freeport. Tim Pratt, m; Geo. P. Coffin, sw; Ralph M. Anderson, jw; Winthrop C. Fogg, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 14
- Granite, 182, West Paris. Francis H. Packard, m; Arthur L. Mann, sw; Walter F. Carr, jw; John L. Marshall, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November. 16
- Greenleaf, 117, Cornish. Daniel G. Chaplin, m; L. Murray Watkins, sw; Charles H. Badgley, jw; George H. Parker, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December. 18

- Hancock, 4, Castine. William A. Walker, m; James F. Hooper, sw; Joel W. Reynolds, jw; Charles H. Hooper, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, December. 4
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. Chas. E. Cobb, m; William P. F. Robie, sw; Melville W. Cressey, jw; Edward W. Guptill, s. Meeting Wednesday on or preceding full moon; election, December. 17
- Harwood, 91, Machias. Loring B. Wilder, m; Isaac S. Heaton, sw; Ephie B. Farnsworth, jw; Carl M. Hutchinson, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December 27th. 3
- Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Frederick D. Loring, m; Henry A. Wood, sw; Albert K. Jewett, jw; James M. Larrabee, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 11
- Hiram, 180, South Portland. Frank I. Brown, m; William E. St. John, sw; Fred G. Hamilton, jw; George H. Weeks, Jr., Knightville, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November. 17
- Horeb, 93, Lincoln. Daniel W. Ballantyne, m; Nathan R. Smith, sw; Edwin S. Taylor, jw; Frank R. Linton, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, first Monday in December. 20
- Howard, 69, Winterport. George W. Crockett, m; Newell F. Perry, sw; Leslie W. Mayo, jw; John H. Baker, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December, 6
- Ira Berry, 187, Bluehill. Otis Littlefield, m; Thos. Grieve, sw; Charles A. Snow, jw; Frank A. Davis, s. Meeting third Monday; election, December. 4
- Island, 89, Islesboro'. Edward S. Preble, m; William F. Keller, sw; Austin Trim, jw; Thomas R. Williams, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, February. 8
- Jefferson, 100, Bryant's Pond. James M. Day, m; George W. Q. Perham, sw; Edwin H. Cole, jw; James L. Bowker, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 16
- Jonesport, 188, Jonesport. Samuel B. Cummings, m; Porter R. Cummings, sw; Darius D. Kelley, jw; Clifton M. Rogers, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 3
- Katahdin, 98, Patten. Martin B. Smiley, m; Ferd. G. Huston, sw; Fred E. Arnold, jw; Lorin B. Huston, s. Meeting Thursday on or preceding full moon; election, December. 25
- Kenduskeag, 137, Kenduskeag. Hosea B. Emery, m; Albert L. Spratt, sw; Frank B. Thurston, jw; John H. Everett, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 6
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. Fitz Morris Fish, m; Herbert C. Barrell, sw; Ernest S. Currier, jw; Fred A. Tenney, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, November. 11

- Keystone, 80, Solon. Leander F. McIntire, M; William W. Jackman, SW;
Fred Magoon, JW; Perry S. Longley, S. Meeting Wednesday on or
before full moon; election, third Wednesday of October. 13
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Wilder P. Drinkwater, M; Joseph Gould, SW;
Edgar L. Clark, JW; L. D. Ames, S. Meeting Tuesday evening nearest
full moon; election, December. 8
- King Hiram, 57, Dixfield. John M. Holland, M; Lewis H. Reed, SW; Jas.
S. Sturtevant, JW; John N. Thompson, S. Meeting Tuesday on or after
full moon; election, October. 16
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro. George L. Welt, M; J. Warren Sanborn,
SW; Walter E. Clark, JW; Stephen A. Jones, S. Meeting Friday on or
before full moon; election, December. 10
- Knox, 189, South Thomaston. Alden W. Butler, M; George C. Horn,
SW; Arthur Pierce, JW; M. E. Bassick, S. Meeting first Saturday; elec-
tion, January. 9
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. Elsworth E. Peacock, M; Leon O. Tebbets, SW;
Walter A. Nickerson, JW; Ernest A. Morgan, S. Meeting first Saturday;
election, February. 9
- Lebanon, 116, South Norridgwock. Eben S. Miller, M; Ernest W. Gilman,
SW; Charles R. Sawyer, JW; Charles A. Ward, S. Meeting Saturday on
or before full moon; election, September. 13
- Lewey's Island, 138, Princeton. Theo. Morrison, M; William W. Robinson,
Jr., SW; Albert T. Lamer, JW; Benjamin F. Chadbourne, S. Meeting first
Wednesday; election, December, St. John's Day. 3
- Liberty, 111, Liberty. Percy Leman, Libertyville, M; Albert D. Ramsey,
Center Montville, SW; Willis J. Greely, JW; Ambrose P. Cargill, S.
Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 7
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. John E. Dickinson, M; Charles M. Leavitt, SW;
Frank A. Creamer, JW; William D. Patterson, S. Meeting Thursday on
or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Lookout, 131, Cutler. Merritt G. Huntley, M; Moses B. Stevens, SW; Cole-
man Cassaboom, JW; Forrest S. Stevens, S. Meeting Monday on or
before full moon; election, January. 3
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. F. Carroll Burrill, M; Horatio N. Joy, SW; Adelbert
W. Miles, JW; James E. Parsons, S. Meeting first Wednesday; election,
January. 21
- Lynde, 174, Hermon. J. Mellen Taylor, M; George H. Smith, SW; Howard
B. Leathers, JW; Charles L. Phillips, S. Meeting Saturday on or before
full moon; election, December. 6
- Maine, 20, Farmington. Elvarus A. Russell, M; Newell R. Knowlton, SW;
J. Clinton Metcalf, JW; George B. Cragin, S. Meeting Monday in week
of full moon; election, October. 15

- Marine, 122, Deer Isle. Moses D. Joyce, m; Hudson H. Pressey, sw; Wm S. Green, jw; Moses S. Joyce, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 4
- Mariner's, 68, Searsport. James E. Wentworth, m; Fred M. Perkins, sw; Charles A. Whittier, jw; Charles E. Adams, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, January. 8
- Marsh River, 102, Brooks. Albert R. Pilley, m; Lester B. Cilley, sw; Chas. W. Jennys, jw; Elmer G. Roberts, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 7
- Mechanics', 66, Orono. Nathan C. Grover, m; Anson A. Powers, sw; Irving S. Knapp, jw; Albert J. Durgin, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December 27th. 6
- Meridian, 125, Pittsfield. Benj. E. Cornell, m; Louis O. Haskell, sw; Leon L. Libby, jw; Orin S. Haskell, s. Meeting Friday evening on or before full moon; election, January. 22
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Sumner T. Stuart, m; George H. Sullivan, sw; Daniel P. Warwick, sw; Charles E. Smith, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 22
- Messalonskee, 113, Oakland. Frank E. Burrill, m; J. Edward Harris, sw; Lester M. Andrews, jw; Orestes E. Crowell, s. Meeting on the first Saturday; election, December. 12
- Molunkus, 165, Sherman Mills. John Gosnell, m; Daniel H. Perry, sw; Geo. W. Upton, jw; Freeman C. Harris, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, October. 25
- Monmouth, 110, Monmouth. Horace S. Bent, m; Willis L. McKechnie, sw; Weston H. Bishop, jw; Edwin A. Dudley, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 11
- Monument, 96, Houlton. Arthur G. Rich, m; Hjalmer Edblad, sw; George S. Gentle, jw; Charles E. F. Stetson, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, March. 25
- Morning Star, 41, Litchfield Corners. Geo. E. Ring, m; Frank E. Lane, sw; Herbert M. Starbird, jw; Irving W. Gilbert, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 11
- Mosaic, 52, Foxcroft. Ralph W. Hughes, m; Willard W. Blethen, sw; Fred G. Warren, jw; James T. Roberts, Dover, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 5
- Moses Webster, 145, Vinalhaven. Claes E. Boman, m; I. E. Luce, sw; W. F. Lyford, jw; Alexander Davidson, s. Meeting second Tuesday; election, November. 9
- Mount Abram, 204, Kingfield. Ward S. Dolbier, m; Fred Hutchins, acting sw; Lavella A. Norton, jw; Ralph D. Simons, s. Meeting Thursday week of full moon; election, September. 15

- Mount Bigelow, 202, Flagstaff. Grant Fuller, M; Charles L. Rogers, SW;
Benj. E. Savage, JW; Ray Viles, S. Meeting second Saturday; election,
September. 15
- Mount Desert, 140, Mount Desert. Clifford B. Richardson, M; Howard Nor-
wood, SW; Thomas M. Richardson, JW; Lyman H. Somes, S. Meeting
Saturday on or before full moon; election, January. 21
- Mount Kineo, 109, Guilford. Joseph T. Davidson, M; Charles W. Ray, SW;
Ralph H. Marsh, JW; David Pearson, S. Meeting Saturday on or before
full moon; election, December. 5
- Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. Luthur Trumbull, M; George W. Whales, SW;
Daniel B. Johnson, JW; Sidney T. Brown, S. Meeting Wednesday on
or before full moon; election, December. 18
- Mount Olivet, 203, Washington. Thomas Sukeforth, M; Luther A. Law, SW;
Sylvanus C. Pierpont, JW; Wm. M. Staples, Razorville, S. Meeting Fri-
day on or before full moon; election, September. 9
- Mount Tir'em, 132, Waterford. George H. Rice, M; Clarence H. Pride, SW;
Willard C. Goodwin, JW; Isaac F. Jewett, S. Meeting Tuesday on or
before full moon; election, December. 18
- Mystic, 65, Hampden. Sumner D. Greeley, M; C. Fremont Cowan, SW; John
E. Emerson, JW; William H. Tribou, S. Meeting Saturday on or before
full moon; election, December. 6
- Mystic Tie, 154, Weld. Eugene S. Twaddle, M; Joseph A. Witham, SW;
Will W. Holman, JW; Lyman L. Jones, S. Meeting Tuesday of week
of full moon; election, December. 15
- Narraguagus, 88, Cherryfield. Phineas B. Guptill, M; Edward C. Davis, SW;
Lynn C. Haycock, JW; George G. Freeman, S. Meeting Tuesday on or
before the full moon; election, January. 3
- Naskeag, 171, Brooklin. Horace M. Pease, M; Sterling S. Carter, SW; Fred
S. Herrick, JW; Henry S. Kane, S. Meeting first Wednesday; election,
January. 4
- Naval, 184, Kittery. Henry I. Durgin, M; Frederick W. Cross, SW; Gran-
ville O. Berry, JW; Levi L. Goodrich, S. Meeting Wednesday on or
before full moon; election, July. 19
- Neguemkeag, 166, Vassalboro. Harold E. Cook, M; George S. Perkins,
SW; James S. Emery, JW; Charles A. Stilson, S. Meeting Thursday on
or before full moon; election, September. 12
- Nezinscot, 101, Turner. Oliver A. Sprague, M; E. Herbert Cole, SW; Wil-
lard B. French, JW; Seth D. Andrews, S. Meeting Saturday on or before
full moon; election, June. 24
- Nollesemic, 205, Millinocket. Charles J. MacNutt, M; George W. Stearns,
SW; Harry E. Reed, JW; Wm. J. Heebner, S. Meeting Thursday on or
before full moon; election, November. 25

- Northern Star, 28, North Anson. James H. Stevens, m; Herbert H. Marston, sw; Gould A. Porter, jw; Wilbur C. Simmons, s. Meeting Tuesday on or next preceding full moon; election, December. 13
- Ocean, 142, Wells Depot. Charles H. Brown, m; Horace S. Mills, sw; Perley C. Goodwin, jw; Frank L. Buker, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 19
- Olive Branch, 124, Charleston. Wilbur R. Clark, m; H. Warren Foss, sw; George W. Bagley, jw; Oscar L. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, December. 5
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. Charles G. Brackett, m; Edwin C. Rollins, sw; Myron L. Rollins, jw; Alanson O. Tobie, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 9
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. David C. Saunders, m; Luther F. McKinney, sw; Alvah S. Brown, jw; D. Eugene Chaplin, s. Meeting Saturday, on or before full moon; election, October. 18
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore Falls. Charles H. Gibbs, m; Howard A. Wells, sw; Ralph A. Whitney, jw; George O. Eustis, s. Meeting Wednesday, on or before full moon; election, June. 15
- Oxford, 18, Norway. Hermon L. Bartlett, m; Frank N. Barker, sw; George Hazen, jw; Howard D. Smith, s. Meeting Friday on or next before full moon; election, September. 16
- Pacific, 64, Exeter. Stillman J. Ridlon, m; Arthur F. Buswell, sw; Alton P. Stillings, jw; David E. Knight, Garland, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January. 22
- Parian, 160, Corinna. Lewis Hutchins, m; I. M. Bates, sw; John E. Gray, jw; George W. Nutter, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 22
- Paris, 94, South Paris. Fred H. Evans, m; Percy M. Walker, sw; Walter L. Gray, jw; Horatio Woodbury, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, at first stated meeting in year. 16
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. A. R. Levensaler, m; William E. Robinson, sw; F. M. Howard, jw; Charles S. Hutchinson, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election at last stated meeting preceding 27th December. 5
- Pœnix 24, Belfast. Clifford J. Pattee, m; John W. Jones, sw; Wesley J. Bailey, jw; James Pattee, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 8
- Pine Tree, 172, Mattawamkeag. Virgil W. Hobbs, m; William H. Bither, sw; Walter E. Haynes, jw; George W. Smith, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, October. 20
- Pioneer, 72, Ashland. H. Lindley Dobson, m; James R. Elder, sw; William E. Hopper, jw; William L. Colburn, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, December. 1

- Piscataquis, 44, Milo. Albert C. Cushman, M; George W. Daggett, sw; Will S. Owen, JW; Albert W. Murray, s. Meeting Friday on or before full moon; election, September. 5
- Pleasant River, 163, Brownville. Daniel W. Hayes, M; Walter G. Sherburne, sw; Amos J. Lay, JW; Geo. W. McClain, Henderson, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, November. 5
- Pleiades, 173, Millbridge. Justin A. Walling, M; Elmer E. Sawyer, sw; James R. Foster, JW; Ansell M. Sawyer, s. Meeting first Monday; election, January. 3
- Plymouth, 75, Plymouth. Charles T. Harris, M. Ruel W. Porter, sw; Frank L. Clark, JW; William H. Condon, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 22
- Polar Star, 114, Bath. Charles B. Furber, M; George M. Duley, sw; John M. Hill, JW; Herbert D. Maxwell, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, March. 14
- Portland, 1, Portland. Charles C. Berry, M; George H. Allan, sw; Warren W. Cole, JW; George F. Gould, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, November. 17
- Pownal, 119, Stockton Springs. Samuel H. West, M; Ernest A. Partridge, sw; Frank E. West, JW; Albert M. Ames, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 8
- Preble, 143, Sanford. Charles W. Blagden, M; Edmund F. Low, sw; Chas. S. Holmes, JW; John Wright, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Presumpscot, 127, North Windham. Winfield S. Allen, M; Wm. C. Noyes, sw; Fred H. Dole, JW; William H. Cram, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 17
- Pythagorean, 11, Fryeburg. Dean A. Ballard, M; Arthur C. Ferguson, sw; John W. Hutchins, JW; Tobias L. Eastman, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 18
- Quantabacook, 129, Searsmont. Loxley T. Ness, West Searsmont, M; Lucian H. Thomas, sw; James Fuller, JW; Allen L. Maddocks, acting s. Meeting first Saturday; election, October. 7
- Rabboni, 150, Lewiston. Frank A. Conant, M; Rodney A. Swift, sw; Perley L. Cotton, JW; George F. Turner, s. Meeting Wednesday after full moon; election, September. 24
- Reliance, 195, Stonington. William McKenzie, M; Luther W. Weed, sw; Stephen E. Allen, JW; Rollins Y. Stinson, s. Meeting first Saturday; election, December. 4
- Richmond, 63, Richmond. Walter E. Whitney, M; Uriah M. Lancaster, sw; Chas. B. Day, JW; Wm. R. Fairclough, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October. 14

- Rising Star, 177, Penobscot. Fred B. Mitchell, m; Freeman N. Bowden, sw; James C. Perkins, jw; Benj. H. Cushman, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December. 4
- Rising Sun, 71, Orland. Ashur B. Hutchins, m; Enoch W. Harriman, sw; Edwin L. Jordan, jw; Seth R. Hutchins, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, December. 21
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Frank J. Cole, m; Fred C. Chalmers, sw; Frank P. Denaco, jw; Charles I. Collamore, s. Meeting last Tuesday; election, December. 6
- Riverside, 135, East Jefferson. Charles W. Besse, m; George A. Hofses, sw; Axel H. Jackson, jw; Everett A. Hofses, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 10
- Rockland, 79, Rockland. Samuel A. Keyes, m; Joseph H. Clark, sw; Frank S. Head, jw; Albert I. Mather, s. Meeting first Tuesday; election, January. 9
- Rural, 53, Sidney. William P. Marble, m; J. Emery Nash, sw; Herman A. Faught, jw; James F. Warren, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, September. 12
- Saco, 9, Saco. Philip C. Tapley, m; Winfield Andrews, sw; George H. Dyer, jw; Abram T. Lord, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, January. 19
- Saint Andrew's, 83, Bangor. Edwin Lord, m; Benj. B. Merrill, sw; John M. Prilay, jw; Fred W. Adams, s. Meeting last Friday; election, December. 6
- Saint Aspinquid, 198, York Village. George N. Thompson, m; Daniel A. Stevens, sw; Allen C. Moulton, jw; Sidney E. Eldredge, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, September. 19
- Saint Croix, 46, Calais. Isaac N. Jones, m; John Lawson, sw; Charles H. Spooner, jw; Stephen D. Morrell, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December, St. John's Day. 2
- Saint George, 16, Warren. Matthew Allan, m; Oscar E. Starrett, sw; Frank Hubbard, jw; J. L. De Mott, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October. 9
- Saint John's, 51, South Berwick. Joshua E. L. Bradeen, m; Samuel H. Miller, sw; John O. Foss, jw; Arthur E. Muzzey, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, March. 19
- Saint Paul's, 82, Rockport. Robert N. Millett, m; Joseph H. Richards, sw; Charles J. Gregory, jw; Everett E. Fales, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, October. 9
- Seaside, 144, Boothbay Harbor. Dennis S. Wylie, m; Thaddeus L. Montgomery, sw; Merrill A. Perkins, jw; Henry S. Perkins, s. Meeting first Friday; election, December. 10

- Sebasticook, 146, Clinton. George A. Bingham, m; Albert W. Kimball, sw; Charles W. Wheeler, jw; Ruel W. Gerald, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October. 7
- Shepherd's River, 169, Brownfield. Melville Gould, m; Charles W. Harmon, sw; Hubert F. Fitch, jw; Frank G. Ham, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 18
- Siloam, 92, Fairfield. Chas. H. Crummett, m; B. H. Lawrence, sw; Wm. A. Archer, jw; Geo. M. Chapman, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, December. 13
- Solar, 14, Bath. Walter S. Glidden, m; John Scott, sw; N. Gratz Jackson, jw; Albert L. Strout, s. Meeting first Monday; election, December. 14
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Amos K. Butler, m; Elwin E. Sturtevant, sw; J. Wallace Blunt, jw; Charles M. Lambert, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, January. 13
- Springvale, 190, Springvale. George H. Drew, m; Charles H. Ogden, Jr., sw; Howard Frost, jw; Wm. H. Wood, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 23
- Standish, 70, Standish. Parker F. Paine, m; Leonard O. Buzzell, sw; Wm. M. Martin, jw; Rufus E. Gray, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 17
- Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. Charles Green, m; Joseph Sykes, sw; Chas. Barnes, jw; Clarence B. Swan, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, September. 6
- Star in the West, 85, Unity. E. D. Chase, m; Fred A. Whitten, sw; Benjamin A. Fogg, jw; Reuel M. Berry, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December. 7
- Temple, 25, Winthrop. Horace A. Keyes, m; Harry W. Stevens, sw; J. Ewan McIlroy, jw; Herbert E. Foster, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, September. 11
- Temple, 86, Westbrook. Abner L. Hawkes, m; Frank D. Robinson, sw; Alfred B. Winslow, jw; Oliver A. Cobb, s. Meeting second Wednesday; election, December. 17
- Timothy Chase, 126, Belfast. Elisha H. Haney, m; John W. Knights, sw; Francis H. Welch, jw; Charles E. Johnson, s. Meeting first Thursday; election, January. 8
- Tranquil, 29, Auburn. Lavator O. Morse, m, Murray B. Watson, sw; Chas. L. Turgeon, jw; James F. Atwood, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, January. 24
- Tremont, 77, Southwest Harbor. George Harman, m; Samuel S. Moore, sw; Eben F. Richardson, jw; William R. Keene, Manset, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 21

- Trinity, 130, Presque Isle. Leon S. Howe, m; F. S. Wiggin, sw; J. A. De Witt, jw; Ronaldo H. McDonald, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 1
- Tuscan, 106, Addison Point. James H. Leighton, m; Osmond A. Holmes, sw; Harrison N. Look, jw; Herbert W. Coffin, s. Meeting Saturday on or before full moon; election, December. 3
- Tyrian, 73, Mechanic Falls. M. W. Morrell, m; E. A. Hammond, sw; C. R. Edgcombe, sw; Lewin Jefferies, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, October. 24
- Union, 31, Union. William C. Morton, m; Edward E. Bowes, sw; Tyler S. Davis, jw; Charles M. Lucas, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, December. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. Henry C. Upton, m; Hiram A. Webber, sw; Wm. Louis Gahan, jw; Adelbert J. Hutchinson, s. Meeting second Tuesday; election, December. 14
- Unity, 58, Thorndike. Alden J. Whitney, m; Edwin Cornforth, sw; Lincoln G. Monroe, jw; Albert W. Ward, s. Meeting Thursday on or before full moon; election, September. 7
- Vassalboro, 54, North Vassalboro'. Joseph Wall, m; Chas. H. Lightbody, sw; William S. Bradley, jw; Henry A. Ewer, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, September. 12
- Vernon Valley, 99, Mt. Vernon. William T. Morrill, m; B. Ralph Cram, sw; Hiram A. Comstock, jw; Fred W. Foss, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, November. 12
- Village, 26, Bowdoinham. Franklin K. Jack, m; George H. Blodgett, sw; Anson P. M. Given, jw; Frank H. Purinton, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, October. 14
- Warren, 2, East Machias. Millard H. Wiswell, m; Elmer E. Gardner, sw; John F. Gaddis, jw; Harry M. Gardner, s. Meeting Tuesday on or before full moon; election, December 27th. 3
- Warren Phillips, 186, Cumberland Mills. King S. Raymond, m; Henry S. Cobb, sw; Fred A. Cole, jw; Almon N. Waterhouse, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, October. 17
- Washburn, 193, Washburn. Robert W. Chapman, m; Henry Wilder, sw; John L. Woodman, jw; Edward M. Hines, s. Meeting Wednesday on or before full moon; election, December. 1
- Washington, 37, Lubec. Irvin W. Case, m; Robert G. McBride, sw; Wm. Merriam, jw; F. Guilford Norton, s. Meeting first Wednesday; election, December. 2
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Cyrus W. Davis, m; John H. Burleigh, sw; John E. Nelson, jw; Anson O. Libby, s. Meeting Monday on or before full moon; election, December. 12

- Webster, 164, Sabattus. Fred A. Richardson, M; William H. Wright, sw;
John F. Hirst, JW; Judson Bangs, s. Meeting Thursday on or next
before full moon; election, December. 24
- Whitney, 167, Canton. Asia F. Hayford, M; John N. Foye, sw; Arthur J.
Foster, JW; Herbert J. DeShon, s. Meeting first Thursday; election,
September. 15
- Wilton, 156, Wilton. Leon A. Bump, M; Edgar C. Bump, sw; Charles H.
Smart, JW; Fred E. Trefethen, s. Meeting Wednesday week of full
moon; election, September. 15
- Winter Harbor, 192, Winter Harbor. C. H. Davis, M; Hilliard G. Smallidge,
sw; C. L. Crabtree, JW; B. Frank Sumner, s. Meeting first Wednesday;
election, January. 21
- York, 22, Kennebunk. William Titcomb, M; Charles R. Littlefield, sw;
George G. H. Randall, JW; George A. Gilpatric, s. Meeting Monday
on or before full moon; election, December. 19
- Yorkshire, 179, North Berwick. James O. McCarrison, M; Alna L. Getchell,
sw; Frank U. Grover, JW; Brainerd S. Drake, s. Meeting last Friday;
election, December. 19

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ADDRESSES.

- ALFRED S. KIMBALL, *Grand Master*, - - - - - Norway, Me.
- MARQUIS F. KING, *Grand Treasurer*, - - - - - Portland, Me.
- STEPHEN BERRY, *Grand Secretary*, - - - - - Portland, Me.
- JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, - - - - - Portland, Me.
Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

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"	FESSENDEN I. DAY,	Lewiston,	"
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"	ALBERT M. PENLEY,	Auburn,	"
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"	ARCHIE LEE TALBOT,	Lewiston,	"
"	GOODWIN R. WILEY,	Bethel,	"
"	AUGUSTUS BAILEY,	Gardiner,	"
"	BENJAMIN AMES,	Thordike,	"
"	WILFORD J. FISHER,	Eastport,	"
"	SAMUEL G. DAVIS,	Denmark,	"

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" HOWARD D. SMITH,	Norway,	"
" WM. FREEMAN LORD,	Auburn,	"
" GUSTAVUS H. CARGILL,	Liberty,	"
" MOSES TAIT,	Calais,	"
" BENJAMIN L. HADLEY,	Bar Harbor,	"
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" MILLARD M. CASWELL,	Bridgton,	"
" FRANKLIN R. REDLON,	Portland,	"
" JOHN H. MCGORRILL,	Fairfield,	"



PERMANENT . MEMBERS . DECEASED.

M. W. WILLIAM KING,	P. G. M.	R. W. SAM. L. VALENTINE,	P. D. G. M.
" SIMON GREENLEAF,	"	" JOHN J. BELL,	"
" WILLIAM SWAN,	"	" GEORGE THACHER,	P. S. G. W.
" CHARLES FOX,	"	" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	"
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	"	" JOEL MILLER,	"
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	"	" EZRA B. FRENCH,	"
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	"	" WILLIAM ALLEN,	"
" REUEL WASHBURN,	"	" ISAAC DOWNING,	"
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,	"	" DAVID BUGBEE,	"
" HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	"	" EDMUND B. HINKLEY,	"
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	"	" F. LORING TALBOT,	"
" JOHN T. PAINE,	"	" WILLIAM O. POOR,	"
" ALEX'R H. PUTNEY,	"	" ARLINGT'N B. MARSTON,	"
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	"	" WILLIAM H. SMITH,	"
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	"	" J. W. MITCHELL,	P. J. G. W.
" FREEMAN BRAFORD,	"	" REUBEN NASON,	"
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	"	" FRYE HALL,	"
" JOHN MILLER,	"	" STEPHEN WEBBER,	"
" JABEZ TRUE,	"	" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	"
" HIRAM CHASE,	"	" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	"
" TIMOTHY J. MURRAY,	"	" WILLIAM KIMBALL,	"
" JOHN H. LYNDE,	"	" JOHN WILLIAMS,	"
" DAVID CARGILL,	"	" STEPHEN B. DOCKHAM,	"
" ALBERT MOORE,	"	" OLIVER GERRISH,	"
R. W. PELEG SPRAGUE,	P. D. G. M.	" JOSEPH COVELL,	"
" AMOS NOURSE,	"	" FRANCIS J. DAY,	"
" DAVID C. MAGOUN,	"	" THOMAS K. OSGOOD,	"
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	"	" HENRY H. DICKEY,	"
" JAMES M. CHILD,	"	" CHARLES W. HANEY,	"
" ELISHA HARDING,	"		

Brethren Died During the Year,

FROM MARCH 1, 1900, TO MARCH 1, 1901.

THOSE MARKED * WERE RETURNED AS BURIED WITH MASONIC RITES.

- 1 Portland, Portland. Albert Webb, March 8; Richard Sheppard, March 9; Charles L. Milliken, June 16; John H. Hall, Nov. 5; George P. Gross, Nov. 24; Edward K. Guenther, Jan. 30.
- 2 Warren, East Machias. Ernest R. Phipps,* Dec. 14.
- 4 Hancock, Castine. John Collins, June 4.
- 5 Kennebec, Hallowell. William C. Fuller, March 23; Roberts Minard, July 12; John Grigg, Feb. 18.
- 6 Amity, Camden. William D. Clark, March 8; William H. Bickmore, May 27, aged 62, at Augusta; Grant Scott, July, at Marine Hospital, Boston, Mass.; William H. Knight, Feb. 25, in Boston.
- 7 Eastern, Eastport. George M. Green,* March 9, aged 59; William C. Newcomb,* May 24; Elias Kenney, Sept. 12.
- 8 United, Brunswick. Chas. J. Gilman, Feb. 5. A R. A. Mason, a 32° A. A. S. R., an ex-member of Congress and a lover of the Craft.
- 9 Saco, Saco. Edward R. Bradbury, June 17; William S. Wakefield, July 15; John T. G. Nichols, Oct. 16; Samuel Smith, Dec. 26.
- 10 Rising Virtue, Bangor. George W. Snow, June 15, the eldest member; George W. Gorham, June 20; George L. Rideout, Dec. 22; John B. P. Wheelden, Feb. 1; Bushrod W. Wellington, Feb. 22.
- 11 Pythagorean, Fryeburg. William C. Towle, Oct. 1, Past Master and beloved brother; Charles H. Tibbetts, Nov. 15; Holden E. Nevers, April 6.
- 12 Cumberland, New Gloucester. Parker W. Sawyer, May 19.
- 13 Oriental, Bridgton. Charles E. Fessenden, Oct. 27.
- 14 Solar, Bath. Daniel W. Eastman, March 9, in Richmond; James P. Marshall, March 30, in Brewer; Frederick Klippell, April 14; C. L. Owen Smith, Nov. 19; John S. Wiggin, Nov. 23; John H. Schottliker, Dec. 7; Samuel J. Williams, Feb. 6, at Boston, Mass.

- 15 Orient, Thomaston. John S. Turner, June 15; William K. Bickford, Sept. 28; William A. Campbell, Oct. 3; David J. Hodgman, Jan. 1; Thomas R. Hewett.
- 16 St. George, Warren. James M. Studley,* July 10, a good mason, citizen, and church member.
- 17 Ancient Land-Mark, Portland. Payson Tucker, April 27, buried by Portland Commandery; John W. Dyer,* June 17; Joseph H. Webster, Nov. 5; Augustine D. Smith,* Jan. 17; Joseph S. Ricker, Jan 17; Fritz H. Twitchell, Feb. 4; Charles E. Snow,* Feb. 14, Past Master; Joseph Y. Hodson, Feb. 24, buried by Portland Commandery; Edwin A. Fessenden, Feb. 28, buried by Portland Commandery.
- 18 Oxford, Norway. John L. Horn,* April 20; David S. Andrews, Feb. 2; Joseph E. Long.
- 19 Felicity, Bucksport. Alfred Smith, Oct. 16.
- 21 Oriental Star, Livermore Falls. Ellis Ripley, Jan. 22.
- 22 York, Kennebunk. George L. Little, Oct. 11, Past Master.
- 24 Phenix, Belfast. Thomas Taylor, March 19; Hiram Chase,* April 5, Past Grand Master, buried by Grand Lodge; George J. Brown, June 14; Isaac M. Boardman, July 4; John T. Lawry, August 11, at Quincy, Mass.; William C. Tuttle, Jan. 17; Edwin A. Staples, Feb. 26.
- 25 Temple, Winthrop. Charles C. Stackpole, August 16; Cephas Morton, Oct. 20.
- 26 Village, Bowdoinham. John N. Woodworth, March 3; James B. Pratt, March 31; Abram A. Cornish, May 8; John W. Tarbox, May 22; Ivory T. Allen, May 27; Chas. H. Blagdon, Jan 24.
- 27 Adoniram, Limington. Frank A. Hobson, Jan. 8.
- 28 Northern Star, North Anson. John Heald,* April 15; Eugene F. Collins,* June 8; John W. Churchill,* Nov. 27.
- 29 Tranquil, Auburn. Albert Haskell,* March 24; Albert Sutherland,* March 28; Byron S. Philoon,* March 31; Jerome B. Hunton,* April 30.
- 30 Blazing Star, Rumford Falls. Charles B. Abbot, March 19; Charles F. Wheeler, July 16; Nathan S. Farnum, Nov. 17, Past Master.
- 31 Union, Union. Moses Bowes,* April 8.
- 32 Hermon, Gardiner. H. K. Newbert, June 3; George W. Howe, July 24; Robert T. Hayes, Aug. 24; Marcellus Hunt, Aug. 29; John J. McKenna, Sept. 9; B. M. Turner, Oct. 25; William Wiley, Dec. 24; S. W. Andrews, January 5; Donald Sutherland, Feb. 11; John C. Blair, Feb. 20.
- 33 Waterville, Waterville. James G. Young, June 11; Addison Dolley, Sept. 6; Isaac Peavey, Jan. 1, in Massachusetts, for 45 years a member; Howard A. Clifford, Feb. 3.

- 34 Somerset, Skowhegan. William Tucker, Sept. 4, Past Master; Thomas J. Calder, Sept. 7; Newell W. Brainerd, Nov. 9; Samuel W. Lawton, Jan. 11; James H. Lord, Jan. 20.
- 35 Bethlehem, Augusta. George Cowee, Jan. 27.
- 36 Casco, Yarmouth. Benjamin Oakes, Aug. 25, eldest member; Monroe Stoddard, Nov. 9, Past Master; Lewis Gurney, Jan. 28.
- 37 Washington, Lubec. Henry P. Dewey, June 29; John C. Talbot, Aug. 29; Hiram Comstock; Nelson Guptil.
- 38 Harmony, Gorham. Thomas A. Fields, Feb. 7.
- 39 Penobscot, Dexter. W. L. Mabbett, April 28.
- 40 Lygonia. Allen C. Holt,* March 21; Ira P. Witham,* May 22; Alvah K. Woodward,* Feb. 13; Henry A. Smith, Feb. 21.
- 41 Morning Star, Litchfield. Henry A. Blackwell, July.
- 42 Freedom, Limerick. Ephraim Durgin, June 17; Edwin A. Sadler, Feb. 15.
- 43 Alna, Damariscotta. George W. David, Dec. 16; in San Francisco, Cal.; John G. Barstow, Feb. 28, aged 82.
- 44 Piscataquis, Milo. Isaac S. Leonard, June 14; Albinaus L. Pierce.
- 45 Central, China. John P. Perkins, November; John Taylor, Jan. 31, Past Master.
- 46 St. Croix, Calais. Thomas T. Johnson, in Denver, Col., in 1898; Howard E. Burrill,* Oct 19; Alex. S. Morrison, Oct. 28.
- 47 Dunlap, Biddeford. Francis G. Warren, April 2; Charles Church, April 2; Frank H. Cousins, April 11; Julius Cohen, Sept. 8; Chas. S. Hamilton, Sept. 30; Thomas L. Merrill, Dec. 5; Charles A. Haines, Jan. 15; Richard M. Johnson, Feb. 10.
- 48 Lafayette, Readfield. Augustus R. Turner, lost in steamer Portland, Nov. 27, 1899; David Dudley, June 10; J. Eugene Lewis, June.
- 49 Meridian Splendor, Newport. Oliver B. Rowe, April 12; Alonzo D. Chandler, December.
- 50 Aurora, Rockland. David Boyd,* March 7, clergyman; Moses Conary,* April 18; George W. Kimball, June 22; Henry L. Poland,* Sept. 25; William S. Wright,* Oct. 25; William Fish, Feb. 8; Mial Morsman, at Union; Wm. G. Grant, at Matinicus Island.
- 51 Saint John's, South Berwick. Dennis Ferguson, March 3; Emery B. Moulton, March 12; Enoch G. Adams, Nov. 4.
- 52 Mosaic, Foxcroft. Obed Towne, March 2; William F. Sampson, Feb. 28.
- 54 Vassalboro, North Vassalboro. Edward Buck, April 4.
- 45 Fraternal, Alfred. Willis J. Linscott, April; Joseph Hobbs, October.
- 56 Mount Moriah, Denmark. William L. Davis; Edmund P. Ingalls, April 26; Joseph Bennett, Jan. 21.

- 57 King Hiram, Dixfield. Samuel B. Knight, Feb. 1.
- 60 Star in the East, Oldtown. John Newbegin, April 4; Melville M. Folsom,* June 22; Charles W. Lowell, Dec. 4.
- 61 King Solomon's, Waldoboro. Jacob P. Davis, in 1898; Isaac W. Watts, March 29; Harvey C. Hyer, Jan. 23.
- 62 King David's, Lincoville. Emilus Hill, March 31.
- 63 Richmond, Richmond. James H. Webber, March 20; Benjamin F. Stetson, Jan. 15—Raised March 31, 1854.
- 64 Pacific, Exeter. Charles H. Carpenter, Aug. 6.
- 65 Mystic, Hampden. L. D. Conant, April 4; Ray R. Cooper, Dec. 19.
- 66 Mechanic's, 66, Orono. Nathan Allen.
- 67 Blue Mountain, Phillips. Willie H. Burnell, Jan. 22, at Leed's Junction.
- 68 Mariners', Searsport. Samuel Curtis, August, at Brunswick, Ga.; Isaac George,* August; George McClure, August.
- 70 Standish, Standish. John R. Hutchinson, Nov. 21.
- 71 Rising Sun, Orland. Thomas G. Saunders, April 30; Fred W. Leach, June 16.
- 72 Pioneer, Ashland. Dearbon F. Bearce, Feb. 11.
- 73 Tyrian, Mechanic Falls. G. W. Sholes,* July 20, Past Master, buried by Portland Lodge; N. O. Downing,* Feb. 17, was Chaplain several years; Jason Walker,* March 6, 1901.
- 74 Bristol, Bristol Mills. Isaac W. Fountain.
- 75 Plymouth, Plymouth. William H. Hammond, March; Ara D. Miles, March 29, killed on railroad in New Mexico; William H. Merrill,* May.
- 76 Arundel, Kennebunkport. Charles W. Huff, Aug. 13; Francis A. Tripp, Jan. 5; James H. Tripp, Feb. 15. The latter was an honorary and the eldest member of the lodge, aged 89; Francis A. was his son, and Chas. W. Huff, his grandson—three generations.
- 77 Tremont, South West Harbor. William H. Thurston, Aug. 4; Benj. E. Hodgdon, October; Herbert N. Morong, Nov. 8; Colin McRay.
- 78 Crescent, Pembroke. Joseph Wilder,* June 13; William Tarbell, December, at Calais; Lowell Elward, Jan. 6, at Gloucester, Mass.
- 79 Rockland, Rockland. Isiah A. Jones, April 20; Edward F. Leach, May 24; Hiram Berry, Aug. 14; George H. Torrey, Oct. 16; Joseph Ham, Nov. 17; Daniel G. Morey, Nov. 29; Oliver A. Clark, Jan. 18; Thomas A. Wentworth, Feb. 2.
- 81 Atlantic, Portland. Cyrus S. King, Nov. 2, 1899; Rufus H. Hinkley, March 5; James G. McFarland, March 22; Charles D. Thomes,* May 7; George B. Lane,* August; Almon V. Thompson,* Jan. 28; Thomas J. Winslow,* Feb. 3; Ruel S. Maxcy.
- 82 Saint Paul, Rockport. Edward Philbrook,* March 22; William D.

- Carleton,* April 1; William H. Trim, December, lost at sea; John S. Foster, Feb. 21; Frank P. Shepherd, Feb. 26.
- 83 Saint Andrew's, Bangor. Gardner Bragdon, May 22; Nathaniel L. Swett, Oct. 26; Charles J. Burr, Feb. 9.
- 84 Eureka, Tenant's Harbor. William Clark, July 26; Nathan Bachelder, Sept. 27.
- 85 Star in the West, Unity. Benj. P. Rollins, May; Lemuel B. Fogg, June 16; E. R. Parkman, November; Eleazer K. Adams, Jan. 1; Consider A. Knowles, January 2; Otis Cornforth, January.
- 86 Temple, Westbrook. Lewis P. Warren, June 24, aged 82 yrs. 10 mos. Charter and honorary member; Master in 1864 and 1865; first Junior Deacon under dispensation.
- 87 Benevolent, Carmel. Isaac W. Merriman, April 13; Daniel W. Sylvester, July 2.
- 88 Narraguagus, Cherryfield. Nahum A. Bartlett, Nov. 24.
- 89 Island, Islesboro. Emory N. Bunker, March 25; William H. Freeman.
- 91 Harwood, Machias. Charles W. Robinson,* Dec. 1; James McCabe,* Jan. 19; Sanford A. Clark, Feb. 16.
- 92 Siloam, Fairfield. William Cain, April 7; Alfred Swett, June 5; James C. Gage, July 16; William F. Nutt, Aug. 30.
- 93 Horeb, Lincoln. Harrison Piper, July 12, Past Master; Thomas W. Porter, Dec. 16, Past Master.
- 94 Paris, South Paris. Z. C. Perry, April, 1899; Elisha F. Stone, May 11.
- 95 Corinthian, Hartland. Thomas Smiley; Obediah Williams, Sept. 28, 1898.
- 96 Monument, Houlton. Merchant Philbrick,* August; Silas T. Plummer,* Nov. 5.
- 97 Bethel, Bethel. John F. Allen, Aug. 15; Joseph F. Barden, Sept. 8, in the hurricane at Galveston, Texas.
- 98 Katahdin, Patten. Charles H. Dudley, July; Eben F. Dinsmore, July; Fred E. Arnold, Feb. 26.
- 99 Vernon Valley, Mount Vernon. Alvin G. Whittier, Sept. 5; Oscar M. Wells.
- 101 Nezinscot, Turner. Charles A. French, May 5; Levi B. Perry, Aug. 9, Past Master; Daniel Lara, Jan. 3.
- 102 Marsh River, Brooks. James H. Webber, May 21.
- 103 Dresden, Dresden Mills. Leonard B. Gahan, May 24.
- 105 Ashlar, Lewiston. Jotham P. Norton, Feb. 24, 1900; George B. Moore, Aug. 23; Jacob M. Mace, Dec. 12; George H. Benson, Jan. 2.
- 106 Tuscan, Addison. Daniel H. Lamson, Dec. 20, killed in the wreck of his ship on the coast of Virginia.
- 107 Day Spring, West Newfield. Thomas Mitchell; Fred L. Burstch, June

- 10, murdered; **George W. Goodwin**, June 10, murdered; Ivory S. Loud, Dec. 8, aged 58, a resident of Wakefield, N. H., and Chairman of Selectmen.
- 109 Mount Kineo, Guilford. Robinson Turner, Feb. 9.
- 110 Monmouth, Monmouth. Charles H. Foster,* May 9; John M. Turner,* Dec. 5.
- 111 Liberty, Liberty. Fred L. Waterhouse, Nov. 2.
- 112 Eastern Frontier, Fort Fairfield. James S. Stevens, Dec. 23, Past Master.
- 113 Messalonskee, Oakland. J. Wesley Gilman,* Jan. 17, aged 57, Past Master, Past D. D. G. M., honorary member, and for 13 years Secretary.
- 114 Polar Star, Bath, James C. How, Jr., April 12; Henry G. Malmstein, April 28; William H. Higgins, June 22; James F. Manion, July 12; John Carr, Aug. 15; Arthur Sewall, Sept. 5.
- 115 Buxton, West Buxton. Charles E. Weld, July 19, Senior Past Master.
- 117 Greenleaf, Cornish. Roscoe G. Smith, June 25, for many years Secretary; Cyrus K. Ward, Jan. 4.
- 118 Drummond, Parsonsfield. George P. Davis, March 24.
- 121 Acacia, Durham. Isaac S. Brown, May; Everson R. Miller, Sept. 3; Alfred Lunt, Feb. 8.
- 123 Franklin, New Sharon. Jacob Chandler, April 15; John E. Johnson, November; Frank H. Folsom, December.
- 124 Olive Branch, Charleston. Henry R. Ripley, Nov. 10; Will S. Hall, Feb. 12.
- 125 Meridian, Pittsfield. Joseph T. Davis, Dec. 14, frozen to death in woods in Detroit, Me.
- 126 Timothy Chase, Belfast. John C. Conden, March 8; Owen G. White, April 3; Calvin Hervey, Oct. 17; Frederick W. Francis, Oct. 30.
- 127 Presumpscot, North Windham. Daniel H. Chipman,* Dec. 27.
- 128 Eggemoggin, Sedgwick. Charles A. Dean, April 7; Wyer G. Sargent; Eben B. Smith, October; Giles J. Webber, Aug. 22.
- 129 Quantabacook, Searsmont. Harry Thompson, July 17; Llewellyn L. Cross, July 22.
- 130 Trinity, Presque Isle. Geo. B. Wellington,* March 13; Freeman Goodhue,* April 10; John A. Stewart, August 19; Lester Dwinell; G. H. Freeman, Jan. 10.
- 132 Mount Tir'em, Waterford. Samuel J. Marr,* April 10; Joel S. Sawyer, Jan. 8.
- 133 Asylum, Wayne. Willard M. Taylor.
- 135 Riverside, Jefferson. Charles F. Choate, Oct. 10.
- 137 Kenduskeag, Kenduskeag. Frank W. Clement, Sept. 16, Master in 1881.
- 138 Lewey's Island, Princeton. David Dresser, March 4; Daniel T. Belmore, Jan. 24; James W. Wilson, in British Columbia.

- 140 Mount Desert, Mount Desert. James N. Branscom, June 4; Selden Brown, Nov. 18.
- 141 Augusta, Augusta. Elisha F. Blackman, Dec. 6.
- 142 Ocean, Wells' Depot. Owen M. Davis,* Aug. 11.
- 143 Preble, Sanford. Judson B. Neal, Oct. 8.
- 144 Seaside, Boothbay Harbor. George B. Dunton,* March 14.
- 145 Moses Webster, Vinalhaven. William E. Avery, Dec. 12, 1899; Richard Tutton, Sept. 30; E. C. Smith, Dec. 20; Edward Lane, Feb. 11.
- 146 Seabasticook, Clinton. Manly P. Sanderson, May 7.
- 147 Evening Star, Buckfield. Benjamin F. Carey, June 26.
- 148 Forest, Springfield. Orelus Stevens, Dec. 23.
- 149 Doric, Monson. William G. Jones,* Sept. 18; Laurin A. Bartlett,* Sept. 21; Carroll B. Sturtevant,* Feb. 22.
- 150 Rabboni, Lewiston. L. E. Timberlake, March; W. C. Darrah, June 4; J. L. Hayes, Jan. 1; W. C. Gould, Feb. 17.
- 151 Excelsior, Northport. Freeman Crockett, Nov. 12, aged 80 yrs. 8 mos. 2 days, Past Master and a constant attendant at lodge until old age. Lodge attended funeral in a body.
- 154 Mystic Tie, Weld. Harper C. McKeen, Aug. 23.
- 156 Wilton, Wilton. William N. Leavitt, Aug. 26; Isaiah Y. Jones, Jan. 27.
- 158 Anchor, South Bristol. Elijah Foster, Feb. 16, aged 85. Had been a member thirty years, and will be greatly missed.
- 160 Parian, Corinna. B. F. Andrews, April 15; Aaron Coburn, Dec. 10.
- 161 Carrabassett, Canaan. Melville B. Blake.
- 163 Pleasant River, Brownville. H. C. Martin, physician.
- 165 Webster, Sabattus. Thaddeus C. Billings,* April 17.
- 167 Whitney, Canton. Gideon Ellis, June 19.
- 168 Composite, La Grange. Joseph P. Rogers, July 20, in Bangor; Albert H. Weymouth, Dec. 15, in Howland.
- 169 Shepherd's River, Brownfield. David S. Patten, Dec. 16.
- 170 Caribou, Caribou. Fred S. Smith, Feb. 13.
- 171 Naskeag, Brooklin. Adelbert P. Kane, Aug. 1, Senior Past Master and second Master of lodge.
- 172 Pine Tree, Mattawamkeag. Charles M. Trott, May 10; Chas. A. Smith,* Jan. 7; Abram B. Brown,* Jan. 25, a charter member.
- 173 Pleiades, Milbridge. Andrew R. Perkins.
- 174 Lynde, Hermon. Liberty Wetherbee, Feb. 13.
- 175 Baskahegan, Danforth. Alexander W. Goodwin, Aug. 6, at Vanceboro, buried at Detroit.
- 177 Rising Star, Penobscot. David B. Gray, July 6; Benj. H. Gray, Aug. 21; Joseph G. Dunbar,* Nov. 5.
- 178 Ancient Brothers', Auburn. G. M. Atkins, April; C. G. Sturgis, April; E. O. Wells, May 25.

- 180 Hiram, South Portland. William R. K. Hamilton, April 6; Stephen Scamman, Sept. 17, Secretary and Past Master; Eliphalet C. Robinson, Oct. 11.
- 182 Granite, West Paris. William C. Mooney, March 30.
- 183 Deering, Portland. Albion Blackstone,* April 5; Myron E. Moore, Nov. 22; George W. Leighton, Nov. 27.
- 184 Naval, Kittery. Frank E. Rowell, Jan. 26, Past Master.
- 185 Bar Harbor, Bar Harbor, Medville L. Chadbourne,* Jan. 28, at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Body brought home and buried with masonic honors.
- 186 Warren Phillips, Cumberland Mills. Robert McCloskey, Jan. 7.
- 187 Ira Berry, Bluehill, John A. Miller, March 25.
- 189 Knox, South Thomaston. H. S. Sweetland, January 26, for many years Treasurer.
- 190 Springvale, Springvale. John Ferguson,* March 30; George Jellison,* April 15; George Smith,* Sept. 1.
- 191 Davis, Strong. George W. Keen, Feb. 4.
- 192 Winter Harbor, Winter Harbor. J. W. Temple, May 20; T. H. Smallidge, Dec. 14.
- 194 Euclid, Madison. John Tinkham, April.
- 195 Reliance, Stonington. George G. Gillan, March 30.
- 196 Bay View, East Boothbay. Thomas Gould,* March 27; Albion P. Hodgdon,* Dec. 15.
- 202 Mount Bigelow, Flagstaff. Winfield S. Emery, about May 1, went away to some camp alone and died there.
- 203 Mount Olivet, Washington. Thomas S. Bowden, July 1, a Past Master of Riverside Lodge.

INSCRIBED

TO THE MEMORY

OF

M. W. John F. McCormick,

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi,

and

Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine.



Died at Biloxi, April 10, 1900.



“After the burden, the blissful mead;
After the flight, the downy nest;
After the furrow, the waking seed;
After the shadowy river, *rest.*”

LODGES IN MAINE,

With dates of Precedence and Charter.

† Charter surrendered.

‡ Charter-re-issued.

§ Revoked.

¶ Consolidated.

LODGE.	LOCATION.	DATE OF PRECEDENCE.	DATE OF CHARTER.
1 Portland,	Portland,	March 30, 1769.	March 30, 1769.
2 Warren,	East Machias,	Sept. 10, 1778.	Sept. 10, 1778.
3 Lincoln,	Wiscasset,	June 1, 1792.	June 1, 1792.
4 Hancock,	Castine,	June 9, 1794.	June 9, 1794.
5 Kennebec,	Hallowell,	March 14, 1796.	March 14, 1796.
6 Amity,	Camden,	March 10, 1801.	March 10, 1801.
7 Eastern,	Eastport,	June 8, 1801.	June 8, 1801.
8 United,	Brunswick,	Dec. 14, 1801.	Dec. 14, 1801.
9 Saco,	Saco,	June 14, 1802.	June 16, 1802.
10 Rising Virtue,	Bangor,	Sept. 13, 1802.	Sept. 16, 1802.
11 Pythagorean,	Fryeburg,	June 13, 1803.	June 13, 1803.
12 Cumberland,	New Gloucester,	June 13, 1803.	June 13, 1803.
13 Oriental,	Bridgton,	March 12, 1804.	March 12, 1804.
14 Solar,	Bath,	Sept. 10, 1804.	Sept. 10, 1804.
15 Orient,	Thomaston,	Sept. 10, 1805.	Sept. 10, 1805.
16 St. George,	Warren,	March 10, 1806.	March 10, 1806.
17 Ancient Landmark,	Portland.	June 10, 1806.	June 10, 1806.
18 Oxford,	Norway,	Sept. 14, 1807.	Sept. 14, 1807.
19 Felicity,	Bucksport,	March 14, 1809.	March 14, 1809.
20 Maine,	Farmington,	June 13, 1809.	Jan. 13, 1810.
21 Oriental Star,	Livermore,	June 13, 1811.	June 13, 1811.
22 York,	Kennebunk,	March 9, 1813.	March 9, 1813.
23 Freeport,	Freeport,	Sept. 13, 1814.	Sept. 13, 1814.
24 Phoenix,	Belfast,	Sept. 9, 1816.	Dec. 30, 1816.
25 Temple,	Winthrop,	Sept. 8, 1817.	Oct. 6, 1817.
26 Village,	Bowdoinham,	June 9, 1817.	Sept. 16, 1817.
27 Adoniram,	Limington,	Sept. 9, 1818.	Sept. 10, 1818.
28 Northern Star,	North Anson,	Dec. 9, 1818.	Dec. 15, 1818.
29 Tranquil,	Auburn,	Dec. 9, 1818.	Dec. 9, 1818.
30 Blazing Star,	Rumford,	March 10, 1819.	March 11, 1819.
31 Union,	Union,	Dec. 27, 1819.	April 8, 1820.
32 Hermon,	Gardiner,	June 23, 1820.	June 23, 1820.
33 Waterville,	Waterville,	June 27, 1820.	June 27, 1820.
34 Somerset,	Skowhegan,	Jan. 11, 1821.	Jan. 11, 1821.
35 Bethlehem,	Augusta,	July 12, 1821.	May 3, 1866.†
36 Casco,	Yarmouth,	Oct. 11, 1821.	Oct. 24, 1821.
37 Washington,	Lubec,	Jan. 10, 1822.	Jan. 24, 1822.
38 Harmony,	Gorham,	Jan. 10, 1822.	Jan. 24, 1822.
39 Penobscot,	Dexter,	Jan. 10, 1822.	Jan. 24, 1822.
40 Lygonia,	Ellsworth,	April 11, 1822.	April 11, 1822.
41 Morning Star,	Litchfield,	July 11, 1822.	July 16, 1822.
42 Freedom,	Limerick,	Jan. 11, 1823.	Jan. 14, 1823.
43 Alna,	Alna,	Jan. 11, 1823.	Jan. 14, 1823.
44 Piscataquis,	Milo,	Oct. 9, 1823.	Oct. 28, 1823.

LODGE.	LOCATION.	DATE OF PRECEDENCE.	DATE OF CHARTER.
45 Central,	China,	April 8, 1824.	April 8, 1824.
46 St. Croix,	Calais,	May 29, 1845.	May 29, 1845.
47 Dunlap,	Biddeford,	Jan. 13, 1826.	Jan. 30, 1826.
48 Lafayette,	Readfield,	Jan. 13, 1826.	May 20, 1850.†
49 Meridian Splendor,	Newport,	July 13, 1826.	July 18, 1826.
50 Aurora,	Rockland.	July 18, 1826.	May 9, 1872.†
51 St. John's,	South Berwick,	Jan. 23, 1827.	Feb. 13, 1827.
52 Mosaic,	Foxcroft,	April 12, 1827.	July 16, 1827.
53 Rural,	Sidney,	April 12, 1827.	July 25, 1827.
54 Vassalborough,	No. Vassalboro',	April 12, 1827.	May 31, 1827.
55 Fraternal,	Alfred,	Jan. 10, 1828.	Jan. 10, 1828.
56 Mount Moriah,	Denmark,	Jan. 10, 1828.	Jan. 23, 1828.
57 King Hiram,	Dixfield,	April 10, 1828.	May 9, 1872.†
58 Unity,	Thorndike,	April 10, 1828.	May 15, 1828.
59 Mount Hope,	Hope,	Jan. 25, 1848.	May 4, 1848.†
60 Star in the East,	Oldtown,	Feb. 23, 1848.	May 5, 1848.
61 King Solomon's,	Waldoboro',	April 4, 1849.	Feb. 5, 1855.†
62 King David's,	Lincolnton,	June 16, 1849.	Jan. 13, 1850.
63 Richmond,	Richmond,	Jan. 1, 1850.	May 10, 1850.
64 Pacific,	Exeter,	Oct. 22, 1850.	May 12, 1851.
65 Mystic,	Hampden,	March 1, 1851.	May 12, 1851.
66 Mechanics',	Orono,	March 3, 1851.	May 12, 1851.
67 Blue Mountain,	Phillips,	July 12, 1850.	May 10, 1852.
68 Mariners',	Searsport,	Oct. 23, 1851.	May 10, 1853.
69 Howard,	Winterport,	Nov. 28, 1851.	May 6, 1853.
70 Standish,	Standish,	June 10, 1852.	May 10, 1853.
71 Rising Sun,	Orland,	Oct. 18, 1852.	May 10, 1853.
72 Pioneer,	Ashland,	Oct. 26, 1852.	May 5, 1854.
73 Tyrian,	Mechanic Falls,	Jan. 21, 1853.	May 10, 1853.
74 Bristol,	Bristol,	March 1, 1853.	May 5, 1854.
75 Plymouth,	Plymouth,	May 9, 1853.	May 5, 1854.
76 Arundel,	Kennebunkport,	May 5, 1854.	June 26, 1854.
77 Tremont,	Tremont,	June 12, 1854.	May 3, 1856.
78 Crescent.	Pembroke,	July 4, 1854.	July 10, 1854.
79 Rockland,	Rockland,	Oct. 25, 1854.	April 4, 1872.†
80 Keystone,	Solon,	Dec. 16, 1854.	May 4, 1855.
81 Atlantic,	Portland,	May 3, 1855.	May 3, 1855.
82 St. Paul's,	Rockport,	Oct. 27, 1855.	May 2, 1856.
83 St. Andrew's,	Bangor,	Feb. 6, 1856.	May 3, 1856.
84 Eureka,	St. George,	July 27, 1855.	May 2, 1856.
85 Star in the West,	Unity,	May 4, 1855.	May 24, 1856.
86 Temple,	Saccarappa,	March 1, 1856.	May 5, 1856.
87 Benevolent,	Carmel,	March 12, 1857.	May 7, 1857.
88 Narraguagus,	Cherryfield,	March 25, 1857.	May 28, 1857.
89 Island,	Isleboro,	April 3, 1857.	Nov. 5, 1857.
90 Hiram A. Biff,	West Appleton,	Jan. 27, 1857.	May 5, 1858.‡
91 Harwood,	Machias,	April 8, 1858.	Oct. 15, 1858.
92 Siloam,	Fairfield,	March 8, 1858.	Jan. 1, 1859.
93 Horeb,	Lincoln,	June 5, 1858.	May 5, 1859.
94 Paris,	South Paris,	June 15, 1858.	May 5, 1859.
95 Corinthian,	Hartland,	Sept. 13, 1858.	May 5, 1859.
96 Monument,	Houlton,	Nov. 14, 1858.	May 5, 1859.
97 Bethel,	Bethel,	July 6, 1859.	May 5, 1860.
98 Katahdin,	Patten,	Aug. 24, 1859.	May 3, 1860.
99 Vernon Valley,	Mount Vernon,	Oct. 18, 1859.	May 3, 1860.
100 Jefferson,	Bryant's Pond,	Feb. 8, 1860.	May 3, 1860.
101 Nezinscot,	Turner,	March 1, 1860.	May 3, 1860.

LODGE.	LOCATION.	DATE OF PRECEDENCE.	DATE OF CHARTER.	
102	Marsh River,	Brooks,	Dec. 24, 1859.	May 9, 1861.
103	Dresden,	Dresden,	Feb. 3, 1860.	May 9, 1861.
104	Dirigo,	South China,	June 12, 1860.	May 9, 1861.
105	Ashlar,	Lewiston,	Nov. 5, 1860.	May 9, 1861.
106	Tuscan,	Addison Point,	Dec. 27, 1860.	May 9, 1861.
107	Day Spring,	West Newfield,	March 19, 1861.	May 9, 1861.
108	Relief,	Belgrade,	Jan. 11, 1861.	May 8, 1862.‡
109	Mount Kineo,	Abbot,	May 10, 1861.	May 8, 1862.
110	Monmouth,	Monmouth,	May 21, 1861.	May 8, 1862.
111	Liberty,	Liberty,	Nov. 8, 1861.	May 8, 1862.
112	Eastern Frontier,	Fort Fairfield,	May 8, 1862.	May 7, 1863.
113	Messalonskee,	Oakland,	May 15, 1862.	May 7, 1863.
114	Polar Star,	Bath,	March 7, 1863.	May 7, 1863.
115	Moderation,	West Buxton,	March 18, 1863.	May 7, 1863.
116	Lebanon,	Norridgewock,	April 30, 1863.	May 7, 1863.
117	Greenleaf,	Cornish,	April 22, 1863.	May 4, 1864.
118	Drummond,	Parsonsfield,	May 7, 1863.	May 4, 1864.
119	Pownal,	Stockton,	July 4, 1863.	May 6, 1875.†
120	Meduncook,	Friendship,	Feb. 6, 1864.	May 4, 1864.†
121	Acacia,	Durham,	May 7, 1863.	May 4, 1865.
122	Marine,	Deer Isle,	March 18, 1864.	May 3, 1865.
123	Franklin,	New Sharon,	May 4, 1864.	May 3, 1865.
124	Olive Branch,	Charleston,	May 4, 1864.	May 3, 1865.
125	Meridian,	Pittsfield,	June 7, 1864.	May 3, 1865.
126	Timothy Chase,	Belfast,	Oct. 26, 1864.	May 3, 1865.
127	Presumpscot,	Windham,	Nov. 19, 1864.	May 3, 1866.
128	Eggemoggin,	Sedgwick,	March 1, 1865.	May 3, 1866.
129	Quantabcook,	Searsmont,	March 28, 1865.	May 3, 1866.
130	Trinity,	Presque Isle,	July 17, 1865.	May 3, 1866.
131	Lookout,	Cutler,	July 18, 1865.	May 3, 1866.
132	Mount Tire'm,	Waterford,	Oct. 18, 1865.	May 3, 1866.
133	Asylum,	Wayne,	July 20, 1865.	May 9, 1867.
134	Trojan,	Troy,	Feb. 19, 1866.	May 9, 1867.¶
135	Riverside,	Jefferson,	March 13, 1866.	May 8, 1867.
136	Ionic,	Gardiner,	April 24, 1866.	May 9, 1867.†
137	Kenduskeag,	Kenduskeag,	May 3, 1866.	May 8, 1867.
138	Lewy's Island,	Princeton,	May 3, 1866.	May 8, 1867.
139	Archon,	Dixmont,	Sept. 26, 1866.	May 8, 1867.
140	Mount Desert,	Mount Desert,	Feb. 14, 1867.	May 8, 1867.
141	Augusta,	Augusta,	March 21, 1867.	May 8, 1867.
142	Ocean,	Wells,	March 22, 1867.	May 7, 1868.
143	Preble,	Sanford,	May 9, 1867.	May 7, 1868.
144	Seaside,	Boothbay,	Oct. 7, 1867.	May 7, 1868.
145	Moses Webster,	Vinalhaven,	Jan. 13, 1868.	May 7, 1868.
146	Sebasticook,	Clinton,	Feb. 3, 1868.	May 7, 1868.
147	Evening Star,	Buckfield,	Feb. 22, 1869.	May 5, 1869.
148	Forest,	Springfield,	April 1, 1869.	May 5, 1869.
149	Doric,	Monson,	May 7, 1868.	May 5, 1869.
150	Rabboni,	Lewiston,	Dec. 28, 1868.	May 5, 1869.
151	Excelsior,	Northport,	March 1, 1869.	May 5, 1869.
152	Crooked River,	Bolster's Mills,	April 15, 1869.	May 5, 1870.
153	Delta,	Lovell,	May 5, 1869.	May 4, 1870.
154	Mystic Tie,	Weld,	June 8, 1869.	May 4, 1870.
155	Ancient York,	Lisbon Falls,	Jan. 1, 1870.	May 4, 1870.
156	Wilton,	Wilton,	Jan. 31, 1870.	May 4, 1870.
157	Cambridge,	Cambridge,	May 5, 1870.	May 4, 1871.
158	Anchor,	South Bristol,	May 5, 1870.	May 4, 1871.

LODGE.	LOCATION.	DATE OF PRECEDENCE.	DATE OF CHARTER.
159 Esoteric,	Ellsworth,	Sept. 3, 1870.	May 4, 1871.
160 Parian,	Corinna,	Sept. 9, 1870.	May 9, 1872.
161 Carrabassett,	Canaan,	March 2, 1871.	May 9, 1872.
162 Arion,	Goodwin's Mills,	March 18, 1871.	May 9, 1872.
163 Pleasant River,	Brownville,	July 28, 1871.	May 9, 1872.
164 Webster,	Webster,	July 28, 1871.	May 9, 1872.
165 Molunkus,	Sherman Mills,	Aug. 26, 1871.	May 9, 1872.
166 Neguemkeag,	Vassalboro,	Dec. 22, 1871.	May 9, 1872.
167 Whitney,	Canton,	March 9, 1872.	May 9, 1872.
168 Composite,	LaGrange,	May 9, 1872.	May 8, 1873.
169 Shepherd's River,	Brownfield,	July 1, 1872.	May 8, 1873.
170 Caribou,	Caribou,	July 27, 1872.	May 8, 1873.
171 Naskeag,	Brooklin,	Feb. 3, 1873.	May 8, 1873.
172 Pine Tree,	Mattawamkeag,	Nov. 14, 1873.	May 7, 1874.
173 Pleiades,	Millbridge,	May 7, 1874.	May 7, 1874.
174 Lynde,	Hermon,	May 7, 1874.	May 7, 1874.
175 Baskahegan,	Danforth,	Dec. 3, 1874.	May 20, 1875.
176 Palestine,	Biddeford,	May 5, 1875.	May 6, 1875.
177 Rising Star,	Penobscot,	June 17, 1875.	May 4, 1876.
178 Ancient Brothers',	Auburn,	June 21, 1875.	May 4, 1876.
179 Yorkshire,	North Berwick,	Sept. 18, 1875.	May 4, 1876.
180 Hiram,	Cape Elizabeth,	Nov. 1, 1875.	May 4, 1876.
181 Reuel Washburn,	East Livermore,	May 4, 1876.	May 3, 1877.
182 Granite,	West Paris,	Sept. 16, 1878.	May 8, 1879.
183 Deering,	Portland,	April 2, 1879.	May 8, 1879.
184 Naval,	Kittery,	May 8, 1879.	May 6, 1880.
185 Bar Harbor,	Bar Harbor,	April 19, 1882.	May 2, 1882.
186 Warren Phillips,	Cumberl'd Mills.	April 18, 1883.	May 3, 1883.
187 Ira Berry,	Bluehill,	Nov. 12, 1883.	May 8, 1884.
188 Jonesport,	Jonesport,	May 8, 1884.	May 8, 1884.
189 Knox,	So. Thomaston,	Sept. 6, 1884.	May 7, 1885.
190 Springvale,	Springvale,	May 7, 1885.	May 6, 1886.
191 Davis,	Strong,	May 7, 1885.	May 6, 1886.
192 Winter Harbor,	Winter Harbor,	Aug. 12, 1887.	May 3, 1888.
193 Washburn,	Washburn,	Dec. 14, 1887.	May 3, 1888.
194 Euclid,	Madison,	May 4, 1888.	May 9, 1889.
195 Reliance,	Green's Landing,	May 9, 1889.	May 8, 1890.
196 Bay View,	East Boothbay,	Dec. 20, 1889.	May 8, 1890.
197 Aroostook,	Blaine,	Dec. 17, 1890.	May 7, 1891.
198 St. Aspinquid,	York,	July 22, 1892.	May 4, 1893.
199 Bingham,	Bingham,	Dec. 23, 1892.	May 4, 1893.
200 Columbia,	Greenville,	July 23, 1894.	May 7, 1896.
201 David A. Hooper.	W. Sullivan,	June 3, 1897.	May 5, 1898.
202 Mount Bigelow,	Flagstaff,	June 19, 1897.	May 6, 1898.
203 Mount Olivet,	Washington,	Nov. 24, 1897.	May 7, 1898.
204 Mt. Abram,	Kingfield,	May 4, 1900.	May 9, 1901.
205 Nollesemic,	Millinocket,	Nov. 17, 1900.	May 9, 1901.

NOTE. 59 Mt. Hope, charter surrendered 1879.
90 Hiram Abiff, charter revoked 1868.
108 Relief, charter revoked 1894.
120 Meduncook, charter surrendered 1884.
134 Trojan, consolidated with Star in the West, No. 85, in 1888.
136 Ionic, charter surrendered 1882.
176 Palestine, consolidated with Dunlap, No. 47, in 1895.
181 Reuel Washburn, consolidated with Oriental Star, No. 21, in 1892.
Lodges enrolled, 205 : extinct, 8 ; working, 197.

* Recapitulation---1901. *

Lodges enrolled,.....	205
" extinct,.....	8
" working,.....	197
" under dispensation,.....	0
" granted charters at communication, 1901,.....	2
" represented at communication, 1901,.....	190
Number of representatives,.....	251
Lodges to make returns,.....	197
Making returns in time,.....	197
Initiated,.....	1,077
Raised,.....	1,038
Affiliated,.....	100
Re-instated,.....	67
New lodges,.....	54
Total increase,.....	1,259
Dimitted,.....	151
Died,.....	399
Suspended for unmasonic conduct,.....	1
Expelled,.....	2
Lost membership by non-payment of dues,.....	293
Total decrease,.....	846
Net increase,.....	413
Members, March, 1, 1901,.....	22,690
Grand Lodge Receipts,.....	\$8,905.60
" " Disbursements,.....	\$7,104.31
Amount of Charity Fund,.....	\$33,526.93

Grand Lodges and

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND MASTERS.
Alabama, Dec. 4, 1900,	Russell M. Cunningham, Ensley.
Arizona, Nov. 13, 1900,	George Montague, Nogales.
Arkansas, Nov. 20, 1900,	Harry H. Myers, Little Rock.
Belgium, 1900,	Gustave Royers, Antwerp.
British Columbia, June 20, 1900,	Harry H. Watson, Vancouver.
California, Oct. 9, 1900,	James A. Foshay, Los Angeles.
Canada, July 18, 1900,	Richard B. Hungerford, London.
Cuba, March 24, 1901,	José Fernandez Pellon, Habana.
Colorado, Sept. 18, 1900,	Joseph W. Milsom, Cañon City.
Connecticut, Jan. 16, 1901,	Frederick S. Stevens, Bridgeport.
Delaware, Oct. 3, 1900.	Joseph Stuart, Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia, Dec. 5, 1900,	Harry Standiford, Washington.
England, 1901,	Duke of Connaught, London.
Florida, Jan. 15, 1901,	James Camell, Ormond.
Georgia, Oct. 30, 1900,	Max Meyerhardt, Rome.
Idaho, Sept. 11, 1900,	Albert W. Talkington, <i>acting</i> , Mt. Idaho.
Illinois, Oct. 2, 1900,	Charles E. Hitchcock, Peoria.
Indiana, May 28, 1901,	Orlando W. Brownback, Pendleton.
Indian Territory, Aug. 14, 1900.	John W. F. Parker, Davis.
Iowa, June 4, 1901,	Lewis J. Baker, Ottumwa.
Ireland, 1901,	Duke of Abercorn, Dublin.
Kansas, Feb. 20, 1901,	Perry M. Hoisington, Newton.
Kentucky, Oct. 16, 1900,	William C. McChord, Springfield.
Louisiana, Feb. 11, 1901,	Robert H. Cage, New Orleans.
Maine, May 7, 1901,	Alfred S. Kimball, Norway.
Manitoba, June 13, 1900,	Robert S. Thomton, Deloraine.
Maryland, Nov. 20, 1900,	Thomas J. Shryock, Baltimore.
Massachusetts, Dec. 27, 1900,	Charles T. Gallagher, Boston.
Michigan, Jan. 22, 1901,	Frank O. Gilbert, Bay City.
Minnesota, Jan. 23, 1901,	Gideon S. Ives, St. Peter.
Mississippi, Feb. 28, 1901.	Oliver S. McKay, Meridian.
Missouri, Oct. 16, 1900,	Campbell Wells, Platte City.
Montana, Sept. 19, 1900,	Theo. Brantley, Helena.
Nebraska, June 6, 1900,	Albert W. Crites, Chadron.

Addresses of Grand Officers.

GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
Geo. A. Beauchamp, Montgomery.	William Y. Titcomb, Anniston.
George J. Roskruge, Tucson.	Charles D. Belden, Phoenix.
Fay Hempstead, Little Rock.	Frank Hill, Little Rock.
Rian-Nedgrot, Brussels.	None.
Walter J. Quinlan, Nelson.	W. A. D. Smith, New Westminster.
George Johnson, San Francisco.	William A. Davies, San Francisco.
John J. Mason, Hamilton, Ont.	Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
Aurelio Miranda, Habana.	Francisco de P. Rodriguez, Habana.
William D. Todd, Denver.	Lawrence N. Greenleaf, Denver.
John H. Barlow, Hartford.	John H. Barlow, Hartford.
Benjamin F. Bartram, Wilmington.	Lewis H. Jackson, Wilmington.
Arvine W. Johnston, Washington.	None.
Edward Letchworth, London.	S. B. Wright, DeLand.
Wilbur P. Webster, Jacksonville.	A. Q. Moody, Boston.
William A. Wolihin, Macon.	Fred G. Mock, Nampa.
Theophilus W. Randall, Boise.	Joseph Robbins, Quincy.
Joseph H. C. Dill, Bloomington.	Daniel McDonald, Plymouth.
Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis.	Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka.
Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka.	Joseph E. Morcombe, Cedar Rapids.
Newton S. Parvin, Cedar Rapids.	None.
Henry E. Flavell, Dublin.	William M. Shaver, Topeka.
Albert K. Wilson, Topeka.	James W. Staton, Brooksville.
Henry B. Grant, Louisville.	Herman C. Duncan, Alexandria.
Richard Lambert, New Orleans.	Josiah H. Drummmond, Portland.
Stephen Berry, Portland.	Canon Matheson, Winnipeg.
James A. Ovas, Winnipeg.	Edward T. Schultz, Baltimore.
Jacob H. Medairy, Baltimore.	None.
Sereno D. Nickerson, Boston.	None.
Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater.	Irving Todd, Hastings.
Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul.	Andrew A. Barkley, Crawford.
John L. Power, Jackson.	John D. Vincil, St. Louis.
John D. Vincil, St. Louis.	Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
Cornelius Hedges, Helena.	Charles J. Phelps, Schuyler.
Francis E. White, Omaha.	

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND MASTERS.
Nevada, June 12, 1900,	Joseph A. Miller, Austin.
New Brunswick, Aug. 28, 1900,	J. Gordon Forbes, St. John.
New Hampshire, May 16, 1900,	George I. McAllister, Manchester.
New Jersey, January 23, 1901,	Joseph E. Moore, Jersey City.
New Mexico, Oct. 15, 1900.	Elias S. Stover, Albuquerque.
New South Wales, June 12, 1900.	John Cochrane Remington, Sydney.
New York, May 9, 1901,	Charles W. Mead, New York.
New Zealand, April 26, 1900,	Alexander Stuart Russell, Auckland.
North Carolina, Jan. 8, 1901,	B. S. Royster, Oxford.
North Dakota, June 18, 1901,	Thomas L. Foulks, Fargo.
Nova Scotia, June 12, 1901,	Thomas Trenaman, Halifax.
Ohio, Oct. 25, 1900,	Frank S. Harmon, Akron.
Oklahoma, Feb. 12, 1901,	Charles Day, Blackwell.
Oregon, June 12, 1901,	William E. Grace, Baker City.
Pennsylvania, Dec. 5, 1900,	George E. Wagner, Philadelphia.
Peru, April 14, 1900,	J. Arturo Ego-Aguirre, Lima.
P. E. Island, June 25, 1900,	Ronald McMillan, Charlottetown.
Quebec, Jan. 31, 1900,	Benjamin Tooke, Montreal.
Rhode Island, May 20, 1901.	J. Ellery Hudson, Phenix.
Scotland, 1900.	James Hozier.
South Australia, April 18, 1900.	Samuel J. Way, Adelaide.
South Carolina, Dec. 11, 1900.	Orlando Sheppard, Edgefield.
South Dakota, June 12, 1900,	John A. Cleaves, Huron.
Tasmania, Feb. 22, 1900,	Charles E. Davies, Hobart.
Tennessee, Jan. 30, 1901,	Isaac J. Thurman, McMinnville.
Texas, Dec. 4, 1900,	N. M. Washer, San Antonio.
Utah, Jan. 15, 1901,	Charles W. Morse, Salt Lake City.
Vermont, June 13, 1900,	W. Scott Nay, Underhill.
Victoria, March 20, 1901,	Alex. J. Peacock, Melbourne.
Virginia, Dec. 4, 1900,	H. Oscar Kerns, Sutherland.
Washington, June 11, 1901,	H. L. Kennan, Spokane.
West Virginia, Nov. 14, 1900,	A. D. W. Strickler, Philippi.
Western Australia,	J. W. Hackett.
Wisconsin, June 12, 1900,	Charles C. Rogers, Milwaukee.
Wyoming, Sept. 5, 1900,	C. H. Townsend, Casper.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.

Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson.
 J. Twining Hartt, St. John.
 Frank D. Woodbury, Concord.
 Thomas H. R. Redway, Trenton.
 Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque.
 Arthur H. Bray, Sydney.
 Edward M. L. Ehlers, New York.
 Malcolm Niccol, Auckland.
 John C. Drewry, Raleigh.
 Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
 Thomas Mowbray, Halifax.
 J. H. Bromwell, Cincinnati.
 James S. Hunt, Stillwater.
 James F. Robinson, Eugene.
 William A. Sinn, Philadelphia.
 J. Benjamin Choza, Lima.
 Neil McKelvie, Summerside.
 John H. Isaacson, Montreal.
 S. Penrose Williams, Providence.
 David Reid, Edinburgh.
 J. H. Cunningham, Adelaide.
 Charles Inglesby, Charleston.
 George A. Pettigrew, Flandrean.
 John Hamilton, Hobart.
 John B. Garrett, Nashville.
 John Watson, Houston.
 Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington.
 John Braim, Melbourne.
 George W. Carrington, Richmond.
 Thomas M. Reed, Olympia.
 George W. Atkinson, Charleston.
 J. D. Stevenson, Perth.
 William W. Perry, Milwaukee.
 William L. Kuykendall, Saratoga.

E. D. Vanderlieth, Carson.
 John V. Ellis, St. John.
 Albert S. Waite, Newport.
 Charles Belcher, Newark.
 W. H. Seamon, El Paso, Texas.
 John B. Trivett, Sydney.
 Jesse B. Anthony, Utica.
 C. A. D. Hardy, Rakaia.
 John A. Collins, Enfield.
 Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
 T. B. Flint, Halifax.
 William M. Cunningham, Newark.
 James S. Hunt, Stillwater.
 John M. Hodson, Portland.
 Michael Arnold, Philadelphia.
 None.
 Donald Darrach, Kensington.
 E. T. D. Chambers, Quebec.
 Henry W. Rugg, Providence.
 None.
 None.
 Charles Inglesby, Charleston.
 Samuel A. Brown, Sioux Falls.
 None.
 Henry H. Ingersoll, Knoxville.
 Thomas M. Matthews, Athens.
 Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City.
 Marsh O. Perkins, Windsor.
 David Meadowcroft, Melbourne.
 J. W. Eggleston, Richmond.
 Stephen J. Chadwick, Colfax.
 George W. Atkinson, Charleston.
 Aldro Jenks, Dodgeville.
 William L. Kuykendall, Saratoga.

REPRESENTATIVES

of the Grand Lodge of Maine near other Grand Lodges.

- Alabama*—B. DUDLEY WILLIAMS, Oxford.
Arizona—MARTIN WILLIAM KALES, Phoenix.
Arkansas—OLIVER C. GRAY,
Belgium—ALBERT KRUGER, Anveys.
British Columbia—E. D. MCLAREN, Vancouver.
California—NATHAN W. SPAULDING, Oakland.
Canada—COLIN W. POSTLETHWAITE, Toronto.
Colorado—JOSEPH A. DAVIS, Boulder.
Cuba—AURELIO MIRANDA, Havana.
Connecticut—ARTHUR C. WHEELER, Norwalk.
Delaware—JACOB H. EMERSON, Middletown.
District of Columbia—WILLIAM A. GATLEY, Washington.
Florida—WILLIAM S. WARE, Jacksonville.
Georgia—WILLIAM K. MILLER, Augusta.
Idaho—WILLIAM C. HOWIE, Mountain Home.
Illinois—CHARLES H. BRENNAN, Chicago, 1007 Adams St.
Indiana—WALTER VAIL, Michigan City.
Indian Territory—
Kansas—DAVD B. FULLER, Eureka.
Louisiana—SAMUEL M. TODD, New Orleans.
Manitoba—ROBERT STIRTON THORNTON, Deloraine.
Maryland—THOMAS H. HOOVER, Union Bridge.
Michigan—WILLIAM WENTE, Manistee.
Minnesota—JOHN H. RANDALL, Minneapolis.
Mississippi—
Missouri—ETHELBERT F. ALLEN, Kansas City.
Montana—CORNELIUS HEDGES, Helena.
Nebraska—THOMAS K. SUDBOROUGH, Omaha.
Nevada—SAMUEL S. SEARS,
New Brunswick—JOHN STAR DE WOLF CHIPMAN, St. Stephen.
New Hampshire—JOSEPH W. FELLOWS, Manchester.
New Jersey—JAMES S. AITKIN, Trenton.
New Mexico—ALPHEUS A. KEEN, Albuquerque.
New York—GEORGE A. BENTON, Rochester.
New Zealand—FRANCIS JAMES SMITH, Christchurch.
North Carolina—DAVID BELL, Enfield.
North Dakota—ROBERT D. HOSKINS, Bismarck.
Nova Scotia—JOHN W. RUHLAND, Halifax.
Ohio—O. P. SPERRA, Ravenna.
Oregon—JOHN MCCRAKEN, Portland.
Peru—FRANCISCO L. CROSBY, Lima.
Prince Edward Island—GEORGE W. WAKEFORD, Charlottetown.
Quebec—JOHN HELDER ISAACSON, Montreal.
Rhode Island—EDWARD L. FREEMAN, Central Falls.
South Australia—EBENEZER COOKE, Adelaide.
South Carolina—CLAUDE E. SAWYER, Aiken.
South Dakota—SAMUEL H. JUMPER, Aberdeen.
Tasmania—W. STROUD, (Dep G. Sec.) Hobart.
Tennessee—NATHAN S. WOODWARD, Knoxville.
Texas—T. W. HUDSON, Collinsville.
Utah—WILLIAM THOMAS DALBY, Salt Lake City.
Vermont—ALBRO F. NICHOLS, St. Johnsbury.
Victoria—BENJAMIN DOUGHTY SMITH, Melbourne.
Virginia—CHARLES A. NESBIT, Richmond.
Washington—LEVI ANKENY, Walla Walla.
West Virginia—HUGH STERLING, Wheeling.
Wisconsin—MELVIN S. YOUNGS, Milwaukee.

REPRESENTATIVES

of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Maine.

- Alabama*—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Arizona—AUGUSTUS BAILEY, Gardiner.
Arkansas—JOHN W. BALLOU, Bath.
Belgium—ELMER P. SPOFFORD, Deer Isle.
British Columbia—THADDEUS R. SIMONTON, Camden.
California—HENRY R. TAYLOR, Machias.
Canada—SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, Augusta.
Colorado—FRANK E. SLEEPER, Sabattus.
Cuba—E. HOWARD VOSE, Calais.
Connecticut—AUSTIN D. KNIGHT, Hallowell.
Delaware—AUGUSTUS B. FARNHAM, Bangor.
District of Columbia—STEPHEN BERRY, Portland.
Florida—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Georgia—“ “ “ “ “ “
Idaho—ALBRO E. CHASE, Portland.
Illinois—JOSEPH A. LOCKE, Portland.
Indiana—EDWIN F. DILLINGHAM, Bangor.
Indian Territory—JOSEPH M. HAYES, Bath.
Kansas—ARCHIE LEE TALBOT, Lewiston.
Louisiana—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Manitoba—A. M. WETHERBEE, Warren.
Maryland—SAMUEL L. MILLER, Waldoboro.
Michigan—FESSENDEN I. DAY, Lewiston.
Minnesota—JOHN B. REDMAN, Ellsworth.
Mississippi—CHARLES I. COLLAMORE, Bangor.
Missouri—DANIEL P. BOYNTON, Monmouth.
Montana—HENRY R. MILLETT, Gorham.
Nebraska—EDWARD P. BURNHAM, Saco.
Nevada—LEANDER M. KENNISTON, Camden.
New Brunswick—DENISON E. SEYMOUR, Calais.
New Hampshire—HOWARD D. SMITH, Norway.
New Jersey—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
New Mexico—MANLY G. TRASK, Bangor.
New York—MARQUIS F. KING, Portland.
New Zealand—HERBERT HARRIS, Bangor.
North Carolina—WILLIAM R. G. ESTES, Skowhegan.
North Dakota—ALGERNON M. ROAK, Auburn.
Nova Scotia—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Ohio—WILLIAM J. BURNHAM, Lewiston.
Oregon—ERMON D. EASTMAN, Portland.
Peru—ALFRED S. KIMBALL, Norway.
Prince Edward Island—JAMES ADAMS, Bangor.
Quebec—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Rhode Island—HORACE H. BURBANK, Saco.
South Australia—BENJAMIN AMES, Thorndike.
South Carolina—SAMUEL G. DAVIS, Denmark.
South Dakota—FRANCIS T. FAULKNER, Turner.
Tasmania—WILFORD J. FISHER, Eastport.
Tennessee—HUGH R. CHAPLIN, Bangor.
Texas—JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland.
Utah—EDWIN C. DUDLEY, Augusta.
Vermont—GEORGE R. SHAW, Portland.
Victoria—GOODWIN K. WILEY, Bethel.
Virginia—WINFIELD S. CHOATE, Augusta.
Washington—ENOCH O. GREENLEAF, Farmington.
West Virginia—ALBERT M. PENLEY, Auburn.
Wisconsin—EDMUND B. MALLET, Freeport.

→ OFFICERS ←

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO 1901.

GRAND MASTERS.

William King, 1820, '21.*	Hiram Chase, 1858, '59.*
Simon Greenleaf, 1822, '23.*	Josiah H. Drummond, '60-'62.
William Swan, 1824, '25.*	William P. Preble, 1863-'65.
Charles Fox, 1826, '27.*	Timothy J. Murray, 1866-'68.*
Samuel Fessenden, 1828, '29.*	John H. Lynde, 1869-'71.*
Robert P. Dunlap, 1830, '31.*	David Cargill, 1872-'74.*
Nathaniel Coffin, 1832-'34.*	Albert Moore, 1875, '76.*
Reuel Washburn, 1835-37.*	Edward P. Burnham, '77, '78.
Abner B. Thompson, '38-'40.*	Charles I. Collamore, 1879, '80.
Hezekiah Williams, 1841.*	Marquis F. King, 1881, '82.
Thomas W. Smith, 1842-'44.*	William R. G. Estes, 1883, '84.
John T. Paine, 1845, '46.*	Fessenden I. Day, 1885, '86.
Alexander H. Putney, '47, '48.*	Frank E. Sleeper, 1887, '88.
Joseph C. Stevens, 1849, '50.*	Albro E. Chase, 1889, '90.
John C. Humphreys, '51, '52.*	Henry R. Taylor, 1891, '92.
Freeman Bradford, 1853.*	Horace H. Burbank, 1893, '94.
Timothy Chase, 1854.*	Augustus B. Farnham, 1895, '96.
John Miller, 1855.*	Joseph A. Locke, 1897, '98.
Jabez True, 1856.*	Winfield S. Choate, 1899, 1900.
Robert P. Dunlap, 1857.*	Alfred S. Kimball, 1901.

* Deceased.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

Simon Greenleaf, 1820, '21.*	William P. Preble, 1860-1862.
William Swan, 1822, '23.*	John J. Bell, 1863.*
Charles Fox, 1824, '25.*	Timothy J. Murray, 1864, '65.*
Samuel Fessenden, 1826, '27.*	John H. Lynde, 1866-'68.*
Peleg Sprague, 1828, '30.*	David Cargill, 1869-'71.*
Nathaniel Coffin, 1831.*	Albert Moore, 1872-'74.*
Amos Nourse, 1832.*	Edward P. Burnham, '75, '76.
Reuel Washburn, 1833, '34.*	Charles I. Collamore, 1877, '78.
David C. Magoun, 1835-'37.*	Marquis F. King, 1879, '80.
Asaph R. Nichols, 1838-'43.*	William R. G. Estes, 1881, '82.
James L. Child, 1844.*	Fessenden I. Day, 1883, '84.
Asaph R. Nichols, 1845.*	Frank E. Sleeper, 1885, '86.
Elisha Harding, 1846.*	Albro E. Chase, 1887, '88.
Samuel L. Valentine, '47, '48.*	Henry R. Taylor, 1889, '90.
John C. Humphreys, '49, '50.*	Horace H. Burbank, 1891, '92.
Freeman Bradford, 1851, '52.*	Augustus B. Farnham, '93, '94.
Timothy Chase, 1853.*	Joseph A. Locke, 1895, '96.
Jabez True, 1854, 1855.*	Winfield S. Choate, 1897, '98.
Hiram Chase, 1856, '57.*	Alfred S. Kimball, 1899, 1900.
Josiah H. Drummond, '58, '59.	William J. Burnham, 1901.

SENIOR GRAND WARDENS.

William Swan, 1820, 1821.*	Freeman Bradford, 1849, '50.*
Charles Fox, 1822, 1823.*	Timothy Chase, 1851, 1852.*
Samuel Fessenden, 1824, '25.*	Jabez True, 1853.*
George Thacher, Jr., '26, '27.*	Ezra B. French, 1854, 1855.*
Robert P. Dunlap, 1828, '29.*	Isaac Downing, 1856.*
Amos Nourse, 1830, 1831.*	William Allen, 1857.*
John L. Megquier, 1832-'34.*	Gustavus F. Sargent, 1858, '59.
Joel Miller, 1835-'37.*	John J. Bell, 1860, 1861.*
Thomas W. Smith 1838-'41.*	David Bugbee, 1862.*
John T. Paine, 1842-1844.*	Edmund B. Hinckley, 1863.*
Alexander H. Putney, '45, '46.*	Francis L. Talbot, 1864, 1865.*
John C. Humphreys, '47, '48.*	David Cargill, 1866-1868.*

Thaddeus R. Simonton, '69, '70.	Leander M. Kenniston, 1888.
Albert Moore, 1871.*	Manly G. Trask, 1889.
Edward P. Burnham, 1872-74.	Daniel P. Boynton, 1890.
William O. Poor, 1875.*	George R. Shaw, 1891,
Charles I. Collamore, 1876.	Augustus B. Farnham, 1892.
Marquis F. King, 1877, 1878.	Joseph A. Locke, 1893.
Samner J. Chadbourne, 1879.	Herbert Harris, 1894.
William R. G. Estes, 1880.	Winfield S. Choate, 1895.
John B. Redman, 1881.	Albert M. Penley, 1896.
Arlington B. Marston, 1882.*	Alfred S. Kimball, 1897.
William H. Smith, 1883.*	Elmer P. Spofford, 1898.
Frank E. Sleeper, 1884.	William J. Burnham, 1899.
Joseph M. Hayes, 1885.	James E. Parsons, 1900.
Albro E. Chase, 1886.	Hugh R. Chaplin, 1901.
Horace H. Burbank, 1887.	

JUNIOR GRAND WARDENS.

Nathaniel Coffin, 1820, 1821.*	Thomas B. Johnston, '53, '54.*
Josiah W. Mitchell, 1822.*	William Kimball, 1855.*
Samuel Fessenden, 1823.*	William Allen, 1856.*
George Thacher, Jr., '24, '25.*	John Williams, 1857.*
Robert P. Dunlap, 1826, 1827.*	Stephen B. Dockham, 1858.*
Amos Nourse, 1828, 1829.*	Oliver Gerrish, 1859.*
Reuben Nason, 1830, 1831.*	Joseph Covell, 1860.*
David C. Magoun, 1832-'34.*	Francis J. Day, 1861.*
Abner B. Thompson, '35-'37.*	T. K. Osgood, 1862.*
Stephen Webber, 1838-40.*	F. Loring Talbot, 1863.*
John T. Paine, 1841.*	John H. Lynde, 1864, 1865.*
Alexander H. Putney, '42-'44.*	Thaddeus R. Simonton, '66-'68.
John C. Humphreys, '45, '46.*	John W. Ballou, 1869, 1870.
Frye Hall, 1847.*	Henry H. Dicky, 1871.*
Joseph C. Stevens, 1848.*	William O. Poor, 1872-1874.*
Stephen Webber, 1849.*	Charles I. Collamore, 1875.
Timothy Chase, 1850.*	A. M. Wetherbee, 1876.
William Somerby, 1851, '52.*	Sumner J. Chadbourne, '77, '78.

Edwin Howard Vose, 1879.	Samuel L. Miller, 1891.
Archie L. Talbot, 1880.	Howard D. Smith, 1892.
Fessenden I. Day, 1881.	Wm. Freeman Lord, 1893.
Charles W. Haney, 1882.*	Gustavus H. Cargill, 1894.
Goodwin R. Wiley, 1883.	Moses Tait, 1895.
Augustus Bailey, 1884.	Benjamin L. Hadley, 1896.
Henry R. Taylor, 1885.	Enoch O. Greenleaf, 1897.
Benjamin Ames, 1886.	Millard M. Caswell, 1898.
Wilford J. Fisher, 1887.	Franklin R. Redlon, 1899.
Samuel G. Davis, 1888.	John H. McGorrill, 1900.
Algernon M. Roak, 1889.	Adelbert Millett, 1901.
E. B. Mallet, Jr., 1890.	

GRAND TREASURERS.

Joseph M. Gerrish, 1820-'30.*	Moses Dodge, 1853-'79.*
James B. Cahoon, 1831-'33.*	William O. Fox, 1880-'82.*
Benjamin Davis, 1834-'43.*	Frederick Fox, 1883-1894.*
Henry H. Boody, 1844-'52.*	Marquis F. King, June, '94-1901.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

William Lord, 1820-'31.*	Charles B. Smith, 1846-'55.*
Asaph R. Nichols, 1832-35.*	Ira Berry, 1856-1891.*
Philip C. Johnson, 1836-44.*	Stephen Berry, Sept., 1891-1901.
Charles Fox, 1845.*	

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② Appendix ②

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

→ 1900 ←

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of
Maine :*

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence herewith fraternally submits its annual report.

In order to commence the printing at an early date, we have not waited as long as usual for the receipt of the Proceedings that came earliest in alphabetical order. So that if the review of any Grand Lodge is not found in its place, it will probably be found near the close of the report, and the number of the page upon which it commences will be found in the alphabetical list of "Proceedings Reviewed" at the end of the report.

ALABAMA, 1899.

The Grand Master, B. DUDLEY WILLIAMS, in his address, says there has never been a time in the history of that Grand Jurisdiction when there has been less contention and discord among the subordinate lodges, and more harmony. He had visited but few lodges comparatively, but the account which he gives of these, and the reports of the other officers, show an improved condition of the craft during the year, and that it bids fair to continue in the same direction. He announced sixty-one decisions, many of which, of course, were based on local law.

1. Among those confirmed by the Grand Lodge was one to the effect that it is the right and duty of the lodge to proceed against a brother who

has committed an offence in its jurisdiction, although a member of another lodge.

2. The petition of a candidate residing in the jurisdiction of another lodge cannot be received unless accompanied by the consent of the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides.

3. The rule in regard to physical qualifications is, that any applicant is eligible, unless he is incapable of practicing and teaching the ritual of the fraternity.

4. Contrary to the decisions in most jurisdictions, he held that a mason may be disciplined for an offence involving moral turpitude, committed before his admission into the fraternity, and the Grand Lodge sustained it.

He was called upon to make a decision growing out of the purchase of a magic lantern by a lodge, through a committee duly authorized for that purpose. When the invoice came, it was found that the bill was one hundred and fifty dollars, and it raised a good deal of opposition. There had been opposition to the purchase, but the amount was so much larger than was expected, that quite a minority objected to the Master's drawing his warrant for the bill. But he did so, and the Grand Master decided that he was duly authorized to take the course, and in fact that there was no other course open to him. But in this connection, having been informed that the transaction had created discord among the brethren, he wrote the lodge as follows:

“Now, brethren, while I sustain the action of the officers, as above, I want to say to you candidly, that you have erred, that is, some of the members, in forcing the purchase of this lantern over the opposition, and against the will of a considerable percentage of your membership. Here is where you have made a grievous mistake. While, technically, according to your report, you have violated no masonic law, yet, morally, or perhaps I should say fraternally, you have committed a breach. No lodge should pass a measure calling for the expenditure of funds, or any other measure for that matter, where a considerable proportion of the membership are unalterably opposed to the same. Peace and harmony are the chief supports of our noble Institution. Such action tends to destroy them, and the lodge cannot live without them. I counsel you brethren who put through this measure, and the brethren who are opposed, to take the Trowel and study carefully its glorious symbolic teaching. If the brethren are irreconcilably dissatisfied with the purchase, I know of no way to remedy the matter except to get rid of the machine, negotiate its return to the manufacturer, sell it to some other lodge wanting a lantern, or, if needs be, throw it out of the window and blot out all recollection of it, and once more come together as brethren, united by the cement of brotherly love, and knowing no contention, ‘save that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work or best agree.’”

We commend this to the attention of the brethren as an instance in which, while the majority have the power, it is really against masonic principles for them to exercise the power. If the purchase was a matter of necessity, it would be the duty of the minority to yield; but the object of it was

such that we think this a case in which the purchase should not have been made, unless the sentiment in favor of it was substantially unanimous.

He announced the following decision:

"Section 24, Article 6 of the Constitution, in defining the duties of the Worshipful Master, says: 'He (the W. M.) shall at the regular communication preceding the Festival in June, cause the Secretary to write opposite the name of each member of his lodge, *suspended*, when dues remain unpaid for two years.' This leaves the Worshipful Master no discretion in the matter. The order is general and not specific, and must of necessity include himself, if he is in the list of those in arrears."

This was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which found it so new and difficult a question that they deferred until the next annual communication for a report. We shall look with some interest for that report, for we disbelieve in suspending without notice and an opportunity to be heard.

The Grand Master had performed public exercises on several occasions in which great interest was taken. He gives the correspondence which he had had with the Grand Lodge of Washington, stating that he had been informed that the action had been rescinded, but he had received no official notice thereof.

The committee to which this matter had been referred at the last communication reported as follows:

"We are constrained to the conclusion that while the Grand Lodge of Washington has in terms rescinded the resolutions which were offensive to this Grand Lodge, and which caused the severance of fraternal relations between us and that Grand Body, it has accompanied the act of rescission with declarations which plainly and pointedly indicate that it is of 'the same opinion still,' and further that it proposes to uphold any lodge within its jurisdiction in acting on the spirit of the resolutions in the recognition of persons as regular masons whom this Grand Lodge in common with other Grand Lodges has expressly declared to be clandestine: and that by the adoption of these declarations it has destroyed the force of the mere formal act of rescission, and therefore has failed to remove the real cause which has given offense.

"Resolved 1st, 'That, in view of existing conditions, this Grand Lodge 'does not see its way clear' to revoke, at this time, its action in withdrawing fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington.

"2. 'That reaffirming our former action in this behalf we desire the Grand Lodge of Washington and all other Grand Bodies to distinctly understand that we sincerely desire to preserve and perpetuate fraternal relations with them all, and to this end are ready at any future time to rescind our action with reference to the Grand Lodge of Washington whenever we can do so without a sacrifice of a principle which we deem essential to the purity of our order, and to the protection and preservation of true masonic principles, usages and landmarks.'"

And the report was adopted.

In accordance with a provision of their constitution which we deem to be very unwise, and which is in conflict with the original plan of masonic government, an amendment to the constitution had been submitted to the

lodges; but many of them having failed to act upon it, a circular was issued calling the attention of the lodges to it, and summoning the Master to appear and give reason why no action had been reported from their lodges. A committee appointed to hear the excuses, reported that a part of the lodges claimed that they received no notice of the amendment; another part that the lodges had acted and the Secretary failed to report it; another part that they had actually acted upon them and filed notice with the Grand Secretary; another part claimed that the notice was mislaid and never presented to the lodge; and about twenty lodges sent no excuse at all. But the Grand Lodge excused them, "on promise of more rigid observance of the law governing such matter in future." We do not believe that this matter will ever assume satisfactory form until the Grand Lodge follows the example of quite a number of those which adopted the same system and returned to the original plan. We think that the requirement that an amendment shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge at one session, referred to a committee for a report at the next session, and published in the proceedings for the information of the lodges, and then acted upon *by the Grand Lodge*, is a wiser as well as more convenient method of amending the constitution.

We are glad to find that the Grand Lodge has funded its debt to the amount of fifteen thousand dollars, by the issue of bonds to that amount, secured by a mortgage, which had been disposed of at par. They are arranged so that after January, nineteen hundred and two, they can be redeemed at the rate of one thousand dollars a year, which the committee believe the Grand Lodge would be well able to do.

BRO. JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE, Past Junior Grand Warden, Grand Lecturer, for more than fifty years a mason, and the oldest living member of the Grand Lodge, was made an Honorary Past Grand Master, a title that, so far as the committee had been able to learn, had been conferred but twice, one by Massachusetts and one by another Grand Lodge, which is not named.

Grand Secretary, BRO. H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, made a report of his visit to the centennial anniversary of the death of Washington, at Washington, on the fourteenth of December last.

He closes as follows:

"Thus closed one of the most elaborate and impressive masonic events of this or any other age, and the occasion and the sublime ceremonies connected therewith will ever be remembered by all who were present."

The Report on Correspondence, (208 pp.,) was presented by BRO. WILLIAM Y. TITCOMB.

We have not space for a full review of this report, but in interest and ability it comes up to his report of the preceding year, which was everywhere received with commendation. He notes our suggestion that the Grand Secretary require the printer to make a distinction between extracts

and original matter. But the suggestion was not followed. Perhaps it was not brought to the attention of the Grand Secretary or printer in season, but we trust that it will be adopted. This is one of the very few reports in which that plan is not followed, and it certainly requires much more time for an examination of it as it now is, than it would if printed on that plan.

He understood that in Arizona a dimit without a reccommendatory certificate virtually ends the fraternal relations of the recipient with the fraternity, and he dissents from this doctrine. We shall have occasion to refer to this matter again before completing this report.

He favors deferring action in recognizing Mexican Masonry, until it shall have been demonstrated that within all the lodges, "the Bible, supporting the square and compasses, has exclusive possession of the altar, not dividing the honor with a book of constitutions, or any other inspired volume."

The review of Maine is fraternal and approving. He apparently dissents from us in relation to a case in which there was a disclosure of the ballot, and it appeared there was a mistake, in which case we were of the opinion that the Grand Master might authorize a new ballot. We agree entirely that there should be no disclosure of the ballot, and we expressly stated that we did not understand how it was ascertained that there was a mistake, and we confined our statement to a case in which that should "legally appear."

Since then we have known of a case in which we think the Grand Master was justified in ordering a new ballot. A lodge had been in the habit of using cubes for negative ballots, but finally concluded to return to the old system of using black and white balls. This change was not known to quite a number of members of the lodge, and the very first night when the balls only were used, a candidate was rejected on the first ballot. This meant that at least two negative votes had appeared. Everybody was surprised, but nothing was said, and the candidate was declared rejected, and the lodge closed. But in some manner the attention of the members was called to the change in the system, and it was found that several of those who balloted were unaware of the change, and supposed that it required a cube to reject. Upon the facts being made known to the Grand Master, he, as we think rightly, ordered a new ballot, and the candidate was elected. So that we still adhere to our proposition that "if it legally appears" that a mistake was made, or was probably made, the Grand Master has the power, in his discretion, to authorize a new ballot. The case we have referred to, illustrates the fact that it is impossible, in advance, to say that a case can not happen in which that fact may legally appear.

We reciprocate his kind wishes, and we may be allowed to say that we were delighted to meet representatives of his Grand Lodge, at Washington, on the fourteenth of December.

He is rather inclined to agree with Bro. SCHULTZ and others of us, that

depriving a brother of all his masonic rights for non-payment of dues, is unjust and unmasonic, although he thinks that there are two sides to the question.

ARIZONA, 1899.

We have for a frontispiece a portrait of the retiring Grand Master ANTHONY A. JOHNS.

BRO. JOHNS, in his address, says that the membership has increased during the year, and that the Treasurer presents very gratifying reports in relation to the financial condition of the Grand Lodge. He had not visited as many lodges as he had expected, but had found by diligent inquiry and from the reports of the various lodges, that the craft was prospering greatly; and peace and harmony prevailed; and their high standard of excellence was being maintained.

He had decided that a man with a wooden foot, although but slightly crippled, was not eligible for the degrees. He quotes in his reply from a former decision, in which *one-half of the old charge* is stated as the law, but the balance of it, which modifies the half that was given, was omitted.

A candidate rejected by one lodge having received the first degree in another lodge, the former protested on the ground of his character, and on the ground that he had been rejected upon the report of the committee in the other lodge. The Grand Master decided that if the candidate did not state that he had been rejected he should be disciplined. That if he did so state, the lodge ought to have made a strict investigation, and although he had then received one degree, it was the duty of the lodge to appoint a committee to investigate the matter fully.

We have the impression that the Grand Lodge of California will ultimately find out that it is not safe to allow a rejected candidate to go off into another part of the State, and at the expiration of twelve months apply at his new home for admission into Freemasonry.

In relation to the Washington matter, he says:

“I beg to report the receipt of a circular from M. W. Grand Master Upton, of Washington, relative to the action of that Grand Lodge in reference to Negro Masonry.

“I also received a letter from what appeared to be the opposition, asking me to wire a protest to the Grand Lodge of Washington.

“I answered both of these letters by referring to the action taken by this Grand Lodge at its last session. I do not think the correspondence of sufficient importance to warrant its being printed in full. The Grand Lodge of Washington spent considerable time in discussion of the affair, and, from the reports I have seen of its proceedings, I judge it had changed materially its point of view. Grand Master Upton, however, writes me as follows: ‘At its last communication, the Grand Lodge of Washington made no change in its position, but it greatly modified its language, in the hope that no excuse may longer exist for misunderstanding us, or meddling with our affairs.’

If this is the case, I suggest that we oblige them by letting the matter alone."

We are prepared for erroneous statements from Bro. URRON to almost any extent, but we confess this surprises us: it is a little difficult to resist the conclusion that there was an intentional design to mislead. At any rate, the committee on the Grand Master's address did not accept the assurance, but reported as follows:

"In the matter of Negro Freemasonry in the State of Washington, we are without any copy of proceedings from that State; but believing that the matter should be inquired into, we hand that portion of the address to the Committee on Correspondence, hoping that said committee will report fully at our next annual communication."

"Meddling with our affairs" suggests that violators of law generally are averse to that, but when the matter concerns other people, as in this and in other cases, this aversion will not prevent action.

We have already noted that it has been decided in this Grand Lodge that a certificate of withdrawal without a recommendation was substantially equivalent to the withdrawal of all masonic rights. The committee, to which the matter was referred, had examined the matter very fully, and submitted the following report:

"Some difference of opinion having arisen in regard to the eligibility of a brother holding our certificate of withdrawal without recommendation to apply for membership by affiliation to a masonic lodge in this jurisdiction, your committee has taken the time to look up the authorities in the library of the Grand Lodge of California on the subject, back as far as the year 1723, and have found, without exception, that a brother holding a certificate of withdrawal showing that he is in good standing, that no charges are against him, and whose dues are paid, is entitled, as a masonic principle, to apply for affiliation with another lodge. The certificate without recommendation seems to be the ancient and original custom.

"The recommendatory certificate was originally issued by vote of the lodge as an honorarium to show that the holder had performed special masonic services. If a brother could *demand* a recommendatory certificate, the honorarium would be without any special significance, and the simple form would answer as well for use of those who had performed unusual service.

"It is our opinion, strengthened by the opinions of the Grand Master of California, a Past Grand Master, and the chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, that prior to the approval of the report of our Committee on Jurisprudence in 1898, on that subject, the holder of either dimit as laid down in our Constitution was entitled to apply for membership with another lodge by affiliation in the jurisdiction.

"The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence confirmed the idea that without a recommendatory certificate a brother could not apply for affiliation with us. This idea was apparently derived from the foot-note—a note of reference—which appears below the non-recommendatory form. This note of reference refers to no action of the Grand Lodge, and therefore is without effect.

"In this connection it may be as well to state that the same foot-note appears in the California forms prior to 1895, that it came there without action of that Grand Lodge, and that it disappeared in the same manner. No at-

tention was paid to the foot-note by the Grand Lodge of California; Decision No. 370 of Anderson's Digest ignores it, and declares that either form of dimit (being the same as ours) will enable a brother to apply for affiliation.

"It appears that California had this year a case (similar to ours of 1898) where a brother claimed to be a member still, because he did not receive a certificate of recommendation—more particularly because another lodge in that state refused his petition when accompanied by the non-recommendatory certificate. The Grand Master held that he had severed his connection with the one lodge and that the other had *improperly* refused to consider and ballot on his petition for affiliation.

"A brother cannot be turned out of Freemasonry without a trial on specific charges, nor can a lodge be forced to recommend him, and to prevent that and to correct an erroneous interpretation of our laws, we hereby submit the following resolution, to be known and designated as Regulation No. 8 of the laws of this Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That either a recommendatory certificate or a certificate of withdrawal without recommendation, as laid down in our constitution, is a proper dimit, and entitles the brother holding the same to apply for affiliation with another lodge in this jurisdiction."

We are exceedingly glad that the committee so faithfully performed its duty and looked up the old law. In the earlier days in this section of the country, all that a member had to do was to resign his membership, and the Secretary noted it on the record. There gradually, however, grew up the custom of passing some complimentary resolutions when a brother resigned his membership, until finally it became the method, and a brother wanting a dimit, applied for it, and it was submitted to the vote of the lodge, as the form of the dimit contained the recommendatory clause. Of course it soon came to be the fact that members voted upon it when requested, according to their views, and when it was decided that a member in good standing on the books was entitled to a dimit, the members of the lodge insisted that if they were required to vote on the question they had the right to vote in accordance with their views, and if they could not vote a recommendation they would vote against granting a dimit. It is now held in this section, that a member is entitled, as a matter of right, to his discharge from a lodge without any vote, but the lodge may vote and discharge him with a recommendation.

We are glad to find that the Grand Lodge of Arizona holds, "That a brother cannot be turned out of Freemasonry without a trial on specific charges." This has application to the law of some of her immediate neighbors.

A very curious case came before the Grand Lodge. A brother summoned to assist an officer in arresting a party, seized the party to be arrested, who fell, and *a part of his body was in Mexico and a part in Arizona*. However, the Arizona parties arrested the part that was in that territory, and of course that part that was in Mexico had to follow suit. Thereupon the Mexican authorities took measures to arrest the brother for violating their law, in

arresting a Mexican citizen *in Mexico*, and forcing him into the United States, so that the brother did not dare to cross the Mexican line. He asked the interference of the Grand Lodge to remove this bar upon his personal liberty, and the Grand Lodge did vote to use its good offices with the masons of Mexico, to prevent the further annoyance of the brother. The legal question seems to have been whether the greater part of the party's body, at the time of his arrest, was in the United States or was in Mexico!

We have somewhere seen a decision that the officer may arrest the part in his jurisdiction, and if the rest chose to go with the arrested part, the officer is not blamable.

The Grand Orator, Bro. CHARLES D. BELDEN, delivered a very fine oration, which is published with the proceedings.

There is no Report on Correspondence, but the Grand Master earnestly recommended that in the future they should have, as the apparent financial condition of the Grand Lodge would now justify it.

ARKANSAS.

This Grand Lodge did not meet in 1899. It adopted biennial sessions for a time in order to reduce its debt.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1899.

The proceedings of two special communications to lay corner stones are briefly given.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, DAVID WILSON, refers to the Peru matter, and says:

“As soon as this suicidal act became known abroad, it was followed by a general declaration of non-intercourse by other Grand Bodies. Our own executive does not seem to have been aware of the radical change in the landmarks which Bro. Dam contemplated, for no action was taken by this Grand Lodge. Time, however, restored the right, for one year after (June, 1898), the newly elected Grand Master promptly repudiated the decree issued by his predecessor, and the Grand Lodge revoked its former decision, thus restoring the great lights in the lodges.”

Later he received a letter from the Grand Secretary of Peru, and being satisfied that the Grand Lodge was regular, he assured the Grand Lodge of the continuance of friendly intercourse.

Of the Washington matter, the Grand Master says:

“The other matter of interest under this head relates to the so-called ‘Negro Masonry’ of the United States. The adoption by the Grand Lodge of Washington at its last annual communication (1898) of the report of a special committee on ‘Negro Masonry’ resulted in the declaration of non-intercourse by several American Grand Lodges. Other American Grand

Lodges have not gone to such lengths, but have communicated their determination to take some action unless an early reconsideration of what they regard as a practical recognition of Negro Masonry should be decided upon.

“It may be well to remember that the Grand Bodies which have either severed fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington or threaten to do so, have in many instances within their own jurisdictions colored lodges which have never been recognized. Now according to the doctrine of ‘Exclusive and Supreme Territorial Jurisdiction’ (an exclusively ‘American’ doctrine, not a landmark) the adoption by the Washington Grand Lodge of the report mentioned above, is regarded chiefly as an unwarranted invasion of territorial jurisdiction and, therefore, worthy of severe condemnation.

“Some very harsh language has been used in describing the action of our neighboring Grand Lodge, but I am unable to see that any landmark of the order has been broken in the course pursued, although one may well doubt its propriety under all the circumstances.”

As he falls into the very serious error that the doctrine of territorial jurisdiction is an “exclusively American doctrine,” of course his conclusion falls at once.

We desire to call his attention, and that of Bro. SMITH, the chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, to the fact that the Grand Lodge of England maintains the same doctrine. It is true, that it does not go to the extent of prohibiting its lodges from receiving candidates from another jurisdiction, but nearly forty years ago it expressly declared that one Grand Lodge has no right to plant lodges or make masons in the territory of another Grand Lodge.

Within a few years also, the law officer of the Grand Lodge of England, in open Grand Lodge, sustained the position taken by the Grand Lodge of Maine in 1861, that *this law grows out of the very existence of a plurality of Grand Lodges as a fundamental law*. So that while we cannot say that this doctrine is a “landmark,” it is, nevertheless, the law binding upon all Grand Lodges which have or claim territorial jurisdiction, as all the British Grand Lodges do, and all the Grand Lodges in the Dependencies of the British Crown also do. Moreover, it is not long since the Grand Lodge of Manitoba undertook to establish a lodge in Gibraltar, in territory which had been under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England; thereupon the latter objected, that, under the laws of Masonry, the Grand Lodge of Manitoba could not lawfully establish a lodge in that territory. The Grand Lodge of Manitoba, at first, while yielding the point that one Grand Lodge cannot legally establish a lodge in the territory of another Grand Lodge, claimed that the territory where this lodge was established, was territory in which either of the three British Grand Lodges could exercise jurisdiction, and therefore that any Grand Lodge in the Dependencies of the British Crown could establish lodges there. The matter was quite fully discussed, and the very general decision of the Grand Lodges was, that the claim of Manitoba

could not be sustained, and that Grand Lodge gracefully and fraternally yielded and withdrew its authority for the lodge.

We shall have occasion to refer to this matter in our review of the Report on Correspondence, but we desire to correct the erroneous statement of the Grand Master, in connection with his address. We only desire in this place to make one other quotation in regard to the matter from the address of Grand Master WILSON, as follows:

“To these must be added the pledge which the Master makes at his installation: ‘You promise that no visitor shall be received into your lodge without due examination and producing proper vouchers of his having been initiated in a regular lodge.’ (Ancient Charges.)

“The laws just quoted undoubtedly refer to all visitors from whatever lodge or jurisdiction.”

* * * * *

“That strict trial without the production of satisfactory paper credentials is insufficient proof of the right to visit, must be apparent, ‘for if a stranger be examined and can show that he is in possession of our secrets, it by no means follows either that, 1st, he may have obtained them unlawfully; or 2d, he may have acquired them under a jurisdiction never recognized by our Grand Lodge, or with whom it is not at the time in fraternal relations; or 3d, he may have been expelled by his Grand Lodge, or be under suspension. The first is a hardly possible contingency. The second and third are more likely to occur, and must consequently be guarded against as more dangerous, for 1st, there are spurious and unrecognized bodies in existence; 2d, Grand Jurisdictions perfectly regular in themselves may not happen to be on terms of masonic intercourse with us, therefore visitors hailing from them cannot be received into our lodges; and 3d, though an expelled brother, or one under suspension, might still pass, yet the production of his paper vouchers will in almost every case prove a considerable obstacle in his way.’ The inevitable conclusion is that the secrets without the accrediting papers, or the papers without the secrets, fail to prove the right to visit a lodge; both are clearly requisite.”

When it is remembered that the two parties in the Washington lodge in question, were made in *irregular* lodges, claiming under an *irregular* Grand Lodge, the force of our quotation will be seen; our Most Worshipful brother apparently little thought how strong an opinion he was giving against the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Grand Master WILSON had been an exceedingly active and energetic officer, but we find nothing further of general interest in his address.

The Deputy Grand Master makes a report of his visitations in which he speaks in favorable terms of the lodges which he had visited. He had found, however, that brethren who had passed through the chair had too frequently lost their interest, a circumstance much to be regretted.

The reports of the District Deputies, with one exception, show that they had faithfully performed their duties, and as a whole the reports show a very favorable and satisfactory condition of the lodges. The exception was in the case of a brother who had been obliged to be away from home a large

part of the year, and during the remainder had been prevented from leaving home by sickness in his family.

The committee on the Grand Master's reports say:

"We endorse the action of the M. W. G. M. with respect to our relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru, and counsel measures of great prudence and caution in at all dealing with the question known as 'Negro Masonry,'"

An amendment to the constitution was proposed, to the effect that if the report of two members of the investigating committee is unfavorable, no ballot should be taken, but upon the acceptance of the report, the Master shall declare the candidate rejected. We trust that this will not be adopted, as it will really spread upon the records sufficient to show that two of a committee, whose names are known, were the ones who objected, and the effect, we believe, will be bad in relation to the action of committees, who will not want to go on record as reporting unfavorably upon the candidates. The old usage requires the question of admission to be decided by secret ballot, and the appointment of a committee to aid the lodge to reach a correct conclusion is a more recent invention; and to insure faithful reports, the character of the report ought never to be spread upon the record, and we are glad to know that this method now very generally prevails.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 226) was submitted by W. A. DE WOLF SMITH, and it fully sustains the high character of his former reports. He limits himself, however, a little more closely to an abstract of proceedings, and makes less comments than we would like to see.

In his review of Maine, he agrees with us in not approving a law making an examination in the work of the third degree pre-requisite to membership, adding that, during the time the law had been in force in his jurisdiction, it "had caused endless trouble and annoyance."

He states that a Grand Master of that jurisdiction, on the occasion of an official visit to a lodge, submitted to an examination. We wonder what he would have done if his examination had been declared not satisfactory!

In regard to ciphers, he says:

"This question is rather an unsuitable one to discuss in the pages of a report of this kind, but, while we regret to differ from so eminent an authority, we have no hesitation in saying that we believe that the *production* of these ciphers is quite as much a masonic offence as in *divulging* any of the secrets of Masonry. A cipher must at least be intelligible to the person who made it, and no cipher has yet, to our knowledge, been invented which could not be deciphered with a little patience and perseverance."

The expression, "a cipher must at least be intelligible to the person who made it," does not state the whole law, and if our brother will read the whole and not merely a part of it, he will see that this is untenable. As to the remainder of the sentence, we have only to say that the Webb cipher never has been deciphered, and moreover, from its very nature it cannot be.

It is true that the cipher in general use may be deciphered, but when it comes to what is called the Webb cipher (*although it is really no cipher at all*), it is impossible.

In relation to the Washington question, he gives the report upon which the action of that Grand Lodge was based, the report made thereon by Bro. ROBBINS, of Illinois, in his Report on Correspondence, the reports made to and adopted by the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Mississippi, and Bro. SMITH adds:

“For ourselves, we think it is a matter for the Grand Lodge of Washington alone. We do not see the expediency of their action, as in these latitudes, at all events, there are no difficulties in the way of a negro, or a man of any other color, gaining admission to masonic lodges if he can comply with the necessary requirements. There is absolutely no need in Washington for two Grand Lodges, and we think their action extremely ill advised. If, as their petition stated, these persons were ‘true, tried and trusty masons, having been regularly initiated, passed and raised,’ they should have had no trouble in being ‘brought into communication with’ the ‘members of the craft in this State.’ They should have, like any other visiting brother, applied for a committee of examination from one of the lodges, when, if they could prove their proficiency and no objections were raised, their ‘communication with . . . the members of the craft in’ the State would naturally follow. Their unwillingness to adopt this course appears to us to be a confession of the weakness of their position.

“At the same time we think that the Grand Lodge of Washington has a perfect right to recognize another Grand Lodge if they want to. They have violated no landmark that we are aware of. The doctrine of State sovereignty is a purely American doctrine, and is not one of the fundamental principles of the Institution. It may be advisable, but that is all. Neither do we see that any harm is being done to other Grand Lodges. There is no necessity for any other Grand Lodge to recognize any negro Grand Lodge because Washington has done so. There is no obligation on the part of British Columbia to recognize Mexican Masonry because Texas does so, nor is there any talk of withdrawing recognition from those Grand Lodges which have recognized Mexican Masonry because of their action in that respect.

“The Grand Lodge of Mississippi goes just a step further than any of the rest in declaring that it regards the State of Washington as unoccupied territory in which any Grand Lodge may charter lodges with impunity. Not to mention the position in which this action places those Grand Lodges which have not suspended fraternal relations with Washington, it will be interesting to watch what will happen should some Grand Lodge—Mississippi for instance—charter lodges in that state. There is no doubt that most, at any rate, of the Grand Lodges which have declared non-intercourse with Washington will be very ready to resume fraternal intercourse with that Grand Lodge when the cause of offence is removed; then what will be the *status* of the lodge or lodges chartered by other Grand Lodges? And in what position will the Grand Lodge which charters them find itself after having chartered lodges in a state recognized by other Grand Lodges as already occupied?

“The right of every Grand Lodge to manage its own affairs in its own way is universally conceded, and it seems to us to be the height of inconsistency to start with the premises that ‘every Grand Lodge is sovereign within its own limits, and has an inalienable right to determine the status and legality of every mason and masonic body’ existing in its jurisdiction, and then deny the Grand Lodge of Washington the right to do this very thing

because it does not happen to decide in accordance with the views of its critics.

“Nor do we believe that ‘its decision is binding upon every mason and masonic body wheresoever situated,’ as claimed by the Jurisprudence Committee of Mississippi. As said before, we are under no obligation to recognize the *Gran Dieta* because some others have done so, nor do we feel the necessity of recognizing ‘negro masons claiming their masonic descent from Prince Hall Lodge’ because Washington deems them worthy of recognition.”

We would ask Bro. SMITH if, under the rule given by his own Grand Master, either of those two gentlemen could have been admitted into a lodge in his jurisdiction. A visitor in British Columbia, as elsewhere, must present vouchers that he was made in a regular lodge. One of the parties would present vouchers that he was made a mason in a lodge in Pennsylvania, which the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has declared to be a *clandestine lodge*. A regular lodge must be chartered by a regular Grand Lodge. The lodge in question was chartered by a pretended Grand Lodge in Pennsylvania, which the Grand Lodge of that State declares to be utterly clandestine.

But the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, in allowing its lodges to admit this man, necessarily decides that the lodge in which he was made is a regular lodge holding under a regular Grand Lodge, the decision of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to the contrary notwithstanding. Is it, then, “a matter for the Grand Lodge of Washington alone”? Is the Grand Lodge of British Columbia made of such stuff that it would hold masonic intercourse with another Grand Lodge which recognizes a lodge in British Columbia and the masons made therein as regular, which the Grand Lodge of British Columbia declares to be an unlawful lodge and its initiates to be clandestine masons? Would it allow the members of its obedience to sit in a lodge with parties whom it holds to be clandestine masons? Nay, verily.

His second paragraph is fully answered by what we have already given from the action of the Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. SMITH does not seem to appreciate the difference between recognizing a Grand Lodge in unoccupied territory and recognizing one established in a territory in which a regular Grand Lodge already exists, exercising jurisdiction. But he may set it down that it is the doctrine of all English speaking Grand Lodges, that it is a fundamental law of Masonry growing out of the existence of a plurality of Grand Lodges, that one Grand Lodge cannot lawfully plant a lodge or make masons within the territory of another Grand Lodge.

A Grand Lodge may be called “sovereign,” but nevertheless it is bound by the fundamental laws of the Institution, and if it violates those laws, it renders itself liable to be put without the pale of Masonry. Its decision that a lodge existing in the territory of another Grand Lodge is a regular

lodge, when the Grand Lodge of the territory in which that lodge exists, declares it to be a clandestine lodge, is such a violation of fundamental masonic law, binding on all Grand Lodges, as, if persisted in, to justify and require the action proposed by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

CALIFORNIA, 1899.

We have a volume of over six hundred and twenty pages, made up in part, however, as usual, by the returns of the membership of the various lodges.

The Grand Master, FRANK M. ANGELLOTTI, in his address says that the general condition of Masonry, within the jurisdiction, is excellent, and that the increase in members had been greater than any previous year, save one. The financial condition of the lodges, as a general rule, was favorable; and harmony generally prevailed. He gives a succinct account of his official actions and decisions, and discusses various matters in a very able manner.

It seems that under the law of his Grand Lodge, the Grand Master may grant dispensations to rebalot on the petitions of rejected candidates, and of these he says:

“Experience has convinced me that the practice of issuing dispensations to rebalot on the petitions of rejected candidates is a dangerous one, and that the power vested in the Grand Master in that regard should be exercised with the greatest care. In the absence of good reason for believing that some mistake has been made, the members of a lodge should not seek such a dispensation, and the rebalot should never be had without full notice to every member. That applications for such dispensations have become very frequent is shown by the large number of dispensations granted. I have carefully investigated the facts in each case and have latterly sought to insure proper notice of the rebalot by requiring it to be had at a stated meeting, after notification to each member. I have refused to grant such dispensations in several cases.”

We, too, think that this is a dangerous matter. It inevitably leads to the giving of some reasons why the candidate was rejected, and presupposes an inquiry to ascertain those reasons—a thing forbidden by our laws.

He notices the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1898, and also those of 1899. When he received the former, he addressed a communication to the Grand Master of Washington, in relation to the matter, in which he says:

“You give your official assurance that the Grand Lodge of Washington has not recognized any Negro Grand Lodge or expressed any intention of so doing, and that it has not repudiated the ‘‘American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction.’’

“It has, however, through its committee, said that the persons initiated in the so-called lodges chartered by such Negro Grand Lodges are as fully entitled to the name of masons and to brotherly recognition as any other masons in the world, and having so declared them to be masons, it has further, by resolution, said to its subordinate lodges and the members thereof,

that it does not see its way clear to deny or question their right to recognize such persons as brother masons.

“ This seems to me to necessarily involve a recognition by your Grand Lodge of all the Negro Grand Lodges, for it declares all initiated in lodges acknowledging allegiance thereto to be masons, and authorizes its own subordinate lodges to recognize them as such. In recognizing members of such negro lodges, who happen to be in your state, as masons, your own lodges, by the express permission of the Grand Lodge of Washington, recognize the negro lodges from which they hail, and the Grand Lodges which chartered such negro lodges. Is not this a recognition of such Negro Grand Lodges by the Washington Grand Lodge?

“ I do not say this for the purpose of disputing your official assurance in the matter, but simply as a foundation for my opinion that the other American Grand Lodges would be justified in concluding that the Grand Lodge of Washington had recognized the various so-called Negro or African Grand Lodges of the United States, and that it had also repudiated the “ American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction.”

“ I understand that there is in this state one of the so-called African Grand Lodges and a number of subordinate lodges chartered thereby. They exist without charter or dispensation from the Grand Lodge F. and A. M. of California, and are consequently, in the eyes of that body, illegal and clandestine.

“ To my mind, the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington involves a recognition of the members of these lodges, the lodges and the Grand Lodge by which the lodges are chartered, as legitimate.

“ The Grand Lodge F. and A. M. of California has always adhered to the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction. It is the supreme masonic power in this state, and recognizes no authority, except in itself, to grant any charter or dispensation for a masonic lodge therein.’ ”

We commend this to the attention of those brethren who have been contented to accept the statement that the Grand Lodge of Washington had not recognized any negro Grand Lodges, a thing so *literally* true that it is actually a false statement. All that is meant by the declaration, is that the Grand Lodge of Washington did not adopt the *usual formal recognition* of a particular Grand Lodge, but when we remember that acts are more forcible than words, as our Most Worshipful brother shows, it did recognize negro Grand Lodges in the most forcible manner possible.

He reports that two lodges are working in French and that he had ascertained that one of them had a completely written “ exposition ” of the work, but when he called their attention to the unlawfulness of the matter, the “ expositions ” were promptly destroyed.

In some quarters it has become fashionable to decry and ridicule applications to the Grand Master for decisions, and in relation to this he well says:

“ Many questions have been asked regarding our laws. Some of these have been easily answered, while others have required much consideration. While much time and labor have been expended in examining the questions presented and in answering the inquiries made, I am not disposed to complain of the tendency on the part of the officers of lodges to refer matters, concerning which there is any doubt in their minds, to the Grand Master for adjudication. I realize, too, that very often a simple question becomes apparently so complicated by reason of the interests involved, that it is con-

ducive to the peace and harmony of a lodge to have the ruling of the Grand Master thereon. However, Masters cannot be too strongly urged to search diligently our book of constitutions, and from time to time cause its contents to be read in their lodges, as they are enjoined to do upon their installation. I have answered each inquiry promptly and as fully as time would permit, and submit a statement of certain of my rulings, including all those that require your consideration."

He decides in accordance with previous decisions, that an unaffiliated mason can keep himself in good standing, by applying for membership every six months, if as often rejected, but if he allows six months to elapse without an application he becomes suspended, and has to be restored. We fraternally refer our California brethren to the report of the Grand Lodge of Arizona which we have quoted.

He also decided that when a Grand Lodge restores a brother, he becomes a non-affiliated mason in good standing, but can keep it only by applying for membership until he is elected, or if he is not elected, once in every six months.

He decides that a lodge may conduct the funeral services, although cremation of the remains is to follow.

He was obliged to apply the doctrine above stated to a brother who had been a member in good standing of a lodge which had surrendered its charter, simply because he had failed to apply for membership within six months; and although he applied a little later, nevertheless, he stood suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

He held that under the California law, a member of a lodge against whom charges had been filed, could withdraw from the lodge, but, nevertheless, he would be liable to trial upon the charges, just as if he had not withdrawn.

A lodge requested another lodge to confer the remaining degrees upon one of its E. A.'s. A member of a third lodge objected. He decided that the objection had no force, but that it would be the duty of the Master of the lodge to delay proceedings, and acquaint the other lodges with the facts.

He decided in effect, that a dimit without a recommendatory certificate determines the membership, and as we understand it, allows him to apply to another lodge for membership, precisely as if such a certificate had been issued. The Grand Master says expressly, that whether such certificate shall be given, is for the lodge to determine after the member has withdrawn.

He earnestly urged that action should be taken upon the report of the committee on work, saying:

"In the well founded feeling that exists among masons against innovation in the work, I most heartily concur, but I have been most seriously impressed by the fact that practically the unanimous verdict of those who were made elsewhere, or who have investigated as to the work of other jurisdictions, is to the effect that the work as reported by the Committee on Revision is substantially the work accepted and used in all of the older juris-

dictions of this country. Certainly it is more consistent with the traditions upon which the scenes exemplified are founded."

Of publishing the names of the membership he says:

"In this connection, I must call your attention to the fact that the time is fast approaching when, by reason of the increase in our membership, we must seriously consider the question of omitting from our printed proceedings the names of the members of the lodges. Already nearly half of each volume is devoted to the returns of the subordinate lodges. While such a publication is in many ways convenient to the officers of both Grand and subordinate lodges, it is not an essential. It is desirable that a permanent record of the membership of the fraternity should be made up each year, but that could be done without printing the same in the report of proceedings. Most of the larger jurisdictions publish only the names of the Master and Secretary of each lodge, which serves every ordinary purpose."

He devotes a couple of pages to the restoration of non-affiliated masons, and we are glad to find an apparent inclination to recede from the extreme position which the Grand Lodge has taken upon this subject. He says:

"I speak particularly of this ruling, for the reason that any other construction would deprive of all his masonic rights, privileges and charities and declare unworthy of masonic consideration, the brother who has violated none of our laws, who has faithfully endeavored to affiliate, and who is still a non-affiliate, simply because the lodges to which he makes application for membership refuse to accept him as a member. This would be more than the most ardent crusader against the non-affiliate has ever demanded."

But in the amendment proposed, we still find that an applicant for affiliation, under certain circumstances, must pay a sum equivalent to six months' dues to the lodge to which he applies, and which becomes the property of the lodge *whether he is accepted or not*. It does provide, however, that the affiliation fee shall be returned if the petition is rejected.

He discusses also the subject of physical qualifications of candidates, and we commend the following to the perfectionists, especially those of them, who, in quoting this charge, invariably leave out all of it after the word "youth":

"In the ancient charges revised under the direction of the Grand Lodge of England and approved by that body in 1722, the regulation upon the subject is as follows, viz:—

"No Master should take an apprentice unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art."

"It has been contended that this requires absolute perfection, and so it does unless the words 'perfect youth' are qualified by the words that follow them. If these words are not a qualification of what preceded them, they are superfluous, for the words 'perfect youth' include all. But where, as was suggested by our Committee on Jurisprudence in 1864, out of the 'celestial lodge above' is this absolute perfection to be found?"

The committee, to which his address was referred, signified their concurrence in his views, but referred the matter to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

He urges greater care in the investigation of the character of candidates, adding, however:

“Complaints have come to me from a very few lodges that good and true men are refused admission therein by the improper and persistent use of the black-ball. To such lodges I have said, that while I know of no more un-masonic act than the rejection of a worthy applicant from personal motives, I know of no remedy for the evil complained of, beyond the appeal that may be made to the consciences of the members. Its existence is due to the fact that unworthy men have gained admission to these lodges.

“The secret ballot is essential to the protection of our brotherhood, and each mason must determine for himself, freely and without inquiry as to his action or motives, the character of his vote. The members of lodges cannot, however, be too frequently admonished that in the performance of any duty relating to the admission of candidates, all personal feelings and considerations should be cast aside, and the matter determined solely with reference to the applicants' qualifications and the welfare of Masonry.”

Our brethren who have seen nothing in a rejection but an expression on the part of some of the brethren that they do not desire the applicant to be admitted to their lodge, not because he is not worthy to be made a mason, but because they prefer otherwise, will find little comfort in these views.

The Grand Secretary, as usual, submitted a full report, giving the details of his official action, none of which are of more than local interest.

The Grand Lecturer presented an admirable report, and a brief abstract of the reports of the Inspectors, showing that the craft is harmonious as a whole and working well. He very wisely says, however:

“The allowance of three hundred (\$300) dollars made by the Grand Lodge for traveling expenses is not sufficient to permit the Grand Lecturer to do full justice to the great State of California in the matter of visiting the various masonic districts of the State, and while it is true that in many places the lodges and brethren generously and handsomely entertained the Grand Lecturer during his visits, it is often, doubtless, inconvenient and somewhat of a burden, however cheerfully borne. The allowance should be increased to such a sum as would be adequate for perfect freedom on the part of the Grand Lecturer to accept or reject, as his judgment might dictate, this generous and fraternal hospitality.”

The various Boards of Relief submitted full detailed reports. They credit Pythagorean Lodge, of Maine, with refunding fifteen dollars, paid for the relief of a member of that lodge. The only other disbursement for a brother from Maine is two dollars, in one case. Of course, the Home is noticed at considerable length, and is shown to be in prosperous condition, and doing a wonderfully good work.

Past Grand Master MORRIS M. ESTEE, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, submitted a very able report upon the Washington matter, in which the views of the Grand Master are endorsed, and an adhesion to the doctrine of territorial jurisdiction most emphatically reaffirmed. The following resolution was also adopted:

"Resolved, That we trust our masonic brethren in the State of Washington will join with us in maintaining the masonic principles as herein expressed, to the end that masonic territorial jurisdiction may be maintained in each State, and the Order may be unified and strengthened in all parts of this great Republic."

The committee referred to the communication of the Grand Master of Washington, and add:

"Exactly what is meant by this we cannot say. We understood the 'American doctrine' to be that there should be but one Grand Lodge in the territorial limits of each State, because two or more Grand Lodges of Masons in any one State would lead to conflicts of jurisdiction and consequent strife and discord. This Grand Lodge has always maintained the 'American doctrine.'"

The committee says further:

"But the real point at issue between the Grand Lodge of Washington and this Grand Lodge is reached by the Grand Master of Washington when he says: 'It (the Grand Lodge of Washington) does not see its way clear to deny or question the right of its constituent lodges, or of the members thereof, to recognize as brother masons negroes who have been initiated in lodges which can trace their origin to lodges warranted by the Grand Master of England.'

"The above is the kernel of the whole proposition. So far as this masonic jurisdiction is concerned, 'Negro Masonry' does not now, and never has, called for any discussion. Indeed, our own Grand Lodge has many times passed upon this subject, and always that the color of a man's skin, or his race, does not either fit or unfit him for Masonry."

* * * * *

"This is just what the Grand Lodge of Washington has done, and if that Grand Lodge continues to pursue this line of action but one thing is left for this Grand Lodge to do, namely, to 'suspend all friendly masonic relations with that Grand Body.' But it is our hope and earnest prayer that this will not be done. Our Constitution makes this action on our part necessary by prescribing that 'no lodge shall recognize any Body purporting to be a masonic lodge which shall be holden within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of any State or Territory of the United States, without authority from such Grand Lodge.'

"This is a question of paramount masonic jurisprudence within the State of California. It is vital to masonic existence. It is a question of masonic government, and any interference with it is as important and as dangerous to such government as would be the irregular interference of some foreign body of men in the political organization of a State government. It must be admitted that such action would lead to the destruction of all government; that a divided authority would mean no authority, and that the government would fall to pieces by reason thereof."

* * * * *

"This Grand Lodge has held that 'the Grand Lodge of California recognizes no man as a mason unless he has been regularly made one in some lodge of masons acting under a charter or dispensation from some Grand Lodge having proper authority to grant such charter or dispensation. It does not therefore recognize any authority, except in itself, to grant any charter or dispensation for a masonic lodge in the State of California.' (See Vol. X, p. 154, bound Proceedings.)

"The above is the settled masonic law of this jurisdiction. The real controversy thus presented between the Grand Lodge of the State of Washing-

ton and this jurisdiction is that the Grand Lodge of Washington would seem to repudiate the exclusive masonic territorial jurisdiction in the State of California of the Grand Lodge of California.

"There must be some masonic supremacy in each masonic jurisdiction. In California this Grand Lodge is the supreme masonic authority. Says Mackey: 'If there is any one well recognized principle of masonic law and usage among all English speaking peoples, it is that two independent Grand Lodges cannot lawfully exist within the same jurisdiction.' And although the Grand Lodge of Washington 'disclaims recognition to a second Grand Lodge in any State or country,' yet it does actually do so when it recognizes as 'regularly initiated masons' those persons that a second Grand Lodge in California has authorized to be made masons.

"In a word, under our American system of Masonry, a Grand Lodge of masons was established in California at an early date. Afterwards, and when such Grand Lodge was in full force and activity, then another Grand Lodge, claiming to derive its authority from a foreign jurisdiction—the Grand Lodge of England—is established in the same territory, namely, California. Then our Washington brethren recognize as masons those who are initiated under the authority of the second Grand Lodge, and at the same time they are opposed to a second Grand Lodge in any State jurisdiction. This does not seem rational.

"Imagine a civil State government in California, and then imagine a revolutionary State government in the same State. What kind of a friend to the old and legitimate State government would Washington be if it recognized with equal force both State governments?"

We quote at this length because some apparently well meaning brethren, (and some who are not so apparently well meaning) really profess to believe that the Grand Lodge of Washington did not recognize by its action any negro Grand Lodge, or any lodge hailing under such a Grand Lodge.

We note that in a case of discipline, in which the judgment of the lodge was an acquittal, it was reversed, and the party indefinitely suspended. In another case, where a brother had been sent to state prison, the Grand Lodge severely censured the lodge for long delay in acting upon the matter, although it ultimately undertook to try and expel the accused. The committee say:

"It was the duty of Oakdale Lodge, immediately upon the conviction of the member by the State Court, to cause him to be brought to trial, and thereupon to take such action as the circumstances of the case might warrant, and not by prolonged delay give color to the belief among the profane that the fraternity in any manner acquiesced in the unlawful acts of the accused."

We fear that there have been cases in Maine, to which this language would be applicable, but we earnestly hope that there will be no occasion for it in the future.

The Grand Lodge, in the case before it, however, found that the proceedings in the trial were irregular, and set aside the judgment, and voted that the said ———— "be and hereby is by this Grand Lodge expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry."

We are glad to see this exercise of the rightful powers of the Grand Lodge, in a case which loudly calls for it.

The matter of the French lodges was referred to a new committee with instructions to report next year, but giving those lodges the right to use their present ritual, although the committee insists very strongly that there is no law justifying it, but only the fact that, in spite of the law, these lodges had been permitted for a good many years to use that ritual.

As usual, the oration of the Grand Orator was of a high and very interesting character.

In relation to dispensations to re-ballot on the petitions of rejected candidates, the Grand Lodge adopted the following:

“ While we approve of the action of the Grand Master in granting these dispensations, we also heartily concur in the opinion expressed by him in his Annual Message as to the ‘dangerous practice’ of issuing dispensations to re-ballot on the petition of rejected candidates. The Grand Secretary has placed in our hands sixteen dispensations to re-ballot for rejected applicants for degrees. In two of these cases the lodges reconsidered their action on the same night on which the candidate was rejected, and unanimously asked for the dispensation to re-ballot. This was right and proper, and in consonance with parliamentary rule governing deliberative bodies. Seven lodges asked for the dispensation at the end of one month; four at the end of two months; one at the end of three months; one at the end of five months; and one at the end of eight months. When so much time is allowed to elapse before asking for the dispensation, as in the last mentioned cases, will there not be reason for the presumption that the delay has not been in strict accord with the pure principles of Masonry? As early as 1857, our lamented Bro. Nathaniel Greene Curtis, then Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence, in submitting a report on the subject of granting a dispensation to re-ballot upon the petition of rejected candidates, used the following language:

“ ‘ We are of opinion that dispensations should only be granted upon extraordinary occasions or for excellent reasons. The ballot box is the bulwark of Masonry, and after the lodge is closed the decision of the ballot is final. If it were otherwise, a lodge might be taken by surprise, and, in the words of the old regulation, ‘a turbulent member might be imposed upon it.’ ”

The committee concurred with the Grand Master in his remarks in relation to non-affiliated masons, and recommended the adoption of the proposed amendment to the constitution suggested by him.

The committee reports against the decision of the Grand Master, relating to dimits, but the Grand Lodge refused to concur, and confirmed the decision of the Grand Master as the law of the Grand Lodge.

We do not find any action of the Grand Lodge in relation to physical qualifications, but in the immense amount of business reported, we may have overlooked it.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 117) was again presented by Bro. WILLIAM A. DAVIES. It is a wonderfully full abstract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges in the fewest possible words, but with few comments.

In his review of Canada, he well says:

“ We must say in all courtesy that we think Bro. Robertson’s explanation does not explain why a lodge should be ‘ called off,’ *i. e.* from labor for the purpose of doing masonic work. We can readily understand why a lodge at labor should be called off for the purpose of partaking of refreshment, or for taking a rest, but why ‘ call off ’ to do masonic work, which may be the placing of a corner stone, the burial of a brother, or the ceremony of dedication. The adjournment of a lodge, we consider irregular and only to be tolerated in case of excitement from an alarm of fire, or an earthquake shiver; in either of which cases the brethren are apt to retire and not stand upon the order of their going.”

He cannot quite understand the report of Bro. ROBBINS, of Illinois, in relation to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington. Years ago, before Bro. DAVIES was upon this committee, Bro. ROBBINS expressed himself substantially in support of the same position which the Grand Lodge of Washington has now taken. To be sure, so far as we know, he stood alone, but that made then, and makes now, no difference with Bro. ROBBINS. He has his convictions, and “ has the courage of his convictions ”; but he did not succeed in convincing others of the correctness of his position then, and the manner in which the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington has been received, shows that the same result follows now.

We regret to find that the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge had not been received when he was compelled to close his report.

CANADA, 1899.

In accordance with a vote of the Grand Lodge to publish the portraits of its Past Grand Masters, we have the portraits of WILLIAM M. WILSON, Gr. Master for ten years (but not consecutively), THOMAS DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Master for four years, WILLIAM B. SIMPSON, Grand Master for two years, COL. A. A. STEVENSON, Grand Master for three years, and JAMES SEYMOUR, Grand Master for one year; the administrations of the five covering the first twenty years of the life of the Grand Lodge.

Several special communications were held, at which the Grand Lodge laid corner stones of public buildings, including several churches.

The Grand Lodge held its annual communication at Ottawa: it was welcomed by the Mayor, with a response by the Grand Master; also by a deputation from the Ottawa lodges. There were present as visitors, brethren from the lodges of Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, who of course were warmly welcomed. The visit of these brethren from other jurisdictions added much interest to the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master, E. T. MALONE, delivered an exceedingly interesting address. He says:

“I bring you tidings of peace and prosperity from all parts of the jurisdiction. Our lodges are in a flourishing condition; our craftsmen are engaged in works of love and charity; our financial returns will show an increase over that of any previous year, and our Grand Lodge is in cordial and fraternal relations with every legitimate Grand Lodge in the world. We are a favored people; our country is in a prosperous and peaceful condition, with bright prospects for a continuation of such blessings. Let us therefore at the commencement of our labors return thanks to Almighty God for the abundant mercies bestowed upon us, and pray that the business of the session may be conducted under His watchful care.”

He announced the death of several members of the Grand Lodge, and paid beautiful tributes to their memory.

Of the condition of the craft he says further:

“Information from all parts of the province justifies me in reporting a very prosperous year. I am safe in claiming an increase of almost one thousand in our membership. Brethren who were estranged from us for years are again in the fold. The work of the lodges is in with love for the order and a determination to live up to its precepts. In addition to the large sums of money granted annually by Grand Lodge for benevolence, I am pleased to note that the subordinate lodges are alive to their duty and have expended over eight thousand dollars in practical masonic charity. I know whereof I speak, as I am aware of many cases where the gifts from the lodges and individual members proved of inestimable value to the bereaved ones.”

Speaking of the zeal and fidelity with which his associate Grand Officers have performed their duty, he says:

“I know the brethren will agree with me in making special mention of a class of officers, who, in my opinion, undergo greater trials and suffer more privations in the cause of Masonry than all other representatives of Grand Lodge. I allude to the D. D. G. M.'s of the nineteen masonic districts. I have no hesitation in affirming that the great success and prosperity which we now enjoy are due to these enthusiastic brethren. They are entitled to your gratitude and plaudits. I desire to place on record my gratitude to them for the assistance given to me in bringing into fellowship with us those of our brethren who were unaffiliated or under suspension for non-payment of dues.”

He had found, to his surprise and regret, that in some lodges dissension existed to such a degree that all candidates would be rejected; and among the reasons apparent for the dissensions, was unrecognized ambition for office. We regret to find that this evil has been a growing one, during the past few years, and has spread very widely through the fraternity. Of course it is for the benefit of the craft, that brethren should be zealous, but zeal proceeding wholly from personal ambition is very apt to be injurious in the end. In many instances this has been signally rebuked, but, nevertheless, the evil exists, and it is one of the most serious evils affecting us, and brethren who love the Institution ought to set their faces against it, and if possible prevent its invading their lodges.

He pays a high tribute to the History of Freemasonry in Canada, lately issued by Past Grand Master Bro. J. Ross ROBERTSON. We have been hoping that this work would be put on sale in this country.

He refers to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and among other things says:

“During the past year the fraternal relations existing between the various Grand Lodges in the United States received a great strain in consequence of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in recognizing the establishment of another Grand Lodge (composed of colored men) within the borders of that State, thereby dealing a blow to the established doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction. This action, if approved of by other Grand Lodges, would give a standing to men made in lodges which have been considered clandestine. Several of the Grand Lodges suspended masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, while all of the Grand Lodges disapproved of the recognition given to irregular and clandestine masons.”

He received a letter from Grand Master URTON, asking for his opinion and for fraternal counsel, and from his reply we take the following:

“You asked my opinion upon certain matters mentioned by you, and also honor me with a request for fraternal counsel as to the advice you should give to your Grand Lodge in the matter. I quite agree with you that the questions raised are of the gravest character, and for that reason, while giving you my personal views, I prefer to send all papers to the Grand Lodge over which I have the honor to preside, and which will meet on the nineteenth day of July next.

“Aside from any views I may have regarding the legitimate standing of Prince Hall and his associates, and of African Lodge, No 459, constituted under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, I have strong doubts as to the right or power of African Lodge to constitute other lodges or to form Grand Lodges.

“I regret exceedingly the action of your Grand Lodge in countenancing the establishment of lodges in your State which do not and will not owe allegiance to your Grand Lodge as the sole masonic authority therein. I am at a loss to understand how our Grand Lodge can recognize more than one Grand Lodge in your State, viz., the Grand Lodge of which you are the distinguished Representative. Our Grand Lodge placed itself on record on this question on the 3d day of July, 1871, when a letter was received from E. C. Cooper, Secretary of a lodge at Chatham, in this Province, and also a petition from J. J. Moore and others belonging to a lodge in the City of Toronto, in this Province, both said to be holding warrants from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York (colored), desiring to surrender their warrants, and affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Canada. Grand Lodge unanimously adopted the following report:

“The Board of General Purposes, to whom the M. W. the Grand Master referred the communication of E. C. Cooper, of Chatham, dated 24th May, 1871, and the petition of J. J. Moore, William Harrison and others, beg leave to report: That the R. W. the Grand Secretary be instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter and petition above referred to, and to state in reply thereto that the Grand Lodge of Canada is in communication and friendly intercourse with the M. W. the Honorable Fraternity, of A. F. and A. Masons of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and cannot recognize any other body claiming to be a Grand Lodge within the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge or any body assuming to derive its authority from any such unrecognized body.”

“That any application for admission to our privileges, or jurisdiction by those referred to in the said letter or in the said petition, must be made by the personal application of each candidate to a regular lodge, in accordance with the course pointed out in the constitution.”

“The above report clearly sets out my views on the subject, and I am positive that Grand Lodge will not recede therefrom in any one particular, nor will the fact that your Grand Lodge approves of and countenances the existence of another Grand Lodge in your State, change my views on the subject. It will therefore require no stretch of imagination to predict the complications which will in all likelihood arise in consequence of the action of your Grand Lodge. As you ask my fraternal advice on the subject, I honestly say that I regret the action taken by your Grand Lodge, and would gladly welcome a reconsideration on your part of the subject. While deploring the harsh language which you claim to have been used by several of the Grand Lodges when discussing this question, still I am convinced that you have not fully appreciated the motives of those who have opposed you in this matter. I trust you will accept these remarks as emanating from one who has the warmest and most fraternal regard for you and your Grand Lodge, and whose earnest desire is to see harmony restored and the fraternal intercourse renewed between your Grand Lodge and the other Grand Lodges of the United States of America.”

We quote this at length, because the Grand Lodge of Canada was one which the author of this action confidently expected would sustain it. Grand Master MALONE intended to submit the whole matter to the Grand Master, but he had received the action of the Grand Lodge in eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, of which he says:

“Suffice it to say that the clauses or resolutions embodied in the original report which have been so strongly objected to by the various sister Grand Lodges are now repealed and fraternal greetings are sent to all the brethren throughout the world. We join with them in the prayer, ‘May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and masonic virtue cement us.’”

What our Most Worshipful brother will think of the letter of Grand Master URON to the Grand Master of Arizona we can scarcely imagine.

The Grand Master had made a large number of official visits which evidently had been occasions of great interest and advantage to the fraternity. He speaks in glowing terms of his visit to the Grand Lodge of New York.

He announced several decisions; among them one censuring a Master for allowing the ballot boxes to be passed three times, and also for allowing the members of the lodge to discuss the merits of a candidate on whose petition the ballot had been taken. He also directed a District Deputy Grand Master to put a stop to a practice, which, for the first time, had come to his notice, of initiating two or more candidates at the same time.

We find from another decision, that in the settlement of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario question, parties who are healed become entitled to the rank which they had obtained under that body.

He further decided, that the loss of a thumb and first finger of the left hand does not debar a person from becoming a mason.

The Grand Secretary, in his full, itemized report, announces the appointment of Bro. C. W. POSTLETHWAITE, of Toronto, as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine, in place of the lamented Bro. JOHN W. MURTON.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters are published in full in the Proceedings, taking up one hundred and twenty pages. They bear out what we have quoted from the Grand Master, and the statement of the Committee, that their duties had been performed in the most painstaking manner, and they certainly placed before the Grand Lodge a very intelligent statement of their views of the condition of the various lodges.

We find that they are furnished with a blank in which the following particulars, in addition to the number, name and location of the lodge, are itemized; total number of members; increase (not net) during the year; decrease during the year; the number of times each degree has been conferred; the number of affiliations, restorations, resignations, suspensions for non-payment of dues, suspensions for other causes, and deaths; also the number of regular meetings and the number of emergent meetings; the average attendance of members; the amount paid for relief; the number of members twelve months in arrears; the total of all arrearages; the date of the last Grand Lodge returns, the financial standing (good or otherwise); the prospects of the lodge; whether the Worshipful Master can work all the degrees; and the amount of insurance.

Every Deputy filled these blanks, and the result is published in connection with his report. They seem to be carefully made up, and of course must give the Grand Lodge—and by their publication the craft—a pretty full and accurate account of the condition in which the Deputies found the various lodges.

It may surprise our brethren in Maine, but while the answer to the question "Can the Master work all the degrees" is very generally "Yes," in *thirty cases* out of the three hundred and sixty-one lodges visited, the answer was in the negative; there were only five lodges in the jurisdiction which had not been visited.

We commend this system to the attention of our own District Deputy Grand Masters, although we believe that the same matters receive their careful attention in their visitations.

One Deputy very earnestly urges that candidates should be instructed in the symbolism of Masonry, in addition to the instruction that is given in the work, and he says that he can bear witness to the effect produced on candidates by proper and systematic teaching. He adds:

"In this connection it is an open secret that Masters are sometimes installed before they are able to give even one degree, to say nothing of the three, and that they finish their year of office very much as they began it. What effect must such men have on the candidates and the welfare of the craft!"

The business of the Grand Lodge was chiefly routine, and of merely local interest.

It will be remembered, that in this jurisdiction, no lodge can expel a member, and can only suspend, and recommend the expulsion of the party to the Grand Lodge. Heretofore, the matter has been presented at the next session of the Grand Lodge, and the party summoned to appear and show cause a year afterward, but an amendment was adopted at this session, that the proceedings of the lodge should be filed with the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Master authorized to summon the party to appear *at the next session* of the Grand Lodge, so that there should not be a delay of a whole year in final action.

The Board of General Purposes, in reporting on the address of the Grand Master, well say:

“The Board are happy to be able to join with the Grand Master in his expressions of satisfaction at the present prosperous condition of the craft throughout the jurisdiction. This prosperity is undoubtedly largely due to the admirable manner in which the D. D. G. M.’s perform the duties of their offices. Their fidelity in the discharge of their trust, and their zeal and self-denial have repeatedly elicited high praise from the authorities of the most intelligent foreign masonic bodies. It is our duty distinctly to recognize, as the Grand Master has done, our obligations to the D. D. G. M.’s, and to give them at least the assurance that their services are fully appreciated by Grand Lodge.”

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 116) was presented by Bro. HENRY ROBERTSON. In his introduction he says:

“By far the most important topic of discussion in masonic circles in America is the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in their quasi-recognition of the Negro lodges and Grand Lodges. The full text of the resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge of Washington in this matter will be found in the review of that jurisdiction. It is true that the author of these resolutions says that they do not recognize any Negro Grand Lodge, but the distinction is too fine for ordinary mortals to grasp. The Grand Lodge allows its lodges and members to recognize as masons negroes initiated in lodges tracing their origin to certain named Negro Grand Lodges; and if this is not a recognition of those bodies, then we must confess that we do not know what recognition means. At all events, it seems to be everywhere an accepted fact that recognition of the Negro lodges and Grand Lodges is the meaning and effect of these resolutions.

“The merits of the case have been fully and exhaustively discussed in years gone by. The subject of Negro Masonry has been brought to the attention of a number of Grand Lodges with the invariable result that it was condemned as clandestine and irregular.

“The question of color does not enter into the discussion at all, it being universally admitted that neither race nor color will debar an applicant from initiation into the mysteries of the craft.

“There are many regular Negro masons, made in regular lodges; and the *status* of these is not in question; but it is the far larger number, tracing their origin to African Lodge, sometimes called ‘Prince Hall’ Lodge, that the Grand Lodge of Washington proposes to recognize.

“This African Lodge, of which Prince Hall was Master, was chartered by the Grand Lodge of England in 1784 to meet in Boston, Massachusetts, a territory which had been then already occupied by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts since the year 1775. African Lodge was empowered to meet

as a lodge, but it had no power to constitute any other lodges. For failure to make returns and other reasons, it was struck off the roll by the Grand Lodge of England in 1813. It does not appear to have worked after the death of Prince Hall in 1807. Prior to his death, however, he, without any apparent authority, organized a lodge in Philadelphia and another in Providence, Rhode Island, and these three lodges afterwards formed a Grand Lodge; and it is from this body that all the present Negro Lodge and Grand Lodges proposed to be recognized by the Grand Lodge of Washington trace their origin."

We call special attention to his discussion of the claim of the author of the resolutions, that they did not recognize any negro Grand Lodge, which claim has been accepted as true, by many brethren, some of the able masonic writers in England being among the number.

As usual, Bro. ROBERTSON confines the body of his report to an abstract. He does say, in referring to the report of Bro. RONBINS, made in topical form, although bound to be a good one, that he can hardly see that it is an improvement on the old style, which he evidently likes best.

In his review of Maine he says, that the twelve month law has worked well in that jurisdiction, and that he knows of no injury that has resulted from allowing lodges to receive petitions after a residence of twelve months within the jurisdiction, even though the candidate had been, previously to the commencement of that time, rejected elsewhere. This statement is based on experience, but there is a failure to state whether he has actually known of the admission of candidates rejected elsewhere at the expiration of only twelve months from such rejection.

His report is a valuable one; but he has been so long engaged in making these reports that we believe that they would be of greater value to the whole craft, as well as the craft in Canada, if he would give his own views more frequently in relation to the question discussed in the matters to which he refers.

COLORADO, 1899.

By vote of the Grand Lodge, the first page after the title page of this volume is inscribed as follows:

"To the memory of Worshipful Brother George Washington, inscribed on the centennial of his death by the M. W. Grand Lodge A. F. and A. M. of the State of Colorado: which was admitted to the Union of States on the centennial of the Declaration of Independence, which was made effective by Washington, through his practice of the various masonic virtues."

Next follow the portraits of M. W. Bros. ALPHONSE A. BURNAND, the incoming Grand Master; HENRY M. TELLER, Past Grand Master; and HARPER M. ORAHOOD, Past Grand Master; with a brief sketch of each.

The Grand Master, HORACE T. DE LONG, congratulates the Grand Lodge that during the thirty-eight consecutive years of its existence no Grand

Lodge officer had died in office, and he thinks that this is a remarkable record. We think, however, without having stopped to look at the statistics, that the length of time has been equaled in Maine, especially when we include only the same officers which the Grand Lodge of Colorado has.

But our Most Worshipful Brother was obliged to announce the death of three Past Grand Masters, OREN H. HENRY, GEORGE EDWARD WYMAN, BYRON L. CARR; and also Past Deputy Grand Master FRANCIS L. CHILDS.

Of the condition of the craft, he says:

"Certain lodges are having their troubles, but the craft as a whole in this jurisdiction is in a very prosperous condition. Only one appeal has come to my notice, and all the papers for this are now in the hands of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, which will, I am confident, easily dispose of the case to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. In my visitations I have found the craft hungry for information. We ought to have better methods for disseminating masonic knowledge."

Of the Washington Memorial Anniversary, he says:

"The Washington Memorial occasion is an auspicious event, full of interest not only to the masons of this generation, but to the craft universal for all time to come. This jurisdiction is especially interested in doing all that can be expected of it to assist in maintaining the dignity of the occasion. The first thought concerning this centennial memorial was conceived in the brain of one of our own distinguished members, and our Grand Lodge approved the idea as soon as it was mentioned. At our request the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Virginia has taken the lead in planning for these exercises. She has found that the event is of more than local interest, of more than national interest, that it is of world-wide interest."

We shall have occasion to speak of this later on.

The question of physical qualifications having been frequently presented to him, he calls the attention to the by-law and twenty-one approved decisions growing out of it, and instead of answering the questions, he had directed that this by-law and the decisions should be read in open lodge, before a ballot was cast, believing that after such light they could well afford to risk the results.

He had made quite a number of visitations, which occasioned a good deal of interest, and which was of great interest to the lodges visited, because if there was not work to do, or if the whole time was not taken up with work, questions of masonic law and symbolism were discussed at length.

The question of non-payment of dues had of course troubled him, and in this connection he says:

"Permit me to state that in my humble opinion the time is coming, and no man knows how soon, when the fees for the first three degrees will be made to cover not only the cost of initiating, crafting and raising, but will include enough to pay for a life membership. Then, instead of being prohibited, life memberships will become universal; then, by wise laws prohibiting the use of these funds during the life of the member, sufficient interest can be obtained to pay annually into the treasury more than can be collected from dues. When that day comes we will have no non-affiliates, no breth-

ren suspended for non-payment of dues. Then will it be universally known that every suspended mason has committed some crime greater than the crime of poverty."

This is indeed a "consummation devoutly to be wished," but in the present generation, it is manifestly impracticable, unless we exclude very many of those who, according to experience, make the most valued members of the Institution.

He makes various recommendations, but most of them are in reference to their local laws.

An able oration was delivered by the Grand Orator, JAMES R. KILLIAN, well worth examination by our brethren.

BRO. WOODBURY presented a report in relation to the Washington Centennial Exercises, with a proposed programme for the occasion, which was substantially adopted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

It will be remembered as stated by the Grand Master, that the idea of observing this occasion originated with our brethren of Colorado, and that they have sustained it, in every respect, magnificently.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia took the matter up, and the arrangements for the occasion were very wisely made. It was expected that it would be not only of great interest to the fraternity, but to our country.

Since the report which we are reviewing was written, the exercises have taken place, and the conception of the importance and interest of the occasion, high as they had been in advance, were altogether exceeded by the actual results. The masons of the country and all our people are under obligations to our brethren of Colorado, and our brethren of Virginia, for conceiving and carrying through an event of the very highest importance to us all, whether masons or profanes.

We would be glad to notice, at some length, if space permitted, the report on necrology, especially as three out of the four were natives of New England, BROS. CHILDS and HENRY having been born in Vermont, and BRO. CARR in New Hampshire.

The Grand Lodge overruled the report of the committee, and sustained the decision of the Grand Master, to the effect that dimitts to be legal must be under the seal of the lodge granting them. Acting upon the recommendation of the Grand Master, a law was passed authorizing the consolidation of lodges; it is somewhat similar to our own, but limited in one respect more than ours. In this State a two-thirds vote of each lodge only is required, but in Colorado if seven or more votes are cast in the negative, it defeats the project. Now while we believe that the charter of a lodge should not be surrendered as long as seven members are desirous of keeping it, we think the question is entirely different when it relates to the consolidation of one lodge with another.

One curious case came before the Grand Lodge, A man who had been rejected by two lodges applied to another lodge, stating that he had never been rejected, and also stating that he had been fifteen months a resident in the jurisdiction of the latter lodge, while, as a matter of fact, he and his wife both voted in the place in which the lodge to which he had previously applied was situated, a few months before. The lodge suspended him indefinitely, and the two lodges, by which he had been rejected, appealed to the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge set aside the proceedings of the lodge and expelled the party from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

In this jurisdiction the two lodges could not have appealed, but in this case, at least, having the right to do so was for the good of Masonry.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 166) was presented by Brother LAWRENCE N. GREENLEAF, and is mainly an abstract.

Of the views of Bro. ROBBINS, in relation to lodges formed under the authority of Supreme Councils, he says:

"Bro. Robbins holds tenaciously to the opinion that there is no legitimate Masonry that cannot trace its descent from the Grand Lodge of England, and formulates his report in accordance therewith. He indicates no way by which the Masonry which has been disseminated in these many countries through other channels can be regularized. The lengthy list of Grand Bodies thus placed under the ban or deemed of doubtful character will shatter many a cherished ideal of the universality of Freemasonry.

"Will the absolute abandonment of all control over symbolic lodges by Supreme Councils and Grand Orients in the countries cited by Bro. R. pave the way for their future recognition, or must there be sought other solution of this question of regularity?"

"It seems to us, in view of the fact that recognition is being accorded by our American Grand Lodges to quite a number of these foreign Grand Bodies, deemed by Bro. R. and the Grand Lodge of Illinois to be 'without authority,' or with 'quasi authority,' that some common agreement should be arrived at as speedily as possible to avoid future complications. As the matter now stands, American Masonry is being involved in a hopeless tangle. For instance, a foreign brother upon arriving in New York City is warmly greeted as such, the Grand Body from which he hails being recognized in that jurisdiction, but upon reaching Chicago he is given the icy stare and told the sooner he covers the distance between the fourteenth story of their Temple and the pavement below, the better. Without entering into any argument *pro* or *con*, we leave the subject for the careful consideration of the writers of the guild and all masons who are interested in the realization of the Lodge Universal among all peoples and in all lands."

Referring to the expulsion of brethren for having announced in open lodge that by a change in religious belief, they could not conscientiously remain masons, he well says:

"What was the plain duty of the lodge in view of these facts? Was it not to treat their misguided opinions with commiseration and to regard these brethren as under the spell of religious fervor and hallucination? The best way to minister to 'these minds diseased,' if we choose to so regard them, was to grant the dimits, express regret at their withdrawal, and indulge in the hope of their return in the near future. That was the kind of 'medicine talk' which the occasion demanded. Had it been indulged in,

the probabilities are that when the excitement of the moment had worn off and calm reason had again asserted itself, these brethren in repentant mood would have been found knocking at the portal for readmission."

But if such result should not follow, we still hold it to be contrary to the very first teachings to a man when he becomes a mason, to discipline him for his change of views. We do not believe in coercing a man in relation to his conscientious belief, unless he uses it as a pretext for violating the law, and then not for his belief but for breaking the law.

When a mason comes to that belief, it is his duty to go out of the fraternity as far as possible, and the duty of the fraternity to let him go, of course holding him responsible for any violation of our laws, though committed afterwards.

In his review of Ohio, he thinks that if no notice had been taken of Cerneauism, it would have gradually died out.

He reviews Washington for both 1898 and 1899; he says:

"Having before us for review the proceedings of 1899, with the subsequent action of this Grand Lodge, we are relieved from any further comment on our part."

* * * * *

"The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in rescinding its resolutions concerning 'Negro Masonry' has relieved this committee from further consideration of the question. We trust that peace and harmony may be speedily restored, and fraternal relations resumed by all Grand Lodges who severed the same, and that it may be a long time in the future before this 'disturbing question' is again resurrected."

He evidently does not understand that action as it was explained in a letter of Grand Master UPTON to the Grand Master of Arizona.

He gives a letter from Bro. HUGHAN, in relation to physical qualifications, and adds:

"We do not care to discuss the question again at this time. We are engaged in researches, and have already gained some fresh information. We are in a receptive mood, and shall be pleased to receive further light from those in possession of the same."

We do not care to engage in the discussion, especially as we do not agree with Bro. HUGHAN in his historical statements in relation to the Ancient Charges.

CONNECTICUT, 1900.

The frontispiece is a fine portrait of M. W. Bro. GEORGE G. McNALL, the retiring Grand Master.

An emergent communication was held at which the corner stone of a court house was laid by the Grand Lodge. The ceremonies are given, and they agree with those used in Maine.

Another was held of which the following account is given:

APP. 3 G. L.

"The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and the Grand Master announced that the purpose of the communication was to attend the funeral of Right Worshipful brother Edmund T. Mahon, Past Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, who died at his home in Halifax, March 8, A. D. 1899, and whose remains were brought to Ridgefield, masonic interment being requested by the Grand Master of that Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge proceeded to the residence of one of the relatives of the deceased, where religious services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Ely of the Protestant Episcopal Church, after which the casket was borne to the cemetery and masonic services performed, according to ancient usage, Grand Master McNall officiating, assisted by Past Grand Master Lockwood and Grand Secretary Barlow. The officers and members of Jerusalem Lodge acted as escort, and after the ceremonies, the Grand Lodge returned to the lodge room and closed in ample form."

In his address the Grand Master says further:

"On March 11, 1899, our Grand Secretary received from Right Worshipful Bro. Ross, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, notice of the death of Right Worshipful Edmund T. Mahon, Past Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and advising him that the remains of Bro. Mahon had been sent to Ridgefield, Connecticut, to be buried by the side of his wife, and asking that masonic honors be paid him.

"On March 12, 1899, an Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge was convened at Ridgefield, where with the efficient assistance of the officers and members of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 49, and of Most Worshipful Bro. Luke A. Lockwood, Past Grand Master and Grand Representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of England, near this jurisdiction, were performed the last sad rites of masonic burial over the remains of our distinguished brother, as we interred them in the beautiful cemetery at that place. The distinguished dead was not a citizen of our country, and was personally a stranger to our people; yet freemasons of Connecticut most cheerfully performed the last sad rites with the same heartiness and solemnity as though he had been an official brother of our own Grand Lodge. The chord of fraternal sympathy among freemasons the world wide was tenderly touched, and a great practical object lesson of the universality of our ancient brotherhood most impressively given."

The Grand Secretary of Nova Scotia acknowledged the courtesy in a very appreciative letter, from which we take the following:

"The most kind, thoughtful and truly fraternal spirit in which our brethren of Connecticut received the remains of our late Bro. Mahon and the honors you took occasion to pay him will long be remembered throughout this jurisdiction as among our cherished recollections. Not only was our departed brother a friend thus honored, but every mason in Nova Scotia will feel that a new bond of sympathy and regard between ourselves and you has been created. Our late R. W. Bro. Mahon was in every respect worthy of your distinguished attention. He was a fine example of all that was of good report among his fellow men, and, as a mason, he was endeared to his brethren in this jurisdiction for his zeal, charity, constancy and high character. It was my privilege to be intimately acquainted with him, and I will ever view him as the most perfect sample of man and mason that it has been my pleasure to know.

"Please convey to your M. W. Grand Master, Bro. McNall, the expression of our highest regard for the interest he has taken in being personally present and officiating at the last grand masonic rites over the remains of our dear and highly esteemed Bro. Mahon."

In his annual address, Grand Master McNALL says:

"The year has been one of prosperity to the craft in this jurisdiction, marked by an increase of membership quite as noteworthy from the quality as the quantity of the material. This is as it should be. In our human existence there can be no halting; we must either advance or retrograde, and I am pleased to note the increasing care of the lodges in the election of candidates."

He says also that there has been a noteworthy increase in the interest in the Masonic Home, to aid in the endowment of which the Grand Lodge assessed a *per capita* tax of seventy-five cents.

He announced the deaths of Past Grand Masters DWIGHT PHELPS and JAMES HENRY WALSH; Past Grand Treasurer GEORGE LEE and Past Grand Tyler HENRY E. PATTEN; portraits of all of whom are given on memorial pages in these Proceedings.

He also announces the death of Bro. JOHN H. GRAHAM, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec:

"On August 12th, John H. Graham, Past Grand Master of Quebec and Representative of our Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Quebec, died while on a visit to the city of Hartford. During his illness he was the recipient of much kindness by the brethren of that city. His remains were accompanied by a number of brethren to their last resting-place in Canada."

BRO. GRAHAM was almost the father of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and served as its Grand Master for several years after its organization with distinguished ability.

The Grand Master says that a great deal of the prosperity of the lodges is due to the efficient supervision by the District Deputies.

He attended the Washington Centennial, and we take the following from his report:

"There were many distinguished brothers present from all parts of the country; under the inspiration of the occasion, representatives from the furthest parts of our country clasped hands, pledging themselves anew to the great principles of our Order, and the enthusiastic applause greeting every patriotic sentiment of love and loyalty to the great Republic and to our beloved institution, will not soon be forgotten by those present."

He had performed many official acts of a routine character, and a large amount of routine business was before the Grand Lodge, but we find little of general interest.

Of objection to advancement, the committee well say:

"A candidate when obligated becomes a brother Mason, and in the opinion of your committee, the ground of objection to advancement should be lack of sufficient proficiency in the preceding degrees, or if made upon ground of moral unfitness, or unmasonic conduct, such objections should only be used temporarily until proper charges can be brought against the brother seeking advancement and he can be heard in his defence."

The by-law in relation to public processions was amended so as to read as follows:

the subordinate lodge this inherent right and privilege, by adopting, October 1895, resolution No. 38, Sec. 3.

“All subordinate lodges are prohibited from receiving and acting upon a petition for initiation or membership from any person engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and masons are fraternally requested to refrain from engaging in the liquor traffic.’ Unless this hotel clerk’s duties require him to sell liquor, you have a right to receive and act upon his petition.”

This is giving an entirely new construction to the old charge. It has always, heretofore, been held that no member *could be imposed upon a lodge* without the unanimous consent of all the brethren present, and that this right is not subject to dispensation, but the idea that a lodge has the inherent privilege to admit to Masonry and membership anybody it pleases, as it shall judge best, is certainly quite a startling doctrine.

If lodges have an inherent right to admit whom they please then *all* limitations are void. This position is manifestly absurd. They cannot admit whom they please, but only such as they are allowed to admit by the superior law of Masonry, and this law is prescribed by the Grand Lodge. So, whether the regulation is wise or unwise, the Grand Lodge did not take away any inherent right of the lodge by adopting it. We have no occasion to object to the decision, but only to the statement, which really would make the regulations absolutely void.

The Grand Master took ground in relation to the burial of suicides, which was not sustained by the Grand Lodge, holding that a suicide could be buried as insane only when his insanity had been established by legal proceedings.

We sympathize with the Grand Master in his feeling that the crime of suicide is dealt with, in these later days, altogether too leniently, and we really believe in such manner as to increase the number of suicides. But we do not agree with his extreme views.

In compliance with invitations, he had visited the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New Jersey in annual communication, and we may be permitted to express the wish that these visits were more frequent.

He discusses at some length the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington. He says:

“All American jurisdictions have been unanimous in declaring as clandestines, the so-called negro masonic lodges and Grand Lodges tracing their origin to Prince Hall, or any other so-called masonic lodges and Grand Lodges, which have been erected in their territory, and have forbidden their subordinate lodges to admit as visitors, or their members to hold masonic intercourse with any one hailing from or owing allegiance to these clandestine bodies.

“The Grand Lodge of Washington having recognized clandestine Grand Lodges and clandestine made masons as legitimate, and entitled to fellowship in its own jurisdiction, by that same act accords recognition to the same clandestine bodies and clandestine made masons in the jurisdiction of Delaware, as well as every other jurisdiction, where they exist.

“This very act made the Grand Lodge of Washington also clandestine.

“The Grand Lodge of Delaware could no longer hold fraternal masonic relations with a Grand Lodge of F. & A. Masons which recognized as legitimate and entitled to fellowship, a clandestine Grand Lodge and clandestine made masons within her jurisdiction.

“There was nothing to be done but cut them off, and that I proceeded to do.”

In his letter to the Grand Lodge of Washington, he says:

“But the action of your Grand Lodge is so extraordinary that other jurisdictions, who are unanimous in their opinions and position on this question, must necessarily take notice of it and act accordingly.

“I do not care to enter into a discussion of the history of the legitimacy of negro masonry, tracing their origin to Prince Hall, or of the right which he exercised of erecting lodges in territory already occupied by regular Grand Lodges. Your Grand Lodge had the same access to masonic history as other jurisdictions, and as her deductions are different from all other jurisdictions, she may therefore justly expect criticism and protest from her sister jurisdictions. The recognition of the regularity and legitimacy of negro masons does not concern Masonry in Washington alone, but in every other American jurisdiction, including that of Delaware. The jurisdiction of Delaware does not recognize the so-called Negro Grand Lodge of the so-called negro masons in her territory as regular and legitimate, but your Grand Lodge declares them so. This Grand Jurisdiction declares them irregular and illegitimate, and therefore clandestine. The Grand Lodge of Delaware recognizes as regular and legitimate in her jurisdiction, such lodges only as maintain allegiance to her, or such as she has chartered; and she has never acknowledged or chartered any negro lodges. If the Grand Lodge of Washington should determine to share her jurisdiction with a rival Negro Grand Lodge, this Grand Jurisdiction cannot approve of such doctrine, but will regard it as willingly condoning an unwarranted invasion of Masonic Territorial Jurisdiction, which should receive the condemnation of all regular Grand Lodges.

“If the great body of regular masons in the United States, as represented in regular Grand Lodges, are to dwell together in peace and harmony, there must be a compact unity and cohesion in this great doctrine of Supreme and Exclusive Territorial Jurisdiction. And in this very doctrine lies the strength and support of our Institution. Until there is a unanimity of opinion and desire on the part of all Grand Lodges of the United States to heal these irregular masons in a regular manner, and not by acknowledging them regular in an irregular manner, I deem it for the best interest of the craft in the jurisdiction of Delaware to maintain the attitude always adhered to by this Grand Lodge.”

He says further:

“I subsequently received from G. M. Upton, a circular letter, which he requested me to present to the Grand Lodge, in which he protests against the action of those Grand Lodges which have severed relations, which he regards as an attack upon the independence and autonomy of the Grand Lodge of Washington. He also attempts to prove that there was no recognition of Negro Masons, Lodges or Grand Lodges, nor even to share their territory, when it has expressly recognized as entitled to masonic fellowship, two negroes belonging to Negro lodges, organized under and owing allegiance to the Negro Grand Lodges of Illinois and Florida.

“It is a well known masonic axiom that no mason can be legally recognized as such, unless he was initiated in a regularly constituted lodge of masons, duly assembled, and no lodge is regularly constituted which owes

allegiance to a clandestine Grand Lodge. I submit Grand Master Upton's letter to the Grand Lodge, at his request, to do with it as the Grand Lodge deems best.

"The Grand Lodge of Washington met in annual communication, June 14, 1899, and probably realizing that her territory was in danger of being declared masonically unoccupied, adopted a committee report, purporting to repeal the obnoxious resolutions passed one year before.

"Although indulging in a great deal of verbal juggling, and apparently withdrawing from their position, 'convinced against their will they are of the same opinion still;' they stubbornly declare, 'Nor can this Grand Lodge consent to tolerate the idea that her lodges do not possess the right to determine for themselves, but for no one else, subject to review by nobody but herself, the *status* of all persons claiming to be masons, who knock at her doors either for the purpose of visiting or as applicants for affiliation.'

"This means that the Grand Lodge of Washington asserts the right of its subordinate lodges to receive by affiliation any one, black or white, professing to be a mason, hailing from lodges which are not recognized as such by the Grand Lodge occupying the territory from which the said mason professes to hail.

"This is a dangerous doctrine, and if accepted by all jurisdictions, would ultimately undermine the exclusive jurisdiction of every Grand Lodge in its own territory.

"In my opinion the Grand Lodge of Washington, stands on precisely the same ground after the repealing of the negro resolutions as she did when she originally adopted them."

As already stated, we do not agree with the last paragraph which we have quoted. Grand Lodges are held responsible for their acts and not for opinions, unless accompanied by acts. The committee to which the matter was referred, sustained the views of the Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge approved his action, leaving, as we understand it, the edict of non-intercourse in force.

We find upon further examination, that later in the session, the following resolution, reported by a committee, after full discussion in which the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania and New Jersey took part, was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the action of the M. W. Grand Master of Delaware, Bro. J. Harmer Rile, in issuing an edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, until this communication of the Grand Lodge, be approved; and that the said edict be continued in force by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Delaware until the Grand Lodge of Washington shall annul her action with regard to the legitimacy of Negro Masonry, and their right to organize Lodges and Grand Lodges within the jurisdiction of existing Grand Lodges of Ancient Craft Masonry."

The presence of these Grand Masters, and several of the Past Grand Masters and visitors, added very much to the interest of the session.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 81) was again presented by Bro. L. H. JACKSON. He has condensed a vast amount of the action of other Grand Lodges into a small space.

Of the Great Light, he says:

“Brethren, what is the use of placing the Great Light on your altars, if you never read it? There is not a form, a ceremony, an allegory, or a symbol in Masonry, that does not find its true interpretation in the pages of the Holy Book. Its words are truth. They are life. They only contain the promises of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. When Masonry ceases to be the handmaid of religion, it becomes an empty sham—a waste of time.”

His special report on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington gives the whole case in a brief space.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1899.

A special communication was held to receive the report of the Committee on Work and witness the exemplification of the work.

At the semi-annual communication an appropriation of \$250 was made for filling up the Library.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, in relation to the Washington matter, reported:

“Your committee has carefully examined and considered these papers and the whole subject-matter; also, the report on this subject of the chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of our own Grand Lodge, submitted at our last annual communication, in which he has carefully reviewed the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and given a very full and complete history of the origin and formation of Prince Hall Lodge; and, in the opinion of your committee, has conclusively shown that those claiming to be regular masons, who were made by lodges chartered by Prince Hall Lodge, are illegitimate and have no grounds for such claim.”

Resolutions were adopted, fraternally and courteously requesting the Grand Lodge of Washington to reconsider her action and “withdraw from her present position.”

In relation to Peru:

“The Grand Secretary said he was in receipt of a letter from Bro. Crosby, stating that said action of the Grand Lodge of Peru had been rescinded, and that the Bible had been restored to its rightful position, which information was confirmed from other sources. The Grand Secretary, therefore, moved that fraternal relations be re-established with the Grand Lodge of Peru, and that a new commission be issued to Bro. Crosby as Grand Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Peru, and it was so ordered.”

We learn from the report of the Grand Secretary, that the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge from 1811 to 1845 have been reprinted, which are on sale at \$3.50 bound or \$2.50 in sheets.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, JOHN H. SMALL, JR., reported upon a large amount of routine business, but not of general interest.

He had visited every lodge in the jurisdiction; and the result of his observations is thus given:

"The year about to close will go on record as one of the most prosperous in the history of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. This has been brought about in great part by the good financial conditions which have prevailed, and by the unusual energy and activity on the part of officers and members of our constituent lodges. I do not remember to have seen, during my connection with the Grand Lodge, officers who have been more thoroughly imbued with the principles and doctrines of our order or who have been more conscientious in the performance of their duties; and the enthusiasm displayed by them seems to have been imparted to the membership, who in large numbers have attended the meetings of the lodges, thereby attesting their appreciation of the excellent character of the rendition of our ritual."

One incident of the year is thus related:

"On October 21, 1899, by virtue of the power vested in me as Grand Master of Masons for the District of Columbia, I conferred the degrees of Masonry, at sight, upon Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, the Admiral being at that time under orders to proceed to take charge of the South Atlantic Squadron, and he having expressed a great desire to become a mason prior to his leaving this country.

"In exercising the right vested in me, I deemed it a great pleasure to be able to confer the degrees, with the assistance of Benjamin B. French Lodge, No. 15, upon so distinguished an American citizen."

The matter of providing a Masonic Home was before the Grand Lodge, and a committee was appointed to consider it. With the project for erecting a new Masonic Temple on their hands, we doubt if the brethren will undertake to provide a Masonic Home at present. However, a communication from the Order of the Eastern Star was received, earnestly urging action in this direction.

Of the Temple, the Grand Master says:

"During the year material progress has been made in the direction of building the new Masonic Temple. Contributions to this end and the proceeds of the fair and exposition, held in April, 1898, amounting altogether to about \$50,000, have been used in the purchase of a site at the intersection of H and Thirteenth Streets and New York Avenue. I cannot urge too strongly upon the fraternity the completion of a project so auspiciously begun. A temple such as it is proposed to construct will be a credit to Masonry and an ornament to the national capital."

At the "Installation Communication" held Dec. 27, 1899, considerable business was transacted.

The Grand Master calls attention to quite a complication growing out of the fact that for about two months the Grand Lodge has a Grand Master and a Grand Master elect, and that, too, after the Grand Master has presumably made his final report to the Grand Lodge. However, he had turned over to the Grand Master elect all business relating to the ensuing year. But what could the latter do with matters requiring immediate action? Manifestly the *real* Grand Master must act, and his successor report upon it to the Grand Lodge. We think that the election should be followed by installation, or that the Grand Master should not make his report until the Installation Communication, as is the case in some jurisdictions.

The new Grand Master (WILLIAM G. HENDERSON) made an interesting address.

We earnestly commend the following to our brethren in Maine, especially to our W. Masters:

"I take this opportunity to urge upon the Masters of the constituent lodges that they impress upon every committee to whom is referred a petition for the degrees the necessity of a most thorough examination into the qualifications of the applicant. Let them understand that a sacred trust is reposed in them and that they are to be true to it. I am convinced that generally there is too much of a disposition on the part of committees to rely upon the recommendation of the brethren whose names appear upon the petition as vouchers for the applicant, instead of making a careful, personal investigation themselves. Doubtless every brother who recommends a profane for the degrees believes the applicant qualified, but it too often happens that he is not fully informed. In any event, it is the duty of the committee to make thorough investigation, not only by conferring with the brethren who recommend the petitioner, but also by prosecuting their inquiries along other lines as well, for if the recommendation of the brethren on the petition was all-sufficient it would not be necessary to refer the petition to a committee. We cannot be too careful in accepting material, as the reputation of our noble Order is deeply concerned, and it is only designed for those who from internal qualifications are worthy and entitled to receive its mysteries. There are many who would desire to have the mysteries of our craft imparted to them, but all that knock at our door are not worthy to receive them. I therefore, with the good of the craft at heart and in the most fraternal spirit, urge upon you Masters to see to it that none but worthy material is accepted, remembering that the honor lies in the character of the material accepted, and, that it is the internal and not the external qualifications that fit men to become masons."

In this jurisdiction, they have departed from the old usage and law, and practically deny the right of Past Grand Masters to vote in the Grand Lodge. The question of changing the law was before the Grand Lodge, but the Grand Lodge voted against any change. Grand Master HENDERSON very ably and earnestly argues in favor of giving each of them a vote.

We are greatly surprised at this policy of this Grand Lodge. As already stated, the usage of the craft is against them.

But on principle, we are surprised that this Grand Lodge, of all others, should adopt the system which they have adopted.

The best systems of government have legislative, executive, and judicial departments: and the legislative department has two branches, the Senate and House of Representatives. In Masonry, the whole final judicial and legislative departments are vested in the Grand Lodge. The Representatives of lodges stand for the House; the Permanent membership for the Senate; and both together exercise the supreme judicial powers. Two bodies would be cumbersome; but a union of the Representatives of the lodges with the brethren, whose high character, wisdom and experience entitle them to the confidence of the craft, gives us a model governing body. Masters of lodges are continually seeking instruction from the Grand Master, and thus indi-

rectly from the Grand Lodge to which he reports: and yet the system of this Grand Lodge gives these Masters and their Wardens the power of determining the correctness of that instruction! But it may be said that they are allowed to give counsel; yes, but we have often found that it is of more importance to give counsel by a *vote* than to give it by voice. The wiser the particular vote, the more important it is to have that vote.

Practically we have observed that in some of the imitation Orders, the governing Bodies are weak and vacillating; and we have found that they are the ones whose governing bodies are composed of the representatives of subordinates, without any permanent membership composed of those who have acquired wisdom by experience.

The Grand Lodge of England made Past Grand Masters members of the Grand Lodge, Nov. 21, 1724; Past Deputy Grand Masters, Feb. 22, 1725/6, and Grand Wardens, May 10, 1727, all with individual votes, and that has been the law of that Grand Lodge ever since. The "Ancients" adopted the same system at their organization. And we believe that every Grand Lodge in this country, formed by lodges chartered directly by either of the British Grand Lodges, adopted the same system at their organization and have maintained it ever since.

We devote this space to this matter, because we deem it one of the greatest importance.

The Report on Correspondence (100 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM R. SINGLETON, his thirtieth.

He confines it very closely to an abstract. In his review of Maine, he says:

"Thanks to him for his rejoicing at our restoration to health. We are now '*rectus in curia*': with a free translation, 'all right.'"

We met him at the Washington Memorial, and found him still "*rectus in curia*": but in his "Conclusion," written since, he says:

"The printer requests us to write the conclusion. This we now do by saying that from a sick bed we have arisen to write this, which will be our conclusion of the present report:

"May our father who is in Heaven, have you all in His holy keeping. Amen."

We trust that his illness was only temporary, and that his benediction completely restored him.

FLORIDA, 1900.

We have as a frontispiece an excellent portrait of the Grand Master, SILAS B. WRIGHT, whom we had the pleasure of meeting at the Washington Centennial.

He was able to announce in his address that the permanent membership of the Grand Lodge had not been broken by death during the year.

Of the Washington matter, he says:

“At its regular communication on the 14th of June, 1899, the M. W. Grand Lodge of Washington repealed the resolutions passed by them at their annual communication in 1898, which are commonly known as the ‘Report on Negro Masonry.’ While with such repeal they passed a long and somewhat ambiguous ‘Declaration,’ containing some statements of masonic law and principle with which I cannot agree, still the main fact remains, that the offensive resolutions of 1898 were repealed. I therefore recommend the repeal of the resolution passed by this Grand Lodge in 1899, declaring all intercourse suspended with the Grand Lodge of Washington, and that the Grand Master be authorized and empowered to restore friendly relations and exchange representatives with the Grand Lodge of Washington, when in his judgment it shall be for the best interest of the Grand Lodge so to do.”

The Grand Lodge adopted his recommendation.

He had somewhat examined the Mexican question, but upon his suggestion the matter was referred to the incoming Grand Master for further investigation.

Of Cuba, he says:

“In March last R. W. Bro. R. A. Monsalvatge, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, advised me that he intended to be present at the organization of that Grand Lodge in Havana during that month. I at once addressed a letter to him, asking him to convey to the Grand Lodge of Cuba, its officers and members, the fraternal greetings and good wishes of this Grand Lodge, and congratulated them upon their meeting for the first time under the American flag, which guarantees to them freedom from interference by the Government or the Clergy, and that the sword which closed the doors of their lodge rooms had been banished from this continent.

“R. W. Bro. Monsalvatge reports that he was present at their meeting and presented my letter, which was received with the Grand Battery, a species of Grand Honors with them. Masonry is rapidly regaining its proper standing in the Island and in Havana, and an American ‘English-speaking’ lodge has been established.”

And of the Grand Lodge of Colombia:

“I find that the Grand Lodge of Colombia is a body working under the Scottish Rite, and in that jurisdiction exercises control of the first three degrees. In some of the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States, their members would be received as visitors. Our Grand Lodge has made no ruling on this subject, and as no formal ruling was asked, none was made. Some general rule should be adopted governing the recognition of masons hailing from Grand Jurisdictions working only under the Scottish Rite. In this connection I beg to refer you to the list of Grand Masonic Bodies, recognizable and unrecognizable, as published by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, Virginia and New York. From the action of our Grand Lodge in adopting the resolutions of our Committee on Foreign Correspondence, some years ago, they seem to have established a precedent contrary to the rule laid down by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, but in accord with the rule in New York, Maine and other of the Eastern Jurisdictions.

“This is a matter that should be further investigated by your incoming Grand Master, that we may be fully informed, and no hasty action had, that may have to be subsequently undone.”

The Grand Lodge of Illinois holds masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Cuba, both of which were organized by lodges, some of which were created by governing bodies of the Scottish Rite.

From the abstracts of the reports of the District Deputies, given by the Grand Master, it appears that very few conventions were held and comparatively few of the lodges visited. Of this Grand Master WRIGHT well says:

“The District Deputies are the arteries through which flow the life-blood of our Institution. It is mainly through them that the lodges can hope to receive the annual visits of the Grand Lodge Officers, and these visitations not only awaken renewed interest, but they create a desire on the part of the members for more light in Masonry.

“It is my experience that we do not give dignity and importance enough to the office of District Deputy. He should be received everywhere with all of the courtesy and dignity of the Grand Master, and all honors be accorded to him. On the part of the District Deputy, it is necessary that he should faithfully perform the duties of the office. In some cases it appears that this has not been done as fully as is necessary for the benefit of the craft. In fourteen of the nineteen districts, no conventions were held. In five of them, one convention in each was held, and in every case the results are reported as being good. Neither conventions nor visits were made in the Fourth, Fifth or Sixteenth Districts. In the Second, Third, Seventh, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Seventeenth and Nineteenth, a majority of the lodges were visited, and of these districts, in the Seventh, Fourteenth and Nineteenth conventions were also held.

“It is my opinion that no iron-clad rule regarding the system of conventions will work to the best interests of the entire craft. While I urgently recommend that conventions shall be held as often and wherever practicable, still this will have to be left to the discretion of the District Deputies and Grand Masters.”

The trouble is apparently a financial one. The District Deputy system has its perfect work only when they are *required* to visit every lodge, and their expenses are paid by the Grand Lodge.

He had granted dispensations for three new lodges: two lodges had surrendered their charters; one charter had been restored; another lodge had some kind of a dissension among its members, that led to a surrender of its charter by a unanimous vote: later, upon a petition of fifteen of its members, the charter was restored to the petitioners.

We are glad to find reason for believing that the vicious practice so sharply rebuked by him in the following is on the wane:

“It is very unfortunate for Masonry that there are a few brethren who think that they must be funny and attempt jokes at the candidate. They delight in approaching a candidate with remarks which to them are excruciatingly humorous. It is unnecessary to repeat their catch phrases. You all know them. None are new or original, but all are unmasonic. They tend to destroy in advance the beautiful lessons sought to be conveyed.

“The lectures of Freemasonry have been compiled with an earnest desire to impress wise and important truths. To have their serious contemplation burlesqued by thoughtless remarks and innuendo is embarrassing to the candidate and distasteful to the craft in general. The degrees of Masonry are too serious for such attempted witticisms, brethren. See to it that all

such remarks are avoided, and that all lodge ceremonies are conducted in a manner and spirit to convey the impression sought in the lecture. Let us not be over-anxious to increase our membership, but keep up the standard of requirements that the individual character of our members will reflect credit on our lodges. Mankind will judge us by our standard, and that standard is set by the individual members of the order."

The attempt to distract attention from the work itself by the *manner* in which it is done, is bad enough, but attempts to make it a comedy, or an occasion for laughter, are so reprehensible that all engaged in them ought to be disciplined for wilfully misleading candidates in relation to what Masonry is.

He gives a very interesting account of the exercises of the Washington Centennial.

The Trustees report the payment of \$1,300 of Grand Lodge bonds during the year, leaving the bonded debt \$20,400 not yet due, with \$10,000 of assets to provide for their payment. We congratulate our Florida brethren upon this showing, and trust that ere long the burden of this debt will be thrown off and the Grand Lodge be enabled to give its sole attention to the administration of strictly masonic affairs in its jurisdiction.

The business of the Grand Lodge was of merely local interest, and there was no Report on Correspondence.

GEORGIA, 1899.

The Grand Master, WILLIAM A. DAVIS, had visited many of the lodges in the State, on the occasion of public exercises, and evidently with good results. He gives a list of the dispensations granted by him, none of which seem to involve any special principle. He had also had many applications for decisions—most of them to meet cases in which brethren, evidently without much experience, were not acquainted with the former decisions of the Grand Lodge, but desirous of acting in conformity to masonic law. Many of them also depend upon the local law of the Grand Lodge. The following, however, is new to us:

"Our masonic law says that in a masonic trial, 'near relatives of the accused,' cannot vote. Please define the term 'near relatives.' Having no law, by which to be governed, and finding no masonic authority covering this case, we know of no better way by which it can be settled, than by the application of the common law of our land. It is therefore held, that a brother related to the accused, to the Fourth degree, either by consanguinity or affinity, is barred from sitting in his case."

The question has frequently occurred to us, and there have been cases in which we think a similar decision ought to have been applied, but Georgia is the only jurisdiction, so far as we know, that has this rule.

From one of his decisions we understand that in the absence of the Master and Wardens, a Past Master may open the lodge.

Of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, he says:

“The Grand Lodge of Washington in 1898, by special resolution, recognized the masonic standing of two negroes, whom we, in common with almost all the other Grand Lodges of this country, considered to have been clandestinely made, or at least to have received the degrees from a source which we do not recognize as having masonic existence. Said lodge went further, and consented to the establishment of another Grand Lodge within its own territory, which was an apparent attempt to trample upon the Great American Doctrine of Grand Lodge Sovereignty in each State and Territory of the United States. For these reasons many of the Grand Lodges in this country severed their fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, and forbade the lodges of their respective jurisdictions, and the individual members thereof, from visiting or admitting visitors from, any lodges in the State of Washington. I am proud now, however, to give you the pleasing information that the Grand Lodge of Washington, at its last annual communication, held in June of the present year, did fully and completely rescind its action of 1898, with reference to Negro Masonry, as is stated above, and that most of the Grand Lodges which took action on this question, have revoked such action in severing fraternal intercourse with said Grand Lodge of Washington, and that now the most cordial and fraternal relations exist, or soon will exist, between the Grand Lodge of Washington and other Grand Lodges, and that peace, harmony and unity again prevail throughout the land.”

We regret that the result our M. W. Brother supposed had followed, is not by many deemed to be justified by the action that was taken. We are disposed to accept it, because the action was repealed, and we do not think that the objectional declarations accompanying the action should be regarded as anything but a kind of a Chinese tom-tom.

We are quite surprised to find in his address, a personal allusion to us with kind wishes. It testifies how strong the bonds of fraternity are.

A very large amount of business of a local character receives his attention, and he had evidently been a very zealous, faithful and active, as well as able, Grand Master.

In the closing part of his address, he discusses the influence of Masonry on the destiny of man and the history of the world. Its length alone prevents us from copying it in full. We wish it could be read by every mason in the country.

This Grand Lodge has heretofore held memorial services to the dead of the preceding year. Tributes are paid to their memory by written report, and spoken eulogies followed. They are of very great interest; and while we can understand that the Grand Lodge can scarcely spare time for holding these services, yet it is with a feeling of regret that we find that the Grand Lodge determined in the future that it would not hold them.

An able and eloquent communication from the aged Past Grand Master SAMUEL D. IRVIN was presented and ordered printed with the proceedings.

One decision was amended by the Grand Lodge, and, we are beginning to think, properly so. The Grand Master decided that an objection after ballot is equivalent to a black ball, and that the member, who makes it, can be called upon to give his reasons. Of this the committee says:

“With reference to the last clause of that decision, we hold that after election and before conferring the degree, the objector should be required to make known his objection in writing at the next communication, and such objection shall be considered and decided upon by the lodge; and should said objection be sustained, the candidate shall not be permitted to take the degree, but if the objection is not sustained, then the candidate shall be permitted to proceed.”

The origin of the right of objection was to give an opportunity to a brother, who *could not be present at the ballot, or who after ballot had learned something against the candidate that ought to prevent his admission*, the right to reject him. If this was honestly applied and practiced, it would be all right; but this privilege in these later times is frequently grossly abused. We have known of a case in which a brother present at the election of a candidate, went directly to the Master and objected to his admission. We are beginning to think that the rule allowed by the Georgia committee ought to be adopted, except in cases in which the Master should be satisfied that the brother making the objection could not have been present at the meeting when the candidate was rejected, or had received information, upon which his objection is based, after the ballot had been taken. We regard the making of such an objection under any other circumstances as a gross abuse of the privilege—so gross that it must ultimately be corrected by law, if necessary.

Of course, in drafting a law to meet this abuse, the foregoing statement may be modified.

The brethren of this Grand Lodge are still agitating the subject of a Masonic Home, and a committee was appointed to receive contributions and report at the next session of the Grand Lodge.

We are sorry to learn that, although the Grand Master earnestly expressed the hope that it might be realized, the Committee on General Welfare found it impossible as yet to provide that the expenses of the visitation of lodges should be borne by the Grand Lodge.

We find that many county and district conventions had been held, at which the Deputies had done grand work. So that the committee reports that Masonry in Georgia is “upon the up-grade.”

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 117) was again presented by Bro. W. S. RAMSAY. He adheres very closely to the plan of a condensed abstract of the matters of importance in the proceedings of every Grand Lodge.

He thinks that the Grand Lodge of Washington went out of their way to discuss the question of the negro lodges.

He copies our suggestion in relation to the method of our Grand Lodge in conducting its business on the first day, and hopes that it will be adopted. He says that it is wearisome to wait for the call of the roll of more than four hundred lodges.

In his review of Washington, he says:

“ We have repeatedly discussed this question in our review, and have insisted, from the evidence, that those lodges formed under the charter claimed by Prince Hall are fraudulent, and the work is *clandestine*, and as this Grand Lodge has rescinded its action, as shown by the official circular to that effect, we do not deem it necessary to discuss this question further, as it would be merely a repetition. Any brother, who desires to read the discussions, will do well to secure the pamphlet on ‘ Negro Masonry and Prince Hall Lodge,’ compiled from the various writers, who have discussed this question at length, and investigated this subject from its only proper standpoint—*history*. The consensus of opinion and the verdict of them all is, that there is not an existing negro lodge on this continent which is not *clandestine*.”

He concludes his report as follows:

“ We commend this work to your consideration. It is the result of many a brain throb and many a heart ache, through weary weeks of labor in this field, so as to select for you the cream of the proceedings under review. How well this has been done you must judge; but whether entertained or not, we know you will be *instructed* if you read these reports.

“ Indulgent as you have ever been, I am sure that you have the mantle of Charity for any defects you may discover, and praise for what may be praiseworthy.”

It is with emotions of the greatest sadness that we learn of the death of Bro. WHITEFORD S. RAMSAY on March 16, 1900. His funeral was attended by six thousand people; several hundreds of whom were masons.

He was a Baptist clergyman, and how much he was beloved the attendance at his funeral shows. We have known him only through his Reports on Correspondence. These bespeak his character as a zealous, conscientious and able Christian minister; a devoted mason, comprehending in a very high degree the fundamental principles and purposes of the Institution and standing inflexibly by the ancient laws; a man deservedly honored in all the relations of life. We had come to hold him in the highest esteem, and his death is a personal bereavement to us, besides a loss, whose magnitude cannot be estimated, to Masonry and to the world.

IDAHO, 1899.

The frontispiece is a snap-shot at the “ Grand Lodge of IDAHO.” The faces of the members are brought out very distinctly.

The Grand Master, GEORGE H. STORER, opened the Grand Lodge at ten

o'clock, had the roll called, and appointed a Committee on Credentials and called off until afternoon.

We fraternally refer our Idaho brethren to the method of proceeding in our Grand Lodge, by which is saved about half a day over our former practice.

The Grand Master announces the prevalence of harmony; that the Order is growing as it has never before; and with promise of even increased prosperity in the future. In view of this, he cautions the brethren in relation to the selection of candidates. He well says:

“We ought to teach more earnestly that those who become masons do not become so through any personal motives, but to practice its principles and maintain it in its ancient integrity. Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry was originally intended for the few whose intelligence was such as would enable them to appreciate its beauties, and whose morals were such as would enable them to exemplify its virtues. Though not another mason should ever be made, we should guard our doors securely against those who seek to wear our badge for mercenary purposes and whose daily lives of debauchery, profanity and vulgarity, give the lie to their professions of faith in the tenets of our craft.”

He announces the death of two Past Deputy Grand Masters, also that of EDWARD McCONVILLE, who was killed while leading a charge at Santa Ana bridge near Manila, February 5, 1899. He had served in the Civil War with credit, and had distinguished himself in 1887 in the protection of settlers against the Indians. He had been an active mason, although he had not served in the Grand Lodge. Of the manner of his death, the Grand Master says:

“When the Spanish-American war broke out and the President called for volunteers, he was among the first in Idaho to offer his services to his country, and was appointed Major of the Idaho regiment. The President testified the appreciation and gratitude of the nation when he breveted him a Brigadier General when dying on the field of battle. He fell at the head of his battalion with the words—‘Charge! Idaho to the front! It is glorious! Tell my wife and my children that I died for my country.’”

He had visited quite a number of lodges without giving them notice that he was to do so, thinking he would be better able to see them as they were, and in most cases he says he found them in a healthy and prosperous condition.

We are not quite sure of the wisdom of this manner of proceeding; a visit from a Grand Master, known in advance, always brings out a large number of the brethren who are the very ones in whom an additional interest needs to be created, and is created by the instructions and counsel incident to such a visit.

At the preceding session, one lodge was reported in a bad financial condition, being in arrears in its dues. He was instructed that unless all arrearages were paid within sixty days, the charter should be arrested. He

concluded to visit them, and was agreeably surprised to find an interest among the members, interest to such an extent that they contributed on the spot seventy-five dollars; and promised that in the near future they would pay the balance. He did not arrest the charter, but visited them again and at that meeting found them prospering, holding their meetings regularly, and out of debt.

He made quite a number of decisions, nearly all on local law.

He decided that under their law, a candidate rejected over twelve months previously, could be received by the lodge in whose jurisdiction he had resided for six months. But he enjoined upon the lodge that it was their duty to make inquiry of the other lodge as to the fitness of the candidate to be made a mason.

In a case in which a candidate was elected, but before the degree was conferred, information came to the Master that raised a question as to the fitness of the candidate, and thereupon he stopped the proceedings and appointed a committee to investigate the matter. Which committee, after a thorough investigation, made an unfavorable report, and recommended that no degree be conferred upon him. The Grand Master decided that the proceedings amounted to a rejection, although the lodge was inclined to claim that it came under the law in relation to objections. Apparently in that jurisdiction an objection operates to prevent the conferring of the degrees, or the acquiring of jurisdiction by another lodge until the objection is withdrawn. Later he decided that another lodge into which the party had removed could receive a petition, but he enjoined upon them to make the most careful investigation of the case.

We may be in error as to the effect of an objection in Idaho; we understand, however, that if a man is rejected by ballot, the effect of it lasts only twelve months, but if rejected by an objection, it is practically perpetual, and this perpetual jurisdiction, as we view it, is of the worst kind.

The Grand Master says further:

“Under date of June 19, 1890, I received a communication from Wardner Lodge, No. 34, stating that one A. G. Anderson made application for the degrees of Masonry. His petition went through the regular course and in due time he was elected. But in a few days after his election the labor troubles began, and Mr. Anderson took somewhat of a leading part and was arrested and released. He was afterwards re-arrested and put into prison and still languishes there. At the next regular communication a protest was entered against his receiving any degrees, and the Worshipful Master appointed a committee of three to investigate and see if said Mr. Anderson was really implicated in the riotous proceedings, and, on June 6, 1899, reported that they had investigated the matter thoroughly and found that the applicant had participated with a gang of men in an unlawful act which deprived men of the liberty of going to work on the 27th day of April, 1899, and therefore consider him unfit to become a member of a masonic institution.

“To which I replied as follows:

“Question.—Is Mr. Anderson entitled to have his money refunded when your lodge refuses to confer degrees? Answer.—Yes.

“I see no error in your proceedings, but it was not necessary for the Worshipful Master to appoint a committee on protest, as the brother had right to object to the degrees being conferred before he was made an Entered Apprentice. You will notify sister lodges in this jurisdiction of the rejection.”

“I am very glad to see the lodge took the stand it did.”

The Grand Master called attention to the fact that the severe provision of the Idaho law, which subjects a non-affiliated mason to expulsion, has been a mere dead letter, and recommended its repeal, but the Grand Lodge directed the Grand Master to enforce the law, and to require subordinate lodges to enforce the law—especially providing that the Master should personally see to the matter, and require the Junior Warden to file charges.

We do not wonder that the lodges did not enforce the law, for we have no hesitation in saying that the law itself is more directly contrary to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry than any other attempt at law that we have ever seen.

The Grand Master stated the principle in his address, but no weight was given to it.

A committee had been appointed to investigate the manner in which the affairs of the office of Grand Secretary had been conducted during the preceding years, and made a report showing that while the business had been loosely done almost habitually, the accounts were substantially correct, except in the single case of an acting Grand Secretary who had been expelled for defalcation and other masonic crimes. But the committee styles the present Grand Secretary as the most methodical one the Grand Lodge had ever had, and an examination of his reports shows that this is correct.

It has been sometimes assumed that there is not much *business* in the duties of Grand Secretary. This is a grave mistake, and has led to a great deal of trouble, but our Idaho brethren evidently appreciate it, and are acting accordingly.

The system of District Lecturers had been tried, and the Grand Lodge, upon the recommendation of the committee, voted to continue it, levying a tax, from which the expenses of the Deputies should be paid. Our experience in Maine has pretty well established the fact that this plan, if continued, will be a successful one, only we include more than merely teaching the work in the duties of the visitor.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 86) was presented by Bro. FRED G. MOCK. We regret to find that it was prepared under very difficult circumstances, as he was troubled with inflammation of the eyes. Of their law, in relation to non-affiliated masons, which we have already noticed, he says:

“Our affiliation law has been assailed from every point of view, and we have found but few encouraging words from any source. Masonic writers everywhere term it an ‘unwise and unjust law.’”

Outside of his introduction, his review is almost absolutely limited to an excellent abstract of the proceedings with brief comments.

ILLINOIS, 1899.

For a frontispiece we have a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, EDWARD COOK. The Grand Master had a sad duty in announcing the deaths of Past Grand Masters DEWITT C. CREGIER and JAMES A. HAWLEY, and also Past S. G. Wardens ASA W. BLAKESLEY and HENRY C. CLEVELAND; also that of Bishop HENRY G. PERRY, who had been for many years a regular attendant on his lodge and on the Grand Lodge, and whose fame as a man and mason is national.

We had a personal acquaintance of many years' standing with Brothers CREGIER and HAWLEY, and while we knew that the health of Bro. CREGIER was poor, the news of his death came quite unexpectedly to us. Bro. HAWLEY we met only a short time before his death, when he appeared to be in perfect health, and the announcement of his death was a severe blow to us.

Like his predecessors, Grand Master Cook had an immense amount of routine business to transact, a brief statement of which he reports to the Grand Lodge. Of the “Work” he says:

“One of the pleasantest experiences of the year has been to observe the improvement that has taken place in the work and ceremonial observances in many of our lodges. The care that has been bestowed upon the ritual, not only as to verbal accuracy, but also in the manner of expression so as to bring out the force, meaning and beauty of its lessons, has been marked and most satisfactory. The success attending these praiseworthy efforts by lodges and brethren has been remarkable, and in some cases such as to approach the perfect mark. A gratifying feature, worthy of note in this connection, is the fact that the attendance at these lodges has been so large as to indicate clearly that the brethren generally are attracted by good work, and that they appreciate the beauties of the ritual in its simple purity and prize the moral teachings of Masonry more than its external adornments.

“In my report to the Grand Lodge one year ago, I took occasion to record my disapproval of the use of robes and other paraphernalia calculated to distract the mind of the candidate from the teachings of Masonry rather than to impress its lessons. These views were approved by the Grand Lodge.”

He adds that the order of the Grand Lodge had been complied with, and in several cases the members gave voluntary testimony that an increased interest had resulted from dropping these superfluities. Some lodges demurred, and he was compelled to issue an absolute edict in relation to the matter and in relation to changes some lodges were making in the work, from which we take the following:

- "In furtherance of the purpose of this Edict, and to promote uniformity of work and maintain the purity and impressiveness of our ritual, the introduction of military drills, stage settings, theatrical scenes, inappropriate music, stereopticon views (other than of the emblems or symbols given in the monitor and the charts) and the use of robes, uniforms, and costumes other than those sanctioned by the standard work of this grand jurisdiction and taught and practiced in the schools of instruction held by the Grand Examiners, are hereby expressly prohibited."

One curious case had come before the Grand Master. At a former session, the Grand Lodge directed the proceedings in a case of discipline to be set aside and the case tried in another lodge. Thereupon the other lodge brought claim before the Grand Lodge for expenses incurred in the second trial. It was a long one, and they were obliged to pay additional rent and be at various items of expense. One of about four hundred dollars was a stenographer's bill, one-half of which the respondent had agreed in advance to pay, but later refused to pay. Apparently they had paid counsel and this bill was included. At any rate, the Grand Master, to which the matter had been referred, concluded to pay the bill, amounting to over six hundred dollars.

Of this the Grand Master says:

"The net results of this case are, that a lodge with a membership of twenty-eight, a comfortable lodge hall, which they owned free of debt and with a snug sum in bank, has been blotted out; two lodges, without any fault of their own, have been compelled to hold long, tedious and exasperating trials; a condition of wide-spread irritation and ill feeling has been engendered and the Grand Lodge has been obliged to disburse a large sum in excess of all the assets of the defunct lodge.

"This case affords an excellent example of the evils of contested and attorney-paid litigation in lodges, referred to in my report of last year, and emphasizes the advisability in cases where masonic trials are necessary, of finding some fair, equitable, speedy, and inexpensive way of arriving at the facts and administering justice. It is hoped that the amendment to Grand Lodge by-laws which was offered by the Committee on Jurisprudence last year, and which comes up for action at this session of the Grand Lodge, will meet your approval and serve as a step in the direction of reducing expenses and as a deterrent to long drawn out trials."

We have heretofore deplored the increasing tendency to conduct masonic trials after the manner of criminal courts. There is no doubt at all that this is a departure from the old usages, and is a procedure entirely contrary to the procedure in former times, assumed to be the correct one. The two methods are based on entirely different principles. In a lodge a brother is tried by his brethren, and the technicalities of trials in courts, never should be allowed. Least of all should a brother who appears as counsel on one side or the other be allowed to receive pay for his services. It ought to be made a masonic offence, with expulsion as a probable consequence. However, this case illustrates the necessity, now that our lodges are so large, of some other method of trial of charges, than a trial in a lodge.

We have watched with a good deal of interest and some anxiety, the re-

sult of the system of commissioners in Massachusetts, and our conviction is that it has proved to be an abundant success, and will be adopted ultimately generally.

The Grand Master had visited over sixty lodges, and had been kindly received. As a whole he found the lodges in good condition.

Of rotation in office he says:

“The custom which formerly prevailed in many lodges of retaining the same brother as Worshipful Master for a dozen years or more, has been followed in many cases, and especially in our larger cities, by the opposite extreme of electing a new Master every year. When one extreme is thus followed by another, it is usually true that both are bad, and the case under consideration forms no exception to this maxim.

“The custom first referred to, produced a condition of monotony and lethargy, if not of deterioration and dry rot, which was destructive to growth and discouraging to zeal, ambition and effort. It was natural and proper that the doctrine of rotation in office and the laudable desire to give the young men a chance should bring about a reaction, but unhappily this reaction has been carried so far as in turn to call for correction.

“When the rule of ‘advancing the line’ regularly every year becomes practically inflexible, the lodge in large measure loses its right of free choice and becomes a slave to custom. I would not if I had the power, interfere with the right of every lodge to select its own officers unrestricted save by the laws of the Grand Lodge, but I do desire to emphasize the fact that when a habit or custom such as the one mentioned becomes the dominant factor, the members cease to exercise their constitutional rights and merely register the choice of the Worshipful Master, who years before placed a brother in line by appointing him to a minor office.

“One of the detrimental effects of this custom is that it tends to impress upon those in line the idea that the ability to repeat the ritual and to go through the regular routine is all that is necessary to qualify them for the highest honor in the gift of the lodge, and the practical result is that every Master becomes a Past Master just when he begins to get a true conception of the duties of his station. The office of Worshipful Master of a masonic lodge is a position of trust and honor. To discharge its duties properly should be the laudable ambition of every brother who has been chosen to the place. The ability and experience to perform these duties adequately can come only through study and effort and after the lapse of more time than the custom here criticised permits. To prove this proposition nothing further is needed than the evidence of the Past Masters who have become such through the operation of this rule.

“It is to be hoped that the golden mean which will prevent monotonous service on the one hand and break the rule of annual rotation on the other, can be reached by our lodges through a more general exercise of that freedom of ballot which impels every member to vote for the one he honestly thinks best fitted for the place.”

We quote the whole of it for it is a growing evil in Masonry. In this connection the Grand Master draws an eloquent parallel between the soldier and the mason, of which the following is a specimen:

“May we not, as masons, draw a parallel between this page of history and our own experience and duty? We are constantly adding to our numbers hundreds of young men who come to us with vague, imperfect, and often erroneous ideas of our aims and purposes. It is the work of a few minutes or hours to confer the degrees upon them, to open up to them the

way to the light, and to give them the key to a broader and nobler life; but it is the labor of years to cultivate the germ that is thus planted, to assimilate them into the grand life of the fraternity and to inspire them with that higher and nobler purpose of good will and helpfulness whose development will go on and on through all eternity."

The edict of the Grand Master was approved, although it met with some opposition, and the committee endorsed emphatically his remarks in relation to rotation in office.

Tributes were paid to the memory of Past Grand Masters CREGIER and HAWLEY, with excellent portraits. The widow of Bro. CREGIER returned to the Grand Master the jewel presented to him in eighteen hundred and seventy-one, which had been bequeathed by him to the Grand Lodge, suggesting that the jewel be worn by the presiding Grand Master, practically as a part of his official clothing.

The new Grand Representatives were presented, and were received by a separate address from the Grand Master and a reply by each one of them. We note that among them was a representative of the Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba, which was recognized three years ago, although it had its origin very largely, if not wholly, under the authority of the Scottish Rite.

The following amendment to the Constitution was adopted:

"In all trials for masonic offences the brother preferring the charges, and the accused, shall each pay all the expenses of procuring his own witnesses and the cost of his stenographer, if one be required. Each party shall, on appeal being taken, be required to pay the cost of copying the evidence introduced by him, and all documents filed by him in the case. Where a lodge, by the Junior Warden or other officer, brings charges against a brother, its share of the expenses shall be paid out of the lodge treasury. *Provided*, that where a brother is too poor to pay the expenses necessary to a proper hearing of charges preferred against him, the same shall be paid by the lodge, the lodge being the judge of his ability to pay expenses."

We have grave doubts as to the wisdom of this provision. The fact is, that in many jurisdictions, at any rate, masonic discipline is already altogether too lax, and if a brother who makes a charge is obliged to pay the expenses of the prosecuting part of the trial, very few charges will be made by individual brethren.

An amendment was adopted, giving to permanent members mileage and per diem.

An amendment to the Constitution, in relation to dimits, was introduced, and referred to a committee, with authority to report at the next session of the Grand Lodge. It seems to provide for a system of transfer from one lodge to another.

In a trial of a case by a lodge, a party, not a mason, was called as a witness, and the lodge resolved itself into a committee of the whole, and, as such committee, heard the evidence. The Grand Lodge held the proceed-

ings to be wrong, but of not sufficient importance as to reverse the decision of the lodge.

The report of the committee was based upon the language of the by-laws, which requires testimony of witnesses not masons to be taken by a committee. We think the method adopted by the lodge is altogether more satisfactory, and we do not see why it might not be done properly; and later on we find that an amendment to the by-laws was proposed, allowing this to be done when in the judgment of the Master no injustice would be done, either to the accused or the accuser.

BRO. ROBBINS presented the Cregier jewel to the Grand Master, who replied in very fitting terms, paying a high tribute to BRO. CREGIER. On the installation of his successor, the Grand Master transferred to him this jewel.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 227), including an index, was presented, as heretofore, by BRO. JOSEPH ROBBINS. He continues to use the topical form.

Of this form of reports, he says:

"Last year with what we thought was a full consciousness of the excess of labor, which would be required thereby, we reluctantly determined to try the experiment of a topical report with the design of condensing the results of a survey of the yearly widening masonic field into possibly less than one-half of our customary space. We did not quite succeed in keeping within the limit as to space, and so far as the best results to the craft are concerned we feel that our failure was still more conspicuous. In the hope that we may do better with our past experience to guide us, we shall again present our report in the topical form, although with the knowledge born of that experience and with no prospect that the extra masonic activities of life will be less exacting than heretofore, we approach the increased labor entailed by it with an apprehension akin to positive dread."

* * * * *

"One of the strong reasons suggested is that the topical form of report does not give a picture of Masonry as reflected in the proceedings, and hence fails of the true end of a Report on Correspondence.

"To our mind a stronger reason, but one closely akin to that, is that in dealing with most questions that are widely discussed, the reviewer is belated. In waiting until subjects have become of wide present interest, in order to reflect by his reflections the prevailing trend of opinion, he has lost his opportunity—as well as failed of a correspondent's real duty—to be in at the first, to discover the first outcroppings of revolutionary and destructive tendencies, or doctrines, and to raise the warning voice and endeavor to set the current of masonic opinion, which may have been deflected by surrounding conditions or the alluring propositions of enthusiasts within, back into proper channels."

His first topic is Necrology. He notes the deaths of eminent brethren in the different jurisdictions, and pays an eloquent tribute to the memory of many of them.

Under the heading "As others see us," he devotes nearly seventy pages to other Grand Lodges, taking them up in alphabetical order.

There is a great deal in it, that we would like to notice, but must pass over in order to have space for the more important matters.

Referring to our expression of surprise that the penalty inflicted upon a party by the Grand Lodge should not be stated in the Proceedings, but left blank, he says:

"We are unable to explain why the *penalty* was not designated in the printed record in this case, as we know of no order of the Grand Lodge requiring it, although it is upon such order that the *names* of those subject to disciplinary proceedings are so omitted."

Probably a mere clerical error.

Referring to our objection to the conferring of degrees by one lodge for another, he says:

"It is fair to meet the objection interrogatively suggested with the query whether a Master of the lodge which was about to do work by courtesy would be any more likely or more at liberty to disregard the objection of a member of the requesting lodge than the Master of the latter? We should be glad with him to know how old is the certainly wide-spread usage upon which our statement was predicated, and whether it does not antedate the recognition of the right of objection."

Of course not: the trouble is that it takes away practically the opportunity for making the objection. But if the abuse of the right of objection continues to increase as much as it apparently has increased within the two years that have passed since we wrote the paragraph which he quotes, we shall not insist very strongly upon this reason for not conferring degrees in that manner.

The first that we ever heard of the conferring of a degree by one lodge for another was during the civil war, and in that case the Grand Master of the jurisdiction promptly forbade its repetition, and we have never met, so far as we remember, any earlier allusion to it.

He devotes considerable space to the HART case, holding that the long usage of Maine and Massachusetts (and several other Grand Lodges) does not justify it, and really has no bearing upon the question. He overlooks the principle that contemporaneous construction of a law, especially if long acquiesced in without objection, is very conclusive evidence as to the proper construction of the law. We have been at a loss to understand what "law" he had in mind. We now find that he relies upon the law in relation to *controversies between brethren*, which has no reference or application whatever to *offences against Masonry*.

Of course the Grand Lodge of Maine has granted to its lodges the power (but not exclusive) to try offenders for violation of masonic law; but that in no way interferes with the rightful power of the Grand Lodge to take cognizance of such offences if it deems that the occasion requires it.

The question of going through the farce of pretending to give notice when it clearly appears that the accused had absconded, and that his whereabouts

were unknown (a question of *fact* to be determined by the lodge or Grand Lodge under the masonic obligations of the members), was considerably discussed by him in a former report, and we replied. So far as this question is concerned, he seems to withdraw his objections; insisting, however, that our references to the Constitutions of other Grand Lodges do not touch the question of jurisdiction; of course, they do not; we cited them upon the question of notice, and expressly so stated.

We find that in Illinois, as in Maine, (but not as in some other jurisdictions) the Grand Master may suspend a mason in the recess and cite him for final trial by the Grand Lodge: but this is all wrong, if he is right about the Hart case.

BRO. ROBBINS has his usual fling at the Scottish Rite. Among other things he says:

"It is no answer to this to say that it is too ridiculous to treat seriously because the 'Scottish Rite is governed by laws,' when the complaint is that it is these laws which make it a serious matter, because they permit a single individual to set up an empire of his own by *creating* a following of alleged masons out of the ranks of the profanes. Bro. Drummond says our understanding in this respect is utterly erroneous. We wish it were, but the following utterance of Bro. Drummond—to whose superior knowledge we bow in these matters—is not reassuring. In order to a full understanding of his remarks we quote first the language of the lamented Fellows, of Louisiana, which called them out."

Then he quotes the account which BRO. FELLOWS gave of the visit of Charles Laffon to Mexico in 1859, and his making masons there and establishing a Supreme Council. BRO. FELLOWS suggested that we and others would admit that all the masons so made were clandestine. And he quotes our reply as follows:

"We do 'fail to admit' his proposition: if a Supreme Council *can* create lodges, it creates them *in accordance with its own laws*; according to Bro. Fellows there was no Grand Lodge there and no lodge even; masonically speaking, the country was absolutely open to any masonic power to establish Masonry there without infringing the jurisdiction of any other power in the least; if, under the laws of a Supreme Council, one of its members is authorized, *in such a country*, to confer the degrees to establish Masonry there, his acts are valid; the proposition that a profane can be made a mason only in a regular lodge has exceptions; if not, Richard Vaux lived and died a clandestine mason, as well as many others, who have been everywhere recognized as regular."

First we have to say that his charge refers to the *present time*, while his proof refers to an instance forty years ago, when the Rite had hardly got reorganized after the anti-masonic times, since which the law has been entirely changed. In the second place, his proof does not sustain his charge, because he did not limit it, according to the facts, but made it general, as if it could be done any where and at any time.

In referring in a former report to some of his remarks, we quoted the term "broils," which he had used, but had preceded it by two terms sup-

posed to describe the *kind* of "broils": as we were not familiar with the kind that he mentioned, in order to be sure that we included them, we denied, as we could correctly do, that *any* "broils" had arisen. But he seems to feel hurt because we did not use his term, which seems to be a pet one with him; so we will now say that no "*factional dynastic broils*," whatever that may mean, have "rent the Scottish Rite." As before, we now say, that the claims and efforts of imposters cannot be charged against the *Scottish* more than against the York Rite: in illustration, we cited him to the clandestine lodges in his own State and in Ohio; the former, the bodies in his own State he does not mention; that would not do; it would spoil his argument: as to the Ohio lodges, he substantially lays the blame upon the Scottish Rite, *because the impostors, in revenge for not allowing their claims, formed these clandestine lodges!*" He seems to forget, also, that the clandestine lodges in Ohio were formally disowned by the Cerneaus: as what he writes indicates that he has no knowledge of that action, we give the "Proclamation," purporting to be an official communication of the "Supreme Council, 33°, for the U. S. A., their Territories and Dependencies," signed by John J. Gorman, styling himself "Grand Commander," and attested by John G. Barker, styling himself "Grand Secretary General," with a printed impress of a seal, and we commend it to the attention of our Brother:

"To all Brethren of our Obedience :

"WHEREAS, It has come to my knowledge that Master Masons who were affiliated with lodges working under warrants issued by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, have so far forgotten their duty and obligations to the Grand Lodge and their duty and obligations as Master Masons as to have raised the Standard of Revolution in that State, and have organized and caused to be incorporated under the law of the State of Ohio, a so-called 'Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,' in opposition to the regular Grand Lodge of Ohio, and

"WHEREAS, Said so-called opposition Grand Lodge has not been and cannot be acknowledged by any of the Grand Lodges of Free Masons in the United States of America, and

"WHEREAS, Any Master Mason desiring to become a member of, or retain membership in any of the bodies subordinate to the Supreme Council Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the United States of America.

"THEREFORE, Inasmuch as the before mentioned so-called opposition Grand Lodge is not so acknowledged, this is to admonish and warn all brethren of our obedience against becoming members of any lodge acknowledging said so-called opposition Grand Lodge, or in any way participating with them, or in aiding or abetting its organization, existence or continuance, or with any subordinate lodge or organization acting under its authority, and all subordinate bodies of our obedience are positively forbidden to receive any member of the so-called opposition Grand Lodge or any of its subordinate bodies into any of the bodies of our obedience under any circumstance whatever."

He formerly put the following question to us:

"Now can a Grand Lodge, thus constrained by the fundamental law, make a definition of Masonry, which shall permit a portion or all of the members of the lodge, to practice as *Masonry*, in bodies which it does not create, something other than the Masonry of the original definition?"

We answered it, as we supposed, but he is not satisfied with it, and in answer to our question says that he means the same Grand Lodge and repeats the question. Having driven him to that limitation upon his question, we answer, yes. The Grand Lodge is, for the members of its obedience, the Supreme power of the craft. The "original definition" of Masonry by it is no more sacred than later definitions by it: and if a later definition varies from the original one, that prevails. It should be said that this discussion arose from his denial of the right of Grand Lodges, to recognize chapters or any bodies other than lodges, as *masonic* bodies. We pointed out that Grand Lodges had done so from time nearly coeval with the organization of the Grand Lodge system. But he insisted that this definition was different from the "original definition." We pressed him to know "whose original definition," and he now says that of the same Grand Lodge; when he says that the answer is obvious and certain. In this connection he says:

"He says he is not sure that he understood us, and as it also seems doubtful to us, we will try and make the matter plainer. A lodge practices Masonry by the acts of its individual members. What those acts shall be is determined by the definition of Masonry which the Grand Lodge, acting under the constraints of the fundamental law, makes for the lodges and individual masons of its obedience. Is it not equally true that the acts of the individual which constitute the practice of the rites of Masonry thus defined must be practiced in lodges warranted by the Body thus defining it or be utterly invalid? Universal usage as well as common sense gives an affirmative answer."

This question he answers himself in the affirmative. If he had not, he would not have obtained any. This is almost too ridiculous for notice: for according to it, the Grand Lodge of Maine cannot recognize the work of the lodges of any other jurisdiction, but only that of the lodges warranted by it!

Under the head of "Negro Masonry," he gives a brief summary of the action of other Grand Lodges in relation to that of the Grand Lodge of Washington, with brief comments as he goes along, the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1899, and quite an extended discussion of the subject at the end.

As a whole his discussion is rather a threshing over of old straw, but there are some parts that should not pass unnoticed.

He devotes considerable space to his statement in substance that Prince Hall's lodge was "excluded," was "not permitted to participate" in the action when the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts united in 1792 and organized one Grand Lodge in that Commonwealth. He gives no evidence in support of his statement—and for the very good reason that there is none.

There is nothing to show, so far as our examination of the records goes, and it has been as thorough as we could possibly make it, that the other lodges in Boston had any knowledge of the existence of African Lodge at that time. Until he can give some evidence in his statement, his moralizing upon it is the worst kind of "buncombe."

There is no pretence that from 1792 to 1797 (when this lodge became dormant, even if it did not cease to exist), when the other lodges were giving in their adhesion, African Lodge even made known its existence.

When the Grand Lodge of England dropped this lodge from its roll, and ceased to correspond with it, it made no application then.

On the contrary, a few years afterwards, it declared itself independent of all Grand Lodges, declaring that the original charter "appears to have been confined exclusively to the Africans."

In response to our statement that "There is not the slightest evidence that he or those with him ever applied to any Grand Lodge in Massachusetts to come under its obedience," he says:

"It seems singular that in his collection of the printed documents of these organizations, he should have failed to secure one so accessible as the petition of 'Lewis Hayden' and others'—seventy-two members of the five negro lodges existing in Massachusetts in 1868, closing with the 'humble plea for equal masonic manhood in the hope that we may be permitted to establish our claim to masonic rite by whatever means the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge may suggest.'"

It will be noted that he does not deny the correctness of our statement: but quotes a clause from the petition for what it was worth. But in that petition they set out the formation of lodges and of Grand Lodges and speak of another about to be formed, and of the National Grand Lodge, and *speak in behalf of all*; their prayer was that all these bodies out of Massachusetts as well as in it, and their "we" refers to all of the obedience of these bodies. Our brother is obliged to clutch at a straw in his argument, but we really did not think that he would clutch at so small a one as this!

He even denies that the Massachusetts Grand Lodge asserted the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction in the famous declaration of 1777.

He quotes the following:

"That no person or persons ought or can, consistently with the rules of ancient Masonry, use or exercise the powers or prerogatives of an ancient Grand Master or Grand Lodge, to wit: to give power to erect lodges of ancient Masonry, to make masons, appoint superior or Grand Officers, receive dues, or do anything which belongs to the powers or prerogatives of an ancient Grand Lodge, within any part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the rightful and appropriated limits to which the authority of this Grand Lodge forever hereafter extends."

Of this he says:

"In that declaration it was not even broached, for, although by the terms of the fifth resolution, it seems to be, when it is read by the light of the

context—whether of the report or of the resolutions or of both—it is clear that it was then construed to apply only to masons and masonic authority of the schismatic or ‘Ancient’ branch of the fraternity. The report emphasizes the propriety of contemporary existence of two rival independent Grand Lodges within the same autonomous territory, and the fourth resolution shows that the Grand Lodge did not ask or expect that any lodges save those holding under the deputation of Warren, should send up their charters for endorsement, in recognition of its power and authority.”

Why did not he add that the Ancients did not recognize the others as masons? That would have spoiled his argument. The committee in that very report say that the summons for that grand communication went to “the Masters and Wardens of all the regular constituted lodges.”

He quotes the following from it:

“Brother Drummond sees the fatal weakness of the claim that the American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction was then and there established, and tries to bolster it up by the analogy of the law of nations: but this does not help the matter, because it is manifest that there must first be nations out of which international law can grow, and at the period under consideration there was only just the beginning of masonic nations or independent jurisdictions, out of which inter-jurisdictional law might grow in the process of time—as it is now growing. He feels this difficulty, and seeks to escape it by the truism that the principles of equity on which these laws are based, nations do not *make*, but *recognize*; and similarly that the beneficent principles which must govern the relations of masonic nations, the latter do not make, but recognize, as the occasion requires their practical application. But this does not help his case, the fatal quality of whose weakness lies in the fact that the *recognition*, which is essential to the identification of the law, was then wanting. He evidently feels this, for he endeavors to show that there had even then been some glimmerings of recognition of the principal in the action of the Grand Lodge of England, in giving its provincial Grand Masters and provincial Grand Lodges exclusive jurisdiction within certain territorial limits; but that the law was so far established as to win any conscious recognition from the Grand Lodge of England is disproved by the very case out of which this discussion springs. Years after it had given to its Provincial Grand Lodges certain jurisdictional limits, in the bailiwick of one of them it chartered African Lodge.”

We did not see any such thing. In answer to the claims that the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction is an enacted law, we stated the position we took *nearly forty years ago*, that that doctrine grows out of the very existence of two or more Grand Lodges. The correctness of this position is now recognized by almost every English-speaking Grand Lodge. Bro. ROBBINS practically admits the correctness of our position; but undertakes to break the force of it by holding that a law is not a law *until it is recognized!* It can be recognized only by being applied. It is *not* law *when* it is applied, but *after* it has been applied, it *is* law!

When the Massachusetts Grand Lodge was erected in 1777, the moment it came into existence it had exclusive jurisdiction in that Commonwealth. Neither its recognition of the law nor the declaration of it in any manner affected its rights. They are important only on account of the evidence they give, that the existence of the law was then understood.

Besides, they expressly based their declaration "upon the rules of Ancient Masonry."

His last sentence does not sustain the proposition in the preceding sentence. In 1789, the Grand Lodge of England had no Provincial Grand Master in Massachusetts, and Bro. ROBBINS will find, if he will examine, that no one of the English Grand Lodges granted a charter directly in a territory in which it had, at the time, a Provincial Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Master.

He calls attention to a slightly erroneous statement which we made in relation to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. We corrected it in a subsequent part of our report, which, however, he had not received when he wrote his report.

He seems to endorse Bro. URROB's statement to the effect that lodges composed of whites, as irregular as these lodges are, have been recognized. He does not give any evidence of it; and he cannot; for there is none. He does not seem to understand the vast difference between "regularizing" an irregular lodge in the manner provided in the old Constitutions, and recognizing as regular a clandestine lodge that does not propose to come under the obedience of the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction.

In all this discussion, he claims that the legitimacy of African Lodge when it was chartered is the "pivotal point" upon which the whole question turns; whereas he ignores, (and wisely from his standpoint) the fact that whether African Lodge was regular or clandestine every one of the others is clandestine beyond question.

He discusses "Mexican Masonry," and under Maine says:

"Past Grand Master Drummond, whose apparent attitude is that of one who is rather more than willing that other Grand Lodges should recognize the Gran Dieta, but is not yet sure enough that his own Grand Lodge would escape burned fingers if it recognized it, to advise such a course, says in reviewing Missouri."

We doubt if that "apparent attitude" is seen by any except by those whose "wish is father to the thought." We are not satisfied for, among other reasons, one which would apparently be a reason with our brother for recognizing it, viz: we are not satisfied that the Bible has the recognition required to make their Masonry legitimate Masonry.

He says further:

"In discussing the Mexican question heretofore with Bro. Drummond, he has scouted our claim that no Body founded on dissent from the original plan of Masonry could create lodges capable of organizing a Grand Lodge recognizable as lawful by the Free and Accepted Masonry of the charges of a freemason, insisting that masonic usage was against us, inasmuch as that masons made in Scottish Rite lodges—bodies whose congenital illegitimacy we maintained because they were the creatures of such dissent—had been so universally recognized that the contrary doctrine was only first suggested about twenty-five years ago by Past Grand Master Theodore T. Gurney, of this jurisdiction. We called his attention to the fact that it was involved

in the Mississippi-Louisiana imbroglio of forty years ago, whose history, indeed, he had cited to prove that the case had long been foreclosed against us, but he now holds that the question of rites was not involved in that foreclosure. He says:

“In questioning our statement, that the late Brother Gurney was the author of the doctrine for which he contends, he calls attention to the fact that in Louisiana during the controversy there, the regularity of the masons of one body was denied, *but there is not a tittle of evidence, so far as we have ever seen, that it was on the ground of rites.*”

“The following may not be *evidence*, but it is a part of what was offered as *testimony*, going to show that the settlement of that controversy was adverse to our contention that those receiving the symbolic degrees in Scottish Rite Lodges were irregular and clandestine.

“The project of forming lodges in Louisiana was defeated for the time, but in 1847 it was carried, and the Grand Lodge of Mississippi chartered lodges there. The alleged reason was that the Masons of the French and Scotch Rites were not regular.” (*Drummond's Report to G. L. of Maine, re Grand Lodge of Spain, 1881. See Ill. Proc., 1897, app. p. 141.*)

As frequently when hard pressed in maintaining his position, he writes inaccurately. To be accurate, he should have said “our claim that no body founded on dissent from what we call (although very few agree with us) the original plan of Masonry,” etc.

We were both writing about the Louisiana imbroglio; Mississippi was not then in it. It is true that later Mississippi did interfere on the pretense stated, after the imbroglio had been going on over thirty years.

A Grand Lodge was formed in Louisiana in 1813, which claimed exclusive jurisdiction in the State. But the Grand Orient of France chartered three French Rite lodges in that State and a self-styled Consistory chartered two Scottish Rite lodges. The legality of these lodges was denied by the others, the leading lodge declaring that its opposition to the Grand Orient lodges was not because they worked the French Rite but *because they owed allegiance to a foreign masonic power*. But the Grand Lodge succumbed and recognized three French Rite and three Scotch Rite lodges as regular lodges, although they held under governing bodies other than the Grand Lodge. When the two Grand Lodges united in 1851, these lodges gave in their adhesion to the Grand Lodge, which accepted them and they (or some of them) continued their old system of work. We visited one of them in 1874 with other brethren who were attending the Grand Encampment, and while they worked the French Rite, in compliment to their visitors they worked in English, the first time (as was stated) in the history of the lodge.

There are many matters in relation to which we agree with Bro. Robbins, but we regret to find that in this report he has given the bulk of his discussion in support of positions which we believe to be erroneous and harmful to Masonry.

1. The powers of Grand Lodges in relation to offences against Masonry.
2. The sacred book of the law upon the altar.

3. His denial of the regularity of Masons whom the craft universal have recognized always.

4. His attacks upon Scottish Rite Masonry, which, however, in spite of his efforts, was never more prosperous or more in harmony with the York Rite, than it now is.

5. His defence of the clandestine organizations that have sprung from African Lodge.

We are hoping that he will return to "the original plan" of these reports.

INDIANA, 1899.

We have the portraits of WILLIAM GEAKE, the incoming Grand Master, and ALEXANDER A. MEEK, Grand Master from 1818 to 1820.

The Grand Master, SIMEON S. JOHNSON, says that in that jurisdiction prosperity is an actuality and that the future presents a bright aspect. He refers briefly to the brethren who had died in the war, adding:

"Though we do not erect a mausoleum over the graves of our dead brothers, or raise a monument to the virtues of the living soldier, let us place on record a tribute to the memory of the dead, and write our appreciation of the living, that in all time it may be known how the masons of Indiana treasure the memory of those brethren who died in performance of duty, and those who served at their country's call."

As usual, a large amount of routine matter had demanded his attention. He refused to give permission to a lady, claiming to be the wife of a mason, to advertise for her husband under an assumed name in the Indiana lodges, who had been guilty of an offence against the United States, but which she had assurance would not be prosecuted.

He announces quite a number of decisions, among which were the following:

(1.) "A candidate, twenty-one years of age, January 26, 1899, can he be *elected* to receive degrees at stated meeting, January 25, 1899?"

"Yes; and receive degrees when twenty-one years old."

In most Grand Lodges the decision has been the other way, and that under masonic law a candidate must be twenty-one years old *when he signs the petition*.

(2) That an avowed atheist and member of the lodge, is entitled to a dimit if the regulations in other respects have been complied with.

(3.) That a brother having been elected and installed as Warden, has "served" as such, complies with the requirement that he must have served as Warden before he can be Master, although he had never done any work as Warden.

(4.) "A mason dimitted from his lodge; eighteen months thereafter while in the same jurisdiction the lodge expelled him for unmasonic conduct. Twenty years thereafter this expelled mason removed to an adjoining county outside of jurisdiction of lodge expelling him; petition for membership by dimit in lodge where he lived and was elected, the fact of his being an expelled mason was unknown to lodge electing him till very recently. What action should be taken by this lodge?"

"A complicated question is here presented, but in view of all the facts presented, I ruled that charges should be preferred against him and he be expelled."

We do not quite see how a mason who has been expelled can be again expelled, while the former expulsion is in force.

It seems to us that the proceedings in electing him a member were absolutely void, and should have been so decided by the Grand Master.

(5.) Another ruling involved the statement of the proposition that subordinate lodges are creatures of the Grand Lodge and derive their rights, as organizations, from the Grand Lodge under the general regulations.

(6.) He ruled that a member of a clandestine lodge in Ohio having been admitted to a lodge in Indiana, the lodge should declare their action in admitting him null and void, and prohibit all masonic intercourse with him.

This leads the Grand Master to recommend that petitioners for membership, from sister jurisdictions, be required to furnish a certificate from the Grand Secretary to accompany their dimit.

It seems to us that the lodge neglected its duty in not requiring from the party evidence that he was made in a regular lodge before he was even admitted to visit the lodge.

The diploma in most jurisdictions is the evidence now required by most Grand Lodges in relation to visitors coming from Ohio, where these clandestine lodges exist.

He decided that under the regulations of the Grand Lodge, a lodge has no right to call off from one day to another to finish work. What would be done in a case of a masonic trial we cannot tell, but we should think that the regulation in question ought to be amended.

He decided that he had no right to issue a dispensation for an army lodge.

He was considerably surprised to be told that the use of cipher work was very prevalent in the lodges, and says:

"I cannot believe that this 'unlawful and disreputable' practice exists so generally among the lodges in Indiana, as is asserted; it has never come to my knowledge if such is the fact.

"If it be true, vigorous measures ought to be adopted and the evil suppressed. It is hardly possible that any great number of our members are so recreant to obligations, so reckless in violation of the rules of Grand Lodge, and so careless of masonic honor as to indulge in a practice both unlawful and disreputable."

He announced that the Grand Secretary, Bro. SMYTHE, had completed and published a work entitled "Indiana Masonic Law, and Code of Procedure,"

and speaks of it in very high terms, and says that the Grand Lodge ought to place one volume of this work in each lodge throughout the state. He also calls attention to the History of Freemasonry in Indiana, published by the Grand Lodge. He wishes that some way could be devised by which the Report on Correspondence could be brought more generally to the notice of the brethren, because now only three or four copies of the Proceedings reach a lodge and very frequently these are laid away in the Secretary's desk, so that few, if any of the members, have access to them.

Referring to the Washington matter, he says:

"This claim was exploded long ago, but seems to have been revived by Washington Grand Lodge, and revamped as a wonderful discovery—a committee of this Grand Lodge labored for one year, and the present Grand Master, who drafted such report, has had his time fully occupied in attempting to defend the action of the Grand Lodge.

"The Representative of Washington near this Grand Lodge at once resigned his commission, and I revoked the commission of the Representative of Indiana near the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"The question that confronts us is not one of class or color, but one of right. Indiana cannot consent to recognize masons who claim origin from lodges clandestine. There can be but one source of authority and power in Indiana, and that is the Grand Lodge organized in 1818, whose legitimacy has never been questioned.

"This Grand Lodge cannot maintain relations of intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, or permit those owing allegiance to such Grand Lodge to be received into our lodges.

"This Grand Lodge must speak in terms not to be misunderstood and place herself in the column of those Grand Lodges maintaining the law as it has existed since our formation."

He brought the Washington Centennial to the attention of the Grand Lodge, saying:

"This will be an event most notable in the history of our Fraternity in America, and Indiana ought not to be unrepresented at such a time."

The Centennial has since taken place with immense success, and we were very happy to meet there, as a representative of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, Past Grand Master MARTIN H. RICE, well known to the craft, through the Masonic Advocate, a publication deserving the good opinion of all "old-fashioned masons," who insist upon adhering to the ancient ways.

There was a very large amount of routine business before the Grand Lodge, which was harmoniously transacted.

The chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence dissented, as he did two years ago, from the decision that a minor can be elected to receive the degrees, but the majority report was adopted.

In relation to the decision in the case of the election of an expelled mason as a member, the committee say:

"In approving decision No. 37, your committee agree that the course advised by the Grand Master, if followed, made an effective disposition of

the case, and necessarily made a record of its final disposal upon the minutes of the lodge which so elected him a member; but we also believe that it was within the power of the Grand Master, upon proper investigation and proof of the fraud and deception exercised by the party in procuring his admission to membership, to have declared his said election null and void."

In relation to Reports on Correspondence the committee recommended that the Master and Secretary take special pains to place the Proceedings in the hands of the members, precisely as books from a public library are used.

In relation to the use of ciphers the following was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the making, sale, purchase or use of a cipher work in this Grand Jurisdiction is in violation of masonic usage. Any Worshipful Master who may permit the use or exhibition of, or any reference to, any cipher, key or guide, or any sheet or part of the same, in the lodge room, or allow the same to be used in the instruction of any candidate, and any officer, acting officer or participant in the work, who shall use, exhibit or consult such cipher, key or guide, or any part of the same, in the lodge room, shall be deemed guilty of a masonic offence, and upon conviction thereof shall be suspended or expelled. The Grand Master is hereby authorized and required, in the exercise of his discretion, after investigation, to suspend the Master of any lodge violating the provisions of this resolution, and further,—to suspend the functions of any offending lodge if necessary, to secure the enforcement of this *edict*, pending due trial or the further orders of this Grand Lodge."

The election of the clandestine mason to membership, caused the following resolution to be presented and unanimously adopted;

"We further recommend that hereafter, when petitions for membership from sister Grand Jurisdictions are presented to any lodge, the certificate of the Grand Secretary of such Grand Jurisdiction, certifying to the regularity of the lodge issuing the same, must appear upon the dimit."

The Grand Master ruled, and the Grand Lodge sustained it, that a brother elected and installed Master, who has never served as a Warden, cannot lawfully hold the place. We have grave doubts whether this is not one of the questions which the installation settles, and which cannot be afterwards raised.

The committee submitted a report in relation to the Washington matter, with the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"1st. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Indiana recognizes as legitimate all Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the United States with which it has heretofore been in fraternal intercourse except as hereinafter stated.

"2d. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Indiana does not recognize as legitimate, any colored Grand Lodge of masons established within the territorial jurisdiction of any Grand Lodge in the United States formally recognized by this Grand Lodge.

"3d. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Indiana deprecates the unwise, ill-considered and uncalled for action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in attempting to force abandonment of the great American doctrine of exclusive masonic jurisdiction in each and every State and Territory of this American Republic.

"4th. *Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana hereby severs fraternal intercourse with the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington, and forbids the lodges of Indiana, and the individual members thereof, from visiting or admitting visitors from any lodge of freemasons in the State of Washington, until the said Grand Lodge of Washington shall recede from, and revoke its order recognizing as regularly made masons those held and declared to be clandestine by the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

"5th. *Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Master be and he is hereby authorized to revoke this order so soon as the Grand Lodge of Washington shall recede from the position assumed by it.

"6th. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this report, together with the action of the Grand Lodge thereon, to the Grand Lodge of Washington, to each lodge in the State of Indiana, and to all Grand Lodges in the world with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal communication."

We note that the History of Masonry in Indiana has been completed, and that one copy was furnished to each lodge by the Grand Lodge.

Fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Peru was resumed.

A decision in relation to a by-law for creating a system of life membership is given, which is of much interest.

In 1874, a lodge adopted as a by-law that "all members who have paid dues for twenty consecutive years shall be exempt from all dues, except Grand Lodge dues"; and in the revision of the by-laws in 1895, this provision was repealed, and this revised code was approved by the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge. The Master of the lodge decided that all members, theretofore exempt, under that by-law were now liable for dues, and one of those interested appealed to the Grand Lodge. The Master of the lodge put his decision in writing, as follows:

"1. A lodge is an inferior body, owing its right to exist to a charter from a superior body, and by parity of reasoning any such charter or grant of power should be strictly construed, and all powers not expressly conferred or necessarily incident to such expressly conferred powers, and, therefore, necessarily inferred, are to be held to be withheld and remain with the chartering body. (See Sec. 1, Gen. Reg.)

"2. Lodges are permitted to adopt by-laws upon two conditions, and only when these conditions have been conformed to are any alleged by-laws valid, legal or of binding force:

"That they do not conflict with the Constitution or the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

"That they have been submitted to, examined by and approved by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge."

"3. The Grand Lodge has original and exclusive jurisdiction, and its enactments and decisions upon all questions shall be the supreme masonic law of the State."

"4. From a consideration of these fundamental provisions, if the life-membership by-law was in fact ever legally adopted and in force, it ceased so to be when the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge concurring, ordered it stricken out.

"The W. M. of LaFayette Lodge did not go back of the striking out of the by-law by the M. W. Grand Master to inquire whether it was in fact ever legally adopted, but simply held that, whether it was or was not legally

adopted, its operation had ceased, and all privileges which might have been conferred under it had legally terminated when it was overruled and forbidden by lawful authority.

"Hence, the W. M. of LaFayette Lodge has instructed the Secretary that the twenty-eight 'life members' created under this by-law were chargeable with the regular dues from and after the time the by-law was declared to be unlawful and stricken out, and that from the time the law laid down by the Grand Master and Grand Lodge must rule and govern the lodge and all its members."

Upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence the ruling of the Master was sustained.

We quote this at length chiefly to call the attention to the relations between the Grand Lodge and the lodges; because, while this is well settled law and always has been, at the present time a set of masons have come up who apparently think that they are wiser than the founders of the institution, and who are making every effort in their power to substitute for this original plan of masonry, a form of government based upon that of the United States, and we deem it important that attention should be called to this because quite a number of sensational masonic newspapers are endeavoring to assist these brethren in carrying out their views. We last year quoted to the same effect from the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

An appeal came from a lodge which had suspended a brother for declaring that the Holy Bible is a fraud and written by designing men. It is scarcely necessary to say that the Grand Lodge sustained the action of the lodge, re-affirming the doctrine that was never questioned in the earlier times.

The committee quote the following from Mackey's "Masonic Jurisprudence":

"It is a landmark that a Book of the Law shall constitute an indispensable part of the furniture of every lodge. The Book of the Law is that volume which by the religion of the country is believed to contain the revealed will of the Grand Architect of the Universe. Hence, in all lodges in Christian countries the Book of the Law is composed of the Old and New Testaments, and is to the speculative mason his spiritual trestle-board; without this he cannot labor."

A very interesting case came before the Grand Lodge in relation to the jurisdiction of a lodge, and we find that a lodge has jurisdiction over its members, wherever they may be, and substantially over any mason who commits an offence within its territorial jurisdiction. But in the case before the Grand Lodge, the committee found that none of these conditions existed. The charge was that the accused "planned" the offence within the jurisdiction of the lodge that tried him, in which he resided, and of which lodge he was not a member. But the Grand Lodge refused to accept the report of the committee and sustained the action of the lodge. This appears to us to be one of the cases in which the facts were of such a nature, that they induced the Grand Lodge to decide the case upon them without refer-

ence to the law. It seems to us that the "planning" of an offence can scarcely give jurisdiction, but that the jurisdiction attaches in the place in which the offence was committed, or to the lodge of which the accused was a member. Upon further examination, however, we are inclined to think that the decision of the Grand Lodge was based upon the provision of its own Constitution, apparently to the effect that residence within the territory of a lodge gives it jurisdiction over offences committed anywhere by a resident, whether he belongs to that lodge or not. We believe that this provision is erroneous, and not in accordance with fundamental law.

The Grand Lodge refused to reduce the minimum fees for the degrees, and the committee well says:

"The idea that we should *compete* in rate of fee with other societies in order to secure members is a *seriously mistaken one*. The persons whose applications may be procured by means of such a financial inducement will probably need *additional pecuniary rewards* to keep them on the rolls of their lodges."

We must pass over many matters in these interesting proceedings for lack of space.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 239) was again presented by Bro. NICHOLAS R. RUCKLE. Referring to topical reports, he says:

"Correspondence of other Grand Bodies have diverged from this plan by preparing a review by topics, taking up under particular subject-heads instead of the headings of Grand Jurisdictions the matters thought to be of such importance as to deserve special mention. This bringing together for comparison the opinions of Grand Masters, Chairmen of Committees and writers of Correspondence Reports as a rule makes a very interesting review, but suppresses to a great extent any account of the legislation in each Grand Lodge, which, in our opinion, is the vital object of the review."

He makes the Washington matter a subject of special report, which he presents in the beginning, largely because Washington comes so late in the alphabet. He quotes the report of the Washington committee in full, but he adds a few notes which are of interest.

To the impudent claim that it is by no means certain that Prince Hall was not a *de jure* as well as a *de facto* Provincial Master, and that in the opinion of many, a stronger showing in that direction has been made out for him than for HENRY PRICE, of Massachusetts, the committee says:

"The appointment of Henry Price is confirmed by letters from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England; the records of that body do not substantiate any such claim for Prince Hall."

We have been intending to notice this point and we may as well do it here, especially as we have designated the claim as an "impudent" one. In the first place Prince Hall never was a *de facto* Provincial Grand Master, and the assumption that he was one deserves to be called "impudent." A *de facto* officer is one that *assumes the title of the office* and claims authority

to exercise its powers; the acts of such an officer in many states are valid, under the civil law; but if the act should be done by a person *assuming another title* they would be absolutely void. For instance, there are numerous cases in which it is held that if a deed required by law to be acknowledged before a justice of the peace, is acknowledged before a man who signs the title "Justice of the Peace," the deed is valid between the parties, and the party falsely assuming the title is the one to be punished, if anybody. Now if the same party, instead of signing "Justice of the Peace" should sign any other title, as for instance, "Minister of the Gospel," the acknowledgment would be absolutely void, and the party could not in any sense be said to be an officer *de facto*. Now Prince Hall never used the name "Provincial Grand Master." He *never did an act which he claimed to do as Provincial Grand Master*. He knew that he was not such an officer, and more honest than many of those of the present day who are endeavoring to support his action, he signed his precise title, to wit: Master of African Lodge, a title which made an act, which could only be done by a Provincial Grand Master, absolutely void.

These being the facts we need go no further, but rest confident that everybody will say that our designation of this claim is justified.

In reference to the allegation that a lodge in Virginia, of the same character as the lodges created by Hall, took part in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, the committee says:

"The Grand Lodge of Virginia was organized in 1778. While these lodges were in all probability originally 'voluntary lodges,' organized by those having knowledge but no authority, the first received a charter from Scotland in 1758, the second a charter from the Grand Lodge of England in 1773. Thus there can be no cloud upon their title to participate in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Virginia."

This action, as we pointed out last year, is in exact conformity to the written law, which provides that if brethren organize a lodge without a charter, it shall not be admitted as regular, until it is confirmed by a warrant from the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

Referring to the claim that Grand Lodge jurisdiction is an American doctrine, the committee says:

"In England, Scotland and Ireland, the Grand Lodges each claim exclusive jurisdiction."

These three little notes utterly destroy the three fundamental claims upon which the Washington report rests.

Following this report the committee give a succinct account of the facts which are decisive against the claim of this colored Grand Lodge. Had we not already quoted so much, we would quote this report in full. We add, however, the following:

“The declaration of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1777, and more formally in 1782, affirming the inherent right of every Grand Lodge to jurisdiction over all lodges and masons in its territory, was recognized from that time forward by all English-speaking masons and masons practicing the York Rite. The Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland each claim exclusive jurisdiction in their respective countries and concurrent jurisdiction among themselves, but exclusive as to all others, in the dependencies of the British Crown in which no independent Grand Lodge exists.”

* * * * *

“No Grand Lodge can license or permit its lodges, or the members of its lodges, to recognize as regular masons, persons made in lodges held in another jurisdiction, which under the Regulations of that jurisdiction are clandestine, and maintain fraternal intercourse with the Grand Body whose authority they assist in defying and setting aside. What difference is there between the recognition of the Negro Grand Lodge of Ohio, or the ‘Cerneau’ Grand Lodge of Ohio? Is it intended that one shall pave the way for the other?”

Bro. RUCKLE also gives the report of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and the report of Bro. ROBBINS, of Illinois, in support of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, “in which position he is alone and singular up to this time,” but to which he gives a conclusive reply. He also quotes our report of last year, and follows it with an account of the action of the Grand Lodges which had acted upon this matter up to the time when he submitted his report.

Of the point utterly ignored by Bro. ROBBINS in his report, he says:

“St. Andrew’s was as clearly outside of the legitimate organization of Masonry as was African Lodge, the irregularity of the one arising from the separation of this country from the mother country, and the illegitimacy of the other from the lack of jurisdiction of the Grand Body issuing the charter. The first named lodge was regularized by the power having authority to do so; African Lodge was not.

“African Lodge, if it ever had legitimacy, lost it when it usurped the functions of a Grand Lodge in violation of the regulations under which only it could claim existence. The talk of ridicule, isolation and prejudice, if founded upon fact, does not justify the violators of a fundamental masonic regulation in pleading such things as a justification of their illegal acts.”

We regard this report as one of the most valuable that this controversy has called out.

Bro. RUCKLE gives his usual review of the Grand Lodges, but our space will not allow further notice of it.

Under “Mexico,” he discusses the condition of matters in that country.

Of the importance of it he says:

“The recognition of Mexican Freemasonry by American Grand Lodges will be of incalculable benefit to that country and to the Fraternity in that country. And no little advantage will accrue to the United States from such recognition.”

He suggests the following plan:

“The Grand Lodge of Texas has been the premier advocate of Mexican masonic recognition, and is conservative as well as sympathetic. No body

is better entitled to represent the Grand Lodges of the United States. If there are no particular lodges in Mexico of such undoubted origin as to please the most exacting, let some one or more of the lodges which contain the greatest numbers of masons made in the United States, by agreement with the Mexican masonic authority, surrender its charter, and take a new charter from the Grand Lodge of Texas, in the name of those members who are indisputably regular masons. Let those who may be irregular or clandestine, according to the most strict construction, be healed or re-made, as the circumstances may require in such case. When enough lodges have been thus re-created, take steps to organize a Grand Lodge, with Constitutions and Regulations conformable to those of the Grand Lodges of the United States, thus settling in advance all objections to form of government. Dispensations and charters may then be issued by the new Grand Lodge to regular petitioners. Those members of old lodges who may for any reason be deemed to be irregularly or clandestinely made may, upon petition, be healed or re-made in order to qualify themselves as petitioners for warrants. By this means the regularity of all would be assured, and the smell of the smoke not be left upon anyone.

“The rulers of the Gran Dieta must be convinced of the absolute good faith of all concerned, and that the amended administration would be restored to those of Mexican nationality or selection.

“If such general agreement can be secured, no trivial objection to details ought to be permitted to stand in the way of the accomplishment of this purpose.

“This plan will further require that the Supreme Council of Mexico exclude from its bodies all who do not enroll themselves in the lodges thus reorganized.”

Of course this plan would accomplish the desired result; but we apprehend that it would be found that many, who have always been recognized as regular masons, would not consent to be deemed irregular because a comparatively few have set up a modern fad at utter variance with the principles and usages of Freemasonry.

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1899.

A special communication was held at which the Grand Lodge laid the corner stone of Central College, Wagoner, in the usual form.

At the annual communication, the Committee on Credentials, which had been previously appointed, reported immediately after the opening. Their report was adopted with leave to add the names of others who should arrive during the session. We believe that our brethren of this Grand Lodge will find the same good results from this method that we have in Maine.

The Grand Master, HENRY CLAY NASH, calls attention briefly to the public events of the year, saying that Masonry should take to itself her share of the admiration of the world in consequence.

We find from a decision, that the proficiency of a candidate in any of the degrees is passed upon in the Master Masons' lodge.

The following question and answer caused some discussion, but the answer was sustained by the report of the majority of the committee:

“Question: The W. M. being absent at a regular meeting in November, the S. W. presided. The W. M. was present and presided at the December meeting. Who should sign the minutes of the November meeting?”

“Answer: The S. W. who served as W. M. at the November meeting.”

We do not know what the usage is, but it would seem upon principle that the decision is right, otherwise it would seem that the Senior Warden presiding at the November meeting should have signed the minutes of the preceding meeting. It may be said that the officer presiding when the minutes are approved, is the proper one to sign them, and yet the general understanding outside of Masonry is that the record is signed by the officer *who is present when the transaction took place*. The question would seem to be in a lodge, whether it is the approval that is certified to by the signature or the minutes themselves.

The following decision was approved:

“Question: A sits in one lodge with B and in another with C. A introduces B and C to each other as Master Masons. B afterwards visits C's lodge. Can C vouch for B on A's information?”

“Answer: No.”

This is contrary to the usage that we were taught when we learned Masonry, and we see no reason why C could not vouch for B under the circumstances stated, unless there was some doubt as to some of the facts.

The Grand Master noticed the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, but before he took any action, he wrote to the Grand Secretary, asking what was done in 1899, and received a copy of the resolutions passed.

Of this he says:

“They attempt and do rescind a part of the work done at their communication last year, but your Grand Master is in about as much of a fog in trying to construe these last resolutions as that memorable committee was in trying to solve the subject of negro Masonry in the first place.”

The matter was referred to a committee, and they held that the *action* of the Grand Lodge was rescinded, and therefore no action by this Grand Lodge was necessary.

The Junior Grand Warden spoke of the Washington Centennial, and, after appropriate remarks, stated that he thought no State or Territory in the United States should fail to represent itself at that centennial, and thereupon:

“He moved that Bro. J. S. Murrow, one of the oldest masons in the Territory, be appointed by this Grand Body as its representative to attend the Washington centenary. Bro. J. E. Humphrey seconded this motion in kindly words. The Grand Master asked for a rising vote and the motion was carried unanimously.”

This was a highly deserved compliment to Bro. MURROW, and we are the more pleased at it, because, very unexpectedly, we had the great satisfaction of meeting him at the Centennial, and while our meeting was brief it was

long enough to carry the features and smile of our beloved brother in our memory as long as memory lasts.

His report, as usual, while concisely put, is a careful business statement of the doings of his office for the year. He is very earnestly in favor of the Orphans' Home, but we hope that our brethren will raise the means before they put the project into actual operation. In speaking of this he says:

"During the last ten years we have paid out over five thousand dollars in teaching our secret work to the lodges, and the Grand Lecturers say there are not more than a dozen men in the jurisdiction who have learned the adopted work absolutely correct. I have no intention or wish to detract from the value of a beautiful and uniform ritualistic work, but is it more important that our lodges should be able to put an 'a' or 'an' or 'the' in the proper place in our ritual than that the true principles of Masonry, charity, brotherly love, relief and other cardinal virtues should be emphasized and exemplified by this Grand Body? Is ceremony more important than life? To their credit be it said that some of our lodges have aided a few of the orphan children in our midst, but who can point to any money actually expended by this Grand Lodge toward the training or education of a single orphan?"

And his words seem to have had a great deal of effect, for when a brother moved that fifty dollars be appropriated from the funds of the Grand Lodge to purchase a jewel for the retiring Grand Master, it was opposed on the ground that the money could be better spent for the Home, and thereupon a motion to raise the money by voluntary contribution was adopted—any excess to go into the fund of the Home. In a few minutes one hundred and fourteen dollars was raised, and thereupon the retiring Grand Master announced that he contributed the fifty dollars appropriated to him for the jewel for the same purpose, which of course was received with great applause. The Grand Lodge appropriated afterwards the fifty dollars which was to be used in the purchase of the jewel, for the Home, so that the net result was one hundred and sixty-four dollars addition to the Home Fund.

The Grand Orator delivered a beautiful address, giving account of the similarity of Masonry to the ancient rites, and he quotes from an Egyptian book the following statement: "I am Grand Master of the craftsmen who set up the sacred arch for a support."

The whole address must be read in order to be appreciated.

A motion was made to strike the following from the by-laws:

"Should any member allow his dues to remain unpaid at the time of an election he shall not have the right to vote or be elected to any office."

But the matter was evidently compromised by a decision of the Grand Lodge, that a lodge has a right to waive temporarily this restriction. We believe it ought to be waived until the party has been notified and a decision rendered, determining the facts, after an opportunity for him to be heard.

The Grand Secretary described the selection of the place of the next meeting as a difficult and exciting task. Two places were presented and sup-

ported by brilliant speeches, and the Grand Secretary records that after a very close and exciting race, Wagoner was declared the victor by a few votes.

Parties having been convicted of a conspiracy to disrupt their lodge, pleaded guilty, and asked the leniency and mercy of the lodge. Two of them were indefinitely suspended, and the other was suspended for one year. They appealed on the ground that the punishment was excessive. But it appeared that they had written libelous letters to the Grand Master, and made serious charges against the officers and members of the lodge and the Grand Lodge, so the Grand Lodge sustained the decision of the lodge. We hope that this will be generally known by the craft, in order that it may be understood that conspiring to disrupt a lodge is an offence of a *very serious* character, and which deserves a severe punishment. If this was generally understood, we believe such things would happen more rarely than, we are afraid, they do.

The Grand Secretary, in his report on returns, states the difficulty of getting a correct report to publish, saying that on account of the careless penmanship of some Secretaries it is very difficult to decipher names, and that he and his good wife had a fearful task in copying them. Rapid and careless writers do not sufficiently comprehend the fact that while ordinary words may be studied out although badly written, the reverse is true in regard to *proper names*, which should always be written with care.

He classified the reports. The first one being those where they are correct and well written, and the next where the names are not given in full, some badly spelled and badly written, and quite a number of them not tallying with previous reports.

We wonder if he is alone in the following, or whether other Grand Secretaries can sympathize with him:

“Scarcely any report presented before Grand Lodge elicits such interest as the one on Law and Usage. The reading of the following report was no exception. Several points called out much discussion. On one point there was a majority and minority report. No report should be more carefully written out. It should be typewritten, and after adoption it should be rewritten by the committee. For two or three years no report has given the Grand Secretary more trouble to transcribe and prepare for the printer than this report on Law and Usage. They have usually been written with pen or pencil, considered seriatim, discussed at length, amended, interlined, erased, and in short, after adoption they scarcely recognize themselves.”

He then gives the last analysis of these reports as finally adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The truth of his remarks seem to be borne out in the fact that a resolution stated in the record proposing an amendment to Art. 8 of the by-laws, is reported in this report as being an amendment to Art. 3, as it seems to us, and we are quite sure that in some way a “3” and an “8” “got mixed.”

An amendment was introduced changing the Constitution so as to read as follows:

“No one shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary unless he is a Past Master and a member of Grand Lodge, and is or has been present at the communication at which the election occurs.”

We sincerely hope that this will not be adopted. The nature of the offices of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Warden is such that all these officers ought to be Past Masters, but there is no reason for the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary to be a Past Master, any more than the Tyler should be, and the restriction that he must be a member of the Grand Lodge is contrary to the usage of Masonry, which gives to the Grand Lodge the right and power to elect for its officers any member of good standing in the jurisdiction; and in electing a Grand Treasurer or a Grand Secretary, the very man of all others best fitted for the place may not be a Past Master or a member of the Grand Lodge. These offices are to a large extent *business* offices and not *ritual* offices, and business qualifications rather than masonic should decide the election.

We deem it unwise also to require his presence at the annual communication. Illness, or some cause, which he could not control, may have prevented his attending, and the masonic usage recognizes installation afterwards in such a manner as the Grand Lodge may direct, either by standing regulations as we now have it in Maine, or by special resolution as was formerly our usage.

We note that the standing committees are appointed at the close of the communications, as is the case in Maine—a usage the advantage of which we have already experienced.

The Grand Master of Oklahoma was introduced and received with the Grand Honors.

Of the raising of the money, which we have already mentioned, the Grand Secretary says:

“The Grand Secretary has attended every stated communication of the Grand Lodge since its organization. He has witnessed and experienced many scenes of brotherly love and good will, but the scene that followed this proposition exceeded in interest, liberal giving and enthusiasm anything he has ever witnessed.”

There is no Report on Correspondence. The names of all the members of all of the lodges are printed; whether this is done annually or not we have forgotten, but while we would have this done occasionally we believe that it is not necessary to do it annually, and that the expense of printing it would be a great deal better expended for a Report on Correspondence.

We desire to congratulate this Grand Lodge on its prosperity and its appreciation of, and adherence to, masonic principles.

IOWA, 1899.

The frontispiece is a group of portraits of the Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary.

We also have, later on in the volume, a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, Bro. CROM. BOWEN, with a sketch of his life by Bro. CRAIG, with an addition by Bro. PARYN.

The Grand Master, (CROM. BOWEN) in his address eloquently refers to the public events, then transpiring, and to the duties and practice of masons in relation, thereto.

We desire to copy at some length his remarks in relation to other matters or we would be disposed to copy his opening.

He says:

"I am happy to say that no disturbing elements, such as would endanger or even cripple the Order, have arisen; peace and harmony prevail, and a slight numerical increase in membership is reported. Much work has been done by many of the lodges, and some show a surprisingly large increase of membership arising from new material. On the other hand, many of the lodges are doing little or no work, and in some there has been a net loss—occasioned by a large number of dimitts. The change in our Code in reference to dimitts, adopted two years ago, is just beginning to become apparent. Nearly nine hundred members of our lodges have taken advantage of the change and have dimitted, while only about five hundred have united by dimit during the same time. This condition is one calling for your serious consideration. What action, if any, should be taken by the Grand Lodge in reference to dimitts? I am not prepared to recommend a return to the law adopted in 1893 and repealed in 1897; a five years trial of that law revealed many defects, one of the more noticeable of which is that it resulted in so large a dual membership—true, this was not so much the fault of the law as it was the carelessness and negligence of Masters and Secretaries of the subordinate lodges.

"The question, however, is, should we undertake to compel masons by legislation to retain membership in particular lodges? If we should succeed, would the Order be benefited thereby? We would be the gainer by the amount of the few dollars we have thereby compelled them to contribute, and our annual returns would undoubtedly show a larger gain in membership. But after all, is it worth our while? I take it few there be who thus dimit because of an inability to pay dues. I assume that every subordinate lodge would, without the asking, cheerfully remit the dues of all such. The large majority of those becoming non-affiliates are of those who do not believe that 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' Many, perhaps, became masons through purely selfish motives, hoping to use it as a stepping-stone to further some ambition, political or otherwise, and becoming convinced of their error, avail themselves of the right to dimit; of such a class did the poet write:

"Constant at church and change his gains were sure,
His givings rare, save farthings to the poor."

"Such men are no benefit to Masonry, and the individual lodge is in most cases better off without than with them.

"What Masonry wants is men who are wedded to the principles and tenets of the Order, men of whom it may be truly said—

"Godlike his unwearied bounty flows,
First loves to do, then loves the good he does."

APP. G. O. L.

“Twenty-five such men banded together would make a better masonic lodge than half a hundred who, though abundantly able, begrudge the small amount required each year to keep up the expenses of the lodge and meet the demands of charity.

“To stretch the liberal hand
 And pour the stream of gladness
 O'er misery's withered strand—
 To cheer the heart of sadness—
 To dry the orphan's tear
 And soothe the heart nigh broken—
 To breathe in sorrow's ear
 Kind words in kindness spoken—
 This is the mason's part,
 The mason's bounden duty,
 This rears the mason's heart
 In wisdom, strength, and beauty.”

“In this connection it may be said that there is seemingly a growing tendency, to some extent, to draw away from the ancient usages and customs of our institution, and to compete with other and more modern societies for membership.

“Because some organizations which have recently sprung into existence, copying to a small degree the masonic Order, hold out certain inducements to the outsider to come into their ranks, such as cheapness, or charms, or pleasures of club life, or life assurance, there is, it seems to me, a tendency among some of our lodges to compete for material, some by reducing the fees and dues, some by adding the features of a club with its adjunct, the billiard table and the card table, in their rooms.

“I received during the year a request from one of our lodges asking my approval of the action of the lodge in giving permission to its members to organize a masonic club, to be composed exclusively of the members of the lodge, and to occupy the ante-room and banquet-room of the masonic hall, jointly with the lodge, and to place therein billiard and pool tables, also card tables, and other like forms of amusement.

“I am not insensible to the advantages of the social side of our Order. We ought, as lodges, to make it more and more prominent both in our meetings, by having more sociability among its members, and also by making more of our masonic festive days. These should, however, be conducted purely for the benefit and enjoyment of our membership, and not as a means of advertising for new members.

“Nor can I give my assent to the idea that a billiard or pool table in a masonic hall will attract to our Order a class of people, young or old, that will be of any great benefit to Masonry. The initiate who is led to seek admission by this means will soon be among the non-affiliates. The young man attracted to the Order by the click of the billiard ball or the charms of club life is not liable to become the most useful or valuable member when the lodge is called upon in cases of charity and the treasury is empty.”

We had overlooked that this Grand Lodge, after a five years' trial of the attempt to compel masons to remain members of the lodge, had abandoned it, and it seems that the experience under it was precisely in accordance with the views of those who hold that a man forced to remain an active mason is ordinarily of no value whatever, and we commend most earnestly the remarks of Grand Master BOWEN to the Masters of our lodges, especially that part of it referring to efforts to compete with other organizations. All those efforts are contrary to the original purpose of Masonry and we regard

that part of his remarks as the rule which ought to govern our brethren in this matter. We speak of this because we have seen signs of the same trouble in our own jurisdiction, and while we can see that probably the high water mark of such efforts has been reached, we hope that the ebb of the tide will be a rapid one.

Relations were resumed with the Grand Lodge of Peru.

He gives the resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Washington at its preceding session. Their importance was so great, in his estimation, that he appointed a special committee to consider the matter and report.

He adds:

“It seems to me that in the adoption of the foregoing resolutions, the Grand Lodge of Washington had recognized as legitimate masons, with all the attendant rights and privileges of Masonry, those whom the Grand Lodge of Iowa has always held to be clandestine within its jurisdiction.”

In spite of his sympathies and desire to aid deserving brethren, he felt compelled to decline an application for a military lodge in a regiment of Iowa soldiers then stationed at Manila, and the committee to whom the matter was referred, although very strongly sympathizing with the petition, felt compelled to endorse his action.

He seems rather inclined to recommend the revival of the rule formerly prevailing in that jurisdiction, that no dispensation should be granted for a lodge within ten miles of an existing lodge. We do not believe in such a law. It is assuming that a state of things exists which cannot exist in any State in this country, viz: a comparatively uniform population per square mile.

We believe that the Grand Master is sufficiently able to judge in each particular case as to the wisdom of granting such a dispensation. We do not believe that a dispensation should be granted under any circumstances to a new lodge without a careful inquiry into all the circumstances surrounding it, and this being done, we believe that matter can be safely left with the Grand Master.

We find that Iowa has adopted substantially the same plan that prevails in Massachusetts, in relation to the trial of offences, but instead of having a regular Trial Commission, as in Massachusetts, in Iowa the Grand Master appoints a committee to hear each case and report thereon to the Grand Lodge.

He had had considerable difficulty with the question, “who is a Past Master?” The whole difficulty arises from the law of that Grand Lodge which allows the Master to resign. When a brother has been elected and installed as Master of a lodge, he is, *masonically* speaking, a Past Master. That is to say, he has thereby acquired the masonic rank of Past Master. Under the usages of Masonry, no officer, who by his installation acquires

rank, should be allowed to resign. The repeal of that provision would remove all difficulty.

The Grand Master well states the objection to this law as follows:

“There are, to my mind, serious objections to such a law. In this manner a single lodge might, if it felt so disposed, elect three or more Masters during the year, and thereby allow a large number of its members to secure the honors of a Past Master, whereas the honors should only be bestowed as a reward for honest, faithful, and continued service.”

We know that masonic codes provide that a Master shall not be entitled to the Past Master's diploma until he has served one term. There might be some difficulty in the practical application of this, were it not that when the term for which he was elected expires, unless he has been expelled or suspended, he has “served” his full term, although he might have been prevented from being present in his lodge at a single meeting during that time.

As usual, the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Librarian present very much of interest, and need to be read in full to be appreciated.

We regret to learn that the copies of the Proceedings, prior to 1890, have all been exhausted, so that it is impossible to supply libraries with them; but this is of not so much importance, as in all probability the statement of Bro. PARVIN, that copies of their Proceedings are in more public libraries than those of any other Grand Lodge, is correct.

He states, however, that the library building is crowded already—the necessary result from making the library a general one rather than a strictly masonic one.

He complains in very strong terms of the abuses of the word “masonic” in connection with the “Benevolent Aid and Insurance Association,” and he speaks of one in particular, but as we believe that it is not trying to do business in this jurisdiction, we omit further reference to it. This one, however, he says had been forced, apparently, to drop the word “masonic” from its title, and Bro. PARVIN says that within two years the amount at risk had shrunk from nearly two hundred million to fifty million, and Bro. PARVIN adds, “and still the cry is of further reduction.”

In relation to the question of dimit, the committee say:

“As to the dimit question referred to by your Grand Master, your committee are of the opinion that membership in a lodge should be voluntary. For admission to the lodge we require that the act must be voluntary on the part of the applicant, and we feel that to be consistent we should permit withdrawal from a lodge to be fully as voluntary. If a brother finds no attraction in the beauties of Masonry—if he is unable to form ties and associations which make his membership therein a pleasure to him, he is really out of his proper sphere, and should be permitted to sever those connections which are distasteful to him. If the original object of his membership was based on mercenary motives, and disappointment to him is the result, as it should be, he is not and never will be a mason at heart, and the Order is better off without him than with him, so let him go freely and peaceably.”

As to the other matter mentioned in the Grand Master's address, they add:

"Your committee feel that they cannot endorse the plan which results in the making of club-rooms of the apartments in use by the lodge. We admit, and insist, that the lodge rooms should be made as comfortable and attractive as possible, and that all reasonable entertainment should be provided for our members, to the end that attendance would be a pleasure to each and all, but those pleasures ought to be of such a character as to aid in the real work and objects of the lodge; but we fail to see wherein the admission of billiard tables and the like could inure to the benefit of the lodge, and are of the opinion that the ultimate result of so doing would be to detract from the attendance in the lodge room proper."

We have to pass the reports of the Committee on Library, and in relation to the Fraternal Dead.

The committee on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington make a condensed statement of the facts and of the law, and close by expressing the earnest wish that the Grand Lodge of Washington will rescind its former action and place itself in line with the well recognized doctrine and masonic sentiment of this country.

The Past Master question was solved by the adoption of the following:

"Any officer of the Grand or Subordinate Lodge may resign his office; *provided*, however, that no member shall be entitled to the honors of a Past Master until he shall have served one full masonic year as Worshipful Master."

For all this, when a Master is installed and has received the Past Master's degree, he is a *masonic* Past Master, and while the Grand Lodge of Iowa may deny him the honors due to his rank, he is still a Past Master.

The report of the Committee on Chartered Lodges takes up several pages in the Proceedings, and we wish every Secretary in the country could read and study it.

A good deal was done towards correcting the errors which had existed from year to year; and the committee reports that Masonry had been in a healthy and prosperous condition.

The committee also calls attention to the advantages to be gained by the election of a thoroughly competent brother to the office of Secretary by the lodge, emphasizing the fact that it ought not to be given to a person merely for the sake of the stipend that it carries with it, but should be given to a business man, competent to perform the duties.

As an indication of the manner in which this report was appreciated, we quote the following "episode":

"Brother Fellows (144), Past Grand Master, in a most happy manner surprised the Grand Lodge, and especially Deputy Grand Master Miller, presiding, by stating that he had been commissioned to bring a serious charge against him, in that, in connection with Past Senior Grand Warden Lambert, he had by his indefatigable service succeeded in bringing regularity out of chaos and confusion in the returns of the several lodges, and placing

them upon such a basis as that the report of this year shows that all returns are correct and dues paid, for which he had a slight memorial to present him; and thereupon he waved in his presence a series of flowing ribbons, red, white and blue, which, upon inspection, were found to conceal a beautifully wrought gavel, which he placed in the hands of Brother Miller, who had already learned its use, and made it manifest by using it. Notwithstanding his surprise, Brother Miller made an amusing response."

We call attention to the statement in relation to the gavel as bearing upon the question with which we have already discussed, that the gavel is the emblem of authority.

An effort was made to amend the Constitution, in respect to its membership, and we are very glad to find that the following report of the committee was adopted:

"*First.* To the proposed amendment to Section 1, Article II, wherein the 'Wardens' of the several chartered lodges and the 'Deputy Grand Secretary' be deprived of membership in this Grand Lodge, either in person or by proxy, we recommend be not adopted.

"*Second.* To the proposed amendment to Section 4, Article II, wherein all past elective Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, except Past Grand Masters, be deprived of membership in this Grand Lodge, we recommend be not adopted."

We believe that it would have been a severe blow to the strength and efficiency of the Grand Lodge, had the amendment been adopted.

The session, while a busy one, was a very harmonious one, and a large amount of business was transacted which our space does not permit us to notice.

A page inscribed with the American flag, is devoted to "Our Heroic Dead of the Army and Navy."

The Report on Correspondence (Page 132,) was presented by Bro. J. C. W. COXE.

In his opening he refers to the questions which have been already discussed and to public events, with a very beautiful reference to those who have "laid down the burden and the care." His general review is rather a condensed abstract of the Proceedings but with occasional comments.

He thinks that the question of returning money in case an applicant fails to present himself for initiation should depend upon the circumstances of the case. If the failure is for a good reason, the money ought to be returned, but if the reasons are frivolous, it should not be.

He quotes the decision of the Grand Lodge of England, that a man convicted of felony, and sentenced to penal servitude, ceases at once to be a member of the lodge to which he belonged.

Referring to Bro. ROBBINS' report, he is not prepared to concede that it is as an improvement on the former method. He does not state, however, the point which in our judgment is the stronger, and that is, that it leads rather to discussions on masonic law and procedure, and omits a statement

of the standing condition, etc., of other Grand Lodges, to give information concerning which was the original object of these reports.

He takes exception to the sweeping character of proclamations of Grand Masters cutting off masonic communications with Peru, on the ground that they make no exemptions in favor of such masons as repudiate the objectionable decree of Grand Master DAM. We do not regard the objection well taken, for the members of the obedience of the Grand Lodge of Peru must take the consequences of the action of that body, whether they approve of it or not. Such exemption as our brother suggests is practically impossible.

In his review of Maine, he calls attention to a mistake of ours, in our notice of his report, wherein we are printed as saying, "unsupported evidence," when he wrote "unexpected evidence." We regret that the mistake occurred, but it was one of the consequences of using a stenographer.

He further says:

"The discussion of the Wisconsin proposition is quoted approvingly; and the paragraph in reference to mixed funerals, which our brother says that he does not quite understand, or else disagrees with a part of it. He knows of no masonic law or usage to prevent the members of a lodge of masons from marching together at a masonic funeral, provided the lodge is not opened and the brethren clothed as masons. Nor do we know of any law to prevent those same men from marching together to a Memorial or a Fourth of July celebration or to an operatic performance or agricultural horse trot, if they so choose; but they would so do as men, not as masons. In the case referred to by Grand Master Ball, permission was officially asked for an appearance *as a lodge*, though without masonic clothing; which Brother Drummond says is 'a thing which under no circumstances whatever do we think should be done.'"

Our trouble is this: we hold that a lodge cannot appear as a lodge in its *masonic sense unless it is in masonic clothing*, and therefore we assume that the word "lodge" was used in the ordinary sense. That is, that those composing the lodge should march together and be known in the procession as "the lodge," and we hold further that it should not appear in this way, without a dispensation from the Grand Master. The illustrations which our brother gives are not in point. For if either of the things should be done by parties using the name "masons" and claiming to be masons, everyone participating in it should be disciplined.

The Grand Master discusses somewhat the Gran Dieta, and recommends that the matter be referred to a special committee. The committee on his address, however, sent it to the Committee on Jurisprudence, but the Grand Master not noticing that, appointed a special committee, but we believe that the report was finally made by the Committee on Jurisprudence. Grand Secretary PARVIN noticed this matter in his report, claiming that the record is right and substantiated it with a letter from the then Grand Master.

While we understand that the position of our brother upon this question is very much like our own, for the reason that we are not satisfied with the

information which we have obtained, yet as this position is antagonistic to that of Bro. PARVIN and his own Grand Lodge, he seems to us to have drifted into a position of very sharp partisanship in opposition to the Gran Dieta.

He says:

“There has been, from the beginning, a lamentable want of straightforward manliness on the part of responsible officials of the Gran Dieta, and the substitution therefor of characteristic Spanish intrigue and duplicity. ‘The Cretians are always liars,’ quoted Paul in his letter to Titus. We might substitute another word for ‘Cretians’ and appropriately use the same quotation. The expedients resorted to in order to secure recognition rival Bret Harte’s Heathen Chinese ‘for ways that are dark and for tricks that are vain.’”

While there is too much truth in this assertion, he fails to recognize the fact that the fault complained of in this quotation is as but a drop in the bucket as compared with the same fault on the other side.

While he expresses the conviction that the Grand Lodge of Washington made a serious mistake, he holds that the primary question is one of *courtesy* to other jurisdictions, and that the rights of courtesy only have been invaded.

Of course we utterly dissent from this view of the case, and from the following propositions which he lays down as a part of his views in relation to the matter.

“*First.* The Grand Lodge of Washington has not, strictly speaking, invaded the rights of any other Grand Lodge jurisdiction.

“*Second.* The American doctrine of jurisdiction accords to her the right to recognize as masons citizens of African descent, if she is so minded.

“*Third.* The Grand Lodge of Washington has not, if we understand aright, opened her own lodges to Negroes, nor proposed visitation of Negro lodges.”

We think that Bro. COXE overlooked one other essential matter. It is a part of the fundamental law of Freemasonry as shown in the charges to the Master of a lodge, that a person cannot be admitted as a visitor *unless he was made in a regular lodge.*

The Grand Lodge of Washington decided that the lodges, from which the two applicants hailed, were lodges sufficiently regular to allow its subordinates to admit these parties as visitors, and sent a resolution embodying this statement to the applicants. We regard this, and we do not see how anyone can do otherwise, as the strongest kind of a recognition of the clandestine lodge in Illinois, and the clandestine lodge in Pennsylvania.

It was said quite anciently that “The deed speaks loud the doer,” and we may well say, in spite of all the declamations on the part of the officials of the Grand Lodge of Washington, that this is one of the cases in which “Actions speak louder than words.” As to the second point there should be added, “provided they are made in a regular lodge.” The third one we have already answered.

In another place later on, he adds:

“*Fifth.* The Grand Lodge of Washington went much further than was necessary in response to a request from two individuals who claimed to be masons, but whose claims (apparently) were subjected to no real test. The petitioners were unduly dignified by the action taken by the Grand Lodge.”

We do not agree: we hold that a man cannot be admitted as a visitor into a lodge hailing under a Grand Lodge which has not been recognized either expressly or practically by its Grand Lodge, and therefore that this was a question for the Grand Lodge of Washington to decide. However, we have discussed this matter at full length, covering these very points, but as our brother states them specifically, we thought best to notice them specifically.

KANSAS, 1900.

The frontispiece is a fine steel plate engraving of Bro. HENRY C. LOOMIS, the retiring Grand Master.

M. W. Bro. CORONA H. BRIGGS, Grand Master of Missouri, visited the Grand Lodge, and was welcomed by the Grand Master, and responded in a very interesting manner.

After referring to the slaughter of the Ephraimites, because they could not pronounce the test word correctly, he adds:

“Tradition says, that in the days when Missouri took perhaps an undue interest in the settlement of the Territory of Kansas, certain stalwart Gileadites were stationed at one of the passages of the Missouri river, and when there came that way, seeking ferriage across the river, a stranger whose covered wagon, goods and chattels, and domestic belongings marked him as a prospective voter in Kansas Territory, they would require him to pronounce the name of a useful article which hung from the pole of his wagon. If he called it a ‘bucket’ he was suffered to pass; but if he said it was a ‘pail’ he was rejected. Those days are past and we all call it bucket now, and whether we hailed from the North, South or East, we are Western men together and glory in our heritage. We are brethren.”

We never heard this before, but we can readily understand that if he responded “Pail” it was pretty certain that he came from New England.

Grand Master LOOMIS, in his address, refers to public events, paying a tribute to the Kansas soldiers and their commander, Funston.

He gives a brief account of the exercises at the Washington Centennial, and adds that he had issued an official communication to the lodges in the jurisdiction, recommending local recognition of the same event, and ordering that the charter, Great Light and jewels of all lodges in Kansas should be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days, and that after that, the flag of our country should be displayed in open lodge at every communication. The result was that exercises were held in one hundred and twenty lodges in that state. He recommended that a general regulation be adopted, that

the flag shall be displayed in every lodge as a memorial to Washington, "as a token of our adherence, as masons, to the great principles of liberty and equality which he loved and lived for, and of our possession of that virtue of patriotism ever inculcated at our masonic altars, and exemplified in the lives and deaths of thousands of our Sons of Light, whose deeds are recorded in our masonic archives."

He had also assumed authority to purchase a flag for the Grand Lodge, and ordered it displayed at that annual communication.

He gives an account of a large number of official acts of a routine character.

The effort in behalf of the Home had been met with marked success, and he had hoped that an endowment fund would be accumulated, the income of which would make the Home self-supporting.

Of decisions he says:

"The usual amount of correspondence has been received asking for light upon questions of masonic law and procedure, most of which were answered by a reference to article and section or note or published decision contained in the Kansas Laws of Masonry in the possession of every lodge. If officers would read the laws made to govern the craft they are locally superintending, they would succeed in building a more symmetrical temple of Masonry, as well as add to their own reputation as masonic students. Of course the number of such letters which every Grand Master is required to answer is immaterial—that is what he is there for.

"Fortunately during the year I have not been called upon to render an opinion as to the construction to be placed upon any section of our law, worthy to be dignified as a decision, and I therefore have nothing of this nature to report."

We are pained to read in his address the announcement of the death of Bro. JACOB DEWITT, who has for quite a number of years been an active factor in the Masonry of that Jurisdiction, although his services have been rendered in the chapter, council and commandery, more than in the Grand Lodge.

A very full report of the Grand Secretary shows that the year had been rather a busy one, and indicates a high degree of prosperity.

His report as Grand Librarian shows that the library is in good condition.

He reports having the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge from 1820 to 1897, inclusive.

The following Regulation, unanimously reported by the Committee on Jurisprudence, was adopted:

"1. It is the bounden duty of any lodge and all Master Masons in this jurisdiction to render to any true and worthy affiliated Master Mason who, without fault on his part, is in distress, such assistance as his necessities may require and their abilities permit, without reference to his place of abode or the location of the lodge to which he belongs.

"2. In the absence of an explicit agreement, no lodge has any claim on

any other lodge in this jurisdiction for reimbursement for sums advanced as charity to, or in behalf of, a member of such lodge or his family.

"3. As under our law, each lodge is required to have a Committee on Charity, consisting of the Master and Wardens, 'who shall dispense the charities of the lodge in such manner as its regulations may require,' (By-Law 85,) therefore, such committee, or at least the chairman thereof, ought in all cases to be consulted by the officers of any other lodge intending to make a claim on the charity funds of a lodge. The express and unequivocal consent of such committee, or of the lodge, should be obtained before any outlay of moneys be made for, or on account of, such other lodge."

We commend this to our Wisconsin brethren as an exceedingly explicit and accurate statement of the law in relation to the fundamental principles of Masonry for the relief of poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans.

When the report of the Committee on Necrology was submitted, its consideration was preceded by prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

During the reading of the report, Bro. THOMAS E. DEWEY was called upon and paid an eloquent tribute to WASHINGTON, and at the close the Grand Lodge was called up and all united in giving the private grand honors of Masonry.

A gavel was presented to the incoming Grand Master, by the retiring Grand Master, in the following terms:

"This being the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in the nineteenth century, I take this propitious opportunity to present, through you, to this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, this emblem of power and badge of authority, to be wielded by you during your administration, and to be transmitted to posterity until future ages find out the right. Take it, sir, and if it be accepted by this Grand Lodge, wield it with the grace and dignity which no one is better qualified to do than yourself, ever bearing in mind the injunction of the four cardinal virtues—Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. Wield it temperately, wield it with fortitude, wield it with prudence, wield it with justice, tempered with charity and moderation."

To this we fraternally call the attention of Bro. BARLOW of Connecticut.

We find the following:

"The M. W. Grand Master presented the Grand Lodge with the badge worn by him at the Washington Memorial Celebration at Mount Vernon, and requested that the same be worn hereafter by the M. W. Grand Master on the second day of the session of this Grand Lodge.

"On motion of M. W. J. C. Postlethwaite, the badge was accepted with the thanks of the Grand Lodge."

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to include with the Proceedings the portrait of each retiring Grand Master, and in addition portraits of Past Grand Officers of this M. W. Grand Lodge as may be convenient."

The Report on Correspondence (230 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN C. POSTLETHWAITE.

We would gladly copy his beautiful opening remarks, but we find that we are writing a much longer report than we intended, and must "put on the brakes."

He discards the word "Foreign" and uses the word "Fraternal" instead: others have done the same. It is a curious illustration of how the original reason for a name is lost sight of in process of time. When these reports originated, this term was used simply to distinguish the correspondence from other jurisdictions from home correspondence, of which the Grand Officers had charge. We continue to use the old term because it correctly describes the correspondence which goes into the hands of the committee, and "Fraternal" does not; and moreover, correspondence is not less "fraternal" because it is "foreign," and no more so because it is not.

His report is a splendid abstract of the Proceedings reviewed, with very appropriate extracts; he comments briefly, but plainly and forcibly, evidently "having the courage of his convictions."

Of the saloon question, he says:

"We cannot see how a man can exemplify the principles of Masonry by selling to his brother that which will tend to lower his manhood, destroy his mental faculties, and bring misery and shame upon his household and his brethren."

We earnestly commend the following to the careful consideration of brethren everywhere, and especially to those of the jurisdictions in which the opposite doctrine prevails:

"We do not believe in the principle of enforced affiliation. There are many instances throughout the world where men have become masons and are not in sympathy with its teachings, who have quietly taken their dimit and ceased to be identified with the Order. Others, entertaining or acquiring religious ideas which in their judgment are inconsistent with the teachings of Masonry, have quietly dropped out, neither of which should be forced to affiliate with the lodge, and being conscientious in their belief, ought not to be placed under the ban of expulsion. True, there are many cases of brethren who sponge their way through Masonry. There are brethren, non-affiliates, who are always ready to be present at a banquet or other entertainment given by masons, but are never ready to bear the heat and burden of the lodge, and who never express in thought, word or deed any of the principles of Masonry. Non-affiliation should be cured by acts of kindness and true courtesy, and the brother who is forced by a stringent law to become affiliated against his will, will never be of any benefit to the lodge except the few paltry pennies that he may pay into the treasury for dues during the year."

We have often thought that if we could take as much interest in retaining brethren, who seem to be losing their interest, as we do in creating interest in candidates, many could be saved from non-affiliation.

If our review of the Indian Territory were not already in print, we would go back and substitute his account of the action of that Grand Lodge in relation to a Past Grand Master's jewel for our own. [The Kansas Proceed-

ings are received when our report is well along, but just before the printer reaches them in alphabetical order, and we are able to give them their place.]

He quotes the remarks of Grand Master Locke in relation to the admission of Catholics, and adds:

"When the writer of this report was installed as Grand Master, he was presented with a petition for a dispensation for a new lodge, to be located in a Catholic community, all arrangements having been made by his predecessor. The lodge was fully instructed and equipped, ready to work, but by reason of the surroundings we thought it inadvisable to locate a lodge in that particular locality, and withheld the dispensation for a time, but our brethren were so persistent, and had expended considerable money upon the assurance of the former Grand Master that they should receive a dispensation; objection was waived, dispensation issued, and that lodge reported an accession of about forty members. A charter was issued, and a number of Catholics had united with the lodge. The priest interfered, and the Catholic brethren informed him that there was nothing in Masonry that would interfere with the performance of their religious duties, that they desired to support him and the church, but were fully determined to stand by the lodge, although they would suffer excommunication. Nothing further was done at the time, but gradually dissensions among the brethren arose, and in less than three years from the date of the dispensation the lodge surrendered its charter, and Masonry was not benefited, but rather disgraced, by the establishment of a lodge in that community. Hence we are in accord with the decision of the Grand Master."

In reference to one matter discussed in our report last year, he says:

"We are not in accord on the subject of attending worship, but, nevertheless, we are constrained to adhere to our position, that every mason has the right to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, and that in that worship white gloves and aprons afford no inspiration. Where the lodge desires to appear in a body at some house of worship, voluntarily on the part of its membership, we have no objection, but they should do so without displaying to the world its regalia. We agree with him in the statement that 'the true mason will tolerate any method of worship.' We believe that to be a principle of Masonry, but it does not follow that toleration means the adoption or practice of that method, but rather that it accords to me the privilege of worship according to my chosen method, and does not authorize me to say to my brother that he must adopt my method of worship. If only for one Sunday in the year, the ancient 'practice should be modernized in harmony with the true principles of Masonry.'"

Requiring another to adopt our method of worship is not toleration. Masons believe in God and in the duty to worship God, but each is bound to tolerate in his brother the *method* which that brother holds to be the true one. We hold that that man is not much of a mason who cannot be present at the worship of God in a method other than his own. The *worship* is the main thing and the *method* a mere incident. As "divine worship" is conducted, each one present worships in his own manner: a Christian may worship according to his own views as freely in a synagogue as in a church. If the position of our brother is correct, we must exclude all prayers from the lodge upon the same principle. Some forty or fifty years ago the claim was actually made and vehemently pressed, that no prayer should be

allowed in a lodge or at any masonic services, in which any one who believes in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man could not join just as if he was making the prayer himself: and that masonic toleration demanded this. But the reply was that that would exclude every body, and masonic toleration requires that every brother should be tolerated in praying according to his conscientious belief. The masonic usage of attending divine worship on St. John's Day has become too well established to be "modernized." It is one of the glories of Masonry that brethren of *different creeds* may join in worshipping the Father of us all, each in his own way and without offence at the way of any other.

Of the Past Master's degree he says:

"We do not believe that the so-called Past Master's degree, be it conferred in the appropriate manner customary anywhere, belongs to the system of Ancient Craft Masonry. There are three degrees and three only. A Master having performed the duties of the office becomes a Past Master by virtue thereof and is not entitled to any additional ceremony, except that of installation and the experience he receives in presiding over a lodge."

But from time immemorial, a part of the ceremony of the installation of a master has been called "The Past Master's degree." It is not a "degree" in the strict sense of that word, but usage is law as to use of words as well as in Masonry. This has been the fact as far back as we can trace *any* ceremony of installation, so we are content to call it by that name.

In his review of Maine, he states that the Grand Representative of Kansas was present at our last annual communication, but he changes the name from ARCHIE L. TALBOT to FRANCIS L. TALBOT. This cannot be allowed: only the Legislature or the Court has power to do that!

We would be glad to notice many other matters in this able report, but we must forbear.

KENTUCKY, 1899.

The frontispiece is a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, JAMES E. WILHELM. We have also a picture of the medal for the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home of Kentucky, as a memorial of HIRAM BASSETT, to be awarded for superior scholarship and deportment. On one side is a likeness of Bro. BASSETT, and on the other the name of the medal with a blank space for the name of the recipient.

We note that of the twenty-one Past Grand Masters, all were present but three, and one of these is not a resident of the State.

Grand Master WILHELM delivered a very full address, made longer by embodying in it various documents and correspondence.

Of the work of the year, he says:

“It is with great pleasure that I am enabled to say that the year just closing has been one of general prosperity. The membership has increased, and the finances of the lodges are in a healthy condition, the number of delinquent lodges being less than has been the case for many years past.

“I have granted dispensations for the establishment of nine new lodges. In every instance I required the petition to have ten or more names signed to it. Several petitions were received with only seven names attached; these I denied, and all but one succeeded in obtaining ten or more names and are now at work. I do not believe that a lodge with only seven members can conduct its affairs properly, especially in the country, when the average attendance, after the first meeting, would be but four or five.”

He was obliged to announce that there had been trouble in three lodges, and he had suspended the Masters, arrested one charter, and cited one of the other lodges to appear and show cause why the charter should not be revoked. Aside from this he says the craft is to be congratulated for the peace and prosperity that have prevailed during the year.

We regret to learn that Grand Secretary GRANT was so ill on the first of January, that he was unable to be installed, but we are exceedingly glad to learn that he had recovered by the eighteenth and was then installed, and we judge from his report that he has been in good health the rest of the year.

They have one curious, and we think unique, provision in their law under which the term of the Grand Secretary begins on the first day of January, although he is elected nearly three months before that. It probably results from some civil law, perhaps growing out of the Masonic Home, although this is merely a Yankee guess on our part.

He had denied several requests to circulate petitions for aid, most of which were in the form of “a chain of letters,” and he holds that this, above all other plans, should be discountenanced.

He says:

“By the operation of the chain of letters system it is possible to penetrate every State and country on the globe, and it would be somewhat inconsistent for appeals for aid from Kentucky to circulate in other Grand Jurisdictions without the consent of the governing power in that territory. During the year past some of the Grand Officers have received inquiries concerning a chain of letters emanating from a source over which this Grand Lodge has no control.”

We had supposed that that form of raising money had become pretty nearly extinct, but the Grand Master is clearly right.

He announced a large number of decisions, many of them dependent upon local law but some of them new. Two of them relate to the Washington matter as follows:

“In 1898 the Grand Lodge of Kentucky declared non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington on account of the action of the latter on Negro Masonry; therefore, no member of a Kentucky lodge can hold masonic communication with any member or lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge of the state of Washington, until the former relations are restored.”

“A member of a lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Washington desires to affiliate with a Kentucky lodge. It is held that he must first sever his connection with the Washington lodge, after which he petitions the Kentucky lodge, setting forth the facts in the case as to his previous membership and the time and place at which he received the degrees and declaring to abide by the laws of this jurisdiction. Should the petitioner be elected the dimit from the Washington lodge should be destroyed by him. The dimit does not come into the possession of the Kentucky lodge for the reason that under existing conditions Kentucky will not recognize it as a certificate from a regular masonic body. Should the petitioner have received the degrees in a Washington lodge since the severing of our relations with them, it would be necessary for him, upon his election to membership in a Kentucky lodge, to be healed in the manner prescribed in the Book of Constitution.”

The last part of this was not approved by the Grand Lodge.

He had occasion to make two very curious ones, although absolutely correct. The curious part of it is that any occasion for them should have arisen. Apparently the owner of the building in which a lodge met, attempted to prevent the admittance of some one to the lodge, and the Grand Master very properly decided as follows:

“The owner of a building in which a lodge meets has no right to deny any one admittance to the meetings of the lodge. That power is vested in the Master.

“A lodge should at once vacate a building or room where the owner thereof undertakes in any way to interfere with the rights and privileges of either the lodge, its members, or visitors.”

The first part of the following comes very near the line of error:

“A mason who refuses or intentionally fails to pay a just debt, when within his ability to do so, commits a masonic offence. The statute of limitation does not relieve the debtor from the moral obligation to pay the debt, if he be able to do so.”

The following in relation to funerals was announced:

“There can be no joint funeral ceremonies. Other orders or societies first have their ceremonies. The masons then take charge as though no other organization was present, and our ceremonies do not end until the grave has been filled.”

BRO. POSTLETHWAITE, of Kansas, in his report very ably discusses this matter, and we almost regret that we did not copy his remarks in full. We do not see why a lodge cannot attend the funeral of a brother in its organized capacity as mourners, although it takes no part in the ceremony. If such is not the law, we think it ought to be, and this is substantially the position taken by our Kansas brother.

We do not think any Wardens in Maine would give occasion for the following decision:

“A special meeting of a lodge, called and held without the knowledge and consent of the Master, while he is within the limits of the jurisdiction of the lodge, is not a lawful meeting. This also applies to a special meeting called in his absence for the deliberate purpose of transacting busi-

ness or conferring degrees when it is known to be contrary to the Master's wishes or judgment. The Grand Lodge holds the Master responsible for the welfare of the lodge, and there should be no conflict of authority."

We commend the following to the attention of our ritualists:

"Can any part or section of either of the three degrees be conferred on more than one candidate at one and the same time, except the second section of the second degree? Answer—Yes.

"The Grand Lodge is silent upon the question, and leaves it to the discretion of the Master in conferring the degrees, subject to the 'Ancient Landmarks.' In some lodges two or more receive the entire degree at one and the same time. The better plan, in my opinion, and which I have at all times observed, is to confer the first and second sections of the Entered Apprentice and Master Mason degrees and the first section of the Fellow Craft degree upon only one candidate at a time, and then confer the third section of the Entered Apprentice degree, the second section of the Fellow Craft degree, or the third section of the Master Mason degree, as the case may be, upon all the candidates of the meeting for those degrees."

Of the confirmation of the minutes he says:

"The minutes of a lodge is but a record of what transpires, and the approval or confirmation thereof merely signifies that the Secretary has made a true record. When the Master declared the applicant rejected, the rejection had occurred and was a fact. The subsequent confirmation of the minutes was but the placing of the official seal upon the written evidence of the fact and had no effect whatever upon the act itself."

We wish the following could be the law not only in Kentucky, but everywhere:

"A number of surplus copies of the Book of Constitutions were printed several years ago, and in order to get the book into the hands of the brethren I authorized the Grand Secretary to reduce the price to one dollar per copy. Every member of a Kentucky lodge should have a copy of the Book of Constitutions in his home in order that he may become familiar with the laws of this jurisdiction. Every Master at his installation pledges himself or is admonished to study the law, yet every brother who has been honored with the high office of Grand Master will readily testify to the fact that many Masters prefer to write to the Grand Master for information on subjects abundantly provided for in the Book of Constitution."

The two cases in which Masters were suspended were for misconduct in their official capacities.

A lodge was directed to file and try charges against a non-affiliated mason for unmasonic conduct of a serious character, or rather one of its former members, but then under suspension. The lodge incurred quite a bill of expense in the trial—among them the pay of a stenographer, and requested that the Grand Master order the bill to be paid by the Grand Lodge; but he declined, when it adopted some resolutions, a copy of which was ordered to be sent to the Grand Master. One of them might be taken as a reflection upon him, or might be a reflection upon the law of the jurisdiction as expounded by him, but he brought it to the attention of the Grand Lodge as intended to be a reflection upon his official action as Grand Master.

He gives the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington taken in June last; in relation to that, the following recommendation of the committee was adopted:

"Last year this Grand Lodge, after a very able discussion of the matter by the Grand Master and a most convincing and elaborate report from a Special Committee, voted non-intercourse between this Grand Lodge, its subordinates and members, and the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members, on account of the action taken by the Washington Grand Lodge as to Negro Masonry. Since that time the Washington Grand Lodge has taken new action on the subject, the text of which was printed with the Grand Master's address. On reading this paper we find reason to regret that the Grand Lodge of Washington felt impelled to make grave, but vague, charges against its alleged enemies, to couple its formal action with declarations of rather uncertain tenor, and generally to recede from its former action in a rather ungracious way. These, however, are matters of taste. The fact remains that the two objectionable resolutions recognizing clandestine negro lodges and Grand Lodges were expressly repealed, and we, therefore, move the adoption of this resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the resolution of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members, adopted at the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in 1898, be, and the same is hereby rescinded."

BRO. J. SOULE SMITH presented a very able report in relation to visitations of lodges, but the Grand Lodge declined to adopt it. In the course of it he says:

"This Grand Lodge has, from its birth until now, consistently refused to adopt or permit any system of 'book work,' and the late College of Custodians emphatically repudiated a proposition looking toward that result. *There is no authorized book containing the Kentucky work, and there never was.* Kentucky Masonry has not, and will not, set the seal of its approbation on any Judas Iscariot who has bartered his soul for thirty pieces of silver. Therefore the Masonic teacher must be one who can know the false work and reject it.

"Then we are confronted with the fact that few such men exist—possibly there is not one in this jurisdiction. The same man is not often accurate in business details, and philosophic in thought. The perfect Secretary is hardly ever an efficient Master. Different qualities of mind are needed in the two stations, and the masonic teacher must possess the faculties of both. He must be able to instruct in minute details; he must be able to elucidate the outgrowth of profound principles. No such man was ever known to the writer of this, nor does he live in hopes of ever seeing him."

We have already made the same suggestion, and the craft may as well understand first as last, that if perfect work is to be required, that is, perfect according to the standard adopted in advance, some aid to memory must be used, or the requirements never can be complied with. We believe that the present insistence upon giving *precisely the same words* every time the work is done, has led to a breach of masonic obligations and caused the existence of the evil which every one admits and deplors, but is powerless to remedy. We believe that every lodge officer should be required to commit the work to memory, so as to give the work correctly in substance. We do not agree that a workman may substitute his own language for that of the ritual,

and undertake to convey in his own words the ideas of the ritual, but at the same time, we believe that if he gives it in substantially the regular form, it is sufficient, and is all that ought to be required.

The question of honorary membership came up under a decision of the Grand Master, "That honorary members are not vested with any of the rights and privileges of active members." This applied wholly to a person not an active member of a lodge. Of this kind of honorary members, the committee says:

"The lodge may give an honorary member the privilege of the floor, but only when there is no objection to his presence by a regular member. As we see no reason why an honorary member may not be permitted to address the chair, when there is no objection, we think that decision might be misunderstood, but with this qualification we give it approval."

Inasmuch as these privileges can be given, under the same circumstances, to anybody, it would seem that honorary membership, in that jurisdiction, is the mere compliment of an election, without any privileges going with it.

Of the twenty-fourth decision, the committee well says:

"Decision 24, which says that a failure to pay a just debt is a masonic offence, and that the statute of limitation does not relieve from the moral obligation to pay, if able, is abstractly correct and in a line with a previous decision. But we cannot see that it furnishes any rule which can generally be practically useful for the guidance of the craft. The less a masonic lodge has to do with controversies over the property rights of its members the better. Experience has shown that a masonic lodge is not an efficient tribunal for the trial of property rights between members. But how else can it be determined whether a member owes a just debt or whether he is able to pay it? Happy is the lodge that never has a masonic trial, but they are sometimes unavoidable. To undertake to extend them to rights of property, which can only be enforced by the laws of the land, is, we think, highly inexpedient. This does not prevent friendly arbitration of questions of difference between masons, which is often to be commended. As confirmatory of this opinion, we refer to Regulation 532, which says along with other good reading, 'Keep out of the courts if you can, but don't take your law-suits into your lodges.'"

The committee approved the action of the Grand Master in regard to the payment of a bill to the stenographer, before mentioned, holding that the Grand Lodge was not legally liable for the bill and that the equitable consideration was for the finance committee to determine.

We note that the Grand Lodge had lost two Past Grand Masters during the year, HARVEY T. WILSON and REGINALD H. THOMPSON, the former over eighty years of age, the latter but a little over sixty.

Bro. THOMPSON was in the meridian of his usefulness to the craft and to humanity. The Kentucky Masonic Home owes much to him; in the office of Grand Master he won great credit. An exceedingly earnest man, with the full courage of his convictions, of sound judgment, and of almost intuitive perception of right, he was a tower of strength to the craft. His death

will be lamented not only at home, but wherever the record of his acts shall be read.

The Report on Correspondence (pages 148) was presented by Bro. JAMES W. STATON. We are exceedingly glad to welcome back our brother to this branch of masonic service, especially as he confesses that the work suits him better than any other duty which he has ever been called upon to do in connection with Masonry. This is one reason why his reports are so valuable. When the writing of this report becomes a task and is performed from a sense of duty, it is certain that it lacks that interest which is given to it, when it is written for the love of it.

He returns to the alphabetical arrangement, saying that he is not an admirer of the topical method.

As heretofore, he prepares an abstract of the proceedings, with very few extracts. Indeed, the number of extracts, leaving out edicts and resolutions, may be counted on one's fingers. The preparation of such a report involves a great deal of mental and manual labor, but evidently with him this kind of labor is a pleasure instead of a task.

In one respect we shall not follow his example, for we shall quote his comments. The following from his review of Arizona, is in line with what we are saying a good many times, and we commend it most earnestly to the attention of the craft:

"It is strange that in these latter days so many Solomons (?) come to the surface who imagine that the fathers did not know the teachings of Masonry, but that it has been reserved for these so-called great lights to instruct the latter day masons. Better stick to the old ways. They brought our fathers safely through, and they will land those of us in these latter days if we only stick to them. If we want to keep the stream pure we must not muddle the fountain."

Referring to the charge that those who have criticised the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington have spoken too sharply, he well says:

"The Grand Lodge of Kentucky is not in the habit of going behind the bush to speak honeyed words on so important a matter, involving the peace and harmony of the American Craft, and for what she has uttered on this subject we have no apologies to offer, and if 'more vigorous than elegant or fraternal,' our only apology for it is that the necessities of the hour demanded it. We believe in applying vigorous remedies to necessitous cases."

Those to whom he replied do not seem to appreciate that our duties to Masonry are greater than our duties to any brother, and if a brother so far forgets himself as to wage war upon Masonry, he forfeits all claim to masonic consideration.

Of the Wisconsin plan, the following brief extract shows his opinion:

"The lodge says it is ready to pay the amount authorized, but it had not the ability to pay the excess. If the Colorado lodge exceeded the specific amount authorized by the Arkansas lodge, it certainly has no moral or legal right to collect more than the amount authorized."

Of the non-payment of dues he well says:

"The subject of non-payment of dues is one that is hard to deal with. Divers measures all over the land have been suggested and adopted to hedge against the fearful inroad made on the body of the craft, growing out of suspension for non-payment of dues, and the best minds of the craft are puzzled to know how to adjust the subject for the greatest good. It has worried the brain of this writer to no little extent. A large portion of the delinquency of members in the payment of dues grows out of the negligence or carelessness of Secretaries of lodges in neglecting the collection of dues at stated periods. We make this declaration because of personal experience and observation. This writer could give a rugged experience on this subject if he had the time. It is much easier to pay \$1 at stated periods than it is to allow dues to accumulate up to \$5 to \$25, and then have payment demanded. While members are not to be wholly excused from looking after this matter, yet Secretaries are more guilty than the delinquents in failing to keep the members advised of their indebtedness."

It is certain that in this case, an ounce of prevention is worth a good many pounds of cure, and if Secretaries would zealously attend to their duties, the practical results would be very different. But as a rule the Secretaries are not blamable. The lodges have adopted the policy of expecting a brother to pay his dues of his own accord, at the meeting of the lodge.

We have already remarked that the office of Secretary is a *business* office, and to have business done well there must be corresponding compensation; and we fully believe that if lodges would pay the Secretary a reasonable amount for collecting dues by personally calling upon the members, they would not only make money by collecting dues that otherwise would never be paid, but would save many members who are now lost.

Further referring to the Washington matter, and replying to Bro. COXE, of Indiana, he well says in relation to the late Bro. THOMPSON:

"If Brother Coxe had known Brother Thompson as well as did this writer he would have known that his temper, so called, was only an earnestness in defence of a just cause. He was a warm defender of that which he conceived to be right, and as bitter in his denunciation of that which to him seemed to be wrong. That he was right in his views on the subject under notice this writer undertakes to say there was not a shadow of a doubt. When a great wrong is about to be foisted on the Fraternity, in which the peace and happiness of the Grand Lodges of America are to be greatly disturbed, there is no time to use honeyed words. Sharp, quick action is what is needed in the premises, and in this the Grand Lodge of Kentucky took the lead, and in this the distinguished Grand Master, who is accused of becoming 'somewhat heated' in his discussion, and the committee who presented the report upon which Grand Lodge acted, and the Grand Lodge, which acted with perfect unanimity in the vote, have no apologies to offer whatever."

In his conclusion he says:

"Perpetual jurisdiction over candidates is not settled yet, and there is little hope that the question will be settled. The Maine proposition has not received much encouragement. Neither side seems willing to compromise on five years, even."

Our good brother has not observed what has been done, we think, so closely as we have. There were two propositions involved in the plan proposed by our Grand Lodge. First, that a rejection has the same effect everywhere, as it has in the jurisdiction in which it occurs. Second, that there should be a reasonable limit to the time in which that effect shall be in force, which our Grand Lodge fixed at five years, at the same time stating that it would yield to any other length of time deemed reasonable, that sister Grand Lodges might see fit to adopt. Both propositions have been sanctioned by quite a number of Grand Lodges. Some have sanctioned the first who have not sanctioned the second. But one of the signs that the matter is making progress, is the fact that the proposition was adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States at its last session, changing the time, however, from five years to three.

It was expected, when the action was taken by our Grand Lodge, that the progress toward this end would be very slow.

But every step taken was an advance, and once taken would never be retracted. In fact, the doctrine has made more progress than we expected at the time the action of the Lodge of Maine was taken.

LOUISIANA, 1900.

The Grand Master, A. C. ALLEN, in his address thus forcibly describes the duties of masons, and at the same time defines the object of the institution:

“We should so act and teach its doctrines, not only here around our secret altars, but out on the by-paths and within the crowded centres of life, so that a doubting and a cynical world will be forced to know and appreciate its salutary power and utility—will welcome the light of its truths as emanating from the heart of a great and potent school of casuistry, whose work is the uplifting of mankind, and whose everlasting strength is ‘supported by those two mighty pillars, morality and science’; a synthetic philosophy whose craftsman, through all the centuries of its existence, have been assiduously engaged in the work of beautifying, adorning and elevating human character; in building up human intellect and ethics as far as human effort can, to that high standard set by the Supremest Excellence for the guidance of men. Masonry has always been an advocate of order; whether in civil government, in society or in morals; and an inveterate enemy of disorder and vice in whatever guise they might present themselves.”

We wish that this could be impressed upon the minds of every brother, and especially our teachers in masonry.

He refers to the statement in his address of the year before, that Masonry, on account of financial distress and misfortune that had embarrassed the people of his jurisdiction, had not prospered appreciably during the present year, and when he urged the brethren to assume additional financial responsibility, they accepted the task, and he now says:

“And right loyally have they responded with the fruits of their labor. The ‘brighter era,’ then devoutly wished for, is dawning; the relief has come, and, I believe, come to stay, brought about by the individual efforts and sacrifice of the craftsmen of this jurisdiction alone. The numerical strength of the Order has increased remarkably over that of the year 1898; the bonded debt of this Grand Body has decreased far beyond our expectations; the subordinate lodges have been active and vigorous in their work, and the spirit of Masonry among us has been given a new impetus indicative of larger and broader results for the future.”

This will be cause of great rejoicing everywhere, and we congratulate our brethren of Louisiana most warmly, upon the manner in which they have met the crisis in their affairs, that threatened almost the life of the Grand Lodge.

He refers to the Centennial of Washington, and regrets very much that the brethren whom he had requested to attend, were unable to be present. We join greatly in the regret, for we had hoped that we might again meet some of our brethren from that jurisdiction.

In regard to the Washington matter, he quotes the resolutions that his Grand Lodge had adopted the year before, and adds :

“Since the adoption of that resolution, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington, at their last Grand Communication, proclaimed to the masonic world a prolix declaration of principles, which, for its obscurity and evident disingenuousness is, to say the least against it, remarkably unique. That Grand Body had previously subscribed to the following doctrine: That constituent lodges in its jurisdiction are permitted to recognize as brother masons, negroes who can trace their origin to Prince Hall Lodge, No. 459.”

* * * * *

“Her last declaration, when fully analyzed and stripped of its beclouding verbiage, shows that the Grand Lodge of Washington has not yet receded from her untenable position, but rather that she has taken an advanced stand in its support.

“She has, it is true, specially repealed the resolution recognizing spurious masons who trace their origin to Prince Hall Lodge, No. 459. Yet, in the same breath, she arrogates to herself, as I understand it, and to her subordinate lodges, the right alone to receive and fraternize with persons claiming to be masons emanating from spurious lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions. Her words are conclusive of this construction: ‘Nor can this Grand Lodge consent to tolerate the idea that her lodges do not possess the plenary rights to determine for themselves—but for no one else—subject to review by nobody but herself, the *status* of all persons, claiming to be masons, who knock at their doors, either for the purpose of visiting or as applicants for affiliation.’

“The physical right to do this by the Grand Lodge of Washington cannot be questioned. She is a sovereign body. But when she declares to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana that a spurious mason emanating from this State—who is no mason here—may be admitted to fraternal relations with the masons of Washington at the mere dictum of her subordinate lodges, this Grand Lodge, in the exercise of that same sovereign power, should, in behalf of regular Masonry, and constituted authority, maintain the edict of non-intercourse.

“Your resolution commands the continuance of the edict ‘as long as the Grand Lodge of Washington recognizes spurious masons.’ Her recent dec-

laration gives the plenary right of judgment to her subordinate lodges. For these reasons I have refused to attempt to re-open fraternal relations with that Grand Body."

The question of "Joint Occupancy" continued to be one "of unabated worry and trouble" to the Grand Master, during the recess of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge had expressed itself against it, but left the question in every case to be determined by the Grand Master according to circumstances.

Of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge he says:

"The financial condition of this Grand Lodge, as shown by the reports of the Committee on Finance, not only places our institution on a sound and solid basis, but is conclusive of the fact that we have indeed passed beyond, and have triumphed over, the embarrassments that so seriously threatened us one year ago."

This is justified by the fact that the floating debt of three thousand dollars had been paid during the year, and the bonded debt reduced almost thirteen thousand dollars.

He answered the question whether the marriage of a Master Mason's daughter to a man not a mason, relieves the brethren from their obligation to aid her when in distress, as follows:

"A Master Mason's daughter is always a Master Mason's daughter, when worthy. And when poor and distressed, she has a right to ask the protection of masons."

He decided, and it was confirmed by the Grand Lodge, that a dimit when properly authenticated by the Grand Secretary of the jurisdiction in which it was granted and satisfactory evidence of the identity of the holder, constitute lawful masonic information.

A case came before him in which an accepted candidate of one lodge applied to another lodge and was admitted, and he decided that the man was a lawful member of the lodge in which he was made. The committee comments sharply, however, upon the action of the last named lodge, declaring that after election he remains the work of the lodge electing him, until it waived it.

The Grand Master says:

"When a year had elapsed after his election, he lost the privileges it had bestowed upon him. The lodge could not re-invest him with those privileges without requiring him to conform to all the rules and delays which were necessary before his first application was considered.

Now if this is accurate, the law in that jurisdiction is the same as in Maine, with the exception of the length of time; and our Grand Lodge decided that when the time expires and the right gained by the election is lost, the whole effect of the election has terminated and he can apply to any other lodge without regard to it.

The report of the Grand Secretary shows that his office had been a busy one during the year, and busy in a direction showing activity among the craft.

We quote the whole of the part of the committee's report which refers to the Washington matter:

"We regret to know that the Grand Lodge of Washington has not receded from its objectionable position, but has rather re-affirmed it. The matter at issue was the declaration that a man made in a lodge proclaimed clandestine by a Grand Lodge holding jurisdiction in the territory so invaded, was authorized by the Grand Lodge of Washington to be received as a lawful mason by a subordinate of said Grand Lodge. That in the case at issue the men were negroes, or that they hailed from lodges derived from Prince Hall Lodge, were but instances. The repeal of a resolution favorable to them, or the adoption of another in place of it, declaring all lodges of Prince Hall obedience clandestine, would not meet the matter at issue. It would simply introduce the 'color line' and the question of race prejudice, and these issues the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has not and will not raise. The declaration of the Grand Lodge of Washington, substituting for its resolution in favor of two clandestine negroes, hailing the one from Ohio and the other from Florida, or from wherever else they came, a resolution authorizing its subordinates to be the sole judges, subject only to an appeal to itself of the status of all persons claiming to be masons who knock at their doors, is a declaration that they may, if they will, admit and fellowship with men claiming to be masons, who have been clandestinely made in a lodge planted, we will say, by the Grand Orient of France in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, or in a lodge planted in New York or New Jersey by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg. We affirm that it is a fundamental principle of American Masonry that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has exclusive jurisdiction in Symbolic Masonry in Louisiana, and that all lodges in said State claiming to be masonic, and not under her authority, are clandestine, and that the Grand Lodge of Washington cannot legitimize them; that a threat to do so is unfraternal, violative of the principles of Masonry, and therefore can only be met by a refusal to fellowship with a Grand Lodge who so wanders from those principles that are necessary to maintain its own proper masonic character.

"We most sincerely regret the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and are exceedingly sorry that they have cut themselves off from us, and the great body of masons, and trust that they will, before long, give us opportunity to again hail them as true masons."

The following resolution offered by them was adopted.

"Resolved, That the opinion of the M. W. Grand Master that the time has not yet come for the resumption of fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington be adopted as that of this Grand Lodge."

We question gravely the correctness of the position of the Louisiana committee. As already stated, the suspension of masonic intercourse—a grave course to take—should only be decreed for *overt acts*, and that declarations, however erroneous as to what the Grand Lodge declares it has the power to do, and will do in the future, are not sufficient.

We have no idea, as we have already stated, that those declarations are anything but a sort of masonic fire-works, and that the Grand Lodge of Washington will never allow or justify the practical putting in operation of the declarations of that report.

In this connection the following is of importance, and touches upon one point made by our Washington brethren, to wit: That a subordinate lodge has the inherent right to admit any visitor whom it sees fit to admit, and that its determination of the question of his regularity as a mason is conclusive,—a doctrine, so far as we have ever seen, for the first time broached by the Grand Lodge of Washington to sustain itself in this controversy:

“ In the matter of the resolution of R. W. Brother Lambert, *in re*, the visiting of lodges of our obedience by men claiming to hail from lodges in Central and South America, under Grand Lodges not recognized by this Grand Lodge, your committee report: Foreign relations must, of necessity, be controlled in this jurisdiction solely by the Grand Lodge. It is a matter pertaining to her sovereignty, which she has not, and cannot, delegate to her constituents. Such rights, even in federal governments of the most limited kind, cannot be exercised save by such federal authority. A lodge should not admit to its proceedings any visitor hailing from a lodge under a jurisdiction not in fraternal intercourse with this Grand Lodge. Let it be understood that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana desires to fellowship with all legitimate Grand Bodies everywhere, who hold to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, and will gladly do so. But let it be equally understood that there are bodies of clandestine masons. This Grand Lodge is ready carefully to consider the claims to legitimacy of any, or all, of the Grand Bodies of Central and South America, or elsewhere, with whom we are not now in fraternal intercourse, and will gladly do so. But if they desire recognition, we take it that propriety requires that they should first ask it. We consider the proposed regulation highly expedient, in order that lodges may be put on their guard, and come to appreciate the fact that not they, but this Grand Lodge alone, is the judge of the legitimacy of foreign Grand Bodies.”

There is no Report on Correspondence, but a resolution was adopted requesting the preparation of one for next year.

MANITOBA, 1899.

As usual, the Grand Lodge was welcomed by the officers of the town in which it met, and by a deputation from the lodges which waited upon the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master suitably acknowledged the compliment.

The Grand Master, GEORGE B. MURPHY, delivered a brief address, in which he gives a succinct account of his official acts. He had granted dispensations for four new lodges and rendered a few decisions. One was to the effect that an applicant for the degrees of Masonry is not debarred from admission to the craft, who has lost his left hand; in another case, he held that he is debarred if he has lost a foot. He had granted several dispensations; among them to lodges to hold meetings, pending the issue of a new charter, the original having been destroyed by fire.

He states that harmony had prevailed throughout the jurisdiction, only one complaint having been made during the year.

Of the condition of the craft, he says:

“It is a special pleasure for me to note the fact that Freemasonry is in a prosperous condition in this jurisdiction. Judging from the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters which have reached me, an increase of membership is to be observed, and the lodges, as a whole, are well attended and the work carefully performed. I observe also in the notices of meetings sent me by the Secretaries of the subordinate lodges, that a goodly number are petitioning for the degrees of Masonry. This indicates that we have an era of prosperity before us.”

He states that the constant flow of immigration into that province, from all parts of the world, brings a large number of masons who are taking up their residence there. Many of them are non-affiliated, having taken their dimitts before they left home. He recommends that efforts be made to induce all worthy masons to join the lodge, and in that connection he suggests, that those lodges which have an affiliation fee, of which he states there are a number, should abolish it.

He recommends that a Grand Lecturer be appointed, as soon as the circumstances of the Grand Lodge will allow it.

The Deputy Grand Master reports the visitations of five lodges, accompanied by some of the Grand Officers; he does not go into details, but believes the visitations had a very good effect, and he remarks that there seems to be a *concensus* of opinion, that there should be but one ritual.

The District Deputies report more in detail, and as a whole report the lodges in a very good condition. One of them earnestly recommends that a library be established in each district, to which each lodge should contribute, and the works be circulated among the lodges.

The Grand Secretary reports the organization of five lodges, *v. n.*

He gives in detail an account of the dispensations which had been issued, and gives other particulars of interest to the Grand Lodge.

The Librarian's report shows a handsome increase in the library and the maintenance of a reading-room in connection with it. The Library committee was instructed to issue a catalogue of the masonic books in the Grand Lodge Library, and to make such arrangements that members of the subordinate lodges, with the permission of the W. Master, may obtain books from it.

We note that one of the lodges for which a dispensation was granted, was in the district of Yukon. The Grand Master had had correspondence with the Grand Master of British Columbia, as to which Grand Lodge should have jurisdiction, and the Committee on Jurisprudence came to the conclusion that the Grand Lodge of Manitoba has not special jurisdiction over Yukon, but that it is what is commonly known as “unoccupied territory.”

There was no report from district number six, and the committee thus explains:

“There is no report from Battleford. There is darkness in the ‘black North.’ The ‘grim reaper’ has brooded over District Number 6, and cut

down the goodly tree. The brave, genial, whole-hearted soldier and mason, R. W. Bro. John Cotton, D. D. G. M. of that district, is no more. His work was finished, and it was in very truth finished, and he was called. As a soldier Major Cotton was known over the whole North-west territories and throughout Manitoba as a brave, intelligent officer; as a citizen he was loved and respected as a sterling, straightforward, honorable, upright man, and as a mason it is requisite only to point to his standing in Grand Lodge. To his widow, the daughter of the late M. W. Bro. Honorable Thomas White, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, your committee offer their most respectful sympathy."

The Grand Lodge declined to recognize the Grand Orient of Belgium, on the ground that the treaty between the Supreme Council and itself may be abrogated on giving six months' notice. By its abrogation the Supreme Council would undertake to exercise complete control over all lodges in that country. As the treaty has been in force since 1880, we are decidedly of the opinion that if the Supreme Council should abrogate it, it would be impossible for it to obtain control over the lodges, or affect the interests of the Grand Orient. We are also assured by the representative of the Grand Orient of Belgium at the Washington Centennial Exercises, that the Supreme Council regarded the six months' clause as *functus officio*, and that time has already demonstrated that there was no occasion for the insertion of that article in the treaty.

In relation to the Washington matter the following was adopted:

"Your committee has had under consideration the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, in recognizing as masons two negroes claiming to hold masonic standing from the Prince Hall Lodge, of Massachusetts.

"While in no manner or degree recognizing any 'color line' in Freemasonry, your committee cannot but feel that in this matter the Grand Lodge of Washington has done serious wrong.

"The Prince Hall Lodge originally held a charter from the Grand Lodge of England. Even in its first constitution there is serious question whether the Grand Lodge of England had any right to constitute a lodge in what had then become a foreign jurisdiction. However that may be, the Prince Hall Lodge became practically extinct, thus losing any rights it may have acquired by its original constitution. Upon its revival, an application for recognition was made to the Grand Lodge of England, and this communication was never replied to. The Prince Hall Lodge, from which a number of negro lodges hold, had then no valid masonic existence, and as such, all holding from it must be treated as clandestine masons.

"While we would not advise so severe a measure as the withdrawal of masonic recognition from our sister Grand Lodge of Washington your committee would recommend that its finding on this matter—if such commend itself to Grand Lodge—be communicated to the Grand Lodge of Washington, leaving until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge any further action that may seem to be necessitated by the course of the Grand Lodge of Washington during the next year."

Relations were revived with the Grand Lodge of Peru; and a resolution was adopted that if application should be received for affiliation, or should visitors present themselves, from any jurisdiction which has not been recognized by the Grand Lodge, no action should be taken until the case is sub-

mitted to the Grand Master. This last provision has always been regarded as law until the opposite was suggested by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Rules were adopted in relation to the use of the Grand Lodge library. One of them provides that a number of works of practical utility on Masonry be distributed to each District Deputy Grand Master, to be delivered by him to his successor in office.

A large amount of routine business was transacted, but none of it of general interest.

There was no Report on Correspondence.

MARYLAND, 1899.

The proceedings of the May and November communications are in the same pamphlet. The business in the May communication was entirely of a routine character.

A brother, who occupied the old Masonic Hall, in excavating in the cellar, found a gavel, which he presented to the Grand Lodge, who turned it over to the Veteran Association.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, THOMAS J. SHRYOCK, in a brief address, says that harmony prevails, and that the fraternity was never more prosperous than now, and that they were at peace with the Grand Lodges of the world.

He congratulates the Grand Lodge that at its suggestion, the Grand Lodge of Washington had rescinded its resolutions, and he trusted that that closed the incident in the United States, and that peace and harmony will once more prevail.

From what we have already said, it will be seen that our M. W. Brother's hopes are not likely to be realized at present.

While he had performed a large number of routine acts, none are of general interest.

Two sets of Bro. SCHULTZ's history were ordered to be sent to the State Librarian, application having been made for a copy.

The brethren of Iowa, at a very early day, under the lead of Bro. PARVIN, appreciated the importance of placing their Proceedings in public libraries, but with few exceptions, we think the importance of this is not sufficiently appreciated in most other jurisdictions. In our Maine State Library, there is quite a collection of masonic works, due very largely to the exertions of individual brethren.

A large committee was appointed to attend the Washington Centennial Exercises, and we are very glad to say that we enjoyed the great pleasure of meeting there many of our Maryland brethren.

The Report on Correspondence (pp.114) was again presented by our beloved brother, EDWARD T. SCHULTZ.

He had expected, owing to the entire loss of his eyesight, to resign from the committee, but the Grand Master declined to accept his resignation, in which he was endorsed by the unanimous vote of the Grand Lodge, and Bro. SCHULTZ therefore, with the aid of a reader and an amanuensis, had proceeded with the duty; he presents us with another of his old time reports, save that there is less of discussion in them. He does not favor topical reports, because they are very apt to become essays upon various subjects, and do not fulfill the original object of these committees, whose duties, as he understands them, are to *review* the transactions of other Grand Lodges, and commend such as, in their opinion, are conformable to the regulations, landmarks and usages of the fraternity, and to criticise such laws as may be deemed at variance therewith.

This is indeed a true view, and such a report is of much more interest to the craft generally, than the topical reports can be.

He believes that the Washington incident may be considered closed, so that he omits mention of it in the review of their Grand Lodge; but under the head of Washington he gives, somewhat at length, the action of that Grand Lodge. After giving this action, he comments upon it as follows:

“While the Grand Lodge of Washington has complied with request of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and the other Grand Lodges named to rescind what we regard as obnoxious legislation, the tone of some parts of the foregoing declaration is not to be commended. On the contrary, in the opinion of your committee, some of the declarations are almost as objectionable as the resolutions repealed; but the Grand Lodge of Washington having complied with the request of the Grand Lodge of Maryland to reconsider its legislation, the incident so far as we are concerned may be considered closed.”

Referring to the Washington Report on Correspondence, he says:

“It is to be regretted that the temper in which these subjects are treated by both authors is not likely to promote harmony or heal the breach existing between the Grand Lodge of Washington and its sister lodges.”

We greatly rejoice that our brother is thus able, although at great disadvantage, to continue in this work, and we hope that he may be able, as he becomes wonted to the situation, to comment with his usual ability.

An appendix is devoted to the Centennial Anniversary of the death of GEORGE WASHINGTON. A circular had been sent out to the lodges, directing them to assemble in public or in private, and commemorate the occasion. Washington's Farewell Address was published, together with an exceedingly interesting paper by EDWARD T. SCHULTZ, intitled “Washington as a Free Mason.” The lodges in Baltimore assembled in the Temple, where a brother read Washington's Farewell Address. Bro. GEORGE SAVAGE delivered an address and also read Bro. SCHULTZ's paper, and Bros. JOHN M.

CARTER and ALFRED J. CARR made brief addresses; brief reports of the observances of the occasion by other lodges throughout the State are also given.

The observances of the day were really a wonderful success, and we have no doubt that good will result from the observances, both in the promotion of patriotism and interest in Freemasonry.

MICHIGAN, 1900.

The frontispiece is a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, FRANK T. LODGE.

The Grand Lodge met at high twelve, in Detroit, and was welcomed by the Mayor and a representative of the Detroit lodges. The Grand Lodge was then opened, vacancies in committees filled, and then called off until 2:30 in the afternoon. At that time, a delegation representing the Grand Lodge of Canada, including the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary, were received and welcomed, and Grand Master MALONE, of Canada, replied, and concluded by presenting to the Grand Lodge a beautiful loving cup lined with gold, from the visiting delegation. The Grand Master responded, and others of the Canadian brethren spoke briefly, but with fervor and eloquence.

The "Roll of Honor" was then called; it includes the Past Grand Masters who had previously died. At this point the Grand Master called up the Grand Lodge, and made official announcement of the death of Past Grand Master JOHN S. CROSS and delivered an eulogy.

The Grand Secretary then proceeded to call the roll, after which the Grand Master delivered his address, and the Grand Secretary and Treasurer made their reports, and some other routine business was transacted, when the Grand Lodge called off until the next morning.

The reports contain nearly one hundred and twenty-five pages. We "guess" that they were presented in print and not all read, for if they were it must have been at a late hour when the Grand Lodge called off.

We give all this in order that our brethren may see how affairs are managed in this Grand Lodge, and with a view of their determination whether we can find any suggestions to make in improvement in the opening of our own Grand Lodge.

Grand Master LODGE delivered a very long address, but apparently no longer than the very large number of lodges and the large amount of business incident thereto, made necessary. He welcomed the Grand Lodge to Detroit, and speaks of Detroit so eloquently as to almost make even a man from Maine willing to live there! His address otherwise, is of a very prac-

tical character, and we quote the following as applicable here in Maine according to the statement of our Finance Committee:

"I think that it will not be out of place for me to remind the delegates that they are here in a representative capacity and that they have been sent here for a specific purpose. Their mileage and per diem is paid by Grand Lodge, and Grand Lodge is entitled to their time and services until the session is closed. We want the benefit of the best thought of every one of you, brethren. We want you here during the whole of the session, from the time that the session is first opened, until the time when the officers are installed. It is too common a practice for the delegates to begin to scatter to their homes as soon as the election is over, and before the officers are installed, so that, many times, if a call for a quorum should have been made, it would have been found that the officers had been installed in the absence of a constitutional quorum."

This evil undoubtedly prevails in all Grand Lodges, and while some are of the opinion that the wisest course is to take no notice of it, there is a belief on the part of many, and among them we include our Finance Committee, that mileage and *per diem* should be paid only to those who come to the Grand Lodge and *stay there during the session*, or else of abandoning the system of paying anything. It is a fact that in the half day in which the most important business of our Grand Lodge (beyond the election of Grand Officers) is transacted, the number of representatives of lodges has been smaller than at any other time during the session.

Grand Master Lodge says that he brings the record of a peaceful, pleasant and prosperous year, and gives a statement showing a growth of that Grand Lodge until it has become fifth in the number of its membership. He gives some statistics, also, in relation to lodge rooms. He says that one hundred and fifty-nine lodges occupy rooms which are owned by themselves alone or in connection with other Masonic Bodies. Many of them are in debt on account of their hall, but the largest debt is on the Detroit Temple.

The Grand Master refers to the legislation of the last Grand Lodge, requiring non-affiliates to join some lodge before February first, 1900, and to the certificates given to those who would withdraw, containing a provision that they would no longer be entitled to the benefits of Freemasonry, and he adds:

"In connection with this legislation, the question has arisen in my mind as to the proper method of punishing those non-affiliates who, after due notice, fail to obey the requirements of Grand Lodge by neglecting to petition some lodge for affiliation. The provision referred to provides that, after the first day of February, A. D. 1900, those non-affiliate brothers who have failed to petition some lodge for affiliation shall, by virtue of that fact, stand suspended from the benefits of Masonry. This I believe contrary to the genius and spirit of Freemasonry. The laws of every civilized country provide that no man shall be deprived of his rights without due process of law,—his 'Day in Court,' so-called. How much more, then, should Masonry, whose proud boast is that it dispenses even-handed justice, afford every one of its members an opportunity to make his defence before summarily severing fraternal relations with him. In my opinion, the legislation already adopted should be rendered effective by providing for giving proper

notice to all voluntary non-affiliates on the filing of charges against the offenders, making it the duty of some one to prefer the charges, etc., duly defining the tribunal where those charges shall be brought to trial."

He is right, but he has neglected the most important part of it. He ought to have gone further, and called the attention of his brethren to the fact that this legislation is utterly at variance with the landmarks of Freemasonry, and such legislation as no Grand Lodge has the rightful power to adopt. Under the landmarks of Freemasonry, a man has the right to be a non-affiliate if he chooses, and the only penalty is that he loses the right to participate in the privileges growing out of the lodge organization. We do not believe that any brother, claimed to be suspended from the benefits of Masonry by this self-acting law, loses any rights, save in Michigan and such other jurisdictions as have adopted the same laws; and we believe, moreover, if the suggestion of the Grand Master is carried out, and they actually try a brother for being non-affiliated, and suspend him, and the brother goes into another jurisdiction, that no Grand Lodge in the country will give the least effect to such unlawful proceedings.

It has come to be that the non-payment of dues is estimated, in many jurisdictions, to be the worst crime that a mason can commit, and he is punished more severely than for gross breach of the moral law. But this provision out-Herods Herod. However, we presume the craze must have its run, although we are very glad to notice that a reaction has already begun to set in.

The Grand Master discusses somewhat the adverse ballot and objection to advancement, and he sustains very strongly the right of every member to do so, on the ground that it prevents the injection into the lodge of an objectionable brother, thereby causing discord. Of the proper course to take, he says:

"In my own lodge, I have never had any trouble in obtaining a frank and open discussion of the merits of a candidate and having an objection to him openly stated, but it has always been accomplished by my stating frankly that my feelings would not be hurt if the candidate was not admitted, nor would I become angry at hearing any objections which should be urged against him. In many cases, I have myself stated the objections in the strongest manner possible, although the candidate had been proposed by myself. In the case of a really good candidate, there is always a satisfactory answer to these objections; and, after stating the objections, I would proceed to answer them, the result being either that I was satisfied that my candidate ought not to be admitted or the objecting brother was satisfied that his objection ought not to be made. This is the only masonic way to handle such matter. It is the only way in which perfect harmony can be preserved in our institution. It is the broad-minded, liberal spirit which our fraternity inculcates; and, if pursued in the lodges, it will, in the course of a few years, go a long way towards preventing the casting of an unfavorable ballot from unworthy motives."

In former times this was allowed, but in later days it has been deemed an

infringement on the rights of members, and in most jurisdictions this course would not be allowed.

This change in the practice has grown out of the fact that the proceedings in the lodge have not been kept as lodge secrets, but the parties disappointed have made them known to outsiders, and strife has arisen to some extent in the lodges, but at the same time a careful observance of the results, leads us to believe that it would be better to return to the old way, and then punish severely any brother who should reveal out of the lodge, what had taken place there.

He urges upon Masters that they should cause the Constitution and Regulations to be read, not all at once, but a part at every meeting. In this connection, he says:

“The crying need of Masonry, to-day, is, fewer hopper-made masons ground out of a degree factory, and more intelligent, earnest, loyal masons, who are thoroughly acquainted with the principles of our ritual and jurisprudence and imbued with that love of it which greater knowledge always brings.”

He gives a long list of official acts performed by himself or by a Deputy and an account of his visits, which we have not time to note in detail, and he had been compelled to cancel several engagements on account of serious illness.

He announced that he had renewed the commission of M. W. Bro. FESSENDEN I. DAY, as representative near the Grand Lodge of Maine, and in this connection he reflects with some earnestness upon the failure of Grand Representatives to attend the session of the Grand Lodge, and he had caused the Secretary to notify all the Grand Representatives to be present at that session, and he states that a very large number of them were, and he expected to call upon them to make some statements in relation to the jurisdiction which they represented.

It had been suggested to him that this would save the necessity of a Report on Correspondence, but in relation to this he says:

“On reflection, however, I am inclined to doubt the advisability of the course. We do not yet know whether the custom of having verbal reports from all of the Grand Representatives will be faithfully observed each year. The practice of printing the correspondence reports, and thus giving to all who wish to read them a synoptical view of the progress of the fraternity throughout the world is so universally observed as to be almost a part of the interstate and international comity of the craft. A great many of our own 42,000 masons read these reports with interest. By our action at last session, we provided against an abuse of the system by limiting this report to 100 pages of the Proceedings, and I believe that, thus limited, it is amply worth the small amount it costs.”

He thinks, however, the regulation adopted the year before, limiting the report to one hundred pages, would be ample to provide against an abuse of the system. One thing is certain, *he never wrote such a report* or he would

never have made such a statement, and we think that the report this year will prove to him that this legislation was very unwise.

He gives a very interesting account of the proceedings at the Washington Memorial Anniversary.

He announces a number of decisions, and discusses many of them at considerable length.

The following question had been submitted to him:

“ I want to publish and sell a masonic directory containing a list of all the masons in the city, their occupations, business and house addresses, home and business telephone numbers, a classified business directory and advertising cards of masons, charging a reasonable price therefor. Can I legally and properly do so.”

He treats it at some length; the substance will be understood from the following:

“ I believe that the time has come to stop this sort of Masonry and put an extinguisher upon this sort of masons, although it may cause us some trouble to do it. A foul atmosphere is never cleared, however, except by a thunder storm and the crash of the elements; but, if we ever get it done, our fraternity will be much stronger than it is now.”

Another question related to the publication of printed bulletins issued by the different lodges, containing announcement of the fact that candidates named therein would be voted for at certain meetings, the date of which would be given. We have heretofore expressed our decided opinion that even publishing the names of candidates for admission to the lodges upon the notices of the meetings, is a violation of masonic law, and contrary to the ancient usages of the craft.

The matter involved in this question shows the natural result of breaking over the old rule to any extent.

He states his own views as being against this method of publishing the secrets of Freemasonry, but in consequence of some prior decisions he submitted the question to the Grand Lodge, having requested the officers of the lodges not to make such publication until it should have been acted upon by the Grand Lodge.

He decided that the recent legislation in relation to dimitts does not apply to members who come from, or desire to affiliate in, other jurisdictions.

He decided that a hall cannot be occupied for masonic purposes until it has been dedicated. This is carrying the doctrine of dedication to an extent which would have made our fathers open their eyes to their widest extent in wonder and surprise.

The pastor of a church being erected wanted to have the corner-stone laid by a lady member of the church, with the assistance of the fraternity, the lady really taking the place of the Grand Master. Of course he decided that it could not be done.

He decided that a dimit issued by a clandestine lodge, and put in the pos-

session of the lodge for the purpose of an application for affiliation, must of course be returned to the party who deposited it.

He decided that if it is found impossible to conclude a trial in one evening, the matter may be continued to some other time and taken up again at that time, but that all the members of the lodge should be notified. Under the law, the last part would not be necessary, for the adjourned meeting would be a continuance of the first meeting, of which every member has had the notice required by the by-laws.

There are others of the decisions which we would like to notice, some new, but still so unlikely to arise in our jurisdiction that we pass them over.

He discusses to quite an extent also, the question of physical qualifications, saying that under their law he is forced to the conclusion that "No person who is not physically perfect in his limbs, members and senses is eligible to receive the degrees in that jurisdiction as the law now exists." Yet we have a very strong recollection of meeting brethren from Michigan, who were obliged to wear spectacles before they were admitted to the institution.

No provision having been made for a place to keep the library, no additions had been made during the year, except the Proceedings received from sister Grand Lodges, and the Grand Secretary recommends that an appropriation be made to bind them.

The condition of the lodges is reported to be a very prosperous one, the addition to the membership being the largest that had been made for several years.

It seems that certain "colored masons," so called, presented a petition the year before asking recognition. The committee report upon it, taking up the allegations in the petition, and considering them from a historical standpoint, and come to the following conclusion:

"1. The questions now presented to Grand Lodge were fully settled by Grand Lodge in 1874, and we see no reason for repealing or altering the same.

"2. Petitioners state in substance that they are members of lodges working under the jurisdiction of Michigan Grand Lodge (colored) which was established in this city in 1872.

"Your committee offer the following resolutions:

"1. *Resolved*, That the legislation of Grand Lodge in 1874 and in 1882, be and the same is hereby re-affirmed.

"2. *Resolved*, That the prayer of the petitioners for recognition by this Grand Lodge, for the reasons above stated, be and the same is hereby denied."

The same committee also submitted a brief report in relation to the Washington matter—brief, because they understood that the objectionable legislation had then been rescinded. We cannot help saying, however, that the last paragraph of the report seems to us to treat the recognition of clandestine masons and clandestine lodges as altogether too slight an affair.

The Grand Lodge, upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, approved the decision of the Grand Master in relation to publishing the names of applicants in a bulletin.

In regard to his recommendation or decision as to attending divine service, the committee say:

“We do not wish to discourage attendance upon divine services, but such service is not a masonic service. As lodges we have no right to sanction that which we cannot compel observance of. Each member has an absolute right to his own views as to what are and what are not religious or divine services, and the majority of the members of a lodge have no right to determine that question for him.”

While agreeing with the Grand Master in his decision, in regard to a case of discipline, the committee say further:

“While the decision of the Grand Master is undoubtedly sound, yet your committee think it is advisable in all such cases to await the determination of the suit in the civil court, for the reason that action in the lodge might prejudice the defence in the trial of the criminal case in the civil court, and undoubtedly would influence a jury prejudiced to him, and this, although the two tribunals are independent of each other.”

We think that this is stated too positively. In this State it was decided that the matter is within the sound discretion of the lodge, or, upon appeal, for the Grand Master to decide. We do not think the reason given by the committee is a sufficient one, especially in these days, when trials in court are so prolonged, as they are in most jurisdictions.

It was also decided that when the Grand Master constitutes a lodge, dedicates a masonic hall, or lays a corner-stone, it is not a session of the Grand Lodge, although the Grand Master may call to his assistance for any of these purposes, any members of the Grand Lodge, or any of the brethren. This decision is contrary to the practice of every other Grand Lodge so far as we have observed, except one—Pennsylvania—and in that jurisdiction the ceremonies are not performed by the Grand Lodge at all.

The following resolution, adopted in 1898, was re-affirmed:

“Resolved, That this Grand Lodge frowns upon the sending out of letters, circulars or solicitations for support from delegates for any elective office in this Grand Body.

“That it is highly improper for a candidate in hopes of strengthening his canvass to open headquarters in true political style.

“That the delegates should write their own ballots for their choice on the slips which are passed by the tellers.

“That the purpose of the ballot is to give every delegate a perfect free, private and uninfluenced expression for an honor which will then be worthily bestowed.”

In addition the following resolution was adopted:

“Resolved, That any constituent lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction wishing to present the name of a brother for any office in this Grand Body, shall make its request known to the Grand Secretary, through its Secretary, and

under its seal, and that the names of candidates thus received shall be presented by the Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge at its annual communication."

The majority of the committee reported in favor of the approval of the decision of the Grand Master in relation to physical qualifications. One member of the committee dissented and presented a minority report, which was adopted, making the test the following:

"Neither shall a lodge confer any degree upon a candidate who is physically incapable of receiving and communicating, masonically and perfectly, all that is required by the ritual and work of the several degrees."

This conforms substantially to the law as it exists in Maine, and really in most other jurisdictions.

At the previous session of the Grand Lodge the request of the Gran Dieta of Mexico was referred to a committee, which presented its report at this session. It is over twenty pages in length, so we cannot give it in full nor even notice all the points in it.

To say that we are disappointed in the *character* of this report is putting it very mildly, although we anticipated that the conclusion would be against recognition.

One of the reasons given in the early part of the report is that a man from Michigan, "respected and esteemed" at home, having but one arm, went to Mexico and received the three symbolic degrees in a lodge under the Gran Dieta.

The committee, evidently anticipating the reply to this, at once admit that their Grand Lodge continues to maintain masonic relations with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which sanctions the very same thing, and one of whose lodges had conferred the degrees on a one-armed man from Michigan, without the consent of the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resided, and yet the committee say that he "is a brother beloved, whom we are proud to hail as a mason."

But they say:

"But this Grand Body will bear in mind, in the present connection, that when fraternal relations were asked by this Grand Lodge with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and full acceptance was by us had and held of all and every feature constituting the rules, edicts, methods and workings of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and all such forms, customs and methods by them followed and observed were by us received and accepted without reservation on the part of this Grand Jurisdiction and have so since remained intact."

In other words, the Grand Lodge of Michigan is willing that the powerful Grand Lodge of Scotland shall do this, but in the case of the Gran Dieta, struggling for existence, such practice is a mortal offence! The committee, by their argument, admit that their reason is not a *masonic* one but one growing out of policy.

We in Maine put the Grand Lodge of Scotland on the same plane that we

do all other Grand Lodges; if they make masons of parties residing in Maine, without the proper consent, such parties will not be recognized by us as masons: but we do not deem such practice sufficient cause for refusing masonic recognition to the bodies themselves.

The committee also give as a reason for their conclusion, that the Grand Dieta recognizes and holds masonic correspondence with the Grand Orient of France. This would be a good reason, if it were founded in fact. Of this they give no proof, but assume that it is so, because the Grand Dieta excluded the Bible from its altars. As we have never seen the slightest evidence to sustain the assumption, we cannot admit the correctness of the conclusion founded upon it.

But we pass on to notice the formally stated conclusions of the committee:

“First.—That the Gran Dieta Symbolica, as at present constituted, in so far as your committee can learn, is clandestine, and has become such by its own illegal action. It has introduced into Masonry innovations diametrically opposed to the constitution, edicts and usages of regular Masonry, by conferring the degrees of Symbolic Masonry upon women, by chartering female lodges for work on the degrees of the Blue Lodge by allowing women to visit and sit in lodges with male members; by publishing the ritual of Freemasonry and permitting the same to be widely disseminated, to the lasting injury of the craft, and by removing the Great Light of Masonry from its altars.”

“Second.—That in these departures from masonic obligation, the Gran Dieta has bestowed upon women the exoteric work of Masonry, and has farther intensified this masonic crime by seeking to condone its previous action of years, by its edicts, suppressing women lodges, disfranchising women members, and restoring the Great Light to its altars.”

Here is the admission that the Gran Dieta was originally a regular Body, and the same in substance was stated in the historical portion of the report. That women were admitted as masons for a brief time is true, that the Great Light of Masonry was removed from the altar for a brief time is also true; but the Constitution has been changed and the practice under it, so that both now conform to those of our own Grand Lodge.

That a Grand Body which now adheres to the landmarks may properly be recognized, although it has for a time excluded the Bible from its altars, is shown by the course universally taken by the American Grand Lodges in the case of the Grand Lodge of Peru, including, we believe, the Grand Lodge of Michigan.

That a regular Grand Lodge which has allowed the admission of persons ineligible under the landmarks of Masonry, but has ceased the practice, cannot again be recognized, and that a Grand Lodge that has allowed such a person to be admitted, is bound to continue to recognize him, is a novel doctrine, now for the first time announced, and in direct conflict with the usage in the past.

It is proper to say that this doctrine did not originate with the committee but was taken by them from an article in a newspaper.

- The committee say further:

“Your committee does not understand that the Grand Dieta is before this Grand Body, on trial for these masonic offences, but the fact is nevertheless fully apparent, that no edict can be in the present case, made retroactive in its effects, nor statutory enactment remove rights and benefits formerly masonically bestowed. The repentance expressed in the petition of the Gran Dieta, if it be honestly such, is ineffectual as a condona of the high-handed abuse, perpetrated against the fundamental principles of Freemasonry by the Grand Dieta, nor can it be received as a satisfying substitute, covering consequences, which may have been and possibly will continue indefinitely, as the concomitant result of these evils. Therefore, your committee are reluctantly forced to doubt the sincerity of these Greeks, bearing gifts.”

And yet they add:

“Third.—In its tacit consent to the removal of the Great Light from its altars, the Gran Dieta has forced upon the great family of regular Masonry an unknown quantity of spurious and clandestine masons, fully supplied with all the requisite knowledge by which to pass the lawful tests as masons, visit lodges and claim boldly all the rights and benefits of Masonry, while not being entitled to the same, through the irregularity of their obligation, thus creating confusion in the craft.”

That is, they are not *trying* the Gran Dieta, but all the same refuse recognition of it, as a punishment for the offences which it has committed, and of which it has repented!

The committee give other reason and their final conclusion as follows:

“Fourth.—That the Gran Dieta wilfully transgressed the first obligation in Freemasonry by publishing and promulgating the ritual of the symbolic degrees, of which fact your committee stands fully convinced.

“Fifth.—That in its petition for recognition, the Gran Dieta has been guilty of fraud and deceit, in stating that it was recognized by all the Grand Lodges of Europe and Asia, among which your committee finds no recognition whatever, of this Gran Dieta, on the part of the Grand Lodge of England, or the Dominion of Canada.

“Sixth.—The Gran Dieta is a national Grand Lodge, exercising jurisdiction over Grand Lodges, which is un-American and not in harmony with the American doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty.

CONCLUSION.

“Your committee rests fully assured, that this petition for recognition, by this Grand Body, on the part of the Gran Dieta, is largely influenced, more by a desire to ingratiate itself into the good graces of regular Masonry, than from any sincere desire to sustain and maintain, the constitution, laws, edicts, and ancient observances, of the institution, and judging from the past record of the Grand Dieta, your committee cannot recommend it to the confidence and full acceptance of this, or any other Grand Body of regular masons, working in strict accordance with the ancient landmarks and laws of the Order. Therefore in view of all the foregoing facts your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

“Resolved, That the prayer of the petition of the Gran Dieta Symbolica of Mexico, presented to Grand Lodge, at its last annual communication, asking for recognition as a body of regular masons, by this Grand Lodge, be and the same is hereby denied.”

They give no evidence of the truth of the "Fourth," but we have reason to believe that their information came from an expelled mason whose dealings with the officers of the General Grand Chapter show that "the truth is not in him." It is stated by Bro. HEDGES, of Montana, that there are eighteen lodges controlled by citizens of the United States, and we are slow to believe that they have gone farther in the direction indicated than is gone in many of the jurisdictions in the United States.

That the fifth reason was not a mistake instead of "deceit" the committee give no evidence; it would be so foolish on the part of the Gran Dieta officers to make such a claim, knowing it to be false, that we do not believe such was the fact.

As for the sixth, the relation of the Gran Dieta to the Grand Lodges resembles very much the relation of the Grand Lodge of England to its Provincial and District Grand Lodges, save that the latter do not have so much power as the Mexican Grand Lodges, and while the practice may be "un-American" it is not unmasonic, and is not in the slightest degree open to the objection that it is "not in harmony with the American doctrine of Grand Lodge Sovereignty." Our own General Grand Chapter system is a sufficient proof of that.

The "conclusion" of the committee indicates to us that they have unwittingly been misled by, and become the partisans, of a disreputable element in Mexico, utterly undeserving of any consideration whatever.

The Report on Correspondence, fifty pages, was presented by Bro. JEFFERSON S. CONOVER. His conclusion is as follows:

"My task is finished and I am glad of it. I do not think this report is worth the paper upon which it is written, but it complies, in all respects, with the instructions given me, and such as it is, it is."

He gives under each jurisdiction a very brief statistical statement. Limited as he was, of course it is impossible for him to perform the other part of the duty of these committees as defined by Bro. SCHULTZ, and he must omit any criticisms of the methods of other Grand Lodges, and cannot even notice those of the proceedings of his own Grand Lodge.

His report is a valuable one, as far as it goes, and so is a *dictionary* very valuable, but for ordinary people the latter can hardly be said to be "interesting reading!" In a jurisdiction in which one hundred and twelve pages are required for the report of the Grand Master, a less number gives the writer of the Report on Correspondence a decidedly limited sphere!

MINNESOTA, 1900.

The frontispiece gives a splendid portrait of Bro. JOSEPH H. THOMPSON, Grand Treasurer "1878-1901"; we think the last number will have to be changed; "since 1878" would be better, as it will be carried for years to come, if our brother survives, as we trust he will.

At the opening, all the Grand Officers were present and the largest number of lodge representatives ever assembled: during the session 200 of the 210 lodges were represented, and twenty permanent members were present.

Past G. Master WILLIAM G. BELL, of Manitoba, was present and received with the honors.

The Grand Master, ALONZO A. STEBBINS, announced the deaths of Past G. Master ALPHONZO BARTO and Bro. STILES RAYMOND, a member of the Board of Custodians since its organization. Tributes were paid to their memories,

He had restored the charter of one lodge, but his account of the lodge looks very much as if his action will prove premature: he found the members deficient in masonic knowledge and urged them to have a school of instruction, but had been greatly disappointed that they refused the services of the custodian.

He had granted six dispensations for new lodges, from all of which he had received good reports.

He says:

"It has been the custom every five years for this Grand Lodge to authorize the publication of a revised edition of Todd's Digest, and this is the year for such publication. If this is decided on, I would recommend a careful revision, eliminating such decisions as are mere repetitions, and especially to have prepared a comprehensive index. Then, if the Grand Lodge Constitution were to be published in the same book, the completed work would be most valuable to the subordinate lodges. The digest, as it is, is indispensable, but with the work published as indicated the lodges would commit fewer errors, and the Grand Master's work would be materially lessened."

His recommendation was adopted and Grand Secretary MONTGOMERY and Bros. TODD and WELLS were appointed to carry it into effect. Bro. TODD's work is one of the best of the kind; and when the additional matter is put in it will be still better.

The report of the Grand Secretary shows that the business affairs of the Grand Lodge are in excellent condition, and the craft prosperous.

Of the Library, he says:

"As Librarian, I would report that hundreds of the proceedings of Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, Grand Councils, Grand Commanderies and bodies of the Scottish Rite, many of them bound, have been added to our shelves the past year, as well as about 200 volumes of our own Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter proceedings, which I had bound at home. A copy of 'Jewels of Masonic Oratory' was donated by the compiler, L. S. Meyer.

I have purchased for the library Mackey's great work on Freemasonry, in twenty-one numbers, Robertson's 'History of Freemasonry in Canada,' in two large volumes, a history of fraternities, and some minor volumes—all worthy of place on our shelves. I am also in receipt of about twenty masonic periodicals, many of them of permanent value, and occasionally receive masonic pamphlets and circulars of more or less value and interest."

One *very* curious case was before the Grand Lodge: the following preamble and resolutions were presented:

"Whereas, Old St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, was organized under dispensation Sept. 8, 1849, and was one of the original lodges concerned in the formation of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Minnesota in February, 1853, ranking according to the date of its charter, justly and according to established masonic usage as Lodge No. 3, on the roll of the Grand Lodge; and

"Whereas, The charter of old St Paul Lodge, No. 3, was surrendered on Jan. 9, 1856; and

"Whereas, The present St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, was chartered on the following day under the same name and number of the old lodge, the jewels, furniture and property of the said lodge being donated to the present lodge, and it was made up substantially of the same members, and *de facto*, was, is, and has been always recognized as the same lodge; therefore

"Resolved, That on this the fiftieth year of the introduction of Freemasonry into Minnesota, this Grand Lodge, as a memorial of that event, and as an act of courtesy and consideration to the present St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, restores to said lodge its old charter of 1853, now in the custody of the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge. And by this resolution it does restore to St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, to its rank as the third chartered lodge on the roll of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota, and does establish and continue St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, as said original lodge, and does confirm and make valid the work and acts of said St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, done or performed since Jan. 10, 1856, as fully in all respects and for all intents and purposes as if said charter of 1853 had not been accepted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota, and had been during all said time the charter under which said lodge had been working."

They were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which reported as follows, and the report was adopted:

"Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the application of St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, for the restoration of the original charter of said lodge, purporting to have been surrendered to this Grand Lodge in 1856, fraternally report that your committee have duly considered the same, having heard the statements and proofs submitted, and find therefrom that the action and proceedings of said lodge in reference to said attempted surrender were wholly insufficient and irregular, and that such attempted surrender by the said lodge and acceptance by the Grand Lodge was void and of no effect. Your committee recommend the adoption of the following:

"Resolved, That the original charter of St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, granted in 1853, be restored. Further, that all acts and proceedings of said lodge under the charter of 1856 be ratified, confirmed and declared valid."

We were exceedingly curious to ascertain the grounds of this action, and we find an account of it in an excellent history of the lodge by Bro. GEORGE R. METCALF. We judge that the surrender was made to get rid of a mem-

ber of the lodge, who apparently was disposed to object to irregular proceedings therein more strenuously than was agreeable to his associates. It is now alleged and probably true that notice of the special meeting at which the lodge voted to surrender the charter, was given only to those known to be favorable to doing that. The obnoxious member was a member of the Grand Lodge, being a Past D. G. Master. He offered a Preamble, reciting that it was represented to the Grand Lodge that the action of the lodge was taken without due notice, and a resolution ordering an investigation, but they were laid upon the table by a unanimous vote, save his own, and the surrender of the charter was accepted by the same vote.

It was proper and right for the Grand Lodge to right the wrong, even after this lapse of time; but exceptions must be taken as to the manner in which it was done. In 1856, the regularity of the surrender of the charter depended upon whether due notice of the meeting of the lodge was given: that was a question of fact for the Grand Lodge to decide, and its decision was final, so far as the regularity of its own action is concerned: all the more so, because the question was actually raised and was decided by it. Its action may have been wrong, but it was not "void and of no effect," and no subsequent Grand Lodge had the rightful power to declare it so. The Grand Lodge in 1900, had the right to investigate the matter, and find that the Grand Lodge of 1853 had been fraudulently induced to accept the surrender of the old charter, and, for that reason, restore it, but endorsing this action upon the 1856 charter and delivering it to the lodge to be preserved in the archives as conclusive evidence of the regularity of its work while it had worked under that charter.

The principle involved is one of the utmost importance: for if the action of the Grand Lodge, in a matter in which it has jurisdiction, can be declared "void" at a subsequent session, we can never know whether our work is regular or clandestine, and we have in fact no government at all.

A very fine address was delivered by the Grand Orator.

The Report on Correspondence (130 pp.) was presented by Bro. IRVING TODD.

It seems that last year we gave him "M." as initial of a middle name, and he inquires if it stands for "Minnesota." No, it is only a case of "the force of habit." In our schoolmaster days we had a scholar whose given name was "IRVING," with a middle name beginning with "M," with whom we were quite intimate till his death; later we have a brother lawyer whose given name is "IRVING," and he too has "M." for a middle initial!

His report is one of the most compact, "boiled down" abstracts we have ever met, involving careful reading of the Proceedings and a good deal of work.

In his review of Illinois, he says:

"An unusual amount of space is devoted to the fraternal dead in the current volume. The Grand Master has three pages; a special committee on Bro. Hawley, two pages; a special committee on Bro. Cregier, three and a half pages; the standing committee on obituaries, nine pages; the Committee on Correspondence, twenty-one pages; there are also three memorial pages. Of course it is none of our business, but this laudable theme appears to be often greatly overdone, particularly in some of the smaller jurisdictions. In our way of thinking the address should briefly refer to the decease of permanent members only; the obituary committee might confine its write-ups to local brethren; and the distinguished craftsmen from abroad be grouped in two or three memorial pages."

This is a matter to which we have given much thought, and while we agree quite fully with Bro. Todd, we would make exceptions to his rule in the last clause in the case of brethren in other jurisdictions who are well known to the craft in Maine.

Of "topical reports" he says:

"With an experience in compilation of long standing in other lines of labor we can safely state that a creditable report on the topical plan can be turned out in much less time than our present paper, but of course it would be longer, with many things necessarily omitted that should be given to the brethren for whose benefit it is prepared."

In his review of Maine, he quotes two pages from our report, and replies to portions of it.

He cites Bro. PEARSON in reply to our criticism of their method of opening the Grand Lodge. But as this year, "the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM by Grand Master STEBBINS," we have no occasion to continue the discussion.

Last year we said:

"He has revived a method of preparation of these reports that involves much labor, time and study, giving a paragraph containing condensed items that gives much in little to an extraordinary degree."

He thus replies:

"It is true that much labor, time and study are involved in the preparation of our annual reports, but, as they are designed primarily for the benefit of the brethren in Minnesota, it is the intention to give them a correct idea of what other Grand Lodges are doing in as compact a form as possible. If this is the revival of any method we are not aware of it, after having read the correspondence reports of the leading jurisdictions from their first inception to date; and some of the most interesting masonic literature ever published may be found in these reviews of forty and fifty years ago."

Well, quite a number of years ago, we used the same style of report: it attracted the attention of Bro. ROBBINS, of Illinois, and he wrote to us about it, and then adopted it himself; some others did the same; but the practice almost, if not quite, entirely ceased, probably for the same reason that influenced us—it took more time than we could spare; we should certainly return to it, if it were practicable to do so.

Last year we said further:

"In the review of Maine he says:

"Bro. Drummond does not seem to appreciate the difference in status between an application from a candidate who has been previously rejected and an application from one who has not. We can assure him, however, that when an average committee of investigation finds this cloud upon the title, some reliable evidence is required to remove it. Of course the inquiry is prosecuted strictly upon masonic lines.

"To say that we are amazed is putting it mildly. Why, we have almost been called a crank for insisting so strenuously that there is a vast difference between the status of a rejected candidate and one who has not been rejected."

And he says:

"If Bro. Drummond is such a crank in insisting that there is a difference between the status of a rejected and a non-rejected candidate, why has it taken several years to impress upon him the fact that the distinction is also recognized in this jurisdiction?"

We were simply replying to his personal allusion to us. As to the other part, the *law* makes no distinction, whatever the *practice* may be, and we were discussing the law.

In reply to us, he says further:

"There has been no change in meaning of the word order. It is not a synonym of fraternity or society, although often ignorantly or carelessly used as such."

He must excuse us, if we prefer the authority of the "Great Unabridged," which sustains the reverse of his proposition. "The Independent Order of Odd Fellows" is, and has been for many years, a familiar name; the word "Order" has been applied to Masonry for more than a century, and *as usage determines the meaning of words*, the dictionary-makers can do no less than recognize such meaning.

Quoting what we said concerning the adoption of "dependent membership" by the Grand Encampment, he adds:

"As the lodge had nothing to say in the premises we fail to perceive the force of this reasoning, but are rather inclined to the opinion that the regulation is a wholesome one. Candidates are often rushed through the lodge and chapter like a dose of salts, and after donning the white feather they are seen no more in either body. Having attained the, to them, proud pinnacle they are perfectly willing to kick over the ladder by which the ascent was made. The Grand Encampment merely orders that they shall at least help keep the apparatus in repair."

Of course, the lodge has nothing to do with it, and therein lies the evil of *making* it practically say, "If you don't belong to us, you shan't belong to anything." However, we have watched the effect of it pretty carefully, and thus far our prediction has been verified, and we much mistake the signs of the times if the days of that law are not numbered. How much worse off is the lodge, if such persons are members of the commandery, than it is if they are not?

We fully agree in the following, and such was the old practice:

“As a rule the burial of non-affiliates may safely be left to the discretion of the local brethren, who have a better knowledge of the facts connected with each individual case.”

He makes the same criticism of the Michigan table of the “expenses of running the Grand Lodge,” because it includes in these expenses the amount expended in relief, which in Minnesota reaches this year the sum of \$2,800.

These Proceedings include “The Proceedings of the Masonic Veterans Association,” which are full of very interesting history and biography, illustrated with portraits. We have been favored annually with these reports, and we prize them exceedingly. They are now paged consecutively.

MISSOURI, 1899.

The frontispiece is a fine portrait of M. W. Bro. ETHELBERT F. ALLEN, the retiring Grand Master. The Grand Master, Bro. HENRY C. LOOMIS, and other visitors from the Grand Lodge of Kansas, were introduced and welcomed in a pleasant address, to which Grand Master LOOMIS eloquently and fittingly replied.

Grand Master ALLEN, in his address, gives a succinct account of his official acts, which had been very numerous, but most of them of a routine character.

We in Maine, avoid the evil stated in the following, by having our election on the afternoon of the first day:

“The law of this Grand Lodge states that the election of Grand Officers shall occur on the morning of the third day. It is a source of embarrassment to the Grand Master-elect to be compelled to select the chairman of the various standing committees, to make the appointment of the several subordinate officers, to select fifty-five District Deputy Grand Masters, and to make other necessary appointments and arrangements before the installation of officers and the closing of the Grand Lodge session, all of which must be accomplished under our present law in the short space of two or three hours, thus depriving the Grand Master-elect of the privilege of giving time and consideration in the selection of important officers and committees and discharging other duties on which vitally hinges the success of the incoming administration.”

The probability is that this provision was adopted to keep the members in attendance throughout the session.

He had been obliged to arrest two charters for failing to make returns and pay dues, and another charter on account of the unfortunate condition of the lodge and the bitter feeling existing among its members.

He had granted dispensations for five lodges, adding in this connection, that we cannot be too conservative in the formation of new lodges, as an examination of the record had satisfied him that too many weak lodges had already been chartered.

He had, by special Deputies, laid the corner-stone of public edifices in eight instances, and in addition he had himself laid the corner-stone of a new masonic temple in St. Louis.

Of the Masonic Home, he says:

“We are proud of the Masonic Home of Missouri—proud of our boys and girls who are passing with us the spring-time days of their lives, the season when all dreams begin and *end*, as the waves of years come rocking gently beneath them, and bear them out upon the great swell of life's sea. Yes, proud of the aged and infirm who have been faithful to their vows, and who have borne the burden and heat of day, and to whom this institution shall ever be a sweet haven, and a refuge from toil and care.”

The following is based upon the universality of Freemasonry, and we are glad to find that the tendency is in the direction recommended by M. W. BRO. ALLEN:

“In many of the Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge enjoys fraternal relations, Past Masters and Past Grand Masters from sister jurisdictions who have become residents, and have affiliated with lodges within their jurisdictions, are recognized as members; and many brethren who attained the rank of Past Master in this jurisdiction, having become residents of other states, and having affiliated with lodges in other recognized Grand Jurisdictions, now enjoy membership in such Grand Lodges. I know of no reason why a Past Master hailing from a sister jurisdiction who has become a citizen of Missouri, and has affiliated with a lodge belonging to this Grand Jurisdiction, should not enjoy the same privileges and memberships as the Past Masters of our own lodges. We receive the brethren from sister jurisdictions with open arms, they visit our lodges, and we are glad to have them become members if Past Masters; the same respect and courtesy is shown them by the Worshipful Master as if Past Master of some lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

“But the Constitution prohibits membership in this Grand Lodge to all Past Masters, except such as have served as Worshipful Master of a lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

“I recommend that the Constitution be so amended as to recognize as members of this Grand Lodge all Past Masters and Past Grand Masters of recognized Grand Jurisdictions, who have by change of residence affiliated with lodges belonging to this Grand Lodge.”

He held in substance, that when the Grand Lodge reverses the action of a subordinate lodge, and suspends the party charged for a definite time, at the end thereof he is restored to good masonic standing, with the right to petition, but is not thereby restored to membership in his lodge.

He had been called upon in quite a number of cases for decisions upon the question of physical qualifications.

Among them are the following:

“1. An applicant for the mysteries of Freemasonry has left leg amputated below the knee, using an artificial leg, of which he seems to have very good use. He can kneel without much trouble on both knees. Is he eligible? *Answer*—Yes.

“3. A candidate for Masonry has one leg off above the knee, but has an artificial limb which he uses continually; he walks about at pleasure, and can kneel upon both knees. Is he eligible? *Answer*—Yes.

“4. A candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry has lost one foot, but has an artificial one. He is energetic and active, and walks without cane or other assistance. Is he eligible? *Answer*—Yes.

“7. An aspirant for the degrees has lost right limb below the knee. He states that it is impossible to wear an artificial foot, and has none at present. Is he eligible? *Answer*—No.”

The report of the Grand Secretary details in a concise manner, the official acts which have transpired during the year. At the time it was made, fifteen lodges had failed to make returns, and eight, which had made returns, had not paid dues.

He states that the register which was commenced in 1885 had been completed and brought down to the present time; but now the books were filled and a new set must be obtained, and more than thirty thousand names transcribed or another system adopted. Thereupon, by the authority of the Grand Master, he had adopted the card system, and had purchased an outfit, at the cost of three hundred dollars, and he recommended that the Grand Secretary be authorized to employ the necessary clerical assistance to perfect the card system.

In passing, we would say that the card system is rapidly being adopted in all large libraries, and in other places where lists of books or names are required.

The Grand Orator, Rev. Dr. W. W. BOYD, delivered a brief but very able and instructive oration. We are particularly pleased with it on account of his eloquent exhortation that we should prize Masonry as it came to us from our fathers, and transmit it unimpaired to our children's children.

The report of the Grand Lecturer shows that, as a whole, the lodges visited are doing work in an excellent manner.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address says:

“We approve of the dispensations issued by the Grand Master for various purposes, he having acted in each case in strict conformity with the laws of this Grand Lodge and doubtless for the best interests of Freemasonry. We especially indorse his dispensations as to lodges authorizing them to assemble on proper occasions for public worship, and hope this custom will become universal in this Grand Jurisdiction.”

During the session the work was exemplified.

The following resolution, prefaced by an apology, was presented and adopted in relation to membership of committees and officers appointed by the Grand Master:

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Master shall in future use as his guide the list of names enrolled in attendance by the Committee of Credentials, and who are in attendance, and actual members of this Grand Lodge duly qualified by its by-laws to hold office therein.”

This is a departure from the ancient law, and from the best policy. The whole craft of the State is the source from which the officers and committees should be taken, especially the officers. We presume that the object of

the resolution is to secure a large attendance, but we regard the attendance that would be secured by such considerations as are set forth in this resolution, as attendance of little value, and often of positive injury.

The Committee on Mexican Masonry made the following report, which was adopted:

"That we have carefully investigated the subject, and from the information now at hand do not feel that in the present disturbed condition of Masonry in Mexico it is expedient to extend recognition to the Gran Dieta.

"Your committee express the hope that the chaotic condition of Masonry in Mexico will soon terminate, so that this Grand Body may recognize the lodges of our great Sister Republic, united as it is in destiny with our own glorious country in the march of progress, liberty and happiness."

In accordance with the recommendation of the Grand Master, the following amendment was submitted by the Committee on Jurisprudence, and lies over for final action for another year:

"Provided, however, by a majority vote of this Grand Lodge, any Past Grand Master of any other jurisdiction, and any Past Worshipful Master of any other jurisdiction, who shall have been duly elected Master and actually presided as Worshipful Master, in such other jurisdiction, and shall be affiliated with some lodge in this State, may be elected to membership in this Grand Lodge upon submitting proof of his qualifications, as herein provided, to the satisfaction of this Grand Lodge."

Amendments in relation to physical qualifications were also introduced and laid over, the chief one being to repeal the provision adopted the year before, that when a candidate, by the aid of artificial appliances, can do all masonic work, he is eligible.

It will be noted that some of the decisions of the Grand Master were made in accordance with this provision.

The Report on Correspondence (156 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN D. VINCLL. It is almost wholly written, and is a very full abstract of the Proceedings with occasional brief comments; but the comments are so mixed with the abstract, that it is somewhat difficult to distinguish one from the other.

In his review of California, in relation to the Gran Dieta, he says:

"I have opposed recognition simply on the ground of the Gran Dieta being a General Grand Lodge. For a time the bar to recognition was that the body known as the 'Gran Dieta' was not in line with our American idea of Masonry, as shown by Brother Parvin, of Iowa, who investigated matters in that country. He found women lodges, and the absence of the Holy Bible from the altars of lodges, 'The Great Light' being substituted by the Book of Constitutions. In the presence of such facts, no recognition could be accorded. These objectionable features have been removed. I still hesitate to favor recognition because the Gran Dieta claims absolute jurisdiction over all Grand Lodges in the Republic of Mexico. To recognize the principle of such sovereignty over State Bodies, is, in my view, to favor that abomination for which many pray and hope, viz., a general Grand Lodge. I believe that legitimate Masonry in the Republic of Mexico may be made a powerful agent in spreading light and diffusing the principles of a

true patriotism among a priest-cursed people. This view strongly inclines me to waive objections to the General Grand Lodge feature of Mexican Masonry."

Of the doctrine of physical qualifications he well says:

"He assumes that the law of physical perfection, as applied to masonic candidates, is based on the old Jewish law of perfection, and as such has come down to us with similar requirements as a part of our ceremony. Granting that physical perfection is no objection to the making of a mason, provided his internal qualifications commend him to masons, I would ask what defect there is in a man who has lost part of the fingers of his left hand, which should totally disqualify him to be made a mason? This question has been discussed so much that physical perfection, so strenuously contended for on the 'perfect youth' theory that the whole matter has become a chestnut and a back number. It may not be worth while to quote from the old charges that 'A maim or defect in body must be such as to *render him incapable of learning the Art.*' A man a few fingers short on the left hand is as capable of learning the Art, and practicing the mysteries of Masonry, as a speculative or moral institution, as the man who is without maim or defect of body."

The idea that the doctrine of physical qualifications was originally based upon the old Jewish law is so preposterous from the very nature of things, that we wonder that any man of intelligence would suggest it. It is really an undertaking to carry the symbolism of Masonry to a ridiculous extent.

We are glad that Bro. VINCE has joined with us in an attempt to compel the recognition of the whole of the old charge, instead of a mere part of it.

In his review of Delaware, he says:

"M. W. Bro. Watson, Past Grand Master, offered the following resolution, which was postponed until the following day, when, after discussion, the same was not adopted: 'All lodges shall exclude from the lodge room and ante-rooms all intoxicating liquors.' This is the first instance in a long acquaintance with Masonry that I ever heard of 'intoxicating liquors' being allowed in 'the lodge room and ante-rooms.' And it certainly is the first time I have ever known of a Grand Lodge putting itself on record as unwilling to have such 'refreshments' excluded from its lodge premises."

He also urges, in his review of Delaware, that it is the *obligation* and not the *form* which makes a man a mason.

Of the topical reports of Bro. ROBBINS, he well says:

"His work may be properly characterized as a 'new departure,' as he has left the old paths and gone off on the topical line. Bro. Robbins may be properly styled a *strong* writer. While far from concurring in some of his views, I accord him the sincere tribute of being well informed and endowed with vigorous convictions, possessing the courage of them. In undertaking the new method as a reviewer, 'that of condensing results of a survey of the masonic field into one-half or one-third of the customary space,' he necessarily was hampered for want of room. He adopted this course 'at the earnest solicitation of Grand Master Cook.' In carrying out the plan adopted, he saved space but lost that usual sweep and swing so characteristic of him and his writings."

In addition that system leaves out very largely the element of these reports which was the chief object in originating them—that is, some general, even if brief, accounts of the progress of Masonry in each jurisdiction.

In his conclusion, he states that it was his fixed purpose to shorten the work and be brief, but he says he has fallen below the purpose named, and he repeats again emphatically his belief that the old method of noticing each jurisdiction is the proper method of these reports.

MONTANA, 1899.

The frontispiece is an excellent portrait of the retiring Grand Master, M. W. CHARLES W. POMEROY.

The Grand Lodge held a special communication, July 4, 1899, to lay the corner-stone of the new Capitol. The services were performed by the Grand Lodge, opened on the third degree. There were nine Past Grand Masters in attendance. The occasion was one of great interest. An address was delivered by Governor SMITH and an oration by Ex-Governor TOOLE, and after the civil ceremony, the usual masonic ceremony was performed, with an address by Past Grand Master WILBER F. SANDERS.

A special communication was also held to lay the corner-stone of a church edifice in the city of Butte.

At the annual communication, the Grand Secretary reported that all the forty-six lodges had made returns and paid dues, and so were entitled to representation. There was a very full representation of lodges and nine Past Grand-Masters were present.

Of the work of the year, Grand Master POMEROY says:

“The year has been one of singular harmony and good feeling throughout the jurisdiction. While we have gained in numbers yet Masonry lays no claim to the rapidity of its growth. The extension of its principles and their exemplification in the lives of its votaries are more to be desired.”

His address is pretty closely confined to an account of his official action. He had sent out a circular, one item of which asked if the Wardens conferred degrees. Of the result the Grand Master says:

“In twenty-six of the lodges, the Wardens confer degrees. This is an excellent practice, as it results in a larger portion of the membership becoming proficient in the ritual, and qualifies the Wardens for advancement to the office of Master. I would commend the practice to the other lodges of the jurisdiction.”

One lodge replied, “No, none ever learned the work until elected W. M.” One Master answered that it had been done in his lodge, but he did not approve the practice, and nineteen out of the forty-five lodges answering the question, answered in the negative.

An effort had been made to ascertain how many needed the benefits of the Masonic Home, and the returns showed that there were twenty-two Master Masons, four widows and six orphans. The Grand Master thinks

that a more careful census would show that there were more, and he commends the matter to the favorable consideration of the craft.

Among his decisions are the following:

“On the death, prior to installation, of a Worshipful Master elected to succeed himself, the Senior Warden should act as Master during the year.

“The corner-stone of a public edifice may be laid with masonic ceremony, though for physical reasons the stone is placed in other than the northeast corner of the building.

“One who has had his left leg amputated below the knee, and supplies the defect with an artificial foot, is not within the requirements of our craft to receive the degrees.”

The last was not approved, the committee reporting the following as the true law upon the subject:

“A candidate for the degree of Entered Apprentice should be able, physically as well as intellectually, to receive and impart all the essentials of masonic recognition, and this the lodge may determine.”

In their report the committee say, that the Grand Master ought not to be asked the question in any particular case. That is a matter the lodge must determine. One reason is that he may not know all the facts, but only information in a letter which is not sure to contain all the facts necessary for a correct decision.

Grand Master POMEROY had hoped to make a general visitation of the lodges, but had not been able to do so. It seems that no provision is made for the expenses of these visits, and he well says that generally, busy men are elected to the office of Grand Master, who are unable to sacrifice both time and means to do this duty. He suggests that, inasmuch as the railroad fare has been reduced one cent per mile, the amount thus saved be used to defray the expenses of the Grand Master in visiting the lodges, and his recommendation was adopted.

He had been absent a while during the year, and his duties had been performed in his absence by the Deputy Grand Master, who ruled that while service as Warden is necessary to eligibility as Master, service in any other Grand Jurisdiction fulfills the requirement.

The Grand Secretary makes his usual report of the doings of his office, and of the library, which we are glad to see is steadily growing.

The Committee on the Revision of the Constitution reported, stating that while the Constitution had been several times compiled with amendments, it had never been revised, and they report a plan as follows: 1. The Constitution; 2. Code of Statutes; 3. Penal Code; 4. Standing regulations of a local, special or temporary character.

It recommended that the sections be numbered consecutively in the Constitution, and also in the Statutes. The matter was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which reported favorably, and thereupon the revised Constitution was unanimously adopted to take effect January 1, 1900.

No part of it is given in the Proceedings, and we are not sure that a technical question might not be raised as to the identity of the instrument *published* with the one *adopted*.

The Grand Secretary was authorized to send monthly notices of lodge action to the several chapters and commanderies. We presume that this is limited to the matters in which those bodies would have an interest.

We find that the Grand Lodge ordered that the Constitution and Statutes be printed under the supervision of the committee, with power to annotate the code with decisions, etc., and suitably index the same; and that they should be distributed, one copy to each of the officers and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge; one to each of the chartered lodges, and one to each of the Grand Lodges; and that the remaining copies be sold by the Grand Secretary at not less than the actual cost.

If we were to make any addition to this, it would be to have a larger number of *pamphlet copies* and distribute them more freely to the lodges. We complain that the officers and members of lodges frequently consult the Grand Master in relation to matters that would be answered by an examination of the Constitution and Statutes, but as a matter of fact, very few of the members of a lodge will buy a copy, and if there is only one copy in the lodge, it is pretty difficult even for an officer to consult it. Of course, if the practice of reading in full, once a year even, is followed, that gives some knowledge of it, but after all, our experience shows that the Grand Lodge makes money in the end by distributing very freely to the members of the craft in the jurisdiction, copies of its constitution and by-laws.

The Grand Representatives were received, and responded. The Grand Secretary, representative of our jurisdiction among others, referred to his correspondence report, submitted in print, for what he had to say.

The Report on Correspondence, (115 pp) was presented by Bro. HEDGES.

It is entirely written. At any rate, if there is any quotation in it we have not discovered it, and we have been over it very carefully too. It is a very full abstract, intermixed with comments, in which our brother gives his views plainly and forcibly. We have not imitated his example, but have devoted the most of our space to extracts, in relation to pending matters.

In his introduction he says:

“One year ago our peace-loving country was nearing the verge of war; how near we little knew, and perhaps but for the cowardly destruction of the Maine, would never have known. Our complete unreadiness for war is the best evidence that it was not premeditated or desired. A fatal madness seemed to have driven Spain to destruction, her cup of retribution was full to overflowing and our country was the agent commissioned by Providence for her chastisement and humiliation. Within four short months fell the heavy, well-directed blows that laid Spain prostrate and despoiled of what remained of her colonial possessions, once the envy and admiration of the world. Our flag now floats not only over Cuba and Porto Rico, the last

relics of a western empire, but over an insular empire in the far East nearly equal in area and richer in resources than Japan.

"This means much not only for our country, but for Masonry as well. Under the cruel and bigoted rule of Spain, men were tortured and shot in Cuba and the Philippines for being Freemasons. Under a very clear dispensation of Providence, Masonry will flourish wherever the flag of our own country floats, and it will be Freemasonry that worships and serves one only living and true God, and regards men of all races as his children and deserving of brotherly consideration."

While he thinks that the discussion of the Washington matter has been rather severe, yet of the merits he says:

"The occasion or provoking cause seems trivial and unworthy of notice. Negroes were enjoying to the fullest extent the masonic independence they proclaimed in 1827. There has been no attempt to persecute them. They have simply been ignored. The original irregularities connected with African Lodge, chartered by the Grand Lodge of England, might have been healed, perhaps, by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, as not more serious than others that have been healed. But they were not, and went on multiplying. A 'modus vivendi' has long been established, simply by ignoring each other, and that seems to us the best course to continue. Let the negroes have their Masonry, and may it do them good. But as for us, we can acknowledge and hold intercourse with but one Grand Lodge in any state, territory or country. Whether the present negro lodges trace from Prince Hall, as some of the many cheap expositions of Masonry current since Morgan's time, is a question we do not care to consider."

Of the Gran Dieta he says:

"It is with much satisfaction that we notice the action of the Grand Lodge of California in extending full fraternal recognition to the Gran Dieta Simbolica of Mexico. The matter has been thoroughly considered by a committee of five Past Grand Masters, who united in a favorable report. The committee says there are now 246 lodges in Mexico under the jurisdiction of the Gran Dieta, of which seventeen are sustained by American citizens and conducted in the English language. Recognition has now been extended by fifteen jurisdictions, including all contiguous states and territories, as well as some of the oldest and largest. As Representative of the Gran Dieta of Mexico for Montana, we are just in receipt (January, 1899) of the jewel of that jurisdiction, and shall esteem it a pleasure to cultivate closer relations with our Mexican brothers. It is a proud satisfaction to know that our whole North American continent is enlisted under the masonic banner, and to know that it will soon wave over our entire hemisphere."

Some of these statements have been disputed. We were not aware that there are so many lodges sustained by American citizens, and conducted in the English language. If this is correct, it is an extremely important element in the decision of the matter, in our own judgment. The fact is that our inability to come to a conclusion is very largely based upon the fear that from the evidence given, the Mexican people are really unable to administer masonic affairs in accordance with the ancient usages and landmarks.

Of the California system, he says:

"There is one feature in California Masonry that seems harsh to us, the requiring of non-affiliates to pay six months' dues with their application, together with the affiliation fee which lodges are permitted to charge. We

have abolished affiliation fees, and the only disability we attach to non-affiliates is that they cannot visit and are not regarded in good standing if they remain unaffiliated more than one year. We still give them the right to petition for membership. Another California regulation, which seems to us essentially unjust, is the charging of dues to those suspended."

In his review of Delaware, he well says:

"Speaking of their usage in not allowing Wardens to confer degrees, he bases his objection on their general inefficiency. Wouldn't it be better to acquire efficiency before than after being elected Worshipful Master? Could he expect a novice to learn the taste of cider by merely smelling the piteher."

We think that in Maine, we make Wardens of different kind of timber, and there are very few lodges in which a man could be elected Warden who has not already sufficiently acquired the work to enable him to preside in the lodge.

In another place, speaking of the Washington matter, he says:

"Washington has not recognized any negro Grand Lodge in any of the jurisdictions, nor in its own, nor does it appear that there are more than two negroes in Washington who claim to be masons, much less that any purpose is expressed to recognize any other Grand Lodge in its own jurisdiction. At least the comity and courtesy that ought to exist between sister jurisdictions should suggest the propriety of correspondence, possibly fraternal remonstrance, and at any event await some action beyond the expression of an opinion as abstract as whether the moon is inhabited."

We must take issue with him on the first part of the first question. The Grand Lodge of Washington decided that the two petitioners were sufficiently regular masons to be admitted into the Washington lodges. To be a regular mason he must have been made in a lawful lodge. A lawful lodge can be created only by a Grand Lodge, so that the Washington decision necessarily declared that the lodges in which these petitioners claim to be made masons, were lawful lodges, and the Grand Lodges which chartered them regular Grand Lodges. It is true that the Grand Lodge of Washington did not *in specific terms* say it recognized any of these Grand Lodges, but in our view this pretext is altogether too flimsy, and we would like the view of Bro. HEDGES in relation to it.

In another place he says further:

"The presumption that Prince Hall or any one else hailing from a regular lodge was ever a Provincial Grand Master, empowered to establish lodges among those of his own race, has no historical or documentary foot-hold to stand on."

He introduces his review of Maine as follows:

"By a strange coincidence, altogether unintentional on our part, but in our regular course of reviewing such proceedings as have come to hand, those of Maine we take in hand February 15th, which happens to be the fateful day of the destruction of the 'Maine' in Havana harbor. 'Remember the Maine' has been something of a watch-word ever since. It was re-

membered at Manila and Santiago, and will be remembered by unborn generations of Americans, on land as well as on sea. If we mistake not, Spain will be apt to remember the most fatal blunder of all its blundering history."

He speaks highly of the address of Grand Master Locke and of our Proceedings as a whole.

Referring to our report, he says:

"Our long experience in and observation of Masonry in the West, and most of it in the far West, has led us to adopt some views at variance with those held by Brother Drummond, as for instance on the subject of rejection, its nature and consequences; also on the duty of lodge and Grand Lodge relief. On this latter subject, we are not far apart when each understands the position of the other. We believe as fully as he does in the individual duty of charity, and would not even limit it to those in good masonic standing. But our experience has brought us up against many cases where the necessities of distressed masons could not be met by individual masons, amounting sometimes to several hundred dollars. Many a member of some eastern jurisdiction, who has come to the far West with magnificent expectations that fortunes were laying around here loose for anybody to pick up, has found the situation so different from his expectation that he has become discouraged and home-sick almost to death. His lodge won't help him, and his friends or relatives can't or won't help him further. Offers of employment at better wages than he could get at home do no good. He has no courage or strength to work, all he wants is to get home, and he will die if he can't get home. Whatever may be said to the contrary, home-sickness is often fatal. Of course one in such condition will promise anything in the way of repayment, but not in one case out of twenty does the recipient or his lodge ever tender repayment or acknowledge any claim for repayment. We take care of our own members when in distress, at home or abroad, and pay heavy dues besides. We naturally think there should be some mutuality in this matter of relief. We notice that the Grand Lodge of California, at its last communication, voted that relief should hereafter be refused to those hailing from jurisdictions that disclaim any responsibility to reimburse for relief to their own members, and that will be the natural outcome. It may be harsh and unfraternal, but human nature has some strong marks of similarity in all sections of the country and all parts of the world. The unregenerate will practice on the theory of doing to others as we are done by. There is some good foundation for the growing opinion that masonic beggars are generally bilks, and a large percentage unmitigated frauds. Individual brothers, when applied to for aid, have neither the time nor facilities to investigate the worthiness of the claimant, and he is referred to the Board of Relief. Where it is generally admitted that beyond present temporary relief, the lodge in which membership is held is primarily responsible, the substance of the Wisconsin plan, as we understand it, is accomplished. Still it is left to lodges to measure their own responsibility, taking into account their own ability and the worthiness of the member. That masons, like other mortals, should suffer for their own folly, is the method Providence has ordained to cure them, and we are opposed to interfering with Providence."

We give the whole of this; as he says we are not very far apart.

We do not understand the Wisconsin plan as he does, by any means. As long as he agrees that it is left to lodges to measure their own responsibility, taking into account their ability and the worthiness of the applicant for relief, we shall not quarrel with him. Our objection to the Wisconsin proposition is that this is *just what that does not do*.

Referring to the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, he says that our doctrine in Maine is an improvement. He assumes that we insist upon five years, but we do not; if the general *consensus* of opinion is that three years are long enough, we shall not object. We find that with three years substituted for five the Maine proposition has been adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States. We were not present at the session, and therefore do not know under what circumstances this rule was adopted. Whether it was a compromise of conflicting views, or whether it was a matter presented and passed, as measures sometimes are in the Grand Encampment, because nobody takes the responsibility to object to them, we do not know. However that may be, the fact remains that throughout the country the Maine doctrine prevails, in relation to this question, in one branch of Masonry.

Referring to the habit of using initials instead of names he says:

“Yes, our law requires the Secretaries, in sending up their returns, to give the full Christian and surname, but then they never did it, and seemed to think it was official impertinence to ask more than the owners of the name usually give. And so we have fallen into the same neglect. Life is too short to keep up a continual fight and we seek refuge in the maxim, ‘*de minimis lex non curat.*’”

We do not think that that maxim is quite sufficiently large to cover the omission.

In his review of Oklahoma, he says:

“Bro. Hunt, in reviewing Connecticut, gives expression to an opinion that seems to us to approach perilously near to that expressed by the Grand Master of Washington, when he claims it as ‘an inherent prerogative of subordinate lodges to exercise the exclusive right to determine whom they shall receive as visitors.’ We think a Grand Lodge that would tolerate any subordinate in holding intercourse with irregular and clandestine masons without arresting its charter, has abdicated its sovereignty and ceased to be a peer of other recognized Grand Lodges.”

There are other things in this report which we would like to notice, but must pass them by.

We like to discuss matters with Bro. HEDGES, and feel free to dissent from his views and give our reasons, because we know, without his assurance, that it can in no way affect our personal relations except to strengthen the cordiality of them, for we credit him, as we believe he credits us, with desiring only to get at the truth and to promote the best interests of Masonry; but perhaps we ought to confess that the importance of doing this so overshadows all other considerations with us, that we may be open sometimes to his criticism of speaking somewhat harshly of individual masons.

NEBRASKA, 1899.

A special communication was held Jan. 13, 1899, to attend the funeral of M. W. Bro. ROBERT C. JORDAN, first Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska. Another was held May 9, 1899, to attend the funeral of Bro. WILLIAM R. BOWEN, the Grand Secretary, whose sad death we announced last year.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, FRANK H. YOUNG, delivered an address in which he concisely announces his official acts. In his opening statement he said he had been at home but forty-six working days during the year, and had traveled in the service of the Grand Lodge nineteen thousand miles.

In announcing the death of Bro. BOWEN, he states that it is the saddest event of his masonic life.

The Grand Master decided that installation at any other than the regular time, except by dispensation, is void, but the committee modified it by striking out the word "void" and inserting instead the word "irregular," and adding to the decision "and any Master of a lodge permitting the same is subject to masonic discipline." We believe the view of the committee is correct.

He decided that inasmuch as the Grand Lodges of Kansas and Missouri do not claim jurisdiction over a rejected candidate, a Nebraska lodge may act on the petition of a rejected candidate from either of those jurisdictions without a waiver, and to this the committee adds, "Because the Nebraska lodges may receive and act upon the petition of a rejected candidate from any jurisdiction in which, by lapse of time, a waiver exists."

We do not know as we have heretofore noted it, but we find that in Nebraska, the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction still exists.

The Grand Lodge reversed the decision of the Grand Master that a petition may be received and acted upon before the petitioner is twenty-one years old; also the following decision:

"A brother continues to hold an office into which he has been installed until his successor has been installed, even though he is elected and installed into another office."

We believe that the general rule is that the installation of a brother into one office vacates his tenure of any other office.

The following decision was approved:

"The installing officer should afford every brother opportunity for objection before he installs any officer of the lodge, and should the ground for objection be deemed sufficient he will be justified in refusing to install such officer; in such case the matter should be reported to the Grand Master for his action. Any brother in good standing has the right to lodge an objection with the Grand Master for his consideration and decision."

He submitted the resolution and special report from our Grand Lodge in relation to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

One lodge undertook to appeal from his decision in the matter of its invasion of the jurisdiction of a lodge in Kansas: but he visited the lodge and discussed the matter with the brethren, and found that their conduct was the result of ignorance and bad counsel, and upon complying with his order he let the matter rest.

He announced that the Orphans' Educational Fund had reached the sum of \$30,800, and he recommended that a committee be appointed to investigate all claims for assistance and expend not exceeding eighty per cent. of the net increase of the fund for educational purposes.

They have a system in Nebraska of making rebates for prompt returns and payment of dues, which this year amounted to \$2,836.61. We very gravely doubt the expediency of collecting and paying back so large an amount of money for such a purpose.

The Committee on Peru reported that no action was necessary other than to commend our zealous brethren in Peru for their prompt action in maintaining the landmarks involved.

The committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge to devise a plan for perpetuating the memory of P. G. M. ROBERT CARROLL JORDAN, reported in favor of a bronze medal of the best grade, properly inscribed, and that these medals should be sold at one dollar each and the surplus raised from their sale shall be paid over to Bro. JORDAN's widow.

In relation to the Washington matter the following was adopted:

"We have considered that portion of the Grand Master's address submitting the circular from the Grand Lodge of Washington, the pamphlet and letter from the Grand Lodge of New York, and the special report from the Grand Lodge of Maine, in relation to the so-called negro lodges, and fraternally report that by the action of this Grand Lodge, found in our Proceedings of 1877, this Grand Lodge has put itself upon record as against the recognition of clandestine lodges and masons such as are referred to; that the Report on Correspondence to this Grand Lodge for the then current year fully sets forth all the material facts of the history of clandestine negro lodges, and the action of the several Grand Masters and Grand Lodges which has been had in reference to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington. We recommend that the action of this Grand Lodge in 1877 be reaffirmed, and that we earnestly urge upon the attention of the Grand Lodge of Washington its duty to rescind the action had at its communication in 1898."

An interesting address was delivered by the Grand Orator, WILLIAMSON S. SUMMERS.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That John Stevenson Bowen, youngest child of our late lamented Grand Secretary, William R. Bowen, be and is hereby adopted as 'the child of the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Nebraska'; and that we pledge ourselves to exercise paternal care for his future practical education and welfare, from available means of the 'Orphans' Education Fund' of this jurisdiction."

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 30) was presented by Bro. CHARLES J. PHELPS, who undertook the task at the request of the Grand Master, after an admonition to restrict the same to thirty pages. He devoted six pages to a tribute to Bro. WILLIAM R. BOWEN, in which he gives the remarks made at a special meeting of the Grand Lodge after the lodge room services. The remainder of the report is upon the topical plan.

Under the head of "Landmarks and Constitutions," he says:

"While it is generally true that in this country the civil official derives all his authority as such from the constitution of the state or nation, and that he, as an officer, is the creature of the constitution, it does not by any means follow that in masonic law the Grand Master is dependent alone for his authority upon the Grand Lodge Constitution. The office itself, and its authority derived from the ancient landmarks, which no Grand Lodge can alter or change, do not depend upon a constitution. The sovereignty over the craft was, in 1717, by the Grand Masters largely resigned to the keeping of the Grand Lodges, but upon conditions fixed by a solemn agreement which is to-day as binding as a landmark, that the ancient landmarks should not be altered nor changed, and that there should be no innovation made in the body of Masonry. Every Grand Lodge Constitution recognizes, and every body of masons recognized as such, explicitly acknowledges the binding force of these provisions. In compliance with these principles of jurisprudence, every regularly made mason and member of its institutions owes primary obligation to the Grand Master, and no lodge can for a moment exist except under obedience to the authority of a Grand Master."

He then gives a brief history of the formation of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, and of this he says:

"These proceedings were had in strict compliance with masonic polity as contemplated in the Grand Lodge system. It marks a distinct difference from the American system of civil constitutional government. It in a very pronounced manner demonstrates the fact that the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Nebraska are in no sense creatures of the constitution which was created by the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge. Nearly all of the older Grand Lodges, and a large majority of all the masonic jurists and writers, recognize the difference between the two systems. Some having declared themselves upon the question, reasoning from the civil law, without investigation and consideration, seemingly in pride of their announced opinion, endeavor to maintain the erroneous view."

We are glad to see such strong support of the doctrine that masonic law is not based on civil law.

He devotes nearly a page to "Jurisdiction over Candidates" and "The Maine Plan." He makes a statement of it, quoting from our report, but not indicating his own opinion. Then comes the question of "Physical Qualifications," giving the views entertained by different masons without indicating to which he gives preference, and the same is true of his discussion of the "Wisconsin Plan."

He discusses the Washington matter, beginning as follows:

"Don Quixote's zeal in his heroic endeavor to revive knight errantry was no less madness than that displayed by our Washington brother in his at-

tempt to convince the masonic world that American Negro Masonry should be recognized. The wonder is that his Grand Lodge should have consented to act the part of Sancho Panza in the play."

He gives something of the history of the matter and the views of others, and adds among other things:

"The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington is so clearly in open defiance of its duty to those Grand Lodges in whose jurisdiction the negro lodges exist and have been by said Grand Lodges declared clandestine, that nothing remains but to suspend fraternal relations until the wrongful act is rescinded. No wonder that Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New York, acted promptly. These states, from the earliest history of those spurious lodges, had the matter to deal with. Now, if a member of a lodge declared to be clandestine by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, where it exists, seeks fraternal admission to a lodge in Washington, he may be admitted under sanction of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"The only plea available in excuse for the Grand Lodge of Washington's act, is that of ignorance—not of the facts, but of the fundamental principles, of masonic jurisprudence; an ignorance inexcusable in those who presume to act as leaders in any Grand Lodge. Honored and trusted by their brethren, elevated to the highest offices in the gift of the craft, they betray their trust, in this case assuming to overthrow a principle of jurisprudence established by the unanimous consent of American Grand Lodges, including that of Washington itself."

He discusses Mexican Masonry to some extent, but concludes that we had best make haste slowly.

He discusses Peru and Cuba, and devotes two pages to "Patriotic Utterances."

He devotes some space to "Literature of Freemasonry," concluding as follows:

"Most of those engaged in writing reports on correspondence and reviews of the proceedings of Grand Bodies, their wits sharpened by controversy and the criticisms of their brethren of the guild, are careful in the statements they make, and, thus prodded, they search the records and present the results of research and study. How easy it is to secure the advantages these productions afford. And what excuse can the Master of a lodge give for ignoring them and continuing to plod along in the dark? And then the aspirants for the honors of the chair, should they not improve their minds by the exploration of the rich field of masonic lore, and stand ready to correct the frequent blunders of the lazy Master in his instructions, or, as in too many cases, an entire failure to instruct his brethren? Don't forget that the most important office of a Master is that of instructor, and that in many a case he does not fill the bill at all. See to it that none but the intelligent, the studious and the faithful, are exalted to leadership, and Freemasonry will sustain that position it so justly deserves."

We do not find the appointment of the committee for the next year, but we presume Bro. PHELPS will continue, and we hope that he will be allowed to perform the other part of the duties of this committee, and note the action and condition of each Grand Lodge.

NEVADA, 1899.

The Grand Master, MATHEW KYLE, thus speaks of the condition of the craft:

“A review of the returns from the various constituent lodges shows a slight decrease in numbers, but Masonry is not measured by numbers. It is the innate strength of the individual mason, his work in the community, and his standing as a man, that measures the worth of our glorious Fraternity. My observation of the ever constant influence of Masonry has convinced me that when a man becomes a mason he becomes a better man, and if I have any injunction to give the brethren it is to exhort them to conform with earnestness to the teachings of Masonry. A faithful reliance upon its precepts will aid us in every battle and encourage us in our struggle for higher ideals.”

He discusses at some length the Washington matter, giving the correspondence which he had with Grand Master URON, and the matter is discussed at some length by a special committee which he had appointed in advance. But in the present condition of the question, we do not deem it necessary to review their deliverances at length.

We wish, however, to refer to his reply to the letter of Grand Master URON, briefly. He shows conclusively that the first statement of Grand Master URON, that “The Grand Lodge of Washington has not recognized negro Grand Lodges or expressed any intention of doing so; but it did adopt the report of a committee which declared that no proposal to enter into relations with the negro Grand Lodges is involved,” is utterly erroneous, because no matter what the Grand Lodge of Washington may *say*, it must be judged by what *it does*.

In reply to the proposition of Grand Master URON that the action of other Grand Lodges was an attack upon the sovereignty of the Grand Lodge of Washington, he says:

“As regards the matter of Supreme or Supreme Exclusive Jurisdiction, I have only to say that this Grand Lodge adheres to the American doctrine (so-called) namely, that the Grand Lodge first taking possession of, and asserting its supremacy over, a given territory, has exclusive control in all matters pertaining to Masonry within its territorial limits. But I hold that in the exercise of this control it should be governed by the Ancient Landmarks, masonic usage and that comity which should ever exist between Grand Lodges, as I deem it just as essential that peace and harmony should prevail among Grand Lodges as between individual masons. That when one Grand Lodge declares a person, or class of persons, within its jurisdiction, illegitimate and clandestine, other Grand Lodges should respect such declaration. For example, the Grand Lodge of Ohio has declared that persons, claiming to be masons, who were made in, or who affiliate with, certain lodges in its jurisdiction, are clandestine. Now, for your Grand Lodge or any other, to say that such persons, upon entering another jurisdiction, are relieved from the ban of illegitimacy, would be in disregard of (if not a landmark,) at least masonic usage and Grand Lodge comity, and should not be tolerated.”

He had some correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Wyoming, in relation to a General Grand Lodge, to which, however, he was opposed.

He gives an account of some of his visits, and he reports the lodges visited in good condition, and anxious to fulfil their masonic obligations under all circumstances and to secure correctness in the work.

He urges the brethren to make special efforts to secure the affiliation of all masons who are not already members.

He recommends that the three years limit on Grand Representatives be repealed as it entails upon the Grand Secretary a large amount of labor, and he says further that the amount paid the Grand Secretary is entirely inadequate for the labor which he is called upon to perform.

We do not find that the recommendation in relation to the terms of Representatives was adopted, but the salary of the Grand Secretary was increased. The following resolutions in relation to the Washington matter reported by the committee were adopted with but one dissenting vote:

Resolved, That Masonry is universal; that neither race color or creed are among the tests proper to be applied to determine the fitness of a person applying for the degrees, save and except he must believe in the existence of a God.

Resolved, That we are unequivocally opposed to, and protest against the resolutions as adopted by the Grand Lodge of Washington, recognizing persons as masons who claim to have been made masons in lodges working under charters issued by Prince Hall African Grand Lodge of Boston, or Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, as we hold all such to be spurious masons and unmasonic bodies; and the possible establishment of a Grand Lodge of co-ordinate jurisdiction in that State, believing as we do that only one Grand Lodge can be erected and maintained in the same jurisdiction, and that such Grand Lodge should not offer or consent to divide with another Grand Body the control of the craft in any state; as in our opinion such an act would be fatal to the fraternal and social advantages of Masonry.

Resolved, That we fraternally request and demand of the Grand Lodge of Washington, a reconsideration of its entire action on the subject of Negro Masonry; and that until such time as the said Grand Lodge shall have withdrawn its recognition of illegally constituted lodges and clandestine masons we recommend that the fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington and the members thereof and all masons made in that jurisdiction be suspended."

The Grand Lodge decided upon the report of a committee, that in a case in which the Master refused to allow a motion to be determined by the lodge, after he had allowed a vote to be taken upon a proposed amendment and defeated, he acted erroneously, saying, however, that if he had continued the whole subject to the next meeting, he might have been justified. If we understand this, we do not quite agree. If a motion is made in a lodge which is in violation of masonic law, the Master, of course, may refuse to entertain it. But we hold that if it is proposed to amend it, he may entertain an amendment which will relieve the motion of its illegality, and then if the amendment is defeated he has no other recourse than to reject the motion.

We find in the supplement that the Grand Master had received notice of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1899, and thereupon he issued his edict, the conclusion of which is as follows:

“The Grand Lodge of Washington, at its annual communication held June 13 and 14, 1899, having rescinded that portion of its resolutions recognizing the legitimacy of Negro Masonry, I therefore, in accordance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Nevada, hereby proclaim that the edict of this Grand Lodge suspending fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington, its members and all masons in that jurisdiction, is removed; and I extend a hearty welcome to the Grand Lodge of Washington upon its return to its former conditions of fraternal love and peace with this and its sister Grand Jurisdictions.”

The Report on Correspondence (pages 94) was presented by Bro. A. D. BIRD. As heretofore, he confines his report very closely to an abstract of the more important matters, supplementing it with appropriate extracts.

In reply to a brother who expressed the wish that he would make more comments, he says:

“Brother M. thinks we had better ‘out with an opinion,’ once in a while. We prefer to give the doings and arguments of other jurisdictions to our Nevada readers on many questions, that may sometime arise in ours, so that they can see the matter from both sides. We are a child yet in many of the masonic questions, but hoping we may learn from the wisdom of our elders and in time be able to give good and wholesome advice.”

He devotes a good deal of his report to the Washington matter, copying the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky in full.

He says that when he read Bro. UPTON’s report, he accepted it as correct, but when he came to read the other reports touching the question, he came to the conclusion that Bro. UPTON had erred.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1899.

The Grand Master held a special session on Sunday following the festival of St. John, to attend divine services. Quite a large number of lodges were very fully represented. He opened the Grand Lodge in ample form and, after returning from the services, closed it.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, THOMAS WALKER, says:

“While the year, which has just passed, has not been marked with any striking event in our history, peace and harmony have prevailed within our border and much good masonic work has been quietly done.

“The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, which are hereto appended, will show more fully the condition of the craft, and with one exception, are hopeful of the future.

“Our relations with sister Grand Lodges continue to be most friendly and harmonious.”

He announced the death of several Past Masters, some of whom are known to us here in Maine.

While the number of his official visits had fallen short of what he had intended, he made quite a large number, and for the most part found the lodges in good condition and doing the work well. There were a few exceptions which he noted, and called the attention of the lodge to it, at the time.

His suggestions were received very kindly, and there is no doubt but that the brethren profited by them.

The Grand Secretary reported a slight net gain in the total membership.

As we understand it the debt of the Grand Lodge had been decreased by \$500.

The proposition to consolidate the three Grand Lodges of Prince Edward's Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was considerably discussed, and the following was adopted:

“That Section 9 of the report of the board be adopted and that a committee of three be appointed to meet with the committees of the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and discuss with them the proposed union of the three Grand Lodges, but that the appointment of such committee shall not be held as committing this Grand Lodge in any way to the principle of such union.”

The other business of the Grand Lodge was of a routine character. One interesting incident was the unveiling of a portrait of the late Grand Master, ROBERT T. CLINCH, with appropriate ceremonies.

In relation to the matter of suspending members for non-payment of dues, the board report that a more regular and faithful performance of duty by the Secretaries of lodges, would largely overcome the difficulty.

The following was also adopted:

“That it is the duty of Worshipful Masters of Lodges to see that no candidate be advanced who has not passed a satisfactory examination in open lodge according to the provisions of the Constitution; that they should instruct not only the lodge but its officers by the exemplification of the ritual, and that they should personally interest themselves in seeing that the members attend, so that those seeking advancement will be posted in their work, but the board have no reason to believe that Worshipful Masters in this jurisdiction are so derelict in their duty to their lodges or the fraternity as not to see that these matters are enforced and performed.

“That the sum of two hundred dollars be placed at the disposal of the Grand Master to pay the expenses of providing such instruction in ritual, to lodges outside of the city of Saint John, as may be deemed necessary. The board suggest that the ritual committee should be called together at as early a date as possible, and further it is the opinion of the board that the ritual committee should hold quarterly or half-yearly meetings, so that any questions arising as to the ritual may be discussed and settled.

The report of the District Deputies show, on the whole, a prosperous condition of the lodges, and we are glad to find reason for believing that the craft in our neighboring jurisdiction is in a more prosperous condition.

We have not the means of determining the wisdom of the proposed amalgamation of the three Grand Lodges, and shall await the issue with

very great interest. It is certain that a small Grand Lodge is very apt to be, in one sense, a weak one, because it throws upon a comparatively small number of masons the support of a Grand Lodge, which necessarily involves a great deal of expense.

No Report on Correspondence.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1899.

The frontispiece is an excellent group picture of the elective Grand Officers.

The usual semi-annual communication was held for the exemplification of the work, at which nearly all the lodges in the State were represented. This method of instructing the lodges would be quite impracticable in Maine on account of our extent of territory, while in New Hampshire it seems to be an exceedingly good one.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, JOHN McLANE, congratulated the Grand Lodge that Freemasonry in that jurisdiction is in "a strong and prosperous condition, increasing in power and numbers," and he believes that still greater progress had been made in moral and spiritual growth.

He announced the death of three members of the Grand Lodge, Bros. EDWARD GUSTINE, Judge ISAAC W. SMITH and CHARLES A. TUFTS, with all of whom we were personally acquainted. They have all been ornaments of Masonry by their high character and service in all the walks of life.

The Grand Master dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Wilton, which was the gift of Bro. DAVID A. GREGG, of Nashua.

The Grand Master says that no single lodge in the State has a Temple that will equal this for elegance and beauty. A cut of it is published in the Proceedings, and certainly our Wilton brethren are to be congratulated.

He also dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Lisbon, one of the largest and best appointed in the State, outside of the larger cities.

He attended the Centennial celebration of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, at which a historical address was delivered by Bro. CHARLES B. SPOFFORD, and which had been "printed for private circulation."

We trust that the word "private" does not mean that the brethren in other jurisdictions shall not have the benefit of this address by a brother who has a high reputation in this branch of masonic research.

Of the necessity of the presence of a charter, he says:

"It is an old and well-understood masonic law that the charter must be present at the opening, but to hold that action of the lodge, otherwise all right, upon such a matter as granting a dimit is void unless the charter is in the lodge room at the time, is a very narrow interpretation of the law governing this subject. The charter is the evidence of authority to assemble and work and should always be present, but if by accident it happens to be

locked up in a safe in the ante-room, or at the home of the master, to contend that all business transacted at a communication held under such circumstances is illegal would lead to complications that would be very troublesome. If there was any question as to the existence of the charter it would be a very different matter, but admitting that the lodge has a charter, the mere matter of its being in the lodge room all the time is not in my opinion important."

He announced that the Nashua brethren had paid for a lot for the Masonic Home, and that considerable sums of money had been subscribed for the building, and he hoped that the agent of the trustees, who would soon call on each lodge, would be received with a spirit of liberality worthy of this noble charity.

He gives a brief history of the Washington matter, in which he says:

"They can never be recognized as regular or lawful masonic bodies until the well-settled and long-established law of masonic Grand Lodge jurisdiction and the whole system of government is overturned."

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters show that they had performed their duties and visited nearly every lodge in the state, and the result justifies the statement of the Grand Master that the craft is in a prosperous condition.

The Grand Lodge accepted the very able report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented by Bro. JOSEPH W. FELLOWS, proposing to change from trial by the lodge to the method adopted in Massachusetts of trial by commission. Among the reasons given, are the following:

"Your committee has had considerable experience in the examination and consideration of this subject and matters incident thereto. A connection for more than twenty-five years in this Grand Lodge with the matter of trials and the treatment of questions in a legal aspect has impressed upon them the danger of unjust and unwarranted verdicts and the desirability of establishing some other method of trying masonic offences. Of course, the accused is generally a member of the lodge where the trial is held. It often happens that he has personal friends and possibly those who are unfriendly in the lodge. The trial usually occasions feeling and much interest, which frequently becomes of a partisan nature. Members of the lodge form opinions concerning his crime before the evidence is heard and sometimes endeavor to affect the judgment of the lodge by other influences than a fair and unprejudiced examination of the evidence. Occasionally members will hear a portion of the evidence at a trial but not the whole, and very often testimony is admitted which is wholly incompetent, and verdicts are obtained by such means as render them inconsistent and unjust, and as we have before remarked compel the Grand Lodge to set them aside. Frequently members of the lodge are relatives or in other ways connected with the accused in such a manner as to render them wholly incapable of an impartial judgment. Sometimes there are those who for personal reasons are hostile and far from being free of prejudice against the accused, and who under the rules of law governing the selection of jurors or members of other tribunals for trials of civil causes would be wholly disqualified to act. Cases become a sort of a neighborhood controversy. Politics, religion, social relations and other matters interfere, and influences crop out which totally destroy the idea of an impartial hearing of the evidence and absolutely prevent a legal judgment."

It must be admitted that this is true in almost every jurisdiction. Since Massachusetts has adopted this plan, we have watched the operation of it very closely, and, as we have elsewhere stated, it seems to us to have worked well, and we are informed that the fraternity are entirely satisfied with it.

Amendments to the Constitution necessary to the adoption of this plan, were submitted.

The Grand Lodge decided that the granting of a dimit cannot be made conditional upon payment of a fee, because any member of a lodge in good standing and clear upon the books is entitled to a dimit.

BRO. FELLOWS, for the Committee on Jurisprudence, submitted a comparatively brief report in relation to the Washington matter, holding with the other Grand Lodges, but deeming the severing of fraternal relations a deplorable step to take, and hoping that the Grand Lodge of Washington would reconsider its action in this respect and remove all cause for dissatisfaction, and recommended that a final determination of the matter be postponed until the next annual communication.

The Report on Correspondence (143 pp.), was presented by Bro. A. S. WAIT. It is carefully and ably written, but with somewhat less of discussion than in some of his former reports.

He quotes the following, and says that it is the sound masonic view of the subject:

"We were taught, and always believed, that the *right* to masonic relief did not exist; that such relief was free, and measured only by the necessity of the case and the *ability of the donor*. To say that a Master Mason is *entitled* to relief from the funds of the lodge, or that he is a special charge on the lodge, is to put the matter on an entirely different footing, and places Masonry in the same category as those benefit societies where a member, so long as he pays his dues, has a right to claim relief from the lodge."

In his review of the District of Columbia, he says:

"The committee discuss the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates with great ability and learning, reaching the conclusion that that doctrine has no support in the landmarks or the ancient charges of Masonry; that it is not the law of the Grand Lodge of England; that it does not obtain in the masonic jurisdictions of continental Europe, and that it exists in this country only by virtue of the special legislation of the American Grand Lodges. With these views the committee recommend legislation in substantial accordance with the Maine resolutions. We have read this report with great interest, and cannot escape the impression that the argument of the committee in support of their conclusion is unanswerable."

He speaks of the address of Grand Master Locke as an able masonic paper. He discusses various matters in our report of 1898.

He does not care to discuss further the proposition that a rejection is, under masonic law, a judgment of the lodge that the candidate is not then fit to be a mason. Nor do we; those who hold to the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, or to a time limit, are with us; those who hold that a rejection

amounts to nothing, are with him, and there is little prospect of a change in the views of either class.

He returns, however, to another matter that we have discussed, saying:

“Our brother still insists that a Grand Lodge may exist without constituent lodges, and with no lack of adjective and adverbial emphasis; but no more than in the other case have we a disposition to return to the discussion, especially, as we observed last year, our views have been extensively copied by the ablest contemporaneous masonic writers, have been expressly approved and endorsed by many and denied by none; and, as we then suggested, it is now still more apparent that, aside from our brother of Maine, there is among competent masons but one opinion.”

It is very funny that we have not happened to see any of those endorsements.

It would seem to be enough for us to call attention to the fact that it is the law of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and many others. The Constitutions of these Grand Lodges prescribe “of what the Grand Lodge consists,” and give to each member a vote, with no discrimination whatever as to the rights, powers or duties of any of the members, and no provision whatever that the presence of any particular class of members is necessary.

It is true, however, that many Grand Lodges have adopted an innovation, *borrowed from the civil law*, that the Grand Lodge cannot be opened unless a particular number or proportion of the lodges are represented.

The Grand Lodge of Michigan has recently had a laughable experience in this respect. It is one of those which have a quorum requirement, *with no exception*. It has always been in the habit of laying corner stones, and performing other ceremonies, as is the custom everywhere else save in Pennsylvania. But somebody “raised the question of a quorum,” (not exactly as they do in Congress, however) and the Grand Lodge was obliged to decide in effect that it had been habitually violating its own law, and that when those ceremonies are performed, the work is not done by the Grand Lodge, but by the Grand Officers! We have noticed that one or more Grand Lodges except these “Ceremonial meetings” from the quorum clause. In Michigan, it would be practically impossible for the Grand Lodge to bury its deceased Grand Master.

All this illustrates the truth of the proposition first enunciated, we believe, by our late Bro. VAUX, that “Freemasonry is a law unto itself,” and every attempt to assimilate our laws to the civil law, is a departure from the ancient ways.

In this connection he says:

“We feel obliged, however, in self vindication, to recur to one assertion of our brother, in which he accuses us, with entire apparent confidence, of making statements which ‘*are utterly erroneous*,’ and emphasized with his own italics. We said and which he reproduces:

“The anti-mason excitement having measurably passed away, the officers of four of the extinct lodges, with the last Junior Grand Warden and many of the late officers and members of the old Grand Lodge, held a meeting in June, 1841, and undertook to resuscitate and re-organize the Grand Lodge of Michigan.

“This is the treatment we receive for making this statement, Brother Drummond’s italics with the rest:

“There is only one trouble in this for him and his argument; *his statements are utterly erroneous*: the ‘last Junior Grand Warden’ was *not* there: no other late officer of the old Grand Lodge was there; and so far as the record shows, no one who had ever been a member of the old Grand Lodge was there; in fact, no pretence was ever made that any Grand Officer who was ‘regularly installed in 1832 (or at the last election, whether previous or subsequent to that date) authorized, approved or attended the meeting in June, 1841.’ In fact, there were not, so far as appears, seven officers or permanent members of the old Grand Lodge living in Michigan in June, 1841. The movement was started by immigrant masons, who had never been members of a lodge in Michigan and was consummated by ‘delegates,’ who were not Masters or Wardens under the old Grand Lodges, but from lodges which had no legal existence. We refer our brother to the historical sketch by Foster Pratt, published by the Grand Lodge of Michigan in its Reprint of its Proceedings, pp. 42, &c., and the Proceedings of the Old Grand Lodge published in connection with it.”

While this matter is scarcely worth noticing, yet if we notice it at all, we must repeat with emphasis what we said before:

1. The “officers of four of the extinct lodges” were not there.
2. The *Junior Grand Warden was not there.*
3. No one of the officers or members of the Old Grand Lodge was there.

As to the first, Bro. WAIT does not in his reply claim that that part of his former statement was not erroneous: the record shows that but three lodges were claimed to be represented; one of them was a lodge *v. d.*, created by the dispensation of the old Junior Grand Warden, although the old Deputy Grand Master was still alive, in the State, and able to act: one of the others was illegally set to work by the same Junior Grand Warden, and was no lodge at all.

As to the second point, the historian, Bro. FOSTER PRATT, speaking of the statement upon which Bro. WAIT relies, that the Junior Grand Warden was present, says, “*But he did not attend the meeting.*”

The italics are Bro. PRATT’S. But the record has now been printed, and the Junior Grand Warden *is not stated to be present.* This record, taken in connection with masonic usage, *is conclusive evidence that he was not there.* As matter of fact, six persons only are named as being present, and each one of them was a Grand Officer *pro tem.*; and even then, there were not enough present to fill the offices ordinarily required for the opening of a lodge; and if more had been present they would have filled more of the offices. The committees appointed were confined to these six; every motion was made by one of these six; no other person is named till they come to the election of Grand Officers, when five of them were elected, and four others,

but the latter were not there to be installed and they had to hold an adjourned meeting to install the Grand Officers! At the adjourned meeting, the acting officers are named, and seven "additional delegates." The Grand Officers elect (except the Grand Master) were then installed.

As to the third statement, no one now pretends that any officer or member of the old Grand Lodge was there.

Bro. WAIT took the statement from a letter from the Grand Secretary of the illegal Grand Lodge, in his last desperate effort to secure recognition from the Grand Lodge of New York: and every material statement in the paragraph quoted and relied on by Bro. WAIT has been shown to be untrue, or else so misleading as to be practically untrue. For example, he said that at the meeting we have mentioned "a large majority resolved to resume"—"a large majority," when there were only six in all!

Bro. WAIT says further:

"We should here premise, for purposes of perspicuity, that a convention of masons, called by circular and newspaper notice, was held at Mt. Clemens, Michigan, on the 15th day of November, 1840, with a view to the revival of Masonry in the state. It was composed of immigrants to the state, and no member of the Grand Lodge, or of any subordinate lodge was present. This was the 'movement' alluded to in the above quotation from Brother Drummond. It came to nothing, however, further than perhaps awakening the interest which led to the subsequent movement which claimed for itself legitimacy, and to which we alone alluded."

This is apparently a denial of the later part of our statement quoted by him.

Bro. PRATT says (and he is undoubtedly correct) that that first convention adjourned to meet May 5, 1841. In the interim the committee appointed by that convention conferred with the old masons, and learned of the former existence of a Grand Lodge, and at the adjourned meeting resolved that it could see no reason why the old Grand Lodge cannot convene itself; and it "induced" the Junior Grand Warden to call the meeting of June 2, 1841, and those present were the ones who held the former meetings: the leading spirit in the whole matter was the Grand Secretary, who wrote the letter to the Grand Lodge of New York, and he was an "immigrant."

When we reach the end of Bro. WAIT's review, we find that he says that it is quite immaterial to his argument whether the Junior Grand Warden was present or not! The inquiry naturally arises, why did he use it then? And more than that, why does he now devote nearly five pages in an effort to show that the statement was correct?

In his review of Mississippi he says:

"Among the decisions reported by the Committee on Law and Jurisprudence is one to the effect that secreting one's self when charged with an offence against the law so that process cannot be served upon him, constitutes a masonic offence. "Absconding in the face of a public charge, involving moral turpitude, is the equivalent," the committee say, 'of confess-

ing guilt.' They enlarge upon the rule thus announced, but this is the plain, clear doctrine laid down. An opinion much in the same direction has, if we remember rightly, been laid down by Brother Drummond, of Maine. It may not improbably be thought that these two distinguished authorities should be regarded as sufficient to establish the doctrine as the settled masonic law, and that only rashness can presume to question it. We do not, however, readily accede to this view, and we do not believe that sound reason can justify it. That absconding or secreting one's self in face of a criminal charge is evidence tending to show guilt, there can, we suppose, be no doubt, and it is uniformly so held in all judicial courts. But it was never, so far as we ever heard, held by any court that it was conclusive evidence of guilt, precluding evidence of actual innocence. In the history of criminal jurisprudence there have been many cases where innocent men charged with crime have absconded in the face of a debauched public sentiment in order to avoid an unfair trial. Before it is conceded that absconding or secreting one's self is '*the equivalent*' of a confession of guilt, we can but think that the subject should undergo further examination."

We do not understand that the Mississippi decision goes so far as Bro. WALT holds, and when we come to get the views of all concerned we doubt if there would be any material difference among us.

The force of the evidence must depend upon the circumstances of each case, and ordinarily we think that absconding under such circumstances is *sufficient* evidence of guilt to require a conviction, unless the inferences to be drawn from it are rebutted by other testimony. We have never held, and we do not think that the Mississippi committee intended to hold, that it is *conclusive* evidence.

Referring to the Grand Dieta, and replying to Bro. VINCE, of Missouri, he well says:

"He is right in his feeling of assurance that we do not favor the existence of a General Grand Lodge in the United States. Our objection is not based on any idea that the adoption of such an organization would be any necessary departure from the principles of the masonic institution. It is from views of policy, and not of principle, that we are unwilling to see such an organization of Masonry in the United States. It does not follow, as we conceive, that it might not, under conditions existing elsewhere, afford the most successful and best means of governing the craft. We think it wholly a matter of choice with the membership of the fraternity, whether they will organize themselves under independent Grand Lodges in the several states, or under a system of Grand Lodges united under a supreme governing body over the whole. We think the one system just as legitimate as the other, and that Mexican masons having seen fit to adopt for themselves the latter system furnishes to our minds no objection whatever to their recognition by Grand Lodges of the United States."

He discusses briefly the Washington matter, but prefers to leave it for further developments, but he well says:

"We feel called upon, however, to say that, on reading the report of the Washington committee, including the resolutions with which it concludes, we understood it, as have all other brethren who have expressed their views upon it, to be a very clear and explicit recommendation to the Grand Lodge to declare the legitimacy of and to extend recognition to all the negro lodges deriving their descent from the so-called African or Prince Hall Grand

Lodge, and to admit the members of those bodies to visitation in the lodges, and to all the rights and privileges of affiliated masons among the craft of Washington. And the adoption of that report we understood to be the enactment of such as the rule to be recognized and practiced as the law of the masonic jurisdiction of the State of Washington. If, as they now claim, such was not the intention of that report, we most fervently hope its authors will as speedily as practicable bring about such a modification in it as will satisfy the evident demand of the united sentiment of American masons."

NEW JERSEY, 1900.

A fine portrait of the retiring Grand Master, M. W. Bro. JOSIAH W. EWAN, is given as a frontispiece.

An emergent communication was held June 14, 1899, under a call from the Grand Master, "For the purpose of considering the very urgent and immediate need for additional accommodations at our Masonic Home."

The Grand Lodge had voted to take the expense of this from the permanent fund, but when that came to be considered the committee was very adverse to it, and the calling of this session was the result. Thereupon, after a lengthy discussion, the following preambles and resolutions were adopted by a vote of three hundred and ninety-four to one hundred and thirty-four:

"WHEREAS, The Most Worshipful Grand Master has called this Grand Lodge in Emergent Communication 'for the purpose of considering the very urgent and immediate need for additional accommodations at our Masonic Home'; therefore,

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge fully approves of the action of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, in assembling the Grand Lodge for the purpose of considering the object as stated in his circular letter of May 6th.

"Resolved, That the Committee on Masonic Home is authorized and instructed to enlarge the present Home, and that an assessment of \$1.50 per capita, as per last returns of the lodges, is levied upon the lodges for that purpose.

"WHEREAS, The last communication of the Grand Lodge authorized the Committee on Masonic Home 'to pay the cost of all extensions to the Home property out of the Permanent Fund,' the committee, in considering the subject, deemed it unwise to avail itself of the authority thus granted, believing that the use of the fund for such purposes would be detrimental to the noble work; therefore,

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge sustains the committee in its determination, and recommends that this resolution be rescinded as soon as possible.

"Resolved, That the assessment of \$1.50 per capita shall be payable by the fifteenth day of October, 1899."

At the annual communication, the Grand Lodge was complimented by the presence of distinguished visitors from New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware, who were received and welcomed, and responded in a fitting manner. The Grand Masters of New York and Pennsylvania were among them.

The practice of visitations of this character seems to be on the increase,

and it is one to be highly commended, and will accomplish, as we believe, very excellent results.

Grand Master EWAN announced among others, the death of Past Grand Master JAMES H. DURAND, and paid an eloquent tribute, and evidently a deserved one, to his memory. The death of this brother was quite a shock to us, as we were prevented only by accident from being present on the occasion when he was stricken down, and read the announcement of it in the morning papers of the next day.

He also announced the death of Bro. GARRET A. HOBART, Vice President of the United States, who, the Grand Master says, was an earnest and conscientious mason, and always alive to the principles of the Institution.

In accordance with the custom of that jurisdiction, he announced the death of a large number of Past Masters, who, under the Constitution, are members of the Grand Lodge.

Grand Master EWAN had performed a large number of official acts, and rendered some decisions. Most of the former are of a routine character.

We are gratified to find that while numerous requests for waiver of jurisdiction by this Grand Lodge are received, they are acted upon in a true masonic spirit, and apparently never refused when the character of the candidate is believed to be so satisfactory as to fit him to be a mason. To show the number of applications, we would say that seventy-five were granted to Pennsylvania and New York, and twenty-five denied, and on the other hand, a small number of requests were made to other jurisdictions, and about the same number from them were granted.

There had been a few cases of fraudulent evasion of the law, in which rejected candidates had succeeded in being accepted in other jurisdictions, but these were very promptly and severely dealt with, as they ought to be.

The Grand Master reviews the Washington matter, and he is not satisfied with the action of Washington last year. He says:

“I believe its intentions were to repeal, absolutely, the offensive resolution, but the words do not carry out this belief.

“I am credibly informed, in fact I have read a letter from the present Grand Master of Washington, in which he states, in the most emphatic manner, that no person who is not regular in every sense of the word can be admitted to any subordinate lodge in Washington, and that it is not permissible for persons hailing from lodges tracing their origin to Prince Hall Lodge or others of like masonic standing to gain admission.

“This decision of Grand Master Seeman holds good while he is Grand Master. Will his successor decide otherwise, even as his predecessor decided?

“I am of the opinion that it is unwise to remove our interdict until it is positively determined by the Grand Lodge of Washington whether New Jersey has any right to review or question the admission to their lodges of persons we have declared to be clandestine and irregular.”

He gives a brief account of the exercises of the Centennial Anniversary, speaking in high terms of the action, and of the excellent results of it.

He had apparently spent a good deal of his time in examining candidates as to their physical qualifications. Either personally, or by a Deputy, he had examined forty-four, thirty-three of whom he held to be eligible and eleven ineligible. We think that his experience suggests that the action in one of the jurisdictions, which we have already noticed, in leaving the fact to the lodges, and requiring them to decide, is a wise one. This action suggests that either the laws are very strict in that jurisdiction, or a much larger percentage of Jersey men are cripples than we had imagined!

He makes an earnest appeal in behalf of the Masonic Home and the preservation of the permanent fund. He says that a very large number of lodges had promptly complied with the order of the Grand Lodge at the emergent communication, and paid the assessment. Very few had asked for further time, and he believed that within a few days it would all have been paid.

Among his decisions was one that candidates shall not be initiated in English-speaking lodges unless they understand the English language. This is a case which would seem to occur rarely, but we have an impression that we have read of an instance in which the work was done through an interpreter. Of course, his decision would debar any one not understanding the English language from being made a mason in nearly all the jurisdictions in this country.

He had an application to confer the degree at sight in what was deemed a meritorious case, but he adopted the following course:

“Trimble Lodge, No. 117, was to meet the following night, April 21st, and the young man was to leave before another lodge meeting.

“Early the next morning I sent instructions to the Worshipful Master of that lodge to at once name a committee from his lodge, notify them of their appointment, and direct them to investigate the character and standing of Mr. McCormack, and be prepared to report that night.

“The instructions were followed, and at the meeting of the lodge his petition was presented, the committee reported, he was balloted for and elected.

“It was my pleasure to be present in the lodge and confer the three degrees upon him, assisted by the officers of Trimble Lodge.

“After a statement made by me of the circumstances of the young brother, I am much gratified to state that by the almost unanimous vote of Trimble lodge, the initiation fee was generously donated to him to aid him in the extraordinary expenses he would be under while seeking to restore his health.

“During the few days he remained in Camden he was carefully instructed and qualified to prove himself a mason.

“Since he has been in Colorado his health has greatly improved, and he has had ample opportunity to realize and appreciate his masonic privileges.

“No act of my official life has given me more satisfaction and pleasure.

“I am a firm believer in the prerogative of a Grand Master to make masons at sight, but I am equally as firm in my belief that this prerogative should not be exercised except in the most extreme emergency, and that cases justifying its exercise are exceedingly rare.

In one case a resident of New Jersey received the degrees in Scotland and took a dimit from the lodge. Under the law of New Jersey, he could not be recognized. After various attempts to come into correspondence with the authorities of Scotland, which resulted in nothing, he advised the party to commence anew and take the degrees over again, and he did so.

He urges that provision be made that when a brother, who has received one degree, does not present himself to take the remaining degrees within a given time, he shall be required to petition over again and submit to another ballot before he can be advanced; a provision which has been found necessary in many jurisdictions.

The report of the Committee on the Masonic Home states that at the time of the last annual communication there were twenty-two inmates, of the average age of seventy years; four had been admitted; one had died; two had voluntarily left; one had been expelled for persistent refusal to abide by the regulations, making the present number twenty-two, with two vacancies. But there had been a very large number of applications unacted upon, and on that account, as already stated, they advised the Grand Master to call an emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge. The result was such that they were able to put an addition under contract at once, and when that shall be completed, the Home will accommodate eighty inmates in all. The expenditure for the year had been \$6,639.22, or \$288.66 *per capita*, being about \$900.00 greater than the receipts.

Rev. Bro. HENRY R. ROSE, of Newark, upon the invitation of the Grand Master, delivered a very fine address, in which he says:

“The old hostility to our Order still exists bitterly in one ecclesiastical organization. Only the other day, in the city of Flushing, Long Island, a Catholic priest was asked by one of the congregation whether a true Catholic could be a mason, and the reply was: ‘No; because Freemasonry is sinful.’ From the point of view of the Roman Catholic Church, our craft is sinful. That misrepresentation is not only being foisted upon the minds of those who attend its churches, but, because the reply was published in the newspapers, there are thousands in the Protestant churches who will get the idea that our craft is organized and working for vicious ends.”

In one case a brother was convicted upon charges, but the lodge refused to inflict any punishment, and the Grand Master ruled that that leaves the brother in good standing. The committee confirmed this decision, saying, however:

“They have also considered the question presented by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, in his address, as to the *status* of a brother convicted upon charges, whose lodge has refused to inflict any punishment. Your committee adhere to the opinion, adopted by this Grand Lodge, that such a brother is in good standing, but your committee would emphatically state that a lodge which convicts a brother of a masouic offence and refuses to inflict any punishment therefor, is a disgrace to the Fraternity, unworthy to hold a warrant from this Grand Lodge, and in the opinion of your committee, the warrant of such a lodge should be immediately arrested.”

A very valuable manuscript relating to Masonry in Morristown during the Revolutionary War, was presented to the Grand Lodge, and is published in the appendix, which includes quite a history of American Union Lodge, with brief notices of the names of the members of it. It is a very valuable addition, not only to masonic history, but also to the history of the Revolution.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 110) was presented, as heretofore, by Bro. GEORGE B. EDWARDS, but it had been prepared at his request by Bro. CHARLES BELCHER.

He confines himself very closely to an abstract of the Proceedings. He is vehemently opposed to all the regulations and resolutions allowing masonic discipline against parties engaged in the liquor traffic. In his review of Alabama, referring to the following decision:

“A lodge has the right to enact a by-law approving that no one engaged in the business of retailing alcoholic liquor shall hold membership in a lodge,” he says, “this means excommunication without trial, and is a travesty upon masonic charity and justice.” The by-law certainly does not contemplate convicting a man “without a trial,” and in his zeal in this direction he has evidently misunderstood the by-law and its effect, nor can we see exactly where the matter of “charity” comes in. Of course, excommunication without trial would be a violation of masonic “justice.”

He condenses a large amount of matter into a small space, but his printer, in many cases, prints extracts in the same type as the original matter, so that it is a little difficult sometimes to determine whether a particular sentence is a quotation or was written by our brother.

We join with him in the regret that Maine was one of the Proceedings which he had not received. We think the reason must have been some failure in the transmission between the Grand Secretary and Bro. BELCHER.

Appended to the Proceedings is an account of the Centennial Exercises at Mt. Vernon.

NEW MEXICO, 1899.

We have the portraits of P. G. Master JOHN W. POE, and the retiring Grand Master, ROBERT C. STEWART.

At the annual communication, Grand Master STEWART was unavoidably absent, and his address was read by the Deputy Grand Master.

He gives a concise account of his official acts and decisions. We note that a large number of his dispensations was to permit joint occupancy of halls, and a few to install officers who had failed to be installed at the regular time. We cannot understand why in a few jurisdictions these last dispensations are required, and why no general provision is made to meet the

emergency. We have it in Maine, and have always had it, and there has never been any abuse of it or any evil growing out of it.

He decided that a verbal objection (apparently made in open lodge) against a petitioner for initiation ceases to exist by the suspension of the objector for the non-payment of dues, and that the petition can be received exactly as though no objection had ever been made. He directed that extreme caution be used in scrutinizing the character of the candidate.

In relation to the Washington matter, he says:

"The second and third resolutions were repealed, but this action is accompanied by certain declarations couched in such terms as to render it doubtful as to whether the resolutions are not still really in force, by *implication at least*. For all this, I am willing to believe that our Washington brethren intended the repeal of those resolutions *and their effect* absolutely."

The Grand Lecturer was prevented, by death in his family, from visiting all the lodges in his jurisdiction as he had intended to do. The lodges, that he had visited, are reported in good condition.

The question of the recognition of the Gran Dieta had been before the committee, but the documents received had led them to the conclusion that they had better take more time and accordingly the matter was continued in their hands another year.

A large amount of routine business was transacted, but not of general interest.

The Grand Lodge adopted resolutions in relation to the Washington matter; the conclusion, the most important, is the following:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will at all times refuse to have any dealings with any masonic body which recognizes individuals, or organizations, as regularly masonic, who (or which) are not recognized masonically by the Grand Lodge within whose Grand Jurisdiction they live."

The reports of the District Deputies have a home look, and remind us of our own reports here in Maine. As a rule they show that the lodges are in a good condition and doing good work.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 93), was presented by Bro. MAX FROST.

Condensed abstracts with appropriate extracts, mark the character of his report. He occasionally comments, but as a whole rather briefly.

In his review of of Washington he says:

I have read carefully the report of the committee and I cannot and do not agree with the conclusions reached nor with the historical statement presented. My views are based upon the reports on 'Negro Masonry' or 'Masons of African descent' submitted at various times by learned brethren after exhaustive examination of the subject, to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in whose jurisdiction the so-called 'Negro Lodge' originated. I am fully convinced that the Grand Lodge of Washington is wrong in fact, in history, in logic, in equity and in law. I find that, since the passing of these resolutions, the sentiment against the action of the Grand Lodge of

Washington in this matter is almost unanimous. It seems to me that it was wrong, untimely and ill advised to bring this matter up at all.

And he gives the following as the position taken by his jurisdiction upon the saloon question.

"In the jurisdiction in New Mexico we have not been bothered very much with this question; the sentiment of the New Mexico Grand Lodge is that petitions from persons selling liquor as a beverage or keeping saloons, should not be favorably considered. This sentiment prevails and of late years no such petitions have been received and acted upon favorably. It is true that there are a few members of the fraternity who are in the saloon business in New Mexico, but their number is becoming rapidly less and there is no trouble concerning the subject. In a few years it will settle itself without friction and without harsh measures."

NEW YORK, 1899.

We have an immense volume of about 625 pages, but the accounts of the Masonic Home are given in items, and in addition a list of nearly forty pages of the civil war roster. Portraits are given of Bros. W. P. McDONALD and GEORGE HAYES.

At the opening of the Grand Lodge, M. W. Bro. E. T. MALONE, Grand Master of Canada, with Past Grand Masters STEVENSON and GIBSON and others of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and M. W. Bro. JOSIAH W. EWAN, Grand Master of New Jersey, were received and welcomed as visitors.

A telegram of regret from Bro. CHARLES E. IDE, Senior Grand Warden, unexpectedly detained in San Francisco, was received and read. His absence was greatly regretted. But tidings came later of a still sadder character. He returned home soon after and went to Florida, where he soon after suddenly died. We knew him personally, and had a very high estimate of his ability and character as a man, and his zeal and efficiency as a mason; we regard his death as not only a great loss to New York, but to the whole Fraternity.

The Grand Master, WILLIAM A. SUTHERLAND, delivered a comparatively brief address.

In relation to the Washington matter, he says:

"In obedience to the constitution the officers of the Grand Lodge present accounts of their stewardship. These reports show disbursements by the Grand Treasurer amounting to \$77,648.48, leaving a balance in his hands on this date of \$48,298.90. The trustees of the hall and asylum report disbursements in support of the 250 inmates of the Home, and permanent improvements, \$61,557.46, and general expenses amounting to \$3,045.72, with a balance of cash on hand amounting to \$7,919.84, with a reserve fund amounting to \$198,605.38, nearly all invested in bond and mortgages. The trustees of the permanent fund show a balance of \$77,586.19. The aggregate of the funds and investments in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund, and the trustees of the Permanent Fund, amounts to \$332,410.31.

“In the building and equipment of our Home at Utica we have already expended upwards of \$375,000.00, and the temple in which we are now assembled, though not adequate nor wholly suitable to the uses of the craft, was, when built, ample and convenient for the requirements of that day. This building, including the site, reasonably valued at \$1,500,000, brings our entire possessions up to a total of over \$2,200,000.”

While announcing the deaths of distinguished brethren in other jurisdictions he had to announce the death of none of the permanent members of his own jurisdiction; but two members of the standing committee on Hall and Asylum, both active masons, especially distinguished in all the walks of life, viz: DANIEL LORD, the distinguished lawyer, and ROSWELL P. FLOWER, ex-Governor of the State of New York, had died during the year.

He had been obliged to suspend a Master of a lodge for unconstitutional conduct, who was tried by the Trial Commissioners, and suspended for one year; and later he was tried again on charge for an attack upon the District Deputy, who preferred the original charge, and was found guilty and expelled.

He was obliged to suspend the charter of another lodge for a willful and flagrant violation of the jurisdiction of New Jersey, by receiving a candidate from that state. The parties concerned in this misconduct, including the Master and Secretary, were tried and suspended, except one who was reprimanded. All the other members were acquitted of any complicity and thereupon the charter was restored.

We note that in these trials, the defendants were sentenced to suspension, and were also obliged to pay the costs of the trial. This latter proceeding is novel to us, and we believe that it is not justified by the laws of Masonry. We regard it as exceedingly contrary to the true interests of the Institution. The pecuniary element, save for certain specified purposes, is foreign to the very fundamental laws of Freemasonry. Of course, the payment of these costs can be enforced only by masonic penalties. We believe that if they are to be an incident of masonic discipline, that fact will materially influence parties in cases of discipline.

The Grand Master refers to the Washington matter, and his correspondence with Grand Master UPTON is given in these Proceedings. As we had a copy last year, and noticed them in our report, we have no further occasion to refer to them, except to acknowledge here our obligation to Grand Master SUTHERLAND, for his courtesy.

He earnestly advocates the continuance of the system of Grand Representatives, and in that connection he gives the following history of the origin of the practice:

“It is interesting in this connection to note that it was the Grand Lodge of New York which inaugurated the system of exchanging representatives. Upon the suggestion of Right Worshipful James Herring, then the Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge, in 1838, at its annual communication in June,

recommended that the Grand Officers take the initiative, 'with power to correspond and ascertain how and where suitable brethren can be found to represent this Grand Lodge with the dignity to which it is so justly entitled, and to receive the names of such persons as other Grand Lodges may be disposed to offer as Representatives in this Grand Lodge,' etc. At the quarterly communication, December 5, 1838, announcement was made of the approval of the Grand Lodge of Ireland of the proposition to exchange Representatives, and recommending Right Worshipful John Norman, of Dublin, Past Deputy Grand Master, as our Representative. The commission for Right Worshipful Brother Norman, the first issued by any Grand Lodge to any Representative, was copied in full upon the minutes of December 5, 1838, and recites that it is

"By the Most Worshipful
Morgan Lewis, Esquire,

late Major-General in the armies of the United States, ex-Governor and Chief Justice, president of the societies of the Cincinnati and Saint David, and *Grand Master* of the ancient and honorable fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New York in the United States of America."

He had attended a large number of public ceremonies, and had also visited Zetland Lodge in Toronto, where he met the Grand Master of Canada, and nine of the ten living Past Grand Masters of that Grand Lodge.

He devotes considerable of his space to the Masonic Home, as well he may.

BRO. PETER ROSS, the Historian, submitted a report in which he gives a list, as already stated, of the members of the New York lodges who served in the Civil War.

An attempt had been made to collect information in relation to the following subjects:

1. Brethren in the Revolutionary War.
2. Brethren in War of 1812.
3. The Morgan period.
4. Antiquities.
5. Brethren in the Civil War."

He was not ready to report in relation to the first four divisions.

The Board of Masonic Relief, referring to the General Association, say:

"During the year just closed this Association has discovered and published two hundred and thirty-nine impostors and unworthy applicants, and published the movements of sixty-five persons previously reported. Our own Board has supplied the names and description of forty-one so published. The number of original cases published from the organization of the Association in 1885 to date is 2,529.

"This organized protection to masonic charitable funds is still as successful as its friends and supporters can reasonably desire. Its work is acknowledged to be a necessity of recent years, and its importance continually increases as its field of labor is enlarged. Each monthly circular is larger than its predecessor, and the question of its necessity, which formerly was asked, has been changed to the inquiry as to how masonic relief could have been properly distributed without its assistance. The matter of widely spread imposition, which, previous to the formation of the Association, was believed only by the more experienced, is now known to all as a fact to be reckoned with. The time is not far distant when the subject will have to

be considered by the various Grand Lodges at their regular legislative assemblies. When that time shall come the value of the labor performed by this Association will be better understood and more widely appreciated.

“The special feature of publishing photographs and autographs of detected impostors has been generally approved, though as a means of detection the autograph is the more effective.”

The Grand Officers were all elected by acclamation, except the Grand Master, and the exception in his case was merely nominal, as the Grand Lodge unanimously voted that his venerable father, who was present, should cast the vote.

The Grand Master elect, WRIGHT D. POWNALL, accepted the position in terms showing a high conception of Masonry and the duties of masons; the following is worthy of being remembered by every brother:

“Masonry is unselfish. *Through me and by me, and not for me*, is the creed of its disciples.”

A fac simile of a letter from Bro. ADNA ADAMS TREAT, one hundred and two years old, now resident in Colorado, was ordered to be published in the Proceedings with his portrait; and a telegram was sent to him with the cordial greetings of the Grand Lodge.

The dimit question was solved by the adoption of the following amendment to the Constitution:

“Any member of a lodge against whom charges are not pending, and whose dues and indebtedness to the lodge are paid, may withdraw from membership by presenting a written application therefor at a stated communication. The lodge shall grant the request of the brother by dropping his name from the rolls, and his membership shall thereby be terminated, and he shall be subject to the disabilities of a non-affiliated Master Mason. A brother thus dropped from the roll of a lodge shall be entitled to a certificate setting forth the fact.

A special report in relation to the Washington matter was presented and adopted; but as this action was taken before the Grand Lodge of Washington acted last year, we do not deem it necessary to review it further than to quote the following:

“We note the disclaimer embodied in the circular letter of M. W. Brother Upton (January 4, 1899), that the Grand Lodge of Washington did not, by the resolutions adopted, *intend* to recognize negro lodges, or negro Grand Lodges, but with all due respect to the M. W. Brother, we must judge the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington by the *effect* of the resolutions, rather than the qualifying statements of its present Grand Master.

“If such was the *intent*, the resolutions adopted were very unfortunately worded, and there yet remains an opportunity for the Grand Lodge of Washington to rescind its action, especially so in view of the very general protest which has emanated from other Grand Lodges before whom the subject has come for decision.”

The time of holding the annual session of the Grand Lodge was changed, so that it now meets on the same day on which our own Grand Lodge meets.

The following was adopted in relation to the costs and expenses of trials:

“When the commissioners shall, in their report, impose the payment of any costs or expenses upon any of the parties before them, and such costs or expenses shall not have been paid within a reasonable time, the Grand Master may, by warrant, order that the same, or any such part thereof as he may deem proper, be paid by the lodge of which the party against whom the same were awarded is or was a member, or by the Grand Treasurer.”

The system is different from that which prevails in any other jurisdiction, in that there is an appeal to the Grand Master and an appeal from his decision to the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Work and Lectures reported to the Grand Lodge, recommending two additions to the monitorial work. The first relates to reception of a candidate in the preparation room. It had been found that the proprieties had been violated by brethren in that part of the work, and therefore it was proposed that an address should be made to the candidate by the Master of Ceremonies, before propounding the constitutional questions. The second was made in consequence of the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru, and the discussion growing out of the same in relation to the Holy Bible, and the committee reported an address to be made by the Master to the candidate while standing at the altar. Both were adopted by the Grand Lodge and may be found in these Proceedings on page 214. We would quote them, but as they cannot be used in this jurisdiction until they shall have been approved by the Grand Lodge, we simply refer to them so that those interested may examine them for themselves.

One case came before the Grand Lodge, in which the action of the Master of the lodge was sustained, but as it seems to us, it goes beyond what the law has heretofore been understood to be.

A member of a lodge behaved in such a manner that it became necessary for the Master to exclude him from the lodge, which he very properly did, but he gave further direction that the member should not be again admitted to the lodge until he had made a written apology to the lodge for his conduct. Apparently he had been habitually guilty of similar conduct. It seems to us that the proper course was to have had charges preferred, and the brother tried upon them.

Upon examining the matter more carefully, we find that we are in error in our first understanding. The trial commissioners vacated that portion of the Master's order, but the Grand Master, in passing upon their decision seems to have been of the opinion that the order of the Master was correct, but as the proceedings were set aside for another cause, he found that it was not necessary to decide the question formally, but so far as he did decide it, he approved the conclusion of the commissioners, vacating the order of the Master.

The special committee to prepare and present expressions in reference to the retiring Grand Master, *WILLIAM A. SUTHERLAND*, presented a report

highly eulogizing his administration, and upon their recommendation the Grand Lodge ordered that his addresses, correspondence and edicts of a general character, should be published in a pamphlet and distributed to all the Grand Lodges in the world, and to the lodges in that jurisdiction and other parties; and we find the same printed in these Proceedings. It is a valuable collection, and we trust that pamphlet copies will find their way into all masonic libraries.

The collection includes his correspondence with Grand Master UPTON, of Washington.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 216) was presented by Bro. JESSE B. ANTHONY, as heretofore.

As heretofore, also, the review of the Proceedings of the foreign Grand Lodges, to which fifty pages of the report are devoted, was prepared by Bro. EMIL FRENKEL.

It is quite a full abstract, accompanied with explanatory extracts, with comments upon the more important matters.

In his review of Florida he discusses to some extent the correspondence between Grand Masters SUTHERLAND and UPTON, which we noticed last year. He criticises the utterances of Bro. UPTON, closing as follows:

“We have felt thus free to express an individual opinion for the reason that in some of the correspondence emanating from M. W. Bro. Upton he has voluntarily rendered himself liable to the same construction that he has been pleased to apply to others who differed from him.”

Quoting the following from Bro. ROBBINS, in relation to the Peru matter:

“Grand Masters and committees have made speeches to the galleries or permitted themselves to dogmatize about the Bible in a way not warranted by that Magna Charta of religious liberty to the Freemason, the charges ‘concerning God and religion.’”

He says:

“Does our ritual mean anything?”

“We are loth to think that our brother does not consider that the Bible ‘is an essential in the furniture of every lodge of Freemasons in a christian land.’ We do most emphatically; and it will be a sorry day for Freemasonry when a contrary belief becomes prevalent. This is a vital question upon which no craftsman can afford to split hairs.

“It is not material to us what may have been the custom in the earlier ages of Freemasonry; we are satisfied to be governed by the custom of the present day. This belief is not to be circumscribed by the tenets of any religious creed, but comprehends the doctrine that the Holy Bible is the inestimable gift of God to man, the rule for our guide, the embodiment of sure promises for the future.”

In his review of Maine, he quotes approvingly the remarks of Grand Master LOCKE in regards to dispensations, saying that the Constitution of New York absolutely forbids the granting of dispensations to confer degrees in less than the regular time. We believe this prohibition unwise and con-

trary to ancient usage, but we have heretofore said all that we desire upon the subject.

In relation to parties who do not pay their dues, he says:

“ We are a believer in the principle that the success of Freemasonry depends more particularly upon the activity and earnestness of the individual mason than in its numerical standing. When, therefore, a member of a lodge has so little interest in his lodge and the general good of the craft as to neglect, if able, to pay the annual dues for the support of the lodge and its charitable calls, the ‘ sooner he is weeded out of the body and his name stricken from the rolls the better for the fraternity and its good name; if worthy and unable to pay, his dues should be freely and cheerfully remitted.’ ”

This is the doctrine of his Grand Lodge, which in the past has gone further in the direction of depriving non-affiliated masous of masonic rights than we think masonic law justifies; but at this session of the Grand Lodge it amended its law and to some extent, as we understand it, has retraced its steps.

In regard to the Maine proposition, he says:

“ Having advocated the principle that the recognition of the *status* given a rejected candidate by the law of the Grand Jurisdiction in which he had been rejected, it appears to us that it would be a practical solution of an element which otherwise must inevitably lead to unpleasantness between sister Grand Lodges.”

There is no doubt at all of the correctness of his position, but it seems to us that the Grand Lodges holding to perpetual jurisdiction ought to follow the example set by the Grand Lodges of New York and Maine, and make concession in the opposite direction, by substituting a reasonable time limit for perpetual jurisdiction.

In his review of Washington, he very ably discusses the repeal by that Grand Lodge of its resolution in relation to Pythagoras Lodge, the resolution being as follows:

“ The body formerly known as Pythagoras Lodge, No. 86, is hereby declared to be irregular; and all intercourse with members hailing under the Grand Lodge of Hamburg is hereby prohibited until that Grand Lodge revokes the warrant granted to said Pythagoras Lodge, No. 86, in the State of New York, authorizing said lodge to open a lodge and make masons within the jurisdiction, and without the permission of the Grand Lodge of New York.”

Of this Bro. ANTHONY says:

“ It is unnecessary to recite the facts which in 1863 warranted, and we may say demanded, the adoption of the regulation above quoted, and now rescinded. The reason, therefore, holds as good now as then, for the invasion still continues. Naturally the reason for this action is apparent when we consider that the Grand Lodge of Washington was clearing the deck for its action upon the question of the regularity of negro Masonry. By this action we understand the Grand Lodge of Washington to declare that the act of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, in granting a warrant for the establishment of a lodge within the jurisdictional lines of the Grand Lodge of New York was in no sense an infringement of its territory or a violation of a vital prin-

ciple governing all American Grand Lodges, sovereignty of territory. In our judgment the principle that a Grand Lodge is supreme within the confines of its territory, and that no other Grand Lodge can interfere therewith, is too firmly established to be overturned at the *ipse dixit* of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"Masonry in the State of New York, as far as its supervision and government is concerned, belongs to us, and we deny now, as we have in the past, the right of any body of men to share our heritage. We deny the validity of any warrant located in the State of New York not granted to seven or more Master Masons by the Grand Lodge of New York, and in this claim New York has been sustained by sister Grand Lodges, and New York would equally maintain the same principle for all other Grand Lodges.

"In discarding the principle of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction the Grand Lodge of Washington practically proclaims that the jurisdiction of Washington is henceforth to be open territory for the admission of any Grand Lodge in the erection of masonic lodges of its obedience. The prohibition heretofore established against the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and still maintained by all other sister Grand Lodges, is by this action lifted, and the Grand Lodge of Washington, in effect says to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, 'Should such be your desire, the establishment of any lodges of your obedience within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Washington, while such invasion might be "deprecated," would not occasion or warrant the severance of fraternal relations between the two Grand Bodies.' It is to be regretted that the Grand Lodge of Washington has seen fit to take a position antagonistic to the American doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty, and withdraw its adherence to a principle essential to the maintenance of masonic relations with sister Grand Bodies."

Upon this point he quotes the following from Bro. ROBBINS, who as usual puts the matter very strongly:

"The recognition by any Grand Lodge of bodies held to be clandestine by the Grand Lodge within whose jurisdiction they exist, whether the membership of such clandestine bodies be white or black, should relegate such recognizing body to the same clandestine status.

"The Grand Lodge of Hamburg has made its own place as far as this country is concerned, and there it should be allowed to remain. The interdiction laid upon it and the masons of its obedience a generation ago *should not* be lifted by any American Grand Lodge until the right of New York and New Jersey, and of every other Grand Lodge in the United States, to the *exclusive control* of Masonry within their respective jurisdictions is fully recognized by that predatory body."

This, as Bro. ASTROXY well states, applies equally to the negro lodges in New York and elsewhere, and is not very great encouragement for Bro. Upton.

Under the head of Negro Masonry, he discusses the general subject very ably, taking for his text, however, the deliverances of the Grand Lodge of Washington. Had not the matter been so fully discussed and decided, we would be inclined to copy the whole of it.

He also gives an extremely interesting account of the history of the Grand Lodge of New York, in which he combats the statement made in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Washington, that in New York there had been three regular Grand Lodges at one time, and conclusively shows that the state-

ment is utterly erroneous, as all familiar with the Grand Lodge of New York well know. There has never been a time when the other Grand Lodges recognized any more than one Grand Lodge in New York. Other bodies that have existed there have never been recognized, and the masons made under their authority were recognized only after they had been "regularized" by the lawful Grand Lodge in accordance with the law of Masonry enacted in 1717, when the Grand Lodge system was originated.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1900.

A portrait of the retiring Grand Master, Bro. R. J. NOBLE, is given as a frontispiece, and the portrait of Past Grand Master ROBERT B. VANCE, who had died during the year, is also given.

The Grand Master in his address says:

"I desire to congratulate the craft on the progress that has been made by the order during the past masonic year. New lodges have been established, dormant ones resuscitated, several new halls have been built, old ones refurnished, two magnificent temples erected, many new members added, and a laudable ambition has been manifested on the part of the lodges to procure and conform to the demands of the authorized work of the Grand Lodge."

It gives us great pleasure to quote this, and also to add that the Proceedings before us fully justify his statement.

He had been called upon to do a very large number of official acts, which in itself shows that the craft had been active, and while some questions were asked that could have been answered by consulting the Constitution, it is a good deal better that they should be asked, rather than the parties asking them gone without the desired information.

Of the exclusion of members for the non-payment of dues, he says:

"Members excluded for non-payment of dues.' I would ask that the status of brethren excluded for non-payment of dues be defined—how they are to be excluded and how they are to be re-instated. I have been asked several times 'what must we do with a brother who will not pay his dues and pays no attention to a legal summons to appear and show cause why he should not be *excluded* for non-payment of dues.' I have told them in every instance, where a brother pays no attention to a legal summons, to prefer charges against him for disobeying a legal summons, and suspend or expel him. I must confess that I do not exactly understand the term, 'Excluded for non-payment of dues,' nor do I know how to exclude him. What is he—a non-affiliate, a suspended or an expelled mason?"

The committee answered in substance, that the party is neither expelled nor suspended, but as a rule deprived of membership, and left in a condition where he cannot apply to any lodge for membership, other than the lodge to which he applied, and then only on payment or remission of dues. It is precisely like our law in Maine in effect, although they call it by another name.

We find by one of his decisions, that instead of opening a lodge by climbing up the ladder from the first degree to the third, as is done in many jurisdictions, they open it by beginning at the top and climbing down. From a ritualistic standpoint this may be all right, but from a legal standpoint we hold both methods to be erroneous. Masonic law does not recognize F. C. and E. A. lodges, but only recognizes *the lodge* which may be opened *on any degree* the Master sees fit to select. This is the practice in Maine, and is borne out by the usage in old Portland Lodge for one hundred and thirty years.

Another indication of the prosperous condition of the craft, is that the Grand Master had been called upon to hold nine special communications during the year, all but one for public masonic ceremonies. One was called to transact a matter of business.

Another decision is contrary to what is generally held to be the law:

“Now when a person removes from the jurisdiction of a lodge and desires to be made a mason he should ask the consent of the lodge from whose jurisdiction he has moved. As I understand it, it does not take a unanimous ballot—only a majority. His vote simply allows the other lodge to entertain the petition and waives its right to the fee. I do not think the Grand Master has the power to override the by-laws at will.

It is generally held, and we think correctly, that when a mason removes from the jurisdiction of a lodge, that lodge loses all jurisdiction over him, and if he can be made a mason at all within less than twelve months from his taking up his residence in the jurisdiction of another lodge, it can be done only by decision by the Grand Master.

In commenting upon a decision of the Grand Master, the Committee on Jurisprudence claim that it is a landmark of Masonry, that an installed officer cannot resign. As we understand it this doctrine was never held until the installation ceremonies of which Bro. MACKAY was the author, were adopted, and we do not admit that even under them such a result follows.

Of the Orphan Asylum, the Grand Master says:

“It is with genuine pleasure that I mention our greatest charity, the Oxford Orphan Asylum—an institution which is the pride of every mason in North Carolina—which was founded by our order, is our property, and is under our management. Within its walls are the 219 jewels which are so precious to the craft and for whose welfare we work so diligently. Brethren, the asylum is now in better shape than ever before. The masons of North Carolina have so rallied to its support, in answer to appeals for aid, that it is now practically out of debt. No money has been borrowed this year for the support of the orphans, and the directors have managed so well that they have paid a goodly sum on the old debt, and I am sure that at an early day the sums promised by individuals and the subordinate lodges for the erection of the girls' buildings will all be paid, and then the asylum will be entirely out of debt.”

Very much of these Proceedings are devoted to an account of the operation

of this splendid institution, and we are more than pleased to know that it is in a flourishing condition.

Speaking of the Washington Centennial exercises, at which he was present, he says:

"On December 13th, the Grand Lodge of our sister jurisdiction of Virginia met with the brethren of the historic Alexandria-Washington Lodge. In this lodge the Father of his country was the first Master. Most of the States were present by duly accredited delegates with our Virginian brethren. The meeting was turned into a Lodge of Fellowship and Brotherly Love, and the words of greeting and good cheer that fell from the eminent brethren the world over testified to the universality of our ancient institution."

We have no doubt that every one present at that meeting will bear it in memory with great pleasure, throughout their whole life.

The Grand Secretary gives another indication of the increasing prosperity. Lodges had improved in relation to making returns and paying dues, until it had come to be the case that rarely a lodge was delinquent, although some still continued the old practice of waiting for the session of the Grand Lodge and sending in their returns and dues by their representative, a practice which the Grand Secretary has been making strenuous efforts to reform, and which he proposes to continue.

After stating in substance that in five years there had been an increase of over 2,500 in the membership, the Grand Secretary says further:

"You will notice further that the increase in our membership has been of the best nature and quality. This increase has been within the borders of the old lodges heretofore organized, as only three new lodges have been organized during the year, while three old lodges have been revived, and not a lodge has surrendered its charter except for the purpose of uniting with another lodge or for purposes of removal."

The address of the Grand Orator was of a high character, and will pay well for careful examination.

A special committee had been appointed at the last annual communication, to whom should be referred all applications to the subordinate lodges for contributions, and they reported that eighteen such applications had been made, six of which the committee approved, declining to approve the remaining twelve.

The character of the application is shown in the following list:

"During the year there have been eighteen applications submitted to the committee for their approval, as follows:

Destruction of property by fire and otherwise,	4
Financial embarrassment, mortgages, etc.,	5
To build new halls,	3
Old and destitute males,	2
Destitute widows and orphans,	4

The committee well says:

"The building of new masonic halls is a commendable work for subordinate lodges, but it is purely a local matter; and as long as more than two-thirds of the subordinate lodges of the state are compelled to occupy rented halls, they should not be called upon to aid those more prosperous than themselves.

"Masonry is expected and required to help the poor and the needy and to relieve distress. Beyond this nothing is obligatory, and the frequent and persistent appeals for promiscuous financial aid has an unhealthy effect upon the order, and masons frequently become annoyed and remain away from their lodges on account of this persistent begging.

"Your committee submit these reflections because they have become convinced by experience that the time has arrived when a halt should be called to a practice which may become an evil."

It seems there was some dissatisfaction with the "Lady Supervisor" of the Orphan Asylum, and a special meeting of the Grand Lodge was held to consider that matter. But the Grand Lodge refused to take any action by a very large vote. The matter was brought before the Grand Lodge again, but was laid on the table.

The Report on Correspondence (pages 149) was presented by JOHN A. COLLINS. In his introduction he refers to the Washington matter as follows:

"Fortunately for the peace and permanence of Masonry, that Grand Lodge has fraternally receded from the position it had been persuaded to take, by able and influential and sincere brethren of its own household, and has once more aligned herself with all the Grand Lodges of the United States in repudiation of this malodorous heresy.

"Such old and conservative Grand Jurisdictions as Massachusetts, Maine, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and others had long ago settled the status of negro Masonry, and had denounced these claimants to Masonic recognition as fraudulent, spurious and clandestine, and had thus removed the question entirely from the domain of sectional politics or alleged race prejudice, and that, too, at a time when the 'bloody chasm' had not been so securely bridged as it is to-day."

His review of the Proceedings is almost wholly confined to an extremely well prepared abstract. We wish, however, that his printer would follow the general custom of distinguishing the original matter from the extracts by a difference in type, or in other ways well known to printers.

Referring to the remarks of Grand Master LOCKE in relation to the admission of Catholics, he says that he cannot agree with our Grand Master. We do not think that he can fairly say that the decision applies "a new qualification." It would be more nearly correct to say a new disqualification, perhaps. But no new rule is applied: new cases arise and must be disposed of by applying established rules: there are very many individual cases, and even classes of cases, outside of those specified, in which the black ball must be used.

His remarks in relation to this subject emphasize our regret that he did not make more extended comments, as we would have been glad to have his views concerning the reasons which Grand Master LOCKE gave for his opinion.

NORTH DAKOTA, 1899.

The Grand Master, GEORGE H. KEYES, delivered an exceedingly interesting address.

He announces the deaths of Bro. THOS. J. WILDER, who died at Spokane, Washington, Oct. 25, 1898. He was Past Grand Senior Warden, Grand Treasurer, and was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota for two terms after its organization. He was also Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, from which he resigned in 1893 upon his removal out of the State. He also for several years wrote the Report on Correspondence, and gained a high reputation for his ability and efficient service to Masonry.

He also announced the death of Bro. FRANK A. BRIGGS, Past Grand Treasurer, and at the time of his death, Governor of the State.

He announced several decisions, but most of them related to invasion of jurisdiction, accidental and otherwise. The only feature of the cases which we regret, is that the main point seems to have been the fees.

On a trial of a brother for non-payment of dues at which he did not appear, the books showed that he was in arrears to the amount of nine dollars. There was no other testimony in the case, but on the question being taken as to the guilt of the accused, seven voted in the affirmative and six in the negative, and as it requires two-thirds to convict, he was acquitted.

The question was asked whether an appeal would lie to the Grand Master from the action of the lodge, and he replied that an appeal does not lie to the Grand Master but to the Grand Lodge. But he decided further, following the decision of his predecessors, who had adopted a rule of the civil law, that a lodge cannot appeal from its own decision, and he therefore held that the brother had been acquitted finally and is entitled to a full receipt for his dues. This was sustained by the Grand Lodge, except so much as relates to a receipt for his dues.

The law as expounded in almost every other jurisdiction, that in such case *any member* of the lodge has the right to appeal from its action, apparently was not considered by himself or the committee, and this case shows the wisdom of such law.

He had granted dispensations for five new lodges, to which charters were granted.

In reference to a proposition received at the last session of the Grand Lodge, he says:

“At the last meeting of this Grand Lodge, the Trustees of the Scottish Rite bodies of North Dakota made a proposition to the Grand Lodge, stating that they proposed in the near future to erect a Masonic Temple in the City of Fargo, and magnanimously offered to the Grand Lodge the free use, for a period of twenty years, or longer, of space in the basement for Grand Secretary offices and Library rooms, etc., these rooms to be heated without cost to the Grand Lodge, but to be finished and furnished by the Grand Lodge.

"A committee was appointed and have the matter under consideration, who will doubtless report to you their recommendation at this meeting. This is a matter of great importance to this Grand Body and should be carefully considered."

We do not find that the matter was finally acted upon by the Grand Lodge.

For the first time in the history of the Grand Lodge, he had laid cornerstones on two occasions.

BRO. FRANK J. THOMPSON, the efficient Secretary, submitted a full report. He announced that all the returns and dues were made on time, showing an increase of membership, an increase of raisings, and an increase in the Grand Lodge dues. He devoted considerable space to the Grand Lodge Register, which is upon the card system, and his experience, for we think that he was the first to propose this system, will be of value to those who contemplate the introduction of it.

He finds one curious fact, that out of nearly five thousand who have been members of lodges in that State, but two were born there.

Referring to the given names of members, he says the J's take the lead, and that E follows second.

He makes report of the accessions to the library, and in relation to this he says:

"You will receive a proposition from the Scottish Rite Bodies of this city for Library room, which is, in fact, a fire proof vault, together with quarters for the Grand Secretary's office, which I can honestly say is one of the most generous offers that has ever been tendered to a masonic Grand Lodge, and I have kept close track of these matters for a good many years. You all know that one of my hobbies has been the gathering together of a practical Masonic Library, and that we have been handicapped in the lack of adequate quarters for the same. The opportunity is now at hand whereby the labor of the past years and the money expended can be assembled in elegant quarters, and surrounded by walls that will be fire proof against the most severe conflagration, and I sincerely trust that you all, because each of you form a part of the Grand Lodge, will accept the offer with the generous and fraternal spirit with which it is given. Not only on account of the fraternal spirit but in justice to the Grand Body of masons, which you represent, and which have so generously donated their money for the cause of enlightenment."

He announces that the finances of the Grand Lodge are in better condition than ever before.

Some lodges in 1898 were fined for failure to send in their returns and had failed to pay the fine. The Grand Lodge voted that if they did not pay them within thirty days the Grand Master should arrest their charters.

Upon motion of Past Grand Master CAROTHERS, a greeting was cabled to their brethren in the Philippine Islands.

The committee having doubts as to the success of the Washington Centennial, it was voted not to be represented. That the committee came to a

wrong conclusion as to the success is now certain, but whether the Grand Lodge or brethren from that State, considering the distance, could afford financially to be at the expense of representation is quite another question.

Provision was made for holding fifty-four schools of instruction in the State, to be attended by the Grand Lecturer, whose mileage was to be paid by the Grand Lodge, and his other expenses and his *per diem* by the lodges. The committee reported a fine of ten dollars on every lodge which failed to be represented at these schools, but the Grand Lodge struck out the recommendation.

The following was adopted:

“Inasmuch as the charter of Anchor Lodge, No. 25, issued by the Grand Lodge of Dakota, as Anchor Lodge, No. 88, has never been properly endorsed, therefore, be it

“*Resolved*, That said charter be now properly vised, and that all acts of said lodge since the formation of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota, be declared to be of full legal effect.”

We do not like the use of the word “vised,” which, if we understand it, is not applicable; neither do we think that it was necessary to confirm the action of the lodge, but the course taken is much more in accordance with masonic law than the practice prevailing, to a limited extent, that in such case the old charter must be surrendered and a new one issued.

This Grand Lodge had adopted a regulation that candidates residing within that state but nearer to a lodge in Minnesota, might apply to the lodge in Minnesota, provided the Grand Lodge of Minnesota should adopt a reciprocal provision. The latter Grand Lodge has never done this, but a Dakota lodge, supposing that this had been done, accepted a candidate from Minnesota, living seven miles nearer to it than to any Minnesota lodge. But the lodge to which the candidate should have applied, made complaint, and as a result the fees and candidate were turned over to it, and the Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution:

“That the Grand Master elect call the attention of the Grand Master of Minnesota to the comity resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge at its session in 1897, page 235, to the effect that brethren, residents of this state, living nearer to a lodge in Minnesota than to a lodge in North Dakota could receive the degrees in the lodge in Minnesota, Provided, that the Grand Lodge of Minnesota pass a like reciprocity resolution, and that if the Grand Lodge of Minnesota take no action in the matter that he is hereby authorized to abrogate said comity resolution.”

The following resolution shows the reason of the greeting to the brethren in the Philippine Islands:

“*Resolved*, That the masons of this Grand Jurisdiction have viewed with pride the action of our then Grand Master Robert M. Carothers in granting a dispensation to hold a lodge v. b. in the Philippine Islands, and the unanimous and enthusiastic approval of his acts by the Grand Lodge at its previous session. We have watched with eagerness all news of what our brethren were doing in the island on the other side of the world. Thus

far reports of their acts have received our hearty approval, and met our most sanguine expectations. We, therefore, extend to our brethren in the antipodes our heartiest and sincerest, and deepest regards. We watch for their return with no little expectation of pleasure of the reunion and the gathering together again of our brothers around the firesides, and the reuniting of their loved ones will be our cherished anticipation. We send them our greeting, our good will and our hopes for a safe and pleasant return."

In these Proceedings is given a cut of the Masonic Hall in which the military lodge at Manila meets, accompanied by a brief description.

We find that we have omitted to state that these Proceedings contained a portrait of M. W. Bro. **KEYES**, the retiring Grand Master, and one of Bro. **FRANK A. BRIGGS**. Also one of Bro. **THOMAS J. WILDER** and his wife; together with a cut of the Masonic Temple at Fargo.

No Report on Correspondence.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1899.

An emergent communication was held February 3, 1899, to attend the funeral of P. G. Master **LEWIS JOHNSTONE**, and in spite of the weather and the distance which many had to travel to reach the place, the attendance was large, and the masonic service was rendered in a most impressive manner.

At the annual communication, as usual, immediately after opening, the Grand Lodge formed in procession and marched to church, where divine service was held, and an appropriate sermon preached by Bro. Rev. **HENRY HOW**.

The sermon is an exceedingly interesting one. He took the making of the pillars, **Jachin** and **Boaz**, and traced the process from the tree from which the pattern was made, to the setting up of the pillars, and compared with it the growth in Masonry. We commend it especially to the attention of our ritualists.

The Grand Master, **THOMAS WALKER**, of New Brunswick, visited the Grand Lodge and was cordially received and welcomed. Later during the session, P. G. Master **ROBERT MARSHALL** and Deputy Grand Master **W. B. WALLACE**, of New Brunswick, visited the Grand Lodge, and were received in the usual form.

The Grand Master, **THOMAS B. FLINT**, delivered an address of great interest and value.

The Grand Lodge met at Annapolis, and after referring to some historical matters, he says:

"This locality is connected not merely with the first history of organized government in North America, but with 'the first glimmerings of Masonry' on this continent as well.

"Nearly three hundred years ago some ancient brother deposited upon the shore of Goat Island, at a spot probably visible from this building, a stone, bearing deeply indented on its face the masonic emblems—the Square and Compass—with the date in figures, 1606.

"This unique souvenir from that long buried past was discovered after it had lain for over two centuries, buried in the sand. In 1827 it was brought to Annapolis, and became the property of the late Judge Haliburton. Its eventful history since then I cannot now pause to recount, but that it links the masonic history of this community with that distant era in the world's history, is a matter of profound interest to us.

"In the Proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for 1891 a valuable historical paper by R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson, G. S. of that jurisdiction, is published, dealing with this matter.

But this is not the only thing that gives interest to this locality. He says further:

"One hundred and sixty years ago this very town of Annapolis Royal was represented before the masonic authorities in Boston asking for a warrant to open a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons here, and from Annapolis Royal in 1750 was issued the first charter for a lodge of masons in Halifax. The library of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts contains an ancient volume—worth its weight in gold—published in 1786. It is entitled 'A Record of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.' It contains an account of the rise and progress of Freemasonry in Nova Scotia from the first settlement to that date. It informs us that in 1750 a number of the brethren residing in Halifax met with Governor Cornwallis almost as soon as there were any houses erected there and petitioned Erasmus James Phillips, of Annapolis Royal, Provincial Grand Master, for a warrant to hold a lodge in Halifax. The warrant was received by them in July, 1750, and Governor Cornwallis as long as he resided in Nova Scotia was Master of this lodge.

"Now to-day, a century and half after, the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, the successor of the lodge established by the warrant, and whose Grand Master might, without a stretch of masonic truth, be called the successor to the Provincial Grand Master of 1750 at Annapolis Royal, meets in Annapolis Royal.

He announced the deaths of P. G. Master LEWIS JOHNSTONE, and P. D. Grand Master EDMUND T. MAHON. The former had been ill some time and his death was expected: but the latter was present at the meeting of his lodge and took a deep interest in the Proceedings; after the lodge closed he returned home and died even before medical aid could be summoned. He was buried in Connecticut, and when the body arrived there an emergent session of the Grand Lodge was called, and Bro. MAHON was buried by it with the same honors as if he had been one of the members of its own Grand Lodge.

This action of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut was highly appreciated by our Nova Scotia brethren.

The Grand Master says that the finances of the Grand Lodge are in a good condition, and that the debt of the Masonic Hall had been reduced \$1,000, and he very wisely presses upon the members of subordinate lodges the importance of looking carefully after their finances, particularly in the duty of keeping their dues paid up.

He recommends that a room owned by the Grand Lodge adjoining the Grand Secretary's office be fitted up for a library, saying that that particular room at present is valueless.

He had issued an edict restoring fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru.

He had issued quite a number of dispensations and visited quite a large number of lodges, and he only regrets that he was not able to visit all the lodges in the jurisdiction.

He rendered one decision which is thus stated:

"A question of some importance arose between Royal Standard Lodge, No. 398, Registry of England, working at Halifax, and Acadia Lodge, No. 14, R. N. S., which was referred to me. It appears that a person employed in the imperial service at Halifax was elected to membership and received his first degree in Acadia Lodge. Royal Standard Lodge communicated with me complaining that Acadia Lodge was taking material which by a well understood comity, which has long existed between the Registry of England and the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, or rather the Nova Scotia lodges operating in Halifax, was reserved for Royal Standard Lodge. The latter lodge claimed that by virtue of an agreement or understanding which was made at the time of the formation of this Grand Lodge, persons in the imperial service at Halifax were exclusively material for Royal Standard, that lodge on its part abandoning all claim to make masons of persons resident in Nova Scotia not in the imperial service."

It turned out that Acadia Lodge was not aware that the candidate was in the imperial service. Upon investigation, however, he was satisfied that an understanding of the nature claimed had existed and grown up in a sort of unwritten law, and being desirous that that state of things should continue, he advised the lodge accordingly, but Royal Standard Lodge consented that the candidate should be advanced in Acadia Lodge.

The Deputy Grand Master visited quite a large number of lodges and issued some dispensations.

The Grand Secretary complains that the Secretaries of eleven lodges have not promptly performed their duties in making returns, and he calls their attention forcibly to the law in relation to the matter.

He says that the number of lodges is sixty-two and no increase can be expected for some time to come. Thirteen of the lodges had done no work during the year, and there had been really a loss of nearly fifty members in the total membership, but he says:

"Taking a calm and impartial review of the year's work, while the total showing is not favorable, still there is a hopeful feeling prevailing through the jurisdiction, and peace, good order and harmony exist among the brethren in all the lodges. The wave of general prosperity that made its progress through Western Canada, is we trust making its way slowly but surely towards and into Nova Scotia, and we may assume that the masonic order will be benefitted thereby. In my native home, Cape Breton, with the iron and steel industry about to be commenced, the extent and magnitude of which cannot be possibly estimated, we may hope for masonic progress and with

increase of population in connection with these great industries that are being now commenced near Sydney, Cape Breton.

"The resolution relative to consolidation of the Grand Lodge of P. E. Island introduced by your Grand Secretary bears out the idea that on fair and honorable conditions the union might be of benefit to both Grand Lodges. The thirteen lodges now holding a Grand Lodge over them in our neighboring Island, would be stronger and more important, if under the charter and constitution of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia."

The Reports of the District Deputies show a faithful performance of their duties, and a general condition of prosperity, except that a comparatively small amount of work was done.

The suggestion of the Grand Secretary in relation to the proposed consolidation was discussed somewhat by the Deputy Grand Master of New Brunswick and others, and a committee appointed to confer with committees from the other Grand Lodges.

The Committee on the Washington Centennial reported as follows, and it was adopted:

"They have duly considered the correspondence laid before them and would respectfully recommend that the Grand Lodge accept the invitation so kindly extended by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, and that the M. W. Grand Master be appointed to represent the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and that in the event of his not being able to attend, that he appoint some brother of eminence in the craft to take his place, so that the Grand Lodge may be represented on that important occasion, and that we join with the Grand Lodge of Virginia in doing honor to the memory of one who will ever live in the hearts of his countrymen, whose memory will be green and fresh when republics and empires will have passed away. Whose memory is revered by us as Britons, and, although the obligation and duty of our forefathers towards their king and country required that they should oppose him by force of arms, yet his memory as a man, a soldier and a statesman will be ever dear to us, but doubly dear to us as a mason, and to-day, we as Britons, join with the great English-speaking race to the south of us with united hearts in celebrating and doing honor to the memory of one of the noblest of the earth."

The Grand Lodge was represented on that occasion by M. W. Bro. THOMAS B. FLINT, Grand Master, with whom we were fortunate enough to have the privilege of making part of the journey to Washington. The meeting was accidental, but was one of great pleasure to us and made the time pass rapidly.

His disposition of the Acadia Lodge matter was approved by the Grand Lodge and the arrangement made permanent.

While we would gladly see that lodge come under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, yet as long as it confines its initiates within the limit proposed, there is not so much objection to its independent existence, and no special reason why it may not act in perfect harmony with the other lodges.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 201) was presented by Bros. T. V. B. BINGAY and ERNEST THOMPSON.

The report is chiefly an excellent abstract of the Proceedings, made more interesting by judiciously selected extracts, and occasional comments.

BRO. BINGAY says:

“But he goes further, and expresses the opinion that he sees no good reason why a Warden, presiding in the absence of the Master, may not confer the degrees as well as transact any other business which might come before the lodge. However, he acknowledges that the local regulations embodied in the constitutions of Nova Scotia, British Columbia, and one or two other American Jurisdictions would prevent such procedure.”

We have often wondered where the jurisdictions named found authority for the departure from the ancient and almost universal usage. It is quite likely that it grew out of some one's erroneous interpretation of the Past Master's degree.

In his review of Florida, BRO. THOMPSON says:

“The chief interest to us in the volume under review is the extended report on the action of the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington in relation to Negro Masonry. This report recites the resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge of Washington, goes into the history of Negro Masonry in the United States, gives a long explanatory circular letter from the Grand Master of Washington, and the answer of the Grand Master of New York. The report, and we think wisely, closes with a recommendation that masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington be suspended, which recommendation secured the approval of Grand Lodge.”

There is no doubt that the author of the mischief counted upon being sustained by the Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodges of the Dependencies of the British Crown; but he has been woefully disappointed.

BRO. BINGAY well says:

“Although unfortunately the work in Nova Scotia is not as uniform as it should be, nor as it might be if we had the services of a paid, well informed traveling Lecturer, yet as far as our experience goes it is generally done in a careful and impressive manner; but we must enter our protest against the same innovations to which Grand Master Cook refers creeping into the work of some of our lodges. The more closely the old York Rite is followed the more impressive and beautiful the work will be; no need for robes, stereopticons, nor fancy music during the conferring of the degrees. There should be plenty of opportunities for all of these things when the craft are not at labor.”

In his review of Maine the same brother says:

“In answer to Bro. Drummond's question we must say that under the form of application for degrees recognized by our Constitution we could have no knowledge of the rejection of a candidate prior to the six months, and it would be difficult to ascertain his record in another jurisdiction unless he voluntarily supplied information to the Investigating Committee to enable them to make inquiry. Under Section 43 of our Constitution, an applicant must have resided within the jurisdiction of the lodge to which he seeks admission for twelve months, or be recommended by six members of the lodge. Consequently under present conditions we cannot see how lodges in this jurisdiction are in a position to recognize the laws of other jurisdictions as to rejected candidates. It is a difficult matter to get at until such a time when a uniform regulation is recognized in all jurisdictions.”

The matter is a very simple one: require, as almost all Grand Lodges do, the applicant to state in his petition whether *he has ever been rejected or not*. In a few cases, this question has been falsely answered; but detection and expulsion have so certainly followed, that the danger is not very great.

In proceeding with our review we find some signed with other initials, and upon looking at the close of the report, we find that while at its beginning it is stated to be by the brethren whom we have named, yet we find that the Grand Secretary says that Bro. MOWBRAY reviewed six Grand Lodges and he himself nineteen.

In his review of New York, Bro. Ross says:

"It is not too much to say that Grand Master Sutherland completely demolished the arguments of the Grand Master of Washington, so far as the latter appear upon the record. As the matter is likely to come before our own Grand Lodge at an early day, we can only advise those who are interested in the proper and vigorous defence of Grand Lodge rights and privileges, and in the true welfare of the craft, to peruse these letters."

And in his review of Quebec, he says further, and we most earnestly join in his hope:

"We note with regret that the difficulty between the Grand Lodge of England and that of Quebec still remains unadjusted, although every reasonable effort appears to have been made by my brethren of Quebec to reach a fair and honorable solution. It is to be hoped that 'the healing effects of time' may remove the source of trouble and that the three lodges in Montreal still holding warrants from the Grand Lodge of England may, for the sake of the best interests of the fraternity, voluntarily come into the jurisdiction of Quebec."

In his review of Scotland, he thus voices the sentiment of the vast majority of the masons for whom he speaks:

"A list of lodges holding their meetings in licensed houses was laid before the Grand Committee, and a strong desire was expressed that they should all be removed to more suitable quarters. In this age, when the cause of temperance is making such gratifying progress, the holding of lodge meetings in licensed houses would not be tolerated either in the Dominion of Canada or United States, and we trust the strong recommendation of the Grand Committee will lead Grand Lodge to issue an edict forbidding the holding of lodge meetings in such undesirable premises."

The following from his review of Texas is sound doctrine that ought to be universally followed:

"We are certainly surprised at this ruling of R. W. Bro. Hamilton. It would not hold good in very many jurisdictions that could be named as well as in our own. When a Past Master—no matter from what lodge or jurisdiction he hails—affiliates with a lodge in this jurisdiction he carries his rank with him, and is eligible for the highest rank in the gift of Grand Lodge. And the Past Master of a demised lodge, the moment he becomes a member of another lodge, is accorded all the rights and privileges of a Past Master of that lodge and is eligible for any office in Grand Lodge so long as he continues to be a subscribing member of a lodge in the jurisdiction."

We commend the following by Bro. MOWBRAY to our Secretaries, and the

part relating to paying the Secretary a commission to the business men of our lodges, who will appreciate and approve it:

“Back dues appear to haunt the minds of Grand Masters generally, as one hardly ever takes up the Proceedings of a Grand Lodge that he does not find ‘Back dues’ staring him in the face. The writer of this imperfect review holds the opinion that arrears of dues need not be such a bugbear as they appear to be. The evil is attributable solely to the lodge itself. The remedy he recommends is the election of Secretaries who will be active in the collection of dues, and if necessary pay a commission on those which have accumulated to any considerable extent. He has been an active member of his lodge for just thirty-five years, and during all those years one suspension only has taken place, and that one owing to the member ‘cheeking’ the Secretary who went to his place of business to collect the dues, which he was well able to pay, being in affluent circumstances.”

OHIO, 1899.

We have two portraits—one of M. W. Bro. E. C. GUILFORD, the retiring Grand Master, and one of Bro. SIDNEY MOORE, *the donor of a Masonic Temple to the masons of the city of Delaware, his life-time residence.*

Grand Master GUILFORD, after paying an eloquent tribute to Masonry, announces the deaths of Bro. ENOCH TERRY CARSON, “that Prince of Masons,” and P. G. Master CHARLES C. KIEFER, whose death followed, within less than three weeks, that of Bro. CARSON.

Bro. CARSON’s name is a household word among masons, the world over, and no eulogy by us would add to his fame.

In Ohio, Bro. KIEFER was as well known: he had presided over all the subordinate bodies to which he had belonged, and had been at the head of all four of the Grand Bodies of the York Rite, and had attained to the thirty-third degree in the Scottish Rite: he had also been Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter and was a Trustee of the Masonic Home from its organization.

The Grand Master read a letter from the Grand Master of Tennessee, M. W. JOSEPH H. BULLOCK, announcing that that Grand Lodge had restored the Grand Representative system and inviting an exchange of Representatives, which was cordially accepted. Tennessee abolished the system in consequence of an “unpleasantness” with the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and we are thrice glad to see the old relations restored.

He had issued over *four pages* of dispensations, the most of them being for the election or installation of lodge officers. Of this matter, he says:

“The majority of these dispensations were issued for the election or installation of officers elect, and mostly to lodges located in the country districts. The excuse generally offered has been the impassable condition of the roads. This has led me to believe that, for the interests of all, the annual meetings of subordinate lodges should be changed from November or December to June or July. This would give the subordinate lodges ample

time in which to close their year's work, and forward their reports to the Grand Secretary. It would be of benefit to the Grand Master, also to the District Lecturer. If a Master receives any benefit at communications of this Grand Lodge, he will thereby be enabled to use information so received to advantage during the remainder of his term in office. As our laws now stand, a Master attends the communication of the Grand Lodge in October, and retires from office in November or December, the lodge itself losing such benefit as should be derived by information acquired by the Master at our communications."

Full one-third of these could have been saved if the Grand Lodge had imposed upon the retiring and the incoming Masters, the duty of seeing that the officers were duly installed, as has always been done in Maine and the other jurisdictions in this section of the country.

We are glad to read the following:

"So far as I have been able to learn, clandestine Masonry in Ohio is fast becoming a thing of the past. The lodges are closing their doors, and the members openly renouncing allegiance to these so-called masonic bodies."

He had visited a large number of the lodges, but reports only those at which he performed official acts.

The number of these indicate a high degree of interest and activity among the craft. He had laid corner stones in many cases; but the occasion of the most interest was the laying of the corner stone of "Moore Masonic Temple," in the city of Delaware, of which we have already spoken. The Grand Master says:

"Bro. Sidney Moore was made a Master Mason in Hiram Lodge on February 12, 1856, and, in age of masonic service, he stands to-day second on the roll of members. He early passed through all the degrees of the York and of the Scottish Rites, including the 33^o of the latter Body. He has served in all the offices of the lodge, from the lowest to the highest, many times in the highest ones, and for twenty consecutive years up until to-day he has been its Treasurer, and in 1872-73 served this Grand Lodge as its Junior Grand Warden.

"The idea which is now in fulfillment, has been in Bro. Moore's mind for many years; that the lodge in which his father so long worked, and in which he himself was made a mason, should have a permanent home has been an incentive to him in his life's labor and toil.

"From the inception of the idea to the completion of the same he has had the sympathy and wise counsels of his esteemed wife. Together they have thought and planned how best to carry out their purpose, and how to make the gift the most suitable to that end in view."

He announced that all the law cases growing out of "Cerneau Masonry" had been decided in favor of the Grand Lodge, and submitted the report of M. W. BARTON SMITH, "who had so ably and successfully conducted these cases." We give the conclusion of his report:

"Until the decision of the Chandler, Anderson and Gilbert cases, there remained a shadow of a pretense of a claim that the Hershiser case had been decided upon the proposition that that action could not be maintained by the several plaintiffs jointly, but the possibility of such a claim is now removed, and it may be regarded as the settled law of Ohio that a masonic

lodge has the right to try and discipline its members in accordance with the laws of the order, that the remedy for any claim of error in such trial is to the higher tribunals of the Order itself, and that the civil courts will not interfere with the construction or enforcement of masonic law."

Thus is re-affirmed a doctrine of the highest importance to Masonry and all other societies of a fraternal or social character. We have watched these cases with much interest and have been favored with copies of the briefs, and while we have marked the reference of the Grand Master to Brother SMITH, as a quotation, we most fully and heartily endorse it.

The Grand Master gives in his address the reply of P. G. Master NELSON WILLIAMS upon the presentation of a jewel to him in behalf of the Grand Lodge, that it may be preserved in the records: it richly deserves to be.

Grand Secretary BROMWELL reports that all the lodges made returns within the specified time and all save one paid dues: one lodge had surrendered its charter: an unusually large amount of work had been done, and the net gain in membership was 1,353: twenty lodges had lost, three held their own, and all the rest made gains: the total membership is just about double ours in Maine.

The Grand Lodge again decided not to adopt the one ballot system, or a limit within which a new petition cannot be presented after a rejection.

Last year a Committee on "Veteran Membership" was appointed to consider whether by-laws shall be allowed which exempt a member from dues after a certain length of membership: the committee discuss the subject at length and ably, but conclude there is neither *providence, justice or wisdom* in the plan and recommend that the present policy continue, and the Grand Lodge so voted.

This Grand Lodge is fortunate in having nearly all the returns from its lodges since its organization over ninety years ago: and it ordered that a duplicate set be made under the direction of the Grand Secretary, to be kept in a vault separate from that of the Grand Secretary. It is expected that it will take four or five years to do this and that the expense will be over three thousand dollars.

P. G. Master S. STACKER WILLIAMS presented his large and very valuable masonic library to the Grand Lodge: whereupon:

"Upon motion, and by a unanimous standing vote, the gift was accepted, and the thanks of this Grand Lodge tendered to M. W. Bro. Williams."

An amendment to the Code in relation to objection after ballot was offered and laid over. It provides in effect that an objection after ballot and before initiation may be made in open lodge or by writing filed with the Secretary, and shall be entered of record with the name of the objecting brother, who cannot be questioned as to his reasons, but he may give them if he chooses: reasons for objection to advancement must be given and passed upon by the lodge. The effect is to be as follows:

"An objection to initiation or a sustained objection to the advancement of an Entered Apprentice or of a Fellow Craft, when entered of record whether the same be an original or a new objection, shall remain in force for three years only, if not sooner removed, and when the limitation of an objection has expired the lodge may, after a clear ballot had at a subsequent stated meeting, upon notice of the taking of such ballot given at a preceding stated meeting proceed with such candidate unless the objection be renewed or further objection be filed in writing with the lodge; and when other or new objections are given they shall be judged as in the first instance."

We take the following from the Report of the Trustees of the Masonic Home:

"At the time this report was printed there were 53 men, 23 women, 23 boys, and 16 girls, or a total of 115 inmates of the Home. Since then their have been admitted 6 men, 3 women, and 5 boys, making at this time 129 inmates. The boys and girls are young, active, healthy, and happy: the men and women are aged, infirm, appreciative and contented.

"The cost of maintaining the Home during the past year, including betterments, was about \$20,000, or forty-five cents per capita on all Master Masons in good standing in the State."

The Reports are published in full in the Appendix and we commend them to all proposing to adopt this system of charity.

The Report on Correspondence (138 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM M. CUNNINGHAM. It is a magnificent report, but we can only glance at it.

Of extreme penalties for non-payment of dues and non-affiliation, he well says:

"It is seriously to be deprecated that non-payment of dues only—whether caused by inability or neglect—should be held to be a capital offence by the craft in several States. Much to the regret of the writer, Ohio is among the number, and although suspension from all the rights and benefits of Masonry is mandatory by the Grand Lodge, yet the extreme penalty of expulsion *after trial* is really *optional* with the lodge; however, *seldom* other than the extreme penalty is inflicted. Dropping from the roll, or suspension from all of the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, but with the right of personal re-instatement upon payment of delinquent dues, should be a sufficient punishment for the offence; further than that would seem to indicate a spirit of vindictiveness and thumb-screw penalties entirely contrary to the principle of brotherhood, and the broad mantle of a mason's charity is thereby caused to shrink to the dimensions of a postage-stamp so far as the impetuous brother is concerned."

It is hard to feel obliged to say it, but the profane world are already beginning to taunt us with punishing more surely and more severely the non-payment of dues than violations of the moral law, and that our charity for erring brethren is gauged *by what it costs*.

He urges the trial of "membership at large": but that has been in force in Maine quite a number of years, and scarcely any have availed themselves of it.

Of the "Past Master's Degree" he says:

"Instead of a concerted endeavor to eliminate the innovations and un-masonic features that have so generally obtained in the so-called Past

Master's degree—or grade of Installed Master—there seems to be a periodical effort to decry its real use, and expunge it from the Rite by ridicule and contumely. The pertinent and beautiful ceremonies of Installed Master, heretofore cited, as worked under the English ritual, should be used to supersede the mummery that has displaced its lessons and symbolism.

"The following excerpt of a recent paper of V. W. Bro. Robert F. Gould will be of interest in this connection, in showing that the degree is *not* of American origin, as so often claimed:

"The degree of Installed or Past Master would appear—as I wrote in the *Freemason* more than ten years ago—to have been invented by the schismatic Grand Lodge of England (or so-called "Ancients") to serve as a constructive passing of the chair, and thereby to qualify brethren for the Royal Arch, which could only be communicated to actual or Past Masters of lodges. In other words, the practice of the "Ancients" of conferring the Arch upon brethren not legitimately entitled to receive it brought about a *constructive* passing through the chair, which, by qualifying candidates not otherwise eligible, naturally entailed the introduction of a ceremony *additional* to the simple forms known to Payne, Anderson and Desaguliers. But whatever secrets were then peculiar to Royal Arch Masonry, every candidate who was received within its pale became acquainted with them all. The degree was at first invariably conferred in the lodges, and it was not until comparatively late in the last century that chapters of the Order were established under the hierarchy of principals.

"For a long time the degree of Past Master continued to be given in English chapters to all candidates for the Royal Arch, and the practice appears not to have been forbidden until 1826."

"The Grade *belongs* to Craft Masonry, and the use of its esotery by chapters of Royal Arch Masons for the qualification of candidates for the Royal Arch, does not thereby abrogate its right to and control of the grade. Dispensations by Grand Masters to '*pass the chair*,' as in Pennsylvania, would be a better arrangement than as at present, and could be made to contribute largely by the fee therefor to Grand Lodge charity funds."

If, in addition, many good brethren can be made to comprehend that the lodge "Past Master's Degree" and the chapter "Past Master's degree" are two entirely different things, we shall have a rest. What though one may have been taken for the other? Shall we throw away any of our ceremonies which have been copied with slight variations (as has really been done) by other organizations? For this reason we do not concur in our brother's last sentence. That plan would still give two kinds of Past Masters, as is the case in Pennsylvania.

Referring to the charge of Bro. Robbins that "High Rites" gave the origin to "Cipher Rituals," he says:

"The reiterated statements of High Rite origin of Cipher Rituals whether written or printed, is of no weight whatever, as both methods antedated in Craft Masonry their use in the so called higher bodies, as until the early part of the present century Capitular and Templar Masonry was controlled and conferred under the auspices alone of Craft Masonry; all such statements, therefore, are absurd in themselves, and have hitherto been sufficiently refuted to preclude any necessity for further reply."

(Of the Michigan law, which we have criticised, he says:

"A series of iron-clad amendments to the by-laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge *in re* dimits and non-affiliates was adopted by the Grand Lodge—viz: after the lapse of a year, a dimitted brother, unless he has already applied for affiliation, shall 'be subject to all the disabilities of a suspended mason.' And 'no member shall be permitted to dimit' except for removal from the Grand Jurisdiction or for affiliation in another lodge. A member, however, on his written application, may be permitted to withdraw from a lodge, and his name be stricken from the rolls, *and he shall not thereafter*

be considered or treated as a member of the Fraternity.' Not much of one's 'own free will and accord' about that kind of membership."

He endorses Bro. Todd's contention that the word "Order," in spite of usage, is not properly applied to Masonry; but *usage* and not *derivation* gives the meaning to words, and writers, if they would write intelligently, must recognize that meaning.

Of the Gran Dieta of Mexico, he says:

"This Grand Body seems to be pursuing the truly masonic course inaugurated by it a few years since, when it restored that GREAT LIGHT, the Book of the Law, to its altars and ordered the correction of all other un-masonic practices upon the part of its subordinates.

"Whilst it is not yet considered the proper time to recommend its official recognition by this Grand Lodge, your committee would, however, express their most fraternal gratification at the continued prosperity of La Gran Dieta, with their congratulations upon the firmness displayed in its efforts for the elevation of Freemasonry in our sister republic."

We would gladly linger longer with this report, but must be content to refer our brethren to Bro. CUNNINGHAM'S able discussions of various subjects, which if noticed at all, must, in order to be appreciated, be noticed at too great length for our report.

OKLAHOMA, 1899.

These Proceedings have portraits of the retiring Grand Master, ENOCH M. BAMFORD, and JAMES S. HUNT, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master, ENOCH M. BAMFORD, thus speaks of the condition of the craft:

"The work for the past year in the masonic field has been a pleasure to your Grand Master. I have not found that onerous duty of answering letters asking unnecessary questions which is the usual complaint of many Grand Masters. During the year very few questions have been asked me outside of those in this address. The year has been one of prosperity for the craft in this Grand Jurisdiction. Our membership has increased both by initiation and affiliation, and I think it can be said that the material received will prove to be living stones in the masonic Temple in Oklahoma.

"I think I can say with truthfulness that our lodges are over average in the work of Masonry and in transacting their business. It is true some little irregularity has found its way into three of our lodges. Still these same members of our masonic family in Oklahoma have been ready, very anxious and willing to correct their error at the earliest opportunity.

"Our increase in the number of lodges in the last year has been over 25 per cent. Two of these lodges are at county seat towns with a starting membership of twenty-three each, and the others are in growing towns and villages, with every prospect of maintaining a healthy and steady growth. I believe our membership will be very materially increased this year. Our prospect for new lodges the coming year is bright at the present time."

This extraordinary growth in the number of lodges would be occasion for anxiety in an old country, but in that territory which is growing so rapidly,

and yet has so much room for further growth, we have no doubt the new lodges will justify the wisdom of creating them.

He had granted a good many dispensations which would necessarily grow out of the condition of things in that jurisdiction.

We note in passing, that he gives in his address an itemized account of his expenditures in behalf of the Grand Lodge. Without wishing to criticize adversely, we cannot help saying that we think he might have devoted that space to more useful matter. It ought to satisfy the brethren of his jurisdiction to have the account audited by the Finance Committee, and the totals included in the Treasurer's account.

He had rendered quite a number of decisions, chiefly based upon local law, but some of them the application of old principles to that jurisdiction.

The office of written vouchers is properly stated, so far as it relates to proof of the parties being masons, in the following. Their real office is to show that he hails from a regular lodge:

"Masons should be able to prove themselves such by their knowledge of the work, lectures, signs and words. A certified letter from the Master of the lodge of which he is a member will not relieve him of an examination in the usual way, but it may very materially aid the Committee of Investigation to report that the brother is a Master Mason. Visiting masons have been vouched for to the lodge as Master Masons who could not give the G. M. W., but their knowledge of the words and signs of the remainder of the degrees, coupled with the dimit with the same brother's name signed in the margin, determined the Committee of Investigation (after they had the visitor to sign his name, and it proved to be the same signature and from the same hand as on the dimit) to report him to the lodge as a Master Mason."

We find from his decisions, also, that an objection after ballot and before initiation, has the same effect as rejection on the ballot.

He discusses to some extent, and very intelligently, the Washington matter, saying:

"In view of that fact it seems strange that the Grand Lodge of Washington, remembering their early masonic education, should, in the face of all the ties of their masonic duties, at once break down and adopt into their masonic family two clandestine-made masons. And it is none the less their fault that they pretend to allow their lodges to pass upon the legitimacy of the clandestine-made mason—even going still farther in their report and allowing individual masons to judge for themselves and take into their embrace clandestine-made masons."

He divided the Territory into four parts for visitation, by himself, the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens.

Their reports show that they had visited quite a large number of lodges, and as a whole, report favorably on their condition.

A large amount of routine business received his attention, and his report shows that he had been a zealous, judicious and able officer.

We are more than glad to read the following, as we heartily endorse

all that is said of Bro. MURROW, and it is pleasant to know that his services are appreciated at home:

“R. W. Brother J. S. Murrow, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory and father of Masonry in that jurisdiction, being present, was conducted to the altar by Bro. D. D. Leach and introduced to the M. W. Grand Master and the brethren of the Grand Lodge. He was then conducted to the Grand East and welcomed by the Grand Master in a most appropriate and fraternal address, and was given the Grand Honors. Brother Murrow responded in an earnest address that will long be remembered by its recipients, and which was in keeping with the brother's well known character and standing, not only as a mason, but as a man whose life has been devoted to the upbuilding of masonry, morality and good citizenship in as virgin a field as even Bro. Murrow could desire. Bro. Murrow had taken a deep interest in the organization of the Oklahoma Grand Lodge, and was earnest in his work to that end. It is to be hoped that this first visit will not be the last.”

One of the lodges *v. d.* failed to make returns, and it turned out that the reason was that their lodge building had burned down, so that they had no place to meet, and the brethren had come to be discouraged.

The Grand Secretary says that the books for the library are increasing so rapidly that some provision for their care is necessary.

The Grand Lecturer reports that he had visited fourteen lodges and that they are improving in their work.

The address of the Grand Orator, CHARLES DAY, is really worthy of an extended notice, but the difficulty in such case is, that in order to do it justice it would be necessary to quote the whole of it.

A resolution was adopted that hereafter the work shall be exemplified on the evening of the first day's session, under the direction of the Committee on Work.

The Grand Lodge decided, overruling the decision of the Grand Master, that a Warden of a chartered lodge cannot be Master of a lodge *v. d.* This seems to depend upon the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, otherwise we would be obliged to challenge the correctness of it.

We notice that the by-laws of the Grand Lodge were amended upon motion without reference to a committee and without lying over, which ordinarily would be a dangerous practice, and rather tend to instability of the law.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 207) was presented by Bro. JAMES S. HUNT, Grand Secretary.

In his introduction he discusses some important subjects generally and then presents a most excellent review of the different jurisdictions, that would do great credit to any Grand Lodge in the country.

In this connection we notice some adverse criticisms of his Grand Lodge because they do not have a Report on Correspondence regularly. He gives, as a perfectly good reason for it, the want of financial ability to do so, and

we certainly agree with him, that various expenditures which are made in the larger and more wealthy jurisdictions, should not be made until his Grand Lodge "is quite able to meet the same without distressing her subordinates." We trust that this young and vigorous Grand Lodge may grow in number and resources until they are able to give us one. Of course, no one can read this report without wishing that we might have one every year. For while we have criticised the Grand Lodge of Michigan for its picayune policy in this respect, it is because that Grand Lodge is amply able to give the craft the benefit of these reports.

There is one improvement which his printer can make which will render his report really more valuable, and that is in distinguishing, by kind of type, or the manner of setting it up, between the extracts and original matter.

He devotes considerable space to the Grand Dieta, copying Bro. DIEHL's report, and considerable from Bro. PARVIN and others, but he expresses no conclusion.

There is one matter in Bro. DIEHL's history that we have not noticed. It touches really upon the question which is most prominent in the minds of very many of the craft:

"As long as Masonry in Mexico was torn into rival factions, each claiming supremacy, it was wise to postpone recognition until those factions should settle their own disputes. That time has now arrived. Masonry in Mexico will not be more united and harmonious if we were to wait a hundred years. The few groups now antagonistic to the Gran Dieta will not be likely to submit until the Gran Dieta is recognized by foreign masonic powers, if then. But they are a mere handful, without influence in the masonic world, and their number has been constantly diminishing since the re-organization. Their obstinacy is based upon no abstract principle or right, except the right to be obstinate, which, of course, is conceded to be inherent, and it is but justice to say that among their number appear the names of Benito Juarez, Jr., and others of respectability in that country."

It will be seen from the following that we are very much in accord with Bro. HUNT's views of the questions which have been most fully discussed during the past few years.

"As we have heretofore expressed our opinion upon most of the other and older questions, upon which Masonry is still at sea, we will pass them with a simple expression of our individual sentiments. The Maine proposition, making five years the limit of jurisdiction over rejected candidates, we are in favor of. The adoption of this proposition by the several Grand Lodges, if it did nothing more, would bring us one step nearer the 'mecca' of masonic harmony.

"Drastic laws against non-affiliates we look upon as an impotent expression of a proper indignation against this growing evil, but otherwise actually barren of results.

"The Wisconsin plan of relief we would not endorse, as the charity that expends the other fellow's money is hardly of a divine origin.

"Suspension from all the rights, benefits and prerogatives of Masonry, for the non-payment of dues, we denounce as unmasonic. It is a travesty

upon that fundamental principle of masonic and civil law, which protects every man and mason in his rights, until proven guilty by due trial and conviction. Suspension from all lodge privileges would be a just punishment for a failure to help bear the burdens of a lodge."

He discusses the Washington matter somewhat, and his views may be inferred from the following:

"This colored ghost seems to have bobbed up a long way from home, and is creating quite a diversion among the several Grand Lodges. We regret beyond expression that the harmony existing among the Grand Lodges should be so unnecessarily disrupted by a resurrection of this long buried question. If our Washington brethren were desirous of recording an expression of sympathy with negro Masonry, a lodge of sorrow would have been a very appropriate proceeding, possibly. That is just what our Washington brethren have been doing inadvertently."

In his review of Maine he quotes the amendments which have been made to our Constitution since 1893, relating to Grand Lodge clothing and to the jurisdiction of lodges and the provisions in regard to rejected candidates.

He speaks of our report, wondering how we can get time to write it. This is not so difficult a matter as he supposes. Very many of the questions under discussion have been discussed so frequently, that they are familiar to us and we are not obliged to "look them up every time." And then, again, we have done it so long that it is not a "task," as he says it is to him. We think he will take a different view of that, after writing a few more reports, and really enjoy the work. He makes that statement at the beginning of his report, and we doubt very much, whether after finishing it, he would not say that he had really enjoyed it. It reads as if he had.

OKLAHOMA, 1900.

This Grand Lodge having changed its date of meeting to February, we received the Proceedings of the current year in season for this report, and we prefer to review them now instead of letting them wait a year and a half, as we think that in the future we shall receive them in season.

We have a portrait of M. W. Bro. WILLIAM L. EAGLETON, the retiring Grand Master.

A special session was held to lay the corner-stone of a temple in the city of Guthrie. This is an indication of the prosperity of the craft in that jurisdiction.

The Grand Master says the year had been a very prosperous one, there having been a very satisfactory increase in membership, the influence of the craft becoming more extensive, and peace and harmony almost universally prevailing.

There had been a few cases of discord, and he urges that while differences of opinion must be expected, they must be settled in the masonic manner.

And he urges that in the Grand Lodge the discussions shall be so conducted that there will be no sore places left when the result is reached.

The territory had been divided into four districts for visitation by the Grand Officers. He had visited every lodge in his district but two, and his report, as a whole, is a very favorable one.

He had attended the Washington Centennial, and of this he says:

“On December 13, 1899, I had the extreme pleasure of visiting the Grand Lodge of Virginia, at Alexandria, Virginia. As the Grand Master of the youngest Grand Lodge, I was greeted with the Grand Honors, and had the pleasure of addressing the assembled hundreds. It was the evening before the centennial ceremonies of the 100th anniversary of the death of Brother George Washington were observed, and there were present upon the occasion not only the officers and members of the Virginia Grand Lodge, but Grand Officers and representatives from a very large number of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and many from other countries. It was a feast to sit and listen to the wisdom that flowed upon that occasion, as many of the very bright lights of the Order addressed the meeting.”

He recommends that the Grand Lodge adopt the Grand Representative system, but his recommendation was not adopted. We regret this, because almost all the Grand Lodges, which abandoned it, have again adopted it.

The Grand Lodge had not made provision to pay his expenses to the Centennial, and of this he says:

“I then wrote a circular letter to each lodge and member of the Grand Lodge, telling them that I felt unable to bear the whole expense of the trip myself, and asked if it was the wish that I attend said meeting, and, if so, if they would be willing that the Grand Lodge re-imburse me to the extent of \$75.00 on my expenses. The brethren throughout Oklahoma responded with good will and alacrity, insisting on my going. I went and I am glad that I did. I was treated throughout most royally, and I only wish that I had the time and ability to explain to you all that I saw and all that I heard.

“I met masons from every quarter and from every clime, and formed many friendships which I hope may be renewed in time to come.”

We are very glad indeed that he was there. It did great good, and the brethren from all over the country were very glad indeed to meet him, and it was a good thing for his Grand lodge and for the craft in his jurisdiction, that he did attend.

From a decision which he made, we find that the same rule prevails as in Maine in regard to physical qualifications.

He is very anxious that provision should be made for a Masonic Home, and he had very carefully examined the history of these enterprises in other jurisdictions, and he proposes to go to work wisely—that is, to begin to accumulate the funds by voluntary contributions and otherwise, until enough should be raised to justify the Grand Lodge in establishing the Home.

In agreeing with his recommendations in relation to the Home, the Grand Lodge adopted a regulation providing for a Board of Trustees to receive and invest the funds contributed for that purpose, and to report their progress

at each session of the Grand Lodge. By vote of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master was elected a member of this board, and we have but little doubt, but that his energy and interest in the matter will make the project something more than a nominal one.

Six dispensations for new lodges had been issued during the year.

The Grand Secretary speaks in high terms of the promptness with which the annual returns had been made.

The following resolution was adopted:

“Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M., of Oklahoma, does fully endorse the organization known as *“The Order of the Eastern Star”*—not as a part of Masonry, but as a most powerful adjunct to Masonry in its great work—it being composed of Master Masons, their wives, widows, mothers, sisters and daughters. And we recommend the order to all masons.”

The Grand Lecturer's report shows that he had visited forty of the forty-eight lodges, and he reports very favorably upon their condition. The expense of his visitations is borne partly by the Grand Lodge and partly by the lodges.

The resolution dividing the Territory into four districts for visitation by the Grand Officers, was repealed, and the visiting of the lodges left largely to the Grand Lecturer, except when the Grand Master deems it wise to go himself, or send some other Grand Officer.

There is no Report on Correspondence, but a resolution was adopted instructing the chairman to prepare one to be presented at the next session, and printed in the Proceedings.

OREGON, 1899.

This pamphlet has for a frontispiece a portrait of M. W. Bro. JOHN B. CLELAND, the retiring Grand Master.

In his address, M. W. Bro. CLELAND notices briefly public events, closing as follows:

“No doubt Masonry will be profoundly affected by the great changes which will follow established peace. The station of this Grand Lodge renders it probable it may be called to bear a conspicuous part in the masonic history of the coming years. This will be an additional incentive to bear high the standard of the Order and renew our vows of devotion and service to its cause.”

He announced the death of Past G. Master GEO. M. STROUD, who at the time of his death was, and for some time previous had been, the Grand Lecturer. He had been at the head of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Council, and had been a very active mason in that jurisdiction, and was deservedly loved and honored.

Among the Grand Representatives appointed by him is that of ERMON D. EASTMAN near our Grand Lodge.

He announced with great satisfaction the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru in rescinding the decree by which the Bible was banished from the altars of its lodges. But as the Grand Lodge had never maintained fraternal correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Peru, he had no edict to revoke.

He gives a brief account of his official acts, largely of a routine character, and of visits, and dispensations granted.

He announced quite a number of decisions, from which we are sorry to perceive that his jurisdiction has apparently adopted an innovation by restricting the rights of masons to choose the lodge of which they are to become members.

He held that a mason residing out of the State could not be received as a member of an Oregon lodge.

The law of his Grand Lodge is, that after a petition has been accepted, the candidate remains perpetually the work of the lodge, and in this connection we note that our Maine proposition in relation to jurisdiction over rejected material, failed of adoption by a small majority, the Grand Lodge thus continuing to maintain the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction.

He carried the new doctrine of membership so far as to decide that a member residing within the jurisdiction of the mother lodge, after a new lodge is formed, cannot be allowed a dimit to become a member of the new lodge.

This Grand Lodge is in a curious situation in relation to an Educational Fund. Early in its history a movement was started to provide a fund to educate the children of poor brethren, but as the State became settled, it made most ample provision for the education of its children in the public schools, so that there has been no call for this fund, and the result had been that it has accumulated to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars. The fund owns 896 shares of the Temple stock, and has cash on hand besides, to the amount of over twelve thousand dollars. From 1868 to 1899, only eighty dollars was appropriated, and that was for the purchase of books for the Orphans' Home, and a part of that still remains unexpended.

The committee says in relation to the matter, that for almost one-half a century the Grand Lodge has been either unable or unwilling to adopt any plan by which the income can be applied to any useful purposes.

We do not know how it is in Oregon, but in Maine, in such a case, provision has been made by the Legislature for the application of the fund to other benevolent or charitable purposes, and sometimes the aid of the Supreme Court has been invoked, but as a rule the intervention of the Legislature has been sufficient.

The Grand Master devotes considerable space in his address to the dissem-

ination of the work. He suggests that the office of Grand Lecturer be abolished, and the duties of that office be transferred to three Custodians.

He also urges that some standard for the unwritten work be adopted, saying that there is none in that jurisdiction, although he had used MACKAY'S Manual of the Lodge, because, while there was no record to that effect, there was a tradition that this work had once been adopted by the Grand Lodge as its standard.

The Grand Lodge adopted his recommendation, and made the "Manual of the Lodge" the official text book of that jurisdiction.

He discusses the Washington matter to some extent, the key-note of his views being as follows:

"One held to be a clandestine mason by the Grand Jurisdiction where made must on the same record be held clandestine everywhere by all regular masons. Jurisdiction of Ancient Craft Masonry can be rightfully exercised by one Grand Lodge, and but one, in any State of the Union."

In his conclusion, he says:

"The future of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction is one of great promise. There is a distinct movement toward the fraternity; accessions are numerous, and the material excellent. Let us all with patience, wisdom and zeal endeavor to perform our share of the great work 'while it is yet day; for the night cometh, when no man can work.'"

The following resolution in regard to the educational fund was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That whenever the Master of a subordinate lodge shall find a child of a mason in the jurisdiction of his lodge which needs assistance in obtaining an education, it shall be his duty to report the same to the Grand Master. The Grand Master and Committee on Educational Fund shall examine into all such cases, and on the 1st of September and February of each year shall appropriate to such children such sums as in their judgment are required for their assistance: Provided, that the total amount so appropriated shall not exceed the total amount of the income from the educational fund for the preceding six months."

The Grand Lodge correctly decided that when charges had been preferred in a lodge, the death of the accuser before trial has no effect, but that it is the duty of the Junior Warden to see that the case is prosecuted to a final result.

The following resolution was also adopted:

"*Resolved*, That all laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge which refer to a Past Master's degree be and are hereby repealed."

If this leaves the matter as it is left in Maine, and as we understand it to do, it was a just and proper thing. The ceremony called the Past Master's degree being a part of the installation of the Master, is properly left where masonic usage leaves it.

In a case in which a lodge had accepted a candidate residing within its jurisdiction, who had been previously rejected in another lodge in that State, the lodge receiving the candidate was ordered to go no further until a

waiver of jurisdiction should be obtained from the other lodge, and a new ballot taken on the application.

We find that the recommendation of the Grand Master, that the office of Grand Lecturer be abolished and three Custodians appointed in different parts of the State as a substitute for him, was adopted.

During the session, M. W. Bro. LEVI ANKENY, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington, was introduced and welcomed, and responded in a cordial manner. The Representatives of foreign jurisdictions were received and welcomed, and they responded: concerning which the Grand Secretary makes the following note:

“Note.—It is beyond the Reporter's power to say whether the Grand Master's address of welcome, elegant in diction, profound in thought and eloquent in expression, or the response of Past Grand Master Clow, was the masterpiece of fraternal oratory.”

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 190) was presented by Bro. ROBERT CLOW.

It is with a heavy heart that we make the announcement that since we first read this report, and before we came to a review of it, he had ceased from his earthly labors. We had noted several points for discussion in which our views differed from his, but now that he cannot reply we shall refrain from it.

Bro. Clow has acquired, and justly, a very high reputation in this department of masonic labor, and his services therein have been invaluable not only to the craft in Oregon, but wherever the Proceedings of his Grand Lodge are read. We have always regarded him as a mason of the old style whose example it would be safe to follow, as he was guided by the ancient usages, laws and customs of the craft.

His views in relation to cipher rituals, to which he gives considerable space in his report, may be inferred from the following:

“He never has favored a cipher ritual, nor defended the wisdom of such a publication: but, acknowledging the doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty, he believes in the right of a Grand Lodge to authorize such a ritual if it sees fit. If our learned brother means by this that a Grand Lodge may do this simply because it has the power, we fully concur: but if he means that a Grand Lodge has the right to do that for which it which it would punish an individual brother, we beg to disagree.”

In his review of Washington, he refers to the new departure of that Grand Lodge, and says:

“Personally we do not desire to revive a dead and buried issue of long ago, but desire to say that in our judgment the Grand Lodge of Washington has committed a grievous error and created confusion and engendered distrust that can only be eradicated by a prompt and unqualified repeal of the foregoing resolutions.”

He then gives extracts from the reports of the Massachusetts committee, and quotes at length our report of last year, adding at the end:

“ We regret this ill advised action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and trust that the sober second-thought of the members will assert itself by rescinding it former action at the coming session.”

We give his closing words:

“ We have reached the end of our annual journey around the masonic world. Though long and tedious, the journey has not been dreary; neither has it been devoid of pleasure. We have enjoyed our communion with our fellow-reporters, and drank deep of the cup of pleasure, always to be found in the center of the round-table.

“ We claim and expect from our brethren the same generous indulgence toward the imperfections of this report which has been bestowed upon our efforts in this line of work in the past, and to the corps reportorial we extend our sincere thanks for their uniform kindness and courtesy, and we beg to assure one and all that we cherish the kindest feeling toward them.”

PENNSYLVANIA, 1899.

The frontispiece is a picture of the Masonic Temple from a plate specially made for the purpose, which is to be given annually in the Proceedings.

We have also the portrait of the Grand Master, HENRY W. WILLIAMS, and of Past Grand Master WILLIAM WHITNEY.

At the first Quarterly, a novel and interesting case came before the Grand Lodge. A charge was made against a brother for causing to be published in the Philadelphia newspapers, a forged letter purporting to be from the Mayor of Swampscott, Mass., to the Mayor of Philadelphia, stating that the body of a brother who had committed suicide had washed ashore, with the malicious intent to injure the latter.

The lodge referred the charge to a committee to determine whether a trial was necessary. The committee decided against a trial, and the lodge accepted the report. An appeal was taken to the Grand Lodge, which reversed the decision of the lodge and ordered a trial.

The Committee on Appeals say:

“ The brother who brings the charges is the President of a National Bank, the Treasurer of the Managers of a Soldiers' Home, and one of the Sinking Fund Commissioners of the City of Philadelphia. He occupies, besides, other judiciary positions and posts of honor, and is a well-known citizen. He is, besides, a man of family.

“ The letter, published in a way to give it the widest publicity, charges that he committed suicide, thus imputing to him the commission of a crime. That the writer intended to injure him in character, business, and home circle, the accusing brother charges. As no refutation of the charges was attempted to be made, every allegation made by Bro. W. must be taken, for our present consideration of the case, to have been conceded.”

It was objected that the lodge had no jurisdiction because it was a matter for the civil courts.

In reply to this, the committee well say:

“But to traduce a brother Master Mason’s character, to charge him with crime, to attempt to injure him in his business and in his family, are more than mere violations of civil law. These acts constitute gross unmasonic conduct, to be dealt with by masonic authority under masonic law.”

In this connection, it should be noted that in Pennsylvania, as we understand it, and as we stated last year, lodges do not take cognizance of *criminal* offences (unless also violations of express masonic obligation), but leave them to the courts, and when a brother is convicted by them, his name is struck from the roll in a manner that makes it equivalent to expulsion, without any trial by the lodge.

We are not sure that we are stating the usage accurately or that it includes any offences not *felonies*. This usage explains the significance of the objection, that it “was a matter for the civil courts.” But that usage has never been extended, so far as we have seen, to unmasonic conduct towards a brother, which under the civil law would only be the ground for a civil suit for damages.

In all other jurisdictions in the United States, lodges take jurisdiction of criminal offences upon the ground that as by the fundamental principles of the Institution “a mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law,” any violation of that law is unmasonic conduct, or, as it is often stated, “conduct unbecoming a mason.”

The case in question went back to the lodge, and was tried by it, and the accused convicted and expelled. He appealed to the Grand Lodge and the expulsion was sustained. The case grew out of a quarrel between the two brothers in relation to the management of a Masonic Home in which they were both managers.

The Committee on Appeals, after stating that the accused (W. H. H.) well knew that the accuser was a Master Mason, say:

“With this direct personal knowledge of his duty to a brother Master Mason, he falsely and fraudulently pretended to be the Mayor of Swampscott, Massachusetts, so that in this pretended official capacity he wrote a letter directed to the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, where Bro. W. resided and held a high fraternal, social, and commercial reputation, in which letter he stated, in such language and by direct inference, the false fact that Bro. W. had committed suicide, and that his body had been washed ashore by the sea at Swampscott. The letter purported a personal knowledge of the facts therein stated, and in view of the additional facts that Bro. W. and W. H. H. had been personally and well acquainted for a number of years, and had been associated in the management of the Masonic Home in official and managerial relation thereto, and that the letter was in a simulated handwriting and signed by a false name, it is properly characterized as gross unmasonic conduct. The writing and publication of such a letter and telegram under the circumstances of this case could emanate from a maliciously

disposed mind only, and the certain results which must of necessity be expected to follow the announcement of the startling fact therein stated could be interpreted only to mean a desire to injure Bro. W. in the esteem of persons who know him and to cause great grief to his relatives and friends. Such a piece of sensational folly might be promptly explained, but it does not change the motive and purpose inciting the act. Every fact stated was false, as Bro. W. was at that time in good health and was actively engaged in responsible business affairs in Philadelphia."

The appeal was based wholly upon technicalities, which were overruled; the conclusions of the committee, as above stated, are beyond question correct and the decision a most righteous one.

This Grand Lodge was most grievously afflicted by the death, within a month after his installation, of the R. W. Grand Master, HENRY W. WILLIAMS, in his sixty-ninth year. He was a judge of the Supreme Court and died in Philadelphia, away from his home, while in attendance upon the court. He had been an active mason, holding many offices in the subordinate bodies, serving as High Priest of his chapter as late as 1886, his eleventh year, but in three periods of service. He had served as a judge almost thirty-four years and had a national reputation. As a man, a mason and a judge he deservedly stood high in the affection and respect of all who knew him.

At the June Quarterly, the Acting Grand Master, GEORGE E. WAGNER, said:

"It is again my sad and melancholy duty to announce to Grand Lodge the decease of distinguished brethren:

"Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Brother Joseph Eichbaum was stricken with apoplexy April 15, 1899, and died within a few minutes.

"Past Master Bro. John Slingluff was instantly killed in the railroad accident at Exeter, Pennsylvania, on May 12, 1899.

"District Deputy Grand Master Brother Andrew J. Kauffman died at his home in Columbia on May 19, 1899, after a lingering illness of upward of twelve months."

BRO. JOHN SLINGLUFF was a very close and intimate friend of Bro. EICHBAUM, and the Grand Master well says that "It is a curious coincidence that these friends, who were so constantly together in life, should meet sudden and unexpected death within such a short period of time, let us feel assured to be again united."

We had the pleasure and benefit of a personal acquaintance with Bros. EICHBAUM, and KAUFFMAN and join with our Pennsylvania brethren in lamenting their deaths, and in the tributes to their memory.

Eulogies of Bros. WILLIAMS and EICHBAUM were delivered in the Grand Lodge and are published in these Proceedings, and pamphlet editions were ordered.

In another case of discipline, the decision was set aside, because the witnesses, who were masons, were allowed to testify without being required

to "declare that their evidence was given on their obligations as Freemasons."

The committee thus state the law:

"Witnesses called to testify on the trial of such a charge, if not members of the fraternity, must be sworn, and if members, must be required to promise and declare that their testimony will be given on their obligations as Freemasons, before it is received."

Other objections were made which the committee dispose of as follows:

"In the opinion of your committee, it is not only proper for the Wardens of a lodge, in their official capacity, to present charges of unmasonic conduct against a member whom they have cause to believe guilty, but it may at times be their duty to do so; nor does the committee think that the lodge is deprived of its right to pass final judgment on a member because it has, on information received, instructed them to present such charges.

"A lodge is not required to retain among its members one who has been guilty of unmasonic conduct, because no one who has suffered a personal wrong or grievance can be found to present the charges.

"Certainly the defendant can have no cause to complain because the charges against him are presented by officers whose only motive is the interests of justice, instead of by one who has a personal injury to redress, or a personal wrong to rectify. Nor can we believe that a lodge which has, on information received, instructed its Wardens to present charges against a member would hesitate to dismiss the charges if, on final hearing, the evidence failed to substantiate them."

We give these because the questions are liable to arise in Maine, and this statement of the law is undoubtedly correct, save that under our law the Junior Warden is the officer to make the charges. How this became the law we have never ascertained, but have thought that it grew out of that part of the charge to the Junior Warden, that the craft, while at refreshment, are under his particular charge.

Extensive improvements in the interior of the Temple are contemplated; the report of an architect had been obtained and the matter was referred to a committee.

The committee on Library made a very interesting report, showing a very satisfactory condition of the library.

Another case of discipline was before the Grand Lodge, stated as follows:

"He reports that the appellant, at the time a resident of St. Petersburg, Clarion County, who for many years had been a highly respected physician with a large practice, was charged with ungentlemanly acts and unmasonic conduct, while engaged in the performance of the duties of his profession, that were prejudicial to Freemasonry, a serious reflection and injury to the lodge, for which he was tried, found guilty, and suspended from membership, from which action the appeal is taken."

The accused attempted to appeal, but did not file notice in season, and the appeal was dismissed without action by the Grand Lodge.

The acting R. W. Grand Master, GEO. E. WAGNER, at the annual communication, in giving an account of his official action, delivered an able and interesting address, only a few parts of which we are able to notice.

This Grand Lodge was not represented at the Washington Centennial. It was generally known there by information that either the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master, acting for it, had declined to be represented. The reason was not stated, and as the matter was considerably discussed by those present, we made an effort to obtain the reason given: but before a reply was received to our letter, we received the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge and find the correspondence given in the address of Grand Master WAGNER.

At the preceding annual communication a brother from Virginia was present and made an "eloquent and forcible appeal to this Grand Lodge to participate in the celebration." The subject was referred to the Grand Master, with power to act. The almost immediate death of the Grand Master threw the decision upon R. W. Bro. WAGNER. He consulted with his brethren and came to the conclusion that the Grand Lodge should not "participate in *any public demonstration.*" In a subsequent letter, he refers to the Ahiman Rezon and names the only two occasions on which Pennsylvania masons may appear in public. We have not considered the question whether the Grand Master could have reached any other conclusion under the *present* Ahiman Rezon of his Grand Lodge.

But there was a very general expression of regret that the "New Departure" of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should have prevented her from being represented on this occasion, fraught with such important results, not only to the country but to Freemasonry. Her declining to be represented seemed to be a denial of the universality of the Institution. The other United States Grand Lodges, as well as the Canadian Grand Lodges and the Grand Lodge of Victoria, were either all represented or sent regrets that circumstances alone prevented it.

Many could not help contrasting the course taken by our Pennsylvania brethren with that taken by the fathers in honoring WASHINGTON in his lifetime. The new doctrine that masons cannot "participate in any public demonstration" had not then been invented. It is fitting that, as a proper part of the honoring of the memory of WASHINGTON, we give an account of the celebration to which we refer.

In 1778 the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist fell on Sunday: on the next day, the Grand Lodge of Philadelphia celebrated it, WASHINGTON being present. Rev. Dr. WILLIAM SMITH preached a sermon. The affair was held to be of so much consequence that the sermon was printed upon the order of the Grand Lodge. Unfortunately the records of the Grand Lodge at that date are lost, so that the full proceedings of the Grand Lodge cannot be given. Nor have we seen a copy of the pamphlet published in 1778. But it was re-printed (according to the title page) in 1783, and included in the Ahiman Rezon of that year. The title page of the book says that the book with the sermon added is published by order of the Grand Lodge of Penn-

sylvania. The title page of the appendix states that the sermon was preached in Christ Church "by appointment of and before the General Communication of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Pennsylvania." The next page has the request of the Grand Lodge, attested by the Grand Secretary *pro tem.*, for a copy of the sermon for publication, dated Dec. 29, 1778.

The next page is as follows:

"To His Excellency
 GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq.,
 General and Commander-in-Chief
 of the
 Armies of the United States
 of
 North America;
 The Friend
 Of His Country and Mankind,
 Ambitious of no higher title,
 If higher was possible;
 The Following Sermon
 Honored with his Presence when delivered,
 is dedicated
 In Testimony
 of the
 Sincerest Brotherly Affection
 and
 Esteem of his merit.
 By order of the Brethren,
 JOHN COATS, G. S. *pro tem.*"

Then follows the sermon. In a note he refers to the "London Edition, of the sermon on St. John Baptist's day, 1775." We wonder if any copy is now extant. And in the sermon he says:

"Many of you will remember that near the *fourth* part of a *century*—a period which hath been big with important events and revolutions—hath passed away since our last meeting at this place on a similar occasion."

We quote also his allusion to WASHINGTON:

"Such, to name no more, was the character of a Cincinnatus in ancient times: rising 'awful from the Plough' to save his country; and, his country saved, returning to the Plough again with increased Dignity and Lustre. Such too, if we divine aright, will future Ages pronounce to have been the character of a * * * *; but you all anticipate me in a Name, which Delicacy forbids me, on this occasion, to mention. Honoured with his presence as a brother, you will seek to derive Virtue from his example; and never let it be said, that any Principles you possess can render you deaf to the calls of your country; but, on the contrary, have animated you with intrepidity in the Hour of Danger, and Humanity in the Moments of Triumph."

The conclusion is as follows:

"But I will detain you no longer, Brethren!—You all pant to have a foretaste of the Joy of Angels, by calling forth into immediate Exercise this

heavenly virtue of Charity; whereby you will give* Glory to the THRICE BLESSED THREE, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, one God over all!"

"*At the word 'Glory' the Brethren rose together; and in reverential posture, on pronouncing the names of the TRI-UNE GOD accompanied the same by a correspondent Repetition of the Ancient Sign or Symbol of Divine Homage and Obedience; concluding with the following Response—'Amen! So let it ever be!'"

The next pages after the sermon are as follows:

"The following short account of the procession of the brethren to and from church, etc., is recorded here by Desire:

"At nine o'clock A. M. near *three hundred* of the Body assembled at the College; where being properly clothed—the officers in the *Jewels* of their lodges, and other badges of their dignity—the procession began at eleven o'clock, viz:

1. The Sword Bearer.
 2. Two Deacons bearing Wands tipped with gold.
 3. The THREE ORDERS, *Doric, Ionic and Corinthian*; borne by three brethren.
 4. The HOLY BIBLE and *Book of Constitutions*, on crimson velvet cushions; borne by the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.
 5. A reverend brother.
 6. Four Deacons, bearing Wands.
 7. His Excellency, our illustrious Bro. GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., supported by the GRAND MASTER and his Deputy.
 8. The Two Grand Wardens, bearing the proper Pillars.
 9. The Past *Masters* of different LODGES.
 10. The Present Masters of Ditto.
 11. The Senior Wardens,
 12. The Junior Wardens,
 13. The Secretaries,
 14. The Treasurers,
- } Of different private Lodges.
15. Brother *Proctor's* Band of Music.
 16. Visiting Brethren: And
 17. Members of different Lodges; Two and Two, according to Seniority.

"The Procession entered the Church in the order of March; and being seated in the Middle Isle, Prayers were read by the Reverend Mr. WHITE; and the following Anthem sung in its Proper place, by sundry of the Brethren accompanied with the Organ and other Instrumental Music, viz:

"A GRAND SYMPHONY.

"CHORUS. Behold, how good and joyful a Thing it is, BRETHREN, to dwell together in UNITY.

"SOLO. I will give Thanks unto Thee, O LORD! with my whole Heart. Secretly among the *Brethren*, and in the Congregation will I praise Thee! I will speak the marvellous Works of thy Hands; the SUN, and MOON, and the STARS, which thou hast ordained.

"SOLO. The people that walked in Darkness have seen a great LIGHT; and on them that dwelt in the Land of the Shadow of Death, doth the glorious Light of JEHOVAH shine.

"SOLO. Thou hast gathered Us from the EAST, and from the WEST, and from the NORTH, and from the SOUTH—Thou hast made us *Companions* for the *Mighty* upon Earth—even for *Princes* of great Nations.

"TIOO. O! I AM! inspire us with WISDOM and STRENGTH to support us in all our Troubles, that we may worship THEE in the BEAUTY OF HOLINESS!

"After SERMON, nearly FOUR HUNDRED POUNDS were collected for the Relief of the POOR. The BRETHREN then returned to the College in the same Order as above Described; from thence they departed to their several

Lodges, and spent the remainder of the Day with their usual good Harmony and Sociability."

Then follows the Prayer "Published by Order of the Grand Lodge," and adapted for use at the opening and dedicating of a new lodge.

We think that all will agree that the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in its conduct of the Centennial, had the warrant of a precedent set by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the olden time. It should be noted that the account of the Pennsylvania celebration in 1778 was then published by the Grand Lodge, and *five years afterwards* an account of it was ordered to be published in its official *Alman* Rezon. For what purpose, but to serve as a precedent for the future? Moreover, it appears that in 1755, the Grand Lodge had met in the same place "on a similar occasion."

Grand Master WAGNER discusses the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and, as his Grand Lodge is directly interested, we quote what he says, although we had intended to notice this matter only briefly in this report:

"One of the matters that required attention was the unfortunate action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in permitting its subordinate lodges to admit, as visitors, clandestine masons.

"In accordance with the action of Grand Lodge (had on December 27, 1898), fraternal relations were suspended with the Grand Lodge of Washington until that Grand Lodge shall have withdrawn its recognition of clandestine lodges in this jurisdiction.

"Brother William H. Upton, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington, immediately opened up a correspondence with the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, which it fell to my lot to conduct on behalf of this Grand Lodge.

"Most Worshipful Brother Upton, with great skill and ability, defended the action taken by his Grand Lodge in June, 1898, which gave recognition to two men who claimed to have been made masons by so-called lodges that claimed masonic life, through two spurious Grand Lodges—'The African' and 'The Hiram'—that claim Pennsylvania as their home, and which had, years ago, been declared clandestine by this Grand Lodge. Brother Upton wrote lengthily and well upon the history of Prince Hall Lodge, which is set up as being the progenitor of all these so-called lodges, and apparently convinced himself that in our eyes their only offence was their color. He also seemed to be fully of the belief that the Grand Lodge of Washington did not give recognition to these two so-called Grand Lodges by permitting the two parties referred to as visitors, notwithstanding the fact that they claimed masonic descent from them: that the Grand Lodge of Washington had, therefore, not given offence to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and that the edict of non-intercourse should consequently be withdrawn.

"Of course, the reply to this was that, the Grand Lodges being spurious and clandestine, every lodge or member deriving life from them is spurious and clandestine, and the granting of the right of visitation was the recognition of the legitimacy of the lodges in which the applicants claimed to have been made masons, and the recognition of these lodges was a recognition of the Grand Lodges from which they claimed to derive their authority; and this brought us back to the 'African' and 'Hiram' Grand Lodges that had been many years ago declared clandestine and illegitimate by this Grand Lodge. I advised Most Worshipful Brother Upton that it mattered not to us in Pennsylvania what was the color of these parties,—whether white, black, yellow or copper-colored; all we desired to know was whether

they were legitimate masons; if not, they should not be admitted, and that the fraternal relations could not be resumed so long as the Grand Lodge of Washington permitted its lodges to recognize them.

"In June, 1899, the Grand Lodge of Washington again considered the subject, and apparently rescinded its former action. I say apparently, because it was not, in my opinion, done in reality; the subject was before that Grand Lodge in the shape of a report of a committee of seven Past Grand Masters, and we are advised that this report was adopted, 'the vote being almost unanimous.' This report was quite lengthy, and recommended that the action of the previous year be reconsidered, which was done, with the result that the resolutions previously adopted, with one exception, were repealed. If that had been the whole action, it would have been entirely satisfactory to us, and the edict severing fraternal relations would at once have been recalled; but coupled with this was the adoption of the report of the committee, which, in several places, practically reaffirmed the action of 1898, notably so in this paragraph: 'Nor can this Grand Lodge consent to tolerate the idea that her lodges do not possess the plenary rights to determine for themselves,—but for no one else,—subject to review by nobody but herself, the status of all persons, claiming to be masons, who knock at their doors, either for the purpose of visiting or as applicants for affiliation.'

"Upon the receipt of official notice of the action of June, 1899, I wrote to Most Worshipful Brother William M. Seeman, the new Grand Master, concerning the action of his Grand Lodge, and asking him if it is now permissible for their subordinate lodges to admit as visitors the two parties referred to in last year's Proceedings, or any others of like masonic standing; to which he replied that it was not. Upon the receipt of this letter I felt disposed to recall the edict of non-intercourse, but, after further consideration, concluded to postpone action for the present, recognizing the fact that, while the decision of Grand Master Seeman was binding on his Grand Lodge during his Grand Mastership, that, after all, the action of the Grand Lodge governed the case, and his successor might interpret it differently, and we might be compelled, shortly, to issue another edict in place of the one recalled.

"The last action of the Grand Lodge of Washington says, in substance, 'Our lodges have the right to decide on the legitimacy of all applicants for affiliation or visitation, subject to review by this Grand Lodge only; if one of our lodges admits as a visitor, or to membership, a man who has been declared illegitimate by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, who derives his masonic life say from the "African" Grand Lodge, or the "Hiram" Grand Lodge, Pennsylvania has no right to object if our Grand Lodge does not; in other words, 'We reserve to our own lodges, and our Grand Lodge, the exclusive right to decide upon the legitimacy of all visitors or affiliates, and deny the right of any other Grand Lodge to have an opinion on the subject.' The present Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington agrees that such parties as appeared in 1898 cannot be admitted, but this decision may, or may not, be confirmed and continued by his successor or his Grand Lodge.

"Pennsylvania cannot agree that Washington shall have the exclusive right to decide such questions, but claims to have, and exercise, as fully as heretofore, the right of self-protection. She cannot consent that her declaration of the clandestine and illegitimate character of the 'African' Grand Lodge and the 'Hiram' Grand Lodge shall be subject to review by the Grand Lodge of Washington or any of its subordinates, which would be the case if we agreed to the view contained in the report of the Seven Past Grand Masters and adopted by the Grand Lodge of Washington."

As to the principles involved, his argument is unanswerable. We have

more faith, however, than he does, that there will be no *action* of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master of Washington to give just cause of offence in this matter; and as edicts of non-intercourse should be made only in extreme cases, we have hoped that all would be revoked, although the Grand Lodge of Washington cannot, in view of her explanations of her recent action, complain if they should not be.

The Grand Master had been quite surprised at the number of applications that were made to him in behalf of many men "mentally and morally qualified, and, in these particulars, desirable acquisitions," but which he was obliged to reject because the parties were not perfect physically; he says further, that there were scores of them, all of whom appeared proper and good men, and undoubtedly he might have added, that most of them were as capable of performing all the duties of masons at the present day as well as he can himself, but his duty was to obey the law and decide that they could not be admitted. He issued a circular, giving extracts from the present Ahiman Rezon—one nearly two pages in length, evidently the work of a recent writer, as it is not in the edition of 1878, or in any of the previous ones.

Under the rule given, the standard of physical qualification is absolute perfection. "There are no degrees of disability. If it exists, so that the slightest violation of the perfectness is cognizable, it is as fatal to the man as though it took away his arm, hand, finger, leg or foot." Also the old Gothic Constitution is quoted, that "a candidate must be without blemish."

To our mind this leads to absurd results: physicians tell us (what we all know) that an absolutely perfect man, "without blemish," *does not exist*, so that if this doctrine is rigidly enforced, *no one can be made a mason*: it will not do to say *de minimus non curat lex*," because the law as above laid down is that there are no degrees of perfectness, and no matter how little a man lacks of being perfect, he is not "perfect" and cannot be admitted.

Obedience to this law also requires that the candidate be stripped to the skin and examined as recruits are examined for military service: if not, the law countenances the absurdity that physical defects *covered by one's clothes* are not "cognizable," and therefore, not "fatal!"

But this very statement, quoted by our R. W. Brother, shows that it is erroneous! "The perfect man is the standard: perfect in his physical form and *so perfect* in his mental and moral structure that no deformity in either will ever prevent him from properly understanding those virtues and precepts Freemasonry enjoins." Then there *are* "degrees" in *mental* and *moral* disability in a "perfect man" but none in physical disability!

The true rule in relation to "mental and moral" qualification is correctly stated, and if the author had applied the same rule to physical qualifications, viz: "and so perfect in his physical structure that no deformity will ever

prevent him from properly performing the physical work Freemasonry requires," the rules would have been uniform, in accordance with common sense, and, more than all the rest, not derogatory to Masonry. For is it not derogatory to Masonry to say that the perfectness required in candidates has no "degrees" in his *physical* qualifications, but has "degrees" in his *mental and moral* qualifications?

But what is the landmark? For all Grand Lodges which have sprung from the old Grand Lodge of England that question is settled. That Grand Lodge, in 1721, approved the following as the correct statement of the landmark:

"No Master should take an apprentice unless he be a perfect youth, having no main or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art, of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a brother."

Now will the reader please go back and compare this with our paraphrase of the Pennsylvania law in relation to mental and moral qualifications? Does not the charge quoted say the same in substance?

In quoting this landmark, those who hold to the perfection theory almost invariably leave out all after the word "body"; and in one extract from the *Ahiman Rezon*, it is so quoted with "etc." for the rest of the paragraph; but a little further on, it is correctly quoted as given above.

Bearing in mind that this was a rule of *operative* Masonry, it will be seen that it is precisely adapted to the purpose for which it was designed. In fewer words the requirement is that no one shall be taken for an Apprentice who is not physically able to become a capable workman in the quarries. It is the natural, common-sense rule that has ever since prevailed in operative employment. It means *business*, and there is no sentiment in it.

The idea that the law in relation to the qualification of an *operative mason* is based on the Levitical law in relation to priests is so absurd, that it needs no consideration: it is symbolism run mad: even the article cited from the Gothic Constitution (so called) refutes it, for the reason given for the rule is, "for a maimed man can do the craft no good."

We are glad to find that while this idea is stated in the present *Ahiman Rezon*, it has not the authority of any decision of any Grand Master or the Grand Lodge, but was evidently the work of the editor, and Grand Master WAGNER does not quote it in his circular or in his address.

What we have so far written relates more specifically to Grand Lodges descended from the old Grand Lodge of England. Whether the "Ancients" adopted the same form of the landmark or not we do not feel sure. We regret that we have not had the time and opportunity to investigate this more fully. The perfection doctrine seems to prevail in the Grand Lodges descended, wholly or in large part, from the "Ancients," and in them only.

The *Ahiman Rezon* of 1783 does not contain the "Old Charges": but the

editor undertakes to give the substance of them in his own words, although he frequently marks passages with quotation marks; presumably these are from DERMOTT'S Ahiman Rezon. He says no one can become a member of a lodge unless, quoting, "he is also freeborn; of mature and discreet age; of good report; of sufficient natural endowments and senses of a *man*; with an estate, office, trade, occupation or some visible way of acquiring an honest livelihood and of working in his craft as becomes the members of this most ancient and honorable fraternity, who ought not only to earn what is sufficient for themselves and families, but likewise something to spare for works of charity and for supporting the ancient grandeur and dignity of the royal craft. Every person desiring admission must also be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered, at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs, as a *MAN* ought to be."

This is all we find touching this subject in this book, and manifestly our Pennsylvania brethren find no warrant in this for the extreme doctrine they now maintain.

In the Ahiman Rezon of 1825, the Old Charge is given as approved by the Grand Lodge of England in 1721. And in the "Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania," as given in that Ahiman Rezon, the rule is stated as follows (p. 160):

"The requisite qualifications for a member of a lodge are, that he be of good report, free-born, of mature age, hale and sound, so as to be capable of gaining a livelihood for himself and family *and to perform the work of a member in a lodge.*"

The Italics are ours to call special attention to this clause, because, as will be seen, it is the precise equivalent of the statement of the law generally prevailing—that the test is, not absolute perfection, but ability to do all masonic work.

The present Constitution, while materially different from that of 1825, does not justify, as we think, the rigid rule, which, by the decisions of Grand Masters within about thirty years, now prevails. In fact, Grand Master WAGNER did not embody it in his circular, and so does not give it in his address. The provision is:

"The requisite qualifications for initiation and membership in a lodge, are that the petitioner shall be a man, free born, of mature age, sound in all his members, of good masonic report, and able to earn a livelihood for himself and family and perform the work of a member in a lodge "

Even in this there is no requirement of the perfection so rigidly required by the decisions. The rule in 1825 required him to be "hale and sound, so as to be capable," &c.; the rule of the present Constitution requires him to be "sound in all his members," "of good report" "and able": the change makes the phrase "and perform the work of a member in a lodge" mere surplusage and meaningless.

We can come to no other conclusion than that the construction of the landmark which Grand Master WAGNER promulgated, is in conflict with reason, with the "Ancient Charge" approved in 1721 and recognized as law in Pennsylvania in 1825, and even with the specifically enacted law of that Grand Lodge at the present time.

It is as absurd and misleading to pretend that we admit only men who are "perfect *physically*" as it would be to pretend that we admit only men who are perfect *mentally* and *morally*.

A growing evil is thus noticed by the Grand Master:

"Another departure from the simplicity of our usages and practices is taking place in the matter of the lodge notice, which is gradually, under apparent competition between the lodges, becoming anything but 'a thing of beauty and joy forever'; on the contrary, it is a thing of ugliness and grief; and, for the purpose of calling a halt, I will, during the coming year, refer the matter to the Committee on By-Laws, to prepare a proper form, which, if adopted by Grand Lodge, will be forwarded to all lodges, and compliance therewith insisted on, so that the present incongruous combinations may be prohibited and prevented. Some of them are 'fearfully and wonderfully made.'"

Referring to his decisions, which we have not space to notice, he says:

"Most of the queries had been answered by my predecessors to other inquirers, and many would have answered themselves if the brethren had consulted the Ahiman Rezon, but each brother was entitled to a prompt and courteous response, which was always forthcoming."

In our judgment this is correct; we have always deprecated the scoldings which some Grand Masters have indulged in because they are called upon to answer questions, the answers to which they think the inquirer could have found in the Constitution.

We regret to find that he felt obliged to set aside the proceedings of lodges in conferring the degrees on account of informalities in a very large number of cases.

We find by his address after his installation as Grand Master, that he too felt the same regret.

Speaking of the parties whose names he had directed to be struck from the rolls, he says:

"Those gentlemen have been badly treated. Either through ignorance of the law on the part of lodge officers, or through attempts on the part of such officers to 'get around the law,' these innocent victims have been made to suffer.

"They presented themselves, in good faith, without the special knowledge of our requirements, which should be in the possession of lodge officers, and because they were unlawfully made, I had no option but to declare the proceedings in their several cases *null and void*, and to direct their names to be stricken from the list of members."

We suggest that these consequences prove that the law itself is wrong and ought to be amended. A law that confessedly does *injustice* ought not to

have any place in *any* code, much less in Masonry. This law is unquestionably contrary to the principles of jurisprudence and justice. It is contrary to the practice in any other masonic jurisdiction. Mere irregularities in the mode of proceeding do not render the work void, but subjects the lodge to discipline. For no fault or even error of his own, the candidate is disgraced by having his name struck from the roll, and being debarred from all masonic recognition; *and the lodge is not obliged to repair the injury!* And not only is the lodge not *obliged* to make reparation, *but it cannot do so if a single member objects.*

If the initiation is void, it is an unlawful revelation of the secrets of Freemasonry, for they are revealed to one not a mason, and because he is not a mason, he is under no obligation to even keep them to himself; cipher rituals "are nowhere" in comparison.

We have examined the Ahiman Rezon with some care, and we find no enacted law declaring the work void when irregularly done. The practice seems to have arisen from the assumption by Grand Masters, that if there has been a failure in the smallest particular to obey the law, the work is void. This assumption is erroneous upon principle and authority.

But we hope that if our Pennsylvania brethren cannot adopt this view, they will prevent the doing of confessed injustice, by healing, as a matter of course, all innocent victims, instead of disgracing them by striking their names from the roll; the punishment should fall wholly upon the officers through whose carelessness or fault the law is violated.

The Report on Correspondence (212 pp.) is signed by Bros. MICHAEL ARNOLD, JAMES M. LAMBERTON, BUSHROD W. JAMES, LEE S. SMITH and BENJAMIN F. HUGHES, but according to the initials attached to each review it was nearly all prepared by Bro. LAMBERTON.

We take this from the brief Introduction:

"Your committee has been compelled to again submit its convincing proof that Philadelphia is the place in which the first masonic lodges met in America. This is a fact almost universally conceded, but occasionally a refrain uttered by one of those who will not be convinced requires an answer. We have given it under our review of Maine. The truth is mighty, and will prevail."

We confess to being puzzled as to what the author of this paragraph means or intends that others shall understand him to mean. That a voluntary lodge, that is, a lodge without a charter (and irregular under the law adopted in England in 1717) did exist in Philadelphia before such a lodge or a chartered lodge met anywhere else, everybody admits; if, therefore, the author means this lodge he is in error in saying that any one denies it: that the first chartered lodge, which ever met in America, met in Boston, no one, save possibly a very few Philadelphians, denies; if the author means this

kind of a lodge, he is in error when he says that "this is a fact almost universally conceded."

But really the paragraph is a misstatement upon its face. The term "Masonic Lodges" has now acquired a fixed, definite meaning *when used without qualifying words*; and that meaning is "lodges warranted under the authority of a regular Grand Lodge"; and readers have a right to understand, and generally do understand, that the term is used with that meaning. And as already stated, if the term is used with that meaning, the statement is doubly erroneous; that kind of lodges did not meet first in Philadelphia, and so far from its being "almost universally conceded" that they did, nobody concedes it, and very few, if any, seriously claim it. Yes, "truth is mighty and *will prevail*, in spite of the frantic efforts of a few of our Philadelphia brethren to the contrary!

In his review of Alabama, Bro. LAMBERTON, says:

"We regret to notice that the names of brethren who figure in appeals are given in full in these Proceedings, and we express our disapproval of the printing of such matter as is contained in one of the reports of the Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals. We must not be misunderstood; the report was perfectly proper, in order to enable the Grand Lodge to act intelligently, but there ought not to be printed in the Proceedings of a masonic Grand Lodge such offensive matter, for after reading the Grand Master's high-toned address, this report was a positive offence."

We fully agree as to the last part of this: but do not agree that the name should not be published in our Proceedings. In another place Bro. L. puts it on the ground of charity to the erring: but we think that when a mason so departs from his duty as to make it necessary to expel him, justice to Masonry and to the craft requires that the brethren should be informed of it. In such cases we note that in these Proceedings the initials are given; this differs only in a slight degree from giving the full name; the identity of the party is easily ascertained.

Referring to the Washington Centennial, he says:

"We cannot agree with a Special Committee who 'think it would verge upon a masonic crime for any Grand Lodge in the United States to be unrepresented at the memorial ceremonies in honor of the father of his country, and whose masonic influence, through the hundred years since his death, has recommended tens of thousands of good men to become masons.'

"It does not seem to us that it is just the thing to *celebrate the death* of even so great a man as Washington."

The word "celebrate" is improperly used. He might just as well say that when his Grand Lodge paid tributes to Grand Master WILLIAMS and others, as given in these Proceedings, it was "celebrating" the deaths of those brethren. How are "memorial ceremonies" a hundred years after the death, any more a *celebration* than if they took place three months after his death?

In his review of Illinois, he refers to the efforts of Bro. ROBBINS to maintain the legitimacy of African Lodge, and says:

“We wonder if Brother Drummond will say that ‘the action of the Grand Lodge of England in granting the charter foreclosed all question of previous irregularities.’”

The answer depends upon the right of the Grand Lodge of England to grant the charter. If the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania grants a charter for a lodge in that State, that action forecloses as to every other Grand Lodge, “all question of previous irregularities”: if she should grant one for a lodge in Maine, the act would be void, whether there were “previous irregularities” or not.

In his review of Maine, he says that the address of the Grand Master (LOCKE) “is full and interesting”; and he adds:

“The news of the death of past Grand Master Eichbaum reached Portland the day the Grand Lodge met, but somehow Grand Master Williams’ death was unknown until the Committee on Correspondence reviewed New Jersey’s Proceedings.”

The statement is correct: if any notice of the death of Grand Master WILLIAMS was sent out, it did not reach us in Maine, and the news of the death of Bro. EICHBAUM first reached us through private correspondence.

He quotes the statement of Grand Master LOCKE in relation to initiating Catholics and adds:

“Notwithstanding the above, we know several Catholics who are masons in this Jurisdiction, and good ones too. As for divulging our secrets, the priesthood know them already, as for the confessional, we have nothing to fear from that.”

His statement that the priesthood know our secrets already, amazes us, and leads us to inquire how our brother knows that? And even if it is true, how he can justify his publicly informing them of it? In view of the position taken in Pennsylvania in relation to ciphers, we are constrained to believe that there is some clerical or printer’s error in what we have quoted. As to the other part, our personal opinion is founded upon the assurance of Catholics, men of intelligence, education and probity, that if a Catholic joins the masons, he is a traitor either to his Church or to Masonry, and upon the fact that the only Catholic mason we ever knew renounced Masonry, according to reliable testimony, upon his death bed, at the instance of his spiritual advisers. While we agree with Bro. LAMBERTON, that when a mason comes to the conclusion that his religious duty conflicts with his remaining a mason, we should quietly let him go and not commit the gross wrong of expelling him, we hold also that if the religious duty of a profane conflicts with his being a mason, we should let him stay out, whether he be a Catholic or a member of any other denomination.

Of another matter he says:

“The report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals is admirable in its briefness. Initials, however, would be better than names.”

For reasons given elsewhere, we do not agree with the last sentence.

When he comes to the Report on Correspondence of last year, he says:

“We have always been taught to be respectful to the aged, and we trust that we shall not be found wanting now. If we had our own inclination to follow, we should feel like saying that our brother’s report was full and interesting, and let it go at that. Perhaps, however, we should say a word or two to remove certain impressions that may have been given and to correct certain statements.”

One would judge from what follows the above that he has been a dull scholar, and he has more to learn in that, as well as in many other respects. His saying what he has, is equivalent to his saying also, “If he were not an old man, *wouldn’t I give it to him!*” That is what he expects his readers to understand. He has yet to learn that that makes him the butt for laughter everywhere, and by everybody, except possibly a few who are as crazy as he is, concerning the immense superiority of Philadelphia over all the rest of the world! Even the callowness of youth will not exempt him from that penalty. Moreover, it will be taken as an admission that he is unable to do, with any success whatever, that which he practically says that he would otherwise have done, and that he has learned that “discretion is the better part of valor.” We regret that he should so expose himself, but he will learn better if he keeps on in this department of masonic labor.

He ought to learn, moreover, and we trust he will, that these reports are to be treated on their own merits or demerits, *without regard to their author*. Very rarely in the discussion of masonic matters, is there occasion for discussing *persons*, especially adversely. One notable exception has occurred during the past two years. However, we give him full permission to lay aside all constraint, in dealing with our reports, on account of being “respectful to the aged.”

In this connection, we quote the following:

“We have always thought that Brother Sachse’s address was important, but after reading what Brother Drummond says about it, we feel sure it must be *very* important; for Brother Drummond’s treatment of it reminds us of the advice which it is said was given to a young lawyer when he had a weak case—namely, abuse the lawyer on the other side.”

BRO. LAMBERTON’S failure to make the distinction between an author and his works, has led him to make a palpable misstatement, by innuendo at any rate. This can have no other meaning than that we abused Bro. SACHSE. This is not true: we said nothing concerning that brother personally. We dealt wholly *with his address*, and by the same token, according to our good brother’s proposition, we showed our confidence that we had a strong case.

As to the “importance” of the address, we have only to repeat what we

said last year in substance, that it would have received no notice had not the Grand Lodge dignified it by publishing it in the Proceedings.

BRO. LAMBERTON says further:

"Our brother has written, to use his own words, a lot of 'stuff' about masonic ceremonies being performed in public in Pennsylvania since the death of Past Grand Master Vaux; while, if he had taken the trouble to look at the Ahiman Rezon of 1877, which was the work of a committee of which Bro. Vaux was chairman, he would have found that the ceremony as prescribed in that book, *title* and all, was almost word for word the same (there were a few changes in the invocation) as that used at the laying of the corner-stone of the State Capitol at Harrisburg by Grand Master Kelly, which furnished the text for our brother's incorrect statement."

Wrong again! We made no "incorrect statement," as he would have seen if he had quoted it.

Our statement was that Bro. VAUX enunciated the proposition that "there are no public masonic ceremonies," and so he did many times, and moreover, it was repeated by the echoers of his utterances. He discussed it and maintained for years in his Report on Correspondence, and he never in any of the discussions modified it. Our further statement that now public masonic ceremonies are performed in Pennsylvania is proved by the fact of the laying of the corner-stone of the new Capitol, and by the letter of Grand Master WAGNER in his reply to Virginia. Whether he wrote that part of the Ahiman Rezon of 1878, and if so, how he came to do it, or whether it was written by some one else and he overlooked it, does not concern us. Our statements in our last report in this regard are correct and accurate.

As his advice that "It might be just as well if our brother would read over the whole of his review of each jurisdiction before it goes to the printer, so that it may be consistent throughout," we will consider it when any reason is shown for our doing so. In return, we would say that it *would* be a good deal better for him to read over carefully statements before he undertakes to say that they are incorrect.

He says further:

"Brother Drummond undertakes to write a history of Masoury in Pennsylvania, which contains much that is true and some that is not. Brother Drummond, to use his own words about another and his knowledge of the principles, laws, and usages of Masonry, '*really thinks he knows them all.*'"

The "some that is not" is embraced in three items which we will consider in order.

The first is our inference from the known facts, that when FRANKLIN stated in the title to the Constitutions published by him, that the book was "reprinted in Philadelphia by special order for the use of the brethren in North America," he evidently meant that he did it by the special order of PRICE. We stated the facts for our inference. None of these are denied,

but because FRANKLIN was Grand Master in Pennsylvania, Bro. L. argues that he acted on the special order of his Grand Lodge. But his Grand Lodge was not a Grand Lodge in the present sense of the term, but only a general meeting of masons, which would scarcely undertake to give an "order" to the Grand Master. And the facts remain that FRANKLIN had just been to visit PRICE and become satisfied that he needed authority from home; under these circumstances he would scarcely have undertaken to publish a masonic book for circulation in PRICE's jurisdiction without his authority. It is, therefore, evident that the "special order" referred to PRICE.

Our second alleged error is in an incidental remark in regard to "Ledger A" and "Liber B," to the effect that the latter name "was probably given to it when FRANKLIN commenced using it in his business."

This may be an error. But when the Library committee published "Liber B," they said "We feel sure that 'Liber A' will not contain anything save commercial accounts. In fact, we have creditable knowledge that our surmises are correct that *Liber 'A' is in existence and contains nothing but mercantile and business accounts.*"

We had this in mind last year when writing, and wrote without investigating further. We admit that this is no excuse for a blunder, if we really made one, for our experience ought to have taught us that any statements coming from that source in relation to masonic historical matters in Philadelphia, cannot be safely relied on, until verified by investigation.

The third alleged error is contained in the following from our last report, p. 487:

"There is one significant item which the discoverer does not discuss. In the latter part of 1734 (but without other date), at the very time when Price sent Franklin a charter for his lodge, there is a charge 'For postage of Commission, &c., 11/4 & 2/8,' carried out 14 in the shilling column. What Commission, &c., could it have been but the 'deputation or charter' which Franklin asked Price to send him, and which Price did send."

Of this Brother Lamberton says:

"If our readers will turn to fac-simile of the account, which was printed in Bro. Sachse's address, they will see on folio 66, a little below the middle of the page, under the item of August 31, 1734, four items (written in a smaller hand than the other items on the page so as not to go down to the account below), and opposite the four items a stroke, and opposite the stroke the word and date 'omitted 15.'"

The readers will not see any such thing! There is no "date" there: the word "omitted" refers to an entry of six books at two shillings sixpence apiece sent to Lancaster, amounting to *fifteen shillings*. The charge was not made at the time, but interlined "Omitted 15/ For 6 by Reynells to Lancaster," with no price carried out in the regular column, there being no space for it between the figures of the preceding and following charges. The three preceding items were for Constitutions, and the price was two

shillings sixpence each. Correcting this blunder, originally made by Bro. SACHSE but copied by Bro. LAMBERTON, the whole argument of the latter falls to the ground and leaves our statement of last year untouched.

BRO. LAMBERTON says that even if PRICE granted such a warrant, it was *ultra vires*, his jurisdiction being strictly limited to New England. We so said last year, but he does not copy that, although he does copy the next sentence—"There is no evidence that FRANKLIN acted upon this authority."

The result is, that at most we made but one error in our history of Masonry in Pennsylvania, and made that because we relied on Pennsylvania authority.

Of the "Cadwalader letter," he says:

"As to the 'Cadwalader letter' which our brother is pleased to label a 'fraud,' it may be well to remind him that those who know the brethren who have brought forward that letter would never believe that they had been instrumental in supporting anything which there was reason to think a 'fraud,' and the Library Committee said expressly, 'We, at the present time, under the circumstances, place only so much value on it as far as it is corroborated by other facts.'

"It strikes us that any fair-minded brother, after seeing the references to Lancaster in these accounts, would think brother Sachse was entirely justified in his cautious words that they 'tend to give additional color to the statement,' etc."

We impugn the motives or sincerity of none of those who *originally* brought forward that letter: but it is a different matter *now*; no one can now bring forward that letter unless he is grossly ignorant or willing to mislead. Our criticism was of the Grand Lodge for allowing the reference to the "Cadwalader letter" (quoting) to be published in the Proceedings. If he had continued his quotation and added what "etc." stands for, the justice of our criticism would have been apparent.

He closes as follows:

"This controversy with Brother Drummond has always been interesting. The more that is said on the subject the more certainly proved are these facts:

"1. There was a Provincial Grand Master of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, Brother Daniel Coxe, appointed by the Grand Master of England in the year 1730 (June 5), and there were masonic lodges at work in Philadelphia during that year.

"2. Brother Henry Price was appointed Provincial Grand Master of New England in the year 1733 (April 30).

"From the above we draw the irresistible conclusion that Brother Coxe warranted the Philadelphia lodges.

"We assert an undeniable fact when we say that there were lodges in Pennsylvania before there were any in Massachusetts or elsewhere in America.

"We will only re-echo to our brother his own quotation about 'mistaken in one, mistaken in all,' and leave him to his thoughts."

In the first, all after the date must be struck out, and the words "there

was a voluntary lodge without any charter at work in Philadelphia early in the following year" inserted in its place.

The second is correct.

Correcting the error in the first, according to the truth, his two conclusions fall to the ground.

We now find that in his introduction he did mean "chartered lodges" when he said "masonic lodges." If he had not said so himself we would never have believed that he would take any such position.

In the first part of the last paragraph he is also in error: we never quoted "mistaken in one, mistaken in all." We did quote the maxim, *falsus in uno, falsus in omnibus*," with the same meaning given to it in the law: we used the expression in connection with Bro. SACHSE'S use of the Cadwalader fraud, saying that upon the principle of that maxim, this act of his threw distrust upon all his statements, and that, too, without imputing to him knowledge of the fraud.

Our brother leaves us "to our thoughts." Well, we will frankly tell him what they are. They are of *deep regret* that Philadelphia masons will not accept the position that the facts of history give their city as being the place in which the rites of Masonry were first practiced and the first masonic book published, in this country; and not endeavor to falsify history in order to gain for her other laurels not her own. For while the 1731 lodge was irregular under the laws adopted in 1717, the system contemplated by those laws had not become so well established as to make masonic work done under the old system irregular, especially as those interested procured the necessary authority as soon as practicable after they had learned that it *was* necessary. Our thoughts also are that every one outside of Pennsylvania, who has studied the early history of Masonry in America, joins with us in this regret.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1899.

A special communication was held at which the Grand Lodge, opened as such, laid the corner stone of a "place of public worship" at Margate. It also held a special communication, for the purpose of dedicating a hall. A brief abstract of the ceremonies on both occasions is given, and they evidently were of a high and interesting character. We are glad to note these events as indicating prosperity of the craft in that jurisdiction.

The Grand Master, LEONARD MORRIS, delivered a brief address, making a concise statement of his official acts. He had visited several of the lodges and installed their officers. He rendered the following decision, which the Grand Lodge approved:

“It is the inherent right of any brother, Master Mason, in good standing, to object to the initiation of a candidate into his own lodge, although clearly elected, and his objection would mean a rejection of the candidate.”

He had referred the Washington matter to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The presence of M. W. Bro. MARSHALL is thus recorded:

“The Hon Robert Marshall, P. G. Master of M. W. Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, A. F. and A. M., was announced and introduced by Past Grand Masters R. MacNeill and D. Darrach, and was received with appropriate honors and cordially welcomed by the Grand Master and conducted to the East. Bro. Marshall in a happy and felicitous speech conveyed the fraternal greetings of the brethren of New Brunswick, and thanked the Grand Lodge for so cordial a reception given to him. He spoke of his recent visit to the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, at Annapolis, and kindly suggested that a committee be appointed by the Grand Lodge to confer with similar committees appointed by the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, relative to a federation of the Maritime Provinces under one Grand Lodge, to meet alternately in the three Provinces.”

One charter was granted to a lodge which had been previously working under dispensation, which makes number fifteen on the roll.

The Committee on Correspondence made a verbal report in relation to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:

“That the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island affirms its adherence to the doctrine of Grand Lodge Territorial Jurisdiction, which the experience of a century on this continent has proven to be a wise and wholesome doctrine, whereby Grand Lodges have been enabled to dwell together in peace and harmony. That we view with regret the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, in the abrogation and setting aside of this doctrine by the recognition of dual Grand Lodges in a large number of the jurisdictions.

“That the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island trusts that the Grand Lodge of Washington have already taken such actions as will restore that peace and harmony which have ever characterized the family of American Grand Lodges.”

The proposition to appoint a committee to meet the committees of other Maritime Grand Lodges, with a view of amalgamating with the others, was discussed. Apparently the sentiment is not unanimous in its favor, but the following resolution was adopted, after a proposed amendment looking toward delay was defeated:

“Resolved, That this Grand Lodge appoint a committee to confer with similar committees appointed by the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to discuss the matter of union of the Grand Lodges of A. F. & A. M. of the Maritime Provinces.”

The business was transacted harmoniously, but gives nothing further of general interest.

No Report on Correspondence.

RHODE ISLAND, 1899.

A special communication was held May 18, 1899, to consecrate the new altar of St. John's Lodge, at Providence. The full proceedings are given. An address was delivered and the occasion was one of much interest. The following explains the occasion of the dedication:

“NOTE.—The altar consecrated this evening is an exact copy of the one erected by Saint John's Lodge, No. 1, in the Town of Providence, at the celebration of her one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary, and which was consumed in the fire which destroyed The Freemasons Hall, March 19, 1896.

“Upon the top is inlaid a slab of black marble bearing the following inscription:

“To the Glory of God
In the One Hundred Twenty-fifth year
of Saint John's Lodge, Number One,
Providence.”

The Grand Lodge also attended the centennial celebration of Washington Lodge. A brief abstract of the proceedings is given, but none of the addresses.

At the semi-annual communication, the Grand Secretary reported that a room had been secured in Freemasons' Hall, for the use of the Grand Lodge, in which the library is to be placed.

The Committee on Correspondence, through the chairman, M. W. Bro. HENRY W. RUGG, reported in reference to the Washington matter. He gives a concise statement of the history of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, calling attention to some very important omissions in the account of the history of African Lodge, by the Washington committee.

He emphasizes the point that there is no evidence whatever to sustain the proposition that Prince Hall, in the exercise of the functions of a Provincial Grand Master, as of right, authorized the formation of masonic bodies in Philadelphia and Providence. He calls attention to the fact that Prince Hall never had any other authority than as Master of a lodge, and he might have added that he never professed to exercise any other authority.

He agrees that irregularities may be condoned, but says that it follows as of course, that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is the only power which could condone them, and that that Grand Lodge, whenever the matter has been put before it, “has always expressed itself adversely as to any legalizing of the many and great irregularities which attach to the formation and working of Prince Hall Grand Lodge.”

The committee expressed great regret at the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and report resolutions substantially in accord with those adopted by other Grand Lodges, but going no further than expressing the hope that that Grand Lodge will reconsider its action.

Another special communication was held on February 22, 1899, to take part in the celebration of the Centennial of Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 4.

A brief abstract of the proceedings is given, among which was the public installation of the officers, followed by a centennial banquet. None of the addresses are given, but we trust that in this case, as well as in the case of Washington Lodge, the lodges themselves will give the craft the benefit of them, especially of the historical addresses on those occasions.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, CYRUS M. VAN SLYCK, in his address, pays the usual tributes to the members of the Grand Lodge, Past Masters who had died during the year; and he adds a brief tribute to Rev. Bro. WALTER G. WEBSTER, who was drowned at sea, July 4, 1898: he was not a member of the Grand Lodge, but the Chaplain of his own lodge and an active mason. He delivered a splendid address at the dedication of the Masonic Temple, at Pawtucket, in 1898, and the Grand Master well remarks that he seemed destined, at no distant day, to be called to a position where Freemasonry would be benefited by his eminent ability.

The Grand Lodge had granted the usual number of dispensations, but none that call for particular notice.

He had visited, formally and informally, quite a number of the lodges, and of these visits he says :

“ Upon all occasions when I have been present at the gatherings of the brethren, whether for work or for social enjoyment, I have at all times found that loyal regard for Grand Lodge, and for those selected by Grand Lodge to particularly care for the interests of the craft, which is an assurance of harmony and of the continuance of the prosperity of our noble institution.”

In spite of the presumption that there would be few occasions for official interpretation of masonic law, he had been called upon to make several decisions.

In one of them he had occasion to censure severely, a Senior Warden for his action while presiding as Master, in permitting the discussion of a candidate between two ballots that were taken, and especially for *inviting* such discussion. As there was apparently but one black ball, the party required the brother who cast it to declare himself and state his reasons: and for this, of course, the Grand Master censured him more severely. It turned out to be one of the acting officers of the lodge, and as he said that he cast it at the request of a brother who could not be present, the Master ordered a third ballot, when the objecting brother retired and the candidate was elected. Of course the proceeding were also declared void by the Grand Master.

He further decided that an objection before ballot is of no effect, and that an objection after ballot is equivalent to rejection, and if made during the recess he was of the opinion that the rejection dates from the time *when it*

was made. This decision has not been considered by the Grand Lodge and we do not know what action it will take; but we have always understood that an objection dates from the time that it is *announced in the lodge and is recorded*.

He had one question come before him in which there was an apparent conflict in two provisions of the Constitution. It was the case of a candidate, who had been rejected and then removed into the jurisdiction of another lodge, and before the five years' limit had expired, petitioned the rejecting lodge anew, without asking the consent of the lodge in the jurisdiction in which he resided. The Grand Master ruled that by the rejection the lodge gained jurisdiction over the candidate, wherever he might reside, for five years, and that the provision of the constitution requiring the candidate to apply to the nearest lodge, relates to the *first petition*.

The same question arose in Maine when the writer was Grand Master. This view of the question did not occur to him, and he ruled in substance that the candidate could apply to either lodge with the consent of the other, and could not apply to either without the consent of the other, and the Grand Lodge sustained the decision, which was soon afterwards incorporated in our Constitution. There is great force in the position of Grand Master VAN SLYCK, but if a candidate removes out of the state, it is liable to create a difference, if the candidate should apply to the rejecting lodge without the consent of the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides.

He refers to the Washington matter, commending the report submitted at the semi-annual communication, and states that the Grand Lodge of Washington had attempted to modify the meaning of the resolutions, but he holds that the opinion of the Grand Lodge and the logical deductions were well stated by the committee.

In conclusion he says:

"I cannot but feel that the attitude of this Grand Lodge, an attitude of cautious but firm remonstrance, is quite as consonant with the principles of brotherly love and affection which is the profession of Freemasonry. I am informed that the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington is to be held soon, and it is to be hoped that at that time such action will be taken as will remove all cause of difference between Washington and her sister Grand Lodges. Should, however, such action not be taken, it seems to me that we will be justified in assuming that, if upon further consideration the Grand Lodge of Washington persists in her adherence to doctrines and to a position utterly at variance with the fundamental principles governing the establishment, and preserving the supremacy of Grand Lodges in their several territorial jurisdictions, it will become the duty of the Grand Master of Masons in Rhode Island to sever masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington and with all masons holding allegiance to that Grand Body."

It will be noted that this was the precise position taken by our own Grand Lodge.

In his conclusion he says:

"The retrospect of the year shows us that in Rhode Island, Freemasonry is a living and growing institution. We find the lodges in a healthy and flourishing condition, and the brethren living together in peace and harmony and working for the proper advancement of the craft."

The District Deputy Grand Masters submitted brief reports, and we note that a part of their duties seems to be to preside at the election and installation of officers of lodges. It would seem that if those were the only visitations it would be impossible for them to ascertain the manner in which the work is done and the business conducted. But we infer otherwise from the report of the Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Secretary gives the following interesting statistics:

"Several lodges have had considerable work, but deaths, dismissions and suspensions have played havoc with their totals. Seventy-three were dropped for non-payment of dues, and that number is liable to be increased during the present year. The total membership of the state is 5220. The largest lodge has 530 and the smallest 38. The average membership is 141 against 136.62 last year. From the 1898 Comparison Table, published by New York, it will be seen that there are only 10 Grand Jurisdictions where lodges average in membership over 100, the highest being 206, the lowest 101, the average of these being 134.5. Four are above the general average and six below. There are, according to the same report, only nine jurisdictions which have lodges larger than our largest. Minnesota has one with upwards of 800 members."

The Committee on the Library submitted an exceedingly interesting report. From this we learn that Bro. Rugg presented the Grand Lodge with all the duplicates of the Repository which he had, by means of which the Library is able to furnish complete sets, but at the same time, they are very desirous of getting other copies of volumes of one to five, so as to increase the number of sets.

A large number of magazines, many of them duplicates, and proceedings of other Grand Lodges had been given to the library.

The Grand Chapter and Grand Council also have followed the example of our own, and turned over to the Grand Lodge library all their duplicates of the Proceedings of other Grand Bodies.

At the session of the Grand Lodge, Bro. ARTHUR W. DENNIS presented over six hundred documents, coming from other jurisdictions.

We congratulate our Rhode Island brethren on the prospect of replacing the library which they lost by the fire.

The Grand Master had previously decided that when a profane removed from the jurisdiction of one lodge into another, the first lodge loses all jurisdiction over him, and yet while the second cannot confer the degrees upon him until he shall have lived within its jurisdiction six months, it may give permission to any other lodge to receive and act upon the petition. The committee are inclined to hold that the latter part of his decision is not correct, and that such a candidate cannot apply anywhere without the dispensation

of the Grand Master, but they concluded to ask that the matter be continued in their hands for report at a later time.

As we understand it, the position of the committee is the law in Maine and in most other jurisdictions where they have such a provision in the Constitution.

The committee sustained the decision of the Grand Master against the use of the stereopticon and of robes, saying:

"We heartily agree with the Grand Master in this decision and recommend that this decision be approved. In these days, when there is so much of uncalled for and sometimes almost ridiculous display, it is refreshing to visit a well conducted lodge and witness the rendering of our beautiful ritual in a simple and chaste, yet dignified and impressive manner, the attention of both brethren and candidates being fully given to the ritualistic ceremonies and not distracted by theatrical display or questionable costumes. We cannot compete, even if we so desired, with the theatres or variety shows in their line of business, but we can so render these degrees that the truths they inculcate shall make a lasting impression, not only upon the candidate as he hears them for the first time, but upon every one of the brethren who may be privileged to be present and participate."

We most earnestly recommend this to the attention of all Masters of lodges and all others who have occasion to take part in the work of the lodge.

There has been difficulty in that jurisdiction in obtaining a *secret* ballot, and the following amendment to the constitution was adopted as a remedy:

"A ballot box shall be provided with a drawer, which shall contain the supply of white and black ballots, and with a hooded compartment in which a brother can deposit his ballot without the possibility of its nature being discovered by any person whatsoever. The Senior Deacon shall collect the ballots from the first three officers of the lodge, and then place the box upon the altar, and the Master shall notify the members of the lodge to cast their ballots. The Senior Deacon shall keep a tally of the number of the officers and members who cast their votes, and when the balloting has ceased, shall take the box to the Master, and at the same time inform him of the number that have voted. If the ballot is found by the Master to be unanimous, or if there is more than one black ballot, and the number of ballots corresponds with the number reported, no further action shall be taken. If there is but one black ballot the Master may, upon the presumption that a mistake has been made, order a second ballot, which shall be conclusive; *Provided*, however, that if there shall be found in the box more ballots than the number reported by the Senior Deacon, the Master shall state the fact to the lodge, declare the ballot void, and the ballot shall not be taken again upon the petition of the same candidate until the next regular communication of the lodge."

Our law in Maine is the same, except that either by law or by custom, it is the duty of the Master to examine the box, and see that there are no balls in it when the ballot commences, so that it would seem to be impossible, that at the close of the balloting there should be more balls in the box than there are brethren who vote.

There was no other Report on Correspondence than the special report in relation to the Washington matter.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1899.

The Grand Lodge was opened "in ample form on the third degree of Masonry." We regard this as the correct method, and in accordance with the ancient usage.

The Grand Master, BARTLETT J. WITHERSPOON, in his address, makes the following pleasant announcement:

"The past year has not been distinguished by anything beyond ordinary events; still the craft has prospered, and Masonry was never in a more flourishing condition within the jurisdiction. This prosperity is evidenced by the harmony and good feeling which exists in most of the subordinate lodges."

He informs the Grand Lodge that the *Abiman Rezon* is out of print, the last edition having been published in 1866, and he urges that arrangements be made with the publishers for another edition. The publishers have not done it on their own account, because they say the sales are not such as will warrant them in publishing another edition, but they were willing to undertake it, if the Grand Lodge would take two hundred copies at two dollars.

The Grand Lodge approved his recommendation and directed a new edition to be published under the supervision of the Grand Secretary, of which the Grand Lodge would take two hundred copies, to be sold to the lodges at cost.

He had received a large number of applications for dispensations to confer the degrees upon parties who have sustained physical injuries to the extent that they were unable to perform all the work of the lodge. These he had refused.

We do not remember whether his Grand Lodge adheres to the perfection theory *absolutely* or whether the Grand Master is empowered to grant dispensations in special cases, but the following proposed amendment to the Constitution, after full discussion, failed to obtain a two-thirds vote in its favor, and so was lost.

"*Provided*, The Grand Master may grant his dispensation to receive such candidates as in his judgment can literally comply with all the requirements of the Ritual—the right of dispensation being restricted to such cases."

We have an impression that the effect of this would be to limit the right of dispensation which the Grand Master has, but which the present Grand Master had refused to exercise, save within the limits of the proposed amendment.

The Grand Master had filled vacancies among the Grand Representatives. Maine is not included in the list.

He was obliged to report that only three out of the eighteen Deputies had reported, as required by the law, and the committee note this, and urge that Deputies should comply with that part of their duty.

He had issued an appeal in behalf of the daughter of a deceased District Deputy Grand Master, who in his life time had performed signal services for Masonry and who was highly honored and beloved. The response did great credit to our brethren in that state.

He states that the business of the Grand Lodge is largely delayed in consequence of not appointing the committees until the first day of the session.

The matter was referred to a committee to consider and report. We found the same difficulty in our Grand Lodge, and now our standing committees are appointed on the last day of each session, to hold office until the end of the next session, and we find that the plan works admirably.

The Grand Master pays a deserved tribute to Bro. CHARLES INGLESBY, the efficient Grand Secretary, and the committee call attention to the fact that he had just concluded twenty five years of service, and express in forcible terms the high appreciation of the Grand Lodge, of the manner in which he has performed his official duties. We have reviewed his work during his whole term of service, and we most heartily join in the sentiments of his brethren at home.

We find that all the District Deputies submitted brief reports, generally stating that they had visited all, or nearly all, of the lodges, and that they are doing better work than at any time in many years.

One had succeeded in reviving a lodge that two years ago was ready to surrender its charter. Another Deputy reports the surrender of one charter, a course, in his opinion, unavoidable, as the lodge had but few members, widely scattered, and was situated in a sparsely settled community where material is scarce; and he expresses the opinion that the country lodges are gradually growing weaker, and it is only a matter of time when they will be obliged to surrender their charter, or else move into towns.

Another says:

“I found in visiting the lodges that great stress was laid on the ritual and the conferring of the degrees, and the brother who could rattle off some portions of the ritual without understanding hardly what he was saying, was regarded as a very bright mason. The Constitution and Code of the Grand Lodge, as well as the symbolisms of our Order, was either lost sight of, or altogether misunderstood. On some of my visits I was met with this expression: ‘I am sorry we have no work to do; no degrees to confer.’ My reply would be—well, my brother, that will give me more time for my work with your lodge.”

Another interesting incident of the meeting was the presentation of a portrait (oil painting) of Past Grand Master WILLIAM T. BRANCH, by Bro. EUGENE B. GARY, one of the judges of the supreme court, in behalf of his lodge, and the presentation of a watch, as a testimonial to Past Grand Master JACOB T. BARRON.

Bro. BARRON, as a Committee on Ritual for opening and closing the

Grand Lodge, reported and his report was accepted, but, of course, this is all that is recorded.

The Grand Master had granted two dispensations for new lodges, to one of which a charter was granted and the other continued under dispensation.

Two charters were surrendered, two revoked, and one restored.

The Committee on the Address of the Grand Master adopted his recommendation in relation to the Grand Lodge of Washington:

"I suggest that your Grand Master be authorized, should he be officially notified, that Washington has revoked its former action, to consider our resolution severing fraternal relations as reconsidered and reversed, and to write and so inform the Grand Master and brethren of Washington."

The reason why the Grand Lodge did not act, was because it had not received *official* notice of the latter action of the former Grand Lodge.

We have an impression that *official* notice of this action was not sent to the Grand Lodges which had adopted an edict of non-intercourse.

A lodge received and initiated a candidate residing in the jurisdiction of another lodge, and the District Deputy Grand Master decided that the whole proceedings, including initiation, were void, but the Grand Lodge, upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, decided that the position of the candidate as an E. A. was not affected, but that he must apply for advancement to the lodge in whose jurisdiction he lives, whereupon, if elected, the other lodge, upon request, might confer upon him the remaining degrees.

The Grand Master decided that it was illegal for a lodge to vote that one member might cast the unanimous vote of the lodge when there was only one nominee for an office. An attempt was made to amend the Constitution in this respect but it failed, and the decision of the Grand Master was sustained.

Bro. HENRY A. DESAESSURE, as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, delivered an exceedingly interesting address in relation thereto. By unanimous vote he was requested to furnish his remarks in writing to the Grand Secretary to be printed, and they are given in the Proceedings. We at first intended to copy the historical part of them, but find the following note:

"NOTE.—Bro. DeSaussure desires to state that for many of the historical facts stated in the foregoing, he is indebted to a valuable paper read by Brother Francisco deP. Rodriguez, Secretary of the Cuban Veteran Association, before the Masonic Veteran Association of Minnesota, on January 10, 1899."

We conclude to defer, with a view of examining the papers referred to in the note, and if deemed desirable we will notice the matter under the head of Cuba.

The resolution in relation to a new Ahiman Rezon is as follows:

APP. 15 G. L.

“Resolved, That R. W. Bro. Charles Inglesby, Grand Secretary, be and is hereby authorized and instructed to have a new edition of the *Alman Rezon* published, and in doing so, to make all the revision that he deems proper, and to insert all necessary alterations in the *Funeral Service*, the *Lodge of Sorrow*, the *Ritual for installing District Deputy Grand Masters*, and all Amendments to the Constitution. That the Grand Secretary do supervise the said publication.”

The Grand Secretary was authorized to employ such help as he might find necessary in the preparation of the work, and in his Report on Correspondence.

The Report on Correspondence (160 pp.) was presented by Bro. CHARLES INGLESBY—a very able report, but his printer has made it difficult to read by failing, in most cases, to make a sufficiently marked distinction between original matter and extracts.

He thus states the law in the jurisdiction in relation to dimitts:

“A brother may withdraw, i. e. resign his membership, and if he is clear of the books and not under charges, the lodge is bound to let him go with a certificate which will permit him to apply for affiliation elsewhere. If he applies for a *dimit*, which is a *withdrawal with recommendation*, the lodge may or may not, in its discretion grant it. If it refuses, it is still bound to accept the application for a dimit as a resignation, and issue its certificate that the brother's membership has terminated at his own request, and that he is a mason in good standing, which certificate entitles him to apply for affiliation.”

This is undoubtedly correct, and practically is the same as our law in Maine, only we call the certificate a “dimit” in both cases, one with a recommendation, and the other without—one voted by the lodge, and the other issued as a matter of course by the order of the Master.

Referring to the cases in Arkansas in which two delegates appeared in the Grand Lodge, drunk, he well says: “We think that the Grand Lodge itself should have acted and administered discipline.”

Replying to Bro. DAVIES, of California, he says:

“For the information of our brother in California, we would state that the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of A. F. M. of So. Carolina expressly authorizes the Grand Master to make a mason at sight—and the Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge from its organization, have never hesitated to exercise the power. Were it necessary, we think it could be successfully shown that this power rests in the office of Grand Master any way, but as our Grand Lodge Constitution expressly confers it, there is no need to go further. Bro. Barron was not apologizing and by no means ‘felt that he hadn't ought to.’ If he had so felt, he would not have done it.”

In South Carolina the penalty for non-payment of dues is deprivation of membership, as with us.

In his review of Maine, he endorses the views of Grand Master LOCKE in relation to the admission of Catholics and to masonic charity; of the former he says, “we ought not to allow a man to be placed in a position where he will, in the ordinary course of events, prove faithless to his church or violate his vow”: and of the latter:

“This, in our judgment, is a very just and clear statement of the whole matter—and we earnestly commend it to the attentive consideration of those brethren who are clamoring for the enforced reimbursement of so-called ‘masonic relief.’”

Referring to our recognition of the Grand Orient of Belgium, he asks, “What do we know of Grand Orients”? The answer is that we know that the most of them are Grand Lodges under the name of “Grand Orients.”

He quotes our question “Where does the Grand Lodge of South Carolina find in the Old Charge the authority for the physical qualification rule which is in its Constitution”? and he answers at length, for which we thank him. He bases his answer upon MACKAY’s views as given in his “Jurisprudence” and “Principles of Masonic Law.”

We refer to our review of Pennsylvania for a statement in part of our views, but we will add something directly in reply to Bro. INGLESBY.

The statement of the landmark in the Old Charges, approved by the Grand Lodge and published in 1723, is the *authorative* statement:

“Unless he be a perfect youth, having no main or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art of serving his Master’s Lord, and of being made a Brother, and then a Fellow Craft,” &c.

The provision in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, is:

“Every candidate for initiation in this jurisdiction must be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered at any time of making, but of hale and entire limbs, organs and members, as a man ought to be.”

This clause is construed by MACKAY and his Grand Lodge after him as sustaining the absolute-perfection doctrine.

It will be seen that all the qualifying clauses in the former are omitted in the latter. As it must be conceded that words are used to express meaning, it would seem to follow that the latter does not *mean* the same as the former.

But Bro. MACKAY’s position is that the charge, read in the light of the other charges, &c., is to be construed as he has construed it. This is where we take issue with him. We might hesitate to do this, were it not for the fact that his contemporary masonic jurists were almost all against him. The question first began to be discussed, so far as we can find, in his time. CHARLES W. MOORE, who in his day was regarded as the highest authority in masonic jurisprudence, and such eminent brethren as GRAY and MELLE of Mississippi, and ROCKWELL of Georgia, held to the qualified rule. It is true that Bro. SIMONS, in his work on Jurisprudence, followed Bro. MACKAY in sustaining the absolute-perfection doctrine, but his Grand Lodge was not with him, and we regard the authority of such men as Bro. JOHN L. LEWIS as superior to that of Bro. SIMONS.

Over fifty years ago, the subject was considerably agitated, and was dis-

cussed in various Grand Lodges, and in spite of Bro. MACKAY'S views, it was quite generally decided that the ability to earn a livelihood and to do all masonic work was the test. In addition to Massachusetts, where that doctrine had long prevailed, the Grand Lodges of Maine (under the lead of FREEMAN BRADFORD), Mississippi, Kentucky, Ohio, District of Columbia and many others specifically adopted the construction just given and prescribed to their lodges that test, at the same time holding that a candidate cannot do all masonic work unless he has all his limbs, "as a man ought to have."

Returning now to MACKAY'S discussion, we find that he says that the 1723 charge positively declares that the candidate "must have no maim or defect"; *the charge makes no such declaration*, but on the contrary it says, "must have no maim or defect *that may render him incapable of learning the Art,*" &c. In this change in the charge, lies Bro. MACKAY'S error, and in it also lies the whole difference between him and those who do not agree with him in his conclusion.

This change is too much like that made by the minister in olden times, who in an effort to abolish a custom of women of his day in piling their hair with additions in a "top-knot" on top of their head, preached a sermon against it, taking as his text, 'Top knot, come down': his hearers were puzzled to know where he found his text, but upon looking at the chapter and verse given they read "Let him that is upon the house *top not come down,*" &c.

The clause was in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England in 1847 (and we presume is now):

"No Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient employment for him; and, unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the Art."

He also claims that there is a "positive demand for perfection," and that perfection is absolute perfection and nothing else. To this there are two answers, that the ordinary meaning of the word (which he claims is the one that must be adopted) is not absolute perfection *when speaking of human beings*, and that if he is right in his construction, he proves too much, for, as we have already shown under Pennsylvania, he would exclude every candidate, as no human being comes up to the required standard.

In giving his reason for the law as he construes it, (while not mentioning the absurd idea that the qualifications for an *operative* mason were based upon the Levitical law) he says:

"In the ancient temple, every stone was required to be *perfect*, for a perfect stone was the symbol of truth. In our mystic association, every mason represents a stone in that spiritual temple, 'that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens,' of which the temple of Solomon was the type. Hence it is required that he should present himself, like the perfect stone in the material temple, a perfect man in the spiritual building."

This is exceedingly unfortunate for his argument, for it requires *spiritual* perfection, which not even the wildest perfectionist we have known, has ventured to claim, is a pre-requisite for initiation.

The common gavel teaches that *spiritual growth* is necessary to fit us "as living stones for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

Brother MACKAY further says, that in reaching this conclusion he is "guided by a reference to the symbolic and speculative (not operative) reason of the law." But as the law was made for operative masons and as its reasons related wholly to operative Masonry, and the real question is in applying that law to speculative Masonry, he takes as the test the precise contrary of the true test. Moreover, in every case in the old charges in which a reason is given for the law, so far as we have seen, the reason relates wholly to the ability of the party *to perform the work of an operative mason*. If any one can refer us to any other we shall be very glad to have it done.

This is shown by the old charge to a Master referred to by Bro. MACKAY. By that no mason is allowed to undertake any work "unless he knows himself well able to perform the work"; he is not to put another out of his work, unless that other "be unable of cunning to make an end of his work"; and "he that be made *be able* in all degrees; that is, free-born, of a good kindred, true and no bondsman, and that he have right limbs as a man ought to have" That is, having his right limbs is a means for an end, that is, *ability to perform the work*.

So the "old Gothic Constitution gives as a reason for the same requirement, "for a maimed man can do the craft no good."

In our Institution, professing universality, the *law of eligibility* ought to be the same everywhere. We have heretofore assumed that the number of would-be-candidates affected by the law is comparatively small, and that the question is, therefore, of but little importance. But the experience of Grand Master WAGNER, of Pennsylvania, is a surprise to us as well as to him, and we are forced to the conclusion that the matter is one of great importance and that the true rule ought to be made universal, and to that end we have discussed the question at length.

SOUTH DAKOTA, 1899.

This volume contains the proceedings at the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the Grand Lodge. The frontispiece is the portrait of the retiring Grand Master, LOUIS G. LAVOY, and we have also a group picture of the officers of the Grand Lodge at its organization and another of the present Grand Officers, and portraits and brief biographi-

cal sketches of all the Grand Masters, as well as sketches of others, and quite a history of the Grand Lodge.

BRO. PARVIN, who installed the Grand Officers at the organization of the Grand Lodge, was present and made an admirable address to the Grand Lodge, to which Bro. BLATT fittingly responded, Bro. P.'s portrait is also given.

Twenty-five years ago the Grand Lodge was organized with 250 members of its obedience. It has grown to *two* Grand Lodges with 7000 members.

Of course the celebration was the principal feature of the session.

Of the growth of Masonry in that jurisdiction, Grand Master LAVOY says:

“Contrasting the Grand Lodge at its session in this city twenty-four years ago and to-day we find much to interest us. At the annual communication in 1876, there were six lodges (all on the roll) and twelve delegates, to-day there are ninety-three lodges and about three hundred representatives present, and when we consider that from the original territory another state and Grand Lodge has been erected whose report in 1898 shows fifty lodges and 2,871 members, we cannot but be impressed by the magnitude of its growth, which assures us that Masonry has kept step with other institutions in this age of progress.”

He had succeeded in investing the Charity Fund at eight per cent. interest in “gilt-edge loans.”

His address shows that he had been a very active, energetic and able officer.

Upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence two of his decisions were reversed:

“Jurisdiction over rejected material while continuing to reside within the state is perpetual, another lodge may acquire jurisdiction only by securing waiver from the rejecting lodge.”

No specific provision is made for such a case, but the conclusion of the committee seems to us to be sustained by the operation of provisions general in their character:

“In the absence of the warrant officers of a lodge the Junior Past Master may open the lodge and transact its business. Dispensation is unnecessary.”

Of this the committee say:

“It has always been the law of this jurisdiction, and is the law in nearly every jurisdiction, that no one except the Worshipful Master or the Senior or Junior Warden can open a lodge, and in the absence of all of the three principal officers the lodge cannot be opened.”

They understate the number of jurisdictions in which the Grand Master's decision is law: they do not tell us how the opposite became law in South Dakota and we are unable to understand how it was done, unless in the manner stated by the lawyer, who, when interrupted by a judge's saying: “That is not law,” replied, “It *was* law, until your Honor just spoke!” For by the “Old Regulations” as promulgated in 1723, it was provided that in the absence of the Master and Wardens, the Junior Past Master shall

preside, and such are the law and practice in the Grand Lodge of England to the present day. It has also always been held that, while those Old Regulations may be amended or repealed by the Grand Lodge of any jurisdiction, they are binding (as the common law of Masonry) in every jurisdiction until repealed or modified by its Grand Lodge, and this has not been done in South Dakota until the committee "just spoke."

We have noted in some of the Proceedings, that the point has been taken that the Past Master cannot act until the lodge has been "congregated," and that congregating means opening the lodge, and the Warden must open the lodge before the Past Master can preside; but how a Warden can open a lodge "in the absence of the Master and Wardens" we are not told. But the word "congregate," when applied to a lodge, has no such meaning. Such is not its ordinary nor its masonic meaning. In the ancient times the lodge met whenever the Master called it together, or "congregated" it, and only then. A Past Master could not "congregate" the lodge, but when congregated and the Master and Wardens were absent, he could open the lodge, preside, and then make orders about future meetings if necessary. But now, when regular meetings are provided for, the lodge meets without any congregating, unless the Master congregates his lodge in a special meeting, when, if the Master and Wardens are absent, a Past Master may open the lodge and preside.

In the Pennsylvania Ahiman Rezon of 1783, it is stated that it is an instrument * * "constituting particular persons (therein named) as Masters and Wardens, with full *power to congregate and hold a lodge*, at such a place," &c.: that "the majority of every particular lodge, *when duly congregated*, have the privilege," &c.: that the Master of a particular lodge has the right and authority of calling his lodge or *congregating the members* into a chapter at pleasure.

At first the Past Master took precedence of the Wardens in the absence of the Master; but this was changed, and the idea was suggested that *even then* the Warden would waive his privilege in favor of a Master, and it was added that nevertheless in such case the Past Master derives his authority from the Senior Warden, as he certainly would, and in the absence of the Master the Past Master cannot act till the Senior Warden (or Junior, of course, in his absence) congregates the lodge. But the Old Regulation as to the powers of a Past Master when a lodge has met regularly and the Master and Wardens are all absent from the meetings, was left untouched. More than that, the provision (given in the Ahiman Rezon of 1783) that if the Master and Wardens are absent and no former Master is present to take the chair, "the members according to seniority and merit shall fill the places of the absent officers" was expressly continued. This was done in Portland Lodge in the early days, especially during the Revolution. In the first Constitu-

tion of the Grand Lodge of Maine this old law was not only left unrepealed but was recognized and limited as follows: "And no lodge in the absence of the Masters and Wardens, shall confer any degree, unless a Past Master is present to preside." This provision, in substance, has remained in our Constitution ever since. It is the fate of old usages, and laws not expressly included in codes, to be lost sight of by reason of occasions for applying them happening so rarely, and because of this, their very existence is denied. The growing disposition to expect to find affirmative written law in all cases—contrary to the plan of Masonry—has contributed to this result.

As the result of his visitations Grand Master LEVOR says:

"The greatest menace to the welfare of the lodges appears to be the amount of unpaid dues carried by so many of the lodges. It is from this source that we have so many suspensions, each year increasing in numbers, and I cannot but charge it up to the negligence of the Secretaries who permit such a state of affairs to exist, and who, if they were guided by or paid attention to the laws as they stand, such a condition would be impossible."

He had also found that many non-affiliates remain such, because no interest was taken in them: that intemperance is winked at in some lodges; that too little interest in the meetings is taken; and that too often poorly qualified officers are elected; and he urged very forcibly that the craft should use every effort to remedy these evils. He adds that on the whole, however, the lodges are prosperous and doing fairly well.

He discusses the Washington question ably but briefly, reaching the same conclusion that almost every other mason has reached.

He decided, upon the request of the Grand Master of Pennsylvania to waive jurisdiction over a resident of South Dakota, that he had no power to do so; but he presented the matter to the lodge having jurisdiction and jurisdiction was waived. The correspondence on both sides was in a so truly masonic spirit that we would copy it, did our space allow.

The Report on Correspondence (123 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM BLATT.

In his Introduction, he discusses the Washington matter briefly, concluding as follows:

"The lodges in which the persons petitioning claim to have been made, have been declared clandestine by *all* American Grand Lodges. Those Grand or particular lodges from which they claim parentage have been so declared for a century, and the principle that two Grand Lodges cannot exist in one State has been acknowledged by every Grand Lodge on this Continent, the Grand Lodge of Washington since her existence included. This Grand Lodge cannot now ignore this principle, nor discard and abolish it. The logic presented by the committee, that in recognizing these persons as regular masons, she does not recognize as regular the bodies in which they claim to have been made such, is illogical, and of the errors committed this certainly is the most apparently erroneous."

As usual he gives a fine abstract with occasional comments.

In his review of California, he says:

"He strongly favors the proposal of the Grand Lodge of Maine for uniform legislation upon the subject of jurisdiction over rejected material. He says the proposal is steadily gaining ground. Our Grand Lodge did not deem it well to adopt the proposal. If, however, very many Grand Lodges should fall in line we are confident that the Grand Lodge of South Dakota will readily offer up its views upon the altar of masonic comity and fraternal fellowship."

And he repeats substantially the same under Maine. This is the true spirit in which the proposition should be considered. As the rule (changing five to three) prevails in the commanderies in his State, it will probably attract further attention in the lodges.

If we understand him, in that State one brother cannot vouch for another to a third so that the latter can vouch for him for admission into a lodge. Such a rule may be wise, but it is not quite in harmony with the one given the first time one enters a lodge.

In his review of Maine he says:

"The address of Grand Master Joseph A. Locke contains the gratifying announcement that the year has been a peaceful and harmonious one, not a single charge or complaint having been preferred. The work and membership has increased satisfactorily. The dead of the year in the jurisdiction and those outside of it receive fraternal mention. Some dispensations dispensing with the requisite time in balloting upon petitions were granted, others refused. The Grand Master expresses the view that on the whole Masonry is not benefited by the exercise of the dispensing power in such cases. We believe and reiterate, that while the Grand Master should possess the prerogative, it should be exercised very sparingly. We are certainly pleased to find these views shared by such high authority in Maine, giving Brother Drummond a chance for friendly criticisms nearer home."

Yes, but he will notice that with Bro. Locke, as it has been with all the others, it is a matter of sentiment. He does not base his views upon evil results in particular cases. And so we are still looking for the brother who can instance a single case in which it is even claimed, much less shown, that the granting of a dispensation has caused injurious results. *Experience teaches.*

Of requiring a fixed time between the conferring of the degrees, he says:

"We desire to state that in this matter our Grand Lodge has tried both methods but has finally deemed it best to return to our present one, requiring a stated period to intervene between degrees. We believe it better for us at present."

We wonder if the reason is the negligence of candidates, or the inefficiency of lodge officers. Whichever it is, the method proved by trial to be best is the one to adopt.

He says further:

"The brother reiterates his disapproval of our exclusion from permanent membership of all Past Grand Officers except Grand Masters. In Maine, he says, the Wardens are not expected to be regularly advanced. That reelection to the office of Warden or advancement from one to the other of

these offices is even prohibited. This may be proper or even right. But the contrary practice, right or wrong, prevails with us. Hence the conditions may justify our regulation. One thing is certain, the proposal of a regulation as to Grand Wardens similar to the Maine law, would not find favor in South Dakota."

Why not "find favor"? With whom would it not "find favor"? Would not the answer to these questions prove that *wisdom*, if not *favor*, requires its adoption? If Past Grand Wardens were permanent members of the Grand Lodge would it not find favor? And would not the Grand Lodge be stronger by having a larger number of members of greater experience and masonic attainments? What is the average experience, in Grand Lodge, of the members of committees, outside of Past Grand Masters?

There are other matters in this report that we would like to notice, but we *must* stop.

TENNESSEE, 1900

We have a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, JOSEPH H. BULLOCK, and the incoming Grand Master, JAMES H. McCLISTER.

The portrait of the former carries us back over twenty-five years to one of the most pleasant occasions of our life, when for the first, and as yet the last, time we visited Nashville and met our brethren of Tennessee. All the memories of the occasion are of the most pleasant character, and we have had a very high personal regard for the masons of the jurisdiction ever since.

In his address, Grand Master BULLOCK says that during the past year all the affairs of Masonry have run smoothly, and he is able to congratulate the Grand Lodge, that at this meeting the members would have fewer vexing and vexed questions to consider than at any other time for many years.

His address in the business part, is a model, concise and clear. His discussion of questions is in a style that arrests the attention and commands our interest.

He pays tribute briefly, but tenderly and eloquently, to the dead of the year, one of whom had been his business partner for many years, and his intimate friend all his life time.

He announces that he had carried into effect the resolution in relation to the exchange of Representatives, and gives a list; the Representative to our Grand Lodge is Bro. HUGH R. CHAPLIN, of Bangor; our Representative near his Grand Lodge is Bro. N. S. WOODWARD, of Knoxville.

Business matters and illness in his family had prevented as many visitations as he had intended to make, but the lodges that he did visit seem to have caught his enthusiasm.

He relates one circumstance which we doubt whether we in Maine, with a membership of fifty-eight per cent. greater, could claim. At the laying of the corner stone the procession, he says, was the largest he had ever seen in

line. That the older brethren were there in force, and that there must have been *one hundred or more brethren from sixty-five to eighty years of age in the procession*, who had come from the radius of twenty-five miles to participate in the ceremonies.

He briefly notices the Washington matter, saying in conclusion:

"No doubt a very large majority of the craft in Washington are entirely blameless in this matter, and I therefore recommend that the resolution adopted at the last Grand Lodge suspending fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington be repealed."

His recommendation we are glad to find, was adopted.

He had rendered quite a number of decisions, in answer to questions generally, and there was little doubt in his answers.

He decided that it is lawful to hold public memorial services on Sunday, provided no procession is formed or regalia worn.

The following are much in the same line:

"12. A lodge asks for a dispensation for a picnic and reunion.

"Answer.—No dispensation necessary. Have all the picnics and reunions you wish. They are good things to have; but don't form processions or wear regalia on such occasions.

"13. Columbia Lodge, No. 31, asks that they be allowed to celebrate St. John the Baptist's Day on Sunday, June 25th, instead of on Saturday, the 24th. They desire to have a sermon delivered appropriate to the occasion.

"Held.—The Grand Master cannot change this date, but sees no impropriety in the brethren with their wives, children and sweethearts, attending church and listening to a sermon on the subject indicated. No procession; no regalia."

Quite a curious case came before him. A lodge had a hall worth two thousand dollars but encumbered for three hundred dollars, the payment of which must be made soon. The following plan was proposed by the lodge:

"We wish to make one hundred notes of \$3 each, numbered from 1 to 100, issue circular letters to lodges in the State, asking them to take these notes and allow us to pay them according to number, as we are able."

Finding that the lodge had sixty-eight members, had conferred twelve degrees the year previous, and thus being shown to be in a prosperous condition, he declined to approve the plan, and suggested to divide the debt among themselves, which would give \$4.40 to each member to pay, or if they could not do that, to insure the hall and borrow money on a mortgage.

He says further:

"In this connection, pardon a little story, with which most, if not all, of you brethren are familiar, and which applies to our masonic as well as business affairs. It is found in McGuffey's Second Reader, old edition, and is a little gem in its way. It relates to an old lark with a nest of young in a wheatfield, the owner of the field, name not given, and his son John; wheat ripe, young larks uneasy, having heard the farmer tell John to invite his cousins to the harvesting; young larks report to mother. Old lark serene, no danger. Another conversation: Old Farmer to John: 'We will cut the wheat ourselves, to-morrow. Exit larks. The moral is obvious.'"

He is very much interested in the Home, which he calls "the pride and joy and glory of Tennessee Masonry."

He appointed fourteen delegates to the Washington Centennial, but only four were able to attend. Of this he says:

"The other eleven, including the Grand Master, had been investing in lands, oxen, marrying wifes, or something else; we did not go. I simply could not leave my work, and I am sure the other ten were similarly situated. Brother Jones acted as chairman. From his report which will be read in your hearing, I extract the following. In writing of the occasion, he says: "My love for Masonry and patriotism for my country arose to the highest point, to sum up the whole, it was inspiring from beginning to the close of the Grand Ceremony." The thanks of this Grand Lodge are due these faithful, zealous brethren for a prompt discharge of duty, without hope of fee or reward, on this memorable occasion."

Speaking of the "Condition of the Order," he says that during three years there was a decrease in membership of 43, but more than this number fell out on account of the demise of lodges. He had no doubt that part of the loss was on account of the *per capita* tax for the Home, but the loss was much less than the most sanguine friends of the Home had anticipated, and he believes that renewed activities will be reported, and that the coming year will show an increasing prosperity in the annals of every lodge.

That we deeply sympathize with him and appreciate the following "personal," our brethren all know:

"During the year a sad affliction was visited upon me, my dear wife, and little daughters. On the 28th of August, at 1.30 o'clock P. M., the angels came and took our little boy, an only son and brother, not yet two years old, to live with them. A bright, beautiful, good child; he was his father's hope, his fond mother and sisters' pride and joy. While the blow was, and still is, severe, we are solaced with the hope that if we continue faithful a few more years, we will have our little boy with us again. We are glad to feel the influence of his precious little life lingering with us a sacred memory, glad that we can still look up through tears and say, 'Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him.' The many kind expressions of condolence from brethren all over the state were as balm to our hearts, and are gratefully appreciated."

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution of sympathy.

The proceedings were harmonious and largely of a routine character.

The report on the Home shows that the Grand Master had not overestimated the vast good that it is doing.

Of visitations by the Grand Master, the committee say:

"Your committee is much gratified to know that, notwithstanding the great trouble and many pressing business cares through which our Grand Master was called to pass during the year, that he found time enough to visit so many lodges. In our opinion, the visit of a Grand Master to subordinate lodges is the life-blood through which they flourish. No system of visitation will ever be originated that will take the place of it. It is the fraternal greeting, hearty handshake, and kind words of His Worship that stimulates lodges and inspires them to press forward in the good work of Masonry. No individual, be he clad with all the powers the Grand Lodge can give him, will ever take the place of a Grand Master."

The Report on Correspondence (114 pp.) was presented by Bro. GEORGE H. MORGAN—a fine abstract with extracts and pertinent comments.

We regret to find that he had been ill during the year, but are much gratified to find that at the time of the conclusion of his report, he seemed to be on the highway to restored health.

Quoting from Alabama the case, in which a brother was called to testify in court concerning the character of a brother mason, and was subjected to discipline therefor, but in which the action of the lodge was reversed, he well says:

“Now, Bro. Titcomb, ‘to the law and the prophets.’ Every mason is amenable to the civil law. He is summoned into court, sworn, takes the witness stand. The question is asked, ‘Are you acquainted with the general reputation of A?’ He must answer affirmatively if he is. ‘If so, is it good or bad?’ If that way, he must say it is bad (though he be a mason), or forswear himself. ‘Is he entitled to full faith and credit on oath in a court of justice?’ ‘He is not,’ and that is all of it; and for this the lodge expelled Bro. Smith, and the committee and the Grand Lodge said such action was *wrong*. With a full understanding of the case, Bro. Titcomb’s nerves will ‘steady up,’ and he will say ‘Amen’ to said action.”

Some have claimed that in such case the witness should refuse to answer and take the consequences, but such refusal is as much a violation of the law, civil and masonic, as a false answer would be, but of course not an offence anything like the same moral turpitude.

He quotes Grand Master LOCKE’s remarks in relation to the admission of Catholics, and adds:

“We think this ruling erroneous. If he prefers to repudiate his Church to repudiating Masonry, let him do so. This whole matter, if he is worthy, should rest with him. It is a matter of his own free will and accord.”

We do not think that our brother touches the point at issue. If we know in advance that a man is violating the law of the church to which he belongs by coming in with us, it is not a question of merely what he will do in the future, but it is a question whether he is not by acts already perverting the truth.

It seems to us that the following from his same report is in the same line:

“He quotes in full our argument that where a brother concludes that he cannot conscientiously remain a member of the lodge on account of religious belief, he should be allowed a dimit, and indorses the same.”

Referring to another matter he says:

“His objection that we do not understand is to our manner of publication. We give too often the initials of our brethren, when those abroad want the full name. There is something in this. Take notice, ‘John,’ and govern yourself accordingly.”

To show the pertinency of our suggestion, we would say that nowhere in the Proceedings, relating to Grand Representatives, do we find the name of ours, but he is Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, and in the list of

Grand Officers his full name is given, NATHAN SULLINS WOODWARD, for which Bro. "JOHN" has our thanks.

In his conclusion he gives in full the splendid address of President MCKINLEY at the Washington Centennial Observance.

As before remarked, we trust that his health has now become restored. We have known him for four years through his reports, and have come to respect him greatly as a man and love him as a mason.

TEXAS, 1899.

The Proceedings have a cut of the Masonic Temple at Houston, and one of the Masonic Home at Ft. Worth, and portraits of P. G. Masters FRANKLIN B. SEXTON and ROBERT M. ELGIN the Senior Past Grand Masters. The names of these two brethren are household words in the Masonry of Texas.

The Grand Master, SAMUEL R. HAMILTON, as is usual in that jurisdiction, delivered an address of considerable length, as many matters in so large a jurisdiction require notice.

He announced the death of P. G. Master ALFRED STEPHEN RICHARDSON, who has been for many years one of the pillars of Masonry in Texas.

The Grand Master's attention was required by a large number of matters of local interest.

Under the head of discipline, he notices the conferring of the degrees upon parties held to be ineligible on account of physical disability. We do not know how strictly the rule is held in Texas, but really his account of that would seem to indicate that the parties were eligible under the true rule. However, we do not state this positively, because the details are not sufficient to enable us to form an absolute opinion.

A large number of dispensations were granted, and a large number refused.

He rendered quite a number of decisions, but almost all of them were based upon local law, or a repetition of what has been decided elsewhere.

He held that a Chinaman is eligible, if nothing but his nationality stands in the way.

The re-imbusement of expenses incurred by one lodge in the care of a member of another lodge was presented by him, and he reported the decision of the Grand Lodge, which is in substance, the following:

It is the duty of every lodge to assist brethren in distress, and see that brethren dying in their jurisdiction have a decent burial, and for repayment of the expenses they can only rely upon the sense of equity and right which ought to govern every lodge, and each lodge is the sole judge of the objects and amounts of its charities, and can give at its pleasure.

They have a rule in Texas which prohibits one lodge from entering the

territory of another, but the Grand Master ruled that in case of a funeral this should receive a liberal construction. In one case it seems that a member of a lodge lived in the jurisdiction of another lodge and had desired to be buried by his lodge; but the place of burial was within the jurisdiction of the lodge of which he was a member, and the Grand Master very properly held that the rule could not apply to such a case.

We learn, also, that lodges in Texas cannot grant a waiver to a lodge in another jurisdiction to receive and confer the degrees upon a man residing in Texas.

The have a pretty strict rule in Texas that a mason cannot be buried with masonic honors save at a regular funeral after his death, but he ruled in a particular case, where the brother died in another jurisdiction and was temporarily buried there, and his widow had his body exhumed and brought home, that upon the request of the widow the lodge might perform funeral ceremonies at the re-interment.

The Grand Lodge modified one of his decisions and decided that if a brother paints the square and compass on the sign of his store, he is liable to be disciplined, if he does not remove it immediately upon being notified to do so.

He devotes some space to the Texas Home, which he advocates very eloquently, having been "strongly and very forcibly impressed with its importance."

The reports of the directors and officers of the Home are given, and it is "now in successful operation under conditions that render its success in the future merely a question of economic and careful management."

The following resolution was offered, freely discussed, and laid on the table:

Resolved, That the perfect man is our model; but as absolute perfection is unattainable by man, either mentally, morally or physically; therefore, slight defects of body should not debar an applicant from initiation or advancement in Freemasonry.

Resolved further, That an applicant for initiation must be sound and hale, without maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning, practicing and teaching the art; and that physical defects should be considered upon the basis of efficiency in operative Masonry and ability to receive, practice and impart all the rites and ceremonies of Ancient Craft Masonry without artificial aid, provided, that material deficiency in either of the senses of seeing, hearing or feeling is obnoxious to the landmark of infallible tests."

We do not care to discuss the matter further, but will refer our brethren to our review of Pennsylvania and South Carolina.

A large amount of routine matter was transacted, including the granting of a large number of charters.

We find that the lodges have not yet learned to follow the provisions of

the law in case of trials, and quite a number of cases were sent back for a new trial.

The following amendment to the Constitution was proposed and referred to the appropriate committee:

“Resolved, (1) That, after the period of five years shall have elapsed since the rejection of an applicant for the degrees in Masonry, he having moved into the jurisdiction of another lodge, either in this or any other Grand Jurisdiction, and having applied for the degrees, then the lodge applied to shall correspond with the rejecting lodge as to the former standing and character of the applicant, and if upon the information so obtained he be deemed worthy, the lodge may proceed in the case without further reference to the action of the rejecting lodge.”

The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vera Cruz, Mexico, was announced, received, and invited to a seat in the Grand Lodge. We do not quite understand this as we had supposed that this Grand Lodge was not in accord with the Gran Dieta, which the Grand Lodge of Texas has heretofore recognized. But we presume that we are in error.

A special committee on the Washington matter closed their report as follows, and their report was adopted.

“At its meeting in June, 1899, the Grand Lodge of Washington adopted a certain report and resolutions, which are now the subject matter of consideration, by which it seemingly undertook to repeal the obnoxious resolutions of 1898.

“We are free to confess that they are not satisfactory. They are couched in such a superfluity of verbiage as to leave great doubts of their real meaning. The writer of that report, with exceeding ingenuity, has exhausted the vocabulary in an effort ‘how not to say it.’ They constitute a fearful and wonderfully constructed instrument. They do not strike us as being frank or ingenuous. Having read them carefully five or six times, we own up that we can not understand them. We hope that this results from our inability to comprehend that style of diplomatic composition, and not from any design upon the part of the composer. We are reminded of the celebrated debate in the Georgia scenes upon the question ‘whether, in popular elections, the votes of faction or internal suggestion should dominate.’ One debater after another commenced to discuss the question, stop short with an air of dismay, and say, ‘Mr. President, I will pay my fine; I don’t understand the question.’ We are just in that fix. We throw up the sponge and are willing to pay our fine. We don’t understand the report or the resolutions, and respectfully refer to Bro. Matthew’s comments.

“Will the Grand Lodge of Washington please tell us in plain English what it does mean?”

“Does it recognize the American doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction?”

“Does it repudiate all spurious Masonry and especially the so-called Prince Hall Grand Lodge and all of its offshoots?”

“Does it refuse to recognize and will it prevent its subordinates from recognizing, holding intercourse with or affiliating with spurious or clandestine masons?”

“We have tried to find an answer to the above questions, or even to some of them in the report and resolutions, but have totally failed.

“The answers to these questions, embrace in a nut shell, the issue which induced us to suspend intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington;

and until satisfactorily made, we must be pardoned for allowing the *statu quo* to remain undisturbed."

We quote this at length, because the committee give specific reason for the action.

The reports of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals more than ever satisfy us that the full reports presented to the Grand Lodge in cases of discipline ought not to be printed.

We notice in the Appendix that a special communication was held Jan. 7, 1899, to lay the corner stone of the Masonic Home. The exercises on the occasion are quite interesting, although the orations are not given.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 103) was presented by Bro. THOMAS M. MATTHEWS, Senior. It is nearly all *written*, and with few quotations, and done in our brother's usual admirable style. His comments are often brief, but very pertinent.

In his review of Maine he speaks approvingly of the action of our Grand Lodge, saying that "Grand Master LOCKE, in his letter to the Grand Master of Washington, indites one of the most manly, courteous, convincing and logical papers that has ever been his pleasure to read," adding:

"It shows beyond a peradventure the double dealing used in handling the question, and lays bare the sophistry of the whole thing. It would have been far better and evinced a much more masonic spirit had our Washington brethren admitted their error, and in an open, manly way and in unmistakable language taken it all back, than to have done as they did do—try to dodge the issue, and to explain that which is too plain for explanation."

In referring to the Report on Correspondence, he says, it is "the work of our brother, Past Grand Master (Judge) JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND."

The old rule in relation to the parenthesis is that it might be omitted "without injuring the sense," but in this case there is something further; it may be omitted "without injuring the *truth*." The fact is, that down here in Maine they seem to think that when a lawyer reaches the age of fifty years or so, he *ought* to be a judge if he is not, and so they call him judge, and that is the way we got the title! He says:

"For the benefit of those who, like us, perhaps, not knowing had taken for granted and as true the statement, so often made, that a Grand Lodge was sovereign and had exclusive jurisdiction within its Territorial or State limits, was an American doctrine *only*, and was not recognized elsewhere, Bro. D. shows beyond question that the Grand Lodge of England recognizes and holds the doctrine also."

It is a fact also that the lodges of Ireland and Scotland, and all the lodges that have sprung from them, recognize the same doctrine so far as chartering lodges in other jurisdictions is concerned. They insist that in that respect all Grand Lodges have exclusive jurisdiction in their territory. They have not yet reached the point that they will not initiate a sojourner coming

from another jurisdiction, but to all intents and purposes in other respects they fully recognize this law, and recognize it as the inherent right of Grand Lodges.

There are many other things in this excellent report and in these Proceedings which we would like to notice, but besides the fact that our report when it comes to be printed exceeds the length which we can give it, we are unexpectedly shortened in our time by being called away.

UTAH, 1900.

Grand Secretary DIEHL gives the portrait with a biographical sketch of the incoming Grand Master, GEORGE VIALI SCHRAMM.

The Grand Master, JAMES DAVID MURDOCH, says:

"My official acts for the year have not been numerous or extensive, and therefore, my address will occupy but little of your time. That I am able to report such a pleasing state of affairs is to me, and I am sure will be to all of you, gratifying because it is an evidence that our lodges have pursued a steady course, and that there was no cause for any of them to cast anchor for repairs."

He had not been asked for a single decision: every lodge had made returns, paid dues and was represented; there had been a net gain of 60 (seven and one-half per cent.) in the membership; and there was but one case before the Committee on Grievances. What more need be said? There was, however, one drawback. Some of the lodges do not give the "standard work," and he despairs of their ever doing so. One lodge at his visitation had so many variations in it, that if he had had only the work to inform him he would not have known that he was in a Utah lodge:

In this connection he well says:

"I am of the opinion that if one brother can perfect himself in the work, another can do it just as well if he only devotes time and attention to it. If each officer of a lodge, and more particularly the Master, would bear in mind that our work was established and promulgated for the sole purpose of elevating the brethren, and to promote among the Craft literature, science and morality, innovations of any kind would be things of the past, and future Grand Masters would have no reason to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to such defects as I have above mentioned."

He greatly regrets that the vicious system of rotation in office has become so firmly established that the usage is to change Masters annually. We cannot make better use of our space than to quote the following, and we wish it could be read *by* or read *to* every brother in Maine who is, or is likely to be, the Master of one of our lodges:

"The ancient regulations have bestowed upon the Master of a lodge the power of a King, and if he uses that power intelligently and zealously, the lodge and the craft in general will be benefited by it. In my opinion the brother who occupies the Oriental Chair should be able to confer the degrees

of Ancient Craft Masonry correctly, according to the standard adopted by the Grand Lodge; but he should also be versed in masonic history, and capable of explaining to the brethren the meaning of the various symbols connected with those degrees. He should be familiar with the by-laws of his lodge, the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the general regulations of Masonry; and when presiding should enforce them. When the lodge is at labor he should insist that dignity and decorum are observed, and should not permit hilarity, heated discussions, or any debates by which the peace and harmony of the lodge might be destroyed. He should reconcile brethren among whom contentions exist. He should be firm in his rulings, not hasty and overbearing, but courteous. He should welcome visitors, and extend to them the warm hand of a brother mason. He should always bear in mind that Masonry is labor, and that no mason can attain any distinction among the craft unless he is a faithful laborer and masonic student. He should be prompt in attendance, and insist upon a like promptitude on the part of his fellow officers and all the brethren. The distressed and needy of his lodge should never apply to him in vain; his heart should always be warm, and he should ever bear in mind that 'the greatest of all is charity.' But above all he should be himself a perfect gentleman, moral, true and upright; in his daily walks of life he should be without reproach, and should ever deport himself so that his brethren can point to him with pride, and that his fellow citizens must honor and respect him. A brother with these qualifications will be an ideal Master. Brethren have you found such a Master? If you have, re-elect him again and again, and as often as he is willing to serve your lodge in the high and honorable station of Worshipful Master."

We wish the Master of every lodge would read it to the members at the annual meeting just before the election takes place.

With the Grand Secretary he attended the Washington Centennial Observance. He speaks in the strongest terms of the good effects produced. He had also had a circular issued to the lodges inviting them to observe the day, and many of them did. As the Grand Master is a Scotchman by birth, and was made a mason in a Scottish lodge, his loyalty to his adopted country was very gratifying to the brethren of his Grand Lodge.

We may say here, that at the request of the Grand Lodge Bro. DENT prepared a most excellent account of the exercises, and it is published in these Proceedings, together with an account of the observance by Utah lodges, including two very fine orations. The part taken by our Utah brethren in honoring the memory of Washington is exceedingly creditable to them.

It goes without saying that the affairs of the Grand Secretary had gone on orderly and punctually during the year, and the library had had a prosperous growth. In his report, referring to the Washington Centennial he says:

"It is not my purpose to relate in this report the particulars of the event; I may, however, be permitted to state that it was indeed the grandest and most soul-inspiring event it ever was my fortune to take part in. The ceremonies were appropriate, beautiful and impressive, and were performed by distinguished craftsmen from the East, West, North and South with dignity and solemnity, in the presence of the largest assemblage of Blue Lodge Masons—each one of whom was girded with the white apron—that ever met in this country, in the full splendor of an ideal autumn weather."

And in his account of the Proceedings, he adds:

“On the evening of December 13th the Grand Lodge of Virginia opened its One Hundred and Twenty-second Annual Communication at Hill's Opera House, in the historic city of Alexandria, to which, with all others, the Utah Brethren had been invited, but owing to the long and tiresome journey and nearly two days sight seeing in Washington, were too fatigued to attend the meeting and hear the reading of the Annual Address of Grand Master R. T. W. Duke, Jr.”

As no one responded when Utah was called at that meeting, we assumed that she was not represented. Our pleasure may be imagined, therefore, when, at Mt. Vernon the next day, a brother accosted us and introduced himself as CHRIS. DIEHL. We had time only for a brief hand clasp, one look into each other's eyes, and a few words of greeting, but they will give us most pleasant memories as long as memory lasts.

The business of the Grand Lodge was harmoniously transacted, little of it calling for notice. One charter was granted, and from the report of the committee we learn that lodges in Utah hold “meetings” and the Grand Lodge holds “communications.”

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

On the evening of the first day a Lodge of Instruction was held at which every lodge was represented, and the Grand Officers and seventy-one visiting brethren were present. *

The Report on Correspondence (112 pp.) was presented by Brother CHRISTOPHER DIEHL. It is on his usual plan and prepared in his usual manner, and that is saying much for it as a report.

In his review of Maine, he quotes Grand Master LOCKE's remarks in relation to the admission of Catholics and adds:

“The foregoing decision, or rather advice, should be heeded by every lodge. We will relate a case that has come to our notice not very long ago. It will prove the correctness of the Grand Master's advice. A brother of a lodge in this city, who had been lying sick for several months, was as tenderly cared for by the lodge as only brother masons can care for a brother in distress. He was a physician, hence an educated man. Feeling that his life was nearing the end he demanded of the brother who nursed him to call for a Catholic Priest. The nursing brother was thunderstruck, and knowing the result of a consultation with a Catholic priest, reminded the patient of his vows taken before the sacred altar of Freemasonry; but all arguments proved fruitless and the priest came. The result of the conference need not be told, it is known to every mason. The body of the man lies now in a barren spot on the north-east hill, near our city. The grave under which he sleeps is unmarked, while if he had been buried by his lodge it would have been kept green for years to come and a nice little marble monument would mark his last resting place. We may add that the Grand Master's advice has been our opinion for the last thirty years, and we have never been slow to express it in almost the identical language, and we will continue to do so as long as life lasts.”

In his conclusion, he says:

“By a decree of our Grand Lodge the next Report on Correspondence has to be furnished in topical form. Always bowing to the dictates of that august Body, we shall, God willing, attempt to prepare a report as directed. Whether it will be a success or a failure we do not know; neither do we know how it will be received by the brethren of Utah, for whose benefit these reports are written. We shall try our ‘level best’ to please them in the future as we have at least attempted to do for the last thirty years. There is nothing like trying.”

That plan tends to change these reports into essays and discussions. The original, and as we believe the true office, was to give information in relation to masonic affairs in other jurisdictions, and thus enable the brethren in the different jurisdictions to keep in touch with each other. The discussions were to be incident, and *merely incident*, to the report of what was done and said, so that the craft may be instructed as to what is *correctly* (from the masonic standpoint) done and said. The plan was *information* first and *instruction* afterward. The topical plan omits the information, and really makes these reports dissertations.

VERMONT, 1899.

We have a very fine engraved portrait of DANIEL NORRIS NICHOLSON, the retiring Grand Master, with a biographical sketch.

During the year, the Grand Lodge dedicated four new halls, with full ceremonies, and an address on each occasion by Grand Master NICHOLSON.

At the annual communication the Grand Master delivered a very full address, showing that he had been, not only an able officer, but a hard working one, as he gave every matter presented to him exhaustive consideration, and full and patient investigation when investigation was necessary.

He had had no correspondence in relation to the Washington matter, as that was settled, so far as Vermont is concerned, over forty years ago when PHILIP C. TUCKER was Grand Master.

In 1855, a man made complaint to the Grand Master that he went to Boston and was made a mason, and that on his return he applied for admission into the lodge at his residence in Vermont, but was refused on the ground that he was not a regular mason, having been made in a clandestine lodge; and in support of his claim he produced a letter from the “Corresponding Secretary of Prince Hall Grand Lodge.”

In his address at the next Grand Lodge (in 1856) Grand Master TUCKER gave his correspondence upon this subject, in which he stated the history of African Lodge, and his conclusions therefrom, the essential ones being the following:

“First. Even if a charter for a subordinate lodge, to be located within the United States, could be lawfully granted by the Grand Lodge of England, after the close of the American Revolution, and if such charter could

be lawfully recognized by the American lodges, its vitality would necessarily expire when the grantor substantially revoked the grant by striking it from its records and thus disavowing all connection with the grantee.

“Second. That the mere retention of a charter, after its legal revocation, cannot preserve or retain any right, power or authority, in the original grantees or their successors, where the right to revoke is reserved, as it always is in all Grand Lodges, in the grantor.

“Third. Even if African Lodge, No. 459, had a lawful masonic existence on the 18th day of June, 1827, the declaration of that date was both unmasonic and revolutionary and placed that body as effectually beyond recognition by either the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts or any other Grand Lodge in the United States, as was the French Lodge of Virginia, or the German Lodges of New York.”

Accordingly he sustained the action of the lodge in refusing to allow the applicant to visit it.

The opinions and conclusions of Grand Master TUCKER were adopted as the sense of his Grand Lodge, which, in 1899, re-affirmed them, upon a brief but very able report by Bro. MARSH O. PERKINS.

A large amount of business of a local character and local importance was transacted, but as no new decisions were made, they do not require special notice.

He decided that a Master does not become a Past Master until he has vacated the chair, no matter how many terms he may serve consecutively; we do not agree; at the same time we do agree that he is not the “last Past Master” within the meaning of a certain clause of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, while he is the Master of the lodge, whether by continuous service or by *second service*, even though each of those who served between his two terms of service have ceased to be a member of the lodge.

He recommended that the practice of lodges to regulate their time of meeting by “the full of the moon” be discontinued, but the committee were not prepared to dictate as to the time when lodges shall hold their meetings, and add:

“The argument for holding meetings in country lodges near the time when there is a full moon may have force with them, but they should make provision in their by-laws for contingencies, and not call upon the Grand Master for dispensations when by the fault of their by-laws two stated communications may fall in one month and none in another. This may be easily provided for, and when that is done the general objection will be obviated.”

The proceedings were harmonious: the Committee on Grievances had nothing before them; the affairs of the Temple had been put in shape by the efficient services of the Grand Master and those associated with him; and the craft are moving on in their accustomed solidly prosperous manner. So there is little for the reviewer to do, but to chronicle that fact.

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized: the Grand Lodge of Peru

was congratulated on its restoring the Great Light to the altars of its lodges; and the use of unauthorized Monitors forbidden.

The committee on the address of the Grand Master well say:

"We further congratulate our Grand Master, and all in obedience to his authority, upon his eminently wise and efficient administration. While the duties of his office have been more or less burdensome, especially in connection with matters pertaining to the Temple, the securing of suitable and proper tenants and leasing of the portions thereof designed for rental, yet he has discharged the duties devolving upon him with great faithfulness and patience and with an eye single, only, to the best interests of our beloved Craft."

This was supplemented by the unanimous adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Grand Master elect be and he is hereby created a committee on behalf of this Grand Lodge, to procure and present a suitable jewel to Daniel N. Nicholson, in token of our personal esteem for him, and of our deep appreciation of his able administration as Grand Master for the two years past and of his untiring labors in behalf of the Masonic Fraternity, and that an order be drawn upon the Grand Treasurer in payment of the same."

We have learned through private correspondence that after his retirement from the office of Grand Master he was somewhat prostrated on account of over work. We sincerely trust that his illness was but temporary.

While we have indicated already the course taken by this Grand Lodge in relation to the Washington matter we conclude to give the following, adopted by it:

"WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Washington by the adoption of certain resolutions at its annual communication in 1898 has in effect denied that Grand Lodges duly and legally constituted are supreme within their territory, and has signified an intention to recognize as masons men belonging to clandestine and irregular lodges, therefore,

"Resolved, That the Grand Master is hereby instructed (unless said Grand Lodge of Washington at its annual communication, this year, rescinds its aforesaid action), to issue an edict suspending all masonic intercourse between the Grand Lodge of Vermont, its subordinates and members, and the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members, until the wrong is made right."

The Report on Correspondence (176 pp.) was presented by Bro. MARSH O. PERKINS.

He started out "with anticipations of an enjoyable and profitable journey through the many masonic fields": he writes as if he enjoyed the journey, and it certainly is very profitable to those who follow him in it.

He says:

"Bro. SMITH cannot see how it affects the secrecy of the ballot, whether he who casts a white or black ball discloses the same—nor can we."

We have always understood the "secrecy of the ballot" to mean that no other person is to know how any member voted; we once knew a case in

which the one, who cast a black ball, was hunted down by every other member's disclosing that he cast a white ball; if one can disclose, all may, and then where is the secrecy of the ballot? At the same time, we believe that the one who cast the black ball may waive his right and disclose, if the act is done in good faith and for a proper purpose.

Referring to the perfection doctrine held by the late Past Grand Master BELCHER, of California, a native of Vermont, Bro. PERKINS well says:

"We are fully aware of the fact, and have often wondered how so eminent and learned a mason could have assented to the dogma. Certainly it was not instilled into his mind among the hills and dales of his native State."

In his review of Delaware, he says:

"Bro. J. propounds the conundrum, 'Why, then, *call* it a degree?' referring to the esoteric portion of the installation ceremony, maintaining that the word *degree* so applied is a misnomer. We fully agree with him that literally and accurately speaking this usage of the word *is* a misnomer, but habit and convenience frequently determine the definition of a word in its various applications. Why not, then, in this case? It is certainly more convenient to say 'degree' with this understanding, than to speak of the 'esoteric portion, etc.,' every time reference is made to the subject."

We should as soon think of objecting to the name of "Mayflower" for one of our favorite flowers, because in some places it blooms in April and in other places not till June!

He agrees with those who believe that the Maine proposition will not be generally accepted: but the end of that journey is reached by one step at a time, and each year some new steps are chronicled; and its adoption by the Grand Encampment of the United States is quite a long one.

In his review of Maine (1898) he says:

"The academy building having been burned at Patten, the Grand Master was asked permission by the local lodge to let their lodge room for school purposes. This was granted, and the lodge only temporarily, we assume, inconvenienced in the commendable work of the diffusion of knowledge. Curiosity to know more of the lodge leads us to turn to the District Deputy's report, where we find the following: 'Witnessed work in the M. M. degree, which was admirably done. The officers take a great interest in their work.' The record speaks for itself and comment is unnecessary."

He says further:

"But two district meetings were held, a matter of surprise to us, knowing as we do the value of such gatherings in Vermont, not only in brushing up by the exemplification of the work, but in benefits derived in the fraternal mingling together of the great body of the craft of each district in annual reunion. The conventions bring together the district deputies and officers of the lodges for the purpose of special instruction. The district meetings enable the craft to enjoy to the full the benefit of that instruction, while the social features add to the zest, interest and enthusiasm of all participating, which in turn is reflected upon the lodges of which they are members. By all means, but our Maine Brethren follow Vermont's example in this direction."

He evidently holds that our solution of the moon question by defining the word "month" as a "lunar month," removes the difficulties.

He thinks that the adoption of our regulation that none but members of the Grand Lodge shall be present at elections, "looks as if somebody had been electioneering." This may be true; but that was not the reason for adopting the regulation. Calling the roll and having members come forward to vote consumed a great deal of time and created much confusion. So we concluded to try the experiment of excluding all but members and have the committee pass the boxes around the hall and receive the votes. So far this plan has worked satisfactorily, saving a good deal of time.

Referring to the "Maine Proposition," he comments as follows:

"Commenting on our remarks *anent* the Maine proposition of jurisdiction for five years by a lodge over rejected material, and our doubts as to the probability of any Grand Lodge, wedded to the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, adopting the same, he instances Massachusetts and New York, neither of which jurisdictions, as we understand it, had for some time previous, held the doctrine to be a landmark."

We do not understand that either Massachusetts or New York *ever* held the doctrine of Perpetual Jurisdiction to be a landmark; and the recent change was the first one made in Massachusetts; New York, however, had abolished Perpetual Jurisdiction, and the recent legislation was an affirmation of the doctrine of recognizing the status given to a rejected candidate by the law of the jurisdiction in which he was rejected.

VICTORIA, 1899.

LORD BRASKEY was re-elected Grand Master at the Quarterly Communication, March 15th.

Revised Laws and Regulations were adopted.

The returns showed 7,737 members, a gain of 189. Relief had been granted by the Board of Benevolence to the amount of \$3,640.

The Grand Officers were installed May 17th, and Bro. A. J. PEACOCK was appointed Pro Grand Master.

At the Quarterly Communication June 21st, a new lodge was reported as constituted at Port Arlington.

The Grand Master having referred a letter from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington to the Board of General Purposes, that body reported that as the subject did not affect that Grand Lodge, and it was impossible to properly sift the evidence, no action should be taken.

The Board also recommended that their Grand Representative near the Grand Lodge of Virginia should represent the Grand Lodge at the ceremonies in Commemoration of George Washington.

It was proposed to publish the Ancient Landmarks according to MACKAY, with the new Constitution, but the proposition was rejected on account of the difficulty of deciding what they really are, MACKAY'S list not being generally accepted.

The death of GEORGE BAKER, P. G. M. and late Deputy Grand Master, occurred on Sept. 27th, and a memorial page was dedicated to him. His age was sixty-six.

At the Quarterly Communication Dec. 20th, Lord BRASSEY announced his approaching departure from the colony, and nominated the Pro Grand Master, A. J. PEACOCK, as his successor.

A new lodge was reported as constituted at Corryong.

VIRGINIA, 1899.

We have a volume of nearly five hundred and fifty pages, with a portrait of Bro. GEORGE W. WRIGHT, the incoming Grand Master. We have been at a loss what course to take in reviewing it. It contains a full account of the proceedings at the Washington Centennial Observance, and of the Grand Lodge in relation thereto. We have not space, of course, to copy the whole with the addresses, nor even to give the principal part of it. We have, therefore, concluded to give only a very brief, general account, and request our brethren to come to the Library and read the full proceedings.

Headquarters were established at a hotel, where all were requested to meet and register: a committee was there to give us a warm welcome; of course, the meeting of brethren from different jurisdictions, as they came in, was decidedly stirring: in the evening of the thirteenth, the Grand Lodge of Virginia met in Alexandria, and Virginia brethren took charge of us and escorted us to the Hall, where we were assigned seats on the platform. This continent never had such a meeting; Representatives of more Grand Lodges were present than ever before met. After the opening of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master called on a brother from each jurisdiction, who responded briefly. Then the business of the Grand Lodge was dispatched, and the Grand Lodge was called off. Afterwards came the Grand Lodge banquet, to which all the guests were invited; of course toasts and speeches followed. The next day we went by steamers to Mt. Vernon; the Grand Lodge went from Alexandria; the guests from abroad and the Washington brethren (who gave exceedingly efficient aid throughout) formed in procession at headquarters, the Representatives of other Grand Lodges in carriages, and marched to a steamer on the Washington side, or rather two steamers. Arriving at Mt. Vernon, a procession was formed and marched to the grounds, where the exercises outlined on the program took place. The President and his escort had arrived by street cars. A vast number of people

had also assembled, so that the whole number present must have been close to *twelve thousand*. At the Old Vault prayer was offered by Bishop RANDOLPH, and an oration delivered by Grand Master BURNAND, of Colorado. The procession then moved to the New Tomb and formed about it as well as the numbers present allowed; prayer was offered by R. W. Bro. GEORGE H. RAY, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and the services, in which all the Grand Masters present took part by responses, as well as Representatives of foreign Grand Bodies, took place; the procession then marched by and deposited the evergreen. Proceeding to the Mansion House, the Grand Master introduced the President, who delivered an address which was received with universal favor: the Grand Master of Virginia then delivered a magnificent address: at its conclusion the ceremonies were closed by a benediction by Bro. RABBI EDWARD N. CALISCH, of Fraternal Lodge, Richmond. During the day, various salutes were fired.

The Grand Lodge returned to the hall and called off until noon the next day, and in the mean time gave their attention to their guests. The others of us returned in the steamers to Washington, and spent the afternoon in social intercourse, for which, of course, great opportunity was given while going to and returning from Mt. Vernon.

In the evening the Grand Master of Virginia gave a reception at a hotel in Washington, which was very largely attended, and which, we are safe in saying, no one present will ever forget. After the reception, a banquet was given by the Grand Lodge of Virginia to the Representatives of other Grand Lodges, followed by speeches of a very high and interesting character. It was *the next day* when the affair ended.

We but voice the universal emphatic sentiment of all present, when we say that the occasion was most admirably planned by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and, in the execution of those plans, *was a perfect success*. The whole craft have abundant cause for gratitude to our brethren of Virginia, and especially to Grand Master R. W. T. DUKE, JR., Past Grand Master A. R. COURTNEY, Chairman of the Executive Committee, R. W. Bro. K. KEMPER, Chairman of the General Committee, and Bro. ROBERT WHITE, Marshal.

As hosts, our Virginia brethren captured the hearts of all their visitors, and their hospitality was equalled only by the gracious courtesy with which it was dispensed. We were made to feel that we were brethren coming back to meet our brethren *at home*, and welcomed with hearts overflowing with fraternal affection.

As for the event itself, we feel that it was the most important in which masons, *as such*, have ever participated. So far as the outward world is concerned, the occasion gave a tremendous impulse to patriotism, and veneration for the men who enrolled our country among the nations of the

earth and laid the foundation for government by the people, and especially for him, who now, more than ever before, is hailed as "Father of our Country."

The President said:

"The nation needs at this moment the help of his wise example. In dealing with our vast responsibilities we turn to him. We invoke the counsel of his life, and character and courage. We summon his precepts that we may keep his pledges to maintain justice and law, education and morality, and civil and religious liberty in every part of our country, the new as well as the old."

Grand Master DUKE portrayed the effect of the occasion by his eloquent plea for the future:

"The observance of this anniversary should not await another century. Here at each recurring anniversary of this man's death should be not merely the gathering of the craft whose membership he adorned, but of the people who owe to him the foundation of their greatness and their glory. Here lovers of their country should come to catch the inspiration of his great life, the purity of his patriotism, the simplicity of his character—the dignity of his manhood, and the unostentatious piety of his soul. Here the politician should come to learn that purity and rectitude and straightforward honesty is as possible in the art of government and as successful as in any other science. Here the soldier should come to take courage at the remembrance that the soldier sleeping here overcame defeat with patience, and conquered victory with self-abnegation. Here the citizen should come to learn that his is no idle position in a government where he is in part a ruler; that service to one's country is due as long as life lasts. Here the man should come, to learn how man can achieve greatness without sacrificing himself to ambition, and glory without a stain upon his escutcheon. The voice that speaks from this grave is the voice of a great past speaking unto a greater future. Its note of admonition, of courage, of counsel will reach as far as the great arm of the government he founded shall reach, that arm which sheltering in his time the narrow boundary along the Atlantic coast now reaches from tropic sea to tropic sea, extending to all over whom it reaches the blessings of free government, free religion, freedom of will and thought, and the laws of liberty. Not the phantom liberty which shrouds itself in the robes of license, but that liberty which subjecting itself to the discipline of intellect and the control of virtue becomes the liberty of law."

But for Masonry, though it is not shown on the surface, the occasion was greater still. Such a meeting of the leaders of the craft has never been known—not merely in numbers, but in spirit of fraternity which so much abounded. Grand Lodge boundaries went out of sight, and with them all lines of geographical divisions. We stood together without regard to home or dwelling place, as members of the craft universal, with the common purpose and single aim of elevating humanity. And no one present could have gone away without his heart thrilling with greater love for his Brethren, a higher appreciation of the mission of Freemasonry, and a more earnest determination to aid in the accomplishment of that mission.

But we must leave this theme and come to our review of the other transactions of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

We must add the graceful welcome of Grand Master DUKE in his annual address:

“And here I turn to the distinguished representatives of our sister Grand Lodges, and in the name of the Grand Lodge of Virginia bid them a hearty and unfeigned welcome. Brethren—I will not call you guests—you are ours, of us, part of us, no matter from whence you come—Maine and California, Canada, Nova Scotia and Florida, Belgium and Victoria, East, West, North, South. Here I hail you as from no foreign clime, for Freemasonry is but one country, knows but one latitude. Our love, our gratitude, destroys barriers, obliterates all lines. You are in your own home. Some have doubted the prerogative of Grand Masters to make masons as sight, but no one dare question the power of the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia when he makes you now and at sight, one and all, Virginia masons, and bids you enter your own home and occupy as you will.

“Our hoard is frugal but our hearts are great,” take them with our unfeigned affection, and may this meeting knit together in ties of sincerest affection every mason and every masonic lodge represented here.”

We take the following from his address, and we most earnestly commend them to the attention of our brethren:

“A corner-stone cannot be laid on Sunday. No masonic *work* can be done upon Sunday, and the laying of a corner-stone is actual work. I was surprised at the request to do this work on Sunday, and promptly declined to allow it. One day in the week is sacred to God, and the sanctity of the Sabbath day should be guarded with zealous care by Free Masons, who are in duty bound to obey the moral law, and no law is higher than the due observances of that day of rest so necessary to man’s physical, mental, and moral needs.”

* * * * *

“I decided that it was illegal and unmasonic for any lodge to endorse a begging circular sent out by a church, a decision the propriety of which is so plain I hesitated to report it, but on second consideration determined to do so, in order to emphasize the fact that no lodge has a right to endorse any undertaking, no matter however meritorious, and its seal should never be used upon any other than strictly masonic papers and documents.

“Any mason, whether a member of the lodge or not, has the right, with the permission of the Worshipful Master to state his reasons in open lodge why a petition for initiation ought not to be favorably acted upon.”

The latter is not law in some jurisdictions but it ought to be in all. The time was when such a thing could be done in many lodges and the fact that it was done be known only to the members.

The following is very timely:

“I was shocked to receive from a lodge in New York a long communication addressed to a local paper in the town where the lodge was situated, sent by a mason in Virginia, making a violent attack upon the character of a brother a mason who had moved from Virginia to the State of New York. The writer in this paper used masonic language, and stated he did this to prevent masons from being imposed upon, etc., etc.

“The editor, I suppose a mason, promptly turned the communication unpublished over to the lodge, which kindly forwarded it to me. I sent it at once to my District Deputy in the district where the writer resided, and directed him to forward it to the Junior Warden of the writer’s lodge to take prompt and vigorous action in the matter. The offender was promptly tried,

plead guilty, expressed deep contrition, and threw himself upon the mercy of the lodge. He was duly disciplined. Had he been expelled, I do not think this Grand Lodge would have disapproved the sentence. The public press is not the tribunal before which one mason should summon another to answer charges, much less the vehicle through which assaults upon the character and standing of one mason should be made by another."

Of the Washington matter, he says:

"The Grand Lodge of Washington has receded from the position it took last year as to certain clandestinely made masons, and treated your resolution in that regard with every evidence of warm appreciation. Whilst the resolutions rescinding the obnoxious declaration of the year before are somewhat disingenuous, and might very properly be complained of, I think the incident should be declared closed."

He decided that persons, who cannot conform to the ritual, without artificial or friendly assistance, are ineligible.

The following was most emphatically endorsed by the Grand Lodge:

"Nor can I omit the reception given me in Norfolk by the masons of that city in May, when over four hundred Master Masons, their wives and daughters were entertained in the auditorium of the Masonic Temple, and a delightful musical programme rendered and refreshments served. I know of nothing better calculated to advance the cause of Freemasonry than such entertainments. It is due to our and to our brethren's wives and daughters that occasionally we should entertain them as masons, and in mingling in social converse, learn to know and appreciate each other."

Of the vote of the Grand Lodge to invite the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of Masons in England, Bro. DUKE says:

"In accordance with your rising unanimous vote at your last Grand Annual Communication, I invited his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, to attend the ceremonies at Mount Vernon on the 14th. I received a most courteous and fraternal reply through the Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge, expressing our Most Worshipful Brother's regret that his public engagements prevented his acceptance of the invitation, and reciprocating to the fullest extent the fraternal regard of his Virginia brethren. At a later date His Royal Highness sent his portrait and autograph as a further evidence of his appreciation of this invitation. It is to be regretted that we could not have evinced, by welcoming our Royal Brother at these ceremonies, the affection we feel for our Mother Grand Lodge and for our English brethren, to whom we are bound not only by the fraternal ties of Freemasonry, but by the ties of kinship, common language, and common love of honor, liberty and manhood."

The usual business, including the granting of several charters, was harmoniously transacted.

Thanks were voted to the Grand Master and other brethren of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia for efficient aid in the Centennial exercises.

The following tribute to Grand Master DUKE by the Committee is eminently deserved:

"This has been a busy year with the Grand Master of Virginia. A perusal of his address gives some idea of the varied and responsible duties that have devolved upon him. Never in our history have as many and such important interests crowded together, and demanded the most serious thought and wisest management in one year as in that now closing. And we were fortunate in having a commander who was equal to every emergency. Gifted by nature, polished by education, in the full flush of vigorous manhood, and above all supported by the loving and unquestioning loyalty of an united brotherhood—a commander who was fired with the one ambition of bearing aloft the white banner of true Masonry, which is the banner of peace and good will among men, and in handing it over to his successor unsullied and unturned. A commander who in sunshine and in storm stood upon the bridge, field glass in hand, watching the horizon in every direction, guarding against every movement of our common enemy, the natural depravity of the human heart; and at the same time ever mindful to provide with fatherly care for the moral and mental welfare of the crew."

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 114) was presented by Bro. JOSEPH W. EGGLESTON.

We have never been able to find any good reason (save perhaps a pecuniary one) for the change from the old law, to which Virginia still adheres:

"Our old-fashioned way of allowing a mason to apply by verbal application to any lodge for membership, and to belong to as many lodges at the same time as he chooses, works perfectly without friction or trouble, though it may not be in keeping with the ideas of mutual benefit societies, or trades unions. We do not even allow a membership fee charged. What harm it can do any one lodge for each of its members to at the same time hold membership in other lodges is simply, to a Virginia mason, incomprehensible."

We conclude to devote our space to his statements of Virginia masonic law with his reasons therefor: in his review of British Columbia, he says:

"He, hampered by a 'Constitution,' debates the question as to what a dispensation really is. Well, if Masonry is to become everywhere a modern society governed, not by a blending of King Solomon's wisdom and power with pure democracy, but by organic law or 'Constitution,' a 'dispensation' would have simply no meaning at all. The word plainly means a 'dispensing' with a provision of law when special circumstances render it necessary. The only reason for our blending of autocratic with democratic government is in memory of the same blending which existed when the temple was built. The three Grand Masters, the only Master Masons living, jointly exercised general powers as our Master Masons in Grand Lodge assembled do, but would any sane mason imagine that King Solomon would have hesitated, in an emergency, to 'dispense' with the action of any of their laws, and, as the word plainly means, set it aside. The laws made by these three Grand Masters were general in their nature, but not necessarily so specific or elaborate as to properly cover every possible case; therefore they could be set aside temporarily by proper authority, and ours should be the same way. We have in the landmarks enough fixed, immutable, organic law, and we have only been, in some instances misled by the name Constitution. Many jurisdictions calling their law a Constitution do not set it up as sacred and inviolable, but countenance the Grand Master's right to 'dispense' with it in his discretion. It should be given some other name on this continent, simply because the word Constitution has with us come to mean far more than it does in England. Call it a methodical digest of laws of the Grand Lodge, make it binding except when 'dispensed' with by authority of King

Solomon's successor, and it at once becomes a useful thing instead of a terror. Besides, the office of Grand Master and its relations to the Craft typifies, as we have frequently said, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man."

Referring to a criticism (which seems to us well taken) of his Grand Lodge for "closing" daily during its session instead of "calling off," he says:

"Well, long custom is a great argument in Masonry. We only call off for 'refreshment,' and each session is opened regularly sometimes in *ample* and sometimes in *due form*. One good reason for giving the whole list of those present at each session is to let the lodges who send their delegates see just how they have attended to their duties. We pay no mileage or per diem, but the lodges usually pay the expenses of their delegates, and are entitled to know whether they were at their posts or elsewhere."

The giving of the names is all right, but it seems to us that it is just as proper to call off for the "refreshment" of sleep and breakfast, as it is for the refreshment of dinner: besides, it seems to us that when a lodge is "closed" that session is at an end. Of course we know that there has been a usage to "close to stand closed" till a particular time, but the meeting at that time is *another meeting*. We hold that the accurate method is to call off from time to time till the business is finished and thus continue the meeting.

The following is pertinent in these days when there seems to be danger that a meeting of a lodge will soon be held to be unmasonic, unless held in a hall dedicated to Masonry:

"Well, Bro. Coxe, in Arabia, where customs are less changed in the last three or four thousand years than perhaps anywhere else in the world, they still do as our fathers did—viz., meet where and when they choose. Lodge rooms set aside as the permanent home, and only possible place of meeting, are themselves modern innovations. The Grand Lodge of Virginia was in 1898 received in the body of one of its subordinate lodges meeting temporarily in an 'improvised lodge room' in the second story of a peanut barn, and Masonry in nowise suffered. It is singular how prone we all are to keep picking at that 'mote in our brother's eye,' forgetting the 'beam' in our own."

We feel like taking exception to his review of Maine, as he intimates that he ought to use his whitewash brush freely, because Grand Master Locke and the writer commended his last report, thereby giving him an honest debt to repay; but we accept it as a jest and take his review as earnest.

They are sometimes careless in Virginia, as well as we in Maine, in the admission of new members:

"The greatest evil we have to combat is the tendency to imitate in our Institution other societies in all their ways. Insurance and beneficial orders, doing as they are a noble and necessary work, must have numbers, and their success is in proportion to numerical strength. We are differently situated. Our greatest possible need is that our membership shall contain the manliest men to be found, who do right because it is right; and the more discriminating we are with our ballot boxes the stronger we are. Not only should we

not solicit members, but we ought never to cast a white ball on a name unless it be above suspicion."

He is not quite correct in his understanding of one feature of our law. We do not allow one lodge to do the work for another lodge; the latter must waive jurisdiction and the candidate be accepted by the former. Our law also provides (as does that of almost every Grand Lodge which allows membership in only one lodge) that receiving the third degree in a lodge makes him a member. Such was not the law formerly; it used to require a unanimous vote: later, a newly made Master Mason could sign the by-laws and become a member or not as he pleased. The result was that we turned out many unaffiliated masons: to remedy this evil we (and other Grand Lodges having a similar practice) adopted the present law.

He refers to our law of allowing a brother to be suspended from membership for non-payment of dues, and inquires whether it would not be better to suspend from all masonic rights and require a vote of the lodge to restore, citing the case which arose under Bro. LOCKE'S administration. Perhaps so; but a law that has been in force eighty years, with but one case of abuse of it, is a pretty good law for a *human* law: however, we did amend it in such manner as to prevent a similar abuse.

Of the use of gavels by the Wardens, he says:

"This is to us a new and interesting question, and as Bro. Drummond proposes to leave it to the ritualists among the various Foreign Correspondence Committees, we cannot dodge, having been a member of the Grand Working Committee. We in Virginia do not hand a gavel to the Wardens, nor invest them with it as an emblem of authority, but leave it on their stands, closing the installation ceremony with the admonition, 'Look well to the West (or South).' We consider these stationed officers as the lieutenants of the Master in his presence, fully qualified and authorized to assist him and use his delegated authority, and in his absence to use it in full. Possibly this is reason they have gavels, but this is the first time this question has been raised in our day, and it will well bear discussion."

But we must stop. We desired especially to quote his remarks in relation to Rites and give our views. But an unexpected call to be absent from home compels us to hurry through our report, in order not to delay the publication of the Proceedings.

But we cannot leave these Proceedings without a personal word. The great honor paid us by Grand Master DUKE and the Grand Lodge of Virginia at this session is on record in these Proceedings. Silence would be the grossest affectation. No man can be insensible to the approval of that body of men. Nay, one, who would not esteem it as the highest of honors, little knows what that approval is worth. But much as we appreciate that, we are not sure that the evidences of fraternal affection, which we received on all sides, were not more gratifying to us.

WASHINGTON, 1899.

The Grand Master (WILLIAM HENRY UPTON) in his address says that the year had been a very prosperous one in every respect.

After referring to the dead of the year he adds, under the heading, "AND ONE UNNAMED":

"But not by the loss of brothers or sons is life most darkened. One there may be whose eye never beheld the light by which masons work, but who yet so filled our life that when she went out of it, it was as though the sun had abandoned his place in heaven, and left chaos in his stead. God pity us were this the end of all; were we condemned to endure existence after joy, desire, ambition had been buried with our heart beneath a green mound, with hope of nothing beyond. It cannot be. Thank God for faith that Life and Love are deathless. Without that hope, self-destruction were a right. With it, for some of us death is no longer 'a grim tyrant, but a kind messenger;' and every tie loosened from earth is become an anchor 'both sure and steadfast which entereth into that within the veil.'"

These tidings will carry sorrow to the hearts of the craft.

Of course, the chief topic in his address is the action of other Grand Lodges in relation to the action of his Grand Lodge, the year previous, but he persists in maintaining his erroneous positions, and of course views the matter from the wrong standpoint. In the outset he attributes all the trouble to "the failure on the part of certain brethren in other jurisdictions to appreciate the responsibilities of the position which they had undertaken to fill, when called upon, as committeemen, to advise their Grand Lodges of their proper relation" towards the subject.

As every committeeman, who was thus called upon, took the same view, it is quite suggestive that he was the one who made the failure.

His address is marked with a spirit of bitterness growing out of the assumption that the adverse criticisms of the action of his Grand Lodge were caused by hostility to it.

He is even foolish enough to insert the following in his address:

"Indiana declared non-intercourse May 23d. This was anticipated from the beginning by those, familiar with the local history of Indiana, who know the influence which certain men exert in that Grand Lodge. It is a matter of history that between thirty-five and forty years ago certain negro-phobists, lacking the courage to serve in the Confederate army, 'rendezvoused' in southern Indiana, and occasioned Abraham Lincoln considerable annoyance. Some of them 'refugeed' for a while in Canada, but considered it safe to return after the emancipator of the negro had been assassinated. By the spawn of this nest, Washington has been venomously attacked during the last ten months; and the children are not ignorant of their father's old methods of fighting.

* * * * *

"Brethren it is the same old, old story, so oft repeated in the history of the West. The East and the South have assumed that the people of the West were backwoodsmen and ignoramuses. With no appreciation of the real facts; with no understanding of the brain, the intelligence, the intellectual industry, or of the other qualities of our people, which have placed the

West in many things half a century ahead of the sleepy old homes of our fathers; ignorant of the fact that Washington possesses the best masonic libraries west of the Missouri, and numbers in its Grand Lodge many men who have made Masonry a study and a delight, our brethren have made the old mistake of assuming that we did not know what we were taking about; and that they, without study, knew more than we about matters which we had carefully investigated. And they have repeated their other old mistake of assuming that when the lordly East spoke, the rude and unpolished West would hasten to hide its diminished head.

"I cannot see that it would serve any good purpose for me to discuss at length the impressions made by the hasty actions of these Grand Lodges, with whom we have sought no quarrel; and I desire to heed to the fullest extent the injunction of our ancient law, to say or do 'nothing which may hinder brotherly love and good offices to be renewed and continued.' According to our mood, these edicts of non-intercourse may inspire consternation, sorrow, contempt, indignation—any feeling in the whole gamut of human emotions except love, hate or fear. To those of you who have not hitherto known the full extent of the vials of wrath let loose against us, this full knowledge may come with almost stunning effect. I cannot blame you if it does."

* * * * *

"It may be that, for the moment, this great spectacle of hostility has produced the effect upon you that those who have shown so little love for you or your Grand Lodge designed to produce; so that you are inclined to cry out, 'Spare us and we will surrender; spare us and we will obey your will.'"

Whether the stars indicate the omission of something which it was not deemed prudent to publish can only be surmised from the context.

While he speaks of the Grand Lodge of Washington, *he means himself*; for in another place, he says that a certain writer had "never lost an opportunity to malign and misrepresent the Grand Lodge of Washington," when the only offence of that writer had been to criticize utterances of Grand Master UPRON (before he was Grand Master) and ridicule some of his absurd productions.

It has been, from the first time that Grand Master UPRON has appeared in debating masonic matters, a decided weakness, that he so identifies himself with what he writes, that he takes an adverse criticism of his productions as an attack upon himself, if we can judge from his discussions. In fact, he has actually stated in connection with a notice of criticisms of some of his deliverances that he could not understand why the writer of those criticisms should be so hostile to him.

This same weakness is shown in his comments upon the action of the other Grand Lodges. It is illustrated in what he says of the action of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Maine:

"I am aware that it will occasion surprise, and perhaps dissatisfaction, that I group with these four Grand Lodges, those of Massachusetts and Maine. But we must bear in mind that, although the resolutions of the latter two bodies were prepared by our enemies, they were adopted by our friends. 'The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.'"

* * * * *

“Misled as I have stated, on December 14, 1897, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts ‘protested’ against your (alleged) recognition of ‘spurious masons and Masonic bodies’ and against your resolution ‘sanctioning the possible establishment of a Grand Lodge of co-ordinate jurisdiction’ in this State and did ‘fraternally demand’ a ‘speedy reconsideration’ of your ‘entire action upon the subject of negro ‘Masonry.’”

“I recommend that you refrain from taking offence at the word ‘protest,’ and treat the ‘fraternal demand’ as a request.

“On May 4, 1899, the Grand Lodge of Maine, whose committee had very elaborately misrepresented every phase of the subject, adopted three resolutions. The first two express the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Maine upon certain theories which originated with the chairman of the Maine committee and have not yet gained the acceptance of well informed masons—if of any—elsewhere. Any discussion of them would fall to our Committee on Correspondence, as the right of the Grand Lodge of Maine to have its own opinions cannot be questioned. By its third resolution, that Grand Lodge, ‘fraternally but most earnestly, requests the Grand Lodge of Washington to rescind those resolutions,’ apparently meaning the resolutions adopted last year. I advise the Grand Lodge not to regard the unfortunate word ‘rescind’ as implying any illegitimate desire to prescribe your action for you, but as equivalent to ‘reconsider.’”

He insists that the action of his Grand Lodge was misunderstood and misrepresented, and that it did not recognize the legitimacy of any Grand Lodge or subordinate lodge! And, as will be seen by our extracts from his address, he insists that the action of the other Grand Lodges was an attack upon the sovereignty of his Grand Lodge in a matter over which it had exclusive jurisdiction!

As we gave last year the action of this Grand Lodge upon this subject, with our views thereon, (which have not undergone any change) we have no occasion to devote further space to the subject.

The Grand Master recommended that the Grand Representative system be re-established, and his recommendation was unanimously adopted.

The following resolution was presented and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence to report next year:

“WHEREAS, This Grand Lodge did at our annual communication of 1897 annul its edict of non-intercourse against the Grand Lodge of Hamburg for her unwarranted invasion of the jurisprudence of the Grand Lodge of New York, by still maintaining her spurious offspring, namely, Pythagoras Lodge, within the State of New York, contrary to the American doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty, now, therefore, be it

“Resolved, That the action of this Grand Lodge of 1897 in annulling said edict be rescinded, and that said edict be declared in full force.”

The Report on Correspondence is a review of Negro Masonry (135 pp.), by Bro. WILLIAM H. UPTON, and an article headed “An Attack upon Grand Lodge Sovereignty,” (27 pp.) by Bro. THOMAS M. REED.

The latter reviews only the action of the other Grand Lodges which had declared non-intercourse.

It is not necessary to devote much space to the former, as he practically surrenders his whole case. In the 1898 report he stated that PRINCE HALL

from "1792 till his death in 1807, exercised all the functions of a Provincial Grand Master." He has been driven from this position, and now waives entirely the claim that PRINCE HALL had express authority from England to act as a Provincial Grand Master among the negroes. This is equivalent to an admission that African Lodge had the same power as every other lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of England, *and no other powers*; and PRINCE HALL had the same powers as the Master of any such lodge, *and no greater powers*.

If African Lodge had any legal existence at all in 1797, it was a subordinate of the Grand Lodge of England.

At that time the law of that Grand Lodge was that lodges could be legally organized only "by a warrant from the Grand Master for the time being, granted to certain individuals by petition, with the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge in communication, and without such warrant no lodge should be deemed regular or constitutional."

And "If any set or number of *masons* shall take upon themselves to form a lodge without the Grand Master's warrant, the *regular* lodges are not to countenance them nor own them as *fair brethren* duly formed, nor approve of their acts and deeds; but must treat them as *rebels* until they shall humble themselves as the Grand Master shall in prudence direct, and until he approve of them by his warrant signified to the other lodges: as the custom is when a new lodge is to be registered in the Grand Lodge book."

Under these provisions the warrant of PRINCE HALL had no more force than a blank piece of paper; and there is no pretense that the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge of England, or any other Grand Master or Grand Lodge, ever "approved" either of the Bodies to which HALL issued his warrant, or any of the Bodies which have sprung from them. *On the contrary, every Grand Lodge, in whose territory any one of these Bodies has been organized, has formally pronounced it illegal and clandestine.*

If one of the lodges in Washington, or a Master of one of them, should undertake to create a lodge in that State, or elsewhere, who would recognize it? And yet the law in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Pennsylvania in 1797 was precisely the same as the law in Washington now.

In our report of last year we stated:

"If one of these colored lodges were in existence in Washington to-day, and should ask to give in its adhesion to the Grand Lodge of Washington, and that Body should accept, and issue a charter to it, that lodge would thereby become, as to all the world, a regular lodge."

He, after erroneously intimating that this is a change from our position in 1876, quotes this and adds:

"Of course, such would not be the case, had the lodge and its members been '*clandestine*.'"

Such *would be the case*, however, for when any Grand Lodge grants a charter to individuals in its jurisdiction, all question as to the regularity of those individuals is foreclosed; if they were not regular, that act of the sovereign power having exclusive jurisdiction in the premises makes them so. It is passing strange that he will not see the difference between an act within the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge and an act *not* within its jurisdiction.

This is all in this *report* that calls for any notice; but we find a note which would not call for notice, considering the author of it, were it not published in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Washington as follows:

“Proceedings G. L. of Maine, 1899, Cor. Rep. p. 308, will be the reference, if the author of that report reproduces in the formal volume the matter contained in the advanced sheets which he printed and circulated throughout the U. S., in the Spring of 1899, for the purpose of misrepresenting the position of the Grand Lodge of Washington, deceiving masons as to facts, and alienating our brethren from us. In the octavo ‘signature’ which he circulated, there are more carefully concocted misrepresentations of fact than there are pages. That he will reproduce this matter, I do not doubt; for ever since he attracted the attention of R. F. Gould, by assisting—for a valuable consideration, and on condition his own name should be placed on the title page—an ‘enterprising’ publisher to pirate Gould’s History of Freemasonry, he has seemed desirous that what Gould said of Preston should apply to himself,—that ‘(to put it mildly) in all matters of a controversial nature, he laboured under a constitutional incapacity for exactitude of statement.’ In calculating to what extent he may safely carry brazen misrepresentation in his attempts to deceive and mislead the masons of America, he has accepted as an axiom the opinion of Sir Richard Burton, that, ‘Next to the Antiquary, in simplicity of mind, capacity of belief, and capability of assertion, ranks the Freemason.’”

The statement that we assisted in editing the American edition of Gould’s History “for a valuable consideration” is *utterly false*.

The statement that it was on condition that our name should be placed on the title page is *utterly false*.

The statement that the American edition was “pirated” is *utterly false*.

In justice to Bro. GOULD, and to Bros. THEO. S. PARVIN and the late ENOCH T. CARSON, whom this vile slander affects equally with us, we will say that when the original publishers of his history, who had full power in all matters relating to its publication, failed and threw the publication back upon Brother GOULD, he, in ignorance of what had been done by them in relation to its publication in America, did think that a wrong had been done to him by Brothers PARVIN, CARSON, and the writer, but when he came to understand the facts that his publishers had had such correspondence with the American publisher that legally entitled the latter to go on with his work in which he had already expended a large amount of money in getting subscribers, plates for portraits, &c., he changed his attitude towards Bros. PARVIN, CARSON and ourself, and became a steadfast friend to us, with whom he has maintained a most fraternal correspondence ever since.

This note is also an outrage upon Brother GOULD; as it, in effect, charges him with arrant hypocrisy; for upon his own motion, Bro. GOULD has recently prepared for the *Quatuor Coronati* a biographical memoir of the writer in a manner which would stamp him as a hypocrite, if there was even a tittle of truth in the charges in this note.

It is so inconceivable to us that any one could be led, even by his wounded self-love and bitter disappointment, in not obtaining expected and greatly coveted applause, to disgrace himself so utterly as the writer of this note has done, that we can only think that, when he penned it, he was laboring under—at least temporary—aberration of mind, and pity him accordingly.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1899.

The Proceedings proper are preceded by a portrait and biographical sketch of Bro. NEIL ROBINSON, the incoming Grand Master.

A large number of special communications were held for constituting lodges and laying corner stones.

At the annual communication there was a very full representation of the lodges and of the other Grand Lodges; among them, our representative, Bro. HUGH STERLING, answered for Maine.

The Grand Master, JOSEPH HALL, announced the death of Past Grand Master ALEXANDER M. EVANS, and paid a brief tribute to his memory.

He held that a lodge U. D. cannot waive jurisdiction over candidates under the old law relating to that class of lodges. We believe that the law, now generally prevailing, that lodges U. D. have all the powers of chartered lodges, except the election and installation of officers, is wisest.

He had granted a large number of dispensations and refused some. Among those granted were dispensations for three new lodges.

He announced quite a large number of decisions. Among them the following:

“That the stationed officers named in the charter of a lodge and installed into office at the institution of the lodge, must serve in said offices for at least one masonic year, although a by-law was adopted by the lodge fixing the time for holding its annual election but one month or more after its institution.”

We do not know as this question was ever raised in Maine, but the usage has been here that the officers named in the charter hold until the next annual election, whether within less than one year or not.

The following, perhaps, would not have been made were it not for the announcement of the contrary doctrine in Washington. But this decision is in accordance with the usage and law of all other Grand Lodges:

“That this Grand Lodge only recognizes brethren to be entitled to visit its lodges who are members of subordinate or Grand Lodges of the several

Grand Jurisdictions with whom this Grand Lodge is in fraternal correspondence."

He had decided that a person claiming to be a Master Mason made in Guatemala and holding a dimit issued by the Supreme Council of that jurisdiction, could not be admitted as a visitor for the reason given in the decision just quoted.

Various questions growing out of doubt as to the residence of candidates were decided by him, but none of them are of sufficient importance to call for notice.

Referring to the Washington matter, he says that he deemed it best to withdraw recognition, and thereupon notified Bro. JAMES R. HAYDEN, the Representative of his Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Washington, to that effect, and in reply received the following:

"M. W. and Dear Brother:—Your letter of the 14th inst., revoking my appointment as Representative of the M. W. Grand Lodge of West Virginia, near the Grand Lodge of Washington, was received to-day, and in reply I have to say that as I voted against the action of our Grand Lodge in regard to the recognition of 'negro masons,' which does not recognize them, I don't blame you, and I hereby tender my resignation as said representative, for the additional reason that I was not worthy of the honor conferred. Witness my silence for years as proof.

Yours fraternally,

JAMES R. HAYDEN, P. G. M."

He had also had a case relating to physical qualifications, and which he discussed at some length. It seems that in 1883 an edict was adopted leaving the decisions as to the question of physical qualifications entirely to the lodges, and apparently the lodges adopted substantially the rule that if the candidate can conform to the ritual he is eligible. Grand Master HALL objects to this, and earnestly advocates a repeal of the edict and the adhesion of the Grand Lodge to the Perfection Doctrine.

We have considered the points which he makes, in our discussion of this question under Pennsylvania and South Carolina.

Objections having been made to the installation of a Master elect, the installing officer appointed a committee to examine the complaint. The report was well grounded, and thereupon the installation was deferred for an indefinite time, and the lodge proceeded to give the party a trial, which the Grand Master held was not in accordance with the code, and that, in his opinion, the case should be sent back for a new trial.

He writes strongly and very earnestly against what he calls the unwarranted rule of rotation in office.

He calls attention to the fact that in that jurisdiction the ballot for advancement is by law based entirely upon the question of proficiency, but cases had often happened in which the candidate was rejected for other reasons, and he recommends that the rule requiring the ballot for advance-

ment be repealed, and that if there are objections other than those based on proficiency, they should be formulated in a charge and tried by the lodge.

He discusses other subjects at considerable length, but we have not time or space to consider them.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and District Deputies show that matters are moving on smoothly, and as a whole that a general degree of prosperity prevails throughout the jurisdiction.

The brethren of that jurisdiction raised, and the Grand Treasurer transmitted, \$500 to aid in the Washington Centennial Exercises.

A Lodge of Sorrow was held, in which tributes were paid to the memory of Past Grand Master EVANS.

We find that the Grand Lodge disapproved of his decision in relation to the tenure of office of the officers named in the charter of a lodge, and held in accordance with what we have stated is the practice in this jurisdiction.

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers made the following statement in regard to the reports of District Deputy Grand Masters:

“It is with pleasure that your committee reports that for the first time in the history of this Grand Lodge every D. D. Grand Master in this masonic jurisdiction have handed in their reports, which were before your committee, and we find from them that the craft is in a fine condition and compliment them for their zeal in the cause of Masonry in their respective districts. Although some of the reports evince an interest, yet some of them have not visited the lodges as our regulations require. District Deputy Grand Masters are supposed to be the eyes and ears of the M. W. Grand Master, and unless they send their reports to him by the time prescribed by law, in order for him to render his report to this Grand Body of the condition of the craft, we can have no knowledge of its condition throughout this Grand Jurisdiction.”

The time was when this would have been good reading for our own deputies, but those officers are now understanding more perfectly their responsible duties, and the importance of their making prompt reports.

The Grand Master having decided that he could not give a dispensation to shorten the time between the degrees, the Committee on Jurisprudence reported as follows and their report was adopted:

“By his decision that the Grand Master has not the authority to grant a dispensation to permit lodges to ballot on candidates at special communications, either for initiation or advancement, is a violation of the fundamental principles from which the Grand Master derives certain prerogatives to act for and in behalf of the Grand Lodge, when not in session to meet unforeseen emergencies. A Grand Master's prerogative can not be taken from him by any act of the Grand Lodge, but he is amenable to it for any abuse of his power. Just such emergencies as are stated in this decision frequently arise, and the prerogative has been exercised by the Grand Masters of this jurisdiction and approved by this Grand Lodge ever since its existence. We therefore dissent from this decision, because it is not nor never has been the law in this Grand Jurisdiction.”

The Grand Lodge had a struggle over what is called the Past Master's

degree, largely, we judge, on account of the name. The matter lies over until the next annual communication, for further action.

We find later on in the Proceedings the portrait, with a brief sketch of each of the brothers, JOHN M. McCONIHAY, Grand Lecturer, and GEORGE W. ATKINSON, Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

The Report on Correspondence (pages 280) was presented by the Grand Secretary. It is a carefully written report, but it is greatly injured by printing extracts and original matter precisely alike. Quotation marks are used, it is true, but at the same time it is difficult to follow them. In olden times these marks were used at the beginning of every line, but printers are using them more and more sparingly, until as a rule they are used only at the commencement of the quotation and at its end, no matter how long it may be. This report is an improvement over that, because each paragraph quoted commences with quotation marks.

In his review of Delaware, he thus speaks of the Grand Dieta of Mexico:

“I felt a good deal like my Brother Jackson for quite awhile; but of late I have changed my views somewhat on this subject. I am clearly of the belief that Brother Myers is correct in his expressed opinion. The drift certainly is strongly in the direction of general recognition. It cannot be denied that the Dieta has made two important steps in the way of general reform. That is to say, it has recalled its charters issued to female lodges, and has restored the Bible to its lodge altars. Or at least it has publicly resolved so to do. If these two pledges are faithfully carried out, the two main objections to its recognition by American Grand Lodges will have been removed. One other subject, however, must ever remain, viz: its composite origin. But there are too many precedents in this country of recognition by Free and Accepted Masonry of Grand Orient bodies, to keep the Gran Dieta down on that account alone. I must, therefore, say to my learned Brother Jackson that in my judgment Brother Myers was clearly right in the position he took upon this important subject.

“So far as I am personally concerned, I am simply waiting to see how faithfully the Dieta fulfills its promises, before I arrive at a conclusion in regard to the matter.”

We are very nearly in the same situation.

He gives a condensed abstract of the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge. In one respect we think that he misunderstands the situation. He says that the Grand Lodge library is making headway, but very slowly. When our brother understands that in Maine we limit our library to the Proceedings and Constitutions of masonic bodies, and text books, and that we have the most complete collection of such Proceedings in the country, with only two or three exceptions, and seek to add only books of this character that are published annually, he will agree that we are making headway as fast as can be expected. We do lack the *original* Proceedings of some of the Grand Bodies in their early history, but so many of these have been supplied with re-prints that our collection is already very complete.

Referring to the resolution thanking Grand Master LOCKE for the manner in which he performed his duties, he says:

"No one should be complimented for doing right and for doing his duty. The law of God requires every man to do right, and no one is entitled to the thanks of anybody for doing what every well meaning person expected him to do. I have always held, and always shall, that no man should be complimented for doing his duty, for the reason that good morals require right at his hands. The laws of God and man require every person to do his best for the betterment of the condition of his fellows. If he falls short of these requirements, he certainly falls short of duty. If he fails to do his duty, he should be censured. If, on the other hand he does his full duty, he is entitled to no praise. Bro. Locke did his full duty, and I as a mason compliment him for so acting. Nevertheless he did no more than was expected at his hands."

This is rather a new view of the matter, but of course it is practically correct, and perhaps the resolution should have been a recognition by the Grand Lodge that our Grand Master had faithfully performed his duties; really that is what was meant by the resolution which was adopted. We do not like to see the same old stereotyped resolution, passed year after year, and so the language of them is changed, but after all they mean the same.

He agrees with us in our suggestion that it is unwise and improper to require all amendments to the general laws to be submitted to the lodge before ratification, and also agrees in our suggestion that the offices of District Deputy and District Lecturer might well be merged in one, and he thinks the plan worth trying.

He refers to the cipher matter and thinks that the cipher business is on the wane; we hope so, but we have our fears that as long as so much stress is laid upon *doing the work correctly*, and the brethren generally get the idea that the perfect mason is the one who can do the work well, there will be a demand for these aids.

We reciprocate his feelings of pleasure at our meeting at the Washington Centennial. We had hoped to see more of him, but the day, including the night, was only twenty-four hours long in spite of the universal willingness that it might have been longer.

WISCONSIN, 1899.

The Grand Master, JAMES G. MONAHAN, in his able annual address, reports that peace and prosperity had prevailed during the year, and that there had been a growth showing an increase of 194, in spite of the exclusion of 284 for non-payment of dues.

He announced the death of Past Grand Master DAVID G. FULTON; and also of Bro. WILLIAM T. PALMER, for quite a number of years Grand Secretary, and an active mason till advancing years and increasing infirmities prevented; by the veterans in the service who knew him he was loved and

respected. We had the pleasure of his personal acquaintance, in former times, and he impressed us as the Grand Master says he impressed the brethren at home.

While opposed to the custom of granting dispensations to confer degrees, within the constitutional time, he had granted two, in the case of young soldiers, sons of masons, who had just reached twenty-one years of age, and were about to leave home; he believed that they should "carry into battle the shield of Masonry, if they desired it." He had refused to permit several officers to be balloted for in less than the usual time, because they were of mature age, comfortably fixed financially, and had for years resided in a city where there was a strong and active lodge.

We should think that these two illustrations of the use of the custom, to which he is opposed, would satisfy him that the custom is a good one if only exercised in proper cases, and we think that he would agree that the Grand Master ought to be presumed to be a judge as to whether a given case is a proper one or not. At any rate his action shows that *he* was.

He had had quite a number of applications for dispensations to change the jurisdiction in particular cases over candidates, but while the specific power is granted in the Constitution to dispense with the provisions of certain sections, a special exception is made "as to the jurisdiction of the lodge." He recommends that this exception be stricken out, and he gives the following reasons:

"First. It is a violation of the landmark, which gives the Grand Master the right to make a mason at sight.

"Secondly. It is indirectly a reflection upon the discretion and judgment of the Grand Master. He having power, under the Constitution, to dispense with any and all the other provisions of Sections 4 and 5, Article 10, why should his rights be abridged in this?

"Third. It works great hardship and injustice to many good men, notably ministers of the Gospel, railroad employees and commercial salesmen—men who come with the best of recommendations from communities in which they have lived, but whose vocation often compels them to move into another jurisdiction before they obtain the petitioners' rights in this."

He had revoked the order of non-intercourse with Peru, saying that very few lodges had obeyed the order of Grand Master DAM, although they ran the risk of having their charters revoked.

He declined to give a dispensation for an army lodge, and gives abundantly good reasons therefor.

Of the Eastern Star, he says, in part:

"During the past year I have made special inquiries from the brethren as to what effect the organization of chapters of the Eastern Star had in their respective lodges, knowing that some of our brethren viewed the growth of that order with alarm, fearing it would bring discord and jealousy into the lodges. Generally speaking, I can assure you that these fears have proven groundless, and, with a minimum of exceptions, the reports are all to the effect that not only is the Star prosperous, but that its organi-

zation has in every way been beneficial to Masonry. And why should it not? Who are eligible to membership in this order? Your brother masons; your mothers, who gave you birth; your sisters, companions of sweet childhood days; she who left father and mother, and knelt with you at matrimony's holy altar; and the daughters, who brought joy to your hearts and sunshine into your homes."

He decided that when the Grand Lodge of a sister jurisdiction arrests the charter of a lodge and suspends some of its members, the masons so suspended cannot be recognized in Wisconsin while under such sentence.

He made the following decision; the committee reported against it, and the Grand Lodge adopted the report:

"A sentence of suspension or expulsion from a lodge suspends or expels from all masonic bodies; and the members of a lodge, chapter, commandery or Consistory, who, knowingly, permit a mason, while under such sentence, to sit in their meetings, or converse upon the subject of Masonry with him, are guilty of unmasonic conduct, and can be disciplined by their respective lodges."

We presume that the decision was based upon the fact that the Grand Lodge recognizes the bodies named, as masonic bodies. To be such, their members must be masons in good standing, and therefore it necessarily follows that expulsion and suspension by the lodge deprives any party of the masonic character, which enables him to be a member of a body recognized as masonic.

Referring to some incidents in the history of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, he discusses forcibly the objects and aims of Masonry.

A brother from New Richmond, which had been destroyed by a tornado, had come to attend the Grand Lodge, but hearing the sad news had returned home before the Grand Lodge was opened. Thereupon the Grand Lodge voted to mark him as present and excuse him from attendance during the session.

Of a matter which has occasioned a great deal of thoughtful consideration, Grand Secretary LAFLIN says:

"There does not seem to be occasion to go to the cost of erecting—and the greater expense of maintaining—a masonic home in this jurisdiction for the few who would be found to avail themselves of its privileges. There should, however, be some provision for a fund to be used in emergent cases where no lodge seems to be directly responsible. I submit this subject for the consideration of some of our wise and philanthropic brethren, with the hope that some plan may be devised to keep up the good name of Wisconsin in the matter of dispensing masonic charity."

In too many jurisdictions this question is considered as one of sentiment and masonic charity, without regard to the considerations of a business character, which necessarily enters into the propriety of such an enterprise.

The Grand Lecturer, M. L. YOUNGS, makes an interesting report. He calls attention to the additions to, and embellishment of the work. Consid-

ering this an exceedingly important matter, we quote the following from his report:

"One of the most serious conditions in connection with the work is that some officers and brethren, although zealous masons, interested in promoting the welfare of the Institution and the maintenance of the landmarks and regulations, yet forgetful of the edict of Grand Master Jenks, have, by unauthorized additions and the introduction of literary excerpts or other matter foreign to the ritual and unknown to Ancient Craft Masonry, failed to maintain the requirements of the Grand Lodge, and thus—thoughtlessly, are doing much to destroy that standard of uniformity in the work which has so long been our boast. Some of these additions are selections from the versatile pen of Brother Rob. Morris; one in particular I recall as being a mixture of portions of two burial services to be found in the Trestle Board, a monitor published by Brother Chas. W. Moore of Boston—all beautiful in language and appropriate as embellishments for a masonic address or an obituary, but out of place in the conferring of a degree, as being entirely foreign to the ritual, and sometimes contrary to the spirit of its teachings and symbols. Comments have been freely made by brethren in all portions of the State as to the impropriety of the use of these selections, being a violation of the edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, which are supposed to be alike binding upon all.

"Some, in witnessing these renditions by well-skilled workmen and artists—with costumes, musical interludes and scenic effects—become so filled with a spirit of emulation that, not being content with copying after others, they would fain excel them by such literary selections and musical additions as in their opinion would better serve as embellishments to the work, claiming the same rights for themselves as had been assumed by others. In this way innovations are multiplied, the work corrupted and its uniformity destroyed. To such an alarming extent has the standard work of some jurisdictions been thus deviated from that stringent prohibitory regulations have been adopted."

We trust that our brethren will read it carefully and consider it in a true masonic spirit.

During the session a resolution was adopted for the appointment of a committee to make inquiry and report as speedily as possible what relief might be needed in consequence of the catastrophe at New Richmond. Later in the session it was announced that Past J. G. Warden J. B. Hicks had lost his life in the tornado, and a tribute was paid to his memory.

Referring to the recommendation of the Grand Master to strike out the exception to the provision of the Constitution which we have mentioned, the committee say:

"As to the recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master in his address, that Sec. 6 of Art. 3 be amended by striking out the words 'except as to the jurisdiction of a lodge,' a majority of the committee concur in that recommendation; but the committee is unanimous in the opinion that the section as it now stands does not contravene any ancient landmark."

Their recommendation was adopted.

A resolution was adopted, severing intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington until it should rescind its action complained of, but the Grand Secretary adds a note that he had received official information that when

this resolution was adopted the Grand Lodge of Washington had already receded from its position, so that masonic intercourse with that Grand Lodge would remain uninterrupted.

A Past Grand Master's jewel was presented to Past Grand Master NATHAN C. GRIFFIN in a very happy speech, according to the statement of the Grand Secretary, to which an appropriate speech was made.

Thereupon a jewel was presented to Bro. DAVID H. WRIGHT, who had been in attendance on the Grand Lodge for nearly fifty years, and had been for twenty years a trustee, "equal in value and as beautiful in design as those which are given to the Past Grand Masters." This jewel was ordered by the Grand Lodge a year ago, and we think that we noticed the action then, but it does no harm to repeat that we have known this brother by his services to the Grand Lodge, a great many years, and if ever a brother was deserving of such recognition this is emphatically such a case.

The committee on the New Richmond disaster, reported that they had as yet obtained but a meagre account of the facts, but that about all had been done that could be done to supply the necessities of the people in that ill-fated town. This had been done to such an extent that any aid of a temporary character by the Grand Lodge was almost unnecessary, but they recommended that the sum of five hundred dollars be appropriated and placed in charge of Bro. W. B. ANDREWS, who would undertake to distribute it personally where it was most needed, he to report in detail later to the Grand Secretary. The recommendation was adopted.

The regular committee on expenditures recommended that a circular be issued to the Master of each lodge in the jurisdiction, explaining the situation of the brethren at New Richmond, and suggesting that a fund be immediately raised and forwarded to the Grand Secretary, for relief, expressing the sense of the committee that each brother should pay into the fund a sum not less than one dollar. The money collected was ordered to be expended under the direction of the Grand Master and Trustees.

The following recommendation was also adopted:

"In the matter of foreign correspondence it is recommended that the sum of \$200 be appropriated to Brother Aldro Jenks, chairman of that committee, as recommended by the Grand Master, not as adequate remuneration for the time and labor bestowed by the brother, but to cover all expenses incurred by him for the past two years."

The consolidation of two lodges was authorized to be made in about the same manner as is provided in this state for that purpose.

The Report on Correspondence (136 pp.) was presented by Bro. ALDRO JENKS.

In his review of Maine he calls attention to the fact that we added a "c" to his name, which proves that accidents will sometimes happen, and if our making that mistake was not proof of it, we find another in the same para-

graph in which he calls attention to the fact we have just stated, for he says in that that he "dominates our address." We think we are about even, but we are "dominating" his report in the same manner as we did his address.

We quote with emphatic approval the following in relation to the non-payment of dues, and we find that the law in Wisconsin is practically the same as in Maine:

"Our opinion is that any lodge that would suspend an aged brother who for twenty years had been a consistent member of the lodge, and who though living twenty miles from it was always punctual in attendance upon its regular communications (as is stated in this case), for no other reason than that he was too poor to pay his dues and through illness could not attend its communications, does not deserve the name of masonic lodge. We do not believe, anyhow, in suspending a brother for non-payment of dues. In our judgment, the only penalty for the non-payment of dues should be exclusion from the benefits of the lodge and not suspension from the rights and privileges of Masonry. In Wisconsin, remaining excluded for non-payment of dues for the period of two years (unless the same is due to pecuniary inability), is made a masonic offence. Such a provision would have saved our Alabama brethren from being placed in an unpleasant predicament."

Referring to the California legislation in regard to non-affiliates, he sustains the view which we have heretofore presented, as follows:

"It is difficult for us to fittingly characterize our views concerning this California production without appearing discourteous to a sister jurisdiction, which we hold in high esteem. As we view it, no more unfair or unmasonic measure could be adopted regarding non-affiliates. Without the semblance of a trial, without any charge having been preferred against him, a brother is condemned unheard and made a masonic outlaw. His neglect to apply for affiliation may have been due to pinching poverty, which made him a fitting object of masonic charity rather than one who should be compelled to bear the general burdens of sustaining a lodge. During the six months he may have been confined upon a bed of sickness, rendering it physically impossible for him to apply for affiliation, but at the end of six months, without any procedure whatever, (according to this California doctrine), he loses all rights and privileges of Masonry, and his brethren, who should be sustaining him with their sympathy and assistance, are absolved from their masonic vows, and are under no obligations whatever toward him. When he recovers, he applies for affiliation in a masonic lodge and is rejected, and notwithstanding he has done all he can to comply with the rigid law of the jurisdiction in which he lives, he still remains a masonic outlaw, and not entitled to visit their lodges, receive masonic burial in case of death or hold masonic intercourse with his brethren."

There is one thing about this law; we presume no one would undertake to claim that the disability holds good any longer than the brother is in California.

Referring to the so called Past Master's degree, he quotes the following from the address of Grand Master ΑΝΤΩΝ, of New York in 1871, as the true rule, which it will be seen is in accordance with the views that we have been advocating, and if our brethren could only settle down to this we would have no more trouble in relation to this subject:

“What is commonly termed the Past Master’s degree as preliminary to the installation of the Master of a lodge, is not in any sense a degree, nor is the degree known under that name in Capitular Masonry, acknowledged in lodges of the rite of which this is the Grand Lodge. Therefore, in the installation of Masters in our lodges no brother can take any special part by reason of any degree conferred in a chapter. The ceremony intended by the term, Past Master’s degree, is simply the private imposition, in a certain traditional form, of an obligation suitable to the mastership by a Past Master, by actual election in a lodge, but in no case either by or in presence of brothers only Past Masters by virtue of a chapter degree.”

In his Review of Maine (1808) he quotes the decisions of Grand Master Locke, apparently with approval.

In reference to the Wisconsin proposition, he says:

“As an indication of the manner in which Grand Lodges that reject the Wisconsin proposition in theory approve of it in practice, we call attention to the following from the Grand Master’s address:

“It is the duty of the lodge to gather a charity fund, the income of which should be applied to help the unfortunate, but this will not relieve the members of a lodge from their individual duty. It is the duty of each lodge and its members to take care of and help its own, and the poor widows and helpless orphans of its deceased members so far as it and they can. No Lodge should come to the Grand Lodge for assistance unless it has done something according to its means and that of its members.”

“The implication from this is that there is some obligation resting upon a lodge different from that which rests upon an individual mason to care for its members in distress, and that in case of its inability so to do, the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter should come to its assistance. This is all that this Grand Lodge has ever contended for.”

Our Grand Lodge has a charity fund for the purpose of relieving destitute masons throughout the State. In the distribution of it the ability of the lodge is considered, and the Grand Lodge does not pretend even then to do all that the wants of a brother may require, but expends the income of its charity fund in relieving brethren, and goes no further, for that is the extent of its ability. The important distinction between the Wisconsin doctrine and the paragraph quoted by our brother, is that the former holds that a brother in distress is *entitled to have his full wants supplied, even to the extent of his full support*. The latter is, that lodges and individuals are bound to assist worthy distressed brethren, *but not beyond their ability to do so*. The distinction is all the difference between the relief given by modern societies, which is paid for, and the charity called for by our masonic duty, to wit: to aid a distressed worthy brother so far as we can do it without injury to ourselves.

He endorses the views expressed in our review in 1808, in relation to temperance legislation, very strongly.

He devotes over four pages to the discussion of physical qualifications, and he thinks he finds an inconsistency in our statement. Various brethren have quoted as a landmark, “every candidate must be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body,” stopping there; what we said was, and what

we now say is, that there is no such landmark as this which we have just quoted. The landmark that does exist is that a candidate "must be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a Brother," &c.

The difference between what these brethren have claimed to be the landmark, and the landmark, is precisely the difference between the doctrine of the perfectionists and the doctrine of those who, we say, maintain the correct doctrine.

We refer him for a reply to a large part of his argument to what we have already written under Pennsylvania and South Carolina. We want to call his attention to the fact that none of the old landmarks which he quotes say anything about "perfection." None of them require, as the Pennsylvania law is now said to be, that the candidate "must be perfect physically."

He says that he has been unable to find any qualifying clause, except in the edition of Anderson's Constitution, published in 1723, when for the first time the word "perfect," so far as our investigation shows, was first introduced into the landmarks. As already stated, we hold that this statement of the landmark, adopted in 1723 by the Grand Lodge of England, is the form of it which is binding upon us all. We understand that he is in error when he states that the second edition of Anderson's Constitution in 1738 was adopted by the Grand Lodge. We understand the fact to be just the reverse, that the Grand Lodge refused to sanction that edition and that it never was the authoritative law of that Grand Lodge, and moreover, as we have already stated, the clause in the Constitutions of 1723 is in substance the clause in the present Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England.

BRO. JENKS SAYS:

"We think we have answered all of Brother Drummond's objections except the one in which he asserts that the landmark, which he says has no existence, had a qualifying clause, making ability to conform to the ritual the test."

"We have been unable to find any such qualifying clause in any of the ancient charges (and we have examined many of them) or in any book of the Constitutions prior to the 19th century, except in the first edition of Anderson's Constitutions, published in 1723. This certainly did contain such a clause, but that the Grand Lodge of England was dissatisfied with it and felt that it was an innovation is evident by the fact that in the second edition of Anderson's Constitutions adopted in 1738 the qualifying clause was dropped, and the language which we have before quoted used instead."

Correcting his error, this precisely sustains our position. As the Grand Lodge of England *refused its sanction* to the 1738 Constitutions and continued to work under those of 1723, it follows that the qualifying clause was purposely retained, and that conclusion is strengthened by the fact that that Grand Lodge still retains the same clause in substance.

Our view is this, that when Anderson came to formulate the rule from the many various statements of it in the old manuscripts, he put it in a general form which should cover all cases (without going into details) and be in accord with the *reason* of the rule: in other words, to *codify the law* upon the subject. This is what he undertook to do: this is what he reported that he had done: and this is what the Grand Lodge approved. Thus it became the law, and rendered obsolete all other statements of it.

We believe with Bro. JENKS, that the test under the 1723 Charge, is ability to do all masonic work.

There are other matters in his report which we would be glad to notice, but as we have already stated, the time at our command obliges us to be brief.

We would like to review his very able discussion in relation to the Washington matter, but must be contented with stating his conclusion that "the action of that Grand Lodge is inexplicable."

WYOMING, 1899.

We have a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, J. M. RUMSEY, and of Past Grand Master F. E. ADDOMS, under a vote of the Grand Lodge to publish these portraits annually.

The Grand Lodge held a special communication to lay the corner stone of a new federal building at Cheyenne.

Grand Master RUMSEY, in his annual address, makes an eloquent allusion to the war, saying that in spite of that the year had been one of "astonishing and gratifying commercial and industrial prosperity," and his observation leads to the conclusion that their masonic prosperity had been equally marked.

He had refused some requests for dispensations and had granted others, thus, in our view, doing what the old law expects would be done.

He announced that he had written a letter to other Grand Masters in relation to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge. Several Grand Masters referred to this letter in their addresses and discussed the question somewhat, but we have purposely refrained from doing so until we came to the review of this address.

Of course, the result has been almost a universal objection to the plan proposed. The fact is, that the masons of the past century have gone so far in their application of the rules of the civil law to masonic law, that the proposition strikes them as a bad one. But we notice that the refusal to favor the plan was not based upon the idea that it would be bad for the craft, but that a particular Grand Lodge in question was not willing to surrender its sovereignty. Of course, the proposition is in keeping with the idea of the

universality of Masonry, and the further idea that the affairs of an institution ought to be administered by all those interested. What solely concerns a lodge should be left to the entire control of that lodge; what concerns a Grand Lodge alone should be settled by that Grand Lodge; but what concerns the whole fraternity, should be settled by the whole fraternity. Just as a Grand Lodge does not allow a lodge to violate the superior law, Bro. RUMSEY's idea is that a Grand Lodge ought not to be permitted to violate the superior laws binding on all Grand Lodges. Theoretically this is undoubtedly the correct view, but the Grand Lodges are so adverse to being controlled by any power, even when they are wrong, that practically our brother's proposition cannot be expected to receive favorable consideration. The only way in which a Grand Lodge can be led to abandon an unmasonic course, is by edicts of non-intercourse by the other Grand Lodges.

The Washington case illustrates this in all its phases. The question is asked, Shall a Grand Lodge be compelled to take any course which it is not willing to take of its own free will? The answer is, that when that course is in violation of the landmarks of Freemasonry or the rights of other Grand Lodges, it *ought to be so compelled*, and the history of the Washington matter illustrates this also.

Bro. RUMSEY refers to the Washington matter, and, having examined it, he referred the papers to the Grand Secretary, Bro. KUYKENDALL, who prepared a very able report, which was submitted in print, and is printed with the Proceedings as part of the Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master recommended the restoration of the system of Grand Representatives, but the Grand Lodge did not adopt the recommendation. We were hoping that it would, if for no other reason than because almost every Grand Lodge has that system; several of those which did abolish it, having re-established it.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodge are almost all of an entirely routine character, the Committee on Grievances having had nothing to do.

The Washington matter was referred to a special committee, which made a report touching the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1899, in which they state that that action is uncertain and rather unsatisfactory, and they say:

"Your committee regrets that the Grand Lodge of Washington did not see its way clear to simply and directly reconsider everything connected with its action of 1898, and remove all grounds of complaint and thus restore peace and harmony that should exist between regular masons everywhere instead of providing ways and means to evade and set aside such re-consideration which the recent report taken as a whole clearly establishes, as evidenced by the quotations cited herein and other language contained in said report.

"In view of the unsatisfactory contents of said report your committee feels constrained to offer the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Washington be and is hereby fra-

ternally requested to declare explicitly whether any man or body of men, whether white or black, claiming to be masons, held and declared to be clandestine everywhere in this country or by any Grand Lodge, are or will be permitted to visit or affiliate with any of its constituent lodges, or be recognized by the membership thereof as regular masons."

The report and resolution were adopted by a unanimous vote.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Bro. WILLIAM L. KUY-KENDALL, Grand Secretary. It was prepared under a burden of a very great affliction—the loss of his wife, who had been his companion in life for over forty years. Of it, he says:

"All my troubles since I become your reporter, when the time came for preparing my report were as naught compared to my present trouble and sorrow under which I undertook the preparation of this report. I have at all times endeavored not to intrude my troubles and sorrows upon my fellow men, knowing full well that all have troubles of greater or less degree of their own, and I trust that members of Grand Lodge and all others who may read what I write in this report under sore affliction and distress, will excuse me for this sorrowful preface to my labors as a reviewer. I could not help it. May each and every one of you be long spared the pain and sorrow of a like separation is the wish of one who if in the flesh can and will sincerely and fraternally sympathize with you in your day of distress and bereavement."

We know by experience that he will receive the fraternal sympathy of every brother throughout the masonic world.

After giving his special report on the Washington matter, he reviews very briefly the several Grand Lodges, among which we are sorry to see that Maine is not included.

In his review of Montana, he says:

"In all kindness to our brethren of that committee, and fraternal respect for the Grand Lodge that adopted it, we would like to ask when a right exists that cannot be enforced, and we frankly say if we were a member of a committee and a man demanded it as a right that he should see the charter before submitting to examination, we would interpose our objection to visitation, at the same time holding that a request to see it should be courteously acceded to if it does not interfere with the work of the lodge. The committee surely overlooked the fact that the average member would not know a legitimate from an illegitimate charter if he saw it, and if he visited a clandestine lodge and was hauled up for it, he could plead that he demanded as a right to see the charter, saw it, was satisfied and visited. Such lodges would readily accede to the demand as a right. We very much fear that the committee considered that every mason was as well posted regarding legitimate and clandestine lodges as the members thereof were or supposed to be. In our day masons, especially those who are posted, do not rely upon a sight of the charter as evidence of regularity, but determine the matter of regularity by and through other well known means before presenting themselves for examination or avouchment. It is time such nonsense termed a right, was relegated to the ash-barrel of oblivion, because it cannot be enforced against objection or the dictum of the Master."

He is entirely correct, simply on the grounds that a brother has not a right to "demand" to visit a lodge of which he is not a member. By the old law, it was made the duty of the visitor to request to see the charter if

he had any doubt as to the regularity of the lodge. The fact that a good many would be unable to determine from the inspection of a charter whether it was valid or not, does not touch the law at all. A proper warrant is necessary for the very existence of a lodge, and whether they have any warrant can be told by an inspection of it, and all this talk that in some cases persons would be unable to determine, is the merest nonsense. If upon such sight of the charter, the visitor was unable to determine whether it was a valid one or not, he ought to retire and not undertake to visit the lodge. The idea of the law was merely that, as a charter is necessary for the existence of a lodge, it was the duty of the visitor to ascertain whether it has a charter, and the question whether it was a legitimate charter or not is one that has grown up in more recent times.

In his review of Wisconsin, he says:

“On the subject of Physical Qualifications, in answer to our remark that he might ‘be able to dig up another landmark of operative origin and suitable to that organization, but not binding upon our speculative institution,’ he says: ‘We will refer him to what we have to say on this point in reviewing the Proceedings of Maine, and so dismiss the subject.’ Well, we examined his reply to Brother Drummond and find he obeyed our injunction to dig, and as we expected, he really did dig up one, yea, several, what he terms landmarks, all, however, having reference solely to operative masons as we predicted. Without threshing over old straw we would be pleased to have our worthy brother answer as to whether or not he believes in what are known as Anderson’s Constitutions, in which are included the old charges and old regulations. If so, whether he considers said charges to be landmarks, and if they are considered such by him, then we would like to know if they did not become the settled and unalterable law upon any point contained therein so far as speculative Masonry is concerned to the exclusion of everything else having any reference to the subject matter. There certainly cannot be more than one real landmark upon the same point. More than one would create confusion and uncertainty, and so thought Dr. Anderson when formulating the charges as he says from old records and documents. We have no idea our brother will answer the above questions specifically.”

He will have already seen that we hold that Dr. ANDERSON’S formulation of the Charges approved by the Grand Lodge, and published in 1723, is the one that is binding upon us, and that the perfection doctrine finds nothing to stand upon in connection with the landmark as thus formally approved.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1899.

We greatly regret that we are compelled to make our review of these Proceedings very brief. They contain so many addresses at Centennial Celebrations, and on other masonic occasions, that we could devote much space to them with benefit to the craft. But they are to be found in several Libraries in Maine, including two or three public Libraries, and we urge brethren to examine them, and thereby get much more information and instruction than any review can give.

When we come to the Proceedings in June, 1899, we are almost tempted to disregard the limitations of time and space, for they contain a most masterly exposition by Bro. SERENO D. NICKERSON, of the address of Bro. SASCHE to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which we reviewed last year, and have referred to in our review of Pennsylvania this year. No other man living is so conversant with this matter as Bro. NICKERSON, and we are glad for the truth of history, that he has put this address on record; and we commend it to all who favor having history speak the truth.

The great event of the year was the completion and dedication of the new Masonic Temple. The craft are under a great debt of obligation to Grand Master CHARLES C. HUTCHINSON for the almost wonderful service he has performed for the craft. But he will accept in full payments the affection and honor which the brethren of that Commonwealth will bestow upon him as long as he lives.

A fine portrait of him adorns the Proceedings.

His address is pre-eminently a business document. The record of his official acts, and especially of his visitations, makes us wonder how he could do so much. The following is a summary of his service in this respect:

“During the last three years I have kept the Feasts on nine anniversaries, performed the funeral services in memory of three Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge, laid the corner-stones of six buildings, dedicated four masonic halls, constituted one lodge, assisted at eleven centennial anniversaries, attended two District Exemplifications, and made eighty-three visits to lodges.”

The most important meeting of his Grand Lodge came on the evening before the Washington Centennial, so that he was unable to be present at the latter. In fact, he was delivering his annual address at the very moment the Grand Lodge of Virginia was receiving the Representatives of the other Grand Lodges. He appointed Bro. CHARLES H. ALLEN, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, as his representative. In this connection, Grand Master HUTCHINSON said:

“It seemed eminently fitting that we should mark our interest in the memorial services, which are attracting the attention of the whole country, by the contribution of some souvenir connected with the life and services of the immortal Washington within our own commonwealth. By the activity and zeal of R. W. Albert A. Folsom, we obtained a block of wood from the Washington Elm, so-called, under which Washington took command of the Continental forces on the third of July, 1775, in Cambridge. This block W. Bro. William F. Chester skilfully fashioned into the head of a gavel. The handle he formed from wood taken from the Old South Church, in Boston, and carefully preserved by him in his choicest stock. Both materials have become exceedingly scarce and precious, and together we trust they may form a welcome souvenir to be deposited in the archives of our sister Grand Lodge. A silver band around the centre of the gavel bears this inscription: Presented to the Grand Lodge of Virginia by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Dec. 14, 1899. Head from the Washington Elm, Cambridge, Mass.; Handle, from Old South Church, Boston.”

The gavel created quite a sensation, and we are sure that the Grand Lodge of Virginia will treasure it as a sacred relic.

He submitted the report of the Board of Directors, giving a full description of the Temple. In closing his address he says:

“Our institution was established here in a time of small things, measured by modern standards, and our fathers had small resources at their command; but their works and words still live as an inspiration to us of to-day, a power to call us to a truer life and give a larger scope to our energies. If we in our day exhibit as much of wisdom, of patient striving, of devotion to the principles of our institution as did our fathers, we shall have no reason to be ashamed of the record we shall leave. They had difficulties to overcome, adverse criticism even to persecution to encounter, but they had the spirit and qualities to meet and overcome them. Let it be our care that these qualities do not die out in their successors. The present has its claims upon us as had the past upon our predecessors. If the past be glorious and the present happy, how much more glorious and brighter may be the future if we wisely improve present opportunities. The golden age of our fraternity will not lie behind us if we remember that we are the inheritors of everything that has made our Order in the past worthy of the distinction it has enjoyed, and keep before our minds a high ideal of what our fraternity ought to be and a sense of the devoted service it demands from us, in order that its character, influence and benefactions may continue along the lines already laid down. Upon its past activities no human institution can long exist. While we wear the badges of Masonry, let us not neglect to use its working tools.”

The Temple was dedicated December 27, 1899, with services and addresses of the most interesting character.

The “Grand Feast” was celebrated as usual, and it was a “grand” feast indeed. But the speeches must be read to be appreciated. Past G. Master LÖCKE was present and spoke for Maine.

ENGLAND.

We have the Proceedings of the Quarterly Communications, June, September and December, 1899 and March, 1900.

The business was almost wholly of a routine character.

There has been a rule in the Book of Constitutions one hundred years or more, that the Masters and Wardens of every lodge in the London District, after installation, must sign their names in a book at the office of the Grand Secretary. Apparently they were not officially recognized until they had done so. On account of the inconvenience caused by this rule, a motion was made to expunge it, which, after considerable discussion, prevailed.

The case of the Cambrian Lodge in New South Wales was again before the Grand Lodge. When the Grand Lodge of Australia was formed there was a division in this lodge upon the question of joining the movement: the vote stood ten to ten, and the Master gave the casting vote in the affirmative, and the warrant was handed in to the new Grand Lodge in 1888. But in

some manner the discontents got possession of the charter in 1893, and in 1894 held a meeting, although there was no Master, Past Master or Warden present, and elected other members, among them some Past Masters, and from these filled the offices, and then went on with the regular work of a lodge. In 1893, the Grand Lodge, under the rule then existing, resolved that the minority was entitled to recognition as the Cambrian Lodge. The meeting above referred to took place afterward. The matter came before the Board of General Purposes, which adopted the following:

“That this Board, while regretting the irregularities which have occurred in the Cambrian Lodge of Australia, No. 656, from June, 1894, and the cause thereof, acknowledges the great emergency under which those irregularities were committed, and resolves to recognize the several elections and initiations of members, elections and installations of Worshipful Masters, appointments of officers, and other acts necessarily supervening thereon, and confirms in their respective rank and past rank all such Masters and officers. All returns by the said lodge to be recognized in the usual course.”

The matter came before the Grand Lodge on confirming the minutes. Lord CARRINGTON, Past Grand Master of New South Wales, desired to be heard, but it was ruled that the action of the Board was final, there having been no appeal.

Nevertheless, the Deputy Grand Master presiding, as a matter of courtesy, allowed Earl CARRINGTON to speak. He was decidedly of the opinion that the maintenance of that lodge was of “the most absolute and vital importance as concerning the welfare of the craft.” He gave a brief history of the differences which had been settled after great effort. He regarded the recognition of the Cambrian Lodge “as the most unfortunate thing that could have happened.”

In conclusion, he said:

“I do most deeply deplore and regret the decision which has been come to. I do not say that you are not right, or that what you have done is not most legal. There is no accusation or charge against anybody. I have no doubt that everything has been done that ought to be done; but I do say this, that this lodge, after it got its warrant back, was guilty of grave irregularities. Those grave irregularities have occurred, but the Board of General Purposes has condoned them. They say that, owing to the difficulties that there were, they excuse these irregularities, and they have recognized this lodge and sent out certificates to the brethren, and have returned the lodge on the register as No. 656 among the lodges of England. The agenda paper says this is a way out of the difficulty, and a troublous matter has been swept away. I claim to know the feeling of Australia, and I think that grave troublous times are yet to come in the future if I do not misunderstand the feeling of the Colony, and I fear this may be the beginning of dark and troublous times which may destroy and upset the *entente cordiale* which has hitherto existed and which I do not wish to see impaired. I cannot say anything more. It has been done; the Board of General Purposes has put this matter before us and says that all has been done that can be done, and it has to be ratified. I should have thought it was a matter which Grand Lodge and not the Board was to decide. It remains for me

only to say that I think I should have been guilty of gross cowardice towards the brethren in Australia if I had not risen to place my views before you in regard to what has been done. I think it is a mistake, and that it is likely to lead to grave consequences, but I cannot but pray the Great Architect of the Universe that there may yet be found a *modus vivendi*. This Cambrian Lodge I do not think numbers more than thirty or forty members, but I do hope that the friendship of the new Grand Lodge towards this country may not be impaired. Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, I have to thank you and the Grand Lodge for having allowed me—although out of order—to make this statement; but, representing as I do the Colony of New South Wales, I could not allow such a grievous mistake as this to be made without some notice on my part. I again thank yourself, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge for the patience with which you have listened to me."

But the Grand Lodge acquiesced in the proposition that the action of the Board was final.

One brother cited the lodge in Nova Scotia as a parallel case: but it will be seen from our review of Nova Scotia that it is not, because that lodge limits its candidates to *Englishmen temporarily residing in the Province*, while Cambrian Lodge claims the same jurisdiction as the other lodges.

Under the new rules, twenty lodges in New Zealand, which had decided to place themselves under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, were erased from the rolls.

At the December communication, one thousand guineas were appropriated to the Transvaal War Fund, to be distributed under the direction of the Board of Benevolence.

By a message from the Grand Master, at the March communication, the following resolution (with others to carry it into effect) was presented:

"That a fund be raised from which the several District Grand Lodges under the English Constitution in South Africa may be assisted to relieve the distresses of their loyal members occasioned directly by the war in that quarter."

A question was asked as to the meaning of the word "loyal," and the Grand Registrar said:

"I may say that the word 'loyal' in the resolution undoubtedly refers to loyalty to the British Crown as well as loyalty to the craft. In no other sense could the word have been submitted to or approved of by our Grand Master. That is the sense in which it is proposed to deal with the matter when brought before the Board of General Purposes; and I have no doubt that the instructions sent out by the Board will include one, that the recipient in each case shall be a Freemason, who, at the outbreak of the war, was a subscribing member of some lodge in the relieving district, and who has remained loyal to the British Crown. (Cheers). This, of course, is not to fetter the discretion of the relieving districts as to the wives or children of deceased brethren who would otherwise have been eligible. (Hear, hear.)"

The following was another of the resolutions:

"That the sum of One Thousand Guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to the 'South African Masonic Relief Fund' in accordance

with the foregoing message of His Royal Highness, the Most Worshipful Grand Master.”

The Grand Lodge then appropriated one thousand guineas for this fund.

Complaint was made by the Grand Director of Ceremonies that members of the Grand Lodge came in wearing the clothing of honorary rank in other Grand Lodges, claiming precedence accordingly, and that he had given instructions to prevent the admission of English members not properly clothed. The Board of General Purposes sustained him. When the matter came before the Grand Lodge, questions were raised which called out the following from the Grand Registrar:

“I would advise Grand Lodge that the letter of the Grand Director of Ceremonies is strictly in accordance with our Constitutions. A brother who has got a rank conferred on him—I do not care whether it is by work or whether it is honorary—in some other jurisdiction, coming here as a visitor, would be received as a visitor if he were invited by Grand Lodge—and no one can enter this Grand Lodge without an invitation, unless he be a member of it—with the honours due to his rank as a visitor. But if he was before, or becomes afterwards, a member of the Grand Lodge of England, he is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England while he is within that jurisdiction, and he is bound by the Constitutions of the jurisdiction he is under. Our Constitutions declare what the order of precedence shall be, as given by the Grand Master, and that is his prerogative; and when brethren of our English Constitution obtain honours in another jurisdiction, they are entitled to those honours in the other jurisdiction; but if they come within the jurisdiction of the English Grand Master and work here, they must work according to the Constitutions of England, under which a brother can not be admitted to Grand or subordinate lodges unless he has on the proper clothing of this jurisdiction, and that proper clothing is prescribed by our Constitutions. I am sure the Grand Lodge does not want me to dwell long on this subject as we have a great quantity of work to do. I want to put it as plainly and concisely as possible. If we were to admit that the brethren of another jurisdiction, who were under our jurisdiction also, could come into our Grand Lodge with the Grand Lodge clothing of that foreign jurisdiction (that is the way to test it), we should be doing wrong. I myself am a Past Grand Warden of Kansas, but I would not come here in the clothing of that body, although in Kansas I could wear that clothing, and if I came here simply as a visitor from Kansas I should come as a Past Grand Warden of Kansas. It is quite a different thing when our own brethren come in with Past Grand Wardens’ or Past Grand Chaplains’ or Past Grand Deacons’ clothing obtained from another Grand Body, and take their place above a Past Grand Warden, Past Grand Chaplain or Past Grand Deacon to whom the Grand Master of England, our Masonic Sovereign, has accorded precedence. Such a brother would be taking rank and precedence in this Grand Lodge of which he was a member, by reason of honour conferred by an outside power. It only requires to be put forward in plain language to show the absurdity of the claim. I think this letter has gone forth to the whole of our lodges. I feel satisfied, as the Constitutional adviser of Grand Lodge, that this letter is perfectly in order, and that a brother who comes from a foreign jurisdiction—I do not use it in an offensive sense—can only wear that clothing as a visitor from that Grand Lodge, and not when he is a member of a lodge under the English Constitution.”

If the clothing worn settles the question of precedence, the ruling is correct: but we have always supposed that a brother may wear the decoration

of honorary rank as a courtesy to the Grand Lodge bestowing it, but that his precedence is settled by his rank in his own Grand Lodge.

Very important and interesting action was taken in relation to Western Australia. There were 34 English lodges there: they had met and formed a Grand Lodge and asked recognition, which was accorded after quite a debate. During the discussion it was stated that if recognition was accorded, no new lodges would be chartered, but such lodges as chose to adhere to the mother Grand Lodge would be sustained in so doing.

There are 28 Scottish lodges in the territory, and they were invited to join with the English lodges, but not having in their Constitutions the provisions that have recently been adopted in England, on that account solely, they declined to join in the movement. It is expected, however, that a union will be formed at an early day.

But it seems that other parties claimed that they had formed a Grand Lodge, and they asked for recognition, which was denied.

It was stated that all the Australian Grand Lodges had refused to recognize it.

As probably an application from some of these Grand Lodges, for recognition, will be made, we refer thus briefly to the matter in order to put on record so much of the action of this Grand Lodge as will enable us to refer to it, when the time comes.

IRELAND.

We have the usual Circular from the Grand Lodge of Ireland for 1899 and the one of 1900; they give lists of Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Lodges (fifteen in number), Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges (in which Maine is not included), names of members struck from the roll (224 in 1898, and 153 in 1899), names of brethren restored (5 in 1898, and 14 in 1899), and other particulars chiefly of a financial character. Nine charters were granted and one restored in 1898; eight were granted and two surrendered in 1899. One brother was expelled and six suspended in 1899.

The lodges number up to 1000, but there are many vacant numbers: new lodges receive numbers of demised lodges. Among the lodges are two military lodges; two in West Australia, nineteen in Queensland and five in New Zealand, and in the two latter are Provincial Grand Lodges.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

We have in one pamphlet the Proceedings for the year ending June, 1899.

Quite a number of special communications were held, but most of the business was of a routine character.

In our review of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England, we gave some account of its action in relation to the Cambrian Lodge in New South Wales. The following shows that our English Brethren were in error in their claim that their action would produce no dis-sension, in spite of the warning of Lord CARRINGTON:

“The attention of the Board was directed to a statement appearing in the daily press to the effect that the ceremony of Installation had been carried out by prominent member of this Grand Lodge, and the brother in question was asked to explain his action in the matter. A reply was received to the effect that he was not aware until after the ceremony was over, that the lodge was not recognized by this Grand Lodge. The explanation was accepted by the Board, and the following resolution was adopted:

“‘It having been brought to the knowledge of the Board of General Purposes that brethren of this Grand Lodge have attended the meetings of a certain body styling itself a masonic lodge, but which is not legally constituted, the Board hereby recommend that the following imperative notice be issued to the craft:

“‘That, whereas upon the establishment of this Grand Lodge all pre-existing warrants were cancelled; and

“‘That this Grand Lodge claims sovereign jurisdiction in this territory, and no other body has granted or has the right to grant, a warrant for a masonic lodge in New South Wales;

“‘Therefore any body of persons in New South Wales, claiming to be a masonic lodge, and not holding a warrant from this Grand Lodge, or being upon its Registry, is an irregular body.

“‘Any brother visiting such a body, or any W. M. admitting a member of such a body to his lodge, shall—upon his conduct being reported to the Board—be called upon to show cause why he should not be punished for a breach of clause 13 of the Ancient Charges and Regulations, and clauses 65 and 130 of the Book of Constitutions.’”

Of course, the American Grand Lodges will recognize this action and govern themselves accordingly.

The Inspector of Workings made quarterly reports, showing that he had visited most of the lodges, and as a whole, he reports that the work was well done, although in many cases too little attention was paid to minor details.

The whole proceedings show the prevalence of harmony, the administration of masonic affairs with ability and skill, and the practical exemplification of masonic principles.

The Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, Bro. JOHN B. TRIVETT, submitted a general report in addition to his review of the several Grand Lodges: in his general report he refers to the Washington matter; he expresses no opinion; but the deliverance of his Grand Lodge *in re* the Cambrian Lodge settles the whole question.

If one of the members of that lodge should visit an adjoining jurisdiction and apply to the Grand Lodge for permission to visit, and that body should accept the report of a committee holding that, in spite of the action of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, Cambrian Lodge is a lawful lodge and

its members entitled to visit, and the Grand Lodge should further say by resolution to its subordinates, that it saw no reason why they should not be admitted, the precise question would be brought home to the Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

We are glad to find that Bro. TRIVETT was appointed Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Master saying of him:

“Few of us know how much time by day and night he has devoted to masonic work. Of his eminent literary services, especially on the Board of Foreign Correspondence, you have all had evidence; and the Revised Book of Constitution bears traces of his hand on almost every page, while the extremely onerous task of compiling its Table of Contents has been the work of him alone. I rejoice to find by your applause that you endorse my choice. I thank you most sincerely for the honour you have conferred upon myself, and I rely upon you all to continue your co-operation so that we may have a happy and successful year.”

The Grand Master delivered an exceedingly interesting address of a historical character, made more interesting by the fact thus stated by him:

“We stand to-night at the parting of the ways. The line of what may be styled Hereditary Grand Masters has ended, and you have for the first time chosen as chief ruler one of yourselves; a partner in the struggle for independence and unity which ended by the formation of our Grand Lodge in 1888; one who had a large share of the work of framing its articles of union, and who has ever since been a loyal and faithful adherent to the Constitution thus framed.”

The preceding Grand Masters had been the Governors of the Colony.

The total membership is 7164 against 6847 the year previous.

The Report on Correspondence is a very carefully prepared abstract of the salient matters in the Proceedings reviewed.

NEW ZEALAND.

At the annual communication in 1899 a large amount of routine business was harmoniously transacted.

We note the following:

“In reply to an application from the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England forwarded a copy of a resolution passed by his Grand Lodge, stating for its object ‘the preservation of the rights and privileges of minorities;’ ordering that lodge warrants are not to be cancelled until the expiration of three months from the date of receipt by the Grand Secretary. Your Board is of opinion, and has replied, that this resolution is opposed to the clause of the Terms of Recognition, which says that ‘a majority of two-thirds of the brethren present shall be required to enable the lodge to tender its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand,’ and consequently, in such cases, there can be no ‘rights and privileges of minorities’ that need preservation.”

The resolution referred to grew out of an attempt made by the opponents

of recognition in the Grand Lodge of England to keep alive the English lodges, even by as few as five of the old members. But this question was recently raised, and the Grand Registrar replied that if the lodge voted by a two-thirds vote to go with the new Grand Lodge, that ended it, the inference being that there were no longer any "rights and privileges of minorities" to protect.

There is no Report on Correspondence, save the acknowledgement by the Grand Secretary of the receipt of Proceedings and other documents: Maine is credited with three copies and the Masonic Token.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents show a very satisfactory condition of affairs. The membership had increased from 4,543 to 4,916, with 115 lodges on the roll.

At the semi-annual communication, Oct. 31, 1899, much routine business was transacted.

It had been proposed to change the name of Grand Superintendent to "District Grand Master," but it was proposed to amend by making the title "District Deputy Grand Master," and in consequence action was postponed to the next annual session of the Grand Lodge.

The following was adopted *in re* the Washington Centennial:

"Your Board, not having heard of any distinguished brother who is likely to attend the above celebrations, has resolved to ask our Grand Representative at the Grand Lodge of Virginia, M. W. Bro. R. M. Page, to especially convey the congratulations of our Grand Lodge on that occasion."

Complaint had been made to the Board by the Irish Provincial Grand Master, that the New Zealand lodges had refused to recognize brethren from Victoria Lodge, an Irish lodge, and this action is stated:

"The Board had debarred the brethren, under its jurisdiction in Southland, from visiting Lodge Victoria, but a vast amount of new and important evidence having been forwarded by the Grand Superintendent of Southland, and the Board having carefully gone through it, it was decided to remove the interdict. This will, no doubt, have the effect of restoring harmony among the brethren of the various constitutions in Southland."

The following raises a new question of decided importance and interest:

"A complaint was received from a brother *re* the action of the authorities of another Constitution in erasing his name from the books of the Provincial Grand Lodge and expelling him from Freemasonry for taking part in the formation of Grand Lodge, and inducing his lodge to join the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

"This case was brought before Grand Lodge at its Communication in Auckland in November, 1890, by M. W. Bro. Malcolm Niccol, Grand Superintendent of Auckland; and a promise was given to the brother that when this Grand Lodge was recognized by the Grand Lodge in question his case would be represented to that body. The Board has taken steps in the matter."

If the brother, with his lodge, came under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand before his expulsion, his old Grand Lodge lost jurisdiction over him, and his expulsion was void and ought not to be recognized.

We were hoping to find a statement of the numbers of lodges in the territory of this Grand Lodge holding under other Grand Lodges.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

This Grand Lodge holds two communications during the year. Routine business, harmoniously transacted, occupied the attention of its members.

Two new lodges had been created. Fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Peru was resumed.

The Grand Master had been seriously ill, and he was most earnestly congratulated upon his recovery.

The Grand Inspector reported that he had not been able to visit all the lodges, but that all he had visited, were carrying out the ritual in a manner that reflected credit on the officers.

The Grand Lodge paid from its Benevolent Fund over \$700 to brethren and widows of their own lodges, and over \$1,200 to brethren hailing under other Grand Jurisdictions.

The membership had increased from 2,332 to, 2,405.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	G. Lodges. 1900.	Totals. 1900.	G. Lodges 1899.	Totals. 1899.	G. Lodges. 1998.	Totals. 1898.
Members,	57	854,209	57	827,740	57	817,009
Raised,	57	46,175	55	40,131	57	42,337
Admissions, &c.,	55	21,325	56	20,667	55	20,013
Dimissions,	56	16,603	56	16,647	56	16,203
Expulsions,	54	335	55	383	54	471
Suspensions,	40	262	38	332	37	329
" npt dues,	56	16,844	56	19,342	56	19,406
Deaths,	56	13,507	56	12,493	57	12,678

STATISTICS.

We append our usual table.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Susp'd for non-payment of dues.	Died.
Alabama,.....	11,291	639	756	409	12	25	362	255
Arizona,.....	735	48	30	16	1	1	15	11
Arkansas,.....	12,863	610	478	390	23	12	362	310
British Columbia,.....	1,639	139	98	57	0	0	24	20
California,.....	20,442	1,388	455	400	6	0	400	413
Canada,.....	24,057	1,580	599	579	0	9	553	312
Colorado,.....	7,974	422	328	144	3	.....	*101	118
Connecticut,.....	17,446	718	139	66	5	2	172	214
Delaware,.....	2,235	93	15	18	0	.....	*1	30
Dist. of Columbia,.....	5,579	351	149	57	0	0	75	107
Florida,.....	4,321	243	300	203	4	.....	*192	91
Georgia,.....	19,332	1,107	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Illaho,.....	1,143	64	38	37	2	.....	*50	21
Illinois,.....	55,120	2,928	1,216	1,122	20	.....	*1,161	879
Indiana,.....	30,901	1,791	817	659	27	20	474	487
Indian Territory,.....	3,025	298	274	231	7	.....	*113	72
Iowa,.....	28,430	1,496	768	835	10	8	678	357
Kansas,.....	20,740	1,297	798	688	8	.....	*365	278
Kentucky,.....	18,790	1,376	901	651	22	.....	*821	352
Louisiana,.....	5,962	416	159	150	2	.....	*164	131
Maine,.....	22,277	764	194	182	0	0	279	400
Manitoba,.....	2,870	242	122	112	0	1	55	26
Maryland,.....	8,021	534	71	152	0	1	100	90
Massachusetts,.....	39,871	1,734	275	363	0	0	405	628
Michigan,.....	41,917	2,098	925	449	11	.....	*352	657
Minnesota,.....	16,401	918	490	448	2	0	289	187
Mississippi,.....	8,748	550	371	259	8	9	325	222
Missouri,.....	32,153	1,589	1,139	766	27	39	781	576
Montana,.....	3,000	199	111	61	1	3	61	43
Nebraska,.....	11,948	518	368	310	3	.....	*268	132
Nevada,.....	814	19	27	22	1	2	7	26
New Brunswick,.....	1,778	95	28	38	0	.....	*43	30
New Hampshire,.....	9,240	304	19	77	0	0	41	189
New Jersey,.....	17,386	1,025	303	196	2	2	383	330
New Mexico,.....	922	62	32	28	1	1	13	19
New York,.....	98,180	5,774	1,990	898	22	0	2,318	1,589
North Carolina,.....	11,360	673	402	230	11	32	228	168
North Dakota,.....	3,169	337	71	123	1	0	38	23
Nova Scotia,.....	3,397	224	73	101	0	2	73	58
Ohio,.....	44,201	2,677	1,519	712	16	6	1,402	707
Oklahoma,.....	2,130	194	151	89	4	.....	*49	28
Oregon,.....	5,143	288	205	110	1	0	88	78
Pennsylvania,.....	53,446	2,773	570	334	.....	.....	†772	861
P. E. Island,.....	526	17	6	16	0	0	2	5
Quebec,.....	3,668	188	51	90	0	0	74	39
Rhode Island,.....	5,220	205	33	12	0	0	73	96
South Carolina,.....	6,056	357	.....	185	.....	.....	176	117
South Dakota,.....	4,437	209	102	161	1	1	58	50
Tennessee,.....	17,221	744	588	565	22	27	346	369

GRAND LODGES.	M.	R.	A. & R.	W.	E.	S.	S. for n p. d.	D.
Texas,.....	31,334	1,296	1,453	1,448	30	34	688	531
Utah,.....	867	68	42	22	0	0	16	13
Vermont,.....	10,166	439	103	134	2	...	*93	185
Virginia,.....	12,836	622	332	423	4	4	202	218
Washington,.....	4,949	309	310	126	1	3	138	53
West Virginia,.....	6,567	350	152	158	4	6	140	81
Wisconsin,.....	17,421	737	353	318	7	12	286	225
Wyoming,.....	1,044	42	27	33	1	0	10	12
Total,.....	854,209	46,175	21,325	16,603	335	262	16,844	13,507

* Including suspensions for unmaasonic conduct.

† Including expulsions.

‡ Same as last year.

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

The following Table gives the Proceedings reviewed, the date and length of the annual communication, and the page of these Proceedings upon which the review of each commences.

Grand Lodge.	Date and Length of Annual Communication.	Page.
Alabama,	December 5 and 6, 1899,	1
Arizona,	November 14 to 16, 1899,	6
Arkansas,	No Communication in 1899,	9
* British Columbia,	June 22 and 23, 1899,	9
California,	October 10 to 14, 1899,	15
Canada,	July 19 and 20, 1899,	23
Colorado,	September 19 and 20, 1899,	29
Connecticut,	January 17 and 18, 1900,	33
Delaware,	October 4 and 5, 1899,	37
District of Columbia,	November 9, 1899,	41
Florida,	January 15 to 18, 1900,	44
Georgia,	October 31 to November 2, 1899,	47
Idaho,	September 12 to 14, 1899,	50
Illinois,	October 3 to 5, 1899,	54
Indiana,	May 23 and 24, 1899,	67
Indian Territory,	August 8 and 9, 1899,	76
Iowa,	June 6 to 8, 1899,	81
Kansas,	February 21 and 22, 1900,	89
Kentucky,	October 18 and 19, 1899,	94
Louisiana,	February 12 to 14, 1900,	102
Manitoba,	June 14 and 15, 1899,	106
Maryland,	November 21, 1899,	109

Massachusetts,	December 27, 1899,	278
Michigan,	January 23 and 24, 1900,	111
Minnesota,	January 17 and 18, 1900,	122
Mississippi,	Proceedings not received.	
Missouri,	October 17 to 19, 1899,	127
Montana,	September 20 and 21, 1899,	132
Nebraska,	June 7 to 9, 1899,	139
Nevada,	June 13 and 14, 1899,	143
New Brunswick,	August 22 and 23, 1899,	145
New Hampshire,	May 17, 1899,	147
New Jersey,	January 24 and 25, 1900,	154
New Mexico,	October 3 and 4, 1899,	158
New York,	June 6 to 8, 1899,	160
North Carolina,	January 9 to 11, 1900,	168
North Dakota,	June 20 and 21, 1899,	172
Nova Scotia,	June 14, 1899,	175
Ohio,	October 25 and 26, 1899,	181
Oklahoma,	February 14 and 15, 1899,	186
Oklahoma,	February 13 and 14, 1900,	190
Oregon,	June 14 to 16, 1899,	192
Pennsylvania,	December 27, 1899,	196
Prince Edward Island,	June 26, 1899,	216
Quebec,	Proceedings not received.	
Rhode Island,	May 15, 1899,	218
South Carolina,	December 12 and 13, 1899,	223
South Dakota,	June 13 and 14, 1899,	229
Tennessee,	January 31 and February 1, 1900,	234
Texas,	December 5 to 7, 1899,	238
Utah,	January 16 and 17, 1900,	242
Vermont,	June 14 and 15, 1899,	245
Virginia,	December 13 to 15, 1899,	250
Washington,	June 13 to 15, 1899,	258
West Virginia,	November 15 and 16, 1899,	263
Wisconsin,	June 13 to 15, 1899,	267
Wyoming,	December 13, 1899,	275
England,		280
Ireland,		284
New South Wales,		284
New Zealand,		286
South Australia,		288
Victoria,		240

CONCLUSION.

In closing our Report we have to regret the non-receipt of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Mississippi and Quebec, and also that we have been obliged to hurry through some of the Proceedings near the end of our list, or else delay the issue of the Proceedings several weeks.

We must also forego our proposed investigation of the *status* of masonic affairs in Cuba.

The year has been one of general prosperity; the increase in membership is larger than for several years: and, save the Washington matter, a very great degree of harmony has prevailed.

The Washington matter is fast becoming settled; we have been confident that in spite of the bitter talk of a few men, the large mass of the craft in this jurisdiction are in accord with their brethren elsewhere, and there will be no more occasion for complaint, and we are now more confident than ever that such is the case. We hope the Grand Lodges which have not repealed the edict of non-intercourse, will do so at their next session. We have abundant reason to believe that the efforts of the authors of this mischief to make their Washington brethren believe that the edicts of non-intercourse were prompted by hostility to them, or by an intention to "draw the color line," or were an attack on the sovereignty of the Grand Lodge of Washington, have ceased to have any effect: and that our Washington brethren will be found ready to maintain on all occasions the inherent right of a Grand Lodge to exclusive jurisdiction in its own territory, including the right to determine, for the whole world, the *status* of any body claiming to be a lodge situate in its territory, and of every person claiming to have been made a mason therein.

Of the effect of the Washington Centennial Observance, we have already spoken. But we desire to repeat that in our judgment, no other event has happened in the century just closing that has so greatly strengthened the bonds of Brotherhood among the craft.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, }
 EDWARD P. BURNHAM, } *Committee*
 ALBRO E. CHASE, }

② Appendix ②

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

→ 1901 ←

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence herewith fraternally submits its annual report :

ALABAMA, 1900.

The Grand Master, B. DUDLEY WILLIAMS, opens his address with an eloquent comparison of the work of operative and speculative Masonry, having special reference to their continued existence, and calling attention to the fact that the most famous works of operative Masonry in time crumble to dust, while the real work of speculative Masonry in its effect is immortal.

Of the condition of the craft, he says :

“ Since we last met, the manifestations of Divine favor towards us and our beloved Order have indeed been marked. Peace has reigned in the subordinate lodges throughout our Grand Jurisdiction. The craftsmen have diligently pursued their labors, faithfully adhering to the ancient landmarks and to the designs of their overseers. I feel confident that the records of the Grand Secretary's office will show a satisfactory increase in numbers, although this is but an inferior test, by no means conclusive of the Order's true progress. With no flare of trumpets, with no appeals from paid agents or deputies, with no gathering-in by persistent persuasion, of indiscriminate material, our numbers have been augmented—nine flourishing lodges have been organized, and our faithful sentries have guarded carefully our thresholds against material unfit for the Builder's use.”

He had rendered an unusually large number of decisions, which he reports, but which the Committee on Jurisprudence wisely requested further time to

consider, so that no report was made thereon at this session, and will not be until the next session.

Several of them related to what we understand to be a new provision in their Constitution, patterned somewhat upon a similar provision in Pennsylvania. It would seem that a candidate may apply to any lodge in the jurisdiction, and that lodge is required to ask of the lodge in whose jurisdiction the candidate resides, "if it knows of good and sufficient reason why the applicant should not be made a mason." But one of the decisions was to the effect that an affirmative reply does not stop the candidate but simply calls for more thorough and unprejudiced investigation by the committee, and the committee should not report favorably until satisfied that the reasons are not sustained by the facts. We should judge that practically this allows a candidate to apply to any lodge he pleases, and that the ceremony of inquiry amounts to very little.

He decided that a lodge which initiates a candidate known to have been rejected by another lodge, without first obtaining the consent of the rejecting lodge, is guilty of gross violation of masonic law, and should have its charter arrested, and, moreover, that one receiving the degrees in that manner is a "clandestinely made mason."

He had granted nine dispensations for new lodges.

He had attended the Washington Centennial the December previous, and speaks in high terms of the occasion.

He had been unable to make as many visitations as he desired, but had attended quite a number of celebrations and delivered a number of masonic addresses, with, as he believes, good results.

He had been disappointed in the progress made in relation to the Masonic Home, and he brought the matter before the Grand Lodge, which declared in favor of the project, and measures were taken to solicit subscriptions to carry it into effect.

A case, in which a member of a lodge appealed from its decision for failing to assess punishment, was sent back with orders to the lodge to proceed to assess due punishment. Probably this was wise in this particular case, but generally the effect is a good deal better to assess the punishment on appeal, with such admonition to the lodge that would be likely to prevent the recurrence of similar action.

A case was also sent back and directed to be dismissed in a subordinate lodge, concerning which the committee well say:

"The fact that a member is indebted to his lodge and does not pay it, is not alone sufficient to warrant charges against him or his conviction of unmasonic conduct. There are within this Grand Jurisdiction many worthy Master Masons who are unable to pay just and honest debts, and do not thereby become subject to prosecution and punishment under masonic law. A mason should regard the discharge of his financial obligations as a high duty, and

never contract a debt which he cannot reasonably expect to pay, except under the most imperious necessity, and then only after full disclosure of the improbability of payment, so that, not only may no reproach be brought on our beloved Order, but that the fact of membership therein may be a guarantee of the highest integrity in the member. If a mason is dishonest in his dealings or withholds wilfully or corruptly money which he should apply to his debts, he is unworthy of masonic association with his brethren and should be excluded from the Order. If, however, misfortune overtakes him and he is unable to discharge his financial duties and obligations, the fraternal hand of sympathy and charity should rather be extended to him than the added bitterness and humiliation of exclusion from the fraternity."

The absence of the Grand Lecturer and Honorary Past Grand Master, JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE, was noted, and a letter received from him ordered to be printed in the Proceedings, and the Grand Secretary directed to express to him the solicitude of the Grand Lodge and the sincere wish that his life might be spared many years. It seems that the honor of making him an honorary Past Grand Master had been conferred at the previous session of the Grand Lodge. We presume that it does not give him a vote in the Grand Lodge, but is a matter of courtesy, and was granted for distinguished services.

A lodge was authorized to issue bonds for the purpose of erecting a Masonic Temple, and secure the same by a mortgage of its real estate. This was deemed necessary in order to give the mortgage precedence over any title that might accrue to the Grand Lodge in any event. This was done in several cases.

We do not think that such a proceeding would be necessary under the laws of Maine, but of course the case may be different under the civil law of Alabama.

As usual, the work was exemplified.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence (pp. 184) was submitted by Bro. WILLIAM Y. TITCOMB, in which he reviews the Proceedings of all the Grand Lodges.

He gives a very good abstract of the important matters done, illustrated by pertinent extracts and accompanied by judicious comments.

He does not hold that a Grand Lodge is bound in all cases to sever fraternal relations with another Grand Lodge that has done the same thing with a third Grand Lodge, saying:

"Three certain parties, W. X. and Y., are all *Regular*. W. has done something to offend both X. and Y. Afterwards Y. becomes convinced that W. has repented his errors and renews friendly relations with him, but X. does not think W. has repented, and holds off. In such case, is there any good reason why X. and Y. should become unfriendly?"

We entirely concur with him in this conclusion.

He thinks that a uniform form of dimitts for everybody would be the best. There is no doubt at all about this, and we have for a long time questioned the propriety of putting into a dimit anything in relation to the character and

standing of the party dimitted. The dimit is conclusive evidence that he was of sufficiently good standing in the lodge to receive the dimit, and anything more than that is merely a matter of opinion of the members of the lodge. We are aware that the contrary practice has widely prevailed, but at the same time it is now provided in almost all the Constitutions that a member who is not in arrears for dues and is in good standing in the lodge, is entitled to a dimit as a matter of masonic right, in order to terminate his membership, if he so please. It would seem to follow, then, that the dimit should be the termination of a membership, and if a brother wants a recommendation to other lodges by the lodge thus dimitting him, he should seek it and obtain it as a matter separate from his dimit.

In his review of Maine, he copies "the well expressed conclusion" of Grand Master CHOATE's address.

He quotes our views, without comment, however, in relation to what we deem the proper method of amending the Constitution of a Grand Lodge.

He refers also to our views that a mason should not be deprived of his masonic rights without a trial and specific charges. Of this he says:

"On this point we are 'dumb as an oyster,' for, under our law, suspension N. P. D. cuts off from the privileges and benefits."

He quotes a case stated by us, in which a Grand Lodge allowed a new ballot on a candidate, because, without the knowledge of the members of the lodge, black ballots in the box had been substituted for cubes, saying that that was a case that would justify the Grand Master if there can be any exceptional cases.

We entirely agree with him that the ballot should never be disclosed, but the case, which we have cited, shows there may be reasons for setting aside a rejection and taking a new ballot. Perhaps the one we cited, however, should have been based upon the fact that the ballots were changed without the knowledge of the members, and that really the ballot taken was not a legal ballot under masonic law.

We curtail our examination of this excellent report to make a very sad announcement. The Grand Lodge closed its annual session on the fifth day of December, 1900, and just a fortnight after that date it held a special communication to attend the funeral of the Grand Secretary, H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, who died very suddenly after the close of the Grand Lodge. We had known Bro. ARMSTRONG for many years by his writings and efficient services to Freemasonry, and we had come to regard him as a very pillar of the Institution in his State; but in addition we had the great pleasure and honor of meeting him personally at the Washington Centennial, and our feelings of respect

admiration and love for him were greatly strengthened. We tender to our brethren of Alabama, in behalf of the brethren in Maine, our sympathies with them in their great loss.

ARKANSAS, 1900.

For financial reasons, this Grand Lodge meets only biennially, and there was no session in 1899. This pamphlet contains fine portraits of ROBERT M. SMITH, the last Grand Master, and HARRY H. MYERS, the present Grand Master, and FAY HEMPSTEAD, the Grand Secretary.

The pamphlet contains the proceedings of an emergent communication upon an occasion sad beyond the power of words to describe. M. W. ROBERT M. SMITH, to have a respite from his business labors, went with his wife and four children to Galveston, and none of them have ever returned. All of them were overwhelmed in that terrible catastrophe, so that not even the body of one of them has been recovered. We had understood that this comprised the whole family of Bro. SMITH, but we infer from some statements in the proceedings at the session of the Grand Lodge for holding a memorial service in his honor, that his oldest child remained at home and was saved, but we are not sure but that this child had previously died.

Bro. SMITH was at the same time Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, and the two bodies united in this service. A large number of addresses of a very high character were delivered. We would be glad to quote, but to do any kind of justice we would have to give more space than we can allow for the whole review of this Grand Lodge.

The acting Grand Master, in his address, refers very feelingly to this sad catastrophe, and pays an additional tribute to the memory of Bro. SMITH.

He had issued an appeal to the craft for aid to the sufferers, which was responded to splendidly, and a large amount was contributed.

Of the condition of the craft he says :

"I congratulate you, brethren, that the craft in Arkansas continues to thrive, growing in strength and greater and better achievements every year; that peace abides among us; that no contentions exist, but brotherly love prevails. Where peace, love and harmony abide, hate is dispelled and all contentions and dissensions quelled. Our relations with sister jurisdictions are most cordial and harmonious, and when the history of the past two years shall be written, as it will be soon, it will be that the closing years of the nineteenth century find our people with comforts multiplied, and their happiness and contentment more secure. We have worked in unity and the ancient landmarks have been preserved, and our efficiency was never more marked than now, our aims and ideals were never higher or our power to do more and better work that may tend to our own advancement and to the glory of our order and the exaltation of His holy name than this communication finds us."

He had issued but one dispensation for a new lodge. He had held an emergent communication to lay the corner stone of the new capitol.

He refers in touching terms to our veteran brother, GEORGE A. DANNELLY, whose infirmities prevented his attending the Grand Lodge, but from whom a letter was received: a loving message was sent in reply, accompanied by the avails of a contribution made in the Grand Lodge.

He had another sad communication to make. Within the two years this Grand Lodge has lost four other Past Grand Masters: SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS, JAMES H. VAN HOOSE, JOHN JAMES SUMPTER and WILLIAM HENRY GEE, in whose memory the Grand Lodge held a memorial service. All of these brethren had been eminent in Masonry in Arkansas, and some of them specially so. Bro. WILLIAMS commenced his career as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in 1867, and at once gained for himself a national reputation. Coming to this labor only two years after we came, we have seemed to have been very thoroughly acquainted with him, although we never met him. After leaving the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, he was Grand Master and then on the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, and since the death of Judge ENGLISH has been its chairman. All these positions he maintained with great ability. Less than a year our junior, we have seemed to have traveled along for over thirty years hand in hand with him, and his death comes to us as a severe personal loss. As a man, a lawyer, a judge and a mason he stood in the highest ranks, and we fully concur with, and endorse the high opinions expressed of him by his brethren.

The other Past Grand Masters were of high standing also, and we have spoken of Judge WILLIAMS more particularly, because we had occasion to know him better.

We find that Grand Master SMITH had granted three dispensations for new lodges before Bro. Myers succeeded to the office, and to all four of them charters were granted.

The financial condition of the Grand Lodge has greatly improved during the two years. The floating debt had been nearly all paid, the second mortgage on the Temple had been paid and extinguished, and five thousand dollars paid on the first mortgage, reducing it to thirty-five thousand dollars. The rent of the Temple had increased, and the prospect for the future was very favorable.

The following decision, amending that of the Grand Master's in relation to objection after ballot, was adopted:

“If a member of a lodge desires to object to the conferring of a degree on a candidate who has been elected by ballot, he must do so in open lodge in his own proper person, or by privately communicating his objection to the Worshipful Master during the session of the lodge, or if unable to be present, he may, in his own name, send his objection by a member of the lodge; and such objection shall hold good in case of a candidate for initiation for only

six months, and for advancement, only one month. The fact of objection alone, and not the name of the objector, shall be entered on the minutes."

The Grand Orator delivered a fine address, which is published in the Proceedings.

A large amount of routine business was transacted, and the Grand Lodge seems to be in a better condition than it has been for some years.

We regret to notice the absence of the Report on Correspondence, but can well understand that the Grand Lodge desires to reduce its debt largely, and is cutting off every possible expenditure to that end.

The Grand Lodge of Porto Rico was recognized, also the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, formed under the authority of the lodges established by the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, and not the one which had been previously, and as it was claimed, irregularly formed.

The Committee on Correspondence reported the following resolution in relation to the Grand Lodge of Washington; but it was directed to be laid over until the next communication, and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence directed to correspond with the Grand Lodge of Washington and ascertain the true intent and meaning of the modifying resolution adopted by them:

"Resolved, That in view of the recent action of the Grand Lodge of F. and A. Masons of Washington, in reconsidering and modifying certain resolutions adopted by the said Grand Lodge in 1898 and disavowing any intention on the part of said Grand Lodge of recognizing certain Clandestine Masonry commonly known as 'Negro Masonry,' the Grand Lodge F. and A. Masons of Arkansas sends greetings and desires to re-establish fraternal relations with the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington."

We desire to repeat here, that the repeal by the Grand Lodge of Washington of the offensive resolution, seems to us to be all that can be required, and that the severance of fraternal relations should not be based upon the expression of opinions, however offensive.

The Grand Lodge held an emergent session for laying the corner stone of the State capitol building, which was an occasion of great interest.

We greatly regret that in parting from our Arkansas brethren it must be for a term of two years.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1900.

We find that this Grand Lodge has what is called a "Porch Book," in which the representatives of lodges register their names upon their arrival, and the Committee on Credentials calls attention to the necessity of care in signing it under the proper headings, "thus greatly facilitating the work of the committee." In our Grand Lodge, the Committee on Credentials meets two hours before the hour fixed for the time for the opening of the Grand Lodge, and the representatives report directly to them: it has a full list of the per-

manent members and Grand Officers, and of the lodges, and as each permanent member or Grand Officer reports his name is checked, and as a representative reports his name is entered in the proper place as representing his lodge. We give this, because it is extremely desirable that the work of the Committee on Credentials shall be done in the shortest time consistent with accuracy.

The Grand Master, R. EDEN WALKER, announced the deaths of several brethren, among them Past Grand Master FRED WILLIAMS, who was made in California, but joined the lodge in Victoria before the formation of the Grand Lodge, and was one of those who organized the Grand Lodge, and who ever after maintained an active interest in Masonry.

He refers to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, saying, however, that it interests them in that jurisdiction in theory rather than in practice.

We note this in connection with his report of a case, the issue of which we shall look for with great interest. A resident within his jurisdiction went to Ontario for a couple of months, and while there a lodge accepted his petition and conferred the first degree upon him, and thereupon wrote to the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resided, requesting it to confer the other degrees upon the applicant. The Master reported the matter to the Grand Secretary, who in turn reported it to the Grand Master, who says :

“I at once wrote and instructed Corinthian Lodge not to recognize this man as a mason, and not to confer the degrees as requested, and I also asked that full particulars as to name of lodge, date of conferring degree, etc., be reported to me.”

The information was slow in reaching him, but when he received it he at once wrote to the Grand Master of Canada in relation thereto, but had not received any reply.

Of it the Grand Master says: “The offence involves a serious breach of masonic usage,” and the committee on his address repeat in substance his views, and their report was accepted by the Grand Lodge. We shall look for the result with interest, as showing whether this Grand Lodge will follow the law established in the United States, or will yield to what is still the law and practice of the Grand Lodge of England.

Of the condition of the craft, he says :

“The past year has been one of universal prosperity in the craft, and our fraternity has increased both in numbers and usefulness. Peace and harmony have prevailed everywhere, and no disturbing elements have been introduced to mar the spirit of brotherly love, which should and does prevail throughout this Grand Jurisdiction.”

Of course he refers to the war in South Africa, and while deploring that there should be one, as a matter of course he sustains his government, and suggests that the Grand Lodge vote a sum in aid of the Patriotic Fund; and

in response to that suggestion the Grand Lodge appropriated one hundred dollars.

He had made a large number of official visitations, although he had not made as many as he expected to make, and in relation to that he well says:

“To those who may succeed me in this high office let me give a word of counsel. The duties appertaining to the office of Grand Master of any Masonic Grand Jurisdiction are by no means trivial or few, and he who would faithfully and successfully discharge them must be prepared to devote considerable time to their performance. The Grand Jurisdiction of British Columbia is no exception to the general rule, for while the lodges may be comparatively few in number, their geographical situation is such as to make it a matter of considerable time to visit and thoroughly inspect and supervise their work. Such a system of systematic and efficient supervision is especially necessary in a young and rapidly growing jurisdiction, and much of the responsibility of carrying it out efficiently, rests upon the shoulders of the Grand Master, and to a less extent upon the D. D. G. M.'s. The necessity of regular and frequent visits is obvious, not only to the old and tried lodges, but to the young and struggling ones; and let not their visits be a matter of form, visits whereat words of praise (perhaps not deserved) are spoken, but let a wise and honest effort be made to learn the necessities and shortcomings of the lodge, and by judicious counsel show the brethren wherein lies their weakness, and by true masonic precepts point out the right path for them to tread. That this, if carried out properly, must involve a considerable expenditure of time and money, I am well aware; perhaps more than the average mason can well afford, and as this may, and I believe often does, lead to a curtailment of the necessary visits of inspection, I am of the opinion that the interests of Masonry would be better served if the G. M. and the D. D. G. M.'s received some compensation for their services, say, at least traveling expenses. I would ask the Grand Lodge to seriously consider this matter.”

The Grand Lodge considered the matter but did not see its way clear to adopt his recommendation that the traveling expenses should be allowed to visitors. We commend this to all Grand Masters and other visiting officers.

The Deputy in almost every instance accompanied him, and from the reports of the Deputies we are able to see that they have evidently performed their duties actively and zealously, and that the result of their doing so is shown in the increased prosperity of the Grand Lodge.

Of conferring the first degree, he says:

“More than one candidate may have the degree conferred on him at the same time, but the ceremony loses much of its impressiveness by thus administering it.”

He had declined to approve by-laws providing for life membership, and of this he says:

“Among the by-laws submitted for my approval were clauses providing for life membership, such membership to be acquired by the payment of a lump sum, the amount of which varied with the length of time the applicant had previously been a member of the lodge. Life membership is a matter which must be approached with extreme caution, especially by young lodges with few or no assets to fall back upon. These lodges are practically dependent upon their monthly dues to meet current expenses, and should life membership be resorted to (and it is quite possible it might be) to any large extent, the

lodge might in a short time find itself with so restricted an income as to be practically unable to continue its existence. For this reason, combined with the fact that our Constitution does not recognize life members, I deemed it expedient to refuse my approval to those clauses referring to this matter."

We refer also his remarks on the subject of "Committees" to our brethren in Maine:

"While on the subject of Committees I should like to impress upon the members of the various committees the importance of their appointments; so far it would appear to me that the tendency is to look upon these appointments as purely honorary; as a matter of fact the reverse is the case. They carry with them little honor, no handsome regalia, no special seat in Grand Lodge; but if faithfully discharged a large amount of work. The standing committees should meet before Grand Lodge meets, and draw up their report beforehand in a careful and deliberate manner, weighing well the matter laid before them. As a matter of actual practice, what does take place is that the members of standing committees are seldom in attendance at all, and a scratch committee is appointed after Grand Lodge meets, and they draw up their report, often in a hurried manner, and meanwhile, during their absence, the Grand Lodge is deprived of the benefit of their presence at its deliberation. I have this year caused the Grand Secretary to specially notify the members of standing committees to be present before Grand Lodge convenes, so that they may have ample time to draw up their reports."

In relation to the incorporation of lodges, he says:

"Among the matters presented for my consideration during the year, was the question of lodge incorporation, and I deemed it expedient to refuse to allow a lodge to incorporate under the laws of British Columbia governing these matters. I am well aware that subordinate lodges in some jurisdictions of the United States are allowed to incorporate, for the reason that in these States this is the only way in which they can hold property. Such a procedure, however, makes the lodge amenable to the civil law, and not alone to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge. To such an extent is this possible, that in some instances incorporated lodges have instituted legal proceedings against their Grand Master, much to the scandal of Freemasonry. All necessary legal conveniences accruing from incorporation may be experienced by vesting lodge property in the name of Trustees, who are elected annually or otherwise, by the lodge."

We desire to repeat our question whether the incorporating of a lodge makes it in the slightest degree more "amenable to the civil law" than if it was not incorporated. As a reason for asking this question, we desire to say that in these days of "Equity Jurisdiction" we do not understand that it makes the least particle of difference.

The Deputy Grand Master, HARRY H. WATSON, delivered an address giving an account of the numerous visitations made by him, and the thanks of the Grand Lodge were tendered to him therefor.

The Grand Secretary congratulates the Grand Lodge on the progress and prosperity of the lodges. The total gain by lodges was one hundred and ninety-six, and the total loss nine, seven of which occurred in a lodge which held a large number of members in the naval service, and the vessel to which they belonged was recalled. These are net gains and net losses.

Four dispensations for new lodges had been granted, and the Grand Secretary believed that the reports submitted by them would be approved by the Grand Lodge and entitle them to a charter; and we find that the charters were granted.

All the Deputies made reports, as we have already stated.

Past Grand Master JOHN CORSON SMITH, of Illinois, was present, received with the honors, and made an address both in the Grand Lodge and at the banquet following, to the great satisfaction and pleasure of those present.

An amendment to the Constitution was reported, providing for a Charity Fund, which was laid over for final action until the next session.

Of the violation of jurisdiction by the Canadian lodge, the committee say:

“Respecting the case of invasion of jurisdiction reported from Rossland, we record our surprise that any lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada should have been guilty of such an infraction of masonic law and usage as seems to have taken place; commend the Grand Master for the prompt and energetic action taken in the matter, and express the hope that the difference may be amicably adjusted at an early date.”

The question of moving the archives of the Grand Lodge to Vancouver was discussed, but it was said that as a permanent location of the Grand Lodge was soon to be made, it was best to defer action for the present.

Of the work of the Deputies, the committee say:

“It is apparent from all the reports that the District Deputy Grand Masters have earnestly striven to do the work assigned to them. It is to be regretted, however, that in some instances, owing to the great distances to be covered and the expense involved, the work has not been accomplished in such a manner as to give unqualified satisfaction to the Grand Lodge.”

We think this is an overwhelming argument in favor of remunerating the Deputies for the expenses of visitation.

The following is taken from the same report:

“In conclusion, your committee respectfully suggest that the brethren throughout the jurisdiction should emulate the example of the country lodge which received such honorable mention in one of the reports, in that ‘the wives, sisters and sweethearts of the brethren graced the banquet with their presence.’”

As usual, a sermon was delivered before the Grand Lodge in church, which is published with the proceedings. The collection on the occasion was given to the choir. After the services at the church, the Grand Lodge partook of a banquet given by the masons of Vancouver.

The Report on Correspondence (215 pp.) was presented by Bro. W. A. DEWOLF SMITH. In his introduction, he says:

“The ‘negro question’ has become somewhat less acute. The Grand Lodge of Washington in 1899 rescinded its now famous resolutions of 1898, and while a few Grand Lodges still insist that the language of the resolutions of 1899 ‘is not all that it ought to be,’ the larger number of them seem disposed to accept the action of Washington as in *bona fides* and have resumed the fraternal intercourse which should never have been interrupted.”

He gives a very full abstract of the Proceedings, quoting freely and commenting upon the more important matters.

Of non-affiliates, he says :

"It appears to us that non-affiliates are receiving a great deal more attention than they deserve. We think that Grand Lodges would not have nearly so much trouble with this class if they did not go about looking for it. We should like to see *nearly all* non-affiliated masons members of some lodge, and would make the way back as easy as possible, but if a brother really wishes to stay out, let him go in peace, and remain out until he feels that he would like to come in again."

We believe his Grand Lodge recognizes as masons only those who are members of a lodge.

In his review of the Grand Lodge of England he gives quite an account of the formation of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, quoting from the Grand Registrar of the Grand Lodge of England, upon whose recommendation the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, recently formed by English lodges, was recognized: the Grand Registrar said that he thinks the Scottish lodges in the Province would form another Grand Lodge and the two would work side by side until they formed a United Grand Lodge. Of this Bro. SMITH says:

"The attention of some of our neighbors to the South is respectfully called to the statement that probably very shortly after the acknowledgment of this Grand Lodge, a Scottish Grand Lodge will be formed, *and the two Grand Lodges will work side by side.*"

By his expression "our neighbors of the South," he means the masons of the United States, and we think that we are entirely safe in saying that if one Grand Lodge shall be recognized by our Grand Lodges and a second one is formed, the second one will never be recognized, and the knowledge of that in Western Australia will undoubtedly lead the Grand Lodges formed and the Scottish lodges to unite in a Grand Lodge, without undertaking to form two and ask their recognition.

He finds that the practice in Maine, of not allowing one lodge to confer a degree for another lodge, is different from what it is in most jurisdictions. We wish he would investigate and ascertain how long the practice of doing this has prevailed. It seems to us contrary to every idea of lodge organization, and we believe that it is a matter grown up within comparatively recent years to facilitate admission into Masonry.

In his review of Maine, he says :

"Brother Drummond, quoting from a report made by him in 1876 (page 310 of this year's Proceedings): 'In America it is a landmark that no can be made a mason unless he is free-born.' For information, we would ask Brother Drummond why, if it is a landmark in America, it is not a landmark elsewhere? Or can the landmarks be changed at pleasure? A little further on Brother Drummond shows that it is not a landmark even in America, for he says (page 311): 'In the Dominion of Canada . . . the old *requirement* that a can-

didate must be "free-born" has been changed as in England, to "freeman," (Italics ours.) He says, too, in the same paragraph, that in Canada 'Colored men have been admitted to regular lodges, they have organized lodges and formed a Grand Lodge.' That they have been admitted to regular lodges is well known. They *may* have formed lodges, but that they have formed a Grand Lodge is news to us."

In reply we can only say that the decision of a Grand Lodge as to what is, or what is not, a landmark, is binding on the masons of its obedience; and that our statement referred to the fact that in the United States (we should have said, instead of America), it has been decided to be a landmark. As to the formation of lodges and Grand Lodges of so-called colored masons in Canada, if he will refer to our report of 1876 and get the particulars, he will find that what is "news" to him is, nevertheless, history.

In answer to a question of ours last year, he says that either the Master or Warden may request a Past Master to open the lodge and preside, but no one else, and that in the absence of the Master and Wardens the lodge cannot be opened; which we need hardly say is a departure from the old rule laid down by the Grand Lodge of England soon after 1717, and maintained by it to this day.

In his review of New South Wales he copies at considerable length the proceedings of that Grand Lodge in relation to the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, of which we probably shall have occasion to avail ourselves before completing this report.

There are many other things in this excellent report that we would like to notice, but space and time forbid.

As Bro. SMITH may not have at hand the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge for 1876, we would add that an "Independent" Colored Grand Lodge for Ontario was organized in 1871, and in 1876, and for years afterwards, was in successful existence. We have not had occasion to inquire about it lately and cannot tell whether it now exists or not, but presume that it does.

CALIFORNIA, 1900.

A fine picture of the Masonic Home of California is given as a frontispiece of this volume.

The Grand Master, CHARLES L. PATTON, announced, among other deaths, that of Past Grand Master JOHN ASHBY TUTT, the second Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and who, as Deputy, presided over the first annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

He announced, also, the deaths of Bros. WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, Chairman of the Committee on Grievances, and GEORGE JOHN HOBE, for many years a member of the same committee. From their reports we had occasion to know something of these brethren, and from them as well as from

a personal correspondence with Bro. HOBE, we appreciate fully the remark of the Grand Master that they were good masons and good men.

With characteristic promptitude, upon the receipt of the news of the destruction of Galveston, he at once telegraphed to the Grand Master of Texas one thousand dollars, to be used in relieving the distress and suffering caused by the flood.

Of the condition of the craft, he says :

“It is gratifying to me to be able to report that Masonry is prospering throughout the entire State—that the past year has been one marked by gains in membership as well as by progress along lines which lead to a better fraternal feeling among the lodges and members. The net gain for the year has been over 1,100, which is a larger one than ever before. I believe this great gain to be due to the increased interest shown by the members and officers of the lodges in the work of Masonry. The revision of our ritual has helped in the accomplishment of the result, and more than all, I am satisfied that the establishment and successful operation of our Masonic Home has contributed to make this year such a distinct success.”

When elected Grand Master, he deemed that that position was inconsistent with being President of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Home, and tendered his resignation of the latter position, but was finally induced to remain, and he had the satisfaction of announcing that the Home is doing good work for the Order, and he urged all the members of the Grand Lodge to visit it the next day in accordance with an invitation extended.

He had granted dispensations for two new lodges and various dispensations for other matters, a list of which is given in the Grand Secretary's report.

The Grand Lodge had adopted a uniform code of by-laws for the subordinate lodges, and in the examination of revised and amended codes he had been compelled to return some of them without his approval. One of the provisions he refers to as follows :

“In spite of the fact that in 1898 this Grand Lodge decided that a standing resolution, requiring that every application to remit dues should be made in writing or in person by the delinquent, was illegal and contrary to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, which decision has been published in Sec. 831, Anderson's Manual, yet I think that such a provision is on the books of many lodges in this jurisdiction, either as a standing resolution or as one of its by-laws, and that many Masters require such applications to be made in writing or personally by the delinquent, and will not listen to any of the brethren who desire to show that the brother who is about to be suspended for non-payment of dues is indeed unable to pay his arrearages. This is entirely wrong, contrary to express law, and unmasonic. As long ago as 1873, it was decided by this Grand Lodge that no lodge should allow one of its members to be suspended for non-payment of dues without knowing, among other things, that the member has ability to pay. (305, Anderson's Manual.) This has ever since been the settled law of California; yet these lodges, by their by-laws or standing resolution, cast the burden of proof upon a delinquent, and say that he is to be suspended unless he himself, in person or by written communication, asks for the remission of his dues.

“I am convinced that in consequence of this misconception of law, and these illegal resolutions or by-laws, many brethren who are really innocent of wrong,

but who are unable to pay the stated assessment levied by their lodges, and who are, perhaps, too proud to make confession of that fact, are suspended for non-payment of dues, when some of the brethren present at the meeting are able and willing to tell to the lodge the facts of the case. I would therefore recommend that this Grand Lodge direct the proper officers to notify each lodge that such a by-law or resolution is invalid, and call the lodge's attention to the true masonic and charitable rule which has prevailed in this jurisdiction for nearly thirty years."

We are very glad to see this, because it is the doctrine that we have advocated for years, and against the views of others, who hold that unless a brother himself pleads his inability to pay dues, it is to be assumed that he is able to pay and is treated accordingly.

One of the lodges had built a hall, and for that purpose had borrowed twelve thousand dollars and secured it by a mortgage on the property, but it did not pay its interest, and finally the mortgage amounted to seventeen thousand dollars, while the building and lot was at the same time not worth more than ten thousand. The lodge refused to do anything more than to turn over the building and lot in payment of the mortgage; but the Grand Master held otherwise, and at a meeting called for the purpose, the lodge agreed to carry out an offer made by the holder of the mortgage, but the Grand Master learned that nothing had been done in that direction, and the matter was reported to the Grand Lodge for its consideration. The Grand Lodge sustained the Grand Master, and ordered the lodge to settle the debt and then "disincorporate" itself.

He decided in effect that masonic law requires lodges to pay their debts, and that no technical defence should be allowed.

He had several cases before him which he seems to have disposed of wisely, but which are not of sufficient general importance to call for specific notice.

In one case he set aside the election of two candidates, because it appeared that at the time of the ballot there were no cubes in the box, and decided that it is the duty of the Master, when it is brought to his attention, to examine the ballot box carefully and see whether there are cubes in it or not before he announces that the candidate is elected.

The Grand Lodge approved the decision and adopted the following regulation to prevent trouble hereafter:

"Whenever a ballot is to be taken upon either an application for the degrees or for affiliation, the ballot box shall be inspected by the Master and the Wardens, and each of said officers shall examine both compartments of said box and ascertain whether the same is properly prepared."

The Grand Master announced a large number of decisions, among them the following, which was approved by the Grand Lodge:

"No brother will be permitted to resign from Masonry, or renounce the Order. He may withdraw from the particular lodge in which he holds membership, but for him to even attempt to renounce Masonry is an offence and should be punished."

We greatly regret to see this, as we believe it to be in contravention of the pledge given the candidate at the very start. We believe, as we have frequently stated, that when a man in good faith conscientiously comes to the conclusion that his duty to God interferes with his being a mason, he ought to be permitted quietly to retire practically from the Order. Of course, if he should afterwards violate any of the laws of Masonry, he should be dealt with as if he had remained a mason.

The following decision was also approved :

“At the installation of a Master elect an opportunity is given to object to the installation, and if such objection is made, it is the duty of the installing officer to inquire into the reasons urged by the brother objecting. Should it appear on inquiry that the reasons are proper ones upon which to base charges, then for the reason that the pendency of charges does not prevent the installation of a Master elect, it is the duty of the installing officer to proceed with the installation. It would be a very extraordinary state of facts which would justify the installing officer in refusing to install a Master who has been duly elected by the lodge and presents the proper certificate of qualification.”

The same question has arisen in Maine practically, and the decision was that in such a case it is the duty of the installing officer, if the objections are such as should prevent his installation and are evidently made in good faith, to postpone the installation, that the truth of the objections might be inquired into. In Maine there have been cases in which such objections were made, the parties were heard and the objections sustained, and the party was not installed into office. We cannot think that M. W. Bro. PATTON or the committee could have very fully considered the matter.

The Grand Master made the same decision, as to waiver of jurisdiction by one of several lodges having concurrent jurisdiction, as is the law in Maine. The committee reported against it, but the Grand Lodge sustained it, and, as we think, correctly.

The Grand Secretary, Bro. GEORGE JOHNSON, reported very gratifying increase of the library, and gives a very full account of the operations in his office during the year.

He finds that the Mechanic's Institute had only a part of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge in its library, and he made up a full set, and in this connection he says :

“It was assumed by the undersigned, as it has been heretofore, that it would be the wish of the Grand Lodge that its history be perpetuated, not only by the annual transmission of its proceedings to its constituent lodges, but by the deposit of its biennially bound volumes with at least one of the prominent libraries of the State.”

We concur most fully in this, and perhaps should be more liberal even than our brother in relation to putting our Proceedings in public libraries, where they would probably be appreciated, and open to the use of the public.

All the lodges had made returns, and erroneous ones been corrected, and the dues paid in full.

The Grand Lecturer reports the holding of a large number of Lodges of Instruction, with the usual good results, and congratulates the fraternity upon the result of the official visits of the Inspectors.

The various boards of relief presented their reports, showing that they had had a pretty busy year, and had expended quite a large sum in assisting distressed brethren, widows and orphans.

The report on the Home shows that it was in a prosperous condition, and that the grounds were greatly improved. Eighty acres had been planted with orchards. The Trustees say that books would be a very acceptable donation to the Home. The number of inmates had increased during the year, numbering sixty-two at the date of the report, thirty-one of whom were aged men, fourteen women, ten boys and seven girls.

An effort had been made to allow the transfer of membership in such manner that a member does not cease to be a member of one lodge, until he becomes a member of another, as may be done in Maine; but unfortunately the proposition was coupled with a provision that a three-fourths vote should elect, and the Grand Lodge refused to adopt the proposed amendment, and we think wisely.

Upon the able report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, the physical perfection doctrine is repealed, and the following adopted in its stead:

"The person who desires to be made a mason must be a man; no woman nor eunuch; free born, being neither a slave nor the son of a bond woman; a believer in God and a future existence; of moral conduct; capable of reading and writing; having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art, and physically able to conform literally to what the several degrees respectively require of him."

The committee reported that the construction given by the Grand Lodge for many years to the old regulation was not contemplated by the framers of it, saying:

"That this was not the effect anticipated by the framers of our Regulation is evident from a perusal of their report accompanying the Regulation in 1864 (Proc. 1864, p. 363), for in that report they expressly repudiate the idea that absolute perfection is essential, and asking where, out of the 'Celestial Lodge above' is such perfection to be found, they well said that such a requirement would have proved the death of the Fraternity."

The same committee had many other matters before them, nearly all depending upon local law.

An effort was made to increase the difficulty of the restoration of a member suspended for non-payment of dues, but the committee reported against it, saying:

"Our legislation in regard to members suspended for non-payment of dues is already very stringent. In some respects such members are in a worse posi-

tion than those suspended for unmasonic conduct, and it may well be doubted whether any further obstacles should be placed in the way of such of them as desire to restore themselves to standing among masons."

But their report was not accepted, and while the proposition received a large vote, it failed to receive the necessary vote required by the Constitution, and the matter goes over for final action at the next annual session.

An immense amount of routine business, some of it of a great deal of interest, was transacted, but we must refrain from further discussion of it.

The Report on Correspondence (140 pp.) was presented by Bro. WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES. It is very carefully prepared, showing a close examination of all the Proceedings, and the matters of most interest selected for notice with great care.

We regret to find that his printer makes no distinction, *so far as type is concerned*, between the original matter and the extracts, and while perhaps for the ordinary reader it is not of so much importance, yet we believe that it would be more generally read if his printer would follow the method which has heretofore prevailed.

In his introduction, under the head of "The Grand Lodge of Washington," he says:

"The sentiment developed by the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington upon the subject of Negro Masonry is, so far as heard from, about as follows: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina and Pennsylvania have suspended fraternal intercourse.

"The following Grand Lodges earnestly appealed to the Grand Lodge of Washington to reconsider its action: Arizona, California, Georgia, Maine, Manitoba, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York and Oklahoma.

"The following Grand Masters have earnestly disapproved, but Grand Lodge has taken no action: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Oregon and British Columbia.

"The following have taken no action: Canada, Colorado, Illinois, Missouri, Montana, New Brunswick, New Mexico, North Dakota and Nova Scotia.

"No Grand Lodge has endorsed the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"So endeth the first lesson."

In his conclusion, in relation to the same matter, he says:

"The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington came like a thunderbolt in a clear sky, and it will be many years before its pernicious effects are obliterated and forgotten.

"That the masons of that jurisdiction will abandon the false position in which they have been placed by ambitious leaders, is as sure as that the sun rises in the East, and the Fraternity will patiently wait for its restoration to its former position in American Freemasonry."

In his review of Maine he feels that our preference of the Maine practice in relation to lodges under dispensation is more a matter of theory than practical conditions. Now as a matter of fact, the practice now prevailing was adopted

specially to meet practical conditions. It was found that if a petitioner for a lodge under dispensation took his dimit and the charter was not granted, he was left an unaffiliated mason, with not the best kind of chances for regaining his membership. So that our law provides that instead of requiring him to take his dimit, his membership in his old lodge is suspended during the life of the lodge under dispensation, and if no charter is granted, he resumes his membership at once. If the charter is granted, it then requires him to file his dimit with the Grand Secretary before the charter is issued.

It may be true, as Bro. DAVIES says, that almost always a dispensation is followed by a charter. If that is to be so always, we might just as well authorize the Grand Master to issue a charter at once and be done with it. The California system is liable to the objection, that in a pretty close case, the Grand Lodge will grant a charter rather than throw all the petitioners out of lodge membership; whereas, such a consideration as this ought not to exist in these days in favor of granting a charter, when the great danger is that too many charters will be granted in any event.

As to the Wisconsin proposition, we have said all we desire, and besides, we do not wish to "speak ill of the dead."

He says further:

"Bro. Estee's Washington report is also commended; but, Bro. Drummond, what of the night? Is the half-hearted disclaimer of the Washington sage to be taken for good money, or what is the end?"

Ultimately yes, because in a matter of that character the *action* of the Grand Lodge should be looked at, and not merely what it may say in connection with that action. Our Brother must remember the terrible disappointment of the "Washington sage," caused by the universal action of the Grand Lodges. While we have no hesitation in saying that we think the Grand Lodge of Washington went further than was proper in allowing the authors of the evil to fume and fret about the proceedings, yet, inasmuch as the Grand Lodge absolutely repealed its obnoxious action, we should pay no regard whatever to the Chinese tom-toms which accompany it. It was a difficult place in which to place the loyal brethren of Washington, and we should not wonder if they did concede more than, from our standpoint, we think that they should have conceded. We believe the large mass of masons of Washington to be loyal to the laws of masonry, including the law of jurisdiction, and we very greatly regret that any Grand Lodge, on account of what they allowed to be said in connection with the repeal of these resolutions, should not have taken the action in good faith and withdrawn all resolutions of non-intercourse.

We have reason to believe that the administration of the Grand Lodge of Washington during the current year is in sympathy with the rights asserted by her sister Grand Lodges, and we believe that it will so continue.

We speak of this at this length because it is a matter of importance, and we

believe that it is important that the authors of the mischief should not have the satisfaction of looking on and saying, "Well, we have kept the masons of the country in a state of ferment and excitement, if we have achieved nothing else."

In his Conclusion Bro. DAVIES says:

"We are glad to be able to congratulate the Fraternity upon the affirmation by the Supreme Court of New York, of the doctrine laid down by the courts of California and Ohio—that no court of equity will interfere to prevent the carrying out of a judgment of suspension or expulsion as finally confirmed by the Grand Lodge having jurisdiction. This doctrine was laid down by the Supreme Court of New York in the case of Kopp vs. White, a case in which a disgruntled brother invoked the civil law to revoke the judgment of his brethren in Masonry, and wherein the court told him, in effect, that as he probably got his deserts, he should be satisfied with the judgment of his brethren in a matter of social obligation and reciprocal expectations."

We refer to this especially in connection with our previous remarks about the incorporation of lodges, as we think it will be found that the fact of incorporation cuts no figure at all in these decisions.

CANADA, 1900.

We have the portraits of five Past Grand Masters, M. W. Bros. JAMES KIRKPATRICK KERR, WILLIAM HENRY WELLER, JAMES A. HENDERSON, THOMAS MOFFATT and DANIEL SERY, who were Grand Masters from 1875 to 1883, inclusive.

The Grand Lodge held quite a number of emergent communications to lay corner stones and dedicate halls.

At the annual communication, held in London, the Grand Lodge was welcomed by the Mayor with an address to which the Grand Master responded. Thereupon the Grand Lodge was opened and a deputation from the local lodges presented an address, to which the Grand Master responded.

The Grand Master, EDWARD T. MALONE, delivered a very complete address; and of the condition of the craft he says:

"It is a pleasure to again note the reports of peace and prosperity from every district in the jurisdiction. From correspondence of my Deputies, I am able to assure you of a respectable increase in our membership. I find that skilled brethren preside over the lodges, and that no appeal for charity has been neglected. It will be gratifying to learn that during the year Grand Lodge expended in charitable grants the sum of \$14,085, and that the subordinate lodges expended for the same purpose \$11,901.30, making a total of \$25,986.30, without taking into account the local Boards of Relief; while large sums have been contributed by the lodges in aid of the Sick Children's Hospital, the Patriotic Fund, the Red Cross Fund, and the Ottawa Fire sufferers. Our receipts during the year have exceeded those of any previous year, while our membership roll shows a net increase of 1,238, making the total membership of Grand Lodge 26,195. We continue to hold, and I trust merit, the friendship and good-will of every legitimate Grand Lodge in the world."

He pays tributes to the dead of the year, including many of other jurisdictions.

He had granted but one dispensation for a new lodge, but had made many visitations; in fact, he had visited every section of the Province with the exception of the extreme north, and he speaks in high terms of the results. But his efforts were directed toward "bringing back the dimitted masons," and he made his visitations beneficial morally and intellectually, saying that the day has long passed when the visit of a Grand Master is made an occasion of a carousal."

He regretted to report that in some lodges he had noticed an "indication of ward politics in the election of officers," and he condemns the practice in strong terms; but he met an answer for which he was not looking, and that was, that as long as the Grand Lodge allowed it in its own body, the subordinate bodies could not be condemned! Of course he assented to this, but made it an occasion for serious condemnation of the practice, wherever it occurs, and urged that the remedy suggested by Past Grand Master HUGH MURRAY should be adopted, which is, to vote against every candidate who should approach one seeking his support.

He had found, also, an evil in the distribution of begging circulars and "chain letters," and he speaks very highly of the efforts of the Grand Secretary of Michigan, who returned the letters and reported the case to the Grand Master.

He was asked for a definition of the words "improper solicitation," when applied to candidates for admission to the Order, and his reply was that *any* solicitation is "improper," and he uses vigorous language in enforcing this idea.

He regrets that he was unable to be present at the Washington Centennial, and speaks kind words of the occasion and the man whose memory was honored.

He gives a brief account of the great fires which destroyed the city of Hull and the city of Ottawa. He responded to the call for aid by sending a check for two thousand dollars, to be distributed among the sufferers in those places; and he acknowledges the receipt of an equal amount from the Grand Lodge of New York.

He refers to the war in China and the war in South Africa, and calls attention to the creation of a Patriotic Fund, to which, in behalf of the Grand Lodge, he contributed one thousand dollars.

He had obtained the names of many of the brethren who had joined any of the contingents for service, and urges the Grand Lodge to secure the names of others, and he concludes the matter as follows:

"Show the way, England!
 Let that grim Master
 Of Earth's dread disaster—
 Let the war shadow
 But darken your sun.
 Trust your child, Canada:
 She will be with you,
 Shoulder to shoulder,
 Gun to your gun.
 She will reply with you,
 Fight for you,
 Die with you.
 So, wide to the world
 Be the old flag unfurled.
 Show the way, England!"

He reports the case of invasion of jurisdiction by a Canadian lodge in initiating a Canadian, resident in British Columbia. He investigated the matter and decided against the Canadian lodge, and he adds that he has every hope of making a settlement satisfactory to the British Columbia brethren.

In our review of the latter Grand Lodge, we said that we should look for the result with much interest, and we here find that our Canadian brethren recognize the rule which prevails this side of the line, as undoubtedly the correct rule, although it has not yet been adopted by the Grand Lodge of England.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer show that their several departments are in good condition.

The disbursements on account of charity had been very large, in addition to the three thousand dollars to which we have already alluded.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters take up two hundred and twenty pages of these Proceedings, and yet an examination of them shows that not much could have been omitted. It is true that sometimes an occasion of festivity was recorded at moderate length, but as a whole the reports are confined to practical matters.

The Committee on the Condition of Masonry report that 354 of the lodges had been visited, leaving seven only that had not been; and the committee compliment the District Deputy Grand Masters for the faithful and efficient discharge of the duties of the office.

They complained, however, that some of the lodges have not re-imbursed the expenses of the Deputies. We had supposed that these expenses were paid by the Grand Lodge, as we think they should be, but at any rate, if the lodges do not, the Grand Lodge should see it done.

The committee further say:

"In almost every instance the Deputies report a most prosperous year, a year remarkable not only for the success which has attended the lodges financially and numerically, but also for the harmony which prevails among the lodges and brethren. Not one case of unmasonic conduct has been reported to them; not a ripple has disturbed the peace which prevails throughout the

jurisdiction. This is reiterated again and again; and the Board are informed that the few cases of grievance which are before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals are undecided cases of former years.

* * * * *

“The reason that a greater number of lodges of instruction have not been held is that several of the D. D. G. Masters are of opinion that greater good is accomplished by the custom, which is becoming quite common, of the officers of one lodge being invited to visit another lodge, and to confer the degrees.”

Three evils, however, were noted. One, the neglect of secretaries to collect dues; second, tardiness in opening the lodge and getting to work; third, keeping the meetings open to too late an hour. But the committee adds:

“The Board close their report with the conviction that never before in the history of Masonry in this jurisdiction has Craft Masonry been in as flourishing a condition as at the present time.”

The Board of Benevolence reports the disbursement of \$6,290 on application from private lodges, and \$4,655 on application from local boards, showing a grand total, including the grants to funds, to lodges and local boards of relief during the year, of \$18,358.61.

The announcement that Bro. J. ROSS ROBERTSON is preparing a history of the Grand Lodge, was received with great pleasure, and the Grand Lodge appointed him to the honorary position of Historian of the Grand Lodge, and it appropriated four hundred dollars for the purchase of copies of the history for presentation to other Grand Lodges.

M. W. Bro. WILLIAM A. SUTHERLAND, Past Grand Master of New York, was introduced and welcomed; and honorary membership in the Grand Lodge, with the rank of Past Grand Master, was conferred upon him.

We also notice, very greatly to our satisfaction, that the rank of Past Grand Master was conferred upon R. W. Bro. JOHN J. MASON, Grand Secretary for so many years, and in addition a testimonial was presented to our brother; but we regret to find that in consequence of illness he was unable to be present at that time, and it was accepted in his behalf by Bro. HUGH MURRAY.

The Report on Correspondence (109 pp.) was again presented by our veteran brother, HENRY ROBERTSON. In his introduction he says:

“The craft in general is very prosperous, pursuing the even tenor of its way, spreading the blessings of peace and concord in every direction, teaching its members to observe more faithfully the Golden Rule, developing the doctrine of unity in the prosecution of good works, and comforting the widow, the orphan and the needy by practical benevolence and unflinching sympathy. May it long continue.”

His report, as heretofore, consists almost entirely of a brief abstract, supplemented by extracts showing the views and action of other Grand Lodges in their own words. It is an exceedingly interesting report to read, but gives no opportunity for any particular discussion.

COLORADO, 1900.

We have the portraits, with a brief biographical sketch, of the present Grand Master, JOSEPH W. MILSOM, and Past Grand Masters ARCHIBALD J. VAN DEREN, ERNEST LE NEVE FOSTER, and GEORGE W. ROE, and last, but by no means least, of ED. C. PARMELEE, Grand Secretary. We are glad to see them all, but specially pleased to see the latter.

Bro. PARMELEE became Grand Secretary in 1866, the year after we commenced writing Reports on Correspondence, and has been a feature of Colorado Proceedings ever since, although this is the first time his portrait has appeared in them. His biography well says, that his work "has done much to place and keep the reputation of all the masonic bodies of this State at the front, among the best and foremost in the United States."

The Representatives of other Grand Lodges were received with the Grand Honors and fraternally welcomed, and Past Grand Master WOODBURY responded.

Of course, our Representative, Bro. PARMELEE, was present with the others.

The Grand Master, ALPHONSE A. BURNAND, in his address thus speaks of the condition of the craft:

"I take great pleasure in reporting that the condition of the lodges is healthy and prosperous. With few exceptions all have performed considerable work, the number raised during the year being 427. The increase in membership, however, will not be as large as had been expected, as it is very much curtailed by deaths, dimits, and the usual suspensions for N. P. D.

"I might add that peace and harmony usually prevails. Only here and there have I discovered a note of discord, prompted by some one who has forgotten or disregarded his sacred obligation. A mere ripple upon the sea of fraternalism, which soon passes from view."

He had granted dispensations for two new lodges and performed a large amount of routine duties.

He had made a very large number of visitations, the result of which he gives in tabular form.

He regretted being unable to visit all the lodges, and therefore tried to visit those which had not been visited for many years. He thought that if his successors would adopt the same plan, each lodge might be visited by the Grand Master once in three years.

We do not know whether he paid his own expenses or not, but if obliged to do that no one could afford to be elected Grand Master unless he had plenty of leisure time and was able to be at a great deal of expense in performing the duties of the office.

As one of the results of his visitations he says:

"In my travels I have found that the vice of intemperance is not unknown among some of our members. This is especially the case in towns where, owing to the lack of comfortable reading rooms and other places of entertainment, men frequent the saloon. I am also convinced that the vice is aug-

mented by the aversion of the brethren to command reform, or in case of failure, to protect the dignity and good name of their lodges by preferring charges. In such cases as have come to my notice, I have not minced my words, but have instructed the officers to admonish the erring, and if that proved ineffective, to prefer charges, and so rid the lodge of an element which has no respect for itself and brings the lodges and the craft into disrepute. I have also impressed the officers of the lodges with their own responsibility, showing them that they must be held accountable for the good conduct of the brethren in their jurisdiction. To hold up temperance to our initiates, as one of our great cardinal virtues, and then suffer members to roll about in a condition of inebriation, is to enact a farce, which must sooner or later destroy all the good influence, if not the life itself, of the lodge that permits it."

He found that some residents of Colorado, while absent with the army, had received some of the degrees in army lodges, and while he believed that Grand Masters, who issue such dispensations, ought to limit the work of the lodge to residents of their jurisdiction, he had still permitted Colorado citizens to apply for the non-conferred degrees in their own lodge on their return home.

He had ruled, contrary to the almost universal decision, that if a candidate removes from the jurisdiction of a lodge after he has been elected, the lodge loses jurisdiction over him, and he can only be made a mason in the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides.

It seems that in Colorado, lodges may bury suspended masons with masonic honors, and the Grand Master says that the law makes no distinction between those suspended for non-payment of dues and those suspended for other causes. In almost any other jurisdiction the burial of a *suspended* mason would subject all those engaged in it to severe discipline, and we cannot understand how it is allowed in Colorado; and yet we find that the Committee on Jurisprudence reported against taking any further action in the line suggested by the Grand Master. It may be, that practically the lodges make a distinction between those suspended for non-payment of dues and those suspended for masonic offences. If so, the law itself ought to make a distinction; and the practice shows that the suspension *from the rights of Masonry* for non-payment of dues is wrong.

He decided that, under the law of his jurisdiction, a lodge receiving a request for a waiver, should notify the lodges having concurrent jurisdiction, and if any one of such lodges files an objection the waiver is denied thereby.

In response to a question whether a lodge in Colorado can receive a petition for membership from a resident of California, he says:

"No. Voluntary non-affiliation is a masonic offence. The offence is committed against the laws of the Grand Jurisdiction in which the non-affiliate resides. Each Grand Lodge provides the way and manner in which a mason can re-instate himself to good standing. It would, therefore, be not only highly discourteous, but a grave offence against the Grand Lodge of California to receive the brother's petition, for it would have the effect of nullifying their statute against non-affiliates."

But the Grand Lodge, very properly, in our judgment, reversed the decision, the committee saying that the Grand Lodge had formerly decided:

“A brother residing within the jurisdiction of one lodge has the right, and it is his privilege, to affiliate with and become a member of any lodge in another jurisdiction, Grand or Subordinate, that he may select. By uniting with a lodge, no matter how distant, he complies with the obligation of affiliation, and by thus contributing to the support of the institution he discharges his duty as a mason and becomes entitled to all the privileges of the Order.”

And adding:

“Having thus emphatically declared and decided that a brother living in our jurisdiction may become a member of any lodge in any other jurisdiction according to his own will, we should insist on the converse of the proposition and hold that any brother, wherever he may reside, if in good standing, may petition and become a member of any lodge in our own jurisdiction.”

He gives a brief account of the Washington Centennial, speaking in very modest terms of the excellent address which he delivered upon that occasion.

It will be remembered that the idea of commemorating this occasion was originated in the Grand Lodge of Colorado, and we believe by Past Grand Master ROGER W. WOODBURY, and the thanks of the fraternity everywhere are due to Bro. WOODBURY and the Colorado brethren for the manner in which they aided in carrying out the plan originated by them.

The committee having charge of the matter made a report also, giving a very brief statement of what was done, and stating that the matter had been incorporated in a volume, made up, as we judge, like a scrap book. But we note that the matter of publishing the full memorial was referred to a committee, with power to have it published when a sufficient number of subscriptions should have been received. This is the first that we have noticed the matter, and we do not know whether the plan has been carried out.

We very greatly regret to learn that the Grand Lecturer, Past Grand Master FOSTER, was unable to attend to his duties on account of accidentally breaking his leg, and, before his recovery, by the serious illness of his wife. He reports that the publishers of Macoy's Manual had offered to print a manual to suit the Colorado work, and the matter was brought before the Grand Lodge. It seems that they have been using Mackey's Manual, and the Grand Lodge voted that it was inexpedient to make any change at present.

The evening of the first day was spent in the exemplification of the work.

It appears that seventeen of the lodges reported the reading of the Constitution, By-Laws and Decisions of the Grand Lodge in open lodge, and upon the report of the committee they were commended therefor.

The usual routine business was transacted harmoniously, and the general view is that the Grand Lodge is in a prosperous condition.

We note that the publication of the portrait of the Grand Secretary was by a vote of the Grand Lodge, and the steel-plate engraving was procured at the

expense of the Grand Lodge. We regard that tribute to our brother as a well earned one for his long, able and effective services.

The Report on Correspondence (172 pp.) was presented by Bro. LAWRENCE N. GREENLEAF, and maintains the high reputation which he has heretofore acquired.

Referring to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, he says:

"While the Grand Lodge of Washington may not have felt inclined to 'eat all of its own words,' its effort in that direction should be accepted in good faith, since there is no danger of any further declaration on the subject on its part."

He reviews Maine for 1899 and 1900, confining himself pretty closely to a brief abstract of the proceedings. Referring to our remarks concerning physical qualifications, he says:

"We would say that we shall be only too glad to quote the old charge in full, should we have occasion to refer to it hereafter. We want the most thorough investigation of these matters and do not believe in half truths."

The Grand Master of Manitoba having decided that a man having lost his left leg above the knee, could be initiated into Masonry, he says:

"And now ye advocates of liberal tendencies on the subject of physical qualification, roll this as a sweet morsel under your tongue, rejoice and be exceeding glad that the 'moral and intellectual qualifications' have scored a victory and the 'physical' has gone glimmering.

"The Grand Master seems to have given a literal construction to one of the most ancient of the Old Charges, viz: 'That he have his *right* limbs as a man ought to have,' (italics ours) nothing being said about the *left*! But joking aside, the matter is of most serious moment, and we trust our fellow reporters will not fail to denounce this most flagrant innovation. We have heard much of quibbling and vain repetition of the phrase 'that may render him incapable of learning the art, etc.' Here we have a case where the candidate cannot take the first step in Masonry or conform in any manner to the requirements of the three degrees. Is it not the ultimate outcome of the liberal and sentimental ideas that have been forced upon the attention of the Fraternity in late years, until even Grand Masters are forgetful of their obligation to maintain the usages and customs of the Fraternity?"

As this was said in a joke, we need not remind him of his promise that when he quoted the charge he would quote in full. Of the idea contained in the last sentence, we shall have occasion to speak later.

In his review of Montana, he dwells upon his particular fad, that in spite of history and practice of the fraternity, the law of physical qualification has reference entirely to symbolism, and we note it merely to call attention to the fact that he assumes as the old law and the old practice the reverse of what was actually the case.

In his review of South Carolina he says:

"Brother Inglesby is mistaken as to our views; there is nothing in our report to indicate that we are a progressionist; on the contrary, all our writings for years have been in favor of adhering to the old traditions. If we throw our landmarks to the winds and view the old charges as 'curios' of a past age,

upon what sure foundations are we to rest, and in what respect will Masonry differ from modern benefit societies. Why dispute over the number of landmarks, whether they be more or less? Customs and usages that have been in operation for nearly two centuries would seem to have acquired the force of landmarks. We believe, for symbolical reasons, that we should adhere as closely as possible to the law of physical qualification which has been in operation in this country since Masonry was first introduced into the colonies."

We entirely agree with him. The only trouble is that he reverses "the law in relation to physical qualifications which has been in operation in this country since Masonry was first introduced into the colonies." The fact is that the rule almost universally prevailing, that physical qualifications refer entirely to the capacity of the candidate to do masonic work, which was the rule in practice in the old Grand Lodge of England and is now, as well as in the other Grand Lodges in the Dependencies of the British Crown, and also in all the Grand Lodges which sprang from what is called the Modern Grand Lodge of England, and his rule has prevailed only in the very few jurisdictions which sprang from the so-called Ancients. Before he quietly assumes that the very large majority of the Grand Lodges of the world are violating the old landmarks and usage, we think that he should show that that is a fact, well knowing, however, that he cannot show it.

A great many of the masonic laws and customs and ceremonies, especially the latter, are of a symbolic character. We should like to have him examine this matter from a historical standpoint, and give us what he finds in relation to it.

In his conclusion he notices efforts that are made to amend Constitutions by making all Grand Officers elective, which he does not favor. The reason given is that the Grand Master has practically the power to indicate who his remote successor shall be. The trouble is in allowing the doctrine of "promotion in line" to get a hold upon our Grand Bodies. We have broken it up in Maine by making a Grand Warden ineligible to re-election, and a Junior Grand Warden ineligible to promotion as Senior, and there has come to be very nearly a reason for putting into the Constitution a provision making a Grand Warden ineligible to any office, on account of an attempt that was made to establish the right of the outgoing Senior Grand Warden to promotion to Deputy Grand Master. But we think that practically this has been broken up. It is true that we do not elect a man Deputy Grand Master whom we do not mean to elect Grand Master, for the reason that a man who is going to be Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, ought to give in advance attention to the study of the duties, and we make our intended Grand Master Deputy, generally for two years, to give him that opportunity.

DELAWARE, 1900.

The faontispiece is a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, WILLIAM W. BLACK, JR.

In his address M. W. Bro. BLACK announces the deaths of seven members of the Grand Lodge, five of whom were Past Masters, besides Past S. G. Warden JOHN BROWN ROBERTS and Past Grand Master JOSEPH W. H. WATSON.

BRO. WATSON had more than a local reputation both as a business man and as a mason. His services as Grand Master and on the Committee on Jurisprudence, show that he was deeply interested in Masonry and able and efficient in the discharge of all the duties imposed upon him.

In his conclusion the Grand Master says :

"Upon the death of our Past Grand Officers much difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the proper data for writing a suitable memorial. I would therefore recommend that a committee be appointed to prepare a list of questions concerning the private, public, and masonic life, and send it to our present and past Grand Officers, to be filled up promptly and returned to the committee, who will report results attained to the next session of the Grand Lodge."

Very many will agree with him in the wisdom of this recommendation, for, although we may live almost side by side with a brother and know him very well, yet when we come to write a tribute to his memory, we find that we know scarcely anything of the details of the history of the person whom we think we know so well.

Of visitations he says :

"I am happy to report that I have visited all lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, many of them more than once, and devoted much time giving instruction to officers-elect and newly-made brethren. I find a majority of lodges have good financial management, while several are very negligent in the collection of dues. In all the lodges, with the exception of two, it was my pleasure to witness the conferring of degrees, and with but few exceptions the work was done in an able and impressive manner, which is in a great measure due to the untiring efforts of the three able and efficient instructors, who are ever ready at all times to sacrifice their own business for the benefit of the craft. It was my pleasure at several of the lodges to confer degrees upon candidates, at some of which I was ably assisted by officers of the Grand Lodge, as well as other members of the craft."

And of the condition of the craft :

"It is a great source of pleasure to be able to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction; there is an entire absence of internal discord, dissension, or even dispute, and in my judgment the brethren have never manifested a greater interest in the workings of our noble Order."

At the last session of the Grand Lodge a committee was appointed to prepare an explanatory lecture for the first degree, and such a lecture was reported, exemplified and adopted. We had supposed that the masonic work everywhere included such a lecture.

He gives a letter from the Grand Master of Washington, desiring to exchange representatives, and he brought the matter before the Grand Lodge; but we regret to find that the Grand Lodge continued its action of the year before, not being satisfied with the meaning of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in repealing the resolutions which were the cause of the difference.

He gives a brief account of the Washington Centennial, regretting very greatly that he and his delegation did not reach Washington in season to attend the session of the Grand Lodge at Alexandria on the evening of the thirteenth of December.

In closing his account, he says:

"While every courtesy was extended to us by all, we especially mention Most Worshipful Brother R. T. W. Duke, Jr., Grand Master of Virginia, and Alfred R. Courtney, Past Grand Master of Virginia and Chairman of the Executive Committee. As a representative of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, I take this occasion to offer my sincere thanks to the brethren at Washington for their many acts of courtesy and kindness extended to us while in their midst. More particularly are we under obligations to Most Worshipful Bro. Duke, always genial, courteous, kind and warm-hearted, and deeply impressed with the solemnity of the ceremony. There will always be a warm spot in the hearts of Delaware masons for the Illustrious brother, Grand Master of Virginia. The occasion was a success in every sense of the word, and will long be remembered as the greatest event known to American Masonry."

This was the universal sentiment of all who were present, and will be one of the things longest to be remembered by the participants.

Delaware is divided into three districts for holding Schools of Instruction. In Wilmington the lodge is held every Saturday night from November until June. There are ten lodges in the district so nearly connected with Wilmington by trolley, that the members have the advantage of attending the schools at very little expense, and the lodges in that district, with a very few exceptions, are doing good work. In the second district a school of instruction was held with each lodge, as the lodges are very much scattered, and the same is true of the third district. But the instructors had been earnest and active, and very good work had been done in those districts, and yet the Grand Master says that there is need of improvement in the work of certain lodges, and suggests that every lodge should insist that all its officers should attend these schools of instruction.

An application came during the session of the Grand Lodge for the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia. Bro. JACKSON, of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, stated that as everything appeared to be regular he would move that the Grand Lodge be recognized, but the matter was referred to a committee, upon whose recommendation, made a little later, recognition was accorded.

The action in relation to the Grand Lodge of Washington was as follows:

“As to the request of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington for an exchange of representatives, we recommend that the resolution passed at the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge be continued in force, and decline an exchange of representatives until this Grand Lodge is satisfied that the Grand Lodge of Washington shall have absolutely and unequivocally receded from its former position.”

Upon the application of M. W. THOMAS J. SHRYOCK, Grand Master of Maryland, permission was given to a Maryland lodge to meet on the Delaware side of the town in which it is situated, for one year, while the lodge was erecting a hall.

The Grand Master declined to approve the by-laws of a lodge, which provided that members in arrears should not be entitled to vote at elections or hold office, and the following report of the committee in relation thereto was adopted:

“Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the report of the Committee on By-Laws, would report that while there is no constitutional provision bearing directly on this point, in their opinion no member of any lodge can be deprived of any of his rights and privileges as such member without charges having been preferred and trial had. The right to vote in his lodge and to hold office in same is a privilege inherent in his membership. Our decision, therefore, is that any such provision in the by-laws of any lodge depriving members when in arrears for dues of the privilege of voting or holding office is unlawful, and we recommend that all such provisions in the by-laws of any subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction be stricken out.”

There are a few jurisdictions in which such by-laws are allowed, but they are generally held to be contrary to masonic usage and right.

The Grand Master and other brethren from New Jersey visited the Grand Lodge, were received with due honors, and addressed the Grand Lodge, greatly to the satisfaction of all present.

The Report on Correspondence (71 pp.) was presented by Bro. LEWIS H. JACKSON. It is an exceedingly brief abstract of the proceedings, with occasional brief comments.

The law in Delaware is evidently the same as the law in Maine, in relation to the restoration of brethren for the non-payment of dues:

“With us payment of dues re-instates without action of the lodge. But we cannot approve of the practice of charging a brother for privileges he is deprived of during his term of suspension.”

It will be noted, however, that in Maine we have limited the privilege to five years, for a case arose in which an attempt was made by the friends of the brother to restore him when he was in need and had been suspended from membership for very many years; and we think it right that if payment shall restore, it shall be done within a reasonable time, and we think that five years is by no means an unreasonable time.

He quotes the decision of Grand Master CHOATE:

"A Master may call any brother to preside *in his presence and under his direction*, and so long as the Master is present and directing the proceedings of the lodge the work may go on, but no longer."

And adds:

"The above is in accord with our own experience and practice as Master, more than twenty years ago, when we were invited to do work for others and invited others to do work for us."

These quotations illustrate the method of the preparation of his reports, in which, as we have heretofore said, he condenses a vast amount of information into a little space.

FLORIDA, 1901.

We have for a frontispiece the portrait of M. W. Bro. WILLIAM A. MCLEAN, Grand Master from 1878 to 1880.

Two special communications were held during the year; one to constitute a lodge and the other to lay the corner stone of the new masonic temple now being built at Tampa. The Deputy Grand Master, SYD. L. CARTER, delivered a very fine oration on the latter occasion.

At the annual communication, there was a full representation of the lodges, and especially of the Representatives of Grand Lodges.

The Grand Master, SILAS B. WRIGHT, delivered an address of great interest. He had made quite a number of visitations, but speaks of them only in a general manner, except he makes special mention of one where he met M. W. Past Grand Master SAM. C. LAWRENCE and his brother, Past S. G. W. DANIEL W. LAWRENCE, of Massachusetts, and on which occasion he raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, his own son.

He earnestly urges upon the lodges that the social side of Masonry should not be neglected, and thinks that at their meetings a few moments should be spent in social intercourse, especially when new members or visiting brethren are present.

Regarding the issuing of a dispensation for a new lodge as a most important fact, he had felt obliged to refuse the only petition that was presented.

He announced that one lodge had surrendered its charter.

He gives some valuable information in relation to Western Australia. It seems that in December, '98, a number of brethren met and resolved to form what they called the "Sovereign Grand Lodge of Western Australia," but they were neither officers or members of any lodge, and of course their proceedings were entirely void. The following February, the English lodges took measures looking to the formation of a Grand Lodge. Thirty-three of the thirty-four English lodges concurred in the movement, but there were twenty-four Scottish lodges in the colony which under the Constitution of their Grand Lodge were prohibited from taking any part in the matter, and there were two Irish

lodges that failed to participate. Recognition had been granted to this Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodges of England, New South Wales, Victoria and others. As this movement was participated in by a majority of all the regular Grand Lodges in the colony, it would seem that this Grand Lodge was entitled to the recognition, which has been accorded.

Bro. WRIGHT, however, reports that in the following December, 1899, the lodges under the Scottish constitution met and organized "the Grand Lodge of Scottish Masonry in Western Australia." The recognized Grand Lodge has hopes and expectations that a union will be effected with the Scottish body.

He had obtained information in relation to the Grand Orient of Belgium, which is rather a surprise to us, and we desire here to acknowledge our obligations to M. W. Bro. WRIGHT for information by personal correspondence, and for furnishing us with copies of documents which he had received.

He found in a printed list that this Grand Orient had exchanged Representatives, and was maintaining masonic correspondence with the Grand Orient of France. These relations with the Grand Orient of France were established in 1840. An effort was made about a year ago to sever these relations, but it failed by a few votes.

He conferred with several of the American Grand Lodges which had recognized the Grand Orient of Belgium, and found that none of them had knowledge of the facts just stated, and in view of those facts he recommended that further consideration of the recognition of that Grand Orient be indefinitely postponed.

We feel that it is certain that if these facts had been known to the Grand Lodges which have recognized that Grand Orient, few, if any, would have granted recognition. We are very sure that Maine would not, at any rate.

He discussed at some length the *status* of the Grand Dieta of Mexico, and he gives in connection with his address, the report of Bro. W. N. SEAMON, of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, who had been appointed a special committee to examine and report upon that subject. We shall probably have occasion to refer further to this report. But he recommended that the request of the Grand Dieta for recognition be refused, and the Grand Lodge so voted.

He had not deemed it best to exchange Representatives with the Grand Lodge of Washington in consequence of the unsettled question still involved.

In acting upon applications for dispensations, he had considered what was of benefit to the craft and not to the candidates.

He had had occasion to make a large number of decisions, most of them under local law.

The publishers of Macoy's Manual offered to print an edition to conform with the Florida work if he would have it revised and corrected. He submitted the manuscript to a committee, who revised and approved, and he rec-

commended that it be referred to the Committee on Work to be examined by them, and if approved that it be adopted and lodges urged to procure and use it in place of all others.

A brother presented a dimit from the Grand Orient of Columbia and asked for affiliation, and he ruled that if the brother could prove himself to be a mason, and had lived in this jurisdiction one year, he may be healed by taking the necessary obligation, and then affiliated.

He ruled that inasmuch as the edict of non-intercourse with Washington was repealed in 1900, although no Representatives had been appointed, the *status* existing prior to January, 1899, had been renewed.

The Grand Master had made several decisions relating to the admission of saloon keepers, but as the whole matter was before the Grand Lodge and submitted to a committee, we conclude to give the full report of that committee:

"Bro. Lionel Jacobs asks for the repeal of a resolution found on page 366 of the Proceedings of 1899, upon the ground that it is in violation of Article 10, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida. The resolution is as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the liquor traffic is demoralizing in its effects, has been productive of great evil, misery and suffering and has caused the downfall of many brother masons, therefore the particular lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction are advised and instructed not to accept the petitions of those engaged in it when they apply for admission to our order."

"The case which caused this action of the Grand Lodge is narrated in the Grand Master's address in the Proceedings of 1899 and referred to in the report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. A Master Mason, who kept a liquor saloon, continued to sell intoxicating liquors to a brother Master Mason, belonging to the same lodge with himself, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the wife of his customer, and the degrading effect of the habit upon the husband, who became a confirmed inebriate, and descended step by step until he filled a drunkard's grave. The other members of the lodge seemed to look with indifference upon the acts of the tempting brother, and the fall and ruin of the tempted one. Their indifference so aroused the feelings of the wife, that she refused to allow the lodge to participate in the funeral ceremonies according to our ancient rites, when the remains of the husband were interred. The Grand Lodge considered the action of the saloon keeper as a violation of the Moral Law, and that a man who followed a business producing such results, was not a fit candidate for the mysteries of Masonry, and that a lodge in receiving a petition from such a candidate, and acting favorably upon it, was forgetful of the qualifications which one should possess, who desires to become a member of our order.

"No new law was promulgated in the resolution. The rights and powers of the particular lodges were not changed or altered by the exclusion of an immoral person from the privileges of petition for initiation. The resolution was intended to remind the lodges that the moral qualities of the candidate must be considered by the particular lodges, and that persons who pursued such a course, as the saloon keeper, are unfit candidates for Freemasonry, and because of the laxity of the lodge within whose jurisdiction these unhappy events had occurred, an admonition and edict seemed timely and necessary. More than twenty of the Grand Lodges in the United States have taken similar action in this class of cases, and the committee believe that such action is not in violation of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and that the regulation should be retained.

"The Grand Master reports the following ruling in answer to the question: 'Does the edict of 1899, referring to the traffic of liquor selling, reach the men, who were members before the edict was passed, but not engaged in the traffic, should these later enter the traffic?'"

"Answer: 'It does not. The edict simply applies to the reception of the petition of those engaged in it when they applied for admission into our order. A member entering into the sale of liquor, is amenable to the laws of which temperance "is one of the cardinal virtues." See also the Ancient Charges and Anderson's Regulations, and Regulation 123, which are a part of our moral code.'

"Your committee being of the opinion that the business of liquor selling is a nefarious occupation, productive of great evil, causing untold misery and suffering, the downfall of many brother masons and subversive of the great principles of temperance and morality, would urge upon the fraternity, the necessity of stringent laws to prevent our members from engaging in it.

"We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it shall be unlawful for any mason after becoming a member of any lodge owing allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Florida, to enter upon, and engage in the business of liquor selling, and any member who violates this regulation shall be subject to charges and trial for unmasonic conduct in the particular lodge in which he holds membership."

The report was signed by the whole committee and was accepted, and the resolution adopted.

The Grand Treasurer, HENRY ROBINSON, presented the Grand Lodge with a Bible printed in 1715, two years before the organization of Masonry under the present system, and the thanks of the Grand Lodge was extended to him for it, and measures were taken to secure its preservation.

A fine oration was delivered by the Grand Orator, Bro. REGINALD H. WELLER. It is worth careful reading and study, but it must be read as a whole.

The Grand Lodge voted to become a life member of the lodge Quatuor Coronati, at a cost of thirty dollars. There is no doubt that the publications of that body are of the highest value to masonic students and those interested in the history of Masonry.

There was no Report on Correspondence.

GEORGIA, 1900.

We have portraits of M. W. Bro. JAMES M. MOBLEY, Past Grand Master, and WILLIAM A. DAVIS, the retiring Grand Master.

The address of the Grand Master, WILLIAM A. DAVIS, contained very much of interest, and we scarcely know what to select for notice. He had been a very able and efficient Grand Master, and had evidently devoted his time very fully to the duties of his office, with a result exceedingly beneficial to his Grand Lodge and very creditable to himself.

Of the condition of the craft he says:

"It is with unfeigned pleasure that I am permitted to impart the pleasing intelligence that the Masonry of Georgia was never in a more flourishing condition than it is to-day, exerting an influence at home and commanding a respect abroad that has never been surpassed in all the history of its existence. From the returns which have come into the hands of the Grand Secretary we learn that our membership is gradually, although constantly, increasing in numerical strength. There is no room anywhere, nor any sudden and unnatural influx in any section, but a normal and healthful growth in almost every section. It is true there is a dearth of interest in a few lodges, while in a very few others there is a spirit of lethargy and inactivity, with an occasional case of discord and even strife and contention, but these constitute a very small minority of our lodges and comprise only the exceptions to the great rule. A great majority of the lodges are prospering in an unusual degree. The brethren are working together in the utmost harmony, and everywhere the true spirit of brotherly love is made manifest. We are frequently in receipt of communications from Masters and Secretaries informing us that the very best men of their respective communities are seeking admission in the Order, and that called communications are often necessary to keep up with the work."

He notes the fact also that an honored son of Georgia, beloved wherever he is known, JAMES W. TAYLOR, had been elected to the head of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, whose session Bro. DAVIS had attended. Of this he says:

"Yet it was intended as a compliment to Georgia as much as to individual preferment. This is a distinction which has rarely come to the South, and never to our state before, and should well be held in highest appreciation by the entire fraternity. In that great meeting, composed of representatives from almost every State in the Union, and representing the very highest type of manhood and Masonry, I was especially gratified at the high regard in which the masons of Georgia were held, and the manifold deferences which were so often manifested toward our delegation. Georgia stands in the very front rank of the jurisdictions of this country, and we are proud of the position she holds and the impression she is making on the fraternal world."

We are exceedingly glad to note that he is able to report that the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge are in excellent shape, and he gives some cautions which have application everywhere in relation to the difference between having a balance in the treasury and groaning under the burden of debt as his Grand Lodge has done for nearly a quarter of a century, whereby the progress of the Institution is impaired and retarded. But he would not stop here; he would go on husbanding the resources and employing them in the promotion of some worthy enterprise. He undoubtedly refers to accumulating a fund for a Masonic Home.

He had made a large number of visitations, and he calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to the fact that some of the lodges felt it to be their duty to defray the expenses of such visitations, and some did not, and of this he well says:

"It is often the case that the lodges and the community which most need the services of the Grand Master are the least able to bear the expense. If there is a perfect understanding of this matter the Grand Master would be enabled to visit nearly every section of the State, and, in my humble opinion, a few hundred dollars could not be more wisely or profitably employed."

He had made a large number of decisions, largely depending upon local law, but a few of them of general interest.

He decided that a brother who is accused of casting a black ball cannot deny the accusation in open lodge; the decision is limited to the question, but we understand from what the decision was that he cannot deny it at all. While concurring fully, we regret that he did not add to his decision that the party, who accused the brother of casting a black ball, ought to have been disciplined.

The following was approved by the Grand Lodge:

“Can the Grand Lodge expel a man who is not a member of its body, and who has not been recommended for expulsion by a subordinate lodge? Answer: It can. The Grand Lodge has authority over every mason in its jurisdiction. A member expelled by the Grand Lodge, without recommendation from a subordinate lodge, can only be restored by the Grand Lodge.”

He granted a large number of dispensations; some of them it would seem ought to be provided for in the Constitution, rendering an application to the Grand Master unnecessary.

He speaks very highly of the work of the District Deputies, and endorses the following from the report of one of them:

“A few decades ago the applicants for charters had to make it plain to the committee, and the committee had to make it plain to the Grand Lodge, that the lodge would be self-sustaining and with every hope of perpetuity before charters were granted. Now all that seems necessary is for the application to be in form, with a sufficient number of signatures.”

He gives the application of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia for recognition, expressing the hope that it would meet with a favorable reply.

He announced the death of Bro. WHITFORD S. RAMSAY, and pays a tribute to his memory. We noticed this death last year, but we will add the following:

“As the correspondent of the three masonic Grand Bodies of the State he had won an enviable reputation, and had already an established fame as a foremost thinker and erudite writer on masonic law. His native talent, his extensive reading and profound study gave him such knowledge of the history and traditions of our institution that he was enabled to assume a correct and invulnerable position on almost all questions at issue. Brave and fearless, he always dared to maintain the right, and was bold and aggressive in his opposition of the wrong. From his exalted position he never condescended to things of low degree, and knew no compromise with vice in any form. Because, however, of the goodness of his nature and the tenderness of his heart, he was ever mindful and exceedingly considerate, even of the feelings of his opponents.”

We are pained to hear also of the death of Past Grand Master JOHN P. SHANNON, who died on the 17th of September, and whose death causes a great loss to Masonry. He was for several years Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and as such won a very high reputation. We met him personally, and

our previous opinion of him was confirmed. We would be glad to copy what the Grand Master says of him, but cannot for want of space.

He also announced the death of Past Grand Master SAMUEL D. IRVIN, who had not been able to meet with the Grand Lodge for several years, but had always sent messages of love to it.

The deaths of these two brethren leave only three Past Grand Masters living.

We commend to our readers the closing part of his address, in which he speaks of the "Closing Century," the "Coming Century," and the "Part of Masonry in the Progress of the Future." It will amply repay reading more than once, and remembering.

The Grand Lodge decided that, under its law which provides suspension for twelve months for non-payment of dues, and then if the dues are not paid, that charges may be filed against the brother and he expelled, if no action is taken expelling him, at the end of the twelve months he becomes fully re-instated as a member.

Miss BUNNIE LOVE, daughter of the deceased WILLIAM ABRAM LOVE, had prepared an article on "Georgia's First Grand Masters," for which the thanks of the Grand Lodge were tendered to her.

It seems that the practice has arisen in that jurisdiction for the voucher for a candidate to withdraw his recommendation, and thereupon the following was adopted:

"That from and after this date, no member of a lodge can withdraw his name from a petition for degree or affiliation after the application has been read before the lodge, and in the hands of a committee of investigation."

We doubt whether a withdrawal ought to be allowed after the petition has been presented; certainly it ought not to be if the withdrawal of it has any effect upon the action on the application.

The careful reports of the Grand Treasurer and others show that the statement of the Grand Master that the finances of the Grand Lodge are in good condition, is correct: it would appear that if the same care is taken in relation to expenses, the condition will continue to improve.

A report was made favorable to the building and maintaining of a Masonic Home, and to create a fund for that purpose the Grand Lodge would appropriate one-half of the surplus in the treasury of the Grand Lodge at the end of each year; but declared absolutely that it would incur no debt for the building or maintaining of such a Home, or be responsible for any debts connected with the Home, beyond the amount of the appropriation therein specified; and moreover, that it would not impose a tax or assessment on individuals or members of lodges. It provided, also, that nothing would be done towards building it, until ten thousand dollars in cash had been raised or received from the surplus, as above stated.

An amendment to the by-laws was adopted, which provides that the Masters and Past Masters in attendance upon the Grand Lodge from each masonic district shall meet and elect a District Deputy. This is a departure from the usual plan, and, considering the duties of the District Deputy, we have some doubts as to the success of the plan, but will "wait and watch."

The work was exemplified as usual, and provision was made for exemplifying it at the next session of the Grand Lodge.

Beautiful memorials were paid to Past Grand Masters SHANNON and IRVIN, and to Bro. RAMSAY. We commend them to the attention of our brethren.

A resolution was introduced, apparently directed against using the masonic forms and ceremonies at the meetings of the Masters in each district at the call of the Deputy. It was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and upon its recommendation was indefinitely postponed.

Four charters were granted and two surrendered.

The Committee on General Welfare well say:

"We recognize the growing evil of the establishment of too many new lodges in our State, and would respectfully ask that in each application for a charter in the future investigation be done diligently, with great care and discretion, as we find that some of our oldest and best lodges are being materially weakened and depleted by the establishment of new lodges."

Resolutions were offered looking to the saving of time and labor in organizing the Grand Lodge at each session. We do not copy them, because we are satisfied at once that they will not secure the object nearly as well as the practice which we have here in Maine. They were not adopted, but the Grand Master and Grand Secretary were appointed a committee to devise a short method for correcting and perfecting the roll call, provided that there is no law now governing the same.

The Grand Master elect delivered a beautiful address of a practical character, having reference especially to the duties of the brethren from a moral standpoint.

It seems that some of the lodges have the following by-law, which, however, the Grand Lodge refused to approve and directed that any lodge having it in their code strike it out:

"Any member who voluntarily in open lodge erases his name, or desires his name to be erased from the books of the lodge as a member on account of any proposal or motion being rejected, shall never again be admitted as a member, and whenever he visits the lodge shall be put upon the footing of a non-affiliated mason, and shall pay the usual fee."

The evil sought to be remedied is a grave one in a lodge of masons, and if it prevails to any extent a little wholesome discipline to the brother who refuses to "submit to the awards of his brethren" would probably cure it.

A touching letter was received from Past Grand Master J. I. WRIGHT, who is now living in Texas, and spread upon the record. In it he pays tributes to Past Grand Masters SHANNON and IRVIN.

We find that a very large number of brethren were expelled for non-payment of dues, and quite a large number more were expelled for various offences. While not criticising the action of the Grand Lodge in the later cases, we have a strong conviction that the imposing of the penalty of expulsion so frequently, belittles the appreciation of that punishment, in the minds of the craft, and we believe that if the sentiment that "expulsion is masonic death" was practically as well as theoretically impressed upon the minds of the craft there would be less occasion to inflict it.

The Report on Correspondence (145 pp.) was presented by Bro. A. MORRILL LAMB DIN.

He has patiently examined the Proceedings of the sister Grand Lodges, and abstracted matters of interest and instruction for the craft, but his comments are very rare. One cannot help but wish, however, that he would more frequently give his opinion upon the wisdom or unwisdom of many of the matters which he quotes. He thus states his reasons:

"In our work of reviewing we have refrained from commenting in most instances, believing that to state facts as we found them and to quote inspiring thoughts would prove more instructive than would our own opinions of the same."

Our experience leads us to the contrary opinion.

IDAHO, 1900.

For a frontispiece we have a "snap-shot" at the Grand Lodge assembled at a convenient place out of the Hall. While we are not acquainted with the members of the Grand Lodge, the picture looks as if the likenesses were very good indeed.

The Grand Lodge met at ten o'clock. It was called to order, and the roll of Grand Officers and permanent members called, and those present answered, and assumed their respective stations. Then the roll of lodges was called, and it was ascertained that a sufficient number were present to open the Grand Lodge. The Grand Master then filled the vacancies in the Grand Offices and then opened the Grand Lodge. He then appointed a Committee on Credentials and the Grand Lodge was then called off until afternoon. In the afternoon the Committee on Credentials reported, and their report was adopted. The standing committees were then appointed, and the Grand Master, JOHN C. MUERMAN, delivered his address. We give this at length because the method of proceeding in getting the Grand Lodge ready for work is attracting considerable attention with a view to saving time.

We most earnestly commend, especially to the Masters of our lodges, the following from the Grand Master's address:

"In our jurisdiction one new lodge has been added and one charter surrendered, leaving our number to-day the same as in the former report.

"There has been, however, during the past year, a steady and substantial growth, and our subordinate lodges are beginning to realize the fact that 'to guard well the portals, is the true safeguard of Masonry.

"The reports of our Grand Masters from year to year are apt to be quite similar as in so short a time not many great changes take place in our lodges.

"During the year I have visited each lodge at least once, and several twice. I have carefully inspected the Secretary's and Treasurer's records and find in nearly all lodges the accounts are carefully and completely kept.

"A good Secretary is a blessing to any lodge, and a poor one should have a good assistant.

"The selection of Masters is also important, and the very best only should be selected—line of promotion should make no difference, but occupations of certain kinds should exclude any one.

"The trestle board of our lodge should be free from all stains, and the one who draws the designs should himself be able to draw only those designs that true masons would be glad to follow. No apology should ever be made for those in authority.

"The by-laws of our subordinate lodges state a time of meeting, and it should be the duty of each Master to call the lodge to order at the time specified, if he has a quorum; if not, an effort should be made to secure one 'on time.' Eight o'clock should not mean 8.30.

"The finances of our lodge need the same watchfulness and care that should govern our private affairs; fine furniture and trimmings are perfectly proper if we can afford them; but if they are to be had at the expense of an empty treasury, or what is still worse, a heavy debt, the lodge will suffer, and our interest, except the ten per cent. paid, will rapidly grow less.

"Promptness, both in opening and closing, and care to husband every resource of the lodge, will ultimately lead to lasting success and the happy expression, 'We are out of debt and own our own hall,' will be heard more often than at present. Prepare for the future by watching and guarding well the present."

If lodges and their officers will heed this advice it will be wonderful if they do not keep up interest in the work and be prosperous. We have rarely found so much practical instruction for lodges in so small a space.

An immense number of matters of rather a routine character had come before the Grand Master, which he seems to have disposed of very wisely.

He had found that a good deal of trouble had arisen in relation to their law in regard to dimit, and he recommends that a careful consideration of the matter be taken by the Grand Lodge, and some action taken that will allow a brother to receive a dimit without so much delay, and make less work for the Secretary and less trouble for the lodges.

He had rendered quite a number of decisions, but they seem almost all to depend upon local law.

A dimit was presented to him not having the signature of the Master, but bearing the words "by order of the lodge," with the seal of the lodge and the signature of the Secretary. He advised writing for the Master's signature.

We had supposed that this is the form used in the large majority of the jurisdictions, and that rarely if ever does a Master sign a dimit.

He expected that Past Grand Master SHOUP would attend and represent

the Grand Lodge at the Washington Memorial, but Bro. SHOUP (who is a United States Senator) was prevented from attending by his official duties.

He refers to the non-affiliate resolution adopted in 1899, which has been pretty severely criticised, and having become satisfied that the resolution offers no remedy for the evil it undertook to cure, recommends that it be repealed, and the Grand Lodge adopted his recommendation.

The California work has heretofore been used in that jurisdiction, but as California no longer uses it, he recommended that a committee be appointed to recommend a work to the Grand Lodge at its next session, and to recommend some plan by which all the lodges might receive the work. This recommendation was adopted.

The Grand Secretary makes a full report of the matters in his office, showing a careful attention to the duties, and a good degree of prosperity prevailing.

He had given the library a very valuable increase by having the Proceedings of sister Grand Lodges bound into volumes, numbering in all 189.

Upon the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, the Grand Lodge decided not to recognize the United Grand Lodge of Mexico, and confirmed its previous action in refusing to recognize the Grand Dieta.

The Committee on Necrology pays tributes to the brethren who had died during the year, including a Past Deputy Grand Master, two Past S. G. Wardens and one Past J. G. Warden.

The following was adopted in relation to the Grand Orient of Belgium :

Resolved, That the action of this Grand Lodge at its last annual communication, in extending fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of Belgium, be not rescinded at present, but if said Grand Orient does not see its way clear to sever its friendly relations with the Grand Orient of France, and officially notify us before the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary will then be instructed to withdraw the commission of the Representative of this Grand Lodge near the said Grand Orient of Belgium, and the Grand Secretary shall at once forward a copy of this resolution to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Orient of Belgium, also a copy to the Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Orient of Belgium."

The Grand Lodge appropriated \$150 for the Galveston sufferers, and \$200 for the expenses of the Committee on the Revision of the Work.

We find in addition to the frontispiece in this volume, a portrait of Past Grand Master FRANCIS E. ENSIGN, and also one of the incoming Grand Master, GEORGE D. GOLDEN.

The Report on Correspondence (117 pp.) was presented by Bro. FRED G. MOCK.

As heretofore he confines himself pretty closely to a carefully prepared abstract of the proceedings of other Grand Lodges, giving with his report the review of foreign Grand Lodges taken from the New York committee's report.

He reviews Maine for 1899 and 1900.

He refers to the matter of the failure to present Maine's resolutions to his

Grand Lodge, but we say, as we meant to say last year, that we have no idea that there was any intentional neglect on the part of any one, and we accept his explanations and statements as perfectly satisfactory.

ILLINOIS, 1900.

This volume contains the portraits of ABRAHAM JONAS, elected Grand Master in 1840, MEREDITH HELM, elected Grand Master in 1842, and ALEXANDER DUNLAP, elected Grand Master in 1843.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and the Grand Secretary reported that the Committee on Credentials had informed him that representatives were present from a constitutional number of lodges, and asked, for the committee, for further time in which to complete its report, which was granted, and in the meantime the Grand Lodge proceeded with its business.

The following resolution was then introduced and referred to the Committee on Finance:

“Resolved, That one thousand dollars of the funds of this Grand Lodge be sent to the Grand Master of Masons in Texas, to be by him distributed to such places and through such channels as he may elect for the relief of brethren and their families who are sufferers from the recent hurricane and flood in that State.”

The committee reported instantly, however, recommending the adoption of it, and their report was unanimously adopted.

The Grand Secretary then read a list of committees appointed. As we find that the committees were appointed after the installation of the Grand Officers, we presume that the list read by him was the list that had been appointed the year preceding.

The Grand Master, CHARLES F. HITCHCOCK, delivered a brief but compact address, pertaining almost wholly to business matters. He calls attention, however, in opening, to the fact that in 1840 the Grand Lodge started with seven lodges and one hundred and fifty-seven members, but had grown to seven hundred and twenty-three lodges and fifty-seven thousand, two hundred and fifty members.

He announced the death of P. G. Master HARRISON DILLS, who died soon after the close of the preceding annual communication.

In giving an account of the disbursements of the Charity Fund, he states a case in which the limit was reached, but under the Constitution he took the responsibility to make an additional grant. We have no doubt the Grand Lodge would have confirmed it, but before the check reached its destination the party had ceased to live and the money was not needed.

He had laid a large number of corner stones, all of which were occasions of much interest, not only to the masons but to the citizens of the community in which the ceremonies were performed.

He had issued but two dispensations for new lodges, but had been obliged to furnish five charters to replace originals destroyed by fire.

He had requested the District Deputy Grand Masters to examine all the lodge rooms and to ascertain their fitness and safety, but this was found impracticable on account of the time and expense which it took; but from other information obtained he was satisfied that there were but very few lodges that did not meet in safe rooms. Three or four were found which were considered unsuitable and one actually unsafe.

An amendment to the Constitution had been proposed and submitted to the lodges; but he announced upon the report of the Grand Secretary that less than two-thirds of the lodges had voted for it, and therefore it was lost. As a matter of curiosity, we would like to know whether it was lost because lodges failed to vote, or by an actual vote of less than two-thirds of the lodges.

He gives a list of the lodges that he had visited, and of these he says:

"It was my intention, when elected, to visit as many lodges as time and circumstances would permit. In nearly every instance when invited, I have endeavored to be present, and always have been received with honors due the Grand Master. On each occasion I have endeavored to give some wholesome advice, not in a spirit of fault-finding but of encouragement. I have endeavored to impress on the minds of the brethren that it is not so much numbers that we desire as it is men of good principles—men who will reflect credit and honor to the fraternity. I have tried to show them that Masonry enters into competition with no other organization, that it is independent and free, and no matter how many kindred organizations spring into existence, Masonry will continue to live and flourish. It is of no mushroom growth, but steady and certain."

The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary show that the Grand Lodge was in a very prosperous condition financially, and the Committee on Returns report as a matter for special rejoicing that every lodge had made returns and paid dues.

A pleasing incident of the session was the presence of R. W. JOHN R. BELLINGER, Grand Junior Warden of South Carolina. He was received with the honors, and responded briefly with neat and appropriate remarks. We wish these visits were more frequent, especially between distant jurisdictions.

The Committee on the Grand Master's address says:

"Your committee beg leave to report that the Grand Master's address shows the cares and results of a very busy year in a brief and concise summary. The Grand Master, personally, laid eight corner stones, dedicated three lodges, installed several officers in different parts of the State, and visited thirty-three lodges. In two of these, which work in the German language, he doubtless displayed his linguistic efficiency in their native tongue, and was otherwise loyal to the usages and customs of the German Craft; for peace and harmony prevail. His prudent appeals to the good sense and charitable hearts of brethren of several of the English lodges, who were chafing under the restrictions of the recent edict, have been equally effective without harsh measures; for they have gracefully laid aside valuable, but forbidden things, and promised to strictly comply with the law; for which we invoke your sympathy and gratitude."

It was found that there was quite a surplus in the Grand Treasury of the Grand Lodge, and thereupon Past Grand Master JOHN C. SMITH introduced the following resolution :

"WHEREAS, The Masonic Orphans' Home, of the State of Illinois is a duly chartered charitable institution and deserving the earnest support of every affiliated member of the fraternity, therefore be it

Resolved, That the sum of \$50,000 of the bonds now in the treasury of this Grand Lodge be and they are hereby appropriated and donated to said Masonic Orphans' Home Association for the special purpose of aiding in the creation of a permanent fund, the interest alone of which is to be used in paying the expenses of the Home."

Another brother immediately introduced the following:

Resolved, That the sum of \$15,000 be and the same hereby is appropriated to the Illinois Masonic Home for the Aged, and that a warrant be drawn upon the treasury for that amount."

And later another brother introduced the following:

Resolved, That the sum of five thousand dollars be appropriated from the funds of this Grand Lodge and donated to the Masonic and Eastern Star Home of Illinois, to be added to the building fund of that institution."

All were referred to the Committee on Finance.

The committee reported in favor of making a much smaller donation to each of these charities, but the recommendations were rejected, and instead of them the following was adopted:

"That all the assets in the treasury of the Grand Lodge in excess of the sum of \$30,000, par value, be converted into cash, and less the obligations, appropriations and expenses incidental to this annual communication, be pro rated back to the lodges from which it was collected, in proportion to their membership, as the nucleus of a charity fund in each lodge."

We greatly fear that in a short time very many of the lodges will spend this money for current expenses, and we regret, therefore, that the Grand Lodge had not hedged it about with a regulation that it should be set aside for a charity fund, and *be used for no other purpose*.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances report their conclusions, but do not even give the name of the party under discipline.

During the session a dispatch was received announcing the death of Bro. EUGENE L. STOKER, who for many years had been an active member of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances. Thereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That by the death of Bro. Eugene L. Stoker, this Grand Lodge has lost a useful, active and valuable member; that we tender to the bereaved family of our deceased brother our most sincere sympathy and condolence, in this sad bereavement; that the Grand Secretary is hereby directed to furnish the family of the deceased brother a copy of these proceedings under the seal of the Grand Lodge."

The following preamble and resolution was presented and adopted:

"WHEREAS, this Grand Lodge having established a chart setting forth the symbols of Masonry, and upon which are portrayed characters represented in the Ritual, attired in costumes and ornaments appropriate to their rank; therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That such costumes and paraphernalia as are symbolic of the dress of the characters represented in, and illustrative of the Ritual, are appropriate in the exemplification of work, and are in accordance with the ancient traditions of the craft."

But later on the following was introduced and referred to the Board of Grand Examiners:

"WHEREAS, This Grand Lodge has adopted a resolution permitting robes and paraphernalia, as specified by a chart said to have been adopted by this Grand Body; and

"WHEREAS, The records of this Grand Lodge fail to show that any chart has ever been adopted displaying the symbolism of Masonry; and

"WHEREAS, It is important that the meaning of this Grand Lodge as expressed in said resolution should be made plain and easily understood; therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That the chart referred to be presented to this Grand Lodge, and the particular robes and paraphernalia specified in said resolution be designated, so that uniformity in the work may be maintained in this Grand Jurisdiction."

The Committee on the Revision of the Book of Ceremonials reported, and with a few trifling amendments the work was approved and three thousand copies ordered printed, and three copies sent to each lodge.

An amendment to the by-laws was introduced and laid over to the next session, limiting the term of office of the Grand Master to one year.

The proposed amendment to the by-laws approving the appointment of a Trial Board composed of Past Masters, who shall be members of lodges other than the one in which the proceedings are pending, was considered but rejected.

BRO. EDMOND S. MORSE, recently appointed Representative from the Grand Lodge of Washington, was introduced, and in his remarks says:

"It is an unusual privilege, and a pleasing one, to bring to you to-day a warm and cordial greeting from the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington. When for any reason friendly intercourse between Grand Lodges is interrupted, the re-establishment of fraternal relations very properly calls for mutual expression of good will and gratification."

The Report on Correspondence (328 pp.) was presented by BRO. JOSEPH ROBBINS.

We are glad to find that he has abandoned the "Topical Method" and returned to the style of reports which carry out the purpose for which "Committees on Foreign Correspondence" were originally appointed. The original plan of Masonry contemplated one Grand Master and one Grand Lodge. So when it became necessary that there should be more than one Grand Lodge, in order to keep the Institution a unit, correspondence between the Grand Lodges was equally necessary. But experience proved that it was not suffi-

cient to maintain correspondence between officials. So, very soon after the organization of Grand Lodges in the United States a committee was appointed to examine the correspondence from other Grand Lodges, and report upon the same to their own Grand Lodge, in order that the craft might be informed in relation to matters transpiring in the other jurisdictions. It followed, as a matter of course, that the committee would comment upon these matters with the view of sustaining the principles of the Institution unimpaired, and maintaining the universality of Masonry. The necessity of this kind of work has increased with the growth and spread of Masonry, but the primary object has continued to be information, and the secondary object discussion. The topical form of reports completely ignores the former and principal object, of which the latter is a mere incident. But it is said that these reports are not read to any considerable extent. That they are not read as generally as they should be is equally true with the general statement that other masonic duties are not as fully performed as they should be. In former times, it was deemed necessary for every mason to have a Monitor which he should read and study; but now the Monitor is practically regarded only as an aid to the working officers, and the average member gets his knowledge of it only through them. In the same manner we have found that brethren, who desire to fit themselves for officers read these reports, and through them the craft reap a benefit.

We believe that every one who reads this report of Bro. ROBBINS will rejoice that he has returned to the old plan, and will agree that in it he gives a vast amount of information to the craft in Illinois in relation to what is transpiring in other jurisdictions, which will give them material aid in the performance of many masonic duties, especially one of the chief duties—maintaining Masonry according to the “original plan.”

Bro. ROBBINS devotes four pages to an Introduction in which he discusses general matters.

Referring to the application of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, he well says:

“It is inevitable that there shall some time be an independent Grand Lodge in every autonomous Australian province, in which the brethren of all registries must dwell together in unity, and at this distance it is not apparent what ultimate advantage can accrue to either group from an attempt to forestall the others. The great weight of the precedents of union in the other Australian autonomies cannot now be overcome, nor long withstood by the reluctance of individuals to relinquish the little brief authority with which they have been dressed. We are liable, too, at almost any time to have on American territory, another little sister knocking for admission to the circle of Grand Lodges, the continued autonomy of Hawaii under its new political affiliation being assured.”

And why not Porto Rico?

He thinks that the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in repealing the Negro Resolution will be generally accepted a closing that incident, although some Grand Lodges are not satisfied; and he adds:

"This feeling has been strengthened somewhat by the approach to coincidence in time of the repeal by Washington of its edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, with the subsequent action in 1898 relative to Negro Masonry, which was resented all along the line as an attack on the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction. We did not in 1898, nor do we now coincide with this view; still less do we coincide with the view that such an attack was intended by anybody in the Grand Lodge of Washington, but accepted in the good faith in which we then believed it to be offered—fully justified by the prompt repeal of the action complained of—the disavowal of any intention to give or attempt to give on the part of that Grand Lodge to any person belonging to another jurisdiction a different *status* than that given him by the Grand Lodge which it had before recognized as the only lawful source of authority therein. But the event proved that our convictions were not generally shared and hence the repeal of the Hamburg edict, which with our views we could not but consider unfortunate at any time, was doubly unfortunate from its untimeliness, occurring as it did so shortly before the act which subjected Washington to the suspicion of opposition to the 'American doctrine.'

"We have no doubt that the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington—for after all Washington masons are pretty much like the rest of us—will be such as to satisfy the Grand Lodge most immediately interested in the Hamburg piracy, that of New York, and then the lessening ripples will disappear and the American masonic sea resume its wonted calmness."

We came to the opposite conclusion, as there was another similar edict repealed at the same time. Reading the reasons given for such repeal, we could come to no other conclusion. Subsequent events confirm us in our first conclusion, that while the Grand Lodge probably had no such actual intent, it was induced to adopt measures the author of which had that precise intent. Up to this writing that edict has not been restored; on the contrary, a proposition to restore it was opposed by the same element in that Grand Lodge which procured its repeal and succeeded in staving off action upon it until the session in 1901.

Referring to a work issued during the preceding year by the distinguished Historian, ROBERT FREKE GOULD, entitled "Military Lodges," Bro. ROBBINS says:

"This little book of 218 pages, with its wealth of anecdotes of famous soldiers and sailors who have been connected with Masonry, traces the history of military and naval lodges; and it is surprising to find how many of them touch the masonic history of the United States and Canada, and how much light they reflect upon it. Our brethren who read it will find in it all the fascination of personal adventure combined with indispensable historical knowledge, in a way not to be found within the covers of any other book that we know of."

We fully concur: we received it too late for notice in our last report, but it is one of the books that we keep at hand for reference in writing upon Masonry.

Bro. ROBBINS thinks that there is a change for the better in attempts to maintain compulsory membership; he says:

"Those who have just entered upon the attempt of hard and fast binding of brethren to an outward observance of what for the time being awakens no

response from within, will by and by have had their experience also, and will then join the inquirers of to-day who are asking not only whether there is any advantage to come from binding an unwilling member that can compensate for a violation of the principle of free will to which our ritual still pays constant and impressive lip service, but whether such a course is not one of the chief obstacles to the complete disenchantment of Masonry from the commercialism which environs it and which had well nigh revolutionized it, substituting for its truly charitable principle of aid to the distressed according to their necessities and the giver's abilities, the purely commercial principle which underlies the benefit society, pure and simple.

"Similarly there is an increased disposition to inquire whether it is just, while properly excluding one from participation in the privileges of the lodge, for which he is able to pay and will not, to him and without detriment to Masonry, to suspend him from the general rights of Masonry for which he has given a full equivalent in fees. The progress of the craft towards a general consensus that for non-payment of lodge dues the penalty should be exclusion or dropping from the roll and not suspension, seems to us to be sure, although gradual, albeit in some portions of our country yet afar off."

So far as "commercialism" even is concerned, the argument is against those, who would suspend from the rights of Masonry, for non-payment of dues. The initiation fee pays for the *general privileges of Masonry*, and the dues pay for *lodge privileges*.

He thinks that the Gran Dieta of Mexico has received its *coup de grace* especially through the reports of Bros. HUGH McCURDY, of Michigan, and THOMAS B. LONG, of Indiana. Of the former we had our say last year. Of the latter, it will be seen in our review of Indiana, that Bro. LONG came to the same conclusion to which others of us have. He does not hold with Bro. McCURDY that because the Gran Dieta tolerated at one time unmasonic practices, it can never be forgiven, however thorough its reform may be, but says that we ought to wait and see if it can maintain the reforms, that it has introduced. But neither Bro. McCURDY nor Bro. LONG sustains Bro. ROBBINS in the position which he takes for holding that the Gran Dieta never was and never can be a regular masonic Body. We are greatly surprised at this commendation of Bro. McCURDY'S report by Bro. ROBBINS; for the former expressly states that the Gran Dieta has become clandestine by its own illegal and unmasonic acts.

Referring to some remarks of a Grand Master, in relation to dispensations, he well says:

"Here the Grand Master raises anew the old question as to what is 'the law,' and ranges himself with the modern school of masonic thinkers who practically assume that there are no paramount constitutions of Masonry which the makers of Grand Lodge Constitutions are bound to respect. There is scarcely a Grand Lodge in existence working under a Constitution that does not expressly recognize the limitation of the law making power of that body by the landmarks of the institution. Yet several of these Constitutions assume the right to dispense with the dispensing power of the Grand Master, in the face of the fact that its recognition by the old regulations as residing in his person and office—a recognition practically coeval with the Grand Lodge system—and its general and for the most part unquestioned exercise down to

the present time, leaves no doubt that it was regarded as a part of the body of Masonry which no man or body of men can lawfully mutilate."

He claims that the party made a mason in Indiana, though previously rejected in Pennsylvania, is a regular mason, but he adds that "a reasonable regard for interjurisdictional comity should have induced Indiana to make it impossible that the question should be raised."

He thinks that our Maine proposition in relation to rejected candidates has pretty much gone out of sight; but we think that he will find that cases like this Indiana one will happen frequently enough to keep it in view until some agreement shall be reached. Of course, the party in question will never see the inside of a Pennsylvania lodge; and what will Indiana say to his complaint? Merely scold as heretofore? If he should apply to visit in Massachusetts, he could not be admitted if the facts should be known. Sooner or later the matter will cause a serious disturbance.

In another place, he says:

"This shows that the highest masonic rank attained by Washington was that of Master of a lodge, and ought to bring us relief from that class of masonic orators—grand and otherwise—who persist in making him a Grand Master. But will it? His was so grand a figure that there is danger that needlessly ignorant masons will still continue to link his name with the highest honors of the Fraternity. And perhaps there is a greater danger still—that the fact that he was an active mason may be seized upon by dissenting rite mongers, who, when they shall have perfected a pewter sodality of dizzy proportions may seek to drag his name into the mire of dissent by imputing to him its foundation, just as the great Frederick has been made to figure as the great law-giver and ritualist of a body which came into existence years after he had gone to his final rest."

Yes, precisely as Solomon "has been made to figure as the great law-giver and ritualist of a body which came into existence years after he had gone to his final rest."

Of the sad death of Bro. THOMAS B. LONG, he says:

"And now—again and doubly alas!—comes to us through the daily press the sorrowful and startling announcement that Past Grand Master Thomas B. Long, upon whom Bro. Ruckle's mantle fell as chairman in this department, has, rashly importunate followed him to the realms of shade. We know not how great or how slight the jar which disturbed the equilibrium of the delicate brain whose workings we had all watched with such interest, pleasure and profit, and obliterated the (oft times) vanishing line between perfect sanity and that lack of it which can abolish the overmastering instinct of self-preservation. We cannot estimate it—no one can—we can only note its sufficiency by the result and mourn with those who mourn."

Replying to Bro. STATON, of Kentucky, he says:

"But what if that which separates itself from the entanglements of supreme councils and Grand Orients is something quite other than Symbolic Masonry, may it still demand by right to be encouraged? and if so, by whom? Can it be by those who have promised to respect only genuine brethren, and to discountenance all dissenters from the original plan of Masonry? Has the right to encouragement of these lodges to whose formation no Grand Lodge has

consented—a right confessedly born of the repudiation of the only birthright they ever had—more power to compel the masonic conscience than the solemn agreement by the possessor of that conscience that no new lodge shall be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge, and that no countenance be given to any irregular lodge? These questions point to some of the conditions upon which we were permitted to acquire the Masonry we possess and without which we could not have been given the authority to administer its rites; and so far no one has been kind enough to tell us how we can unload ourselves of the responsibilities which they clearly and unmistakably entail.”

As the man said to the one who proposed “Suppose I had your note,” that is not a supposable case! Not “supposable,” because Bro. R.’s definition of “Symbolic Masonry” is utterly erroneous. But our brother is getting to be hard pressed on this subject when he bases his doctrine on mere *words* instead of the *meaning* of words. According to this a governing masonic body is not regular unless it bears the name “Grand Lodge” in *English words*! No matter what a body may actually be, it is irregular unless its name is “Grand Lodge.”

In his review of Maine he says:

“Two cases of waiver of jurisdiction in favor of Maine lodges by lodges in Massachusetts and Kentucky respectively, were reported, both courteously (and we should say, also, superfluously) approved by the Grand Masters of those jurisdictions.”

Why “superfluously”? The enacted law of those states (as of many others) is that waiver of jurisdiction over a candidate, *in favor of a lodge in another State*, can be made only with the approval of the Grand Master. In this section, the jurisdiction of lodges over candidates is, and always has been, fixed by the Grand Lodge. The “nearest lodge” law was not adopted in Maine till since the writer became a member of the Grand Lodge. The modern idea prevailing in some quarters, that lodges have “inherent rights” in candidates, has never prevailed, and such rights as they have they obtain exclusively from the laws of the Grand Lodge. We also deem the provision in question a wise one; the regularity of the lodge making the request, as well as of the proceedings, are much more safely left to the Grand Master than to the lodge.

Of a decision of Grand Master LOCKE, he says:

“We understand this to mean that lodges in Maine are thereby practically precluded from conferring the third degree as the proxy of another lodge. This seems to us a strained conclusion, because we judge from his statement that the purpose of the constitutional provision is to prevent brethren from being raised to a condition of non-affiliation, as they are in some jurisdictions, Illinois, for instance, where signing the lodge by-laws is made one of the essentials of attaining membership, to the end that the newly-raised brother shall be free at the very outset to choose his masonic home. If this is its purpose the decision is not essential to its fulfillment, as under a usage much older, we think, than the Maine Constitution, the brother is raised to membership in the lodge for which the work is done. The Illinois law in defining the three methods whereby membership in a lodge may be acquired, sets forth, first, ‘By having regularly received the degree of Master Mason therein, and signing the by-laws thereof.’ Our law is entirely silent upon the subject of conferring the

degrees as a proxy lodge, and without having examined the subject generally, we are of the opinion that the codes of most jurisdictions will be found to be equally silent. Be that as it may, the usage of conferring degrees by courtesy has prevailed in Illinois from the organization of the Grand Lodge down to the present time, and it has never been held that a brother raised by courtesy could under the provision of our law above quoted become a member of the lodge so conferring the degree, by simply signing the by-laws. We have seen two or three decisions—perhaps not more than two—cropping out in as many jurisdictions, that work by courtesy was not permissible, and have supposed the reason was found in a specific prohibitory enactment passed for some to us inscrutable reason, but it never occurred to us that Maine would be found in that category; and until this decision has been passed upon we shall not think that the framers of the Maine Constitution had in mind at all what has so long had the sanction of general usage as to go without saying."

Is our brother quite sure, that the practice has prevailed so long in Illinois? We have been making an effort to ascertain how long this practice has prevailed, but so far no one has been able to refer to a case till within forty years.

We were Grand Master during a part of the time of the Civil War. There was a tremendous rush of candidates among the enlisted soldiers. Feelings, which perhaps now cannot be fully appreciated, prompted the brethren to admit almost any one who was going to the front. Some lodges had more work than they could well do, and some one soon suggested that other lodges might do the work for them, and the matter was brought to our official notice. Unfortunately, perhaps, for an unbiased decision, it was alleged that a lodge had, under the *form* of law, elected candidates who were held by many members to be unworthy, and that to avoid their being stopped by objection, another lodge was asked to do the work and did it, before measures could be taken to prevent it. We had never heard of a lodge's conferring degrees for another lodge. But we were then a young mason, and we inquired of the fathers, and no one of them had ever heard of such a thing. Those of them, upon whom we all relied for advice, were unanimous in declaring it to be unmasonic. No lodge should interfere with the work of another lodge. The reason is that every lodge is held responsible for its own work. And the case that had occurred illustrated the wisdom of the rule and the danger of departing from it. A lodge might just as well ask another lodge to receive a petition, act upon it, and elect a candidate, as to ask one to confer the degrees upon one elected by it. These views prevailed, and while no decision was made, the practice at once ceased. Deputed authority cannot be deputed without express provision of the superior law to that effect. The charter of a lodge authorizes it to do certain things, but gives it no authority to grant power to another lodge to do anything.

The question did not again arise for more than thirty years. In the mean time, the law in relation to membership had materially changed. When Masonry was instituted in Maine (in 1769), and for more than a century thereafter, a brother did not become a member of a lodge till after he had been

elected. To be sure, in the early days the election was by *viva voce* vote. In fact, when we had been "raised," we were asked by a brother if we desired to become a member, and upon our giving an affirmative reply, he moved our admission to membership; the motion was put by the Master and was declared carried, and at the Secretary's request we signed the by-laws and were declared to be a member. Sometimes the formality of an election was omitted and the brother invited to sign the by-laws. In Massachusetts there was at least one lodge with a limited membership, and its candidates were never members until vacancies happened. The practice in Maine, of course, led to our sending out large numbers of unaffiliated masons, who were, however, assumed to be in equally good standing with members. Soon complaint came, especially from the West, and more care was taken. A brother receiving the third degree had the right to sign the by-laws and become a member, as is now the case in Illinois. But the signing was often neglected, and complaints frequently came, that the brethren could not become members of a lodge. This led to the adoption of the iron-clad rule that "Every candidate who shall receive the third degree in any lodge in this jurisdiction shall thereby become a member of said lodge, and the Secretary shall record his name upon the roll of membership."

While this would have prevented one lodge from acting as the proxy of another, it was adopted when it was already the law that a Maine lodge cannot act as such proxy.

We leave off, as we began, by inquiring what evidence there is that this practice "has so long had the sanction of general usage as to go without saying"?

He quotes what Grand Master LOCKE says about making masons of Catholics, but while granting that it has a large measure of truth, he does not quite agree, but if we understand him, he would rely upon the emancipating influence of Masonry to make a Catholic practically renounce his church, as had happened in some instances within his own knowledge: on the other hand, he had known a Protestant mason who became a Catholic, and dropped out of Masonry. But Masonry is not a reformatory Institution, either in morals or religion, and while there may be a chance to reform a man in either, we do not take him if he needs reformation in either. On the other hand, the chance of man's lapsing in either respect does not prevent our admitting him, if he is worthy *when we take him*.

Commenting upon Grand Master LOCKE's remarks in relation to re-imbursing money expended in charity, he well says:

"The obligation lies on those to whom he applies, they finding him worthy, whether they be of his own lodge or of some other, *or of none*. If he pays dues to some particular lodge the money is not a deposit made by him to insure a cash benefit in case of need—except in a few grand jurisdictions where commercialism has nearly robbed the Fraternity of its identity—but is simply

the share which he pays in common with others for the support of the institution at large, of which his lodge is the organized outcropping in that community. When a lodge makes a man a mason, it is acting in behalf of the whole Fraternity, and the faith and credit given to its masonic acts are accorded because of its being a part of the whole body. If it departs from the theory on which it is permitted to exist, and begins to do business on its own hook, taking in improper persons in order to put money in its own treasury, regardless of the welfare of the whole, still the whole is responsible for its acts and justly responsible if it does not cut off the offending member. Of course no lodge has any moral right to initiate any man whom it suspects of a desire to prey upon the Fraternity, but even if this happens it is better that the whole Fraternity should bear the burden of the mistake, or the bad faith, than that it should be held that masonic charity extended by one party could entail a debt upon another."

Quoting our remarks in relation to the evils and increasing evils growing out of trials by the lodge, he says :

"The evils referred to are not lightly estimated, and the question of a remedy is a most perplexing one, but we believe that even greater perplexities will be endured before our Grand Lodge will take any step that involves a disregard of the landmark which recognizes the lodge as 'the proper and competent judges of all such controversies.'"

But is our brother quite sure that the landmark does not relate solely to controversies *between brethren*, and that it includes *offences* against Masonry?

He devotes considerable space to our reply to his report of last year, whereby he induced his Grand Lodge to withdraw recognition from certain masonic Bodies, which have heretofore been universally recognized as legitimate.

He thinks that inasmuch as some others agree with him, he must have written to some purpose if it is true that his ground was not held till down to his time. His predecessor, Bro. GURNEY, was the first to announce that doctrine, but it was in the last years of his life, and practically in Bro. ROBBINS' time. He has taken up the matter and given it the support of his great ability for many years, and it is not wonderful that he has made converts; but so far, his own and possibly one other Grand Lodge are the only ones which have adopted his views, and these very Proceedings show that his own Grand Lodge is by no means a unit on the question, and we feel sure that when the other side is presented with the preparation and ability that he has presented his side, the decision will be reversed.

Our expression "law and usage" troubles him greatly, as well it may. In his discussion he apparently forgets that in Masonry, very much of the law comes from usage. The term "usage makes law" is eminently true of us. But in his argument, he seems to us to fail to comprehend the meaning of the word usage. To show "how fallacious may be the deductions from usage" he cites a single act of two Grand Lodges! As if two acts constitute a usage!

He admits that his own Grand Lodge had at an early day fallen into the usage of recognizing these Bodies, and had continued it down to the adoption of his report; but his answer is that no vote of the Grand Lodge can be found

granting recognition : of course not ; for these formal votes are of very modern invention ; the recognition of these bodies was by the craft, as a matter of course. We doubt very much if, before the vote on his report, any vote of his Grand Lodge can be found recognizing either the Grand Lodge of Maine or Massachusetts, and yet the craft in Illinois has always recognized us practically, and in a manner a thousand times more forcible than any vote of the Grand Lodge ; and it recognized the bodies in question precisely in the same way.

We greatly regret to find that in this part of his report, as well as in the part already noticed, he descends to what must be regarded as a quibble *on mere words*.

He holds with us that there is law in Masonry which is "usage proof" ; but in applying it, he utterly fails, because, as we have already stated, he relies upon the *arrangement of the letters* in the word instead of the *meaning* of the word itself.

We questioned the correctness of the decision by which the consent of all lodges having concurrent jurisdiction was required to waive it in favor of another lodge, and in reply he says :

"This is quite to the point as to the condition of affairs which called out the decision. The common territory was so large that it was possible for one seeking the waiver to apply therefor to a lodge fifteen or twenty miles from his place of abode—the lodge least of all qualified to pass upon his fitness—and when it was found that this had become the usual practice (of course under the advice of masons outside the common territory, whose lodges were to get the usufruct) the necessity for taking from the profane the power of election which permitted such abuse, became apparent."

Yes, that is all right ; but could not the candidate have applied for the degrees to the lodge fifteen or twenty miles away without the consent of any of the others ? If yes, is not the decision (with the reason for it) conclusive in favor of a change of that part of the law ?

In the discussion of a question, he attributed as we understood it to ALBERT PIKE the first printing of ciphers ; but he said "rituals," which we unconsciously assumed to be in cipher form ; as we remember it, the change destroys all the force of the argument in which he used it. And now we are very curious to know what "printed ritual" he means. If he will inform us in this particular, we shall no longer be at cross purposes. We believe that his original proposition was utterly erroneous ; it was so unless we are grossly misinformed.

Upon one other point we want some information ; referring to what we said of Negro Masonry, he says :

"We did not deny in 1871 or in 1898-9, nor do we now deny or seek to minimize the fact that the later course of African Lodge and of those who trace their connection back to that body has beset the question of righting that wrong with almost insurmountable difficulties, perhaps wholly insurmount-

able except by the Grand Lodge at whose door the wrong lies. It needs no argument to prove to us the present irregularity of these descendants, but although Bro. Drummond says we have been conclusively answered at every point, we are still constrained to say that we have seen nothing worthy to be called argument in support of the denial that African Lodge at the time it was excluded from participating in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, was as regular as the lodges which conspired to rob its members of their rights."

What authority has he for the statement that African Lodge "was excluded from participating in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts"?

While the decision does not hinge upon whether it was or was not excluded, it will be time enough to discuss that question when it is shown that it *was* excluded.

Referring to a question recently started, he informs us that—

"In Illinois, whose first lodges were derived from Kentucky and Missouri, the three gavels are in evidence, and doubtless to all our untraveled brethren their use is a 'landmark.'"

Of another matter which we have discussed somewhat, and to which we have given much thought without reaching any definite conclusion, he says:

"With the last sentence we agree wholly. We would not make separate memorial pages for the distinguished craftsmen from abroad unless one were our representative near his Grand Lodge, and we agree that executive notice should be taken of permanent members only with the same exception. It is only within a few years that the custom of noticing the distinguished dead of other jurisdictions in the address has grown up. We do not think it is one to be commended, but that this field should be left, like other outside events, chiefly to the committee on correspondence. Perhaps in this field no reviewer succeeds in living up to his own standard of the sense of proportion that should govern, but we do think it is profitable to the craft to know something of the character and achievements of its chief men and of the qualities which impress those among whom they lived."

INDIANA, 1900.

The frontispiece is a portrait of M. W. OLIN E. HOLLOWAY, the incoming Grand Master, and we have also the portraits of Past Grand Masters JAMES J. TODD and NICHOLAS R. RUCKLE, who had died during the year, and also of RICHARD W. THOMPSON, an honorary member of the Grand Lodge who had also died during the year.

The Grand Master, WILLIAM GEAKE, notices briefly the deaths of Past Grand Masters RUCKLE and TODD, and Bro. THOMPSON.

His address is largely confined to an enumeration of his official action stated concisely, but which taken together shows that he had been a very diligent officer, and had performed the duties of his office zealously and ably.

Five corner-stones had been laid during the year, and quite a number of halls dedicated, and a large number of by-laws had been examined by him and approved.

A curious case arose in one lodge. The Secretary refused to issue a dimit to a member who had made the proper application, and which the lodge had granted, he being clear on the books. The Grand Master ordered the dimit to be issued, but he subsequently received word that the lodge had refused to obey the order, and had rescinded its action and refused to issue the dimit, the Secretary having resigned rather than obey the order. He appointed a special Deputy to investigate the matter with power, and he reported that he had suspended the lodge, pending investigation. He revoked that order subsequently, called a meeting and made full examination of the matter, and became satisfied that the lodge had no intention of disobeying the order of the Grand Master, but were ignorant of the law. The Deputy administered a severe reprimand, and the "brethren expressed the deepest regret for their conduct, and pledged themselves anew to the cause of Freemasonry and to each other."

The visit of the Deputy and the proceedings seems to have restored harmony in the lodge, which resumed its labors with bright prospects for the future.

In another case the brethren, desiring to increase their membership, certain members voluntarily agreed to pay a part of the initiation fee of new members. As a part of the amount promised by these brethren was in arrears, he reprimanded the lodge for its conduct, and ordered the arrears to be paid within thirty days under pain of the suspension of their charter. The money was paid, and it is quite probable that this method of reducing the fee will not be again attempted.

One case arose in which the decision was not exactly what we like. A lodge in another State telegraphed that a brother had died who claimed to be a member of an Indiana lodge, and his family had requested the lodge to bury him. Thereupon the Secretary replied that the brother was a member in good standing, "act accordingly." Thereupon he was buried by the Missouri lodge, and the bill, amounting to \$29.50, was sent to the Indiana lodge, which it refused to pay.

In relation to this the following decision was made by the Grand Lodge:

"A Secretary of lodge has no authority, by reason of his official position, to bind his lodge for any money expended by another lodge in the burial of a deceased brother. On receiving notice of the death of a non-resident member, the Secretary should report the same to the Worshipful Master of his lodge, who is authorized to call a meeting of his lodge to take such action as the case may demand, and the Secretary should then report the same in response to the telegram received."

Answering the following question:

"When telegraphic notice of the death of one of its non-resident members is received by a lodge from a masonic body, and asking what the lodge desires done in regard to his burial, and the Secretary in his official capacity answers by telegraph, giving directions as to what shall be done, is the lodge bound to pay money which is expended under the authority of the Secretary's telegram?"

The decision does not, in our view, answer the question. So far as it goes, the decision is correct, but in this case the Secretary in his official capacity had answered the telegram, and, as we think, the lodge receiving it had the right to assume that it was authorized by the lodge. We do not think that is a case in which a party dealing with an agent is bound to know that the agent has authority. Apparently the telegram came in the usual order of things, and we think the Indiana lodge should have paid the bill and dealt with the Secretary for his violation of his duty.

The Grand Master had had correspondence with Pennsylvania in relation to conferring the degrees by an Indiana lodge upon a candidate who had been rejected in Pennsylvania. The Grand Master found that the candidate had resided in Indiana the required time, and replied to the Grand Master of Pennsylvania that the party had been made a mason regularly under the law of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. No reply had been received to his announcement then, but we apprehend that the party will not be admitted to many lodges in Pennsylvania!

He had revoked the edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, the latter having modified its action.

There are very many routine matters of local interest passed upon by the Grand Master, but we find no occasion to dissent from his action, save in the one case to which we have alluded.

On the report of the Grand Secretary, that quite a number of copies of "Masonry in Indiana" remain on hand, the price was reduced to one dollar a copy.

The Temple had paid its way during the year and turned a balance of over two thousand dollars into the treasury, but yet the trustees say that on account of its location the property can never be very remunerative.

The Committee on Lodges U. D. report in detail, calling attention to all the errors in the records. In one case the committee say:

"The record of proceedings contain a few errors. Among which is the common one, of designating the meetings as regular and special, instead of 'stated or called,' as the case may be."

While the latter is probably the more general usage, yet the change from "regular" to "stated" is a modern innovation. It was made in our Grand Lodge the first time that we attended it, and the reason given was, that to use "regular communication" implied that there might be an "irregular" communication. The logic of this did not strike us forcibly at the time and never has since, and we find that in the profane world the word "regular" is used in the same connection very generally, and is well understood to mean to refer to *time* and nothing else; that is to say, that the communication was held at the regular time. We have regretted ever since that our Grand Lodge took the action that it did, contrary to what had been the practice in the lodges from the very introduction of Masonry into Maine up to that time.

One of the lodges, by resolution, brought before the Grand Lodge the practice of authorizing one individual to cast the entire vote of the Grand Lodge for a particular candidate, and upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution against the practice, and ordered the laws of the Grand Lodge to be complied with in all cases.

Past Grand Master SIMEON S. JOHNSON made a brief report in relation to the Washington Centennial. The regular delegates were not present at the meeting of the Grand Lodge the night before, and the committee explains it by saying that the Grand Secretary had written to the Grand Secretary of Virginia, inquiring if the various delegates were desired or expected to visit the Grand Lodge that evening, and had received no reply; and thereupon they did not attend. Fortunately Past Grand Master MARTIN H. RICE was present and responded ably for the Grand Lodge.

We knew nothing of the meeting of the Grand Lodge on that evening until our arrival in Washington, and we wonder that our Indiana brethren, *when they reported at headquarters*, did not obtain the information which they had not received. It was there that we received it.

We would be exceedingly glad to copy largely from the tributes paid to Bro. THOMPSON, but space forbids. We had a personal acquaintance with Bro. RUCKLE, and he was serving at the time of his death as Committee on Correspondence, and we had learned to hold him in high esteem and affection both as a mason and as a man, and appreciate very highly his labor on the committee.

Bro. THOMAS B. LONG submitted a report in relation to the Grand Lodge of Porto Rico, but coming to the conclusion that no action could then be taken, and postponing the matter for further information; he closes his report as follows:

"This is a situation which cannot long be delayed; and when their beautiful island shall occupy this position in the world of nations, they will encounter no insurmountable difficulty in gaining an unquestionable standing in the world of Ancient Craft Masonry."

He also presented a report upon Mexican Masonry, to which we have already alluded in our review of Illinois.

It does not come up to the manifesto of Bro. ROBBINS by a good deal, and does not sustain Bro. ROBBINS in any of his positions, but he says:

"The conclusion of the whole matter seems to be as just as it is inevitable, that before any further recognition be given to the Grand Dieta of Mexico by any of the Grand Lodges of the United States of America, that heretofore unreliable and unsatisfactory organization must be indifferently allowed to pursue an undisturbed course of experiment until it can show, by sufficient examples of proper conduct, 'fruits' of its own that can be deemed 'meet for repentance.'"

This conclusion is based upon previous statements in the report, of the irregularities that had been allowed by the Grand Dieta in the admission of

women, and in the exclusion of the Bible from its altars, matters which nobody disputes, and only saying what others have also said, that while not refusing recognition we should wait awhile, to see whether the Grand Dieta is able to go on in the course which it has marked out.

The majority of the Committee on Grievances reported in favor of reversing the act of a lodge in expelling a man who had been a banker, and had induced brethren to deposit moneys with him after he knew that he was insolvent, and which moneys he used for his own personal use, and also by false statements inducing brethren to sign a note with him. The majority of the committee based its action upon the ground that it was a mere failure to pay a debt; but the Grand Lodge adopted the report of the minority, and affirmed the decision of the lodge. We are rather surprised at the stand taken by the majority of the committee, although we agree with them in everything they say in relation to Masonry's not being a collective agency to enforce the payment of debts. But we think that the obtaining of money by false pretences is something more than a debt, and should be so treated by masons.

There is no Report on Correspondence; we presume on account of the death of Bro. RUCKLE, who was Chairman of the Committee.

We find also in the Proceedings a cut of the monument recently erected to the memory of Past Grand Master ALEXANDER A. MEEK, the President of the convention which organized the Grand Lodge, and its first Grand Master. The addresses given on the unvailing of this monument are published in the Proceedings, and are well worth the attention of our brethren.

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1900.

A special communication was held for laying the corner stone of a new Masonic Hall at Wynnewood, on the day of the closing of the Grand Lodge in 1899. The full ceremonies were performed, and a beautiful oration delivered by Bro. THOMAS E. HUMPHREY.

Two other corner stones were laid during the year, one of a Masonic Temple at Muskogee, and the other of a church at Ardmore.

At the annual communication, the Grand Secretary made a statement and offered for adoption an amendment to the published proceedings of 1899, which was unanimously adopted, having been omitted. It was a provision providing for mileage and per diem, commencing with 1900.

For some reason the Grand Master did not present his report until the afternoon session of the first day, after considerable business had been transacted and after the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer had made their reports.

The Grand Secretary urges that a system of inspection of lodges once a year should be made. In connection with that he says:

"Why may not the Grand Lecturer, the Custodians and the D. D. Grand Masters, who seem to be more ornamental than useful, be authorized and instructed to help the lodges as above indicated and make a yearly report to the Grand Lodge of the condition of the lodges? Such reports would be interesting and valuable. It may be noticed in the table of Statistics for this year that ninety brethren have been suspended for non-payment of dues. With all kindly feeling for my brethren of the cross-pens, I believe that seventy-five per cent. of these would have cheerfully paid their dues if the Secretaries had persistently and fraternally made an effort to collect them. Since the Grand Lodge requires no dues from the lodges for old and poor brethren whose dues are remitted by the lodges, there is less occasion for suspending anybody for non-payment of dues, provided the Secretaries, aided by the Worshipful Masters, would do their duty."

The Grand Secretary, Bro. JOSEPH S. MURROW, made a report as representative of the Grand Lodge at the Washington Centennial, and, like all others who were there, speaks of the interest and importance of the occasion in the highest terms.

We find that we were in error in stating that it did not appear why the address of the Grand Master was not presented until the afternoon. He had sent his address to be printed, but had sent it too late to have it printed in time for the opening of the Grand Lodge, and he had made no copy of it.

In his address, the Grand Master, PETER BYRON ARTHUR, gives a detailed account of his official action, opening his address with some practical suggestions. He says that while secular affairs have been a little muddled, "consequent upon the approaching transition period," Masonry has made wonderful strides.

He had made some visitations, but not so many as he would have liked to have made.

He had granted six dispensations for new lodges, and quite a number of special dispensations, and had refused a good many more. One that he had granted was to bury a brother, who at the time of his death was Supreme Judge of the Choctaw Nation, who was a Choctaw by blood, and had requested to be buried with masonic honors, but who died seventy-five miles away from the lodge; the dispensation was to allow the services to be performed, really after he had been buried. While the body had been deposited in the grave, it had been covered with planks, and kept in that condition until the services were performed. The lodge went over seventy-five miles in December, taking five days and a half, to comply with this request of the deceased brother. The Master of the lodge says:

"We made the trip to the late residence of our deceased brother and repaired to the grave and performed the burial service in the following manner: We formed in procession at the residence and marched to the grave, one and one-half miles—the kindred following in order. On arriving at the grave we formed around it in the usual form, removed the earth down to the box that surrounded the coffin, and then performed the burial service, making the usual deposits, etc.

"After the grave was filled, I planted a cedar bush at the head, then formed, and marched back to the residence, in procession, obtained a suitable room and closed the lodge in due and ancient form."

This was a most remarkable case, and speaks more than volumes for the love of Masonry and for the brethren of that lodge.

Following upon the action of the Grand Lodge the year before, he had entered into correspondence with the promotors and friends of the Masonic Orphan's Home, and had written a personal letter to every lodge, urging contributions for the purpose. But reports had been received from very few of the lodges. We trust that the money will be raised, and that the Grand Lodge will not go into debt in this enterprise, for it seems to us that the membership is scarcely large enough to make the enterprise a prudent one from a business standpoint. While the care of the distressed is a masonic duty that should never be neglected or evaded, yet when we come to the method, then it becomes a matter of business, and great care should be taken that a heavy burden is not imposed upon the craft, by not selecting the correct method. However, the membership is increasing very rapidly in that jurisdiction, and by the time the funds shall be raised the business side of the question may present a very different aspect.

The Grand Master had been called upon to render a great many decisions, and in relation to them he says:

"We have now reached the vortex of the whirlwind of confusion—a partial harvest of the 'question crop.' I feel I am due you some apology for the vast amount and the length of the decisions I have rendered, yet it seems to me that the interest of the craft demands that they be thus fully explained, or commented upon. I am fully alive to the certain fact that this mode of procedure is calculated to subject me to untold (and perhaps severe) criticism at home and abroad. Be that as it may, I have not shunned to declare what I conceive to be of manifest interest to a majority of our lodges. Undoubtedly it would be more graceful, and considered in better taste, and more in accord with 'established form' and the 'usual custom' to have answered by 'yes' or 'no.' I know it would have been much easier for me, but this mode does not explain, and the same questions are repeated from year to year, to burden the administration of every Grand Master; hence I have endeavored to qualify or give law and reason for every decision; trusting that the future records of our lodges and Grand Masters will prove the wisdom of the course thus adopted. I have only reserved, or plucked out, a few links of the endless chain of correspondence that I deemed of more than local or passing interest. I have written several hundred letters on questions of jurisprudence of which no record has been kept."

We entirely agree with the Grand Master in his views, and most heartily commend the course which he has taken.

It makes no odds at all whether the brethren ought to know what the law is, and what they ought to do in certain cases, or not, if they do not know: and while it may be that they ought to have studied and learned enough so as not to be calling on the Grand Master, yet if they have not, the craft requires

that they should be instructed, and as we said before, we most earnestly commend the course which our M. W. brother saw fit to take.

In his answers he refers the brethren frequently to sources of information which they can consult for themselves.

There are some of the decisions in which we do not quite agree with him, but the most of them are based upon local law, and are of local interest.

If we understand him, he, in one case, decided that when it has been reported to the Gr. Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge, that a certain brother is Senior Warden, although he has not been installed and refuses to be installed, a new election cannot take place, although he does say, of course, that an officer should never be reported as such if he has not been installed. It will be remembered that a similar case in Maine was decided the other way, that is to say, that the officer who declines to be installed thereby declines the election, and a dispensation should issue to elect one in his place.

In his conclusion he pays a just tribute to Grand Secretary MURROW as follows:

"I cannot justly close this report without pointing with exultant pride and satisfaction to the exemplary manner in which our Grand Secretary's office is conducted. That true, tried and trusty 'masonic warrior,' Bro. J. S. Murrow, can always be found, rigged in full armor at his post in the front ranks, ready, willing and thoroughly competent to do service and answer every call. It is through the office of Grand Secretary that our character and official standing is established and maintained in foreign jurisdictions."

The Trustees of the Orphan's Home reported that there is now on hand \$2,950.49, about one-half of which was collected in each of the two preceding years. We think that this Grand Lodge is doing splendidly in this direction, and the Trustees say that the interest in this work is taking a deep root, and that they expect a liberal donation this coming year.

The Grand Orator delivered a nice address, entitled "Theological Ladder." Taking this with that of the Grand Master's, if the brethren would carefully read the Proceedings, they will derive a good deal of practical instruction and information.

Bro. MURROW read a brief general Report on Correspondence, and there is no regular review of the different Grand Lodges.

Of the Grand Lodge of Washington he says:

"There seems to be a general feeling of disappointment at the manner in which the Grand Lodge of Washington rescinded the objectionable resolutions of 1868. The recession from the position, taken at that time, appears to have been half-hearted, and has left the impression that the Grand Lodge is of the same opinion still. Notwithstanding their indefinite utterances and doubtful receding from their very reprehensible position, most of the Grand Lodges have accepted in a masonic spirit the rescinding of those resolutions and renewed their friendly and fraternal relations. It was my good fortune to meet Grand Secretary Thomas M. Reed at the Washington Memorial Services and he impressed me very favorably. He is certainly a strong man intellectually, and possesses a fine spirit. So far as Indian Territory is concerned, let us treat that unpleasant incident as closed."

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That when a subordinate lodge is requested to and confers any of the degrees for another lodge, the lodge conferring the degrees shall retain one-half of the fee charged the candidate by the lodge for whom the work is done."

We have an impression that if this should be pretty generally adopted, it might diminish somewhat the practice that has been growing very rapidly during the past few years—one that we deem contrary to the original idea of making masons.

The following resolution in relation to the Eastern Star was adopted :

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of the Indian Territory, does most heartily endorse the Order known as the Order of the Eastern Star, not as a part of Masonry, but as a most powerful adjunct to masons in its great work, it being composed of Master Masons, their wives, widows, sisters and daughters, and we recommend the Order to all masons.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge is most heartily extended to the Grand Chapter, O. E. S., of Indian and Oklahoma Territories, for the very generous donation it has granted to the establishment of the Masonic Orphans' Home, and we pray that our sisters will continue to aid in this most laudable work."

Rev. Bro. GEORGE A. DANNELLY, of Arkansas, sent a message of love and remembrance by one of the brethren, who delivered a eulogy upon the venerable brother, which was responded to by several brethren, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to "write a letter of remembrance, esteem and love from the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory to our beloved brother, who is just ready to cross over the river to the glory land on the other side."

The Committee on Masonic Law reported only upon a part of the decisions, apparently leaving the rest for report next year.

As already stated, there was no Report on Correspondence.

IOWA, 1900.

The cover has on the outside a portrait of the venerable Grand Secretary PARVIN, and a cut of the Grand Lodge library building, and inside in the report of the Committee on Library, cuts and views from the inside are given.

The members of the Grand Lodge met at the Library Building and were escorted by Apollo Commandery to the Opera House, where the session was held. Many citizens were present; they were called to order, and prayer was offered, which was followed by singing by a quartette of ladies, which was so acceptable that an encore was called for. The Mayor was then introduced, who in brief but appropriate words welcomed the Grand Lodge to the city. The quartette gave another selection, and the Grand Master, after a few introductory words, introduced Past Grand Master FELLOWS, who responded in behalf of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge.

Thereupon the Grand Master called the attention of the audience to a gavel which he held in his hand, stating that it was used by one of his predecessors in 1852, and asked if there was any brother in the audience who had been present on that occasion. After a brief interval of silence, in which no one responded, Grand Secretary PARVIN arose and remarked that he was not only present, but used the gavel on that occasion. The Grand Master said that he knew no other brother could respond, and introduced Bro. PARVIN to the audience, who made a few appropriate remarks.

The quartette then rendered "Home Sweet Home" "very beautifully," and thereupon the ladies and citizens retired from the Opera House, and the Grand Lodge was opened and the usual business transacted.

The Grand Master, THOMAS LAMBERT, delivered an exceedingly interesting address, in which he was able to say that not an unkind or discourteous word had been written or spoken to him during the year. He believed his decisions were received in the same spirit. There had been differences and discussions throughout the jurisdiction, but, so far as he knew, nothing of a serious character had occurred.

In this connection he well says:

"To say, however, that there has been no diversity of opinion among the brethren and lodges, or differences in constructions placed upon the laws, would be a strong intimation that the craft in Iowa had either been asleep during the year, or had risen entirely above the plane mortal man is supposed to occupy."

He announced the death of Past Grand Treasurer WILLIAM A. COLTON, and also that of Past Grand Master EDWARD AUGUSTUS GUILBERT. Of the latter he says:

"In the prime of his life Bro. Guilbert was an active, enthusiastic mason, having at various times filled the offices of Grand Master, Grand Commander and Grand High Priest. In those days he was a strong man, fearless and eloquent in the advocacy of the cause he espoused; forceful and decisive in his arguments, he was an antagonist worthy the steel of any man, and one who neither gave nor asked for quarters in debate. Let us emulate those traits of his life and character that are worthy of emulation, and cast about the others, if any there be, the 'broad mantle of masonic charity.'"

Bro. GUILBERT had very strong convictions, and it was emphatically true of him that "he had the courage of his convictions" and would defend them under all circumstances. He disagreed with many of his brethren of his Grand Lodge, and in the latter part of his life rather withdrew from active masonic work.

The returns show a healthy and prosperous condition, with many very satisfactory improvements. They were received more promptly than usual, and where they had to be returned for correction, Masters were more prompt in having them corrected.

The gain during the year was \$98, a larger gain than for a good many years previous, in fact, almost double its average for the preceding ten years.

In this connection the Grand Master says :

“ It is also pleasing to note a substantial increase in the number of re-instatements, showing that those brethren who had, through carelessness or otherwise, allowed their names to be stricken from the rolls of Masonry, are ‘repenting of their folly,’ and re-uniting with their first love. I am still of the opinion that the number of suspensions for non-payment of dues is a matter that rests largely with the Masters of the various lodges. In years of experience in checking over lodge returns, I have found that the largest per cent. of suspensions has invariably been in the lodges that were most negligent in collecting their dues.”

It would seem that the responsibility of collecting of dues in Iowa is placed upon the Master. In this jurisdiction in which the Secretary collects the dues, these remarks will apply to that officer. He repeats that which has been frequently stated, that prompt collection of dues will make the list of suspensions much shorter.

He had issued dispensations for eight new lodges, and in this connection he well says :

“ I have always believed that the success of any lodge, either new or old, depended more upon the character, energy, and ability of the individual brothers than upon anything else, and in the granting of dispensations I have been governed largely thereby.”

We have known many instances in which a masonic body had one very active and energetic member upon whose efforts the prosperity of that body very largely depended. At any rate, while such a one was in active service the body was prosperous, but with his death or absence, the body began to languish, and we think that in the granting of a dispensation for a new body, the officer ought to take into consideration the character of the petitioners for energy and perseverance.

Four lodges had surrendered their charters, three of them on account of weakness, and the other on account of internal dissension. In that case, about three-fourths of the brethren at once petitioned for a dispensation for a new lodge, which the Grand Master granted.

This is a harsh remedy, although it has been frequently adopted, and upon the whole we think it is one against which there is no good ground to complain.

He calls attention to the fact that dues are payable on a given day, and if a brother is a member on that day he is charged with the whole of the dues, and while in Iowa they are paid in advance, it makes no difference, and if he takes his dimit the next day he is chargeable for the full amount of dues and is not entitled to a proportional rebate, which some of the lodges in that jurisdiction had been making. However, the dues in Iowa are payable semi-annually, on the first days of January and June.

He devotes a small space to the "Printed Proceedings." The expense of that work has varied from \$1,400 to \$1,800 a year, and this has been sharply criticized, and the alleged extravagance has occasionally been denounced.

Of this he in part says:

"Under the masonic code it is one of the duties of the Trustees to arrange and contract for said printing, and the matter of prices was given a full and fair investigation this year. It must be remembered that the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Iowa have been models in that line of work for many years past—ably edited, comprehensively indexed, and containing only such matter and statistics as were of value and interest to the craft. Typographically they have been gems of the printer's art."

This is all true, and the standard of excellent work cannot be maintained at a nominal expense.

However, he stated that samples were submitted to three of the largest printing establishments in the State and bids were requested. Not one of them bid below the price which the Grand Lodge had been paying, and none of them solicited the work at that price. So that the conclusion was that the work was done at a fair price and the complaints about unnecessary expense were not well founded. The only method in which a reduction could be made would be a change in the amount and character of the work.

He had found that dissension had arisen by an improper use of the black-ball in a few cases, and in relation to this he well says:

"To deposit a black ball and keep from our ranks one not worthy to be made a mason is the sacred right of every Master Mason in good standing, and he who fails to exercise that right when he has knowledge of facts that would justify him in so doing, fails to do his whole duty to the craft. But the brother who deposits the black ball to avenge a personal spite, or for any other unmasonic cause, thus keeping a thoroughly worthy and deserving man out of our ranks, is not a true mason, and has that in his heart which will ever prevent him from being one until it is cast out. He needs to be 'born again,' and the sooner the better, if he expects to be worthy of the honors that have been bestowed upon him. It would be impossible to frame a law to meet such cases without destroying those sacred rights guaranteed under the Constitution, but promiscuous black-balling for personal spite should be so universally and emphatically condemned that the masonic path of him who practices it would not be strewn with roses."

This was the trouble in the lodge to which we have referred, which surrendered its charter, and to the members of which had been granted a dispensation for a new lodge.

Of the Grand Lodge of Washington he says:

"At the last communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington the objectionable resolution was rescinded. It is unquestionably true that more 'rescinding' might have been done with a great deal less verbiage, and the sentiment breathed throughout is strong evidence that—

"He that complies against his will,

Is of his own opinion still."

"But I am inclined to accept the act in good faith, and know of no reason why the cordial and fraternal relations heretofore existing between the Grand Lodge of Iowa and the Grand Lodge of Washington should not be continued."

There had been quite a number of dedications of halls during the year, and one corner-stone had been laid for a new lodge hall.

He had rendered quite a number of decisions, but as the cases were disposed of, he did not think it desirable to report them to the Grand Lodge.

Referring to the Washington Centennial, he says that a concise history of the masonic life and services of Washington was published in the library bulletin for November, 1899, and he issued an edict setting apart the fourteenth of December for memorial services, and while he himself went to Mt. Vernon to attend there, a large number of lodges observed the day. He says that "no occasion of masonic import was ever so very generally observed by the craft in that jurisdiction than was the centennial anniversary of the death of our beloved brother, George Washington."

Of the centennial itself, he says:

"Never were masons more royally entertained than those who assembled as the guests of the Grand Lodge of Virginia upon the above occasion. Grand in its conception and successfully executed, the ceremonies at Mount Vernon on the 14th of December last stand without a parallel in the masonic history of America, or in the world."

The report of the custodian shows that a large number of schools of instruction were held, and attended very largely by the lodges.

Messages of love were sent to Past G. S. Warden ELSOM and Past Grand Master BLACKMAR, and also Past Grand Master GRANGER, who were detained from attendance by illness.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Librarian are, as heretofore, almost wonderful in the amount of interesting matter contained in them.

He acknowledges the receipt of a few lodge histories and adds:

"In previous reports we have referred with pleasure to the lodge histories of Maine and Virginia, whose enterprising brethren inaugurated the work, which has of late seemed to decline."

We are keeping it up pretty well in Maine, however, and no year goes by which does not add several printed histories to those already prepared, and now that the decennial year has arrived, we believe more will be prepared and printed. Nevertheless, we have many manuscript histories in the Grand Lodge, and a full collection of the lodge returns, for some forty years.

He alludes to the Library Bulletin which has been published for the past three or four years, and well says that it more than justifies the expenditure on its account in the way of additions to the library.

In his report on the library he alludes to the great loss which masonic history and literature has sustained by the death of Bro. JOHN LANE, of Torquay, England.

The Committee on Charity Fund recommend that an extra appropriation of one thousand dollars be made for that fund.

The Committee on Grievances say:

"A great per cent. of complaints are of those who, being elevated to some high position of trust, confidence and respectability, have either forgotten or violated their trust by becoming recreant to their duties, and often amidst temptations that invite a masonic sympathy rather than a rigid masonic chastisement.

"Out of over twenty-eight thousand masons in Iowa, only about twenty have humiliated their brethren sufficiently as to find his wayward conduct of sufficient importance to appeal to this Grand Lodge for review and determination: a per cent. almost *startling* in its littleness.

"We must confess that we too frequently find the lodge membership rather too swift in their desire to apply punishment, when the record very definitely shows the proceedings were unjust and wholly unwarranted."

The Grand Lodge, however, seems to have almost always endorsed the action of the lodges.

A beautiful tribute to the dead, by Bro. W. F. CLEVELAND, was presented and adopted by a rising vote.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, so that the provision in relation to membership is as follows:

"The subordinate lodges shall be composed of those named in their charters, and all who are members at the date of the granting of the same, and such as they shall admit by regular affiliation, or shall raise to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and retaining membership therein. The charter members of a lodge are those named in the charter, and all who were members at the date of granting the same."

The report of the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation shows that the new lodges had as a whole very faithfully carried out the object of the organization, but upon the recommendation of the committee the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved.* That before granting a dispensation to open a new lodge, the petitioners must satisfy the Grand Master that their income will be sufficient to meet all necessary expenses, independent of the fee for the degrees."

The committee on the Grand Master's address did not agree with the Grand Master in his decision in relation to the payment of dues, saying that the custom prevails in that jurisdiction of collecting dues *only* for the time that a brother is actually a member, and as the report of the committee was adopted, this decision of the Grand Master was overruled. Nevertheless, the committee and Grand Lodge allowed a *custom* to overrule the clear language of the law. The committee felt that, and the matter was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence to report some amendment that should make the law clear and the practice uniform.

It appears that the minority of the lodge which surrendered its charter, to the number of nine, had petitioned for a restoration of the charter, but the committee, in a well considered report, held that it would be unwise, in view of the granting of a charter for a new lodge in the same place, to restore the old charter; and besides, it held that it requires fifteen petitioners for the restoration of a charter, and there were but nine.

Of course, there was a vast amount of routine business performed, which we have no space to note.

The Report on Correspondence (121 pp.) was presented by Bro. J. C. W. COXE.

This is another of those instructive, interesting and charmingly written reports which our brother has been in the habit of giving us. It is still paged after the Roman style, and we note in reading it, that one brother attributes this to the writer of the report, but he will have to direct his criticism to the Grand Secretary, or Committee on Printing, under whose direction the Proceedings are printed. We join most earnestly in an appeal to Bro. PARVIN to remedy this blemish upon the splendid Proceedings which this Grand Lodge issues.

To a brother who said:

"True, this plan may be more *economical*, but would not the blessings of a well-equipped Masonic Home be much greater, more far-reaching?"

He thus wisely replies:

"We do not so judge; we are quite satisfied that our method of dealing with cases of need is in every way preferable for other and obvious reasons aside from economy; but we are old-fashioned enough to think that economy is not an obsolete virtue, and that the injunction to 'gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost,' is not without wisdom in this day."

He quotes the following from British Columbia without comment:

"Some very harsh language has been used in describing the action of our neighboring Grand Lodge, but I am unable to see that any landmark of the order has been broken in the course pursued, although one may well doubt its propriety under the circumstances."

We copy it for the purpose of calling attention to the fact that at this very session of that Grand Lodge, making a mason of a resident of that jurisdiction by a lodge in Canada was denounced substantially as a violation of the fundamental law of Masonry.

He replies earnestly to some sharp criticisms made by Bro. SMITH in relation to the use of ciphers, and in that connection, quotes what we said in relation to the Webb cipher, denying an assumption of Bro. SMITH's that no cipher has ever been devised which cannot be deciphered.

In his report of Indiana he expresses his views at some length, and as we deem them important and absolutely correct, we quote them here:

"That he should plead ignorance of such use of ciphers amazes us; that he should discredit the testimony which came to him, apparently from an official source, is at least surprising. Unauthorized ciphers have been denounced over and over, by nearly every Grand Jurisdiction; their sale, use, possession even, has been declared to be a masonic offence; it has been again and again vociferously asserted by Grand Masters and correspondents that the evil did not exist in their jurisdiction, or that the sinners were few and far between; Grand Jurisdictions which have an authorized cipher have been vigorously denounced as violators of sacred pledges, as profaners of the temple, as having

forfeited all claim to masonic recognition. Meantime none of these (implied) dire threats have been put in execution; none of these latter jurisdictions have been placed under 'taboo;' and the evil of unauthorized, inaccurate, sometimes blunderingly stupid, 'ciphers' goes on; candidates buy them, officers use them, irresponsible (and conscienceless) publishers grow fat on the spoils, and Masonry is debauched in the house of its friends. No jurisdiction has an unenviable monopoly of the evil; the bad pre-eminence knows no latitude or longitude. We are fully convinced that not a jurisdiction in the United States is even measurably free from the 'zymotic debauchery,' as Bro. Robbins has been pleased to style it; and we write deliberately, with some considerable measure of positive assurance. It is no necessary reflection on Grand Masters that they do not know fully about the evil; it ought to be ground for serious reflection on any officer or mason that he does not dare to tell the truth about it. Denial of an evil does not effect a cure. *The evil exists*; it is serious and wide-spread; to find and apply an effective remedy will tax the wisdom and resources of the ablest and most astute among the craft. Denial, denunciation, repressive legislation, have all failed; the plague is not stayed. He who will point out 'a more excellent way,' and lead the craft therein, will be entitled to commemoration as a wise master builder, who should rank with the famous three of olden time."

Referring to the edict of the Grand Lodge of Illinois against the sale, distribution, or possession of any pretended expose or of any written or printed form of the esoteric work, he well says:

"We regard the introduction of the word 'possession' as an invasion of personal rights not warranted by masonic law and usage, nor to be justified on any ethical grounds."

He criticises quite earnestly the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky "for the two or three flies which are unnecessarily and gratuitously thrust into this otherwise excellent ointment." The brother in question spoke very harshly of those who differed from him in their views in relation to the use of ciphers.

He had no occasion to consider the report itself, for it was indefinitely postponed by that Grand Lodge.

In his review of Maine, he pronounces the address of Grand Master LOCKE "an excellent document, without frills or furbelows," and he quotes what Bro. LOCKE says in his address in relation to receiving petitions from Catholics, and adds:

"We regard that advice as eminently sound, sensible, conservative, and truly catholic in spirit. 'No man can serve two masters.'"

Referring to our report, he says:

"He shows, and we think conclusively, that the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty is not a distinctive American doctrine, but was clearly recognized by the Grand Lodge of England in 1860. The entire paper is clear, candid, conclusive, and is a valuable contribution to the permanent literature on the question of clandestine lodges and masons."

A document in connection with the union of the two Grand Lodges in England in 1813 has been recently published, which shows that at that time the

doctrine of territorial jurisdiction was fully recognized as existing under the general masonic law: we intend to refer more fully to that document later in this report.

In his review of Pennsylvania he says, referring to the Grand Master:

"He is a strict constructionist, after the manner of his jurisdiction, on physical perfection, and his decisions struck from membership a number whom, he averred, had been improperly received. Our Grand Secretary would be disbarred there. These persons thus summarily deprived of masonic life are in possession of the masonic secrets; what obligation rests on them to keep those secrets when the other party to the contract has broken faith with them, and by no fault of their own?"

We have often asked that same question, and as yet have received no reply.

In his review of Washington he says:

"A special Committee on Negro Masonry, of which Bro. James R. Hayden was chairman, made a report which has been the subject of diverse comment in all the Grand Jurisdictions. It is a singularly acute document, which, while saying much, really says little on the vital issue which has caused disturbance among the craft. They defend sturdily and ingeniously; they confess reluctantly, and but partially; they withdraw nominally, but not really, from the controverted positions; they deny some of the naughty things with which they have been charged; they say that they won't do so again, and hope to be forgiven; and that the other fellows who have 'lammed' them so unmercifully are worse than are they, anyway. Their first resolution of the preceding year was re-affirmed; the second and third were repealed; but the plenary right of their lodges to determine for themselves the status of all persons who knocked at their doors for admission was sturdily affirmed, with a 'What-are-you-going-to-do-about it?' air and tone. Well, nothing. If Rideout and Bailey are admitted as visitors no volcanic eruption will occur in Iowa or New York; the acts of an individual lodge in Washington are not subject to review by any other Grand Jurisdiction; why muddy the waters with such trivialities?"

"A resolution to repeal the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg lies over for a year.

"Of the one hundred and sixty-four pages given to the report on correspondence, the larger part is taken up by Brother Upton's reply to critics and his historical defense of the positions announced by that jurisdiction last year on the question of Negro Masonry. His industry is apparent; his wide research appears much in evidence; for his abundant citation of authorities he is entitled to thanks. Yet, withal, his paper does not strike us as judicial, but rather as forensic; he had a case to make out, rather than a cause to adjudicate; he is polemic throughout, and irenic nowhere. The even scales of historic equity are never held by a partisan hand; and this remark no more reflects on Grand Master Upton than it does on many of those who disagree with him *toto caelo*. We shall not attempt to review or refute the detail views presented at present; we shall study the case with care, and meantime we thank Brother Upton for his collated facts; his conclusions may not command assent, but that is neither here nor there—to us or him."

The last clause of the first paragraph should not pass without notice. To make it accurately correct, there should be added "provided it is not done by the sanction of the Grand Lodge." We think that if one of those parties, who are held by the Grand Lodge of Iowa to be made in a clandestine lodge in that jurisdiction, should be a visitor in a lodge in Washington *with the sanc-*

tion of the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction, some kind of an eruption, though possibly not "volcanic," would occur in Iowa.

We are not sure that if it should happen that a lodge in Wagington should admit such a person as a visitor, and that fact should come to the knowledge of the Grand Master of Iowa, that the Grand Lodge of Washington would not hear from it.

In his introduction, written after the rest of his report was completed, he says:

"Our annual pilgrimage has brought to us much of joy and somewhat of sorrow. We greatly rejoice in improved conditions of the craft in many jurisdictions, and a healthful gain in nearly all; in restored harmony and good feeling where a year ago the clouds of war hung low; but an inexpressible sadness comes over us as we recall the list of the fallen brothers, who have heard the last call and responded thereto, leaving us with tear-dimmed eyes and aching hearts, which would be well-nigh to the breaking were it not for our faith in the power of 'the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.' The silence and mystery are none the less by virtue of our faith; but that faith steadies in the storm, and we trust 'the larger hope.' Some day we shall know the meaning of both life and death; meantime our brothers have left us under—

"SEALED ORDERS.

"Death is a Spirit!
Those who have seen him nearest
Hold him dearest,
For the rareness in his choice
When, at his Master's Voice,
He seeks, for his own call,
The bravest, best of all.
When it seems unbetimes
That one both good and great
Should pass the shadowy gate
Opening to stranger climes,
Then may ye feel full sure
The soul has grown so pure
That it must needs incline
Into the Vast Divine.

"Death is a Spirit!
We deem his pace too swift;
To our eyes,
Tho' we be passing wise,
It is not given
To see across the rift
Between ourselves and Heaven.
On earth we hear a knell—
Elsewhere there peals a bell
In welcome for a guest,
New to the Wondrous Quest
Whereof no man on earth
May ever know the birth.

"Only God knows and they
Who have joined His Great Array."

KANSAS, 1901.

We have portraits of Bros. CHARLES J. WEBB, the retiring Grand Master; and CHARLES C. COLEMAN, Grand Master in '96, WILLIAM M. SHAVER, Grand Master in '97, MAURICE L. STONE, Grand Master in '98, with a brief biographical sketch of each one.

As is remarked in these Proceedings, the sketches add very greatly to the value of the portraits, and we are exceedingly glad that they are given. They seem to make us better acquainted with those brethren.

Grand Master WEBB, after a beautiful introduction, gives a succinctly written account of the various matters which had occupied his attention.

He announced the deaths of Past Grand Masters SILAS E. SHELDON and MOSES S. ADAMS, and Past Deputy Grand Master CYRUS K. HOLLIDAY.

He had attended two of the three schools of instruction that had been held during the year, and he endorses the plan of holding them, but believes that the officers of lodges do not fully appreciate their benefits, and that there was a smaller attendance than might be expected, and the needs of the lodges demand. He thinks a change of time, however, would somewhat remedy this, and he had arranged for a school of instruction to be held during Grand Lodge week, and continuing all the week, except while the Grand Lodge was in session. We should think that this would somewhat interfere with the work of the committees, and be in danger of attracting attention from matters before the Grand Lodge.

He had granted but one dispensation for a new lodge, having discouraged efforts in that direction in cases where it appeared that a lodge might be a weak one.

Upon receipt of the news of the disaster at Galveston, he telegraphed the Grand Master of Texas to draw on him for \$500, and that was done, and of course the Grand Lodge confirmed his action.

He had had occasion to carefully watch the management of the Masonic Home, whereby he became exceedingly interested in that institution, and he urges that it be sustained, and that the *per capita* tax of twenty-five cents be continued another year.

He gives account of several official visitations, having been prevented by sickness in his family and business affairs, from visiting as many as he had intended.

The report of the Grand Secretary shows an energetic discharge of the duties of that office, and the adoption and maintenance of a system that was working exceedingly well.

Reports had come in from all of the lodges, save one, U. D., and that was received during the session of the Grand Lodge.

He had, however, under the law of the Grand Lodge, been obliged to withhold the credentials of quite a large number of lodges, for not having made

their returns in due time. It was found that a circular announcing the result of not making these returns was not received by the proper officer in many cases, the out-going Secretaries failing to hand it over to their successors. He believes that another year will show an improvement.

The year had been an exceedingly prosperous one, the net gain being greater than at any time during the history of the Grand Lodge, with the exception of two years, and the interest of the craft had seemed to increase accordingly. This is shown somewhat in the large number of calls he had had for laying corner-stones of public buildings.

We are greatly delighted to find that an increase in the interest in the library, of which we have spoken in previous reports, has continued, and that the Grand Secretary had been able to arrange the books and documents, the result of which is that they have a very large and valuable library. The family of the late Grand Secretary, Bro. JOHN H. BROWN, had presented the Grand Lodge with his collection of many valuable books and documents, and they had received from JACOB D. RUSH, now resident in California, two handsomely bound volumes, entitled "Fifty Years of Masonry in California."

An invitation to visit the Masonic Home was accepted, and the Grand Lodge called off for that purpose.

A fine oration was delivered by Rev. Bro. STEPHEN S. ESTEY, extra copies of which were printed separately from the Proceedings, for distribution. It is a valuable addition to masonic literature and should be widely read, and we commend the Grand Lodge for having it printed in such form that the brethren generally may have the advantage of it.

One case was before the Grand Lodge of an unusual character. A brother was tried and convicted of a masonic offence and expelled in December, 1895. He took no appeal, being absent from the State, but last year brought the matter to the attention of the Grand Lodge, which took it up, and upon examination of it ordered the decision of the lodge to be vacated and the judgment reversed, and the case remanded to the lodge for further proceedings. The lodge immediately raised the question that the action of the Grand Lodge was "unconstitutionally and void." The Grand Master referred this question to the Committee on Jurisprudence. Three of them sustained the action of the Grand Lodge and two dissented. Thereupon the Grand Master directed that the whole matter remain in abeyance, to be presented to the Grand Lodge this year, and it was so presented. The committee finally agreed that the language of the Constitution was so ambiguous, and there was so much doubt as to its meaning, that they agreed to sustain the action of the Grand Lodge, the year before. But they went on to provide that hereafter an appeal must be made within a given time. We would remark in passing, that without studying greatly the by-law adopted, there seems to us to be a discrepancy in it, in that "ninety days after the ruling" seems to be given in which an appeal

may be taken, and yet that it provides that such an appeal shall be heard before the next annual communication, if there is such a communication "within *thirty* days after the ruling."

However, this is of no particular consequence in relation to the matter of which we wish to speak. We regard the point taken that the action of the Grand Lodge was "unconstitutional and void" as having no basis to rest upon in any event. It may be that the accused had no right to appeal when he did, but we hold that the Grand Lodge, unless it has foolishly restricted itself by its own Constitution, may reopen such a case at any time when, in its judgment, justice requires it. Provision is made for this in all civil codes, even where only a few dollars are involved, and it would be a disgrace to Masonry if such a power did not reside in the Grand Lodge in a case involving the reputation and standing of a brother mason.

The Grand Lodge presented to the retiring Grand Master a magnificent jewel, called in the records a Past Grand Master's jewel, the design of which, however, differs somewhat from the usually accepted form in this section of the country.

It also presented to Past Grand Master HENRY C. LOOMIS another jewel of a different design, which is also termed a Past Grand Master's jewel. The seal of Kansas is suspended from a circular jewel, upon which is represented the Masonic Home, with the square above it. Above that the three great lights of Masonry are shown.

The brother accepted the jewel in an eloquent speech, but presented it again to the Grand Lodge, to be taken and retained by it. The Grand Lodge accepted it, and ordered a picture of it to be printed in the Proceedings, with the remarks of the donor, and made it the official jewel of the Grand Lodge. It is a beautiful jewel, but cannot with any sort of propriety be deemed a Past Grand Master's jewel, as heretofore always known to the craft.

The Report on Correspondence (215 pp.), with four tables of statistics prepared by the chairman, was presented by Bro. JOHN C. POSTLETHWAITE. Of it he says:

"In the preparation of this report, our chief aim has been to interest the craft in the true aim and principles of Masonry, and to this end we have reproduced the efforts of others imbued with the same purpose. We trust the standard of Masonry may be elevated thereby and become a greater power as an instrument of GOD in blessing humanity, and that the following report may be received and used in the spirit in which it is written."

He adhered pretty closely to this in his review of the different jurisdictions, and very few comments are made. He opens as follows, and his whole introduction is of a similar character:

"In submitting this, our fourth Report on Correspondence, we come before the masonic world at the beginning of the new year of the new century with a joyous, fraternal and happy greeting, our heart full of gratitude to the Giver of All Good for the manifestations of His loving kindness to us and the mem-

bers of the craft, and through them to all the world, especially to the unfortunate, the destitute, the helpless orphan, the dependent widow, and the aged and infirm mason. GOD has been pleased to use the craft as an instrument in His hand for dispensing charity, as the bearer of relief to the distressed and succor to the needy."

He refers to the growth of the State, copying from the Governor's message for the purpose of "proclaiming to the world the numerical, material and intellectual prosperity of Kansas, whereby masons 'wheresoever dispersed' may know that the craft in Kansas is in full enjoyment of that remuneration due the faithful craftsman—'Peace, health and plenty'—thanks to the Grand Master of the Universe."

He follows through his report the plan which he had laid down, and gives us one of the best abstracts, with pertinent extracts, of the year. One feature of it is, that he gives in a very few lines the history of the organization of each Grand Lodge.

In his review of Maine, he quotes at some length from the pamphlet issued at the celebration of our seventy-fifth anniversary. He refers to our explanation of the words "foreign" and "fraternal" as applied to these reports, and pronounces it satisfactory.

He cannot understand how an error arose in publishing the name of their Representative near this Grand Lodge as "Francis" instead of "Archie." It is possible, and perhaps probable, that it arose from a clerical mistake made at this end, for one of the past officers of our Grand Lodge, now deceased, was FRANCIS L. TALBOT, and a brother of that same name has represented his lodge in our Grand Lodge.

He gives an interesting review of Foreign Grand Lodges, including that prepared by Bro. FRENKEL, of New York, of the continental Grand Lodges.

In his conclusion he says:

"We have searched the Proceedings of the masonic world for truths, good, pure and beautiful, wherewith we might embellish this report and thereby make the 'sheaf' composing our Report on Fraternal Correspondence. It is not so full and complete as we hoped for on the outset of our gleaning. Nevertheless, the 'gathering and binding' has been a source of joy and of much intellectual profit, and we trust our work may bring to its readers much pleasure and assistance in building up a true Masonic Temple—an upright, useful and noble manhood."

His associates will say that he carried out his plan more fully than he himself claims.

KENTUCKY, 1900.

This volume is one of much interest. The Grand Lodge celebrated its centennial anniversary at this session. The pamphlet is adorned with the pictures of the retiring Grand Master, JOHN A. RAMSEY, and the incoming Grand Master, WILLIAM C. MCCORD, with also a cut of both sides of the

Hiram Bassett memorial prize medal for the highest average in scholarship and deportment at the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home.

A centennial medal was also struck off both in bronze and white, bearing on one side the pictures of JAMES MORRISON, who called to order the convention for the organization of the Grand Lodge, and installed the first Grand Master, with that of Bro. JOHN A. RAMSEY, who presided in 1900, and on the obverse a picture of the Home.

A portrait of the first Grand Master could not be obtained, and as Bro. MORRISON called the convention to order, and installed the first Grand Master and succeeded him later, his portrait was taken instead.

A rather brief account of the proceedings is given. A fine address, though brief, by M. W. Bro. RAMSEY, is given in full.

The children from the Home were present and took a large part in the exercises, especially rendering the musical selections. Addresses were made which were not furnished for publication.

Among the events which mark the centennial year, it is stated that definite provisions were completed for the purchase of real estate for a Home for aged freemasons of Kentucky, there having been \$50,000 already raised or subscribed for. In addition, the Grand Lodge determined to build a new Masonic Temple, the old one having been sold. Within about twenty years the Grand Lodge had given directly and indirectly, to the Widows' and Orphans' Home, \$576,000, including \$328,000 raised by assessments.

It was intended to publish in connection with these proceedings, a history of the craft for the century, by Bro. GRANT, the Grand Secretary, but it was wisely determined to publish it in a separate pamphlet, and in that connection we hope that a fuller history will be given than could have been possibly done, if published in these Proceedings, and that Bro. GRANT will take the necessary time to prepare it.

The Grand Master, JOHN A. RAMSEY, in his annual address refers briefly to a few of the incidents during the century then closing in the history of his Grand Lodge, closing this part of his address as follows:

"I am happy to report the Order in our State as prosperous and in full swing to weave a glorious destiny. During the year that has past there have been no dissensions or heart-burnings among sister lodges, but the craft seems to be endowed with a zeal that deserves high commendation, and with a love for the Order that will result in a work more perfect and enduring than any memorial that might be erected by our hands."

Among his decisions was one that every brother is bound to vote on a petition for application according to his own conscientious views, and that he cannot act as proxy to another.

It appears from one of his decisions that an agreement between two lodges as to territorial jurisdiction, is binding upon them until revoked, but this would be directly in conflict with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

The manner of wearing the apron was before the Grand Lodge, and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who reported thereon as follows, and the report was adopted:

“The question as to the proper wearing of aprons in the three degrees should be settled. This committee believes that aprons should be worn: In Entered Apprentice degree, with flaps turned up to protect the clothing; in Fellow Craft degree, with left corner of apron turned under, the better to prevent interference with the working tools; in Master’s degree, naturally, as becomes an overseer of the work. The reasons for this can only be given orally to this Grand Body.”

The reasons given are new ones to us, but really we are obliged to confess that we have never studied the symbolism of this subject.

He reprov'd one of the oldest lodges for conferring the second section of the Master’s degree while at refreshment, saying that no work can be done, even the installation of officers, except when the lodge is at labor.

For some reason growing out of the financial situation, the Grand Secretary is not installed at the session of the Grand Lodge, but on the first day of January following.

The Grand Lodge *per capita* dues are two dollars, and he says that some or many of the lodges charge only three dollars for the annual dues, asking if it is a wonder that many are “short.” During the year two lodges had surrendered their charters, and seven charters were arrested, but the reasons are, he stated, that the dues were too small, and not often collected at that.

When the catastrophe happened to Galveston, he ordered the Grand Secretary to forward five hundred dollars.

He had done an immense amount of routine work, which is only of local interest.

Two of the lodges whose charters were suspended paid their dues, and the charters were restored.

He makes a brief reference to the Washington Centennial, and refers for particulars to the article published in the Masonic Home Journal.

He had found that a large number of copies of the printed Proceedings had accumulated in the Grand Secretary’s office, and he had directed him to communicate with subordinate bodies, and to supply copies from their collection, with the result that he had furnished one hundred and sixty-one lodges with one thousand eight hundred and nine copies.

It appeared that some lodges had no place to keep the Proceedings, and he urges upon them the importance of making a place for a library.

He refers to the clandestine lodges in the State, which we shall note more particularly hereafter, calling attention at the same time that there were lodges of the same character in Ohio. In connection with this he says:

“There are thirty-three spurious lodges in Ohio and possibly a dozen in this State. Both have set up so-called Grand Lodges, and, if my information is not at fault, both Grand Lodges were started by expelled masons, many of

whom hold high office in these clandestine lodges. They have boasted of having been admitted to regular lodges; but this was, of course, because their true character was unknown."

He had found that lodges were deficient in the kinds of books in which their records are written, and in the proper method of keeping them, and he advises that the Grand Secretary prepare proper books, with instructions as to how they should be kept, to be sold at a fair price to the lodges, and that every new lodge should be required to have a set of these, and that other lodges be recommended to use them.

Of course he refers in glowing terms to the Home.

He announced that the owners of the Masonic Temple in Louisville had sold it, and that the Grand Lodge must seek other quarters by purchase or rental. It had given to the Home all its capital, and he thinks that it is due to the Grand Lodge that it should construct a suitable building for the use of the Grand Lodge, and he had to have a committee to find a place in which it could meet at that session, and the auditorium had been obtained.

In the Grand Secretary's report we find the following:

"In conformity with instructions (Proceedings 1899, page 80), I received designs and proposals for a Representative's Badge, submitted them to the Grand Master and several P. G. M.'s and brethren, and ordered the one they selected as the most desirable. By direction of the Grand Master, receipts will be taken for every badge given out, which receipts contain a pledge to return the badge under penalty of \$3.00."

This matter occasioned considerable discussion, and the following resolution was presented and adopted:

"Resolved, That so much of the Grand Secretary's report as refers to delegates' badges, reference of papers to committees, be approved, being in conformity with the edict and regulations of this Grand Lodge."

When the Grand Lodge came to ballot for Grand Officers, a motion was made that the tellers should receive ballots from only those who should show a badge, and the Deputy Grand Master presiding ruled that the motion was unconstitutional. Thereupon the Grand Secretary moved that the Representatives be permitted to take the badge home and keep it, and a motion to amend was made by ordering that the badge be given to the Grand Secretary to be given to the brother who represents the Grand Lodge next year. Thereupon the motion prevailed that further consideration be postponed until the committee to which it had been referred, should make a report. We do not find that it had been referred to any committee, nor do we find that afterward any report was made thereon, but on the last day of the session the following resolution was offered:

"Resolved, That the representatives' badges be retained by the representatives and delivered to the lodge Treasurer, to be handed with receipt for dues to the representative next year, and said badge shall be worn to the next session of the Grand Lodge, and so on each successive year."

And immediately the following resolutions were offered as a substitute:

"Resolved, 1. That each delegate be presented with the badge worn at this Grand Communication.

"Resolved, 2. That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby authorized, to hereafter (until otherwise ordered by this Grand Lodge), procure and have printed for each annual communication, with appropriate inscription and device, on blue silk or satin, a badge for each delegate to this Grand Lodge, to be delivered to each delegate upon his application to the Grand Secretary at the session of said Grand Lodge.

"Resolved, 3. That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the sum expended for said badges."

But the substitute was not concurred in, and the whole matter was indefinitely postponed. We doubt if our Kentucky brethren will know quite "where they are at" in this matter, but we *guess* that the report of the Grand Secretary, which we have quoted, stands as the law upon the subject.

We learn further from the Grand Secretary's report, that one charter had been restored which had apparently been arrested previously to the commencement of the year, and that three lodges had surrendered their charters.

Bro. J. SOULE SMITH presented an exceedingly interesting report for the Committee on Jurisprudence in relation to clandestine lodges, from which we learn that there is a clandestine Grand Lodge in that State other than the Colored Grand Lodge. This body had incorporated itself under the laws of Kentucky as the "Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of the State of Kentucky."

So far as the writer of this report could ascertain, there were but three lodges, but they were informed also that there was a pretended chapter of Royal Arch Masons also.

In relation to this Bro. SMITH well says:

"There is little use for serious argument with charlatans. Every mason knows that Grand Lodges are not 'created or instituted' by legislatures, either by special or general acts. Three subordinate lodges under certain conditions may form a Grand Lodge—three men cannot. The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons has, for one hundred years, been practicing and preserving Ancient Craft Masonry in Kentucky without asking any legislative authority to do so, or craving any legislative sanction for its dissolution. The significant points about this legislative Grand Lodge are these:

"It may die when it pleases.

"It consists of three Trustees.

"It may contract unlimited indebtedness.

"The private property of its members shall not be liable for the corporate debts.

"It has no capital stock.

"It is not given power to sue and be sued, or to acquire and hold any property.

"Its principal place of business is Covington, Kentucky.

"As we said before, we do not know whether the founders of this clandestine Grand Lodge are perjurers or common swindlers. One can read the provisions of their charter and form his own opinion. It is simply our purpose to identify, so far as possible, the persons engaged in this 'business' at 'Covington, in the county of Kenton, and State of Kentucky.' We wish their names to go broadcast to the craft in this State and elsewhere. Our brethren in Covington can inform inquirers as to the character of the three men who

constitute this corporation, and who make a 'business' of selling degrees to which they do not show any title, real or pretended."

The clandestine lodges claim to have the regular Kentucky work, but the committee say that there is no regular Kentucky work except the unwritten work handed down by word of mouth. At the same time it is undoubtedly true that impostors from these lodges have succeeded in visiting regular lodges, and therefore great care should be taken in the admission of visitors from that State.

Bro. SMITH calls attention to the fact that there is a clandestine Grand Lodge also in Ohio, calling itself "Ancient." He does not say, but we suspect it to be the fact, that the Kentucky Spurious Grand Lodge, and the Ohio Spurious Grand Lodge have a common origin, and are working in harmony with each other.

The Grand Master decided as follows:

"When two lodges agree upon a division of adjoining territory, agreeing upon a boundary line fixing the jurisdiction of each, and this arrangement is confirmed by their formal action, it is tantamount to a waiver of their constitutional jurisdiction over the territory ceded, and is binding upon them until mutually revoked. They should scrupulously regard each others' rights, and afford an example of that good faith in all transactions which should distinguish all masons."

The committee at first endorsed this decision, but the Grand Lodge reversed it. The Constitution requires a waiver in every individual case, so of course a lodge cannot do by implication what it cannot do by express action.

The committee on the "Old Masons' Home," which this Grand Lodge has in contemplation, made a report showing a good deal of progress in the obtaining and collection of subscriptions, having in bank at the present time a little more than \$13,500.

The committee reported that in accordance with the duty assigned them, they had caused medals to be struck to commemorate the centennial of the Grand Lodge, and it was voted that a bronze medal be delivered to each Representative to be presented to his lodge, and to the several Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, etc., and that a white medal be given to each Representative.

The following resolution was presented, referred to the Finance Committee, and finally adopted in substance:

"WHEREAS, The Grand Master in this jurisdiction receives no pecuniary compensation for the arduous duties of his station, the honors thereof being deemed ample reward for the labor performed, it is eminently proper that some appropriate credential should be possessed by those who have occupied the East of the Grand Lodge, that they may be enabled to transmit it to their posterity as a cherished heirloom; therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to purchase a jewel for each one of our living Past Grand Masters, and that hereafter a similar jewel be presented to each retiring Grand Master."

The usual amount of routine business was transacted.

A favorable report was made in relation to the Home, and the following resolution thereto, was adopted:

“That a committee, consisting of three members of this Grand Lodge, be appointed and directed to fully examine and investigate the condition and management of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home in all its details to this date, and to make full report as to same to the next session of this Grand Lodge.”

An attempt was made to limit the legal effect of dimitts to one year, by providing that if a brother holding a dimit should not within that time become a member of a lodge, the dimit should become void, and he at once resumes his old membership. But the committee reported against it, and their report was adopted.

A law had been previously adopted, fining lodges for not making their returns in due season, and a large part of the time of the committee had been spent in hearing excuses, and the committee recommended that either the law be enforced or repealed; and that excuses should not be granted, as they had been, substantially for the mere asking.

A committee was appointed to take measures in relation to the erection of a Grand Lodge Hall.

The Report on Correspondence (132 pp.) was presented by Bro. JAMES W. STATON.

He started out to make a very brief report, in consequence of the proposal to print the History in these Proceedings. But, as already stated, it having been wisely decided, as he also thinks, to print that in a separate pamphlet, he gives a little more space than he started to, but he says:

“Being centennial year, we have thought it best to prepare a short and pointed report, and will bend all our energies to that effect, only reserving the right to comment on such matters as we believe the interests of Masonry shall demand.”

In his review of British Columbia, he intimates that certain Grand Lodges, that have never recognized the Grand Lodge of Peru, had withdrawn recognition or suspended masonic fellowship, and he criticised some of them for interfering in the matter, and his criticisms had in turn been criticised. We were not aware that any of them, which have noticed the matter, had failed to recognize the Grand Lodge of Peru, but of course his criticism is well taken as to any which had not previously recognized them.

He devoted a good deal of time to the report, which is almost all written and contains very few extracts.

He questions with us whether the practice in Georgia of expelling masons for non-payment of dues ought to be allowed. It puts the mere non-payment of dues on a level with the grossest offences against morals and masonic law.

He says further:

"We disapprove of non-affiliation as much as any mason in the land, but if masons are not satisfied let them go. The fraternity is better off without them than having them forcibly kept with us. Besides, they come voluntarily seeking admission, let them go the same way."

In his review of Indiana, he says:

"A perpetual jurisdiction case sprang up with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, but the candidate was elected in an Indiana lodge, and the Grand Master of Indiana declared him to have been regularly made a mason according to the laws of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Of course the controversy ended there, but whether the brother was allowed to visit the Pennsylvania lodge or not is not stated."

No, it is not necessary to state it, as we all know what the Pennsylvania law is upon that subject.

While it is not necessary to sustain the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, we believe that there will be no harmony in relation to this matter until all Grand Lodges shall give the same effect to a rejection as is given by the Grand Lodge where it is made, precisely as is the case in relation to suspension and expulsion.

Referring to Mexico, he says: "We had better keep our hands off until Masonry in Mexico is firmer seated."

He approves the provision of our law that it shall be the duty of every lodge to preserve one copy of the Proceedings of our Grand Lodge annually, and, when a volume is completed, to have the same bound for the use of the lodge.

He agrees also with our law here in Maine in relation to objection to advancement:

"He clearly defines the difference between the rejection of a candidate who seeks the mysteries of Masonry, and one who has attained the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft degrees, and we fully agree with him. The man who has been elected to receive the Entered Apprentice, and objections made thereto before initiation, and the man already in, and objections raised to advancement, is entirely different. We believe that objections made to advancement of one already in, should be inquired into, and if the lodge considers the objections frivolous, he should be permitted to advance."

He had received the Proceedings of Maine for 1900, as well as those for 1899.

Referring to what we said of Bro. REGINALD H. THOMPSON, he says:

"These words are true to the letter, and we wonder how our good brother became so thoroughly acquainted with the character of Brother Thompson. If he had been intimately acquainted with him all his life he could not have given a more faithful description of Bro. Thompson's character. Kentucky masons feel the loss severely."

We had an opportunity, as chairman of this committee, to follow Brother THOMPSON very closely through the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and our estimate of his character was made up from his addresses and reports therein published.

He approves, as we understand it, the action of our Grand Lodge in relation to the Grand Lodge of Washington, and we trust that his Grand Lodge will see the matter in the same light. He must be satisfied, and his Grand Lodge must be satisfied, that the Grand Lodge of Washington as a whole is all right, but if our memory serves us, his Grand Lodge has not by its action resumed masonic correspondence. Of this, however, Bro. STATON, in his conclusion, says:

"The question which has agitated the fraternity from one end of the land to the other is that which was brought about by the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, had at its communications in June, 1898, and in 1899. Several of the Grand Lodges who had dissolved relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington have repealed their resolutions and restored that Grand Lodge to fraternal relations; but many of the Grand Lodges are dissatisfied with the unsatisfactory manner in which the Grand Lodge of Washington rescinded its action, and refused to restore friendly relations until the Grand Lodge of Washington more definitely defines itself. So far as this writer is concerned, he is willing to accept that declaration of rescission, although we do not believe it is as frank and clear as it ought to be, but we do not believe that they will be willing to try the same scheme again. We believe that the united action of the several English-speaking Grand Lodges of the world, together with the voice of the several correspondents of Grand Lodges, with the exception of one, will settle the question for many years to come; if not forever."

MANITOBA, 1900.

We have a portrait of the incoming Grand Master, ROBERT S. THORNTON.

A special communication was held, with the District Deputy Grand Master as Grand Master, to lay the corner-stone of St. Luke's Church in the village of Red Deer.

The Grand Lodge was opened in form, and the usual ceremonies, which are detailed at length, were performed, and we find that they conform exactly to those in use in this jurisdiction. An address was delivered, which, however, is not published. At the close of the ceremonies the Grand Lodge returned to the lodge rooms and closed. The occasion was one of much interest.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, JOHN LESLIE, delivered an address in which he discusses ably various matters which had come to him for official action.

We quote the following from his introduction as showing the sentiment of the craft in the Dependencies of the Crown:

"About eight months ago Great Britain felt herself compelled to enter into a war with the Dutch Republics of South Africa. Engaged, as the dear old mother land was, in a struggle which we, as Canadians, felt to be most just, our sympathies went out to her in no uncertain way. Not because help was needed, but because we were a part of the British Empire and were proud of it, Canada offered to the Imperial Government troops for service in South Africa. The offer was accepted and troops were dispatched, a second and a third contingent followed, and now Canadians are fighting the battles of their

Queen and country on the sandy plains and hills of the Transvaal. We knew when they went away that they would nobly uphold the honor of the Maple Leaf, and our expectations have not been disappointed. They have borne themselves as citizens of no mean country, and we are proud of them. No words of mine can add anything to the renown they have garnered on the blood-stained battle-fields of far distant Africa."

They had to deplore, however, the death of two of their members.

Basing his decision upon a previous one in 1898, he ruled that a man who had lost his left leg above the knee, could be initiated into Masonry.

Speaking of his official visits, he refers to his jurisdiction as "the largest masonic jurisdiction in the world." This had not occurred to us, and it is very difficult for us to get that idea of it.

He had visited thirteen lodges during the year, and was abundantly satisfied that very much good comes from such visitations.

With the concurrence of the Finance Committee, he had subscribed one hundred dollars for the India Famine Fund.

At one of his visitations a pleasant incident occurred. A member of that lodge had been on a visit to the Holy Land, and while there attended a meeting of the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge at Jerusalem. He was received with hospitality, and on his departure was given a very handsome gavel, to be presented to his Grand Lodge, and the brother on the occasion of this visitation delivered it to the Grand Master.

He calls attention to the "Book of Forms and Ceremonies" which had just been completed, and of which he speaks very highly, and trusts that it will be studied and used.

He speaks of the excellent work also of the D. D. G. Masters, but it would seem from what he says that these brethren visit these lodges at their own expense, and he thinks that this is wrong. In some cases the lodges pay the expenses, and he thinks that something should be done in the matter. We believe of course that the system prevailing generally in this section of the country is the correct one—that the expenses of these officers should be paid by the Grand Lodge, so that they may feel under no obligation whatever to the lodges which they visit.

Lodges of instruction had been held with the usual good results.

He agrees that the time honored custom of attending divine service was falling into neglect among the lodges. He recognizes the fact that many masons object to participating in them, but he thinks a masonic service can be arranged that would remove the objectionable features.

He calls attention with words of praise to the History of Freemasonry in Canada, by Bro. JOHN ROSS ROBERTSON, and suggests that measures be taken to collect historical data in his jurisdiction, and preserve it, as the better part of our masonic history is not written in the lodge records; and he urges

that some brother be entrusted with the task to write a history of his Grand Lodge during the twenty-five years that it had existed.

He suggests further, that it might be a good plan to begin with the lodge and let each lodge do something of that kind.

He further suggests that it would be a good plan for lodges to secure photographs and pictures of men and places prominent in the early history of Masonry, and he urges most earnestly that this shall be done at once. This is highly commendable, for experience shows that it is extremely difficult to fully appreciate the wisdom of the news-boy to his friend, that "the time to get tarts is when they're passin'."

He calls attention to two evils that will ultimately sap the life of the lodges. One is life membership with an entirely inadequate price, and the other is the "suicidal policy which prevails in their guaranteeing a masonic funeral to every deceased member." Of the latter he says:

"With regard to the second of these two evils the mere mention of it is sufficient to condemn it. It must mean financial ruin to the lodges which adopt it. It can mean nothing else. Freemasonry will never refuse to provide for the funeral expenses of a brother dying in indigent circumstances, but Freemasonry does not exist to pay the funeral expenses of a member whose family are well able to pay the expenses in connection therewith."

This is another step in imitation of the benefit societies of the day.

In relation to another matter he well says:

"The proper conduct of the business of a lodge is of prime importance. Too much careful attention cannot be paid to the degree work, but, at the same time, it is to be remembered that the chief end of Masonry is not to transact business and confer degrees. Masonry is a social order, and that side of it should not be neglected. The brother who comes to meeting after meeting of the lodge and has no opportunity of spending a few minutes in conversation with his brethren soon ceases to attend at all. Many of our lodges are being materially injured by the habit of cutting off the social part of the meeting for the sake of the ritual work. An ordinary lodge meeting at which one degree is conferred can be closed in good time and still allow at least one hour for social pleasures. Man is a social being and craves intercourse with his fellows. If he does not get it at the lodge room he will go elsewhere. A small sum of money spent in this direction at each meeting will yield ample returns in the more kindly feeling generated among the brethren."

At the same time he would cultivate the intellectual side of Masonry.

All the District Deputy Grand Masters made reports. As we gather, they had visited every lodge in the jurisdiction except two and possibly three, and many of them had visited them twice. They report in detail in reference to each visit, and give exceedingly valuable information to the Grand Lodge, but as a whole their reports show the craft in a prosperous condition, growing rapidly, and perhaps too rapidly for solid prosperity.

One of the Deputies very properly suggests that his district be made smaller or some provision be made for paying the expenses of the visiting officer, and he emphasizes it by the statement that he had traveled over one thousand

miles himself, and that his successor would have to do more than he had done.

The Deputies well earn the compliment paid them, of declaring them formally Past District Deputy Grand Masters. We infer that this makes them permanent members of the Grand Lodge, although we are not sure in this respect. At any rate, it gives them that particular rank in the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary, WILLIAM G. SCOTT, reports the printing and issuing of a new Constitution in a volume of 160 pages besides the index, making 31 pages more; also a volume of ceremonials, and also a new burial service and a standard code of by-laws.

Dispensations had been granted for five new lodges, besides two which were working under dispensation the previous year.

Two other applications had been received, but they came so late that they were held for the consideration of the incoming Grand Master.

He reports that the returns had been made with great promptness, and that the finances of the Grand Lodge were in satisfactory condition. The past year had been a most prosperous one in its history.

As this year closes the first twenty-five years of the history of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary gives a statement of the gains and losses for the whole time. The gains were 6,134, and the losses were 3,292, one-third of which resulted from suspensions for non-payment of dues. But in spite of all this there was a net gain of 2,842. Sixty-six lodges had been chartered since the organization, of which seven had become extinct, and one had transferred its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Of the Grand Officers who took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge but five were living.

In his conclusion, Bro. SCOTT says:

“And now, brethren of the Grand Lodge, the exacting duties of a public office requiring my undivided attention, my work as Grand Secretary must cease. The time has come for me to say the final words of official separation, and it is needless for me to add that I do so with feelings of sadness. For twenty years I have labored among you and have endeavored with all the ability I possessed to promote the interests of Craft Masonry, and especially those of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. With my associate officers my relations have been on the whole of the most pleasant character, and in looking back over the long period of my connection with them it will ever be with feelings of unmingled satisfaction and pride that I shall recall the times when it was my privilege to share these labors and honors with them. To these brethren, to my brother Grand Secretaries throughout the masonic world from whom I have so often received many kindnesses, and to that goodly band of masons of our own jurisdiction which during my term of service has grown from three hundred and sixty to three thousand and ninety, to one and all as Grand Secretary, I bid you ‘Adieu, a heart-warm fond adieu.’”

He makes a detailed report also in relation to the library, from which it appears that that is in a very prosperous condition. But he suggests that his successor ought to have a remuneration for taking care of it. While it is

mainly a masonic library, nevertheless they have quite a collection of books of a general character. We think that ultimately they will have to restrict it to masonic books.

The report of the committee on the District Deputy Grand Masters' reports commend these officers for their zeal and fidelity, saying, however, that the reports show that too many members are in arrears for dues, and that the historical register of the lodges is not properly kept. In this connection the committee say:

"Two things are to be further noted: 1st. That there are too many members in arrears for dues. If such brethren in arrears can meet their lodge dues they ought to pay promptly; if they are unable, then they should manfully come forward, state their inability, and there is not a lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction but what would remit such arrears. 2d. It is the complaint of more than one D. D. G. Master that the Historical Register is not properly kept. Whose fault is this? If the work is too formidable for the Secretary of the Lodge, then the lodge should appoint some competent brother, and, if necessary, pay him for his labor. If this were done, each lodge would have an Historical Register worthy of it."

Charters were granted to six new lodges, the other having not worked sufficient time U. D.

The Committee on the Grand Secretary's report notices his valedictory, and while regretfully, accept his decision, having put on record a minute of the high appreciation of the Grand Lodge of his services during all these years, and in addition a committee was appointed to procure a fitting testimonial to be given to him. We shall hope, however, that he will continue his valuable aid for the benefit of the craft.

Much other business of a routine character was transacted, but not of general interest.

There was no Report on Correspondence.

MARYLAND, 1900.

At the semi-annual communication, the Grand Master, THOMAS J. SHRYOCK, merely made a report of the dispensations issued and other local matters.

The Grand Inspectors made the following report, brief but comprehensive:

"We have made thirty-nine visitations and are pleased to state that we found all the lodges in good form, financially and practically.

"The new officers generally do fair work, and evidence more perfect work in the near future.

"We found some features disturbing the harmony that should prevail, but have promise of correction at an early date.

"The landmarks of our Order are well preserved.

"The advancement of our Order is decidedly favorable. The records are well kept and evidence substantial and well founded growth."

At the annual communication in November, it was announced that the Grand Master had gone to Michigan to try the baths of the springs at Mt. Clements for his rheumatism, and he had found them very beneficial. The Grand Lodge sent a message of greetings, adopted unanimously by a rising vote.

His address was read by the Deputy Grand Master.

He says:

"We are standing upon the threshold of a new century. The century just past has been marvelous in its development of civilization and of the arts and sciences. During its period wonderful advancement has been made in every thing conducive to the comfort and wants of mankind. The very elements of nature have been chained and made to serve man, increasing his facilities for work and happiness. Freemasonry has not stood still, but, with the general advancement, has kept pace and has spread its good influence over the face of the earth for the betterment of humanity. The coming century bids fair to outstrip the past in its wonderful development of knowledge and power, even over nature itself. No one can tell what these developments will be, or what line or direction they may take, but the past teaches us to hope that they may be for the betterment of we poor mortals here below. Freemasonry must keep pace with this development. To do this, she must be ever alert and watchful of the wants of mankind; she must be ever ready to relieve the distressed and comfort the weary, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted. She must make her influence for good felt everywhere; and, to accomplish this, she must ever be alert, never sleeping, never tiring, for time waits not, and development of other human institutions are crowding us so rapidly one upon the other, that she must ever be ready for the call of duty. Such being the conditions, the responsibility rests upon us, as the guardian of our unblemished escutcheon, and grows greater as time flies by. We must be unselfish and sacrificing in all we do. Our deliberations for to-day are not only for to-day, but for the future, as their influence will be felt when you and I have passed through the valley of tears and the earth shall know us no more. Guard well, therefore, I beseech you, the sacred heritage which has been handed down to us by our forefathers. Let no act of ours, individually or collectively, cast the slightest reflection or mar a page of the glorious history of the Fraternity."

We know from what he has written in the past that he does not mean by this that any change or improvement in the fundamental laws and usages of Masonry shall be attempted, but that Masonry must be active in a more complete performance of the duties which Masonry imposes.

Of the condition of his own Grand Lodge, he says:

"During the past year peace and prosperity have dwelt with us; the Fraternity has prospered and is prospering; never was there more activity in our lodges throughout the whole State. The Grand Lecturer's report of lodges visited is made to the Grand Master monthly, and shows a healthy increase and vigorous interest in all the lodges. Our Grand Lodge finances are in splendid condition. The income of the Grand Lodge is largely in excess of the expenses, and our bonded indebtedness is gradually being liquidated. The future looks indeed bright and prosperous for us."

He refers to the Washington Centennial exercises, and speaks in high terms of their importance and success.

He announces, with a tribute to his memory, the death of Bro. WILLIAM

H. CLARK, Past Deputy Grand Master, who had been an earnest mason, serving the craft in various capacities, and in his will gave the Grand Lodge one thousand dollars for the charity fund.

Of decisions he says :

“ During the year just past I have not been called upon to make any decision on points of masonic law. I think the craft in our jurisdiction is to be congratulated upon this circumstance, as it shows most clearly that the brethren, who are called upon to fill the positions of Masters of lodges, are well schooled in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and are thus able to decide for themselves what is the law governing their bodies as laid down in our Constitution. The resolution passed by the Grand Lodge, requiring that the 23d Article of the Constitution be read in open lodge, is, in my judgment, largely responsible for the knowledge of the law which the brethren generally have, and which is evidenced by the fact that decisions are not asked of the Grand Master.”

We have no doubt that this is correct, and if the old usage could be more generally observed, Grand Masters would not be so often called upon for decisions, and Masters of lodges as well as the lodges themselves would avoid the making of many errors.

We join heartily in the following :

“ Very much to my delight, our venerable Bro. Schultz still continues to act as chairman of Committee on Correspondence and will submit his usual annual report. The Grand Lodge is most deeply indebted to him for the great sacrifice which he must make in order to do this work. Whilst his sight is no more, his heart still beats true to the cause, and he continues to work faithfully for the Fraternity.”

In relation to this the committee says in part :

“ The remarkable vigor of the venerable chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, Bro. E. T. Schultz, finds appropriate mention, and here in his own home we rely so implicitly on his masonic lore, as the great treasure house for all such information, that we regard it as a paradox, that nothing escapes his vision and yet he cannot see at all. Would God some magic art could unravel the complicated threads of masonic facts now wrapped up in the convolutions of his busy brain and weave a tapestry of his personal reminiscence and historical truths and give us such a chart as few men living could match and none of the fathers could surpass.”

Of the first extract which we have quoted the committee say :

“ The prosperous condition of affairs reflects great credit on our Board of Managers, most heartily seconded by a loyal craft, while the Grand Lecturer, follows the orbit of this jurisdiction with unflinching, tireless energy, shedding the light of his masonic lore into the darkest places of our jurisdiction and bringing to light some of the choicest jewels of the craft. Such a system seems to lack nothing, in its principles, and is most efficiently applied by the Grand Inspectors. Let this M. W. Grand Lodge lead the van, clinging tenaciously to the landmarks and restoring the perfections of an unfallen race till we reach the fulness of the stature of the perfect man and mason.”

The Grand Master was able to return in time to be present and installed on the 14th of December.

The Grand Lodge was opened by the Deputy Grand Master, and before the Grand Master was introduced we note with much pleasure the following proceedings :

“Brother S. B. Medairy, Senior Grand Warden, stated, it was a matter of great pleasure and congratulation to the Grand Lodge that our Grand Master elect, Brother Thomas J. Shryock, had returned so much improved in health ; that he was in the Temple and would soon be ready for installation.

“On the 27th of February next he will have reached the age of 50 years, and it would be a proper occasion for the Grand Lodge to mark the event by showing its appreciation of the services of a Grand Master who has for fifteen years labored so successfully in promoting the interest of the Grand Lodge of Maryland. I therefore offer the following resolution :

“*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to prepare a suitable testimonial of our regard and esteem for our Grand Master, Bro. Thomas J. Shryock.

“The resolution was unanimously adopted, and the following named brethren appointed the committee: S. B. Medairy, Past Grand Master John M. Carter, H. C. Larrabee, James E. Green, Wm. S. Henning, John W. Snyder.”

The Grand Master was then introduced and installed, and briefly addressed the brethren.

We note one curious coincidence. The Senior Grand Warden is SUMMERFIELD BERRY MEDAIRY (perhaps a son of the Grand Secretary, JACOB H. MEDAIRY), and, as we think, named after Past Grand Master JOHN SUMMERFIELD BERRY.

In these Proceedings we find a circular from the Grand Master, announcing the death of the latter on the third of January, about three weeks after his namesake was installed Senior Grand Warden.

Past Grand Master BERRY served as Grand Master two years at the beginning of the civil war, and of him the Grand Master well says :

“For eighteen months at the beginning of the civil war, though of very pronounced views himself, he held together in peace and harmony the craft in Maryland, who were perhaps about evenly divided upon the vexed questions which precipitated the conflict, and exerted all his efforts to assuage the bitterness and palliate the sufferings consequent upon the fratricidal strife.”

He had been prominent in public affairs, and was Speaker of the House at the same time that he was Grand Master; and in the spring of 1862 was Adjutant General of the State, and the Grand Master says :

“He leaves behind him an unblemished reputation and a bright record of good deeds through a long, busy and eventful life.”

The Report on Correspondence (112 pp.) was presented by Bro. EDWARD T. SCHULTZ.

We are more than glad to find that he says it was a labor of love and had served to brighten and cheer the monotonous and enforced restraint of his life. We can hardly understand how he could have made so thorough an examination of the Proceedings as his reports show that he did make.

In his review of Alabama, he is obliged to destroy the tradition concerning the apron which in 1899 was presented to that Grand Lodge. It had come to

the possessor of the apron that it was one worn by a brother when LAFAYETTE visited a lodge at Baltimore and acted as Senior Warden, with WASHINGTON presiding as Master. We read this account, but in our report last year did not advert to the matter, for we had very grave suspicions as to the historical accuracy of the account of the apron. Bro. SCHULTZ says that WASHINGTON never presided over a masonic lodge in Baltimore, and if he and LAFAYETTE ever visited a lodge there, it must have been prior to 1784, for LAFAYETTE left the country that year and was not here again until 1824, when WASHINGTON had been dead nearly twenty-five years. Bro. SCHULTZ cannot understand the origin of the tradition, but the dates we have given make it pretty certain that there is some mistake about it, either in the locality or in the main statement. There were only two lodges in Baltimore prior to 1784, and neither of them have any record of any visit from WASHINGTON, but it may be that the tradition located the visit in the wrong place.

Of the report of Bro. ROBERTSON, of Canada, he says:

"While his report is valuable and interesting, it would be far more so if he would give us more of his own opinions upon subjects to which he refers in his reports."

It will be remembered that we have often expressed a wish in the same line.

In his review of Georgia he says:

"We fail utterly to see why a dimitted mason may not assist in the formation of a new lodge. He can petition for membership in a chartered lodge, why then may he not join in a petition for a new lodge? The Grand Master says only brethren in good standing can do so. We would like to ask if a brother holding such a certificate as referred to is not in *good standing* in the Fraternity, if he was not, the Grand Secretary should not have issued him a certificate."

This is the result of the tendency of the craft, in many sections of the country at least, to what Bro. ROBBINS calls "commercialism." Down here in Maine an effort is always made when a new lodge is formed, to have non-affiliated masons join in its organization, and very frequently they are among the leading ones who desire to have a lodge. In many cases non-affiliation results from change of residence to a place where there is no lodge. Of course we most heartily agree with Bro. SCHULTZ, and hold that the decision referred to is in conflict both with the principles and policy of Freemasonry.

In his review of Indiana he thus endorses what we have expressed in our review of that Grand Lodge:

"Very properly, a resolution forbidding the continuance of a practice which has prevailed for some time in the Grand Lodge of authorizing the Grand Master or other Grand Officer to cast the entire vote of the membership of the Grand Lodge for brothers for different offices, thereby depriving each individual member from casting his vote, as provided by the by-laws of the Grand Lodge."

In his review of Maine he says:

"We are gratified to learn from the Grand Master, that in Maine, 'Suspension from membership for non-payment of dues does not suspend from all masonic rights'; that although a brother has not the right to visit the lodge of which he was a member, as a matter of right, if a lodge sees fit they may permit him to visit. This we regard as a correct masonic ruling."

He quotes our remarks in relation to the proposed action of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia to deprive Past Grand Masters of an individual vote, and he adds:

"We too 'are greatly surprised,' that the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia should have departed so far from the usage and practice of its mother, the Grand Lodge of Maryland; its grand-mother, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; and its great grand-mother, the Grand Lodge of England."

"By the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, Grand Masters as well as Deputy Grand Masters and the Grand Wardens have collectively one vote. The Past Masters of each lodge have likewise collectively one vote. The impropriety, not to say injustice, of a regulation that restricts the rights and privileges of the Grand Officers enumerated to the same rights and privileges accorded to Past Masters who are members of the Grand Lodge by courtesy alone, must, we think, be apparent to every one."

In his review of Pennsylvania, referring to the fact that the Grand Master of that Grand Lodge declined to unite in the Centennial exercises, he says:

"This letter elicited a reply from Past Grand Master A. R. Courtney, of Virginia, chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, inviting further discussion of the subject, but Acting Grand Master Wagner declined to accede to his request, and said 'of course it would be a great pleasure to meet and discuss any subject with you, but as far as the matter of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania participating in the public ceremonies in connection with the Washington celebration is concerned, must say to you frankly that nothing can be said or done that will alter our decision. Worshipful Brother Sener, both in person and by letter and circular, gave us full information, and we doubt the ability of any one to present it more fully or clearly. The reason given in my letter to your Most Worshipful Grand Master is the correct one, and there is "nothing else" held back. In Pennsylvania, the Grand Lodge never appears in public, and, by its Constitution, it forbids its subordinates to do so. We cannot do otherwise than decline your fraternal invitation.'

"Yet in the face of these positive declarations of Grand Master Wagner, that Grand Lodge and its subordinates do not appear in public, the Ahiman Rezon, or book of Constitutions, *do*, as we have stated in previous reports, provide for the appearance of the Grand Lodge and its subordinates in public on the occasions of corner-stones and burial of brothers."

We rejoice greatly that our good brother is able to go on with this work, and is able to maintain the high character of the reports formerly written by him.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1900.

Six special communications were held during the year for constituting lodges, dedicating halls and celebrating anniversaries, at which addresses of an exceedingly interesting character, especially from an historical standpoint, were delivered. And while we regret that full histories of the lodges were

not prepared and published in connection with these occasions, what is given is of great masonic value to the masonic student.

At the March quarterly, an exceedingly interesting and valuable report was made upon a proposition to amend the Constitution by making Past District Deputy Grand Masters permanent members of the Grand Lodge, and the report was against the proposition. As the matter bears upon the proper constitution of Grand Lodges, we have examined the report with much interest. The Grand Lodge was made up at the time, of its officers, 51 in number; permanent members, 59 in number; of the Masters and Wardens of the lodges, 702 in number; making a grand total of 812. The permanent members are made up of eight Past Grand Masters, eight Past Deputy Grand Masters, twenty-one Past Senior Grand Wardens and twenty-two Past Junior Grand Wardens, and the effect of adopting the amendment would have been to add 249 permanent members, with a possibility of increasing them from one source alone at the rate of 28 a year, or, under the present usage, at the certain rate of 14 a year.

In Massachusetts the Deputy Grand Master is appointed by the Grand Master, so that really eight of the present permanent members hold their positions by virtue of appointment. If the amendment should be adopted, all of those included in it would hold membership by appointment by the Grand Master. In nearly all other Grand Lodges, Deputy Grand Masters are elected, as is the case in Maine. The committee make a very strong point that a man should become a permanent member of the Grand Lodge only by election by the Grand Lodge to some office, carrying with it permanent membership; and the argument has exceedingly great weight.

Another point, really hinted at than otherwise, is that the permanent members thus made would be younger in years and younger in service in Masonry than permanent members coming in under the present system. We think the committee could well have emphasized the point more than they did. The permanent membership of a Grand Lodge is valuable solely because it is made up usually of men who have had quite large experience in Masonry, in years as well as in service.

The plan of constituting a Grand Lodge of permanent members as well as of representatives, is, as we have frequently remarked in our reports, a very wise one, and it seems to us that it is the wisest form of organization practicable; but there should be a due proportion between the number of the permanent members and the number of representatives.

In our civil government, the Senate is a small body as compared with the House of Representatives. In the Grand Lodge, what answers to the Senate in civil government, sits in the same body as what answers to the House of Representatives in civil government, and the latter have directly the benefit of the wisdom derived from the longer experience of the others. But to make

so large an increase in the permanent membership, would, in our judgment, be utterly destructive in effect to this form of government. Our Grand Lodge is now constituted with a comparatively small permanent membership, made up of brethren who have commended themselves sufficiently to the Grand Lodge as to be elected to official positions of great honor, carrying with such election permanent membership in the Grand Lodge. The fact, that such an election does carry with it permanent membership in the Grand Lodge, should always, and most always does, enter into the consideration of the fitness of any brother who is proposed for election.

In our own Grand Lodge we have more than once elected an old and experienced mason to the office of Grand Warden, for the express purpose of making him a permanent member of the Grand Lodge, not only as a compliment to him, but in order to have the benefit of his experience.

The point is, that the addition of so many new men would cripple the power of the representatives beyond a reasonable and wise limit; as Grand Lodges are now constituted, an amendment to the Constitution can be adopted by the representatives of lodges, even if the permanent members should all be against it. But the committee point out that if this increase to the permanent membership should be made, the representatives would lose that power. We doubt whether practically such a contest would ever arise, but at the same time it is wisdom to exclude the possibility of such a contest. Another very serious objection made by the committee is that it would increase the number of members of the Grand Lodge so as to make it unwieldy, and this really is a very serious matter. Legislation by a body of eight hundred or a thousand men is difficult even at best, and while it is not probable that the seven or eight hundred representatives would all be present, still we know by experience that enough are present to make the question of numbers a very serious one. In fact, in the Grand Lodge of New York, they have been obliged to limit the number of representatives to one, and even now that body is unwieldy, and solely on account of the very large number of members present at its meetings.

The report of the committee was somewhat discussed, but was adopted by a vote of 321 to 23, thus rejecting the proposed amendment.

At the June quarterly meeting, Grand Master McALLISTER, of New Hampshire, was presented, and made a very interesting address of a historical character, showing the early connection between Masonry in New Hampshire and Masonry in Massachusetts.

An interesting address was made by Bro. THORNDIKE in relation to the death of the EARL OF LONDESBOROUGH, an honorary member of Liberty Lodge, at Beverly, and who had interested himself greatly in American Masonry; one of the latest manifestations being the sending of a wreath to be placed on the tomb of WASHINGTON, at the time of the Centennial Exercises.

The Grand Master calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to the recently obtained portraits of two of the earliest known Secretaries of masonic lodges in Boston, Peter Pelham and his son Charles; and in connection a very interesting sketch of these brethren is given, and of great value historically.

We are greatly tempted to notice at length some of the addresses at the special communications, but space will not allow.

The proceedings of the annual communication have a cut of Liberty Lodge, at Beverly, or rather the easterly portion of the lodge room, taken December 30, 1899.

At the December Quarterly, the Grand Master, CHARLES T. GALLAGHER, delivered an exceedingly interesting address. He calls attention to the magnificent work done by the District Deputy Grand Masters, and congratulates the Grand Lodge upon this, for the time has now come when the Grand Officers cannot visit the lodges, and reliance must be placed upon the Deputies for doing this.

We have heretofore mentioned that the Grand Masters of Massachusetts have apparently felt compelled to devote more time to the visitation of lodges, attending celebrations, delivering addresses, etc., than could possibly be given to those duties by any brother who has business of his own to which he must give his attention; and while we find that Bro. GALLAGHER has spent a great deal of time in performing these duties, we are glad that he has called the attention of the craft in his jurisdiction to the subject, for if the Grand Master is practically obliged to answer all these calls it would limit the selection of Grand Masters to men of wealth and leisure.

In his address the Grand Master reports a gift of \$500 from the Lodge of St. Andrew for the Charity Fund, as well as of two beautiful vases and a clock for the fraternity parlor from Bro. ALBERT A. FOLSOM, and other gifts from brethren, including the portrait of Peter Pelham from Mr. C. P. CURTIS.

He announced that by the death of Bro. FRANKLIN PLATT, \$20,000 was left to the Grand Lodge for masonic charitable purposes. The money had not then been received, but the amount would be in due time.

He announced that the will of Bro. JOHN H. COLLAMORE, by which he had given considerable money to various masonic bodies, had been contested, but all proceedings had been disposed of in favor of the will. This having failed, another attempt had been made upon the assets in the nature of a claim that a large part of the investments held by Bro. COLLAMORE was really property of others held in trust by him. All that had been decided had been decided in favor of the estate, but there was one case still pending and the time, when the distribution would be made, was still uncertain.

We believe, however, that the Grand Lodge had received about \$22,000 on account on the Collamore Fund, as it seems to be so stated in these Proceedings.

Only two cases had been before the Commissioners of Trials, and the Grand Master congratulates the fraternity on the faithfulness of its members.

As a whole the Grand Master says:

“The first year passed in this our new masonic home has thus closed under most auspicious circumstances and with a most creditable showing in the good work of our Institution; we have been generously blessed with prosperity and happiness, and with devout recognition to the Master of us all for his gifts thus bestowed, let us return our thanks.”

In one of the cases of discipline, the accused could not be found, and the Commissioners doubted their jurisdiction under the circumstances, and we think wisely. They submitted an amendment to the Constitution, which we presume will be adopted, that if the residence of the accused be unknown the Commissioners may proceed *ex parte*.

An amendment was also proposed which goes over until next year, taking away the limit of membership, and in effect allowing a brother to be a member of more than one lodge at the same time.

The Grand Feast, as it seems to us, was more than usually interesting and enthusiastic, although that is a doubtful thing to say, as that occasion is always one of great interest and enthusiasm. The addresses on the occasion were of high character, and will repay reading and study. They were not wholly of the character of after dinner speeches, when wit and hilarity are the general order of the day, but many of them are exceedingly instructive and deserve to be thoroughly read and studied.

The speakers bore in mind, however, the saying of old Parson Adams, that “Wisdom without wit is meat without salt, but wit without wisdom is salt without meat,” and both extremes were happily avoided.

MICHIGAN, 1901.

The frontispiece is a capital portrait of the retiring Grand Master, LUCIAN E. WOOD.

The Grand Lodge met at noon, was welcomed by the Mayor of the city, and by a representative of the city lodges, was opened, and was called off until two in the afternoon. The first thing in the afternoon, the “roll of honor,” “according to a fitting custom,” was called. The roll seems to be made up of the names of Past Grand Masters who had died. At the close of the call the Grand Master called up the Grand Lodge and made official announcement of the death of two Past Grand Masters during the year, “and the grand honors were given in memory of them and of other Past Grand Masters who had gone to their eternal reward.”

The Grand Secretary then called the roll, which included Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, Standing and Special Committees, Board of Control of

the Masonic Home, and Lodge Representatives. As a rule, but one representative for each lodge was present.

The roll of Grand Representatives was also called, and Maine's representative, Bro. WILLIAM WENTE, responded.

Out of 385 lodges, all but two were represented, and of this number of lodges only about twenty were represented by more than one brother; usually the Worshipful Master, sometimes the Senior Warden and sometimes the Junior Warden.

The Grand Master, LUCIAN E. WOOD, announced in his address the deaths of Past Grand Masters ALANSON PARTRIDGE and EDWARD L. BOWRING, and paid a tribute to the memory of each.

He had granted three dispensations for new lodges, to two of which he recommended the issuing of charters. The other had not worked under its dispensation the required time, and he recommended that it be continued *U. D.*, and his recommendations were adopted.

He gives an account of the special dispensations which he had issued; of the corner stones which he had laid, in person or by proxy; the dedication of halls, and his visitations. All of which had conspired to make him a pretty busy man.

He made the following recommendation:

"In regard to jurisdiction, I would recommend that the Grand Lodge of Michigan and subordinate lodges release jurisdiction on all candidates after they have removed from this Grand Jurisdiction for more than one year."

We are not clear as to the meaning of this, but are inclined to the opinion that it refers to rejected candidates only.

He made quite a number of decisions, but the most important one was in relation to the recent law of the Grand Lodge in relation to dimitted masons. The law seems upon its face to be self-acting, and that brethren remaining unaffiliated for more than one year, are suspended by mere operation of the law; but he ruled otherwise, and held that until action by the lodge for violation of Grand Lodge regulation, dimitted masons could join in a petition for a new lodge, or present a petition for membership at any time before they had been disciplined by the lodge under the law to which we have referred.

The decision of the Grand Master is in these words:

"No, they are not suspended. I do not think the intention of the law was to suspend; it disqualified them the same as a suspended mason, but if they will present their petitions I recommend that the lodge receive and act upon same. But in case he refuses to affiliate with some lodge, I recommend that charges be preferred for the violation of Grand Lodge Regulations."

It is not quite clear, but we think that the meaning of it is as we have just stated.

The committee to which it was referred reported in favor of approving the decisions, with no discussion of any one of them.

We find also the following by the Grand Master:

"I have had the same question asked a great many times during the year in regard to members holding a dimit after the first of February, 1900, and were the brothers suspended under the law of 1898.

"In answer thereto, I have ruled that the brother was not suspended and that they could receive and act upon the dimit, the same as before February 1st, 1900, but any person refusing to affiliate or neglecting to do so, is subject to discipline by the lodge in whose jurisdiction he now resides, and any person not affiliated with some lodge is violating Grand Lodge Regulations and is subject to charges."

This makes the matter clear, and in accordance with our understanding of it. This construction, also, partially relieves the law of its violation of fundamental masonic principles.

On the receipt of the news of the destruction of Galveston, he ordered the Grand Secretary to draw a warrant for \$500 and forward it. That was done and the Grand Lodge confirmed his action.

In discussing the report of the Grand Lecturer, he expresses the opinion that that officer had not been able to give proper attention to the smaller lodges, and makes several recommendations in that connection; but as we do not find that they were specifically acted upon, it will be of no interest to discuss them.

As usual, the Grand Secretary makes a concise report of the doings of his office. He was obliged to report that there were more errors in the returns this year than ever before.

He calls attention to the fact that many changes had been made in the blue book, by which officers of lodges are misled, and as there are very few copies on hand, he urges a revision, and the Grand Lodge so ordered—the revision to be made by a committee of one and presented at the Grand Lodge next year for its action.

We are glad to find also that instead of a mere codification and publication of the decisions, the committee is to revise them, and publish only those in force, without repeating decisions in regard to the same point. It comes more nearly to a digest of the law arising out of the decisions than it does to a mere collection of decisions as rendered.

The Grand Lecturer makes a very enthusiastic report. He had held six lodges of instruction which had been very well attended, there being only four lodges that had not been represented at some one of them. Nearly 1,400 officers of lodges had been present, and over 10,000 members; which he says is the largest number that he had ever met in any one year, and he thinks that there was a corresponding increase of interest and zeal, with an increased prosperity as a result.

The chairman of the special committee on masonic charity made a report recommending in effect the creation of a Grand Lodge Charity Fund by voluntary contributions of the brethren; except that it provided that on the

meeting on St. John's day, every member shall deposit a penny for the purpose, and as much more as they please.

The report was received, ordered to be printed with the proceedings, and laid over until next year for final action.

A letter was received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada, presenting a copy of Bro. ROBERTSON'S history of Freemasonry in Canada, and the gift was accepted by the Grand Lodge by a unanimous rising vote.

Under the resolution adopted a year ago, the Grand Secretary submitted to the Grand Lodge such names as had been presented to him by lodges, for various offices in the Grand Lodge, but of course the list is not given.

The Grand Lodge of Costa Rica was recognized upon the following statement by the Grand Secretary, as Committee on Correspondence:

"An investigation and correspondence reveals the fact that this Grand Lodge was regularly and legally organized on the 7th day of December, 1899, and that every lodge in that Republic holds its charter from it. That it has adopted a constitution and code of laws that are in accordance with universal masonic usage, and that are, in most respects, quite like our own, and in other special particulars would afford a fine model for older Grand Lodges."

Greetings were sent to Bros. WEBBER and PECK, detained at home by illness, and the sympathies of the Grand Lodge were extended to Past Grand Master JOHN W. McGRATH, in his bereavement by the loss of his only son; and he most feelingly responded.

A proposition was made that there be but one ballot for the degrees, but the committee reported against it and it was rejected.

This Grand Lodge has heretofore held to the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, but the Maine proposition in a modified form was reported upon favorably by the committee and adopted by the Grand Lodge. The committee thus speak of the force of it:

"The proposed amendment, if adopted, will give the lodges jurisdiction over the material above mentioned for five years, when the lien will be raised, and a rejected candidate, if he had removed from the jurisdiction of the lodge that rejected him, may apply to a lodge where he resides for the degrees, the lodge which rejected him having no further jurisdiction over him."

But it seems to us that the amendment does not go quite so far as this statement. The clauses of the amendment are as follows:

"But it will lose this right in favor of another lodge within whose territorial jurisdiction such work or material shall have resided for five years."

* * * * *

"Unless said applicant has resided within the jurisdiction of the lodge to which application is made for a period of five years."

It would seem to follow from this that the effect of a rejection is not entirely lost by a lapse of five years, as is the case in Maine, but is only lost in favor of a lodge in whose jurisdiction the candidates *shall have resided five*

years. In Maine the force of the rejection ceases at the end of five years in all cases; but in Michigan only when the candidate has resided five years in the jurisdiction of another lodge.

Bro. WENTE presented a report on the Masonic Home, from which it appears that the deficiency existing at the end of the year before had been partly made up. The average weekly cost of maintenance was \$2.91. At the end of the year there were 45 beneficiaries, 35 men, 9 women and one boy; the average age of the men was 72 years, that of the women 75 years. Arrangements had been made whereby the Board was satisfied that money would be raised to make some necessary repairs and additions to the Home, and it says:

“In short, the purpose of the Board is to make this a model Home for dependents; to do all that can be done to make it unlike a pothouse, but home-like; a place where our brethren, and the widows and orphans of brethren, may pass the remaining years of their life in comfort.”

On motion by Past Grand Master McGRATH, a telegram of condolence was sent to King Edward VII, Grand Master of Masons of England, on account of the death of the Queen, and later resolutions of sympathy were presented and adopted unanimously by a rising vote, and copies ordered to be sent to the Grand Lodges of Canada and England.

A very pleasing incident occurred during a little interval in the work. Past Grand Master McCURDY asked permission to occupy a few minutes of the time. It turned out that it was the *fiftieth anniversary of his first attendance upon the Grand Lodge*. He was made a mason August 15, 1850, and was present in the Grand Lodge January 8, 1851, and he was the only one living of the members of the Grand Lodge at that time. He had known personally every Grand Master.

We would like very much to copy further from his remarks, but we would want to include the whole. The Grand Secretary adds the following:

“There was a little addenda to his remarks which Bro. McCurdy did not furnish with his written copy, but which seemed to be much appreciated by the members present. In some of his reminiscences of early masonic law he told of one case where information was sought and given that has never been reduced to writing, and as he thought it one of the ‘exceedingly valuable landmarks’ of the Order, he gave the same to the brethren that it might be preserved in faithful breasts and passed along the line for the benefit of future generations, and we are safe in saying, judging from the appreciative and demonstrative manner in which it was received by the craft, it will never, no, never die.”

This is rather tantalizing to the reader, for even a Yankee cannot guess what the interesting matter was to which he refers.

In former years the Grand Secretary has urged the binding of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges, but his recommendation had passed unheeded, so this year he makes special report upon this subject, and the Committee of Finance recommended the binding of *not exceeding one hundred volumes, at*

an expense of not exceeding fifty cents each. We cannot help saying that this report indicates a very small appreciation of the value of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges, and we confess to a great deal of surprise. If the price per volume is not sufficient to bind them in good, substantial, durable shape, the limitation is very poor economy; as, if these reports are deemed of little value now, the time will come when they will be deemed of very great value.

The Committee on German Work made a report asking for further time, and further time was granted; and Bro. CONOVER was added to the committee. Very few of our Grand Lodges allow work to be done in a foreign language.

The Grand Lodge Register had been so nearly completed that lodges are permitted to omit from their annual returns the alphabetical list of members, heretofore required to be furnished.

Bro. ARTHUR M. CLARK, Grand Lecturer for twenty-three years, announced that it would be impossible for him to continue longer in the office. A tribute was paid to him, recognizing the great service which he had rendered to the Grand Lodge.

We find that we were in error in our statement that the Grand Master's recommendation in regard to the visitation of the smaller lodges was not considered; while his specific plan was not adopted, the following was:

"That the Grand Lecturer shall, under the orders and instructions of the Grand Master, carefully determine which of the lodges are most in need of his instructions, and shall hold schools of instruction in the lodge room of each of said lodges, and shall inspect the records and books, and give the Secretaries such instruction as they may need. That this course be diligently and faithfully pursued and the needy lodges brought up, as soon as practicable, to the high standard which should prevail throughout this Grand Jurisdiction."

In accordance with a vote of the Grand Lodge the year before, the Grand Secretary called the roll of Grand Representatives, nine of whom presented reports, which are published in the Appendix.

Bro. WENTE, our Representative, responded, commencing his report as follows:

"In view of the fact that this Grand Lodge has shelved its Committee on Foreign Correspondence, so far as a review of the doings of other Grand Lodges is concerned, it is difficult to understand just what is expected as a 'brief statement of the condition of Masonry' in the Grand Jurisdiction, to which the Representative is accredited. The condition of Masonry can, at a distance of twelve hundred miles, more or less, after all be gleaned only from the published proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State under review. Hence we have, after all, the report of a committee of one on foreign correspondence on the condition of Masonry, in this case, in Maine. 'A rose by any other name, etc.'"

He gives very concisely an account of the various matters of interest; our manner of visiting lodges and system of mileage and *per diem*; an account of our charity fund and purposes for which it may be employed; and other matters to the extent of over a page and a half.

The Representative of Manitoba furnished a report of nearly three pages, as also did the Representative of Ohio.

The Representative of Louisiana presented merely a brief letter from the Grand Secretary of that jurisdiction. The others, however, seem to have done as Bro. WENTE did, and obtained the information from the Proceedings.

We think it will not be long before this Grand Lodge will return to the system of having regular Reports on Correspondence.

MINNESOTA, 1901.

The frontispiece is a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, ALONZO BRANDENBURG.

Immediately upon opening the Grand Lodge:

“Past Grand Master Henry A. Wells offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, and, on motion, it was voted to cable the same to the King of England at the expense of the Grand Lodge:

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Minnesota, in session, extends to His Majesty, the Grand Master of Masons of England, the sympathies of the Freemasons of this Grand Jurisdiction, on account of the death of his mother, the Queen, loved and revered by the good of every land.”

The roll of all brethren who were entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge had been prepared by the Grand Secretary, and that roll was called, and those present in person or by proxy were noted and the Committee on Credentials given time to make additions and corrections during the session.

The committee reported present the representatives of 208 out of 216 lodges.

Grand Master BRANDENBURG delivered an eminently business-like address. He commenced it, however, by questions to the brethren as to the manner in which various masonic duties had been performed during the year.

He reports that peace and harmony prevail in all parts of the jurisdiction.

Of the duties of the representatives of lodges he says, and we commend it to the brethren in Maine:

“I wish to remind the representatives of lodges that they are here for a purpose. Mileage and per diem are paid to one representative present from each lodge, and the Grand Lodge is entitled to your time and service until the end of the session. That we have needed your assistance has been called forcibly to my mind many times, especially at our last annual communication, when the report of the Committee on the Dissemination of the Work came up at the evening session, just before the close of Grand Lodge. If a call of the roll had been made we would have found ourselves with only a minority of the lodges represented. We want the benefit of the best thought of all of you, my brethren; we want you here during the whole of the session, from the time the Grand Lodge is opened until its close. Then we shall not be compelled to lay over any work to the next session of the Grand Lodge which ought to be done at the present one. As it was, the report of said committee, as amended, was laid over to this session, and should be taken up and disposed of at as early an hour as practicable.”

He urges the reading of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge more generally, saying substantially that he had visited lodges and had seen the Proceedings lying on the desk of the Secretary, looking as if they had never been opened.

He had constituted the six lodges chartered last year, and had granted dispensations for five more. He had carefully investigated all cases, having realized that very serious mistakes are often made in granting charters to lodges which may flourish but a short time and then pass out of existence.

He had laid the corner-stone of the city hall of Rochester, and had done an immense amount of routine work in the way of examining and approving by-laws.

He reports the destruction by fire of the halls of three lodges. All of them lost their charters, and he had issued dispensations to continue work until the session.

He had dedicated a number of halls, made a number of visitations, and issued a large number of special dispensations, but had refused to grant quite a number asked for.

He announced that the Committee on Code had completed their work, and a copy had been sent to every lodge.

He had authorized in several instances, lodges to sub-let their halls, as he was confident that there were imperative reasons, of a financial character, for doing so, but he hoped the time would come when each masonic body would have a hall of its own.

The semi-centennial of this Grand Lodge comes in 1903, and he had appointed a committee to make arrangements for the same, and he suggests that the Grand Lodge hold its annual meeting that year on the semi-centennial day.

A case arose in which an objection was made to the advancement of an E. A. which had never been withdrawn, and he had moved into another jurisdiction and desired to have the remaining two degrees. Of this he says :

“He is the material of your lodge. After satisfying yourselves that there is no ground for further delay, you can proceed with the work, should you find the brother worthy, unless some brother prefers charges against him. No further ballot is required. The brother was entitled to a hearing, but seems never to have had one. A brother who has received one or two degrees in Masonry has obtained some rights, and is entitled to be heard.”

Twenty-four of the thirty-four District Deputies had made reports which had been filed with the Grand Secretary for future use. Ten of them visited every lodge in their district. The total number of lodges visited was 124. Of this he says :

“Some of the lodges do not pay the expenses of the Deputy making the visitation. This matter should be looked after by each Master of the lodge visited. The Deputy giving his time for the good of Masonry should not be required to bear the expenses as well. I trust that the Masters will see that the expenses are paid by their lodges hereafter.”

In our judgment, the only successful system of visitation by Deputies, is the one which provides for the payment of their expenses by the Grand Lodge.

The report of the Grand Secretary shows an immense growth of that Grand Lodge during the forty-eight years of its existence.

He had received returns from all the lodges, including five U. D. They show more work than in former years, but the losses were increased, so that the net gain was comparatively small.

Nineteen lodges had done no work; seventeen stand even; sixty-one report a net loss; and all the gains come from 143 lodges. He thinks that the lodges U. D. have done good work, and charters should be granted to them.

Petitions were in his hands for five other new lodges which would be passed over to the incoming Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge Register had been written to include the returns for 1899.

He reports in relation to the publication of the code that already 350 out of the 500 ordered, had been supplied to Grand Lodge officers, lodges, and sister Grand Lodges, and he says that the work fills a want long felt.

The Committee on the Semi-Centennial was instructed to submit a programme at the next annual communication.

The Committee on Visitation recommended the holding of schools of instruction, a larger number than before, and that a Grand Lecturer should be appointed who could devote his whole time to visiting lodges. The first was adopted, and the latter lies over until the next annual meeting.

The usual routine business was transacted.

A resolution was adopted to make a brother a permanent member of the Grand Lodge, and the Committee on Jurisprudence reported the following:

“Also any elective officer who has been elected and shall have served this Grand Lodge in the position for which he was elected for the term of twenty-one consecutive years.”

A similar provision was once proposed to our Grand Lodge and rejected.

The Grand Orator delivered a fine address, deserving careful reading and study, but like such addresses, when they are good, it is impossible to give any extracts from them that will either do justice to them or be appreciated by the reader.

The Report on Correspondence (85 pp.) was presented by Comp. IRVING TODD. It is even more concise than usual, and is confined almost absolutely to notice of the more important matters with pertinent extracts.

In his review of Illinois, he says:

“At the union in 1792, the only lodge reported as standing out was St. Andrews, holding a charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The others appear to have been chartered either by Massachusetts Grand Lodge or St. John's Grand Lodge, which united at that time to form the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and received new charters from that body. If the brethren of

that jurisdiction did not see fit to invite the so-called African Lodge to join the movement it was a matter entirely of their own concern, and is so still.

“Of what moment was the erasion of their English charters in 1812 to the three Massachusetts lodges that had been working under other competent authority eighteen years and longer?”

“If the future acts of African lodge were not legalized by the charter from the Grand Lodge of England, then that lodge ceased to have a lawful existence when erased from the roll in 1812, and so remains now, henceforth, and forever.”

Referring to a matter that was discussed in Maine, he says:

“With us very few Roman Catholics are to be found in the lodges. The membership is understood to be prohibited by the church, and certainly is not encouraged by the fraternity for reasons which are so well understood that it is not necessary to enlarge upon the subject.”

As usual, the proceedings of the Masonic Veteran Association are published with these. They are preceded by an excellent portrait of Rev. MAHLON N. GILBERT Bishop-Coadjutor of Minnesota, and also a portrait of Past Grand Master GILES W. MERRILL, who has been Secretary of the Association from its origin.

Our Minnesota brethren get a good deal of very valuable matter into these Proceedings. They are also published separately; we have been favored with a copy annually, and we preserve them among our most interesting historical documents.

MISSISSIPPI, 1900.

The issuing of these Proceedings was delayed last year by causes beyond the control of the Grand Secretary, and we did not receive them in time for our last year's report. We are hoping, however, to receive those for 1901 in season for this report.

We have a portrait of Bro. H. H. FOLK, Deputy and acting Grand Master for the year ending in 1900.

We note that the Grand Lodge was called to order, and a list of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Representatives, and committees, etc., are given, with the statement that the Representatives of more than two hundred lodges were present, and the Grand Secretary having announced that more than a quorum was present, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The acting Grand Master states that the year had been one of general prosperity in that State, and that there had been a material gain in the development of the resources of the State.

He states that the Grand Master, WILLIAM STARLING, was obliged to leave the jurisdiction August 3d, and as he was obliged to be absent the rest of the year, he decided to turn over the authority to Bro. FOLK, who gives a concise account of decisions and official action.

He had been obliged to declare one charter forfeited, but considering the age of the members, *all of whom were over fifty years of age*, he recommended that the back dues be remitted.

The corner-stone of the Mattie Hearsey Hospital at Meridian, was laid by the Grand Lodge, and other public masonic ceremonies were performed.

He refers to the Washington Centennial services, and was exceedingly sorry that he could not be present, but he appointed to act for him Bro. S. J. QUINN, Representative from his Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

He refers to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington declaring that the action in June, 1899, was not entirely clear as to its meaning, but showing that there was no real abandonment of its former position, and the announcement of a new and stranger doctrine which is really a greater menace to the masonic institution than its action was. Of this he says:

"In this '*declaration*' it is asserted that each lodge possesses the plenary right to determine for themselves—but for no one else—subject to review by nobody but herself, the *status* of all persons, claiming to be masons, who knock at their doors, either for the purpose of visiting or as applicants for affiliation. That is to say, that a subordinate lodge in Washington can set aside for its own purposes the judgment of a lodge in expelling or suspending a mason, or of a Grand Lodge in adjudicating an individual, or lodge of individuals, clandestine. The mere statement of so wild and extravagant a proposition is enough to secure its condemnation. Practically a lodge in Washington has the '*plenary right*' to set aside the action of the Grand Lodge of Ohio in expelling the members of the so-called '*Cerneau*' lodges in that State, and the action of every other lodge on earth, in pronouncing any organization whatever, clandestine or any mason expelled, by absolving the lodge members from their obligation not to recognize or hold masonic intercourse with any but regular masons."

As this was a mere declaration of belief unaccompanied by any action, we do not think, as we have already often stated, that it is sufficient to justify the making of an edict of non-intercourse or the continuing of one already made. In such case the offence consists in acts and not in words.

In his conclusion he says:

"I am indebted to M. W. Bro. Speed and R. W. Bro. Power for special kindnesses shown me, as well as help extended in the duties assigned me. Of Bro. Speed's severe attack last spring you have all heard, and although quite feeble, we thank God he has been permitted the great satisfaction of again being with us in his accustomed place. The love we all bear him and Bro. Power is sacred, and I know you will all rejoice with me for the privilege of once more clasping them by the hand. It is also a great pleasure and joy to notice the presence of M. W. Bro. Savery, whose illness prevented him from being with us at our last Grand Annual Communication."

The craft everywhere, and especially the craft in Maine, will join with him most heartily in this expression of affection for the brethren named, and joy at their recovery from illness.

Bro. POWER submits his usual complete report as Grand Secretary.

He reports that quite a number of lodges conferred twenty degrees or more during the year, and that there was a net gain in the total membership.

He reports that application had been made for a lodge in Cuba, but he thinks that a charter could not be granted without trespassing upon the Grand Lodge of Cuba. Nevertheless, he thinks it expedient for the Grand Lodge to give some expression upon the subject.

He reports in relation to the Orphan Asylum, which during the year had done splendid work, and he hopes that the Grand Lodge will continue its assistance until a Masonic Home shall be established.

The Treasurer of the Masonic Home Fund reports that they have on hand a little over \$2,400.

From the report of the Committee on the State of the Craft, we find that a set of queries had been prepared by a committee and sent out to the lodges, but only one-sixth responded to the queries, yet the committee believe that there has been an increase in membership and interest, and in the desire for proper instruction.

Two women who had been very active in relation to the Asylum at Natchez, had died during the year, and a tribute to their memory was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Law submitted a report of much interest, although briefer than usual.

In answer to the inquiry whether a member of the lodge who should disclaim his belief in the existence of the Supreme Being should be disciplined or given a dimit, the committee say:

"A majority of the committee are of the opinion that it would be to the best interests of the craft to let him go in peace by advising him to dimit, but Bro. Thomas thinks that he ought to be disciplined. We are agreed, however, that he must be gotten rid of. For reasons which we do not deem it expedient to discuss in a paper which must eventually be made public, we will lay the matter privately before the Grand Lodge for its consideration."

The Grand Lodge adopted the views of the minority, holding, as we understand it, that the party should be disciplined. This is the view that is taken generally of this matter: but if the party should make that disclaimer and say that for that reason he could not conscientiously remain a member of the fraternity, we think he should be allowed to go; although we have given this phase of the question but little thought and are not sure that, upon mature consideration, we should be of the same opinion.

Under the law in that jurisdiction, the proficiency of a candidate is to be determined by the lodge. A brother was brought in for examination, and when it was concluded, without waiting for the decision of the lodge, the Master declared the examination not satisfactory and refused to permit the calling off to another day for further examination, which was desired by the brethren on the ground that the brother was excited and really did not do himself justice. But the Master refused to entertain any such proposition

and ruled the question in relation to it out of order. The majority of the committee say:

"It seems to be admitted that the examination as to the proficiency was not satisfactory. This was a question to be determined by the lodge by a majority vote, and not by the Master. In the absence of the Worshipful Master the Senior Warden succeeded to all his duties and powers, and the decision of the Master on all questions coming before the lodge, is final and conclusive, and there is no appeal from it except to the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. Section 18 Rules and Regulations. We think the question whether the lodge should be called off or closed, was in the discretion of the Master, and that his action is sustained by the law."

Bro. SPEED dissented, saying:

"I agree with the majority that the question of proficiency is to be determined by a majority vote of the lodge, but I do not think that the Master has no voice in its determination, for in the exercise of his traditional functions he may decline to confer a degree upon any candidate notwithstanding the vote of the lodge, and from his decision there is no appeal. It requires a concurrence of both the lodge and the Master, before any degree can be conferred. While a lodge may be called off from day to day, to transact unfinished business, there is nothing in Sec. 16, by-laws, upon which to found the idea that conferring a degree is unfinished business.

"The general current of our decisions is that the lodge should be closed when the work of the communication is completed and the minutes read and approved, and the exception is that while it is permissible to do so, it is preferable to close, 60—1889. In the instance under consideration, there was nothing left to be done, all the business had been transacted. The candidate had failed to pass his examination, and that was an end to the matter for the time being; if afterwards he should perfect his knowledge, it would be time enough to consider the question of calling an Emergent Communication. I agree with the majority that the decision of the Master is final and conclusive, but I do not think that the lodge is precluded from deciding by its vote whether or not the business has reached such a stage that it cannot be finished at that time, so as to render calling off until another day unnecessary. Of course, the Master could overrule his lodge, regardless of its wishes, but unless there should be some potent reason why he should do so, it would be an unwise and arbitrary use of his powers."

The Grand Lodge sustained his position.

We certainly agree with the majority, and we see but little difference between its answer and the answer of Bro. SPEED, except that the statement that his refusing to act in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the lodge would be an unwise and arbitrary use of his power. We think that it is a matter in his own discretion in a case of that kind, precisely as it is in any other case, and he is answerable for the abuse of the power only to the Grand Lodge.

The following question and answer are given:

"QUESTION 19. Is it compatible with the duty which a mason owes to the lodge and to the craft to vote for a person who is a candidate for a public office who has been expelled for a gross Masonic offence, and does he subject himself to lodge discipline by so doing?"

"ANSWER. The lodge discharged its duty when it expelled the offender, and it cannot interfere with political rights, privileges or opinions. No Masonic offence was committed in voting for the expelled person."

It is sometimes exceedingly difficult to separate a man's duty as a citizen from his duty as a mason, and if in the case referred to, the party would have voted for the candidate, had it not been for the masonic proceedings, he ought not to allow those proceedings to affect his action, and the question as to his rights and duties as a citizen should not be controlled or affected by his rights and duties as a mason. The public can never complain of us as long as this rule is observed, but if it is violated, they have the right to complain and to complain justly, and great care should be taken in this respect by the brethren always.

The Grand Lodge met in the city in which Past Grand Master PATTON is buried, and as a token of respect to his memory, the Grand Lodge made a special pilgrimage to the grave, and the matter was so fully appreciated in the city that the city cars were courteously tendered for the occasion.

The committee to which the Washington matter was referred, endorses all that the acting Grand Master said in relation to it, and concluded that the action was not taken too soon nor was the action too emphatic. But we regret that the committee did not consider the question whether the cause of an offence of so grave a character as to justify the severing of masonic relations, does not lie solely in *acts* and should never be based upon mere *declarations*.

The following action was taken in relation to the acting Grand Master:

"Past Grand Master Frank Burkitt, for himself and nine other Past Grand Masters and thirty Past Masters and Representatives, offered the following, which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered Bro. H. H. Folk, Acting Grand Master for the very zealous and able manner in which he has discharged the responsible duties of the office of Grand Master in the absence of his chief, and for the dignified and impartial conduct while presiding over the deliberations of this Grand Communication.

"*Resolved 2d*, That in view of the fact that Bro. Folk has attained eminence as a masonic leader and counsellor among the craft in the three several Grand Jurisdictions in which he has resided—occupying the almost identical position in one that he has filled in this Grand Jurisdiction the past year, and with equal profit and satisfaction to the craft, the undersigned as a token of our appreciation of his masonic character and services fraternally suggest that he be made an Honorary Past Grand Master in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Bro. Folk requested Past Grand Master James T. Harrison to express his gratitude for the great honor thus conferred on him, which Bro. Harrison proceeded to do in his usual happy style."

In 1885 two lodges were consolidated, but in 1899 certain brethren named, formerly members of one of the lodges, were authorized to resume labor under the charter of one of the lodges consolidated with the other. The action in 1899 was accidentally omitted in the printed record and a preamble and resolution was adopted reciting the action of the Grand Lodge and directing the previous preamble and resolution to be entered upon the record. We have never known of a case like this heretofore, but undoubtedly it was within the power of the Grand Lodge.

We find the following to which we commend attention in connection with the matter of which we have already spoken :

“ Past Grand Master Irvin Miller, after making some earnest remarks pertinent to the subject matter of the following resolution, offered the same, and it was adopted :

“ WHEREAS, In the heat of excitement attending upon political campaigns in this Grand Jurisdiction, some brethren seem to forget their masonic obligations and speak evil of a brother Master Mason, which is calculated to bring reproach upon the teachings of our noble Order; therefore be it

“ Resolved, That we deplore this fact, and we kindly urge our brethren throughout this Grand Jurisdiction to see to it that this habit is corrected.”

Under the head of “ supplemental,” we find a very fine address of welcome of the Grand Lodge to the city, and a response in behalf of the Grand Lodge.

The reports of the District Deputies are very brief, and they are evidently not what they would have been if adequate provision had been made for the payment of their expenses.

One of the Deputies says :

“ Not being able to visit the lodges for ‘ glory,’ as I have done in the past, I visited only six lodges the past year. I received a call from two more lodges, but, as they are several miles from the railroad, I would have had to be away from home three days in order to be with them only one day (which was all they wanted), hence I cancelled that call. The other lodges in my district did not desire any lecturing; some of them wrote me that they could get ‘ light’ at less cost than what I would charge them.”

And another :

“ My information is that harmony prevails in each of three lodges I failed to visit, but that they are not doing much; therefore their financial condition would not admit of having my services.”

We are not criticising, but would only express the hope that this Grand Lodge will soon find itself in such condition financially that it will be able to secure the visitation of all the lodges by providing for the payment of visitation without throwing it upon the lodges themselves. While of course the visitation of a lodge is for the special benefit of that particular lodge, still really the object of visitation is for the benefit of the whole craft.

The Report on Correspondence (112 pp.) was presented by Bro. ANDREW H. BARKELY. It will be read by all with much interest and appreciation. It is briefer than usual, and we greatly miss his comments, for, whether we agree with him or differ from him, as we do in some matters, his comments are always food for thought.

MISSOURI, 1900.

These Proceedings are adorned with a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, CORONA H. BRIGGS, with a brief but interesting biographical sketch of him. We had the pleasure of meeting him in Washington at the Centennial Exercises, and formed a very high opinion of him.

In his address he announced the deaths of Past Grand Masters LEE H. HALL and HARRY KEENE, with other officers of the Grand Lodge, to whose memory tributes were paid by a committee.

Under a provision of the Constitution of his Grand Lodge, he decided that he could not give lodges permission to appear in public on Sundays, either for the purpose of attending divine worship, or to lay the corner-stone of a church, and the Grand Lodge sustained the decision.

As a lodge cannot properly lay the corner-stone of a church on any day, and ought not to be permitted to take part in such a ceremony unless the work is done by the Grand Lodge, we have no fault to find with that part of the decision; but we do not think that the language of the Constitution of that Grand Lodge excludes attending divine worship on Sundays.

One interesting case arose in which the Grand Lodge overruled one of his decisions, but we are constrained to hold that the Grand Master was right. A brother was expelled by his lodge, and appealed to the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge ordered that the judgment of expulsion *be set aside*, and that the defendant be suspended from all the rights, privileges and benefits of Masonry for a period of three years; and the question was, what his standing was at the expiration of that period. The Grand Master's answer was as follows:

"He is restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry. Having borne the full penalty inflicted by the Grand Lodge he regains his standing as a member of Bethany Lodge, No. 97."

In the report of the committee the following is quoted as the provision of the Constitution upon the subject:

"If the accused has been expelled or suspended by the lodge, and its judgment is reversed, and the cause dismissed by the Grand Lodge, he will be restored to whatever lodge standing and membership he held when the charge was preferred against him; if the judgment be reversed, and the cause remanded for a new trial, and such new trial result in his acquittal he is thereby restored to his former lodge membership and standing."

And the committee adds:

"It will be seen that the facts in the case at bar are not covered by this section. Judgment in the case of Mr. Ellis was not reversed, and the cause dismissed, neither was it reversed and remanded for a new trial. The action of the lodge was affirmed as to everything except the punishment.

In 1850 the Grand Lodge adopted the following:

"That while all Grand Lodges have the right to reverse the decisions of their subordinates, suspending or expelling masons from all the privileges of Masonry, they cannot restore them to membership in a subordinate Lodge without its consent."

In 1872 Grand Master Garrett, in discussing the same question, held as follows, which was approved by the Grand Lodge:

"When an expelled member appeals to the Grand Lodge for a mitigation of sentence on the ground of * * too great severity of sentence * * the Grand Lodge may restore him to good masonic standing and a certificate to that effect is issued to him by the Grand Secretary, upon which he may

apply to his old Lodge, or to any other lodge, for membership, as in the case of non-affiliates.'

"This rule has been followed ever since. It has been repeatedly held that the Grand Lodge should not compel a subordinate lodge to accept as a member one who is objectionable to the lodge. There would be no question about the fact that if the Grand Lodge in Mr. Ellis' case had affirmed the judgment of the subordinate lodge in its entirety, and he had afterwards petitioned the Grand Lodge for restoration, and his petition had been granted, it would simply have restored him to good masonic standing, but not to membership in the lodge. If that could not be done, how can the Grand Lodge, by simply reducing his punishment from expulsion to suspension, compel a lodge which had expelled him to receive him back to its membership without reversing the judgment and dismissing the case, or reversing it and remanding it for a new trial, as provided in Section 275? If the Grand Lodge had reversed and dismissed it would have been equivalent to holding that there was no case against him, and the proceedings would have been void *ab initio*. If the judgment had been reversed and remanded for a new trial, and such new trial had resulted in acquittal, he would thereby have been restored to membership by the action of the lodge. The effect of the decision under consideration, if approved, forces him back upon the lodge without its consent, and there is no law for that. The Grand Lodge is interested in the harmony of its subordinates, and has never intended to enact a law that will force upon the lodge elements of discord and disintegration. If Section 274 authorizes this, the decision of Past Grand Master Allen last year, and its approval by the Grand Lodge, abrogates it, and it should not be revived by approving the decision under consideration.

"With all due respect to the Grand Master we must disapprove this decision, and hold that Mr. Ellis was simply restored to good masonic standing, with the right to petition any lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction for membership, and become a member of any lodge that may receive him, but not of any lodge that will not."

The ground of our dissent from the conclusion of the committee is that the Grand Lodge *did set aside the expulsion*, and the effect of this is precisely as if there never had had been any expulsion. It was in fact, a reversal, to a qualified extent, of the decision of the lodge, and after the action of the Grand Lodge there was really no judgment for anything more than suspension for three years, and the effect of the action of the Grand Lodge is precisely the same as if the lodge had suspended him for three years, and that had been approved by the Grand Lodge.

If a brother has been expelled or suspended legally and judgment has been duly entered and the Grand Lodge pardons him by restoring him to the rights and benefits of Masonry, we agree that it cannot restore him to membership in the lodge; but this is not that case. There was no element of pardon in the action of the Grand Lodge. It merely decided that the punishment proposed by the lodge was too severe, and set it aside and substituted the punishment which the lodge ought to have inflicted. There are many hundreds of cases in which the Grand Lodge has partially reversed the proceedings of the lodge and substituted a punishment therefor, and it has been always held, so far as we have seen, that the final judgment of the Grand Lodge is the only real judgment in the case.

Grand Master BRIGGS reports a case of the desecration of a hall, in which it was alleged that an organization to which the hall was sublet used it for unmasonic purposes, among them the serving of liquors as a beverage. It created considerable excitement, but the allegation did not appear to have been really proved. The matter went to a committee, and the committee reported that hereafter there would be no complaint. In spite of the finding, one cannot help thinking, as he reads it, that the result was a good deal like the story of the verdict of a jury, that the accused was not guilty, but that he must not do so any more.

The Grand Master had visited the Grand Lodge of Kansas, and been received, as a matter of course, in a most cordial and fraternal manner.

He also attended the Washington Memorial Services, and speaks of that in high terms, concluding as follows:

"Concerning the appropriateness of such a service one hundred years after the death of Washington, there seemed to be only one opinion. Probably nothing in the history of our land has done more to place Freemasonry in its proper light before the American people as an institution which had so much to do with our beginning as a nation, and which is so closely interwoven with all that is best in American citizenship. The devotion of such a man as George Washington to Freemasonry for a period of seven and forty years, is as good an answer as need be made to all cavilings that can be urged against our Order, and the Washington Memorial Service of last December, heralded so widely and reported so fully by the press, is worth vastly more to our fraternity than all it cost in money, time and labor. Of the thousands of masons who participated in those ceremonies, there was not one whose devotions to the principles of our institution was not quickened and whose spirit did not exult within him as he said, 'I, too, am a Free Mason.'"

We quote all he says in relation to the Masonic Home:

"I have visited the Home several times during the year, and have been pleased to note the manifest tokens of content and happiness on every hand. The children are well cared for in every way, and the Superintendent and Matron have not spared themselves in ministering to the comfort and well-being of the old people. It is, indeed, a Home to all who have found a shelter there. With such a Board of Directors to oversee its affairs, always ready to co-operate with the Superintendent and Matron in all that tends to promote its interests, the masonic fraternity throughout the State may rest assured that all will be done that can be done to make this noble charity all that the Grand Lodge can desire.

"The accommodations for the old people are not what they should be, and are too limited to meet the urgent calls which are being made. For these reasons the Board of Directors some months ago determined to build a much-needed addition to the Home, and, with my approval, called upon the lodges for subscriptions to aid this necessary work.

"I recommend that this Grand Lodge appropriate for this purpose all that can safely be spared from the funds in the treasury. By action taken some years ago, the Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden and Grand Junior Warden were made *ex-officio* members of the Board of Directors. They are in a sense a Visiting Committee of the Grand Lodge. I know of no good reason why the Deputy Grand Master should not be of the number, and recommend that he also be made an *ex-officio* member of the Board of Directors."

There is no doubt at all that in a jurisdiction large enough to have such a large number of persons needing this aid as will make their support in this manner economical from a business standpoint, these institutions do an immense amount of good.

The Grand Secretary is obliged to report that some lodges were behind in the last moments in their returns, and in his review of Maine, he esteems our Grand Secretary very happy because he was able to report that all the lodges had made returns and paid dues on time, as required by law.

He reports the organization of seven lodges U. D., and that two lodges had consolidated with other lodges, "much to the benefit of Masonry in their localities."

The amount of routine business done by him was immense. Among other items, the issuing of four charters to replace originals destroyed by fire, and the arrest of two charters for failure to make returns and pay dues. The permission of the Grand Master to twelve lodges to move into the new Masonic Temple in St. Louis was given.

By the law in this Grand Lodge one-half of the dues go to the Masonic Home. The amount thus paid for 1899 was \$15,372, and the amount for the current year, with the amount outstanding that would be collected, will be in all \$16,000.

The Grand Lecturer, ALLAN MCDOWELL, presented his thirty-first report. Eight State lodges of instruction had been held, of which he says:

"The influence for good of such meetings is incalculable. They bring the Grand Officers in closer touch with the craft, and also inspire the craft with the feeling that the Grand Lodge is not an arbitrary, tyrannical ruler, but a loving mother, whose chief aim is to guide them into paths of peace and love, to help the weak and struggling, to nurture the failing and despondent, and in general to 'build up the waste places in Zion.' These meetings were so distributed about the State that they were accessible to a very large majority of the lodges, and attendance in nearly every instance was all that could be expected."

In addition, he had held district lodges of instruction in nearly all the districts, having an average attendance of about seven lodges.

He gives a brief abstract of the reports of the District Lecturers, from which it appears as a whole they are doing the work pretty well, but in some districts there is a complaint that the officers are rusty.

An attempt was made to pay the District Lecturers a per diem as well as their expenses, but it was voted down by the Grand Lodge. We cannot see why this Grand Lodge has both District Lecturers and District Deputy Grand Masters.

A proposed amendment to the Constitution was submitted, which lies over, in relation to the manner of amending the Constitution. It consists of three divisions. The first is quite new and worth consideration:

"Any additional section, not conflicting with the provisions of the Constitution, which may be desired, shall be proposed in writing, and on being read three several days, if concurred in by a two-thirds vote of those entitled to vote, as prescribed in Section 3, shall become a part of this Constitution."

The third proposition is a provision for revising the Constitution by a committee, and the purpose of it is to allow action upon the report of the committee at the session at which it is made, thereby obviating what has been done in Maine and in some of the other Grand Lodges—the submission of an amendment when the committee is appointed, repealing for the time being, the provision of the Constitution in relation to amendments. This provision we regard as rather a wise one although in a matter so important as the revision of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, it might be better, as is done in some jurisdictions, to publish the Constitution one year before final action on it.

The Committee on History report progress. They also report that the work would be a volume of at least three hundred pages instead of two hundred as it was estimated, and the committee ask an increase to \$1,500 to meet the increased cost of publication.

The Grand Orator delivered a very fine address, but it wants to be read as a whole.

The evening sessions were devoted to the exemplification of the work, and all three degrees were exemplified.

The following was adopted as to funerals:

"A lodge, as such, may attend the funeral of a deceased brother and accompany the remains being conveyed to the place of interment, whether the lodge, or any other masonic body perform the masonic funeral rites at the grave. But nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the appointment of non-masonic pall-bearers by the family of the deceased, or prevent any church or moral and benevolent society from uniting in the funeral procession, or from rendering its ceremonies at the grave, or prevent any civic or public demonstration of respect for the deceased brother."

The following amendment to the by-laws was adopted, and it is worthy of careful consideration in all jurisdictions:

"In any city or town where two or more lodges are situated, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of each lodge to notify every other lodge in said city or town of all petitions for initiation or membership, and also of all rejections, suspensions and expulsions, which shall be posted on a bulletin board in the ante-room of each lodge at its stated meetings, and then placed on file."

Bro. WILLIAM F. KUHN presented a very beautifully written report on the honored dead of that and sister jurisdictions.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances had quite a number of matters before them, and some of the rulings are of interest, but they are nearly all based upon local law.

A Master of a lodge appointed a brother to assist the Senior Warden in the prosecution of a case, and the Grand Lodge decided that such a thing was

proper in many cases, and is left to the discretion of the Master; but the committee were of the opinion that the Secretary of the lodge should not be so appointed, but in this case, as no objection was made at the time, it was not considered sufficient ground for a new trial.

In one case in which a brother was expelled on one specification, although on the first vote there was a tie and a second vote taken, the Grand Lodge determined that the second vote was illegal and reversed the action of the lodge on this specification. But there were two other specifications upon which the lodge acquitted the accused, but the Grand Lodge reversed the judgment of the lodge on these two specifications and expelled the party.

The accused claimed the right to make the closing argument, and the Master so ruled, but this was reversed by the Grand Lodge, the committee saying:

“In all parliamentary proceedings, the proposer of a measure has the privilege and right to close the argument. It is a well recognized rule of law in the courts of this country that the prosecutor, plaintiff, or he on whom the burden of proof rests shall, and does have the right, to the closing argument in the case. This rule also applies to masonic trials.”

The parliamentary usage referred to by the committee is by no means uniform; in fact it does not exist in this section of the country except by courtesy, and in some states in the country the accused has the closing argument to the jury. But the almost overwhelming usage is that the prosecution has the closing argument, and in this section of the country that is followed in masonic trials, and has been so long that it may be considered an established usage.

Charters were granted to the seven lodges U. D., although the committee note some errors in their proceedings.

The Grand Lodge appropriated \$10,000 towards erecting a building to be known as the “Old Folks Building,” at the Masonic Home.

We have a cut of the monument erected to Past Grand Master MITCHELL. The masons of Missouri deserve the thanks of the craft for their action in this respect. The Grand Chapter took the lead and contributed the most of the funds for this purpose, but the Grand Lodge aided materially.

The Report on Correspondence (163 pp.) was presented, as heretofore, by Bro. JOHN D. VINCLL. It is a splendidly prepared report, being written from beginning to end, without a single extract. If we were to criticise it at all, it would be that our good brother makes too long paragraphs.

In his review of Arizona, he says:

“Speaking of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington repealing its obnoxious course on the Negro question, Grand Master Jones quoted from a letter written by the restless and unhappy Upton of Washington. He said: ‘Grand Master Upton writes me as follows: “At the last communication, the Grand Lodge of Washington *made no change in its position*, but greatly *modified its language*, in the hope that no excuse may longer exist for misunderstanding us, *or meddling with our affairs.*”’ I am very glad that M. W. Bro. Jones published this extract from the letter of the aforesaid Washington official. It discloses the true animus of ‘The Grand Lodge of Washington,’

which 'made no change in its position,' provided the aforesaid correctly represented his Grand Lodge. This I am not prepared to credit. If that Grand Lodge 'made no change in its position,' then its declarations were misleading and deceptive. If such modifications were made only to escape being misunderstood, and to prevent others from 'meddling' with their 'affairs,' then insincerity, if nothing more grave, may be charged against the author of the statement contained in the above quotation found in the address of Grand Master Jones. Perhaps the Washington party did not expect his statement to see the light. He should have said to Brother Jones, 'Burn this letter.'

We agree with him in not crediting the statement in the letter referred to, that the Grand Lodge of Washington made no change in its position. This letter has done a great deal of harm, for it has been made the basis of refusal by some Grand Lodges to rescind edicts suspending non-intercourse.

He devotes some space to the discussion of the recent action of his Grand Lodge in relation to physical qualifications, stating that he does not agree with this action.

Referring to the action of Alabama in relation to the liquor traffic, he says :

"It follows, in this case at least, that Freemasonry has no moral regulation by which to control the actions of the fraternity. According to the laws of the State, it is lawful for men to sell 'spirituous, vinous or malt liquors.' Therefore, it is lawful for masons to do the same, and profanes engaged in such traffic are fit subjects for membership in a 'beautiful system of Morals,' a cardinal virtue of which is declared to be Temperance. It is not necessary to bring arguments to bear upon such travesty. The inconsistency of those who hold such views is sufficient condemnation of their perversion of legitimate Freemasonry. If Masonry means no more than the above view of it, then our teaching is simple mockery."

Referring to the complaint of the Grand Master of Colorado, that brethren smoke in the lodge, he says :

"I have yet to meet with the Master of a lodge who interposed his authority on this line. But I have seen as good members of lodges as can be found in the fraternity forced to leave lodge rooms on account of sickness caused by smoking during the session. I have seen men (not masons) smoking during the most solemn work in a lodge. I have heard the crack of matches during the obligation. I have no objection to smoking at the proper time, if such exists, and in the proper place. But for decency's sake, never befoul a place 'representing the Holy of Holies,' with incense to any such god as tobacco. The Board of Managers of our new Masonic Temple in St. Louis passed a rule utterly prohibiting smoking in any rooms used for masonic purposes. You should see how easily the masons conform to said regulation. We have rooms for recreation adjoining, and there all can enjoy the delights of a good Havana."

We do not think that such a practice has ever been attempted, at least tolerated, in our jurisdiction. But at the same time there have been complaints that the brethren, who ought to be in the hall during the session of the lodge, congregate in the smoking room for the purpose of enjoying their cigars.

It seems almost impossible for our good brother to take in the idea that the landmarks of Freemasonry are part of every Constitution, and that the presumption is that such Constitution is adopted with this fact in view. Speaking of this he says :

"But advocates of the 'Constitution,' in more departments than one, are held to be old fogies or back numbers. Still I cling to the 'Constitution,' whether in masonry or elsewhere, because it is a matter of conscience."

No—not "old fogies" or "back numbers" but innovators on the ground work of Masonry.

He gives a very complete review of Maine for 1899, in which he sustains the views expressed by us in relation to the Washington trouble.

Referring to the decisions of the Grand Master in his review of Maine for 1900, he says:

"From a custom in the Grand Lodge, these decisions go over one year, and a report thereon will be made at the next session. I wish Bro. Drummond would inform me as to the effect of such decisions pending their consideration by the Committee on Jurisprudence. If they become operative from and after the time of their rendition by the Grand Master, would not a reversal by the committee one year later produce confusion? If not operative after the Grand Lodge session at which they are presented, what is their use?"

As should be the case in any jurisdiction, the decision of the Grand Master disposes of the case finally, and he reports the decision simply as *a rule of action for the future*. If the Grand Lodge approves it, it is law for the future, if it disapproves it is not law, but the decision in no way at all interferes with the disposition of the particular case, made by the Grand Master. The same question might be raised as to the effect in those jurisdictions in which the decisions are passed upon at the next session of the Grand Lodge. Does the decision of the Grand Master remain, so to speak, in the air, until acted upon by the Grand Lodge?

He says further:

"Bro. Drummond, in commenting on my report, said 'It is almost wholly written, and is a very full abstract of the Proceedings, with occasional brief comments, but the comments are so mixed with the abstract that it is somewhat difficult to distinguish one from the other.' I have examined my review in the light of the foregoing criticism, and sought honestly to find its cause. My report was free from extracts, and only occasional quotations made, with the usual marks to designate them. A running history of the doings of sister Grand Lodges, incorporating ideas, so far as required, to represent the facts, has been my custom as a reviewer, since abandoning the use of scissors and paste. I prefer this method to any in vogue."

We believe fully in his style of reports, provided the writer can have the time to make that kind. If we were not of that opinion, the report before us would convince us, and we are inclined to think the only difficulty lies in not breaking it up into paragraphs, as we have already suggested. The fact is, as we think, that a division into paragraphs, so that each different subject, where there is no comment upon it at any rate, should be given in separate paragraphs, makes both the reading and the comprehension of it easier.

In his review of New York he says:

"I am glad to record the fact that New York stands firmly upon the proper ground that material rejected by any of its lodges may seek masonic privileges

in other jurisdictions after complying with their laws as to residence. Missouri occupies the same ground."

Now if Missouri will follow the example of New York, and give to a rejection *the force given to it in the jurisdiction in which it was made*, the matter will be correctly settled. New York, however, limits the force of a rejection to one year, and we know of no jurisdiction which will receive a petition from a rejected candidate within less than one year from the date of the rejection, so that New York is in harmony with other Grand Lodges upon this subject.

We have marked a number of other matters for notice, but we must forbear.

His statement that this report is his twenty-third at first startled us, but the fact only shows how rapidly the years pass.

In his conclusion, he says:

"In concluding my 'Conclusion,' I am glad to state that, in answer to the anxious cry, 'Watchman what of the Night?' the response comes cheerily from every point, 'The morning cometh.' From the point of view occupied, it is apparent to me that the agencies uplifting humanity are multiplying, and becoming more intense. The best forces are at work, but like the silent forces in nature, are not loud nor demonstrative. The 'Kingdom cometh not by observation.' Of my own Grand Jurisdiction, every intimation received points to a year of advancement and healthful growth. This review is finished before returns from the lodges have come to hand in sufficient numbers to justify numerical statements. That our numbers will be largely increased is evidenced from reports received. Improvements have been made in the material equipments of lodges, in the ritualistic work, and the elevated moral tone of the fraternity. 'Masonry is a progressive science,' and its 'progress' is to be commended in proportion to its moral advancement.

"To the brethren of the 'guild,' I tender my most sincere, fraternal greetings, and good-will."

We believe all will reciprocate his closing sentence.

MONTANA, 1900.

We have the portraits of Bro. ANTHONY H. BARRET, the retiring Grand Master, Bro. HENRY CHAPPLE, Deputy Grand Master, who died during the year, and Bro. LEANDER W. FRARY, Grand Master in 1867, the second Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, with brief sketches of each of them.

A special communication was held to attend the funeral of Deputy Grand Master HENRY CHAPPLE, under the authority of the Senior Grand Warden, as the Grand Master was absent from the State on account of his health. The burial service was performed by the Grand Lodge, and in the account of the meeting we find the following:

"At the earnest and unanimous request of the officers and members of Ashlar Lodge, No. 29, the brethren were requested to form around the grave of our late Brother Charles A. Dewar, an old and faithful member and long-time Secretary, who having died of malignant diphtheria, had, by order of the city authorities, been privately buried. Here again the beautiful ritual was ren-

dered in presence of the bereaved widow of our brother, and to the great satisfaction and relief of his brethren, by whom, in life, he was warmly beloved."

Bro. CHAPPLE had been ill for some time, but at the preceding session of the Grand Lodge all were confident that he was on the road to health, and he went to Arizona with the hope that his health would improve there, but he died within about a month after the close of the Grand Lodge.

M. W. Bro. BARRET, the Grand Master, was absent on account of his health for quite a part of the year, and the Senior Grand Warden acted as Grand Master in his place. The latter was also called away for a couple of weeks or more, and for the first time in the history of that Grand Lodge, and we think of any other within the last fifty years, the office of Grand Master devolved upon the Junior Grand Warden.

The death of Bro. CHAPPLE was a great loss, as he was held in high esteem by the whole community. During his funeral, the business houses of the entire city were closed, and the exercises, the Grand Secretary says, were attended by all the citizens, male, female, old and young, including a Catholic priest and the sisters of charity.

At the annual communication, the Grand Officers were assembled, and the Grand Secretary reported that every lodge in the jurisdiction had made returns and paid dues for the masonic year, and more than a majority were represented. Thereupon, after the usual scrutiny, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. A Committee on Credentials was then appointed and a recess taken to await their report. When labor was resumed the committee reported, but was continued to complete its report.

Grand Master BARRET paid an earnest tribute to Bros. CHAPPLE and DEWAR, and announced the deaths of others, among them one, such as is found in almost every jurisdiction, who was not a member of the Grand Lodge but a busy man and earnest worker all his life, and by his death the fraternity suffers a great loss.

Of the state of the craft, the Grand Master says:

"During my official year I have visited a number of lodges in the jurisdiction, and find that generally Masonry is advancing steadily; that quiet, conservative enthusiasm prevails, except in a few instances.

"I believed that the rapid multiplication of lodges should be viewed with distrust. A Grand Master does not like to refuse a dispensation for the formation of a new lodge, but the granting of it may be a detriment to the craft. Too often a lodge so instituted has but an ephemeral existence, and at last its only record is the scar left by its severance from the body of Masonry when it is forced to surrender its charter."

This is emphasized by the fact that of the lodges which have been chartered in that State, five have already surrendered their charters, and the charter of one has been revoked.

The Grand Master was obliged to visit the Hot Springs of Arkansas for his health, but his visit there was not altogether without enjoyment, for he met

Past Grand Master JOHN C. SMITH, and Grand Secretary GIL W. BARNARD, of Chicago. We are not quite sure but that we would be willing to endure some pretty severe twinges of rheumatism for the companionship of those two brethren!

The Grand Senior Warden, THEODORE BRADLEY, made report of his acts while Acting Grand Master. He made quite a number of decisions which were confirmed by the Grand Lodge, nearly all resting on the construction of their own statutes.

He held, however, that St. John's Day is not a day for either regular or special communications simply because it is St. John's day, and a meeting on that day must be either fixed by the by-laws or regularly called.

In that jurisdiction if objection is made to advancement the candidate has the right to be heard before the committee appointed to inquire into the matter, and also he has the right to be heard by counsel before the lodge of Master Masons when the report of the committee is considered, and it can be considered only in a lodge of Master Masons.

He ruled that a member suspended for non-payment of dues is entitled to have the amount paid refunded in case his petition for re-instatement is rejected, but the Grand Lodge held otherwise, and we think such is the general practice.

The Grand Secretary reports that the Grand Lodge charity fund had increased, and we find elsewhere that the Order of the Eastern Star had contributed over six hundred dollars during the year, making a total of the contributions thus far, of over thirteen hundred dollars.

He had been fortunate enough to fill many gaps in the library after issuing his list of wants; but he was sorry to be obliged to say that some of the Proceedings received had been mutilated by the Committee on Correspondence, and he adds:

"We never cut our exchanges in this way, and our large accumulation of duplicates for this reason will possess a value that some time will be appreciated and will bring us good returns."

His practice agrees with ours. We simply mark the extracts and send the book to the printer, and by him it is very carefully returned.

BRO. HEDGES has heretofore believed that he stands at the head in that jurisdiction for "family membership," inasmuch as he and his three sons are all masons and members of Montana lodges, but only two of them are members of the same lodge; but the returns show that BRO. SAMUEL L. BRYANT and his four sons are members of a lodge in that jurisdiction, and in addition, two other sons are members of a lodge in Ohio!

The Grand Lodges of Costa Rica and Porto Rico were recognized.

The Grand Lodge contributed one hundred dollars for the relief of the Galveston sufferers, and the Grand Chapter another hundred, and the amount was "forwarded by telegraph."

At the installation of the Grand Master, the Signet Ring was presented and an address by the retiring Grand Master was read, very appropriate to the occasion.

The decision in relation to the refunding of dues was as follows:

"As to that part of Decision Five which says that the dues paid with a view of obtaining re-instatement should be refunded in case the petition is rejected, your committee would hold that there is no legal or moral obligation to refund said dues, the refunding thereof being in the discretion of the lodge."

A change of the by-laws was made, raising the *per capita* tax to \$2.00, fifty cents of which is to be given to the Home Fund.

A committee was also appointed to propose a plan for the Home and receive bids, etc., for a site, to report at the next annual session of the Grand Lodge.

While the masonic spirit of our Montana brethren is to be most highly commended, we trust that when they come to act upon business matters they will apply business principles, and not suffer their enthusiasm to lead them into extravagance. The fact is, that we do not believe that there is a call for a Masonic Home in that jurisdiction. We believe that the amount invested in a Home, with the cost of running it annually for the number of people who would avail themselves of it, would make the expense of maintaining them very high. However, the brethren are better able to determine for themselves, but at the same time we trust that the business side of the subject will be carefully considered.

The Report on Correspondence (146 pp.) was presented by Bro. CORNELIUS HEDGES. As heretofore it is wholly written, and if he makes any extracts they are very brief and copied into his report.

Upon most subjects we agree, but there is one very important one upon which we do not agree, and another one upon which we seem to disagree, but from what he writes in this report the disagreement is to a limited extent.

In his review of Alabama, he is inclined to criticise the building of masonic temples, as he prefers the building of a Masonic Home. In our judgment, both of these rest upon business principles. A Grand Lodge must have a place to meet in, and a place for its offices and a place for its archives, and ordinarily, lodges in the place where it meets, can meet in the same building. But all this is a matter of strict business, or ought to be, although sometimes we find that it is not made so. Equally we owe a debt to the widow and orphan, but to expend thousands of dollars to provide a home for one widow and one orphan, however grand an achievement, would be utter folly, and really such a waste of money as to be an offence against Masonry; so that this really comes to a matter of business. We have no Masonic Home in Maine, but the matter has been carefully canvassed and examined, and the result was that it would be a waste of money to maintain one for the comparative few who would be benefited by it.

Upon another question he says :

"Alabama has one of those hyper-democratic Constitutions that cannot be amended without submission to the several lodges, with the usual result that a large portion of the lodges never make returns.* When the delinquents are summoned to answer for neglect, they are warned to do better next time. There is ample security against hasty legislation in requiring proposed amendments to be published and lay over one year. Montana does not require even this security, only a three-fourths vote."

We are glad to find that he expresses these views, for the practice, of which he speaks, grows out of a doctrine which he advocates.

The following reminds us of things which were told us about lodge rooms here in Maine in the early days, save for the purpose mentioned in the last sentences :

"It reminds us of our first lodge room in Helena, in 1865, where we first presided as Master. It was only a half-story over an auction store. We could only stand up in the center and there was no ceiling but the 'shakes' that covered the roof, and no carpet but a deep layer of saw-dust. The furniture was home-made and rather rude, for lumber was worth 25 cents a foot in gold. Even in such a lodge room we have conferred as many as seven degrees in one night, filling the role of Senior Deacon as well as Worshipful Master. And there was other work done there that established law and order in a few days over as motley and rough a community as a mining excitement ever brought together. They were raised to a dead perpendicular."

We have a book which we have had for many years which throws light upon the last sentences. We think very much of it, not only for its contents, but because it was given to us by a Past Grand Master of Montana who knew whereof he wrote.

In his review of Maine, he says :

"We cannot forget that in our good brother's opinion we are ourselves something of a heretic on the Grand Master's prerogative claims. After cutting loose from the reputed origin of Masonry at the building of King Solomon's Temple some 2,000 years before Christ, we can find no trace of a Grand Master till the early part of the Eighteenth Century. Nor does there seem any likelihood of finding any head corresponding to Grand Master during the time that Masonry was operative. The term of Grand Master was very loosely used in early years in this country, as Brother Drummond has shown in the case of Benjamin Franklin and Prince Hall. But the first of really historical claim was Anthony Sayer, about 1718. All beyond and before that time is a mass of tangled, conflicting myth and tradition. Masonry in a nebulous form can be traced back a long time before this, but it emerged only in the person of Anthony Sayer, elected in an assemblage of the four London lodges. For all practical purposes here was the birth of the office of Grand Master, and he was Grand Master of Masons before there was any Grand Lodge other than a general assembly of the craft. Worshipful Masters and lodges certainly had a prior existence. Some ingeniously derive the powers of Grand Master from those that inhered in the king according to the custom of the time, but it must be remembered that kingly prerogative was beheaded with Charles the First in 1649, more than three-score years before the election of Anthony Sayer as Grand Master, and London, where the four lodges were that elected him, was the chief seat of all the opposition to prerogative. The supposed analogy wont hold water. If the office had originated on the continent instead of

London, England, the inference would possess more plausibility. Others, and we think with more plausibility, derive the powers of Grand Master from those of Worshipful Master, giving him the authority over the whole craft that the W. M. has in his own lodge. Some recent writers, as for instance Grand Master Kelley of Pennsylvania, claim that 'Masonry is clearly the oldest republic in the world.' Others with equal insistence and reason assert that the lodge is a case of pure and almost unlimited monarchy. Both are right and each is wrong, for it partakes of the nature of both, each principle holding the other in check and contributing the strength and advantages of each. It can hardly be attributed to immemorial usage when the historical Grand Mastership is of so recent and definite origin. Brother Drummond exhorts us to reform our history. We cannot understand how history is subject to reformation except by substituting fact for fiction, and that is what we have been patiently trying to do by searching for facts to confirm theories. It is the universal testimony of history that power lodged in the individual seeks to expand and exalt itself by usurpation, and that is what we mistrust in the origin of so-called prerogative powers."

We quote this at length for a brief comment. Our exhortations to him to reform "his history" is a very different thing from reforming "history," and the difference lies with the need of reforming his history to make it *actual* history. When Masonry was re-organized in 1717, they did not go to work and enact laws, as they would have done if they were starting out for the first time. Instead of that they appointed a committee to collect the old charges and laws of Masonry which had come down through those "misty days" that our brother talks about, as the laws of the fraternity. Now what they said was history at that time is conclusive authority as to what that history was, and all attempts of would-be historians of these days to undertake to go back and determine what the real history was when the materials of it have entirely gone out of existence, are both erroneous and foolish. In that history thus established at that time, were contained many laws of the craft, and however uncertain from other sources the powers of the Grand Master may be found to be, that history makes it certain so far as the Masonry of the future was to be concerned. In the laws thus solemnly declared to be usage and laws from time immemorial, the rights of the Grand Master inherent in the office were clearly and fully recognized. And this is what we mean when we said that our brother ought to reform his history to conform to the actual history.

The other matter upon which we had supposed we differed is the Wisconsin proposition, so called. Of this Bro. HEDGES says:

"Pray what are lodges and Grand Lodges but associations of individual brothers on whom the obligation rests all the time, when associated as well as acting singly. As we look at the case the spirit of the obligation rests upon the lodge and the Grand Lodge just as much as upon the individual member. *Neither one or the other is bound to contribute to the relief beyond his or its reasonable ability, even to cases of deserving need.*"

The lines we have put in italics show that he dissents from one of the main doctrines of the Wisconsin proposition. That proposition really holds that a brother in need is entitled to full relief without regard to the ability of

the craft upon whom he may call. It will be seen that our brother dissents from this. Now we admit, and always have admitted, that it is the duty of lodges and Grand Lodges as well as individuals, to the extent of their ability, to dispense masonic charity. But the Wisconsin proposition leaves out the words "to the extent of their ability," and therefore we differ from them.

Our brother always has the courage of his convictions, and he carries the doctrine to its logical result. We have long seen what that result would be, but no one yet, until this report of his, has undertaken to carry it to that result. Our brother says:

"No lodge in our estimation is deserving of a charter that does not provide for some relief fund fed by a portion of the fees and some percentage of the dues. It seems to be the opinion of many that whatever is bestowed in the way of relief from any general fund should be considered an outright gift without expectation of return. Otherwise we are told that it is not charity. On the contrary, we insist that it is the worthiest and most respectable sort of charity. It is degrading to the manhood of a brother to treat him as a beggar and pauper. We hold, especially in the case of brothers, not so in the case of widows and orphans, that whatever he receives from a masonic source should be considered as a loan, to be repaid if he is able. If he cannot repay in kind and direct to the source from whence it was received it should be understood that it might be repaid by assistance in some way to others in need. Masonry must be no nursery for paupers, and in this should be its world-wide difference from the ordinary kind of benefit societies, which are really nothing more than savings banks. A brother who receives masonic aid, and is ever after able to repay and fails to do so, degrades himself and Masonry. Any lodge that is able and refuses to re-imburse another lodge for assistance rendered its own members is a disgrace to Masonry. Charity, so much vaunted, is too often a summer cloud without rain. But for every day practical use we prefer relief, which respects and builds up independent manhood and when properly administered and fed goes on expanding."

We do not believe that it is necessary to use many words to show that this is an absolute departure from the masonic charity taught by the fundamental principles of Masonry; but it is the outgrowth of the Wisconsin theory, and we doubt very gravely whether the authors of that theory will sustain Bro. HEDGES in these views.

There are other matters in this report that we had marked for notice, especially his notice of the Washington Centennial Exercises, but must forbear.

There is one other matter though, that we will just touch upon. In his review of Washington, he says;

"Much as we differ on many matters of masonic polity and policy, we admire the scholarship and fighting qualities of Bro. Upton and notice with regret his announced retirement from the Guild. On the question of Grand Lodge sovereignty he seems more English than American, while on physical qualifications he falls short of the English position."

If our brother will examine the question more fully, he will find that the English doctrine and the American doctrine are very nearly alike upon this subject, differing only in a single particular, to wit, jurisdiction over *individuals*.

NEBRASKA, 1900.

A special meeting was held to bury Bro. CHRISTIAN HARTMAN, for many years Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, a brother dearly beloved, and wholly worthy of the tribute paid to his memory by the Grand Lodge.

At the annual communication the Grand Officers assumed their stations, with representatives in their places, and a lodge of Master Masons was opened in ample form. The roll was then called, and it was ascertained that a constitutional number of lodges were present; then the Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge opened for the transaction of business.

We have noticed in this report the method of opening Grand Lodges, and so far as we know this is the only jurisdiction in the world in which the Grand Lodge is not opened directly.

The local brethren welcomed the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master made fitting reply.

The Grand Master, WILLIAM W. KEYSOR, speaks of the condition of the people of that State as follows:

“The past masonic year has been an auspicious one for us as citizens and Freemasons. The trying times of drought, financial stringency and business stagnation have passed away, and cheerfulness and courage again animate the hearts, invigorate the brains and steady the hands of all who plan and toil. National honor has been maintained at home and preserved abroad; free government and Christian civilization have received a prodigious impulse at our hands, and commendable progress has been made in the solution of the momentous problems submitted to us, as we believe, by Him who holds the nations in the hollow of His hand. Surely the goodness and mercy of the Lord have followed us in our public and private affairs since our last annual communication.”

And of the condition of the craft he says:

“It affords me exceeding pleasure to report that Freemasonry has prospered remarkably in this jurisdiction during the past year. Work has been abundant and our lodges have grown stronger in numbers and finances; the needy have been supplied; the sick nursed; the dead buried; the widow assisted and the orphan educated; harmony has been restored in several quarters, and with one or two unfortunate exceptions, peace and brotherly love prevail throughout our jurisdiction; the practice of lodges visiting, assisting and entertaining each other at the banquet board has extended; and happily there has been a perceptible uplift in the character of the candidates admitted, and a truer apprehension of the higher ends of our institution.”

He pays a tribute to the dead of the year, especially referring to Col. STOTSENBERG and General HENRY, Nebraska masons, who had met a soldier's fate during the year.

He refers to the Washington Centennial Exercises, and does us the honor of giving, in his annual address, the greeting which we sent to the brethren of his jurisdiction.

We think that almost every one who was present was affected as he thus describes that he was:

"As I stood that gray December day on that beautiful eminence which overlooks the broad Potomac and many historic spots hallowed with patriotic and fraternal blood, and listened to the last President of the United States, a freemason, voice the affection and veneration of a mighty nation for the first President of the United States, also a freemason, and one of the sublimest characters in all history, my bosom swelled with love and pride for ancient craft Masonry, and I left that sacred place with a clearer and profounder conception than I ever had before of the power, grandeur, beauty and beneficence of our beloved institution."

At the previous communication of his Grand Lodge no action was taken by it in regard to the Washington matter, because it was understood that that Grand Lodge would in all probability rescind the obnoxious resolutions at its next session, but he is not satisfied at all with its action, and he thinks that the principle that was asserted in the action last year, is a menace to the harmony and fraternal relations of all Grand Lodges.

After quoting it he adds :

"That is to say, a member of a lodge in this State which this Grand Body declares to be clandestine may go to Washington and there visit or affiliate with any subordinate lodge which consents to receive him, and then return to us under the claim that he is a mason in good standing in a jurisdiction holding fraternal communication with us. This does not seem to me to be good law. Our own Grand Lodge ought to be the judge of the regularity of the subordinate lodges in this State, and our decision upon that question ought to be binding upon all other foreign jurisdictions. Believing that the Grand Lodge of Washington has not yet rescinded as fully as it ought to do, the original resolutions above referred to, and also believing that our fraternal communications with that body ought not to be severed without good cause, I have deemed it best to take no action in the matter, and to submit it at this time for your investigation and decision."

The matter was referred to the Committee on Correspondence, which reported in favor of severing fraternal relations, but that report was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence which asked for further time to consider it, and so it goes over to the session of this year.

In that report the committee says :

"There are in this State clandestine negro lodges ; they can have no recognition by our lodges ; yet, as the Grand Master well says, members of these clandestine lodges may move to the State of Washington, and, under the obnoxious resolutions of that Grand Lodge in 1899, be admitted and affiliated in their lodges."

This is all true ; we fully agree with the doctrine throughout, but we still hold that in so important a matter as the severing of masonic relations, we should wait for the *overt act*, and not base action upon a *mere declaration of sentiment*, especially when we consider the circumstances under which this declaration was made.

He reports his action upon a large number of local matters, showing that he had zealously performed his duty, and with skill and sound judgment.

He had granted four dispensations for new lodges ; refused two, and two were still pending, awaiting the report of the Grand Custodian.

In accordance with a vote of the Grand Lodge, a committee had investigated the circumstances under which a charter had been arrested, with a view to its restoration. A meeting was called and nearly every member of the lodge asked for the return of the charter, regretting the unfortunate condition which led to its revocation, and promising to do all in their power for the promotion of peace and harmony if the charter should be restored. The committee reported favorably, and the Grand Master went and restored it in person, and from information which he received, he believed that the lodge would stand second to none in harmony, zeal and usefulness. It may seem wonderful, but it is true nevertheless, that the lesson taught by such proceedings, as were taken in regard to this lodge, have a wonderful effect in teaching brethren the necessity of governing their personal acts as masons by the principles of the institution.

He had allowed one lodge, whose hall and the dwellings of many of whose members had been destroyed by a cyclone, to send out a circular for relief, which resulted in donations to the amount of nearly \$1,200, \$777 of which was devoted to furnishing a new hall and purchasing jewels, furnishings, etc., and the balance was divided among eleven brethren. This action of the craft restored the lodge to a condition for work.

He made quite a number of decisions, among them one that a lodge still retains jurisdiction over a person who had been rejected over twenty-two years ago, even if he has since resided in another jurisdiction.

We find from his decisions, that the old usage of "regular communication" is still practiced in that state. The word "regular" means regularity as to time.

The following decision was reported adversely upon by the committee, and although an effort was made to amend the report it was adopted:

"A brother was suspended for non-payment of dues, and did not subsequently pay them because of his straightened circumstances. Shortly before he died he gave his son the money to pay his dues, but the son neglected to do so. The family requested a masonic funeral. Held, that under the circumstances it was not error for the Worshipful Master to grant the request."

We believe that in Nebraska, a mason suspended for non-payment of dues is suspended *from all the rights of Masonry*. If so, the action of the Grand Lodge was clearly correct. In Maine the decision of the Grand Master would be sustained, because here we only suspend *from membership* for non-payment of dues.

The following recommendation was adopted:

"I also respectfully recommend that our law be so amended as to require the Grand Treasurer to keep the funds of the Grand Lodge, if kept in a bank, in a separate account and not mingled with his own funds in his private account. This recommendation is made in view of the fact that our late Grand Treasurer kept the Grand Lodge funds in his own private account, and that if it had not been for the ability and willingness of his wife to pay over to the

Grand Lodge what was due, before the settlement of his estate, we would have been seriously embarrassed for a long time for the want of money."

We had supposed that this is now practically the law in all jurisdictions, although formerly it was not.

The Committee on Orphans' Educational Fund reported the amount of the fund to be \$35,265.

An exceedingly full abstract of the returns is published, and while the totals are given there is no recapitulation. We think that a formal recapitulation would be read, understood and appreciated much more than the present practice. Perhaps we are a little selfish in making this suggestion, but it is quite a strain on the eyes for us to get at the items which we need for our table of statistics.

A proposition was made that the Grand Lodge shall meet biennially, with the additional provision the overplus of dues collected should be appropriated for constructing, furnishing and maintaining a Masonic Home; it lies over one year under the law.

The Grand Orator, WALTER W. WELLS, delivered a fine address, which is given in full.

Several lodges had failed to elect their officers at the time provided by law, and were obliged to ask for dispensations and had been obliged to pay for them, but the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Master be authorized to issue dispensations for the election of officers out of time during the month of June, 1900, without the payment of the usual fee, and that fees heretofore collected in such cases be refunded, and that the action of lodges in this jurisdiction that have held elections out of time, is legalized."

We have another illustration of the too widely prevailing sentiment that the non-payment of dues is among the greatest of masonic offences, in the fact, that if a brother, who is personally served with a summons to appear and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues, and he fails to answer, must first be put on trial for disobeying the summons. We do not believe that the old usage of giving a notice to appear and show cause, if any he have, why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues, should be changed to a peremptory summons to appear. In trials for masonic offences, even the accused is not peremptorily summoned to appear, but is notified to appear, and it is left to him to appear or not, as he pleases, and we regret very greatly to see the summons used in matters of such comparatively little importance.

As to meetings the committee thus speaks of the usage in that jurisdiction:

"Our law provides that a trial may be had at a special meeting; every meeting, strictly speaking, is a regular meeting, but by usage in this Grand Jurisdiction, the stated meetings are called regular meetings, and all others, including those appointed for the trial of a brother, are called special meetings."

This Grand Lodge has provided for a "Committee on the Fraternal Dead" to be appointed as a standing committee, to be announced at the close of each session of the Grand Lodge: and the Grand Master is allowed to omit from his address everything except his announcements of the deaths of the brethren, and the committee are expected to have a report ready and published at the same time the Grand Master's address is published, which in this jurisdiction is done in advance of the meeting of the Grand Lodge. In both these respects, we think our brethren of Nebraska are ahead of us in Maine. There is no time during the session of the Grand Lodge to prepare the reports on the fraternal dead, and practically almost always they are never acted upon by the Grand Lodge, and frequently the publication of the Proceedings is delayed while the printer is waiting for them.

Upon the report of Past Grand Master PHELPS, for the Committee on Correspondence, the Grand Dieta of Mexico was recognized.

He admits that in some of the Mexican lodges there were irregularities, but says that there were many lodges, some of them chartered originally by the American Grand Lodges, which strictly observed all the rules, and he says further that these irregularities have ceased. They no longer made masons of women and the Bible has been restored to its place. And he holds, and most masons will agree with him, that the fact, that these irregularities did once exist, is no *perpetual* bar to the recognition of the bodies.

The Report on Correspondence (136 pp.) was presented by Bro. CHARLES J. PHELPS.

As usual he gives an excellent abstract, made more interesting by appropriate extracts and occasional comments.

He commences with a brief notice of Mexico, from which we take the following:

"Ambitious men in the Mexican Supreme Council, A. A. S. R., were adverse to the independence of the Gran Dieta—a necessary condition, and were quite active in leading that body into aggressive action, united with a pretended Grand Lodge at Vera Cruz, styling itself the United Grand Lodge of Mexico, and entered into a treaty binding the lodges of said Grand Lodge to conditions of obedience to the Scottish Rite council, altogether incompatible with the liberties and self-government of Blue Lodge Masonry.

"The successor of our late Brother Albert Pike, Brother Thomas H. Caswell, Sovereign Grand Inspector-General of the A. A. S. R., of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, has reproached the Mexican Supreme Council for its unwarranted action in a communication to the Mexican Supreme Council, in which he expressly declares that the United Grand Lodge of Mexico, at Vera Cruz, is of very doubtful origin.

"This action on the part of the Supreme Council of Mexico is in violation of a former solemn treaty with the Gran Dieta, by which all control over the degrees of symbolic Masonry was resigned to the Grand Dieta, where it rightfully belongs. Its new treaty with the Vera Cruz lodge is an attempt to revive and foster a discredited organization which presents no claims worthy of consideration by sovereign grand lodges."

* * * * *

"It has been contended that, because the membership of its lodges contains masons who were made in lodges chartered by Scottish Rite bodies, they cannot be recognized.

"The question thus raised has been decided over and over again. In many of the foreign Grand Lodges, in full fraternal relations with American Grand Lodges, the same condition exists.

"Again, it has been complained in one of our American Grand Lodges that in one of the Mexican lodges a former resident of the American jurisdiction who wore an artificial limb, while living in Mexico was made a mason, and upon returning to the United States sought admission into one of the lodges in his native state. The answer to this objection is, that the same thing has occurred in a sister Grand Jurisdiction when one of its former citizens, with an artificial leg, was made a mason by an English lodge in whose jurisdiction the candidate was residing at the time, under the liberal rule as to physical qualifications, recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England, the mother Grand Lodge of most of the Grand Lodges in the world."

We noticed this last objection in our report of last year. We have already referred to his answers to other objections.

In relation to the prerogatives of Grand Masters, he well says :

"It is enough to say that 'erroneous conceptions' abound. And it is pretty safe to say that in every Grand Jurisdiction, where it has been held by the Grand Lodge that the Grand Master does not possess the prerogative authority of 'dispensing with the law,' it will be found that such dispensations have been actually indulged in and sanctioned again and again. Not only that, but our constitutions and regulations are framed with a view to the possession of such power by the Grand Master. Every constitution expressly recognizes the landmarks. And the prerogatives of a Grand Master are, by the same solemn agreement made in 1717, including the dispensing power, as binding as the recognized landmarks. In resigning sovereignty over the craft, these prerogatives were retained by the Grand Masters. Their inviolability gives a dignity, character and stability not possessed by any other organization created by man, by reason of which our institution is respected above any other society. Freemasonry is a law unto itself, but the tyro in our order does not comprehend it; like the squab, he appears biggest soon after birth,"

We are aware that some, who profess to be historians of the present day, do not agree with this, but they override the rules of evidence which have been so long maintained, that they are spoken of as the result of the experience of ages.

Referring to the Washington matter, he says :

"Washington's offence, and it was a grave one, did not consist in any laudable desire to extend the benefits of legitimate Freemasonry to colored men, but in recognizing a brood of clandestine negro lodges, and their members. To retract fully her error, was her duty. She has only partially performed that duty, but the lesson taught is one that will not be forgotten. Freemasonry is a potent factor in extending the bounds of civil and religious freedom, and the time never was when its influence was so far reaching as it is at the present day. Such an infraction of its polity as was exhibited by the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1898, and that by the Grand Lodge of Peru in 1897, placing each, for a time, outside of the pale of Masonry, will hardly occur again. Mexico is another example; to be recognized, she is making commendable effort to place herself in accord with well understood principles of masonic law, and in due time she will, doubtless, receive her reward."

For this reason we were a little surprised that he should report a resolution in favor of the suspension of masonic relations, and we trust that at the next annual communication he will be ready to advocate the let-alone policy.

He reviews Maine for 1899, and extracts from our report on Washington, what he terms rules of masonic jurisprudence, which he approves by commending them to the attention of all who take part in conducting the affairs of the Grand Lodges.

In his review of Massachusetts, he does what we were tempted to do—quote some of the speeches at the Grand Feast, *in full*.

Of the law in relation to physical qualifications in Nebraska, he says;

“In Nebraska it has been held that, where the petitioner had lost a limb, as in the Montana case, which was supplied by the best artificial limb procurable, he was not eligible, because of the landmark requiring soundness in body. If there is such a law binding the craft of to-day, and there would seem to be no doubt that there is, the Montana Grand Lodge is wrong. In the case stated, the fact controlling is fully shown, and the Grand Master was right. If only there was some physical defect in the limb, which might, or might not interfere with the candidate's conforming to the attitudes required in the ceremonies of the degree, then it would perhaps be a question for the lodge to determine, but the case stated, is one that would result in the lodge—if it decided to proceed, doing an act forbidden by law. If the law of physical perfection is a landmark, liberally construed as it now is, it is not in the power of any man or body of men to alter or change it. No discretion exists in a lodge to violate it.”

He had received the Proceedings of the “District Grand Lodge of Northern China” for 1899, but we find nothing giving us information as to the state of Masonry in that district, except the general statement that there had been a steady increase in membership, and that that district was prosperous. What effect the troubles in China are having upon the craft there we have no means of knowledge.

Of physical qualifications, he says:

“We agree that the candidate for initiation should be physically able to conform to the manner of the initiation, without the aid of any mechanical substitution of feet or limbs, but once initiated, he becomes a brother, and subsequent misfortune in physical injuries should not prevent advancement to further and more light. As to the ‘*deep symbolical significance*’ of the rule of physical perfection, we once thought there was something in it, but the arguments to support the theory fail to confirm our former view. Pray enlighten us. What is the ‘*deep symbolical significance*’ of which you speak.”

NEVADA, 1900.

A special communication was held to lay the corner-stone of a public school building, at which addresses were made, which are very highly spoken of, but the notice was so short that they were extemporaneous, and the authors were not able to give them for publication, although they were greatly desired.

At the annual communication the roll was called, and a quorum being found to be present, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and called off until afternoon to give the Committee on Credentials an opportunity to prepare their report.

The Grand Master, JOHN M. McCORMACK, delivered a brief address, referring to the dead of the year and his various official acts.

He notices the laying of the corner-stone as an occasion of great interest, and speaks in the highest terms of the addresses delivered on that occasion.

He had granted two "authorizations" to lodges to receive petitions from applicants residing within the jurisdiction of other lodges which were said to be dormant. This he did under a special provision of the Constitution of his Grand Lodge, and his action was confirmed by the Grand Lodge. The lodges are described as "dormant," and we do not understand that they had ceased to exist.

He had issued a circular containing the following:

"You will therefore, at the next stated communication of your lodge, direct your Secretary to warn and notify all non-affiliated masons within its jurisdiction to present themselves at, and affiliate with your lodge, or show cause why they should not affiliate or be suspended from all the rights and privileges of the Fraternity."

We do not believe that a suspension under that provision of the law of that Grand Lodge would elsewhere be regarded, or ought to be regarded, of any force, because the law upon which it is founded is in violation of the fundamental rights of masons.

He had visited quite a number of lodges, and reports favorably upon their condition.

He had removed the edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, and appointed as Representative Bro. DAVID E. BAILY, Past Grand Master of Nevada, who now resides in Washington.

He had received from Bro. H. W. MILES a draft for fifty dollars to be applied for an Orphan's Home. Nothing had been done by his Grand Lodge in relation to this matter, but as other contributions were voluntarily offered, he held the matter for action by the Grand Lodge, and while the committee deemed it premature to undertake building a Home at present, they advised the accumulation of a fund for that purpose. This was probably a wise disposal, although it seems to us that it would have been better to commence a Grand Lodge charity fund, the income of which could be applied for charitable purposes, and when the time should come for building an Orphans' Home, the principal could be applied for that purpose.

A committee was appointed to revise the decisions of the Grand Lodge with a view to preparing a Code, and upon the report of the Committee on Finance, the Grand Lodge ordered that a Code of Laws of the Grand Lodge should be prepared, and six hundred copies published.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, allowing lodges to remit any portion of arrearages of dues. The following is the provision as amended:

"No lodge shall expel a member for the non-payment of his dues; but, in case any member shall have refused or neglected to pay his regular dues during a period of one year, he shall be notified by the Secretary that, unless at the next stated communication either his dues be paid, or sickness or inability to pay be shown as the cause of such refusal or neglect, he will be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry by operation of law. If neither of these things be done, he shall be so suspended, and the Master shall so announce in open lodge. Any mason thus suspended who shall at any time pay the arrearages due at the time of his suspension, together with such further dues as would, had he retained his membership, have accrued against him to the date of such payment, shall by that act be restored. But a lodge may remit any portion of the dues or arrearages."

We presume that the vote of the lodge is required, although the phraseology is doubtful.

The Report on Correspondence (110 pages, including statistics) was presented by Bro. A. D. BIRD. He compresses into it a very large amount of valuable information, but his printer does not do justice to it. In a few cases what Bro. BIRD says himself is "leaded," but almost all of it is printed "solid," without even quotation marks to distinguish between what Bro. BIRD writes and what he quotes.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1900.

We have a fine portrait of Grand Master Judge JAMES GORDON FORBES.

This Grand Lodge held its usual emergent communication to attend divine service on the 24th of June, but the Grand Master was unexpectedly detained away.

The sermon was delivered by R. W. Bro. FRANCIS R. PARTRIDGE, D. D., and is published in the Proceedings. It was well worthy of the occasion.

At the annual session the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, apparently without any previous formal action, precisely as is done in Maine.

The Committee on Credentials immediately reported and the Grand Master delivered his address.

Of the condition of the craft he says:

"I am gratified to announce the continued welfare of the Craft in this jurisdiction, a very respectable increase in numbers and income, whilst the standards of Freemasonry have been held aloft, and the moral and spiritual teachings of our ritual have been impressed on all who have entered our gate with zealous faithfulness."

He announced the deaths of various Past Masters and brethren who had been efficient masons in their respective spheres.

He gives an account of a large number of visitations which he had made, including one lodge for which he had issued a dispensation.

His account shows a very good condition of things, apparent prosperity on the part of the lodges and apparent good work.

Finding that outside of the Grand Lodges of the United States they had representatives at but few foreign Grand lodges, he entered into correspondence with quite a number of them and secured an exchange of representatives, and he had himself received a commission as representative of the Grand Dieta of Mexico.

He announced the appointment of representatives from various Grand Lodges, but Maine is not among the number, as there was no vacancy.

He speaks very warmly in favor of the system, saying among other things:

“My brethren, the world is getting smaller, time and distances are reduced to a minimum, and it is well to cultivate the closest relations with our brethren everywhere.”

He commends to the attention of the Grand Lodge the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and an examination of them shows that they had zealously attended to their duties, which seem to be substantially those imposed upon our own District Deputies.

He greatly regrets that he was unable to be present at the Washington Centennial Exercises.

He thus refers to public events:

“Scarcely had our Grand Lodge closed its last session before the challenge to arms had been impudently flung in the face of Queen and country by a tyrannical oligarchy in South Africa, menacing the very existence of our Colonial Empire in that continent. The great Empire, of which we form no inconsiderable part, promptly accepted the gage of battle, and a cruel and relentless war has raged on the blood-stained veldt of Africa. The almost instantaneous response, nay, tender of services, which arose from every corner of the Empire ‘on which the sun never sets,’ is an object lesson to the whole world, and the grand old Empire, to which we owe our allegiance, was found as live and vigorous as of yore, and our brethren of the craft (of which our distinguished Commander-in-Chief is an honored brother), in obedience to the patriotic teachings of our order, were to the front, and the cry ‘for Queen and country’ resounded from shore to shore. The glory which has crowned the united arms of our Empire as we stood shoulder to shoulder on the battlefield has done more to cement this great Empire into one homogeneous whole than any event of the century.

“The friendly and natural alliance with our brethren of the neighboring republic has placed our Anglo-Saxon race in the front rank as champions of freedom and liberty, and assures us that our place among the nations of the earth must be that of arbitrators and protectors. Let it be ours not only to teach but to practice those noble tenets of our profession, and so become better fitted to discharge these solemn and responsible duties, which, in the good providence of God, we are called upon to fill.”

The returns show that there had been a small but substantial increase of membership, and the Grand Lodge had been able to reduce its indebtedness five hundred dollars during the year.

The committee appointed the year before to consider the question of the amalgamation of the Grand Lodges of the Maritime Provinces reported that

they had been unable to get a meeting of the joint committees, and recommended that the committee be continued, and it was so done.

A special report was made in relation to suspension for non-payment of dues, and statistics were given showing that the number of suspensions in the United States and Canada for the past ten years had been about 30 per cent. of the number raised, some years exceeding that and a few years falling short. In 1900 the suspensions had been close on to 40 per cent. Various suggestions were made, but action upon the report was postponed until next year.

The library "had been neatly and methodically arranged."

One charter was granted, one restored, and the usual routine action taken, apparently very harmoniously.

We note that the post-office address of both the Master and Secretary of one lodge is in Maine.

There was no Report on Correspondence.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1900.

We have a fine engraved portrait of the retiring Grand Master, JOHN McLANE.

The usual semi-annual communication was held for the exemplification of the work, and we note from the attendance that the interest has been kept up year after year, so that the attendance is very full.

In this connection the Grand Master gives a very interesting account of his visit to the Washington Centennial Exercises. He refers to his remarks in the Grand Lodge of Virginia, when he called attention to the fact that just one hundred and twenty-five years before that very hour, John Sullivan of New Hampshire captured Fort William and Mary, more than four months before the battles of Concord and Lexington. He gives the incidents which led to the organization of a force and the capture of that fort.

The annual Proceedings are preceded by a portrait of NORMAN C. HEWES, who had been Tyler of Franklin Lodge since 1854, continuously.

At the time fixed the Grand Officers and Representatives took their places, and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form without any previous formal proceedings.

The Grand Master, JOHN McLANE, in his address, announced the deaths of several permanent members of the Grand Lodge, Past District Deputy Grand Masters, and as usual gives a brief sketch of them.

He had granted quite a number of dispensations, and in this connection he says:

"I granted a dispensation to Washington Lodge, No. 61, to visit a lodge in Belmont, Mass., and work the Master Mason degree, and to the same lodge a

dispensation permitting them to invite Belmont Lodge to visit Washington Lodge in Manchester and work the Master Mason degree. In both instances like dispensations were granted by the Grand Master of Massachusetts.

"I would be the last one to say a word against anything that has a tendency to increase the good will and fraternal feeling among masons, but on reflection I am convinced that there are strong reasons why lodges should not exchange visits of the character indicated above, and if the question should again come before me, I should hesitate long before granting a dispensation for that purpose."

The matter was before the Grand Lodge, and upon a very able report of the Committee on Jurisprudence the Grand Lodge voted that such visitations and doing of work were not in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and prohibited them for the future.

We had known that lodges visit each other and their members are called upon to assist in doing the work, but we had not supposed that they did it *as lodges*, and we fully concur with the conclusion of the committee, and upon general principles.

We had supposed that these workers from other lodges visited individually and were called upon to take part in the work by the proper officer of the lodge, *under whose direction and control* they would do the work. Restricted in this way we see no harm arising from the practice. We ought to have uniformity of work throughout the different jurisdictions, and these visits afford an opportunity for comparison and certainly ought to have a tendency towards securing uniformity.

Two lodges celebrated their one hundredth anniversary, and another its seventy-fifth anniversary, at which evidently very interesting addresses were delivered. They are not given in these Proceedings, but we trust that the lodges will preserve them by publication.

The Grand Master recommended the modification of their doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction substantially to conform to the Maine proposition, and the matter was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, to report next year.

He found that there was a tendency in late years to make changes in the charges given to candidates at the close of the several degrees, and we concur with him in deeming that practice erroneous and not to be allowed. If after the regular charge is given and the work done, the Master sees fit to deliver an additional address, we have no objection, but to undertake to improve the charge, especially that of the third degree, we deem decidedly objectionable, for the reason, if for no other, that the attempted improvement is very likely to come, as the Grand Master says, "in the nature of an anti-climax."

He announces that considerable progress had been made in securing funds for a Masonic Home, and he commends it earnestly to the attention of every mason in the jurisdiction.

The District Deputy Grand Masters all submitted reports giving an account of their visitations in brief terms, confining themselves very closely to describ-

ing the character of the work, the manner in which the books are kept and the condition of the finances, and from them we find that the lodges as a rule are in very good condition, in one district there having been a marked improvement in doing the work.

Under a provision of the Constitution, JOSEPH W. HILDRETH, who had served the Grand Lodge as Grand Marshal for twenty-five years, was elected a permanent member of the Grand Lodge.

Upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, the Constitution was amended by substituting the system of trial by commission for trial by the lodge. Of course the matter of non-payment of dues is not included in this system. That is left to the lodge, as the punishment is limited to suspension from membership, and a brief mode of procedure in such cases is given; but it involves due notice, and an opportunity for a hearing.

We have observed very closely the working of this system in Massachusetts, and so far as we have noticed, it has worked wonderfully well, and we shall continue to observe its workings in our neighboring jurisdiction, whose laws are very much like our own.

In connection with a proposed amendment to the Constitution, we notice that certain Past Grand Officers are permanent members of the Grand Lodge "while they retain their allegiance to this Grand Lodge." In many jurisdictions the phrase is, while they remain a member of a subordinate lodge in the jurisdiction. In this State there is no such qualification. It would seem that in New Hampshire, when a permanent member of the Grand Lodge becomes unaffiliated, he still remains a member of the Grand Lodge.

In a case concerning a conflict of jurisdiction between two lodges, the committee held that a ferry-road and the ferry in connection therewith, is a "traveled way," within the meaning of the Constitution.

The committee on the Washington matter asked to be discharged from any further consideration of it on the ground that the Grand Lodge of Washington had repealed its obnoxious action, and that the opinions promulgated by it were not sufficient to require the severing of fraternal relations.

The Report on Correspondence (147 pp.) was presented as heretofore by Bro. A. S. WAIT.

It is a careful, though somewhat briefer than usual, *résumé* of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges, with comments that render the report a valuable one.

Referring to the decision that the rejection of an applicant for membership prevents the candidate from petitioning again, Bro. WAIT says:

"It is, as we understand it, the law of the masonic institution—until very recent times universally held—that an unaffiliated mason in regular standing with the fraternity as such, is at liberty to apply for membership without reference to lodge or Grand Lodge jurisdictional lines, and that a rejection of such a candidate gives the rejecting lodge no jurisdiction over him. He does not

by his application for affiliation become the *material* of the lodge, as does an applicant for the degrees. His rejection implies no moral unfitness, as in the other case, but leaves him with his masonic character untarnished and unaffected, and his rights not by it impaired. We see no reason why the mischief supposed should follow from such a reception, because the rejecting lodge acquires by its rejection no rights in the candidate and there is nothing from it of which they have a right to complain."

Of ciphers, he says :

"Bro. Smith alludes often to the subject of 'cipher rituals,' and appears to be decidedly opposed to the use of such means of instruction. From any true masonic standpoint we do not see how his reasoning is to be answered. We cannot, however, shut our eyes to a practice to the contrary, which we fear is too extensive and inveterate to be easily gotten rid of."

Referring to the Washington matter, Bro. WAITE says that the later action of that Grand Lodge "has been such as to divest the subject of present practical importance leaving it of interest only as an episode of masonic history."

Referring to the law of Idaho which requires lodges to file charges against unaffiliated masons, he well says :

"We believe this legislation will ultimately be found to be fraught with evil consequences. It is plain from the way the law has been treated that it has not the approval of the craft of the jurisdiction. It is devoutly to be hoped that it will not result in disturbing that harmony and prosperity which the Grand Master assures the brethren was prevailing at his accession to office.

Of a decision of Grand Master LOCKE'S, he says :

"One of the reported decisions of Grand Master Locke strikes us as worthy of especial consideration. We confess that on reading the question propounded our first impression was not in accordance with his conclusion, but in following his reasoning we found our mind acceding to the correctness of his views. The question was, 'Is it contrary to masonic rules to initiate a Catholic into a masonic lodge?'"

The proposition in the first place struck our mind in the same manner for obvious reasons, but after consideration we have felt obliged to come to a conclusion in accordance with the views announced in the decision. We expect to speak of this more specially later on in this report.

Of the charity question, he says :

"Reviewing Idaho, from whence had been expressed some criticisms of the action of the Grand Lodge of Maine in ordering a brother receiving relief to repay the amount when able, Bro. Drummond thinks that a queer kind of *charity*, and we should think him quite right in that impression."

It will be seen by reference to our review of Montana that this idea of refunding seems to be a growing one.

Of the action of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, in refusing to recognize certain masonic bodies, he says :

Bro. Robbins, of Illinois, having induced his Grand Lodge to adopt a report presented by him, in which are named certain Grand Masonic Bodies, recognition of which is to be denied, among them the Grand Lodge of Peru, Bro. Drummond thus very justly, as we think, animadverts :

"We regret very greatly that the Grand Lodge of Illinois should follow our distinguished brother in his peculiar position upon this question. The best commentary upon his position is the fact that all the Grand Lodges, including the British Grand Lodges, with the exception of his own Grand Lodge and possibly one other, recognize very many of the Grand Bodies which he disowns and the masons of their obedience as regular masons."

He cites several other matters from our report, apparently with approval, but as he does not expressly say so, we omit them.

We find at last the real difference between us as to Bro. CHASE's sending back two cases to the lodges on account of manifest inadequacy of the punishment. Bro. WAIT holds that the imposition of manifestly inadequate punishment does not make the trial erroneous; while we hold, in accordance with the law of our Grand Lodge, that the imposition of a manifestly inadequate, or excessive punishment is an error in the trial. This we understand to be the general doctrine in masonic trials. Grand Lodges have often sent cases back to lodges on the ground that the punishment inflicted is manifestly inadequate, with an order that the lodge proceed to assess the punishment. It is true that we think, and have long advocated, that the Grand Lodge should itself fix the punishment in all such cases, whether that fixed by the lodge is deemed inadequate or excessive. But this is by no means the universal rule; but in many jurisdictions the case is sent back to the lodge for further action. But whether the punishment is fixed by the Grand Lodge or it sends the case back, its action is based upon the decision that *there was error in the trial by the lodge*. In the cases in question, Bro. CHASE decided that by reason of the manifest inadequacy of the punishment prescribed by the lodge, there was error in its proceedings, and sent the cases back for further action upon the question of punishment. He did not do what Bro. WAIT erroneously states that he did, "*dictate what judgment it [the lodge] should render,*" but said that the punishment was manifestly inadequate, and ordered the lodge to act again upon that question and fix another penalty. Under that order the lodge had a very wide range, for it could suspend for any length of time it saw fit, suspend indefinitely or expel, and from its action, whatever penalty it might inflict, any member might appeal to the Grand Lodge.

The provision under which Bro. CHASE acted is still a part of our law, and we see in it no despotism on the part of the Grand Master or danger to the rights of the individual mason.

NEW JERSEY, 1901.

Several emergent communications were held for laying corner-stones and other public masonic ceremonies.

The Grand Lodge opened in ample form, performed the ceremonies, returned to the hall, and was closed.

One of the occasions was the dedication of the new infirmary building at the Masonic Home. Very fine addresses were delivered on that occasion.

At the annual communication, officers and members having taken their places, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. After the prayer the opening ode was sung, written for the purpose, but whether for this occasion or not we are unable to tell.

The Grand Master, JOSEPH E. MOORE, after an appropriate opening, announced the death of Queen Victoria and paid a tribute to her memory. He follows this with brief tributes to the dead of his own jurisdiction, with the announcement of deaths in sister jurisdictions. At the end of this part of his address, the quartette sang the "Misere."

There had been various complaints of invasion of jurisdiction, which resulted in the expulsion of some parties who had made false statements in their applications.

Many requests from the neighboring states to waive jurisdiction over candidates and similar ones to those jurisdictions had been made. He announces the granting to New York of sixty-two and a denial of twenty-three, and on the other hand eleven requests to New York had been granted and an equal number to Pennsylvania. While the lodges are called upon to act in all these cases, the requests have to have approval of the Grand Master.

He announces quite a number of cases in which, upon the requests of Grand Masters of other jurisdictions, degrees had been conferred by the New Jersey lodges, and by lodges of other jurisdictions for the New Jersey lodges. This leads us to renew our request for light as to where there is any evidence when this practice first began.

He issued a circular to collect funds for Galveston, and \$5,000 was subscribed, \$3,000 of which was forwarded, and as the balance was not likely to be needed, he recommended that it be set apart as a benevolent fund.

Application had been made to him by the Grand Master of Washington for exchange of representatives, and we copy the following from his reply:

"After careful consideration of the situation and of the report of your committee, adopted by the Grand Lodge of Washington on June 14th last, I am reluctantly compelled to decline your request. This report would lead one to suppose that the issue between the Grand Lodge of Washington and the other American Grand Lodges was solely that of negro Masonry. Nothing could be further from the truth. We have negro members of the fraternity in New Jersey whom we are glad to recognize as brethren in every sense, but they are members of a lodge holding its warrant from the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Jersey. Our differences with the Grand Lodge of Washington arise solely from the fact that it permits brethren within its jurisdiction to hold masonic intercourse with clandestine masons, and thus to violate their masonic obligations. We certainly cannot differ in our definition of a clandestine mason—that he is a member of a body claiming the right to confer the first three degrees of freemasonry, but which does not derive its authority to do so from the Grand Lodge holding jurisdiction over territory in which it is situated. Either, then, Washington recognizes as a regular masonic body the so-

called 'colored Grand Lodge' in Washington, or it authorizes members of its subordinate lodges to hold masonic intercourse with clandestine masons in violation of their masonic obligations.

"In neither case can the Grand Lodge of New Jersey recognize the Grand Lodge of Washington as a regular masonic body. It does not help the case to show that the so-called 'Colored Grand Lodges' have derived their authority to do masonic work from the M. W. Grand Lodge of England. If that Grand Lodge should warrant a subordinate lodge in New Jersey, the members of such lodge would certainly be clandestine masons. Where it seems to me that the Grand Lodge of Washington is in the wrong, is in permitting and encouraging the violation of masonic obligations by the brethren within its jurisdiction. If the Grand Lodge of Washington will open its doors to its colored brethren and gather them within its fold, duly healed from their present clandestine character, I am certain that the Grand Lodge of New Jersey would most gladly resume the relations with your Grand Lodge, now interrupted."

This letter was written before the action last year of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and we certainly hope that it will be satisfactory to our brethren of New Jersey.

A very large number of questions arising under local law, and applications for dispensations, were passed upon by him, patiently and faithfully.

He had been called upon also to decide as to cases of physical eligibility, fifty-two in all, in which he declared thirty-six to be eligible and sixteen ineligible.

Feeling that great care should be taken in the organization of new lodges, he directed that one application should be referred directly to the Grand Lodge, accompanied with a full statement of all the circumstances.

He devotes one page in his address to the improper use of the ballot, it having come to his knowledge that in some cases members of a lodge, controlled by a spirit of vindictiveness and resentment, had adopted a systematic black-balling of all candidates. In reference to this, among other things, he says:

"More than this, even, in one instance the malcontents were so imprudent as to permit themselves to discuss the matters in question in public places, so that in twenty-four hours after the communication of the lodge, its business became public property. This fact of itself would seem to indicate that ignorance of masonic duties and principles was responsible for an unmanly, if not cowardly, use of the ballot; otherwise those brethren would have remembered that as masons they were clothed with the principal tenet of 'truth,' and that 'while influenced by this principle, hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us, sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us.'

"After a careful examination of the cases referred to, I made the brethren aware of the seriousness of their offence, and pointed out the danger to their own lodges, as well as to the craft generally, if such unmasonic conduct continued, and I am glad to say that from that time the black-balling ceased, the attendance resumed its normal proportions and peace and harmony prevailed once more.

"In charity to these offending brethren I am compelled to say that I am sure their action would have been different had they known that, while it is a mason's right to cast his ballot with perfect freedom and untrammelled by inquiry from any source, and that he is answerable to his own conscience

alone; yet he should not allow himself to be governed by any feeling of disappointment, pique or a wish to resent an imaginary injury in casting his ballot. A mason should ever remember that conscientious motives should control his actions in this regard, and that any other but a strict adherence to this line of conduct is unmanly, a violation of his obligations and a menace to the peace and harmony of his lodge."

We gravely doubt whether so gross a violation of masonic law ought to have been passed over without the disciplining of some of the offenders as a warning to others.

The completion of the addition to the Masonic Home and the special contributions by lodges, nearly sufficient to furnish it, were announced.

He announced one bequest, the first in its history, for the benefit of the Home, of \$855.54.

Various other matters came before him, and so many in number that it would seem that as if almost his whole time had been taken up in the discharge of the duties of his office, and the brethren of the craft everywhere are under great obligation to him for the diligent and faithful manner in which their affairs have been administered during the year.

A dispatch was cabled to the Grand Master of England, tendering fraternal sympathy to him in his bereavement by the death of his mother.

The report of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer show a quite prompt payment of dues, and that the finances of the Grand Lodge are in good condition.

The report of the committee on the Home shows that the permanent funds amount to \$19,525.08, including \$1,300 due from the maintenance fund. Without having time to examine the various accounts, it seems to us that the home is in a prosperous condition, with promise of soon being relieved from debt, and of a permanent fund whose income will maintain it.

A fine oration was delivered by Bro. CHAS. A. ALDEN, of New York.

The Grand Lodge of Costa Rica was recognized, but action was postponed upon the application of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia.

The Committee on History report :

"That the historical record of lodges from 1761 to the present time was completed and deposited in the office of the Grand Secretary in the year 1899. These records include every item of importance in reference to the origin and subsequent proceedings of each lodge, together with a full and complete list of the officers and members and a minute of the suspensions, dismissions, deaths and expulsions so far as your committee could ascertain the same."

In the evening of the first day the work of the three degrees was exemplified.

It was announced that another bequest of \$500 had been made to the Grand Lodge, official notice of which had not been received.

At the installation, the quartet sang an installation ode, and a suitable ode on closing.

The Report on Correspondence (172 pp.) was presented by Comp. CHAS. BELCHER. His printer has avoided the error that we noticed in our report

last year, and in consequence the mechanical execution is equal to that of any of the reports which we have received. The report itself is an able and interesting one, made up of carefully written abstracts, with extracts that illustrate and add to the interest, and, we are very glad to see, more frequent comments than characterize his former reports.

In regard to the use of the stereopticon and robes, he well says :

“Both are innovations; the instructive tongue is far more eloquent and impressive than either stereopticon or robes, and the latter savors too much of the vaudeville show to have any standing, place or propriety in our ancient and honorable institution. Let the so-called higher degrees be like Ephraim, ‘Joined to his idols,’ but keep Ancient Craft Masonry free from any such innovations. Let us have none of it.”

In his review of Kentucky, he says :

“The jurisdiction appears to be suffering from non-uniformity of ritual and he suggests the scheme of District Deputy Grand Masters. Those jurisdictions which have adopted this method of disseminating or communicating the ritual, find it works admirably, and we are surprised that our good brethren of Kentucky have not adopted such measures before. No better time, however, than at the commencement of the twentieth century, but do not make the office elective. The Grand Master can and will select the most able brethren, and has every opportunity for wise selection and discrimination. Ability should be the standard, not popularity.

The masons of Maine will endorse this most cheerfully, and there is no doubt at all that there is a better conception of the duties of District Deputy Grand Masters now prevailing in Maine than there has ever been heretofore.

He reviews Maine for 1899 and 1900.

In our review of New Jersey for 1899, we expressed surprise that that Grand Lodge had allowed the issuing of printed notices containing the names of candidates and contemplated masonic work. He quotes what we said, adding :

“In all of which the writer heartily concurs. It is the result of so-called ‘Progressive Masonry’ and advertising heresy.”

Referring to our expression that Grand Master EWAN spent a good deal of time examining cripples, he adds, “It was not wasted.”

He says further :

“We are glad to have the privilege of reviewing Maine this year, a pleasure that was denied us a year ago. To read this report is time well spent and of profit to the reader. It calls to the mind of the writer a pleasant chat with Brother Berry, Grand Secretary, during the summer just passed, and the regret we felt in not being able to do likewise with Brother Drummond.”

The regret was mutual and we were very sorry to miss him, and as soon as we learned that he had called on us, we tried to find him, but it was too late.

He objects to legislation by Grand Lodges in regard to the saloon question but we think that he will hardly apply it here in Maine, because we presume he will acknowledge that a violation of the criminal law of a state is a masonic

offence. But we go further, and hold that it is competent for a Grand Lodge to declare that any practice, which tends to immorality and a violation of the laws of Masonry, is within the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge to denounce as a masonic offence. He thinks such laws savor too much of intolerance to be in strict accord with *Free Masonry*. We do not think that our brother will maintain that "*Free Masonry*" allows a man to violate either masonic, moral or civil law.

There were other matters which we had marked for notice, but we find that our report, as it comes from the printer, is making more printed pages than we expected or intended, and we must therefore curtail.

NEW MEXICO, 1900.

We have the portrait of M. W. ELIAS E. DAY, the retiring Grand Master, and of JOHN B. WOOTTEN, Grand Master in 1882-83.

An emergent communication was held to lay the corner-stone of Science Hall of the New Mexico Baptist College, and of a public school building, two different ceremonies on the same day. They were followed by a banquet in the evening.

At the annual communication the officers took their places, the vacancies being filled by *pro tem.* appointments, and it appearing that a constitutional number of lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Immediately upon the opening of the Grand Lodge, Bro. SEAMON presented the following resolutions, which were referred to the Committee on the Grand Master's Address:

"*Resolved*, That we withdraw our recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Federal District, recognized by us in 1886.

"*Resolved*, That the request of the Gran Dieta for recognition be respectfully declined.

"*Resolved*, That we recognize the United Grand Lodge of Vera Cruz; the Grand Lodge Cosmos, of Chihuahua; the Grand Lodge Santos Degollado, of the Federal District; and the Grand Lodge Hidalgo of the State of Mexico, as legitimate and regularly organized masonic powers within their present defined territorial jurisdictions; that we give them a hearty welcome into the family of Grand Lodges, and that the incoming Grand Master be requested to accomplish the exchange of representations.

Bro. SEAMON also submitted a very interesting report in relation to Masonry in Mexico, which we shall not notice here, but unless our report shall stretch to too great dimensions, we shall consider before closing.

The first and second resolutions, upon the recommendation of the committee, were adopted. The third resolution was not adopted, except as to the Grand Lodge Cosmos of Chihuahua.

Grand Master DAY, in his address, calls attention to the duties of the District

Deputy Grand Masters, saying that he is forced to think that some brothers, who hold that position, are ignorant of what they are supposed to do, and he also criticises the neglect of Secretaries in their duties. The latter ought to be taken up by the Deputies, and we trust that what the Grand Master says, enforced as it was by the committee, will have the proper effect upon those officers.

Of the condition of the craft he says :

“From the reports received it appears that the craft in general in the jurisdiction is in good shape, but there are two lodges in which little or no interest is taken, and it would appear advisable for this Grand Body to look into their condition and whether or not it is advisable to continue them as lodges.”

He gives an extract from the report of his representative at the Washington Centennial, in which that brother says :

“These memorial services, in my opinion, were not only a grand demonstration to the world of the love and reverence of masons generally for the name and memory of George Washington, but will result in great good for our craft as well as the world at large, in that many will be thereby inspired with better and higher ideals, and with greater respect and reverence for the institution of Freemasonry.”

Referring to the fact that he had granted a large number of dispensations for installations out of the regular time, he suggests that lodges ought to be a little more careful, and then adds, very wisely, as we think :

“Or perhaps it might be advisable for the Grand Lodge to devise some law by which these installations out of regular order might take place without a dispensation from the Grand Master. A number of jurisdictions have such provisions in their by-laws.”

He had granted one dispensation for a new lodge, and under peculiar circumstances had granted two dispensations to a lodge, one to ballot on candidates without waiting a month, the other to confer the first degree upon two of those candidates. The committee on his address divided in relation to these dispensations, six of the nine recommending disapproval of them, the other three indorsing them, saying :

“It is a landmark of Masonry that the Grand Master may, in his discretion, grant dispensations to confer the degrees out of time. We believe that when any by-law of this Grand Lodge conflicts with any land-mark, that by-law is inoperative, except in an advisory way for guidance of the Grand Master, he using his discretion in its enforcement. Such by-law can only be an expression of opinion on the part of the Grand Lodge that such dispensations shall be issued with great care.”

The Grand Lodge sustained the minority of the committee, thus placing itself in line with almost all the Grand Lodges in the country.

He announced quite a number of decisions; one of them would be applicable in Maine, if the case should arise.

He decided that when a lodge had conferred the first degree, and then waived jurisdiction over the candidate, and he desires to petition for the other

degrees, in another jurisdiction, he must wait until he had been a resident of that territory twelve months before he could do so.

He also ruled that when a mason petitions for affiliation, stating that he has lost his dimit, and produces a letter from his former lodge that he had had a dimit, but under the law the lodge could not legally issue another, the letter from the lodge takes the place of the dimit.

A curious question arose under their by-laws, absolutely forbidding joint occupancy of a hall, unless a masonic body has absolute control over the hall. A hall was burned and it was impossible for them to procure any other place of meeting except a hall controlled by another order. There was a good deal of correspondence, but the Grand Master felt that he could not give his permission for them to meet in that hall, until finally the other order transferred the control of the hall to the lodge, which sublet it to the real owners! We think that this is another illustration of the folly of tying up matters, especially business matters of the lodges, so strictly.

Of the condition of the craft he says further:

“In my visits to the various lodges I have marked a spirit of unity and fraternity pervading the craft, a desire to be masons in deed, as well as in name, and an earnest wish to acquire the New Mexico ritual perfectly, as soon as possible. Prosperity seems to have been abroad in our territory during the past year, and the lodges as a whole show the result of it, in increased membership, and also in increased attendance. Financially there has been a marked improvement, and lodges which have been in debt for five years or more, have wiped out their indebtedness and have something ahead in their treasuries.”

The Grand Lecturer had visited all the lodges but seven, one of which had surrendered its charter, and he reports quite favorably in relation to the condition in which he found them.

A resolution was adopted permitting a brother suspended for more than a year for non-payment of dues to dimit on payment of arrearages, if restoration to membership is denied him.

Upon the report of the committee, recognition at present was denied to the Grand Lodge of Costa Rica and accorded to the Grand Lodge of Western Australia.

The Grand Secretary complains of the laxity of lodges in making their returns and commented upon it, and the committee approved his comments and recommended that the attention of the representatives of lodges be directed to the by-laws, calling attention also to the fact that it is the duty of the Worshipful Master of the lodge to see that this is done.

A new edition of the masonic law of the Grand Lodge had been issued, and the Grand Secretary acknowledges obligations to the Maine Masonic Text Book for a portion of the ceremonial forms.

The Report on Correspondence (90 pp.) was presented by Bro. W. H.

SEAMON, who takes the place of Bro. MAX FROST, who for eighteen years had done great service to the craft in the performance of this duty.

Bro. SEAMON follows the example which his predecessor had set for him. He gives a very brief abstract, with occasional extracts and pertinent comments. He quotes the queer statement that the "Grand Lodge is a creature of the subordinate lodges and cannot change the organic law without their consent," and he adds :

" We endorse the conservative sentiment of the criticism ; our law requires that a constitutional amendment shall be recommended by three lodges, lie over one year and be printed with the proceedings, and at the next annual communication must receive a two-thirds majority of all the lodges represented. We believe that this gives sufficient safeguard to the subordinate lodges ; they ought to read the proceedings ; ought to discuss the amendments and should instruct their representatives. The old plan was found to be unsatisfactory to the lodges themselves.

The few Grand Lodges that adopted the principle in the quotation, have one by one very generally given it up and returned to the old and true form of masonic government which is that the lodges are creatures of the Grand Lodge.

In regard to another matter he says :

" He objects to the incorporation of lodges, as it makes the lodge amenable to civil law and the lodge may even sue its Grand Master."

This leads us to ask again whether, under our present system of civil law, a lodge is more amenable if incorporated than if not. We desire to keep this question before the fraternity until some one undertakes to give an answer. We are familiar with the jurisprudence of quite a number of the states, and we know of none of them in which a lodge, though not incorporated, may not sue its Grand Master, in any case in which it might do so if incorporated.

He objects very earnestly to the attendance of lodges upon religious services, but we think that he should recognize the doctrine of masonic toleration, if he will allow us to say so, as being especially applicable to a society made up of members of all religions. The denunciation of any particular form of worship or of religious views by any other member is not to be allowed ; but we hold that masonic toleration must allow every member of the lodge, when called upon for any religious service, to perform those services in accordance with his own conscientious views.

In his review of California, he says :

" We are beginning to believe that the crime of non-affiliation should be punished by quartering and hanging the criminal ; such punishment might deter some from leaving the institution. Any milder punishment may be great enough to drive the offender to desperation, and in retaliation he might divulge many of the valuable secrets which are the peculiar property of the fraternity ; we should guard against such an event. We are rapidly losing sight of the great principle of the institution—'charity.' Charity should characterize all of our dealings with each other and with non-affiliates ; such treatment will do

more to reduce the army of non-affiliates than any other act of a Grand Lodge."

We fully agree with him.

He carries the doctrine of charity to the individual mason to an extent we think not justified by the principles of the fraternity. He claims that every mason, unless he has been disciplined, is entitled to masonic burial as a masonic right, and that it is the duty of the lodge to bury him. Such has not been the masonic usage in this section of the country from the earliest times, and we utterly disagree with our brother in his contention, that the Institution cannot be injured by so doing. We may lean to the side of charity but we cannot subvert masonic principles to the utter disgrace of the Institution for its sake. If carried to its fullest extent, a lodge would never expel a mason for unmasonic conduct, except, perhaps, for the violation of mere technical masonic law, when the violation of the moral law is a good deal more unmasonic.

In his review of Indiana he says :

"Some day Pennsylvania will be content to permit other Grand Jurisdictions to legislate for themselves concerning the character of the material they use."

This we gravely doubt. We think the day is very far distant when almost any Grand Lodge will be content to have a mason expelled by one of its lodges, made a mason in another jurisdiction—at any rate, content to recognize the legality of such making; and the law of Pennsylvania in relation to rejection is precisely the same as its law in regard to expulsion in this respect, and very many of the other Grand Lodges hold to the same principle.

He reviews Maine for 1899 and 1900.

Referring to the Washington matter, he says :

"Bro. Drummond contends that Prince Hall never claimed to possess the powers of a Provincial Grand Master, and although he may have exercised these powers, he never possessed them. As brother Upton, in his article on Negro Masonry only asserts, 'Brother Prince Hall, a man of exceptional ability, worked zealously in the cause of Masonry, and from 1792 until his death in 1807, exercised all the functions of a Provincial Grand Master,' there can be no doubt that all acts of Prince Hall were irregular and without masonic authority, consequently he and his lodges were and are clandestine."

An examination of what Prince Hall did will show that *he never pretended to exercise the powers of a Provincial Grand Master.* In the creation of other lodges, it was done *by the authority of his lodge* and he signed the paper as *Worshipful Master of the lodge.* It can be just as well said that he undertook to exercise the powers of a Grand Master as that he undertook to exercise those of a Provincial Grand Master. Bro. UPTON's statement which our brother has quoted is utterly erroneous.

Referring to our criticisms of the case in which a Grand Master made a mason at sight, and the Grand Lodge declared his action void but confirmed the work, he says :

"He charges us with inconsistency when we disapproved the action of the Grand Master of Nebraska in making a mason of his son at sight and approved the action of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska when it ordered that the irregularly made brother should be healed and pass the ordeal of the ballot. We must confess that we are unable to see the inconsistency."

We understand that the action of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska was based upon its law that a petition must lie over a given length of time and be acted upon in a given way, and that it decided that the action of the Grand Master was void because this law was not followed, and then it proceeded to prescribe what should be done, and that the course which it did prescribe was not in accordance with the law to which we have referred; and we hold that in undertaking to heal the brother it just as much violated its Constitution as it claims that the Grand Master did.

He holds that the requirement that a visitor shall not be admitted unless he produces a receipt for dues, is in violation of the old masonic law, and we agree with him. We have seen, however, that in some jurisdictions they not only require a receipt but require the receipt to bear the seal of the lodge!

We would like to follow our brother through this report, but space forbids.

NEW YORK, 1900.

We have a volume of nearly seven hundred pages, nearly all of it printed in very fine type. Of course it will be impossible to review it, and we can hardly expect to do more than to refer to some of the things which are in it.

It contains portraits of the retiring Grand Master, WRIGHT D. POWNALL, and of ROBERT R. LIVINGSTONE, Grand Master in the early days of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Officers took their places, and it having been ascertained that a constitutional number of lodges were present, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Grand Master MOORE, of New Jersey, and several Past Grand Masters of that Grand Lodge, and Past Grand Master HENDERSON, of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, were present as visitors. It has become quite a custom with the three Grand Lodges named to visit each other, and we deem the practice an exceedingly good one, and wish it would be more generally adopted.

By a change in its Constitution, the Grand Lodge of New York meets on the same day on which our own Grand Lodge meets, the first Tuesday in May.

Grand Master POWNALL, in his able and well written address, gives a summary of the numerical and financial strength, from which it appears that the membership in good standing is 101,548. This is the first time that the one hundred thousand mark has been reached by this Grand Lodge, and we believe that it stands alone in that distinction.

The financial exhibit is an exceedingly good one, as well as that of the Home, the total investment in which approximates \$400,000.

Of the state of the craft, he says:

“Where peace abides, love vanquishes hate, and discord yields to harmony; the voice of factious opposition is silenced, and co-operation is the directing genius by which our powers are multiplied and comfort and happiness are diffused among the mass of the people. Our heavenly Father with infinite compassion, has heard and answered the craftsman’s prayer, ‘Let brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us. We have inherited and conserved an honorable peace. We have dwelt in harmony and wrought in unity. And when the historian shall review the labors and the triumphs of our fraternity during the closing year of the nineteenth century, he will write that never in its history has the craft in this State been more united, never have its aims been higher nor its ideals loftier, and never has its efficiency been greater for the performance of labors which may tend to the glory of our ‘beloved Master,’ and the exaltation of his Holy Name.”

At this point in his address he called up the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Chaplain offered a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

The list of the dead is a long one, and we give the names of only a part of them who were well known beyond their jurisdiction. Among them were GEORGE H. RAYMOND, for twenty-seven years Grand Lecturer, and since his active duties terminated, Grand Lecturer *Emeritus*; CHARLES SACKREUTER, who for many years has prepared the Report on Correspondence for the Foreign Grand Lodges, and the Grand Master well says that the craft of this hemisphere is greatly indebted to him; FREDERICK W. HERRING, Past Grand Marshal, son of the late Grand Secretary JAMES HERRING; OSCAR COLES, Past Grand Master, one of the oldest, if not the Senior; WILLIAM HOWES SMITH, Representative of our Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of New York, a man highly respected and beloved in the community in which he lived, and an ardent and zealous mason; CHARLES E. IDE, Past Senior Grand Warden, by whose death the fraternity throughout the country sustained a great loss, as he had scarcely entered upon a career, which, from his previous history, would have been a brilliant one, and whose death comes home to us as a severe personal affliction; and JEROME BUCK, Past District Deputy Grand Master, well known as a writer, and well described “as a mason of the old school, fervent in his devotion to the institution, active in his efforts to promote its welfare and eloquent in his advocacy of its principles.”

After the Grand Master had announced these deaths, he called up the Grand Lodge, and the members remained standing while the Grand Secretary called the roll of “the honored and fraternal dead,” including not only those of New York, but brethren in other jurisdictions of whose death the Grand Master had received official notice.

He gives a list of his dispensations, the large majority of which were to install officers. We make the same suggestion which we have already made, that the necessity for asking and obtaining such dispensations may well be dispensed with by proper provision in the by-laws.

Among the Representatives accredited to the Grand Lodge is that of GEORGE A. BENTON, Representative of this Grand Lodge, who was not present, but sent in an excuse, and was excused.

He pays a deserved tribute to the labor of the historian, R. W. Bro. PETER ROSS, whose labors in this respect have been of great value to the craft.

We are also delighted to learn that the Grand Librarian, R. W. Bro. ALEXANDER A. CLARK, has, during the year, inspected the volumes in the Grand Lodge library, eliminated the duplicates and filled blanks and revised the card catalogue.

A large number of applications for new lodges had been made, but a close examination of all the circumstances compelled him to decline all save two.

A member of a lodge had been expelled for unmasonic conduct, and he brought an action in the Supreme Court for re-instatement and restoration. But the court held that as he had been expelled and his expulsion confirmed by the Grand Lodge, that was final, and his complaint was dismissed. The opinion of the court is given in these Proceedings.

We believe we noted last year that this Grand Lodge was not represented at the Washington Centennial Exercises. During the session, the Grand Master called a brother to the chair and made a statement of the reasons why the Grand Lodge was not represented, and his action was unanimously approved, but the reasons given are not stated.

He issued, however, a circular to the lodges, suggesting an observance of the day, and there was a very general observance of it by the lodges in the state, with addresses and appropriate ceremonies. Nearly two hundred pages of this volume is given to a report of them.

He regrets to be obliged to announce that he had not been able to rescind the edict in relation to the Grand Lodge of Washington, partly because the latter Grand Lodge had rescinded its edict against the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and had postponed action upon a proposition to restore it. He was hoping, however, that it would be restored at the session of that Grand Lodge in 1900, but as we remember, action upon the proposition was still further postponed.

He had a very curious case growing out of the conflict of law in his jurisdiction and that of Pennsylvania. The effect of a rejection in New York is now limited to one year. A candidate, who had been rejected some two or three years previously, applied to a lodge in Pennsylvania, and the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, in accordance with its laws, wrote to him requesting him to inquire of the New York lodge whether it had "any masonic objection" to the acceptance of the petitioner by the Pennsylvania lodge. Grand Master POWNAL of course replied, that by the removal of the party from the State and the expiration of one year from the time of his rejection,

the lodge could legally take no action upon it, but suggests that the matter remain the same as if he had never been rejected.

The Grand Master says :

"I gave him the assurance of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York that there was no objection within the State of New York to the initiation of the petitioner into a lodge in the State of Pennsylvania, and pointed out that the assurance was given him by virtue of the constitutional provisions of the Grand Lodge of New York."

But the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, holding, as we think, more strictly to the *letter* of the law than the *spirit*, held, that under these circumstances, the Pennsylvania lodge could not receive its petition.

The Grand Secretary reports that 677 lodges have paid up their tax on account of the Hall and Asylum Fund, leaving 36 who are still required to pay fifty cents *per capita* annually.

The report in relation to the Home shows that it has been filled, and that an addition, that has been made to it, is likely to be filled in the near future. It seems to be in a very prosperous condition. The current expenses of the Home show a *per capita* cost for each inmate of \$185.81 a year. The reserve amounts to over \$200,000. The plant has cost about \$400,000.

As already stated, the Grand Librarian has been very active in the discharge of his duties, and he has caused the library to be opened Saturday afternoons from 1.30 to 5.30, a privilege which has evidently been highly appreciated by the craft.

The German Masonic Home, at Tappan, reports eighteen inmates and appears to be in a flourishing financial condition.

The Historian, R. W. Bro. PETER ROSS, had devoted much time during the year to ascertain the members of the craft in New York who took part in the Revolutionary War, and in his report he gives some items of history very valuable for the masonic student, together with a list of 225 names of masons who had taken part in the war. He was disappointed that he was not able to make it larger because he was satisfied that there were really more than three times that number.

A special committee also reported the names of brethren who had taken part in the Spanish War, and they are published in these Proceedings.

The visitors from New Jersey addressed the Grand Lodge, to the great satisfaction of its members.

A cut of the monument erected to Past Grand Master JOHN L. LEWIS is given. We are more than glad to note the completion of this enterprise for Bro. LEWIS was a central figure not only in the Masonry of New York, but of the whole country.

The Grand Master called attention to the recent disastrous fire at Ottawa, and recommended that \$2,000 be appropriated and forwarded at once. The

Committee on Finance approved the recommendation, and it was unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge by a rising vote.

The question of jurisdiction in our large cities has come to be an important one, and we quote the provision which was adopted at the present session in relation thereto. It will be noted that it is substantially the same as this Grand Lodge has adopted in the case of Portland, and what used to be Deering:

"The jurisdiction of a lodge over candidates for initiation extends over all persons residing nearer to it by an air line than to any other lodge within this jurisdiction, except that if there be more than one lodge in a village or city, those lodges shall have equal jurisdiction except in the city of New York. The local jurisdiction of a lodge in the Boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn in the city of New York shall embrace all candidates who reside in the territory included within those boroughs respectively. Lodges in the Boroughs of Queens, Richmond, and the Bronx shall have the same jurisdiction as they had before the first day of January, 1898."

In order to ascertain whether the Home has been economically managed, the committee had obtained the figures in relation to twelve State institutions of a similar character, and the average *per capita* cost in those for 1899 was \$211.05, and the committee add:

"When we consider that the inmates of the Masonic Home are our brethren, members of our own household, and not to be classed as paupers or criminals, and yet show that they are well fed, well cared for, well clothed, and happy, at considerably less expense than the pauper institutions of the State, your committee feel that the Fraternity is to be congratulated, and that the money it has raised for this noble institution has been carefully, judiciously, and economically administered."

The committee recommended that a special building or addition to the building should be made, whereby the children will be taken care of separately from the others.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, through Past Grand Master ANTHONY, made a brief special report on the Washington matter, dissenting utterly from the views presented by that Grand Lodge, and commending the action of the Grand Master, and leaving full authority for the Grand Master elect to take any steps which he might find necessary to maintain the dignity of the Grand Lodge of New York. When the committee wrote the report, they had hopes that the Hamburg matter would be settled at the session of the Grand Lodge of Washington in June, 1900, but this, as we have seen, was not done, as the matter went over for another year.

A candidate who had been several times rejected, and was finally made a mason, upon the statement that he had been rejected once about seven years before, was tried and expelled by the Trial Commissioners, and their action was sustained by the Grand Lodge.

A fine portrait of Past Grand Master WRIGHT D. POWNALL was presented to the Grand Lodge, after the installation of his successor, in behalf of Chancellor Walworth Lodge, and accepted by it with thanks.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters are brief, and do not embrace a report upon each lodge, but they are of a general character, and as a whole show that the lodges were in good condition in every respect.

The Report on Correspondence (162 pp.) was presented by Bro. JESSE B. ANTHONY. In consequence of the change in the time of holding the session of the Grand Lodge, he had not received the Proceedings of thirteen Grand Lodges in season to review them.

He gives his usual valuable abstract, with interesting comments.

Of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, he says:

“While it is extremely unfortunate that our brethren of Washington could not have unequivocally repealed their action of 1898, without any provisos, yet it may not be prudently held, that the promulgation of certain principles will amount to nothing unless under them unmasonic application is made? Governed by its expressed adherence to the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction, it is not apparent to us that any overt act can or will be committed by our brethren of Washington. We think it politic to accept the intent of the declaration by the Grand Lodge of Washington, viz: the repeal of its former action recognizing negro masons, lodges, and Grand Lodges, leaving for future consideration the effect of the principles promulgated.”

* * * * *

“It is plain to be seen that the unsatisfactory nature of the declaration of the Grand Lodge of Washington (1899) in that, while repealing resolutions two and three, adopted in 1898, and, at the same time, re-affirming a principle, which, if carried into effect, would again re-establish the position held in 1898, will not be regarded with favor by a majority of the Grand Lodges, and more especially those which had, previous to June, 1899, severed masonic intercourse. The Grand Lodge of Washington must fully withdraw from the untenable position assumed, honestly and fully accept the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and freely accord to all Grand Lodges their authority to supreme control over all masons and lodges within their several jurisdictions, and also their right to define the status of all persons and bodies professing to be masonic in character, which are located within their territorial boundaries. This right is unquestionable and must be so held and regarded by all Grand Lodges.”

Of course we agree with him, but we would emphasize a little more strongly the idea that before suspending masonic relations there should be an overt act.

In relation to the principle of the Maine proposition, he says:

“We will not discuss the principle of civil law enunciated, for the strict application thereof might have unsatisfactory results in some instances. We admit that each Grand Lodge legislates for those within its jurisdictional lines, but that fact would not prevent the establishment of a common understanding between Grand Lodges of giving the same force to a rejection within its jurisdiction, as held by the Grand Lodge, within whose jurisdiction the rejection originally occurred. It appears to us that this would be in recognition of the law and regulations of any Grand Lodge holding to the principle of perpetual jurisdiction and preserve a comity of feeling between all Grand Bodies. The preservation of harmonious relations is of vital importance and should override any technical objection.”

In his review of Maine, he thus speaks of the address of Grand Master LOCKE:

“The Grand Master, in his presentation of the Washington matter, gave prominence to the fact that the laws and regulations established by each Grand Lodge for the government of their subordinate bodies, and the membership owing obedience thereto, had been gradually growing nearer and nearer to each other. ‘The comity existing between the several Grand Lodges in this country has always held that a person hailing from an irregular or clandestine lodge in any state should not be recognized or received as a mason by any lodge in another state.’ His reply to the circular letter of Jan. 4, issued by M. W. Bro. Upton, most effectually controverted the claims advanced by the Grand Master of Washington.”

As we stated in the beginning of this review, it is utterly impossible to notice all the points of interest in this immense volume, and we have not been able to carry out, as fully as we desired, our plan to tell what there is in it.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1901.

We have a portrait of M. W. BRO. HORACE H. MUNSON, Grand Master in 1876 and 1877, and of JOHN W. GIDNEY, Past Senior Grand Deacon and a very active mason, serving as Master of his lodge for more than fifteen years and holding various offices in the Grand Lodge and standing high in the community. In the death of Bro. MUNSON the craft everywhere suffered a loss. We have known him well through his service as a mason for over thirty years, and we fully indorse what the Grand Master says of him :

“Brother Munson’s devotion to Masonry and its teachings won for him the confidence, respect and love of all who knew him, and, as a mark of the appreciation of his valuable services, he received the highest honors at the hands of the brethren. We were all familiar with his genial face, kindly disposition and wise suggestions. He will be sadly missed in our councils. It is but meet that we should make a permanent record of our estimation of him as a citizen, friend, companion and brother.”

The brethren convened in the Masonic Hall, and it appearing that a constitutional number of lodges were represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Grand Master, B. S. ROYSTER, thus speaks of the state of the craft :

“With but few exceptions, earnest and hearty co-operation has been the watchword among the lodges. We have increased in numbers to a gratifying extent. The report of the Grand Secretary for last year showed 311 lodges, with an aggregate membership of 11,360. There has been an increase of 9 in the number of lodges and a gain of 277 in membership.

“I regard this as evidence of increased interest in what it means to be a mason in North Carolina.”

We are greatly gratified to find evidence all through this volume of the increased prosperity of the craft in that jurisdiction.

He had made quite a number of decisions. Among them one that an E. A. cannot take the remaining degrees in another lodge except by the unanimous consent of the lodge in which he was elected, and that he can make application for these degrees at any time; in the particular case eight years had elapsed.

He decided that a party who had lost two fingers of his left hand is not thereby ineligible to the degrees of Masonry; but he also held in substance that artificial appliances cannot supply a defect which otherwise would render him ineligible.

He also made the following decision, which was approved by the Grand Lodge:

"A lodge has no right to assess its members for the purpose of building a hall, and if a member refuses to pay such assessment the lodge would have no right to exclude him."

We think this is in accordance with masonic law, but if a lodge builds a hall and runs in debt for it, we presume that under the civil law in that state, all the members would be holden as partners to pay any debt contracted in building it, and members would be liable to be assessed practically under the civil law if not under the masonic law.

In that jurisdiction the Master alone passes upon the proficiency of candidates.

He says further:

"It is but proper in this connection that I call to your attention that portion of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York which refers to North Carolina. If we are in error, as the brother seems to charge, it is but proper that the same be corrected as early as possible."

From the report of the committee we understand that this refers to the fact that in 1865 the then Grand Master criticised the Grand Lodge of New York for the establishing of negro lodges in North Carolina. The criticism was based upon a blunder growing out of the want of information by the Grand Master, as the pretended Grand Lodge of New York which established those lodges was the negro Grand Lodge and not the regular Grand Lodge. We noticed this in our report at the time and stated what the facts were, and that the Grand Master of North Carolina had acted under an erroneous impression, and the information evidently came to him from other sources; and full statements and explanations were made and an apology offered which we supposed closed the incident forever. But we find that the report of the committee on the Grand Master's address in 1899 referred to this criticism of Grand Master READE'S. The reference is unfortunate, although by the use of the word "alleged" the criticism is not really repeated; we regret that the matter should have been revived by the North Carolina committee, as it required some notice by the New York committee; but the Grand Lodge of North Carolina had not the slightest intention of renewing the mistaken charge of Grand Master READE'S, but evidently only intended to endorse his sentiments in relation to the matter, if it had been true, and we sincerely hope that the frank report of the North Carolina committee this year will absolutely "close the incident."

Grand Master ROYSTER speaks in high terms of the good that has been done by the Oxford Orphan Asylum, but he calls attention to the fact that there is a deficit in meeting the generous offer of Mr. DUKE, which was accepted by the Grand Lodge. Mr. Duke gave a sum of money for the purpose upon condition that the Grand Lodge should do something further, but it apparently has failed to fulfill it entirely, and that is the deficit to which the Grand Master alludes. The Grand Lodge voted to borrow \$2,500 to meet it, payable \$500 annually.

The Grand Secretary is pleased to report progress in the promptness and accuracy in which returns are made, and in this connection well says:

"A lodge is always active and healthy as long as it is in a good financial condition, but as soon as it falls behind in the payment of its dues to the Grand Lodge its members become lukewarm and inactive, take but little interest in the welfare of the lodge, and they soon fall behind in the payment of their individual dues. This soon brings about a non-attendance upon the meetings of the lodge, and the lodge ceases to be a benefit and blessing in the community and will soon cease to exist."

If he does not succeed in securing prompt returns it will not be his fault.

The Grand Librarian makes an earnest appeal for contributions to the Grand Lodge library.

During the evening of the first day, Hiram Lodge celebrated its centennial, and an exceedingly valuable history, by Past Grand Master JOHN NICHOLS, is published with these Proceedings, and we are glad to find that it was also published separately, as it deserves a place among the historical documents of every masonic library.

The reports, etc., in relation to the Oxford Home take up more than twenty pages of the Proceedings; they show that it is doing a splendid work.

We find upon examination of the report of the committee, that certain decisions of the Grand Master were modified. The Constitution requires that a candidate shall have resided twelve months within the jurisdiction of a lodge to which he applies before his application can be received; and the Grand Master decided that when a man moves about from the jurisdiction of one lodge into the jurisdiction of another, although they are contiguous, still he must reside within the jurisdiction to which he applies twelve months before his petition can be received. To these decisions the committee add, "unless written permission shall be granted by the lodge from whose jurisdiction the candidate has removed." We object to this addition, as in direct violation of the law of territorial jurisdiction. After a candidate removes, the lodge from whose jurisdiction he has removed, loses all claim to him and has no right, under the general law of Masonry, to give any "permission" whatever. The requirement of twelve months is undoubtedly in order that the lodge to which he applies may have some direct knowledge of the candidate, and if the word "permission" should be changed to "recommendation" there would not be

so much objection to it. Our views are in agreement with the decisions of the vast majority of the Grand Lodges, and the case between New York and Pennsylvania, to which we referred in our review of the former, illustrates our position.

A large number of special communications of the Grand Lodge were held for the laying of foundation stones and other masonic work. In addition, St. John's Day was celebrated at the Oxford Home, on which occasion Bro. A. M. WADDELL delivered a fine address.

The Report on Correspondence (154 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN A. COLLINS. As before, he gives a very fine abstract of the proceedings, with occasional comments. In his introduction he hopes that "the rank and file of the Fraternity will get in the habit of glancing over these reports, not for any merit in the compilation, but for the broadening and elevating influences which arise from seeing the good works of our brethren all over the world."

He concludes that it is wisdom to go very slowly in granting recognition to the Grand Dieta.

Of one matter he says:

"Perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates is a subject to which renewed attention is given, and the sentiment is growing that a time limit of five years or less is more just and masonic, and should be adopted."

He thinks that the efforts to lessen the number of the army of non-affiliates has produced no appreciable effect, and it seems probable that as Masonry grows in number so will non-affiliates.

He utters the following word of caution, in which we fully agree;

"The most surprising evolution in the craft within the last few years is the new zeal for the building of Masonic Homes for the care of aged and indigent masons, their widows and orphans. Many comparatively poor Grand Lodges have taken steps looking to the establishment of a Home or of creating a fund to be used in the future for the erection and maintenance of such a charity. The growth of this sentiment has become almost a fad, and is a wide departure from the old and well-known ways of dispensing masonic relief, but if any Grand Lodge is willing to build a costly Home and maintain it, the other Grand Lodges will applaud the benefaction, albeit not endorsing the plan."

We devote the most of our space to the following from his review of Maine, replying to what we wrote last year in relation to a ruling of Grand Master LOCKE:

"We thankfully accept Bro. Drummond's more correct phrase 'new disqualification,' but we are still unable to see any sound masonic reason for the opinion of the Grand Master. All the world knows that the Roman Catholic Church is and has been, and in the nature of things, will always be, an uncompromising enemy to Masonry. No matter who the Pope, Cardinal or Priest, the Church is hostile openly or covertly, as policy may dictate, to any organization that permits the freedom of conscience and of religious belief accorded by the masonic Fraternity. The Roman Catholic who wishes to become a mason knows that as soon as he presents his petition to a lodge he

is, *ipso facto*, excommunicated from affiliation with the Church and its people and denied burial—Christian burial—in any Catholic cemetery. When such a man petitions to become a worshipper at the shrine of Masonry he offers the strongest possible protest to the infallibility of Popes and to the reign of the Priests; and he is a not a Catholic, and is not so considered by the Church—he is henceforth only an apostate and outcast. If Grand Master Locke had been better informed as to the unvarying policy of the Catholic Church in reference to the quondam nominal member, he would not have written the concluding sentence—‘on this account, if the applicant is a Roman Catholic, I should deem it advisable not to receive his application.’ This sentence implies a contingency which involves the most violent contradiction of terms. He could not be a Catholic; if he were, he would never be made a mason, or ask to be made one. Supposing that this Catholic, who is not a Catholic at all, should be made a mason and afterwards repudiate the obligations assumed at the altar of Masonry, and be willing to disclose *all the secrets* in his possession, what secrets could he give away to the hurt of the craft? Ciphers with the stamp of authority of some Grand Lodges can be procured in the open market at a small price, and any man, priest or layman, may secure as many of them as he wants.

“Why dread the *possible* treason of one supposed to be a Roman Catholic and have no fear of any other religionist? Although there is a suspicion of sectarianism in the decision of Grand Master Locke and in the cautious phraseology of the Jurisprudence Committee, the Grand Master and the committee will find that this expressed hostility to one sect only—we will not call it bigotry—is just the kind of action which will receive its most unqualified endorsement from the officials of the Catholic Church in the State of Maine.

“We do not intend ‘to carry coals to Newcastle,’ and for that reason do not advert to the objections found in the genius and spirit and dogma of Masonry, but we do express the hope that Grand Lodge will recede from this dangerous position and cease to give aid and comfort to the most masterful, untiring and unscrupulous enemy of Masonry in the whole world—the Roman Catholic Church.”

There are in the city of Bro. LOCKE's residence several thousand Catholics, several churches, and it has been the home of a Bishop for many years. With due deference to our brother, we are forced to conclude that Bro. LOCKE, who wrote for this jurisdiction, understood the matter of which he was writing better than our brother does. As we understand the matter, he is utterly wrong in his statement about *ipso facto* excommunication. We know that a few Grand Lodges have self-exacting laws, but outside of them we know of no such laws in any form of government of any kind; and we are informed on the best authority that the penalty of excommunication is never inflicted unless by special order and decree by those in authority. We do know that in at least one case here in Maine a Catholic was refused, on his death bed, absolution unless and until he renounced Masonry. However, Bro. LOCKE's remarks would not apply in any case according to our brother's theory, for if a candidate avowedly renounces his religion before or by joining the masons, he is no longer a Catholic and the ruling would not apply. But however it may be in other sections of the country, in this section a Catholic who applies to become a mason expects and intends to continue a Catholic, or to pretend to, just the same as if he had not become a mason, and it was in reference to this class that Bro. LOCKE made his ruling.

We object also in regard to our brother's statement in regard to ciphers. We doubt the correctness of it. In fact we know of no jurisdiction in which the statement is true. A few Grand Lodges have ciphers, it is true, but their use is by law directly limited and they cannot be procured "with the stamp of authority," as stated by our brother. But this is not our main objection to his argument. The logical effect of his argument is that on account of that fact it is of no consequence whether the secrets of Freemasonry are kept by masons or not. Two wrongs do not make a right. Now we desire to assure our good brother that there is no bigotry nor sectarianism in this, because we have authority upon which we fully believe we can rely, that if a Catholic joins the masons he will not be excommunicated therefor, necessarily, but will be allowed time for choosing which he will renounce, his religion or Masonry; and we do not believe that it is good policy to accept a man for a mason who will be placed in such a predicament. If he is ready to renounce his religion let him do so in advance and not undertake to serve two masters.

In the appendix is given an account of the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of Hiram Lodge.

We had intended to quote very fully from the historical address by Past Grand Master JOHN NICHOLS, but are obliged to forego very largely our intention.

When he comes to the time of the Civil War, his account of what happened in Raleigh is of the most intense interest. There were several hospitals in that city where sick and wounded men were brought for treatment. Many of these were masons. When they made themselves known as such or were found out to be such, they received attention from their brethren. Many died and their brethren laid them away with loving hands. There was an association there known only to masons, and called the Masons' Relief Association. It was part of their rules that federal soldiers who were masons should receive the same attention as the confederate soldiers, whenever it was possible to reach them.

He gives an interesting incident of the case of one federal prisoner, whom after the war he met in New York.

The day when federal troops occupied Raleigh was one of intense anxiety.

Bro. NICHOLS says :

"There was hope, fear and rejoicing on that never-to-be-forgotten Thursday morning. Hope that the city would be saved from destruction; fear that some overt act might be committed by some rash or unthinking person that would provoke the wrath of the enemy and jeopardize the lives and property of the people; rejoicing by those who had grown sick and weary of the prolonged war and yearned for peace."

He, with another man, applied to the Provost Marshal for the protection of the masonic lodges, but the officer was not a mason and he questioned them for their reasons. While discussing the matter with him, a young officer, a

Major, asked the Provost Marshal to assign to him the protection of the property of the masons in the city, and his request was granted, and measures looking in that direction were taken. Of what followed, he says:

"On Friday night, the 14th of April, 1865, the saddest calamity that ever befell the American people occurred in the city of Washington. It was the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States. The following Monday evening, April 17th, was the regular meeting of Hiram Lodge, No. 40. There were present at this meeting quite a number of Federal officers—masons of course—and among them was the young Major who had interested himself in giving us a guard for the protection of our property.

"The news of the assassination had reached Raleigh late in the afternoon of that day, and it caused a profound sensation among the Federal troops. About dark there was a restlessness and spirit of insubordination manifested among the soldiers, and a riot was feared by the officers in command. In order to prevent such a calamity the guards at every street crossing were doubled, and messengers were sent up and down the streets to every place where the people might have assembled to warn them to at once disperse and repair to their homes. Hiram Lodge had just opened for business. Suddenly we heard the hasty footsteps of some one ascending the stairs to the hall, and the low clanking of the sword of an officer. There was a rapid knock at the door, and I was requested to go to the ante-room. There I met a Federal Captain (a mason as I afterwards learned),* who hurriedly told me of the excitement among the soldiers in camp and suggested that the lodge be closed and that the members go to their homes at once. Orders were promptly obeyed.

"There are a few masons still living, perhaps some present this evening, who remember that terrible night. I say terrible night because the impending danger of riot, murder and burning of the city was feared by every one who understood the condition of affairs. The wise and prudent management and strict discipline of the Federal officers prevented what might have been a calamity of most serious consequences."

* This officer was Capt. W. C. Whitten, 9th Maine Regiment."

Later on he met in Washington a gentleman who turned out to be the Major who assisted them. He was then a member of Congress, and since Minister to China, and his name is EDWIN H. CONGER.

As we have already said, there is much more that I would like to copy, especially in relation to this portion of the history of this lodge, for we have rarely met a greater exemplification of the carrying out of the true principles of our Institution than was done in that city by our North Carolina brethren.

NORTH DAKOTA, 1900.

We have a portrait of M. W. Bro. JOHN A. PERCIVAL, the retiring Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary reported that a constitutional number of lodges were represented and the Grand Master opened the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Credentials was then appointed, but as they apparently made their report immediately, it is presumed that the report had really been made up in advance.

Grand Master PERCIVAL, in his address, congratulates his brethren upon the progress which his state had made during the past few years; and of the condition of the craft, he says :

“The past year has been one of general prosperity to the craft within this jurisdiction, and a great interest is manifest among the brethren. The officers of the several lodges are zealous and earnest in their work, and the brethren are enthusiastic and show great interest in the welfare and prosperity of our beloved Order.”

He had granted seven dispensations for new lodges, which returned their dispensations, and to each one of them a charter was granted.

He gives in his address the report of M. W. Bro. WILLIAM T. PERKINS, P. G. M., the delegate to the Washington Centennial Exercises. In common with all others, Bro. PERKINS speaks in high terms of the courtesy and hospitality of our Virginian brethren and of the impressive manner in which the ceremonies were performed.

The five lodges to which charters had been granted the year before had all been constituted by the Grand Master or his Deputy.

The tribute to the Grand Secretary is so well deserved that we copy it :

“I am under great obligations to our Grand Secretary for his valuable assistance. Too much credit cannot be bestowed upon him for his economical management of the Grand Lodge business. To him we are indebted for our most excellent Library and for the valuable Grand Lodge Register. This alone is worth many times its cost, containing as it does, the masonic history of every member of the subordinate lodges from their existence to the present time. I trust the Grand Lodge will deal liberally with this office in appropriating sufficient funds to assist the Grand Secretary in his work, and to obtain large additions to the Library.”

The Grand Secretary's report shows that the returns of the lodges were made in good time, but that they involved a very large amount of correspondence, apparently consequent upon the adoption of the card system and the method of keeping the register. He believes, however, that this difficulty will not exist to any great degree in the future.

The Grand Lodge provided a card tray for each lodge, in which the cards containing the membership of that lodge were put, and they together with the index books transmitted to each lodge, for which it was to pay at the rate of five cents for each card and the actual cost of the other articles furnished, and the Grand Secretary had received from this source an amount of \$562.32.

He reported also returns made from the Military Lodge U. D. in the Philippine Islands. They returned \$728.45 in cash, from which had been deducted \$30, for fees not earned by the Military Lodge and returned. He had printed a formal waiver of jurisdiction and issued it, on application, to all who had been elected in the Military Lodge, and who desired to complete the degrees.

The visiting book of the lodge was turned over to the Grand Lodge, in which were recorded the names of brothers from almost all parts of the world.

He reports additions to the library, although but little attention had been paid during the year to it, but he hoped that the next year the library would be used and arranged so as to be seen in its entirety.

He had had charge during the year of fitting up the new offices of the Grand Secretary, and had spent considerable time in this service; but we judge that his preference would be to do the work of the Grand Secretary's office than to have another similar experience himself!

The Grand Lecturer had had a "school" in 34 lodges and 13 districts, so that 47 out of 55 lodges had had the advantage of one of these schools, and he believes that they were profitable for the craft.

The matter of the most interest, not only to masons, but to all citizens who take an interest in public events, was the report of the Master of the Military Lodge. Although the regiment remained some time in San Francisco, of course the lodge was not opened until they arrived at Manila, and as the regiment was called into active service at once, it was not until August 21, 1898, that a meeting was held for organization, and then, practically, meetings were held every Wednesday and Sunday, and were largely attended as well as very enthusiastic.

The Templar toast was drank on Christmas Day with about twenty-five Sir Knights in attendance.

He reports that there was formerly a masonic lodge in Manila, but the church and government antagonized it and it was finally obliged to succumb. There was a society, however, among the natives which used many of our emblems and means of recognition, and it required considerable care to distinguish them from regular masons.

They had one hundred applications and were obliged to refuse many others on account of lack of time to give them attention. They were unable to confer the third degree, for when they were preparing to do it, the regiment was called into the field. They conferred the first degree on ninety-one candidates, the second degree on sixty-two, and twenty-three brethren joined by affiliation. One meeting of the lodge was interrupted by an attack of the insurgents; it was the only time when they undertook to hold a lodge in the field, and he thinks the incident will be long remembered as the first on record in which a candidate was initiated "under fire."

The usual business of the Grand Lodge was transacted very harmoniously, the Committee on Grievances having nothing to do.

The following was adopted in relation to the brethren who received the degrees in the Military Lodge:

"That the adoption of this report be a direction to the Grand Secretary to notify each member of the 'Military Lodge' that he is entitled to receive, upon application to the Grand Secretary therefor, a certificate of his former membership in the 'Military Lodge,' and, where he has since affiliated with no other lodge, of his present membership in the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of the jurisdiction of North Dakota."

It may be remembered that in 1898, a resolution was adopted requiring every lodge to present a copy of the *Morals and Dogmas of the Symbolic Degrees*, as compiled by Bro. PIKE, but at this session the resolution was repealed. We do not know whether the Grand Lodge itself supplied these books to the lodges, but we notice that the expense of two hundred copies was charged in the report of the Grand Secretary, and we do not find that he credited anything as received on their account.

An attempt to have the Grand Lecturer hold a School of Instruction in every lodge during the year failed, and while the record is a little uncertain, we believe the following resolution was finally adopted :

Resolved, That in the future any particular lodge, asking for a special school of instruction, shall pay in addition to the expenses and fee of \$5.00 per day the further sum of the railroad fare or livery hire from the point where the Grand Lecturer starts to the particular lodge holding such special school of instruction and return."

There was no Report on Correspondence.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1900.

The Chairman of the Committee on Credentials, who had evidently been appointed the year before, reported a constitutional number of lodges represented, and the Grand Master opened the Grand Lodge. It immediately formed in procession and marched to St. Paul's Church, where an eloquent and instructive sermon was preached by Past Grand Chaplain REGINALD H. BULLOCK. At the close of the services, the Grand Lodge re-formed in procession and marched back to the hall and called off until afternoon.

The Grand Master, THOMAS B. FLINT, delivered an exceedingly interesting address. His reference to public events and to the hopes for peace were well timed and eloquent.

Of the condition of the craft he says :

"I congratulate you, brethren, and the lodges generally upon the masonic prosperity which has attended your labors during the year. Nothing has occurred to disturb the perfect harmony which should always subsist among us. Our financial position has improved. One thousand dollars has been paid on the debt, and the Treasurer's report shows a comfortable balance of seventeen hundred and ninety dollars on hand.

"A substantial gain in the lodge membership of one hundred and eleven attests to much faithful work done, and to the gratifying fact that our craft has retained its attractions for intelligent and high-minded men. Almost every lodge in the jurisdiction has shared in this success. Some, however, under circumstances of no little difficulty, nobly work on, hoping for better times."

He calls the attention of the brethren to the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as the result of much careful labor, and as valuable and interesting, and he says :

"No mason in this jurisdiction who desires to keep himself informed upon the progress and development of Freemasonry can afford to neglect a study of this report.

"It affords what might be termed, 'a bird's eye view' of the various Grand Lodges, their proceedings, and the movements taking place in the masonic world. It furnishes vivid portraits of the distinguished brethren, who, from time to time, are called upon, in responsible offices, to guide the destinies of the craft. It directs attention to the mines of intellectual and moral wealth stored in the volumes yearly given to the world by the various masonic grand bodies. It embalms the names and life's story of the beloved and lost brother masons whose efforts for the benefit of Masonry and their fellowmen have made the memory of their virtues holy and imperishable possessions of their surviving brethren.

"A study of the report of proceedings for the last year will show that Masonry stands firm upon the foundation of truth, justice and brotherly love, and that as long as masons are faithful to their professions and the principles of the craft, it cannot perish from the earth, but must go forward with ever-increasing power and influence."

He announced the death of their Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. Rev. RICHARD AVERY, well known and much beloved, and who had been permanent Grand Chaplain since 1883.

He attended the Washington Centennial Exercises, of which he speaks in highest terms. We are indebted to him for relieving the monotony of our journey, as we had the good fortune of traveling with him from Boston to Philadelphia.

Of the result he says :

"Such an event cannot but greatly tend to strengthen the bonds of regard and affection with which the Grand Lodges of Canada and those of the Great republic are bound together."

On his journey to and from Washington, he visited Mt. Moriah Lodge in Cambridge, and Massachusetts Lodge in Boston, and was very greatly pleased.

He refers to the fraternal visit made by Mt. Olivet Lodge, of Cambridge, to Scotia Lodge, of Yarmouth, last year, and he had tendered the lodge a cordial invitation to come again.

He had had occasion to perform some official duties, but his absences had been so long and so frequent that the Deputy Grand Master had the larger part of the duties in this respect to perform : his acts were chiefly of local interest, although he had visited a large number of lodges, and speaks in high terms of the condition in which he found the brethren.

In his report, the Grand Secretary says :

"Considering the whole year's masonic work, the condition of all the lodges is better and more hopeful than ever before. Lodges having amounts to their credit in banks ; others able to pay up all the demands on them for Grand Lodge dues, and some of the weaker lodges have shown proof of progress and financial strength which must be pleasing to all lovers of our Order.

"May I be permitted to add, that all D. D. Grand Masters and other Grand Lodge officers should by all means visit the smaller lodges, giving them words of counsel and encouragement ; as for the larger and stronger lodges they can stand partial neglect better than the lodges financially and numerically weak."

Bro. WILLIAM ROSS has been Secretary quite a number of years, but in consequence of his public duties he had to decline re-election; but the craft were glad to learn that he still would retain his interest in Masonry, and that he would be ever ready to assist them in their labors.

The reports of the District Deputies are comparatively brief, but show very fully the condition in which they found the lodges and the prosperity of Masonry in that jurisdiction. As we understand it, the system is the same which we have here in Maine, and nearly all the lodges were visited officially.

The committee appointed to consider the consolidation of the Grand Lodges of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, reported that little progress had been made in the matter, because the other committees had been appointed to consider the consolidation of the three Grand Lodges in the Maritime Provinces.

The matter of the hall was not so favorable as could be wished, several bodies being largely in arrears for rent and evidently unable to pay, and there was likely to be quite a loss on that account.

The Report on Correspondence (134 pp.) was prepared by Grand Master FLINT and R. W. Bro. THOMAS MOWBRAY, each subscribing his initials to his review.

As before, the report is an exceedingly carefully prepared reference to the more important proceedings of other Grand Lodges, emphasized by extracts.

He quotes fully the remarks of Grand Master LOCKE in relation to the payment of dues.

In his review of Maine, referring to the Washington matter, he says:

"The introductory pages of this review contain a very able and thoroughly convincing argument on the questions raised by the Grand Lodge of Washington on the now celebrated 'Negro Masonry' declaration of that Grand Lodge. The complete and crushing vindication of the action of the various Grand Bodies in denouncing the action of Washington Grand Lodge contained in this argument finally disposes of the matter. Nowhere have we seen a better summary of the case. The language of censure upon the parties who precipitated the question into masonic controversy is strong, but none too strong, and is thoroughly justified,"

We quote this because it is well known that the originator of the disturbance expected that the English and Canadian Grand Lodges in particular would sustain his views. In his review of Washington, Brother FLINT says further:

"While we recognize the ability and force with which the Grand Master reviews the various criticisms on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on the subject above alluded to, we do not feel justified in recapitulating any portion of it. Suffice to say that he complains that the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington has been generally misunderstood, and consequently misrepresented; that in some respects actual 'hostility' to the Grand Lodge of Washington has been manifested. We cannot agree with the latter view, though possibly in some cases language has been used in opposition to the claims of the Grand Lodge of Washington which certainly is open to the

charge of intemperance. We are, however, of the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Washington was unfortunate in its method as well as in its expression. It took a stand which requires too much explanation to render it acceptable to those who would be affected by it in other jurisdictions, and which raised a storm in its character most threatening to that harmony which should prevail between the various Grand Bodies on this continent. If there has been misunderstanding we are of opinion that on the part of the Grand Lodge of Washington it has misunderstood the position of many of those who disagree with its position. The Grand Lodges do not deny the sovereignty of Washington, but they insist that if sovereignty is so exercised as to recognize as 'legitimate' masons who are denounced as 'clandestine' in other Grand Lodges, conflict cannot be avoided. However, we are glad to know that for the present the controversy, in its more acute phases at least, is closed."

OHIO, 1900.

Our Ohio brethren give us a portrait of M. W. Bro. E. L. LYBARGER, the retiring Grand Master.

The Grand Officers took their places and the Grand Master opened a lodge of Master Masons with the Grand Officers in their respective stations, and appointed a committee to examine brethren, and a Committee on Credentials.

The Committee on Credentials immediately made a partial report, stating that there was a constitutional number of representatives of subordinate lodges present, and thereupon the Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge opened in ample form. It was welcomed on behalf of the city by ex-Mayor JOHNSON and ex-Governor BUSHNELL, to whom the Grand Master replied.

He then announced the standing committees, after which he proceeded to deliver his address.

He welcomes and congratulates the brethren and refers briefly to the progress which the Grand Lodge has made during the 91 years of its existence, with appropriate observations in relation to the work that Masonry had done, and is to do.

He highly commends the work of the District Lecturers, saying that it has been very satisfactory and that their usefulness is plainly manifest.

He gives an account of his routine acts, among which was the granting of a large number of dispensations for the installation of officers out of time.

As we have already stated in this report, we are abundantly satisfied that it would save trouble and be just as safe to provide for such contingencies in the by-laws.

He had issued two dispensations for new lodges and caused those chartered in the preceding session to be constituted.

He had publicly dedicated one hall on an occasion of much interest, and others had been dedicated by his special deputies as well as by himself. Several corner stones had been laid by his deputies.

He was present at the Washington Memorial Exercises and speaks highly

of the response of Bro. BROMWELL in behalf of the Grand Lodge, and all who were present on that occasion will agree with him.

He reports that litigation had been commenced in relation to the title to the Masonic Hall, formerly owned by one of the spurious lodges, the purpose being to test the title.

It was reported to him that one of the Ohio lodges had made a mason of a party who had been twice rejected in Pennsylvania, and in violation of the law of Ohio as well. Upon the facts coming to his knowledge, he directed the lodge to file charges and try the party for his false representations. The lodge did not do that, but appointed a committee to investigate the matter and made a long report in defence of its action. It was not satisfactory to him and he appointed the Grand Secretary a committee to investigate the matter fully and report to the Grand Lodge.

In the particular case the question as to what comity would require towards the Pennsylvania lodge is not necessarily involved, for as the case was reported, the party had been rejected so recently that the Ohio lodge would not have jurisdiction in the case. We shall probably refer to this later on in the report.

The Grand Secretary reports a very full compliance with the law in relation to making returns, although many of them came in late and two of them were so defective that he felt obliged to report them, not having received satisfactory answer to his letter of inquiry, although at the last moment, in reply to a telegram, the balance of the dues was sent to him but without any explanation. He emphasizes the evils growing out of these delays, and urges Secretaries to make the returns out promptly.

He gives the usual summary of membership, which shows a large increase, with the remarkable fact that there had been 50 more affiliated, 50 fewer deaths, and 230 fewer suspended for non-payment of dues.

The cash received had been sufficient to enable the Grand Lodge to make an additional donation to the Masonic Home, and he suggests that as the *per capita* tax is nearly sufficient for the running expenses of the Home, that the donation shall be added to the permanent fund, saying that if this is done for a few years the interest of the fund will support the Home to the extent that the Grand Lodge can reduce the *per capita* tax from 60 to 30, or even 25 cents.

He congratulates the Grand Lodge on what had been the banner year in its history.

The Trustees of the Masonic Home made an interesting report, showing that the inmates are 61 men, 28 women, 25 boys, and 23 girls, making a total of 137.

Many improvements are needed for which money of course is wanted, but the Trustees have faith that the generosity which has made possible the erection of the Home will also make it possible to have all the needed improvements.

A large amount of routine business in relation to amendments of by-laws, to charters, and especially in relation to duplicate charters, was transacted.

The following will show the action in relation to duplicate charters :

"The brethren of Scioto Lodge, No. 6, being desirous of retaining their original charter, which has become faded and somewhat mutilated, have prepared a duplicate thereof, and request that the Grand Secretary certify, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, that said duplicate is a true and correct copy of the said original charter. Your committee recommends that this request be granted, and that both of said charters shall be returned to said Scioto Lodge, No. 6, after the Grand Secretary shall have attached the necessary certificate to the duplicate."

The committee on the library reported in relation to the gift which Bro. S. STACKER WILLIAMS had made the year previous. There were in all about 4,300 volumes, and from a masonic standpoint, the collection is one of immense value, and the Grand Lodge of Ohio is to be warmly congratulated upon the receipt of this magnificent gift.

When we come to the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence on the Pennsylvania case, we find that it is rather a curious one. The party applied before the three years had expired, but also before he had lived one year within the jurisdiction of the lodge, but this was not apparently discovered by the officers of the lodge until after he had been elected, and thereupon they refunded the fee. But after the expiration of the year, and as it happened after the expiration of the three years during which time he was ineligible, without any other petition or ballot, the officers of the lodge commenced conferring the degrees on him. But the committee concluded that there was no fraud on the part of the candidate, but that it was ignorance of the masonic law on the part of the officers. The committee, however, say :

"Its subsequent action in making the applicant a mason had no more sanction in masonic law than if it had invited a gentleman to come off the street and receive the degrees without petition, committee, or ballot."

Still later on in their report, while they censure the lodge very severely, they say further :

"Your committee finds no fault in all this matter resting upon Bro. Bole, and nothing derogatory to his character. They see no reason to disturb his masonic standing; and if he acted in good faith, the precedents of this Grand Lodge do not require action against him."

Apparently the committee and the Grand Lodge leave him, as the Grand Lodge supposed they had left him, a mason in good standing.

However, they decided against the claim of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, that the candidate was not eligible to be made a mason in Ohio without the consent of the lodge in Pennsylvania which rejected him.

The Report on Correspondence, (Pages 313), was presented by Bro. WILLIAM M. CUNNINGHAM, and is another of his almost wonderful reviews of the important proceedings of the other Grand Lodges.

In his introduction he urges that the first degree should be restored to its original condition, and that an E. A. should be a member of the lodge with the right to ballot, and apparently with all other rights. He charges the change to the Baltimore Convention of 1843. As a matter of fact, however, the law adopted at that convention had prevailed in many jurisdictions previous to that time, and we have always understood that the change was in accordance with the usage of the majority of the Grand Lodges there represented. Our own view is to avoid both extremes, and while we should not make an E. A. a member of the lodge, but require him to serve a while before he should be such a member, according to the ancient idea, still we hold that he is a mason and entitled to advancement, *unless cause is shown why he should not be advanced.*

He thinks that this was copied from the modern organization. We doubt it, but think that the modern organization copied from Masonry.

When Portland Lodge was instituted in 1769, the Master's Lodge was entirely distinct from the other lodge; it met at different times and kept a separate record; unfortunately that record has been lost, but there are occasional references which clearly show that the old idea of a Master was kept up in the early days of that lodge.

In his introduction he also refers to military lodges and of the history of Bro. GOULD's, he says:

"This however, is now rendered entirely unnecessary at their hands, as our Eminent Frater, Robert Freke Gould, the Masonic Historian, has treated the subject exhaustively in his late publication on Military Lodges,* which is within the reach of all masonic students, and precludes the necessity of its further consideration by your committee."

*"*Military Lodges: The Apron and the Sword, or Freemasonry under Arms*, being an account of lodges in Regiments and Ships of War, and of Famous Soldiers and Sailors (of all Countries), who have belonged to the Society, together with biographies of distinguished Military and Naval Brethren, and anecdotes showing the influence of Masonry in Warfare. By Robert Freke Gould, London: Gale and Polden, Ltd., 2 Amen Corner, Paternoster Row, E. C. and Aldershot. [5s.]"

We most heartily concur with him in the high opinion of this work which he expresses.

When we come to his review of separate Grand Lodges, we can of course only refer to an occasional paragraph.

Replying to Bro. WHITCOMB, of Alabama, he says:

"In his review of California, he refers to La Gran Dieta of Mexico, and asks, 'What is the Gran Dieta made up of,' and what would be its status when recognized by other Grand Bodies? In the opinion of your committee any other independent Grand Lodge would be its peer in every respect. Its subordinates simply become Provincial Grand Lodges, similar to those of England, Ireland and Scotland, which, not being independent Grand Bodies, have no interchange of representation with other Grand Bodies, and no official recognition except through the Grand Lodge to which they are subordinate.

"The constituent Grand Bodies of the 'Grand Lodge League,' or 'United German Grand Lodges,' have, in their union under a controlling body, placed

themselves in a very similar position, and have thereby deprived themselves of the status of an independent Grand Lodge."

In his review of Colorado he devoted considerable space to the Cerneau matter. In our view he has made a mistake. To use a homely phrase, we do not think "the game is worth the powder."

Of the present practice in Pennsylvania, he says :

"Under the head of Pennsylvania, he very justly thinks that 'the distinction between the Grand Lodge and Grand Master is very finely drawn' when the Pennsylvania Committee declares that 'the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has never performed any masonic work in public and never will,' although the Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, assisted by the officers of the Grand Lodge, had, *as such*, laid the corner stone of the State Capitol building at Harrisburg with the masonic ceremonies usual in such cases.

"In the opinion also of your committee, this is merely 'a distinction without difference,' particularly when it is considered how many public functions have in the past, been officially performed by the Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, often, too, with great parade and *eclat*, and advertised as masonic ceremonials; and this, also, in a jurisdiction where the declaration even of a decision by the Grand Master makes it a law without the necessity of any subsequent confirmation by the Grand Lodge.

"The official action, therefore, of the Grand Master in such cases, is evidently public masonic work had under the auspices of Grand Lodge, as it is performed by virtue of the official character and prerogatives of the Grand Master, and whose official acts by natural inference so declare it, without regard to any formal opening of Grand Lodge therefor, although that is with evident propriety customary in perhaps all other Grand Jurisdictions."

Of the law of his own Grand Lodge in relation to suspension and expulsion for non-payment of dues, he well says :

"A close observation of the operation of this law in Ohio for more than forty years has satisfactorily demonstrated, to the writer at least, its absolute inability in accomplishing the end desired, and the many years in which the 'may be expelled' of the old regulations was more liberally construed by the brethren, and even seldom enforced in some lodges in Ohio, was no more, *if not less*, productive of non-affiliation than the iron-clad 'shall be expelled' construction since insisted upon.

"It is to be hoped that all of these 'extreme penalty' relics of barbarism in our legislation will, sooner or later, be expunged from our regulations, and that the stronger bonds of brotherly love in its truest sense will prevent non-affiliation and any such arraignment of a brother unless it is established beyond *any doubt* that he *wilfully refuses* to contribute to the legitimate expenses of subordinate or Grand Lodge when perfectly able to do so."

We had intended to copy from his review of Washington, but as that incident is pretty nearly closed, we do not deem it worth while to devote more space to it than we have already done.

OKLAHOMA, 1901.

These Proceedings have the portrait of M. W. Bro. WILLIAM M. ANDERSON, the retiring Grand Master.

The Grand Master "congregated the Grand Lodge," and the Grand Officers assumed their stations, and having satisfied himself that the representatives of

a constitutional number of chartered lodges were present, he proceeded to open the Grand Lodge in ample form on "the third degree of Masonry."

In his address, Grand Master ANDERSON says :

"Since our last annual communication the progress of Freemasonry has been most satisfactory in our jurisdiction; prosperity has attended us in all our labors and throughout all our borders, and in view of the manifold blessings we have been permitted to enjoy, not only as masons, but as citizens of our most highly favored commonwealth, and especially as citizens of our most favored Territory, it becomes us, before entering upon our Ninth Annual Communication, to most reverently, with gratitude, acknowledge the infinite wisdom and gracious goodness of the Grand Architect of the Universe who doeth all things well, and to whom we are indebted for all that we have and are."

He gives a review of the progress of the Grand Lodge during the past eight years of its existence, showing a very rapid growth, and he says further that the increase for 1900 had been greater in most respects than in any other year.

He had granted dispensations for nine new lodges.

He announced quite a number of decisions, but none of such general interest as to require notice.

We quote the following as eminently correct and deserving of attention everywhere :

"I find a sentiment, very strong, prevailing among our lodges, that a brother when elected Junior Warden, should be advanced each year until he is Master, and consequently of electing a new Master every year. My observation has thoroughly convinced me that this sentiment of rotation in office is an injurious one, and in many instances leads to dire calamity in the lodge. If the lodge has found a Master who is proficient in the ritual, and otherwise well qualified to rule and govern his lodge with regularity and justice, it should not make him vacate the Oriental Chair, after one year's experience, simply because the Wardens or others of his lodge are ambitious to write P. M. after their names and wear a Past Master's jewel. A good Warden does not always make a good Master.

"A Master of a lodge, in my judgment, should be able to correctly confer the degrees, and give the lectures, as adopted by the Grand Lodge; should be versed in Masonic Law and History. He should be familiar with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, the By-Laws of his own lodge, and the general regulations of Masonry, and should enforce them; and when presiding he should insist that dignity and decorum be observed, and should not permit hilarity, heated discussions, nor any speech or debates which might mar the peace and harmony of his lodge. These things cannot be, and are not accomplished in a year.

"Grand Lodge cannot legislate upon this subject, but I refer to it in the hope that the erroneous impression prevailing among the craft, that rotation in office is right, and one of our customs, may be corrected, and to call to their minds that the universal standard of our Order for preferment is: 'He who best can work and best agree.'"

We fear that the practice is growing, but the attention of the craft is being aroused to the evils of it, and they will be likely to provide a remedy. Quite a number of years ago, our Grand Lodge found a remedy, and our Grand Chapter is following in the same direction.

The report of the trustees of the Home fund, show that it had made some increase during the year, but not so much as the committee had hoped. We think it will be many years before it will be "good business" for this Grand Lodge to have a Home, but the raising of a fund for it is all right, for they may keep on and have the fund ready, so that they will not have to incur a debt when the proper time comes for them to enter upon the matter in earnest.

The Grand Lodge sustained the Grand Master in replying to the Grand Master of Texas to the effect that in Oklahoma a rejection in another jurisdiction did not debar a lodge in his jurisdiction from accepting a candidate.

An immense amount of routine business was transacted, intelligently and harmoniously.

The Grand Orator delivered a brief but practical address.

We notice that a *per capita* tax of 25 cents was laid, for the benefit of the Home fund.

The Report on Correspondence (188 pp.) was presented by Bro. JAMES S. HUNT, Grand Secretary.

It is a capital report of the principal matters in the proceedings of other Grand Lodges. He makes occasional comments.

We concur with the following, except we believe that the laws referred to are an infringement of the rights of *individuals* rather than the rights of *lodges*:

"We beg to modify the above by saying that we would not for a moment have it understood that we hold, that lodges have the right to receive as visitors, or to accord a masonic burial to any but legitimate masons. In other words, we believe it is an infringement of the inherent right of lodges for the Grand Lodge to enact laws defining the number of times a legitimately made mason may visit a lodge, who has not been debarred from the rights and privileges of Masonry by due trial and a conviction of a masonic offence."

Referring to the law of Idaho, in relation to non-affiliates, he says:

"We regret to add, that this recommendation carried no weight with the Grand Lodge, as it directed the Grand Master to enforce the law and requiring subordinate lodges to enforce the law—especially providing that the Worshipful Master should personally see to the matter and see that the Junior Warden prefers charges. To us this seems the most pernicious law that has come to our knowledge.

"The injustice of a law that will permit a lodge to reject a non-affiliated brother for membership and at the same time expel him for not becoming a member, is too potent for our concurrence."

We are glad to notice these views, as we have perceived a tendency among the younger Grand Lodges to follow in the lead of those whose laws are severe in this direction.

In his review of Maine, he states that he had supposed that the practice of examining candidates in the preceding degrees before advancement was customary in all Grand Lodges. So it has been, but the old practice was for the examination to be made by the *Master*, and an examination in open lodge is a matter of very recent origin.

We would gladly go on further, but our time fails us and the printer wants "copy." We only desire to express our great gratification in perceiving that this young Grand Lodge is growing in prosperity and is maintaining the good reputation which it has acquired in the past; much of this is undoubtedly due to the earnest and able efforts of its Grand Officers.

OREGON, 1900.

The frontispiece is a fine portrait of JOHN MILTON HODSON, the retiring Grand Master. We are very glad to see it, for we have been in correspondence with our Most Worshipful Brother for nearly thirty years.

The Grand Officers took their places and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Then a Committee on Credentials was appointed, which, after a recess of twenty minutes, submitted a report. Then the Grand Representatives, including M. W. Bro. JOHN McCRAKEN, our Representative, were received and welcomed, the Grand Lodge standing.

Grand Master HODSON refers to the introduction of Masonry into Oregon, which has the oldest lodge on the Pacific coast, and he gives a brief account of the organization of the Grand Lodge in 1851, by three lodges aggregating 140 members, which had grown into more than 100 lodges with over 5000 members.

He had the painful duty of announcing the deaths of M. W. P. G. Masters ROBERT CLOW and THOMAS G. REAMES. We have known the former by his writings very well, and his death is a great loss to Oregon as well as to the craft at large.

This Grand Master had granted two dispensations for new lodges after a personal examination of the localities.

He had also granted a dispensation to a lodge to continue work, their lodge room having been entered and their charters, jewels and books, etc., carried away.

He had issued quite a number of special dispensations, of which a full list is given, and evidently used the power with which he was vested judiciously.

As to their requests, he says:

"I have declined several requests for purposes I did not consider of proper masonic concern, such as to wear masonic clothing at public functions, participate in Fourth of July processions, the sending out of begging circulars, participating in processions upon Decoration Day, etc."

He gives an account of the use of the income of the Educational Fund in assisting ten children in one place and four in another.

In his various visitations he had made inquiry as to the number of dependent orphans, and was gratified to find so few, and was greatly pleased at the attention given by the local brethren to them, which in most cases was entirely sufficient for their support.

Quite a number of corner-stones had been laid by him or by his special deputy. Several of the occasions were evidently of great interest. He had dedicated one hall during the year.

Among his decisions was one which shows that the same law in relation to physical qualifications prevails in Oregon as in Maine.

He had visited over half of the lodges in the jurisdiction, besides numerous informal visits, and of the results, he says :

“In nearly all cases I have devoted some time to the investigation of the financial conditions, the methods of procedure, bookkeeping, etc. I may safely report that in a large majority of the cases, our lodges have good financial management. In a few I found negligence in the collection of dues, and some informalities in records, but found a ready disposition to make the proper amends. Many lodges own their own halls, and nearly all have funds in their treasuries, some in considerable amounts. A few of the lodges are in debt, but with the prosperity I found everywhere existing, these debts were being rapidly extinguished.”

He found the work, with a few exceptions, well done, and he directed his efforts to securing higher ideals of Masonry, and in this connection, he says :

“Several of the lodges have adopted the system of having some well qualified brother to address the lodge on some masonic subject when there were meetings at which there was no ritualistic services or conferring of degrees. I fully endorse this practice, as the tendency is to increase both the interest and attendance.”

He calls attention to the condition of the Grand Lodge library, saying that they have several hundred volumes of Proceedings and many miscellaneous masonic works, but says that the library is virtually of no value because it is so kept that there is no opportunity for the average brother to consult it.

He had requested the committee on by-laws to revise and amend them, and recommended their report be adopted.

Of the action of the previous year in relation to the Past Master's degree, he says :

“At the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge a resolution was adopted repealing all laws and decisions concerning the Past Master's degree. Some of the brethren not only intended but believed that by the adoption of that resolution the degree which had always heretofore been a requisite for installation, was abolished. Others, understanding that in the adoption of Mackey's Book of the Lodge as the masonic authority and text book of this Grand Jurisdiction, which provides for the conferring of this degree, that it was retained with all its requirements. Your Grand Master was placed in a peculiar position by this legislation, as the adoption of the resolution, coming as it did after the adoption of the text book, did technically repeal so much of the text of the book as referred to the degree; and yet I did not think the Grand Lodge so intended, as it was not so explained at the time of the passage of the resolution. To avoid any future misunderstanding, I request the Grand Lodge to define its position clearly.”

Other matters had occupied his attention, but nothing of general interest.

A resolution was adopted that all resolutions presented should be referred to the appropriate committee without discussion.

The Committee on Grand Master's Address very properly congratulates the Grand Master upon the stimulus imparted to their Grand Jurisdiction by his teachings during his visitations.

The same committee reported that, under the resolution of 1899 in regard to Past Masters, all legislation in relation to that degree was repealed. We now wonder whether it leaves the matter just where it was before the Grand Lodge began to legislate and that the ceremonies are still a part of the installation of a Master, as it was under the old usage, or whether this ancient ceremony has been modified to meet the views of those who will not see any difference between this ceremony and a degree in the chapter.

A very large amount of routine business was transacted, and the Grand Orator, C. B. WINN, delivered a fine address.

A few amendments to the Constitution were adopted and ordered to be published in the Proceedings, and a thousand extra copies with the new by-laws to be published for distribution.

The charter of one lodge was revoked for violating the law of the Grand Lodge in many respects. The Master and Tyler were expelled, but all the other members were granted dimits upon the payment of one year's Grand Lodge dues. The Tyler was expelled because he had taken the records from the desk of the Secretary and refused to surrender them to the Grand Lodge.

The recommendation of the Grand Master in regard to the library was considered favorably and its management placed in the hands of a committee of three, to have it arranged, and measures taken to enable brethren to take books from it for examination.

BRO. CLOW was chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and at his death the Grand Secretary was appointed chairman of the committee, but his duties were so arduous, that he applied to the Grand Master for aid, who responded, so that we have an excellent report (142 pp.)

In the Introduction by the Grand Secretary, he says that much the greater share of the labor was performed by the Grand Master. We do not find anything to indicate the part of it which he did not prepare, therefore in reviewing shall make no distinction, and our brothers must decide between them to which "he," as we shall use it, refers.

He is of the opinion that Oregon has fewer non-affiliated masons in proportion to their number than almost any other State, but according to his statement, we think the law of his jurisdiction is in violation of the fundamental law of the Order, for we understand him to mean that if they go out of a lodge they practically go out of Masonry.

Referring to the contention of a brother that every mason upon being dismissed from a lodge had the right to a recommendatory certificate, he well says:

"It occurs to us that if Masonry is entirely a 'voluntary association,' as Brother Titcomb seems to think, that the brethren of a lodge are at least entitled to their share of the 'voluntary,' and we have known cases in which charges could not be sustained, and yet the brother was not, morally speaking, in good standing. Would he have the lodge stultify itself by affirming that he was in good standing, and recommend him to others as such?"

The ancient usage in such cases was merely resignation by the member, and no documentary evidence was given to him. In those days a mason could belong to as many lodges as he saw fit to join, and as chose to receive him. As a result of the law limiting membership to a single lodge, the requirement of a dimit was generally adopted, in order to enable him to join another lodge. In and of itself, this was simply a certificate of the termination of membership, but the practice grew up of adding to it a recommendation of the brother to the craft.

Then another doctrine was promulgated, and that is that every brother is in good standing unless charges are pending against him, and that the presumption is that unless such charges are pending, he is in good standing. This is undoubtedly technically correct, and it is a full and complete answer to the contention of the brother who objected, as granting a dimit would necessarily show that the brother dimitting is in good standing.

But we hold that the granting of a recommendation to other brethren is a matter within the discretion of the lodge, and should be given only when the lodge so pleases, and we think Bro. HODSON is exactly right in what we have quoted.

Referring to the withdrawal of six brethren from a lodge on the ground that "Masonry interfered with their prospects for Heaven," he well says :

"It is also more than likely that these brethren had only been instructed in the secular teachings of Masonry; the ethical principles embodying the deeply religious sentiments drawn from its symbolisms had never been fully explained to them, else such hallucination would have been impossible. The proper amount of that kind of 'medicine talk' in all our lodges would forever do away with the misleading of brethren as regards the fundamental spiritual teachings of the fraternity."

He dissents, as we have, from a Georgia decision that a mason holding a certificate from the Grand Secretary that his lodge has ceased to exist, and that he is in good standing, cannot sign the petition for a new lodge. It is quite probable that the decision is correct under the specific law of that Grand Lodge, but if so, in our judgment the law is wrong.

We are compelled to differ from our brother in one fundamental matter in relation to masonic government. After stating that the original government of Masonry was pure despotism, he says :

"In the gradual evolution of the ages, Grand Lodges came to be recognized as the source of masonic power, until to-day a Grand Master has no more right to infringe the Constitution than the humblest brother. The rights and prerogatives of Grand Masters are as strictly defined as the duties of the lodge

or individual brother, but in the beginning it was not so. It was the 'divine right of the king to rule, and kings could do no wrong,' that swayed and governed the craft, as it swayed and governed the people."

We think he is in error in not recognizing the change in masonic government made in 1717. What it had been before that is not of the slightest consequence except as a matter of history, and throwing light upon the masonic form of government then adopted. That form of government was that the Grand Lodge is a source of all power, except that it recognized that, under the landmarks of Masonry, certain powers were inherent in the Grand Master of which he could not be deprived by the Grand Lodge.

We are sorry to see that our brother likens this to the "divine right of kings," for it utterly destroys the force of his argument to do so. Another thing; if he means by what he says, that he states the general law of Masonry at the present time, he makes another sad mistake. For, as a matter of fact, the very large majority of the Grand Lodges recognize these so called prerogatives of the Grand Master to-day, and the number that agree with him are comparatively few; and the most of them do not agree with him that the Grand Lodge is the source of all power, but hold to the erroneous doctrine that Grand Lodges have only the power entrusted to them by their Constitutions. In a word, they apply to Grand Lodges the same doctrine that he applies to the Grand Masters.

In his review of Maine, he quotes from the address of Grand Master LOCKE, agreeing with his views in relation to the P. M. degree, to suspension for non-payment of dues, and with his caution in relation to making masons of Catholics.

He is curious to see what we will think of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington at its last meeting. If he reads what we have already written, he will know that before coming to this point in our report. The *action* was all right; the *talk* was all wrong. We regard that the action is to be considered, not the talk.

He agrees with us that a Grand Lodge should sometimes exercise original jurisdiction, and that the offence of a member's coming into it in a state of absolute intoxication is one of the occasions.

He insists that a Grand Master visiting a lodge must submit to an examination if the Master says so, and adds:

"If he could not present a voucher that he was a mason, how could he furnish the identification that he was Grand Master? It is true that it was a case not liable to arise frequently, but if we had been Master of that lodge, and one presented himself that we did not know, and who could not identify himself as Grand Master, we most certainly would have ordered him examined before allowing him to visit."

Yes, and if we were Grand Master under such circumstances our brother would not remain Master long. We should instantly suspend him from office

and take the charter of his lodge. The most that should be allowed, is to ask for reasonable proof of personal identity.

He cannot see real justice in perpetual jurisdiction, but thinks there should be a time limit, say three or four years, and that each Grand Jurisdiction should recognize the law prevailing in the Grand Jurisdiction where the rejection occurs.

He quotes what we wrote in relation to the law of Grand Encampment in relation to dependent membership, in which we stated that if the law was enforced the Commandery would lose ten members where the lodge gains one, and dissents therefrom. We are not sure that time will show it is right; for so far as we have observed, the law has not really been enforced; but so far as our knowledge extends, in the few cases in which it has been enforced, our statement is absolutely true.

We are not sure but that we have "mixed things," for we find that in his review of South Dakota *he* (we do not know which) says:

"We think his action consistent, and all right in the end, as it permitted the making up of desirable material; but we also think that the ancient prerogative is a fact of such long standing and practice that it is a part of the body of Masonry, in which no man or number of men can make innovation. Neither tradition nor history run back to the time when it was not recognized."

These are our views exactly.

While the following in his conclusion is correct, the authors of this report need have no fears that they do not maintain the high character of those which we have been having from this jurisdiction:

"It is no slight task to take up the pen of an able and experienced writer, and maintain his high standing, won by years of patient research and faithful effort, and especially in so brief a time and with a multitude of other pressing duties to discharge; and we trust you will extend the mantle of charity to our imperfections. In the main, the news we bring you is of a cheerful nature. The craft is prosperous, and in nearly all the Grand Jurisdictions a marked increase in members is noted, and it would seem that the high tide of masonic influence is almost within our grasp. For the comments and opinions the undersigned is to be held responsible, and if any departure from ancient usage or advocacy of modern heresy is to be found therein, the writer will assume the blame and stand or fall by the standard of truth."

PENNSYLVANIA, 1900.

As usual, we have a splendid cut of the Masonic Temple, for a frontispiece, and in addition we have the portraits of Past Grand Masters JAMES PAGE and PETER FRITZ.

In the account of the opening, the Grand Officers present are given and the statement made that 124 lodges were represented, and that the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Committee on By-Laws had examined specifically by-laws presented,

and recommended that some of them be amended, and in several instances the lodges were directed to further amend their by-laws to conform to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Printing announced that the issuing of the Proceedings for 1899 was delayed by the burning of the building of the company which was doing the printing. Not only was the building totally destroyed, but also its contents, including a part of the Proceedings already in type.

The report of a committee recommending improvements upon the Temple in the way of heating and light, at an expense of not exceeding \$74,500, was adopted.

Two brethren, members of a defunct lodge, were, at their request, restored to good standing,

The request of a lodge for permission to receive from a candidate a fourth petition was granted.

The Grand Lodge of Western Australia, upon the report of the Committee on Correspondence, was recognized.

The committee do not refer to the fact that in the jurisdiction of the new Grand Lodge are quite a number of lodges which did not join in the movement and have not given in their adhesion.

At the various sessions a large amount of routine business, of a character shown in what we have already mentioned, was transacted.

An appeal, which was filed too late, although only a few days, was dismissed, but the committee expressed their opinion that the lodge was fully justified in its proceedings.

At the quarterly communication in September, the Grand Master announced the death of Past Grand Master J. SIMPSON AFRICA, on August 8, 1900. A memorial tribute had been prepared by Bro. SAMUEL W. WRAY by the direction of the Grand Master, which was presented, and it was followed by addresses by several members and by a resolution of the Grand Lodge. The remarks are printed in the Proceedings.

Bro. AFRICA was made a mason in 1866, and had been active in the service of the craft almost consecutively from that time forward until his death. He was deservedly held in high esteem in all the relations of life, and his death is a severe loss to the craft.

At the December quarterly, a portrait of the late HENRY W. WILLIAMS was presented to the Grand Lodge and accepted in addresses paying a merited tribute to the memory of the deceased brother.

The reports of the trustees of the various funds and bequests, show a very successful administration of those trusts.

A very interesting case was before the Committee on Appeals, in which a member of a lodge who had been present at the time of the ballot, but refrained from voting and allowed the candidate to be accepted, and after

he had been taken into the preparation room, made an oral objection. He was charged as giving as a reason that his objection was not on account of the unfitness of the candidate, but on account of past differences between them. It was decided that he had an absolute right to reject the candidate, either by depositing a black ball or by making an oral objection. In this connection, the committee say :

“The usual and probably the better way is to use the black-ball when the opportunity is presented; but a member is not compelled to do so, and cannot be called to account and disciplined because he prefers to pursue the other course.”

The evidence failed to show that the party gave the alleged reason for his action.

The committee say further :

“It is ruled that while a member cannot be questioned as to his motives in objecting to a candidate, still, if he voluntarily removes ‘the veil of secrecy’ and admits that ‘his motives were false and malicious,’ he may be punished for his unmasonic conduct; but the only way in which the ‘false and malicious’ character of his motives can be shown is by his own admission, it cannot be proved by inferences.”

In most jurisdictions, a member present must ballot, and if he does not, he cannot object afterwards, except for causes arising after the ballot, or coming to his knowledge after it.

It does seem rather unfair, to speak mildly, to allow a member who is determined to reject a candidate, to refrain from balloting and take the chances of some one else casting a black ball, and then, if none is cast, to stop the candidate by objection.

Under a provision of the Constitution authorizing it, the Grand Lodge elected R. W. Bro. THOMAS R. PATTON an honorary member. This is an exceptionally great honor, and the manner in which it was conferred added to the importance of it. But it is an honor most worthily won: and we trust our brother will live many years to enjoy it and receive year after year fresh tokens of the respect, confidence and love of his brethren.

In his able and very interesting annual address the Grand Master, GEORGE E. WAGNER, contrasts the condition of Masonry at the close of the eighteenth century with its condition in the closing days of the nineteenth. In 1900, the population of Pennsylvania alone was about one million greater than that of the whole United States in 1800. The number of masons in Pennsylvania had increased from about 1,500 to 55,000. The number of Grand Lodges had increased from fourteen to fifty; the lodges under them from 470 to 11,600; and the total membership from about 18,000 to nearly 800,000.

In view of this our R. W. Brother well says :

“Having such a record behind us as we stand on the threshold of the twentieth century, let us remember that while material prosperity and increase of numbers are desirable and proper, the main point after all is to so guard

our portals that no man be admitted to our midst who is not in all respects worthy and well qualified; let us continue to adhere to our Ancient Customs and Usages, standing firmly on the landmarks, discouraging everything that tends to 'modern improvements' or that would make Masonry 'easy'; thus will Pennsylvania Masonry be preserved in its purity and be handed down to our successors as we received it."

He devotes three pages of his address to a well timed note of warning on the subject of "Secrecy"; he well says:

"Freemasonry is a secret organization, and its affairs are not for the outside multitude; its aims and purposes are well known and thoroughly approved by its votaries and by the communities in which it operates, but its private affairs are not to be discussed in the presence of those not members."

This matter will come before our own Grand Lodge this year. Our brother does not specify in his remarks the improper publication of masonic matters in the public press. That such matters may be published to a certain extent in Pennsylvania is evident from the publication of the *Keystone* in Philadelphia for many years. It seems to be a question as to where the line shall be drawn, and our brother does not draw it. In the specifications that he gives, he names none in which the forbidden secrets of Masonry are divulged. We agree fully that the private affairs are not to be made public; and there is too great a tendency to give masonic matters to the newspapers.

He criticises quite sharply the remarks of "the Recording Grand Secretary" of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, made June 14, 1899, in relation to historical matters.

In this connection, he says:

"I do not intend to discuss the question of the 'Mother City'; the established facts are plain. There were lodges in Pennsylvania in 1730; the ledger of a lodge working in Philadelphia in February, 1731, has been produced; it is known as 'Libre B'; preceding that must have been a 'Libre A.' How many years that was in use before 'Libre B' was begun is left to conjecture. The deputation to Brother Daniel Coxe as Provincial Grand Master for New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, issued by the Grand Master of England in 1730, appears on the records of that date."

He must change "Lodges" to "a lodge"; the inference that there must have been a "Libre A," because there was a "Libre B," is utterly without foundation; *the record in Libre B shows that that was the first book of the lodge.* The last sentence is equivocal; of course he does not mean that the deputation "appears on the records" of that lodge; and we do not believe that he means that anything was ever done under that deputation. The paragraph simmers down to the fact that there was a voluntary lodge in Philadelphia in 1731, which kept a record, which probably was working in December, 1730.

He says further:

"Surely our Massachusetts brethren do not intend to assert that our lodges of 1730 were clandestine, and that Benjamin Franklin and our other worthies of that date were illegitimate masons, or met with and recognized such."

While technically, under the law adopted in 1717, our Massachusetts brethren may say that the 1730 lodge was clandestine, yet as that law had not become firmly established in 1730, and especially as FRANKLIN applied to PRICE to have it confirmed by authority from home, they have not so held in the past. On the contrary, it was the Pennsylvania brethren of FRANKLIN's time, who held that that lodge was clandestine, and refused to recognize "BENJAMIN FRANKLIN and our other worthies of that date," but required them all to be re-made as if they were profanes: whether FRANKLIN submitted to this we gravely doubt, for so far we have been unable to discover, after as full examination as we have been able to make, that FRANKLIN was ever recognized as a mason during his life by the "Ancient" Provincial Grand Lodge of which the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is the successor.

Our brethren, who are of the opinion that there is no danger of a disturbance of the harmony of the craft by the different laws and usages in relation to rejected candidates, will find abundant food for reflection in this address.

A New York lodge, with a full knowledge of the facts and in violation of law, initiated a candidate who had been three times rejected by a Pennsylvania lodge. *The correspondence is voluminous, but as we understand it, those in the New York lodge who were guilty of the misconduct, were punished, but the initiate was left a mason in good standing.* Thereupon, the Grand Master of Pennsylvania issued an edict forbidding his recognition in that jurisdiction.

The next case was one in which a man, who had been rejected in New York, applied to a Pennsylvania lodge. The latter applied to the former for the customary consent. But under the law of New York, the time during which the rejection remained in force had expired, and under that law the lodge could take no action. Thereupon the Grand Master of Pennsylvania ruled that, the petitioner was not "under the tongue of good report" and ordered the petition to be returned. In this we deem that he was in error. The fact that a man was rejected *years ago* is not *conclusive* evidence that he *is not worthy now*; but the chief reason is that the lodge can have no knowledge of the actual reason for rejection, and in most cases has no knowledge of the candidate subsequent to his rejection. To require a lodge under such circumstances to pass in any way upon the worthiness of a candidate, is so unreasonable, not to say absurd, that it cannot be required by masonic law. The assumption that "perpetual jurisdiction" is a landmark is not well founded: our friends in Pennsylvania cannot find the evidence to support their doctrine. It is a matter within the control of every Grand Lodge, precisely as a good many other matters are; long usage does not of itself become a landmark. The effect of a rejection given to it by the law of the jurisdiction in which it takes place should be recognized everywhere.

Our views are really sustained by Grand Master WAGNER, who says:

"I replied that under our law no man could be made a mason who was not

under the tongue of good masonic report, and that G— P— H— was not, *so long as the objection of Lodge No. 538 remained*, and the only way it could be removed was by the action of said lodge.”

The italics are ours: as matter of fact the objection *did not then remain*; it had ceased to exist, and of course could not be “removed.”

While we are so far from Pennsylvania that the following may not be of practical importance, we give it to show the law in that jurisdiction:

“That there may be no misunderstanding of our law, it is well, perhaps, to lengthen a little more this already long statement. In Pennsylvania there is no such thing as lodge jurisdiction over intending petitioners. Every man is entitled to apply to any lodge in this jurisdiction or elsewhere. Should he, however, petition a lodge not nearest his place of residence, such lodge must be inquired of, in order to ascertain what is his reputation where he is best known, and to learn his standing and fitness to become a mason. If no *masonic* objection appears on such inquiry, the lodge petitioned may proceed in the regular way. When a resident of this State petitions a lodge of another, the same inquiry is made by correspondence through the respective Grand Masters. If the resident of another State petitions one of our lodges, the same course is followed. The object of these regulations is plain; it is to **keep out improper material**, to allow none to enter the portals of Freemasonry except men of reputation, integrity and good standing in their respective communities.”

The object is the correct one: but we believe (and experience and observation for fifty years are the foundation of our belief) that the object is best attained by requiring candidates to apply to lodges “in their respective communities.”

The law further is that a rejected candidate may apply a second time after six months; if he is again rejected, at the expiration of a year he may present a petition, but it can be received only by a ballot by the lodge: if rejected a third time he can present a fourth petition only by the consent of the Grand Lodge.

In concluding his remarks upon this subject he does us the honor of quoting the following as written by us:

“Pennsylvania more closely adheres to the usages of the ancient Grand Lodge than any other Jurisdiction, and, in some respects, her laws, derived from usage, differ from those of any other Grand Lodge.

“Also:

“This Grand Lodge tenaciously adheres to its ancient usages, and no attempt to introduce modern methods finds the least countenance.

“Also:

“The fact that this Grand Lodge has maintained steadily some of the usages peculiar to the ‘ancients’ without modification, as in other jurisdictions, illustrates its conservatism and its emphatic *opposition* to all innovations.”

And he adds:

PENNSYLVANIA STANDS STILL ON THE LANDMARKS.

In the first paragraph the word “ancient” should be understood as written with a capital “A.”

His conclusion, however, does not follow. In Pennsylvania, the “Ancients”

stamped out of existence all bodies holding under the older and original Grand Lodge. Every where else the masons under both Grand Lodges assimilated, retaining many of the laws and usages of both organizations, the Ancients giving up some of their peculiarities in favor of the older usages of the other organization. In this way Pennsylvania, though claiming under the more modern of the old Grand Lodges, has a polity differing in some particulars from all the Grand Lodges in this country, and as we understand it, from every other Grand Lodge in the world. For this reason, so far as the Grand Master implies by his statement that the Grand Lodges, which do not agree with his own, do not in those particulars "stand still on the Landmarks," he is wrong.

Among his edicts are several prohibiting the recognition of persons made masons elsewhere after rejection by a Pennsylvania lodge; one each in Indiana, Ohio, New York, Scotland, and two in jurisdictions not named.

Of Physical Qualification, he says:

"I was called upon many times during the year to pass upon the physical qualification of aspiring candidates, and in some twenty cases was compelled to give an adverse decision. Of course the brethren will understand that during my term of office the standard will not be lowered. I am well aware that many of our friends in other jurisdictions criticise us severely for being so rigid, and that many of them think they know our Rules, Regulations and Usages much better than we do ourselves, but we will pursue the even tenor of our way, and continue hereafter as heretofore to maintain the Landmarks and our usages as they were handed down by the Fathers. We are not anxious that Masonry should 'be made easy' nor cheap."

Our R. W. Brother misapprehends: no one has even *thought* that he knew "OUR Rules," &c., "much better than we do ourselves": but when he undertook to show that the Rules, &c., of other Grand Lodges were in violation of the Landmarks they not only *thought* but *knew* he was wrong—and proved it.

We would like to notice other matters in this address, but have not space.

We quote the following, and join most earnestly in the rejoicing of the brethren:

"The Right Worshipful Grand Master announced to Grand Lodge that Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Brother Michael Arnold had recently undergone a severe operation at the Jefferson Hospital, and is now a patient therein. He reported that he had made inquiry by telephone just before Grand Lodge opened and was advised that Brother Arnold was steadily improving; this was a matter of great rejoicing to the brethren present."

The Report on Correspondence (355 pp.) was prepared by Bro. JAMES M. LAMBERTON.

Of course it will be utterly impossible to notice all the matters of interest in this report, or even those of which we have made a note; but we desire to say in advance that because we *do not agree with our brother in much* that we do notice, it must not be assumed that there are not very many matters in which we do agree with him.

We fully agree with him in this :

"We are surprised at our brother's views, under Indiana, as to an atheist withdrawing from his lodge. When the brother referred to was made a mason he must have been a believer in God, and now that he has had the great misfortune to lose his faith in his Creator, and as an honest man withdraws, or asks to withdraw, our Brother Titcomb would hurl charity to the winds, and expel the brother. Our sorrow would not permit this, for an atheist is of all men most miserable and greatly to be pitied. A greater calamity than to lose faith in one's Maker we cannot imagine."

A Grand Master, relying upon a newspaper for his authority, made an erroneous statement, and while we agree with Bro. L. that "no paper should make such an assertion without full knowledge," yet, considering what the actual fact is, we wonder that any Grand Master should rely upon such authority.

He devotes about twenty-eight pages to Maine, which we will proceed to dispose of, and then see what space we have for other jurisdictions.

We thank him for his kind wishes in his personal allusion to us.

He gives six pages to the discussion of the question of "physical qualifications," which nearly all hinges upon the following :

"We may say here that twice, under South Carolina and Wisconsin, Bro. Drummond or his printer, by omitting a comma, gives the old regulation in what seems to be the usual incorrect way of quoting it, to which we referred in our review of Oregon last year, and to which we shall refer later.

"It is always well, for 'the truth of history,' to be sure of one's facts.

"Our brother says he *understands* that the Grand Lodge of England *refused its sanction* to the 1738 Constitutions, and of course, our brother so understands; *why* he so understands, we do not know."

We will enlighten him so that he will know. Many years ago, we came into the possession of a book entitled, "The HISTORY and CONSTITUTIONS of the Most Ancient and honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons": &c., &c., &c.

"By JAMES ANDERSON, D. D.

London: Printed; and sold by J. ROBINSON, at the Golden-Lion in Ludgate Street.

In the vulgar Year of Masonry 5776."

Never having seen any account of it, we wrote Dr. MACKEY inquiring what it was.

He replied that it was the Anderson Constitutions of 1738, with a new title page. He said that while the Grand Lodge sanctioned it before it was printed, that *after* it was printed, *it withdrew its sanction*; but a party got the sheets, substituted a new title page entirely different from the original, and put it upon the market. We have the book still. We found that the body of it was word for word the Constitutions of 1738, but that it had a false and fraudulent title page, which is very full and entirely different from that of the genuine edition.

Dr. MACKEY stated this as a fact and not as an opinion.

Relying upon this, when we edited the Maine Masonic Text Book in 1877, we stated in that and the statement has been repeated in every subsequent edition that "in 1738, Anderson published a second edition of his Constitution in which he attempted to condense and modify the Ancient Charges as given in his first edition. But the Grand Lodge refused its sanction and the charges, as originally published, have ever since been accepted as the true version."

In the "Masonic Historical and Bibliographical Memoranda" published in 1882, we described both books and stated that the 1738 edition "failed to receive the approval of the Grand Lodge."

The last named has been in constant use all over the country by librarians and masonic scholars, and during all this time our statement has never been questioned, much less denied, till this report of Bro. LAMBERTON'S.

And notwithstanding his flourish of trumpets we still believe that Dr. MACKEY was right. Of course we speak of the *printed* 1738 Constitutions. We believe so for the following reasons, among others.

1. Dr. MACKEY would never have made such a statement unless he had known that was true.
2. If it had the sanction of the Grand Lodge no one would have attempted to impose a fraud upon the craft, when the original would have been more desirable to them.
3. We are informed that the Grand Lodge of England still recognizes the version of 1721 as the correct version of the Old Charges.
4. We know that most of the Dominion Grand Lodges expressly give the 1721 version as the Old Charges.
5. MACKEY gives that in his Ahiman Rezon and so does Rockwell: we have not had time to examine the constitutions &c., of all the Grand Lodges, but so far as we have gone they all, with one exception, give the 1721 version as the recognized "Old Charges."

We commend to Bro. LAMBERTON his own statement. "It is always well for the 'truth of history' to be sure of one's facts!"

The pertinence of the foregoing is that Bro. JENKS of Wisconsin claimed that the Constitutions of 1738 repealed these of 1721, and Bro. LAMBERTON has taken up the cudgels in his behalf.

He quotes us as follows:

"He issued a circular, giving extracts from the present Ahiman Rezon—one nearly two pages in length, evidently the work of a recent writer, as it is not in the edition of 1878, or in any of the previous ones."

As our brother does not deny that "it is not in the edition of 1878" it is really not necessary to refer to it, and we should not were it not that in reply to our statement that it is evidently the work of a *recent* writer, he says that it was written over *thirty* years ago! The suggestion that "thirty years ago"

is not "recent," when speaking of masonic usage and masonic law, surprises us, especially when coming from a Pennsylvanian.

He mildly reproves us for speaking of the Old Charges of 1721, saying, and truly, that they were published in 1723. But they were presented to the Grand Lodge in 1721, and probably for that reason they are very generally spoken of as the Old Charges of 1721; and as every body knows what that means, we prefer to designate them in that manner.

He says that the present Ahiman Rezon has been adopted by the Grand Lodge and, therefore, all in it that purports to be the law of the Grand Lodge, has been adopted by it. We accept the correction; in other jurisdictions law is made only by specific action and not by the mere approval of a book, and we naturally assumed that such was the case in Pennsylvania.

In our last report we somewhat resented a personal allusion or what we understood to be such; but he disclaims it; others understood it as we did, and we have been more than once reminded of it, in a joking way by others. In view of his disclaimer, however, we regret that we noticed it.

The following is scarcely worth noticing, but we are so curious to find out what he means that we must be pardoned, as we have examined carefully the pages referred to and cannot even guess;

"As to our advice, that 'It might be just as well if our brother would read over the whole of his review of each jurisdiction before it goes to the printer, so that it may be consistent throughout,' our brother says, 'We will consider it when any reason is shown for our so doing.' If we had penned what our brother did on page 494 of his report for 1899, and then had turned back and read what we had already written under the same review, on page 283, we think we certainly should have changed one or the other."

He says further:

"We regret that our brother should have written as follows, referring apparently to the Library Committee:

"Our experience ought to have taught us that any statement coming from that source in relation to masonic historical matters in Philadelphia, cannot be safely relied on, until verified by investigation."

We did not refer to the Library Committee, but to the person, who at the time, was reported to be the author of the statement to which we referred.

Our stenographer has a "word sign" for "lodge" and another for "Grand Lodge" and sometimes one has been substituted for the other. We have usually detected the error and we were made in our report of 1899 to say "Grand Lodge" when we did say "lodge." If Bro. L. will strike out "Grand" in the last line of page cxxxi, and read the paragraph then he will have what we intended to say, and what we supposed that we did say, until we read this report.

He refers very gingerly to the "Cadwalader letter." He says no one now is bringing it forward. But we believe that all fairminded, unprejudiced men

will say that when the Grand Lodge allowed the publication in its Proceedings of an allusion to a forged document as if it was genuine, it is "bringing it forward," and that too in a very reprehensible way.

We again copy what the Grand Lodge published:

"Then again, this reference tends to give additional color to the statement in the celebrated Cadwalader letter, wherein Dr. Henry Bell, of Lancaster, claims to have been one of the originators of the first masons' lodge set up in Philadelphia in 1730."

He reiterates his position as follows:

"Daniel Coxe was appointed by the Grand Master of England, June 5, 1730, Provincial Grand Master of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania; and there were masonic lodges at work in Pennsylvania during that year; and we draw the irresistible conclusion that Brother Coxe warranted those lodges, and that they were regular in the sense Brother Drummond uses that word."

We make substantially the same reply that we did to the Grand Master: there was one lodge and its financial record (Libre B) shows that it was not a warranted lodge.

He quotes our closing remarks last year but claims that our use of the word "irregular" in connection with the 1751 lodge is "unfair" even upon the assumption that it was not a warranted body. But is his criticism a fair one? We said irregular *under the laws adopted in 1717*." Those laws in effect declared that no lodge subsequently formed would be regular *unless it had a warrant*. Can our brother say that our statement was not strictly accurate and therefore, fair?

He replies at much length to the remarks of Bro. NICKERSON of Massachusetts: but the most of it is threshing over old straw: all the old material points have been met and conclusively answered: the attempt to answer Bro. NICKERSON utterly fails. In his review of Maine, Bro. L. refers us to an alleged correction of an alleged error by Bro. NICKERSON, adopted by us as to whether a certain figure is a 6 or an 8: fortunately for us at a distance the page containing it was photographed in *fac simile* and we read it 6 as Bro. NICKERSON claims.

In closing we repeat our closing words of last year:

"Our brother leaves us 'to our thoughts.' Well, we will frankly tell him what they are. They are of *deep regret* that Philadelphia masons will not accept the position that the facts of history give their city as being the place in which the rites of Masonry were first practiced and the first masonic book published, in this country; and not endeavor to falsify history in order to gain for her other laurels not her own. For while the 1731 lodge was irregular under the laws adopted in 1717, the system contemplated by those laws had not become so well established as to make masonic work done under the old system irregular, especially as those interested procured the necessary authority as soon as practicable after they had learned that it *was* necessary. Our thoughts also are that every one outside of Pennsylvania, who has studied the early history of Masonry in America, joins with us in this regret."

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1900.

"A constitutional number of lodges being duly represented," the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Proxies were then presented; it appears that, in that jurisdiction, each officer appoints his own proxy and that there is no proxy for the lodge, as with us.

Among the Representatives present was R. W. BRO. GEO. W. WAKEFORD, for Maine.

The committees were then announced, and the Committee on Credentials made a partial report, and made other reports from time to time during the session.

The Grand Master, JOHN A. MESERVEY, called attention to the fact that this was the twenty-fifth annual communication of the Grand Lodge, it having been formed on June 23, 1875. Few who took part in its organization are now living, and *very* few were present.

Referring to the younger brethren who are becoming members of the Grand Lodge, he trusts that they will follow in the footsteps of those who had made the Grand Lodge what it is. In this connection, he says:

"You doubtless know that there is a great deal more in Masonry than the forms and ceremonies, and the ability to give the memorial work in a perfect manner. Don't misunderstand me. I do not wish for one moment to underestimate these, but our one aim should be to promote Harmony, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, always to be considerate of a brother's feelings and to do all in our power to encourage and help any charitable undertaking which will benefit mankind."

He refers to the war and to the part the Canadian volunteers had taken in it, 47 of whom were from his province, and two of those masons.

The Island had been blessed with a bountiful harvest.

He reports the death of Past Grand Treasurer J. D. MASON, who was elected to that office when the Grand Lodge was formed.

He had visited 11 of the 13 lodges, and he speaks briefly of those visits and of them says:

"The lodges throughout the country are doing splendidly. The average attendance and financial position of the lodges are good, and the work is done in an excellent manner, taking into consideration the distance the brethren have to come to their lodges, which gives them very little chance to hold lodges of instruction. Some have to drive 8 to 12 miles. I had the pleasure of seeing the first degree given in a number of lodges throughout the country, and it was given in a very impressive manner, which did credit to their officers."

The Grand Secretary, in his business-like report, thus speaks of the library:

"I have received printed copies of the proceedings from nearly every Grand Lodge in communication with this Grand Lodge, many of them bound volumes, a valuable addition to our library, which now comprises close on twelve hundred volumes."

One of the lodges not visited by the Grand Master was visited by his deputy, who reports a good attendance and the lodge in excellent working order.

One of the lodges had received two dimitts from parties professing to have received the degrees in Ohio, but upon inquiry it was found that the bodies from which they professed to hail, were spurious, and they were not admitted. Before admitting them, they applied to the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and upon his advice no action was taken until he had communicated with the Grand Secretary, who of course gave him the proper information, and thereupon recognition was refused to these men.

The committee, to which was referred the project of the formation of one Grand Lodge for the Maritime Provinces, reported their correspondence, but as already stated, on account of the limitation of the powers of the committee of one Grand Lodge, no progress had been made.

The usual routine business was transacted in harmony. Almost every lodge had done work during the year and there was an increase in the total membership.

No Report on Correspondence.

QUEBEC, 1900.

We have the portraits of three Past Grand Masters, JOHN P. NOYES, FREDERIC MASSEY, and E. T. D. CHAMBERS.

A special communication had been held to attend the funeral of Past Grand Master JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, whose death we announced last year.

At the annual communication, the Grand Officers assumed their stations, the Committee on Credentials reported, and there being a sufficient representation, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Grand Master, BENJAMIN TOOKE, delivered a business-like address, in which he enumerated his official acts and speaks wisely and in general terms in relation to Masonry and the duties of masons. In this connection he well says:

"Freemasonry, brethren, is credited as being a secret organization, so are its daily acts of benevolence and charity. We have among our ranks the great and good of every age, the ruler of the land as well as the honest son of toil; in fact, representatives of every walk in life. Is it not therefore natural that varied and urgent claims are brought before us? Yet it cannot be said they are published to the world. A mason's pride is never hurt when he confides his misfortune to a brother; he knows too well, all that is expected is a grateful echo in his heart, the grand aim and object of our fraternity being to soothe the unhappy, sympathize with misfortune, and restore peace to the troubled mind."

We do not believe that the disinclination referred to by Grand Master TOOKE is sufficiently appreciated by our brethren, and especially that many members are suspended for non-payment of dues, who would not be, if their actual financial circumstances were known.

Of the death of Bro. GRAHAM he says:

"In August last I received a telegram announcing the death of our first Grand Master, Most Wor. Bro. J. Hamilton Graham, LL. D., who departed this life at Hartford, Conn. His loss is greatly deplored by all who knew him and more especially by the entire craft. His services at the formation of this Grand Lodge were invaluable; he was a true exponent of Freemasonry, and a brother universally known, beloved and honored. His remains were removed to his late residence at Richmond and afterwards conveyed to the Town Hall. Hundreds of citizens took a last look at his well known features, and the afternoon of his funeral, August 15th, was generally regarded as a time of mourning."

* * * * *

"The affection and consideration extended to the relatives of Dr. Graham at the time of his death by the brethren of Hartford is still fresh in our memory, and only serve as one more illustration of that universal brotherhood we all enjoy throughout the entire world."

He refers to the war in much the tones of the other Grand Masters in the Dominion.

He discusses at some length the question of exclusive jurisdiction of Grand Lodges, commending the attitude of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales upon that question, and then refers specifically to the existence of three lodges in his jurisdiction which have not given in their allegiance to his Grand Lodge. He deplores the division of the masons in that Province, but states that the whole responsibility must be laid upon their refusal to give in their allegiance as they should do. But he advises the Grand Lodge not to take any action during the last year of the century, and closes by saying:

"On the other hand, if no effort be made by those who should, to effect a settlement satisfactory to the great majority of masons in the Province, during this interval, we must place the responsibility on the members of these three lodges, who still refuse our rights, for any legislation we may be compelled to take, to uphold our proper position among all Grand Lodges in the world.

"While admitting the sayings and doings of individuals on both sides for the last 30 years are open to criticism, we believe the improved conditions now existing will enable the same brethren to be reasonable in all demands. Let the past be forgotten and the present devoted to settle all differences by the principles we teach."

He discusses the question of non-payment of dues, urging an investigation always, and well says:

"The first named are more familiar with their true position than any-one else, except perhaps their families or those dependent on them. Investigate such cases and if worthy grant such a brother his dimit at once without trial.

"To summons him to appear and show cause, is equivalent to summons him to show poverty. Treat him leniently and in accordance with the spirit of our fraternity, and when conditions warrant it, he will be only too glad to renew the pleasant relations he formerly enjoyed with his brethren. A brother is not likely to forget a summons, or forgive a suspension, but deal with him in a broad fraternal spirit, and fewer will be turned adrift. Let us in this way endeavor to reverse existing conditions by encouraging restorations and decreasing suspensions.

"The other class, those who can but will not, need hardly be considered here, our constitution wisely provides for such cases, no one even suggests the altering or amending of all existing legislation to insure discipline over those who require it."

He had made quite a large number of official visitations, and his general statement is that the lodges were in good condition. Other matters were considered, but his Grand Lodge has met since then, and as we are hoping to receive the Proceedings before this report is concluded, we omit any further reference to this address.

The reports of the other officers show a prompt, full and energetic performance of official duties. In particular, the deputies make reports showing that they appreciate the responsibility of the office, and have faithfully endeavored to perform its duties.

The Grand Chaplain delivered a fine address, which is published with the Proceedings.

The matter of establishing a Permanent Benevolent Fund and a Home for the Grand Lodge was discussed very fully, but final action upon it was postponed until the next session. The general idea was to purchase the Masonic Temple in Montreal, whose revenues should be applied to relieve distress.

The Report on Correspondence (110 pp.) was presented by Bro. E. D. T. CHAMBERS, who "returns to the pen" after two years' service as Grand Master.

Under the head of "Freemasonry and War," he says:

"Well would it be if he could open his report with assurances of universal peace.

"Yet there are greater evils than those of war. There are those who would cry 'peace!' when there is no peace; who would suffer injustice, oppression and wrong to prevail, rather than to take up arms to violate a peace that was without honor."

He enlarges upon this view, ending with the hope that the end will soon come and that the peace may be a lasting and honorable one.

He discusses the question of Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and well says:

"In some corners of the globe very peculiar views are evidently held in regard to the relations of sister Grand Lodges.

"The writer can conceive of nothing that is more absolutely certain than the supremacy of a properly constituted Grand Lodge, in and throughout the masonic territory or jurisdiction in and for which it has been established. In age, in numbers, in strength, in wealth and in influence there are, of course, differences in the Grand Bodies of Masonry; but because we believe with the Fathers, in the doctrine of 'the equality of all masons,' and with Euclid, that 'things which are equal to the same thing are equal to one another,' it is impossible for us to do otherwise than to hold that in supremacy, dignity and honor there can be no difference between the Grand Lodges of the world, but that the smallest Supreme Sovereign Grand Lodge on earth is in all these respects the peer of the largest and most influential of the entire sisterhood of Grand Lodges. It is admitted, as Dr. Mackey says, 'that all the functions and powers that were possessed by the original Grand Lodge (of England) have descended to every other Grand Lodge that has been subsequently instituted, so far as the jurisdiction of each is concerned.' Here again, despite the discrepancy in age and influence, each of these Grand Bodies is the peer of the original Grand Lodge, and the corresponding officers of each are co-equal in dignity and honor."

He draws one inference, however, that we are not prepared to admit, and that is that the acceptance of honorary membership in another Grand Lodge, with a rank inferior to that which one holds in his own Grand Lodge, is an acknowledgment that his Grand Lodge is the inferior of that other. We have not space to discuss the matter and notice it only to express our dissent from this view. We have an impression that this whole matter was discussed in the Grand Lodge of England, and if so we may have something further to say about it before closing this report.

He dissents from Grand Master LOCKE'S views in relation to making masons of Catholics, but in his discussion does not notice the real question at issue, that by the law of the Catholic church, *a member is not allowed to be a Freemason.*

Referring to our discussion of the Washington matter he says :

“ His history of the hideous deformity that the Grand Lodge of Washington took to its bosom for a time, and his clear cut and convincing proof of its spurious origin, is a brilliant chapter of the best contemporary literature of Masonry.”

We regret to find from the following that the present state of division among the masons of Quebec is likely to continue longer than we had hoped :

“ His expression of the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Quebec, if it would only insist upon its rights and enforce them, could put to rest a matter that has been troubling it ever since its organization, is undoubtedly due to his intense sympathy for our Grand Lodge and a desire to see the right prevail. The masonic history of the last twenty years in Quebec shows that Brother Drummond's hope is groundless, at least so far as the present is concerned. The Grand Lodge of Quebec pursued the course suggested by our good brother, not in the manner of a creditor taking a debtor by the throat, it is true, but as a body of masons fraternally standing for a masonic right, which, as masons, they had every reason to expect would be accorded them by all other masons the world over. If, finding themselves disappointed in this reasonable expectation, they abstain to-day from maintaining an attitude, which, in the present temper of other excellent masons who are doing equally good work in the cause of T. G. A. O. T. U., will clearly not tend to secure to the Grand Lodge its masonic rights, but will rather serve to perpetuate what the outside world is apt to regard as a masonic scandal, it is not that our Grand Lodge has forgotten or withdrawn its rightful claim, but that those who have given the most careful thought and consideration to the matter, have arrived at the conclusion that only Time—the great healer—will bring about the final establishment of right and justice.”

As already stated, we are earnestly hoping that before closing our review, we shall receive the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge at its annual communication in January last.

RHODE ISLAND, 1900.

We have the proceedings for the year ending June 24, 1900.

A special communication was held September 4, 1899, to lay the cornerstone of the new city building, a fine cut of which is given, in Newport, R. I.

The full proceedings are published, and we commend them as a model, especially because they are in accordance with the ceremonies on such occasions in that jurisdiction "from a time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," at least so far as living masons are concerned.

The Grand Lodge was opened on the first degree, the procession was formed very much in the same order, and with the same working tools, &c., as is given in the earlier Pennsylvania Ahiman Rezon. At the close of the services, the Grand Lodge returned to the Temple and was closed.

St. John's Lodge, of Newport, celebrated its one hundred and fiftieth anniversary, but only a few brief notes in relation to it are given in the Proceedings. We earnestly hope that they will be published in full in pamphlet form.

At the annual communication it was ascertained that twenty-seven lodges were represented when "the semi-annual communication is opened in ample form upon the three degrees of Freemasonry, with prayer by the Rev. and R. W. Grand Chaplain."

The Grand Master, MILTON LIVSEY, delivered a brief address. He decided that under the law of that Grand Lodge, a lodge cannot remit the dues of a member suspended for non-payment of dues, but that such member must pay the whole, including those for the time in which he was under suspension, except by the special consent of the Grand Lodge, and that the action of a lodge undertaking to restore without such consent was void.

He stated that the provision in the Constitution that the first degree should not be conferred on more than five candidates at the same communication had been construed as a right to confer that degree on five brethren *at one and the same time*, which he decided was contrary to law, and the Grand Lodge passed a resolution forbidding the presence of more than one candidate in the first section of the first degree.

Trouble had arisen in relation to the form of petitions for the degrees, the Grand Master stating that in very many petitions some of the requisites required by law had been omitted. But he advised against prescribing a form, as it was the custom of some lodges to secure an account of the personal history of the candidate. He had sent out a circular calling attention to the statements that were required in the petition, and ordered it to be read before the Grand Lodge and a minute of it to be entered of record.

The Grand Secretary, as custodian of the work, reported an increasing interest in it, and a desire to render the ritual strictly in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge.

He announced several handsome donations to the library, and eagerly calls for more.

The Grand Lodge sustained the decision of the Grand Master last year, that an objection to a candidate can only be made after a ballot.

He decided that a rejected candidate may and must apply to the lodge

which rejected him, although he has changed his residence into the jurisdiction of another lodge. This is different from the law in Maine, which was decided upon the express language of our Constitution; but the Rhode Island law is the most logical, inasmuch as the idea upon which the law of jurisdiction is founded does not contemplate that a candidate shall be under the *joint jurisdiction of lodges*, but under that of only one lodge.

It was held, also, that if a candidate had been elected, and has not been initiated, the Master of the lodge could furnish him with an official statement to the effect that he could apply to any other lodge within whose jurisdiction he resided. In almost all other jurisdictions, the law is the other way.

The committee refrained from comment upon the Grand Master's remarks in relation to the Washington matter, because the Grand Lodge had already expressed itself "so emphatically against the pernicious doctrines advanced by the Grand Lodge of Washington."

An important amendment to the Constitution was before the Grand Lodge, for which the Grand Master bespoke careful consideration, and after a lengthy discussion, the matter was referred back to the original committee.

A committee was appointed to examine the by-laws of all the lodges and report all such as were inconsistent with the Grand Lodge law.

Another lodge celebrated its centennial, but only a brief mention of it is made.

At the annual communication, Grand Master LIVSEY, as is customary in that jurisdiction, announced all the deaths among the Past Masters of the jurisdiction during the year, gave an account of the dispensations which he had issued and his other official acts.

He had visited a large number of the lodges and was greatly pleased with the manner in which the work was conducted.

The repeal by the Grand Lodge of Washington of the objectionable legislation, had made it not only possible but a pleasure, to comply with their request for an exchange of representatives.

He made various recommendations, which are rather of a routine character, but among them was one that an office should be secured for the Grand Secretary, in which he should be required to be present two or more hours a day.

The reports of the other officers show a careful performance of duty and a prosperous growth apparently in all respects during the year.

The Committee on Reprint reported that on account of the condition of the treasury they had not expended any of the appropriation. They stated that about 250 pages of the second volume had been printed, and suggest that another year be printed, bringing it down to, and including 1830, and that the volume be then bound and issued, leaving the carrying out of the original plan to bring the reprint down to 1852 for later action. But the whole matter was left to the discretion of the Grand Master. We most earnestly hope that the

original plan will be carried out, so that it will be possible for masonic libraries, especially those of sister Grand Lodges, to have a complete file of the proceedings from the organization of the Grand Lodge to the present time.

The Committee on By-Laws reported at some length, suggesting amendments to the by-laws of quite a number of lodges.

There was no Report on Correspondence.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1900.

A special communication was held May 15, 1900, to lay the corner-stone of the new city hall and opera house, in Columbia.

The Grand Lodge was opened on the first degree, the procession formed and marched to the new city hall building. The corner-stone was laid with the usual ceremonies, when the Grand Lodge returned to the Temple, and was closed in ample form.

The trowel used on the occasion was the same that was used by LAFAYETTE in laying the corner stone of the DeKalb monument in 1825.

The proceedings were almost exactly the same as those to which we have referred in our review of Rhode Island.

Bro. JACOB T. BARRON delivered an address, in which he explains some of the symbols and allegories used in masonic ceremonies.

We regret that his address is not given in full, because the report of it states, "He explained why the corner-stone was always laid in the north-east corner of the building."

We have recently received a letter claiming that formerly the corner-stone was laid in the north-west corner, and it was stated that the corner-stone of the Capitol at Washington was so laid. We think that practically in this section of the country there has been no uniform rule; perhaps the reason grew out of the necessities of each particular case.

The Grand Lodge also dedicated the hall of Hermon Lodge, in public, and a pretty full account of the proceedings is given, except that the addresses are omitted.

The Grand Secretary gives a note that excites our curiosity a great deal, and for that reason we quote it:

"Hermon Lodge, after the dedication of its hall, did not forget its guests. Just in the rear of the lodge hall, in a beautiful grove of oaks, an elegant feast had been prepared, and such a feast! The fires had been kept brightly burning for more than a day and everybody had been anticipating a fine time—they were not disappointed. Long pits had been dug in the ground, and a grand, old 'before the war' barbecue had been prepared. Cows, hogs and sheep had been slaughtered by the wholesale and placed over the fires in the pits. It was something new to the younger generation. Breads of all kinds, pickles, salads, pies and preserves, and Capt. Joe McGee's celebrated barbecue hash, bounteously supplied the long tables, which had been erected near

the pits. Everybody was invited to come and eat and be filled. More than one thousand gathered around the tables and enjoyed the feast. Perfect good order and kind feeling prevailed; all had plenty; all were pleased and all went away satisfied. Thus ended a delightful day. Long live Hermon Lodge!"

This is the first time we have heard of that "hash," and we confess that we should like to have a better knowledge of it than the mere hearing of it.

At the annual communication the Grand Officers took their places and apparently the representatives of lodges took theirs, as the list is given, and after giving the list the record states that "the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form on the Third degree of Masonry."

The Mayor of the City of Charleston welcomed the brethren and the Grand Master replied in behalf of the Grand Lodge. Then the Grand Master announced that as a constitutional quorum was present, the Grand Lodge was ready for business.

The Grand Master, ORLANDO SHEPPARD, delivered a very interesting address, covering a large number of points. His opening remarks in relation to the object of Masonry and the duties of masons are earnest and eloquent.

He pays a merited tribute to Bro. INGLESBY, the Grand Secretary, and congratulates the Grand Lodge and the craft upon his restoration to health from a very serious illness. We had not heard of this, but we desire to join our brethren of that jurisdiction in expressions of thankfulness and congratulation that his life was spared.

He informs the Grand Lodge that he had received a circular from the Grand Lodge of England, notifying him that the Grand Orient of France had invaded the territory of the Grand Lodge of England by chartering a lodge in London. But the Grand Master says that this proceeding is of a piece with the history of the Grand Orient, and reminds the brethren that all masonic intercourse with it was forbidden years ago, and he saw no occasion for magnifying that body by issuing circulars.

He held, and as we think correctly, that at a meeting of a lodge called to bury a deceased brother, a tribute to the memory of such brother may be adopted, because such action is germane to the purpose for which the extra communication was called.

Believing that the secret ballot is the great bulwark of Freemasonry, he had ruled in a case somewhat doubtful that a lodge could not excuse a member from voting on a petition.

He informs the Grand Lodge of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and gives the letter of the Grand Secretary notifying the Grand Lodge of Washington of the resumption of masonic communication, and the Grand Master says that he states it with very sincere pleasure.

He had issued an appeal on account of the sufferers at Galveston, and very gratifying responses were made.

He announced that the Grand Secretary, before his illness, was able to pre-

pare a new edition of the Ahiman Rezon, and that it had been published under the superintendence of the Deputy Grand Master.

In relation to the non-payment of dues he well says :

“ If lodges would deal promptly with members, who neglect to pay their dues for twelve months, it would be better for the defaulting members, as well as for the lodges.

“ Because, if a brother cannot pay his dues for one year it is unjust to him to allow him to go on another year, and perhaps another, thus adding to the amount he will have eventually to pay, if he is erased for the non-payment of dues, before he can get back. If a brother is erased when he is only one year in arrears he is much more apt to try to get back into the fold than he is if his dues are allowed to accumulate before he is erased.

“ Therefore, it is better for the lodges and for the defaulting members to enforce the law promptly and rigidly, and I believe if it is done that we will have fewer unaffiliated masons in our jurisdiction.”

He had granted a large number of dispensations, and refused a good many.

He had received a communication from the spurious body in Ohio, but did not deem it worthy of notice, and he only mentioned the matter to the Grand Lodge to caution them in regard to admission of visitors.

His whole address, and all the proceedings, show the gratifying fact that the craft is increasing in prosperity in that jurisdiction.

During the communication, the Grand Lodge closed on the third degree and opened on the first, and laid the corner stone of the Exposition Building.

The Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master made brief addresses, which are given in the proceedings. The occasion was one of much interest.

While the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters show that a few lodges had become dormant or were in a depressed condition, the general statement is that the lodges are prospering and doing good work.

We note that when the Grand Lodge came to the installation of its officers it was closed on the third degree and opened on the first; and when the installation was completed, it was opened again on the third degree. We do not remember that we ever before noticed this proceeding.

The Grand Secretary had just commenced the Report on Correspondence when he was taken ill. Finding that he would not recover his health in season to publish the report, he applied to Bro. JOHN R. BELLINGER, Junior Grand Warden, to perform the work, and he consented. He had been unable to complete the report at the time of the session of the Grand Lodge, but the Grand Secretary asked and obtained permission to publish the report with the Proceedings, under the direction of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

BRO. BELLINGER submitted a very full and able report (pp. 187), and the only suggestion of improvement that we could make would be precisely that of last year—the style of printing it. While undoubtedly the style in which it is printed gets more into the same space, we believe that the saving injures the report.

We have marked a very large number of matters for notice, but they involve so much space that we shall be obliged to omit very many of them.

We find that in South Carolina, their practice in regard to a dimit is substantially the same as in Maine, only it is, as Bro. BELLINGER says, phrased somewhat different. A member can resign his membership, as was the practice in old times, and the lodge is bound to grant a certificate to that effect, which will enable him to apply for affiliation elsewhere. The lodge also may grant what they call a dimit, which carries a recommendation with it, but the latter is granted only upon careful scrutiny.

Bro. BELLINGER discusses this same matter in various places in his report and agrees with our views in this matter.

He discusses at considerable length the question of physical qualifications.

We do not hold that under the Constitution of his Grand Lodge, any other doctrine can be followed than that which his Grand Lodge follows, but the trouble is that the provision in that Constitution is a departure from the old charge upon the subject. He adopts MACKAY'S fad for claiming a symbolism, but history is so conclusively against him that we need only refer to it. The law prevailed before the change of the institution from an operative one to a speculative one, and was continued after the change.

Referring to our criticism of MACKAY'S statement that a candidate must be a perfect man spiritually as well as physically, he says:

“ We can see nothing unfortunate about it. It you will substitute the word ‘moral’ for ‘spiritual, which will hardly change the meaning, for the mason erects a ‘moral and masonic edifice,’ then as a ‘wild perfectionist’ we say ‘moral perfection’ equivalent to ‘spiritual perfection,’ is theoretically at least, if, unfortunately, not actually, a pre-requisite to initiation. The candidate must be ‘under the tongue of good report.’ In the language of the Maine Committee on Condition to the Fraternity there must not be ‘a negative ignorance of anything *bad*,’ but ‘a positive knowledge of *good* qualities.’ In other words, ‘moral perfection,’ as that perfection may be attained by humanity, in each case in accordance with the light possessed. Nor does this militate against the idea of masonic growth, or moral growth in Masonry, because the building is not complete until the last lesson is learned, any more than it can be said that a human being is not perfect at birth because he has to grow to manhood, yes, and in many cases to a second childhood, but in the masonic meaning he is not perfect either in childhood or in dotage, and hence in either case he can not be made a mason. In this world there can be no *absolute* perfection either in morals, in mind or in our physical nature. There must be growth in mind and morals, or there will be retrogression. Still there is in this world a relative state of perfection in all three sides of our nature, physical, moral and mental, and according to masonic theory they must exist in a candidate, and we do violence to Masonry when we make one a mason who we know does not possess them.”

We submit, with due deference to our brother, that this surrenders the whole question. Perfection does not mean perfection under this statement, and of course it follows that the moment we depart from absolute perfection it is only a question as to where we shall draw the line. And to say that our candidates

are either physically, morally or spiritually perfect, is simply to say what is not true of any human being. South Carolina draws the line as near perfection as they can, while almost all the other jurisdictions draw it in accordance with the qualifications of the law, which practically is that he shall be capable of doing all masonic work.

Our brother's doctrine demands an impossibility. The other doctrine demands what is reasonable.

In his review of Maine, referring to the remarks of Grand Master CHOATE, he would go slow in introducing new methods and new laws, and about meeting the changing relations of life he says :

“With Masonry, as well as wine, we think the older, the better it is, and putting new wine into old bottles may break them.”

He dissents from two decisions of Grand Master CHOATE, which, however, are correct under our law and the general usage in this section of the country.

The first is that a Master may call any brother to “preside in his presence and under his direction.” Perhaps the words “under his direction” are too broad, but from a time immemorial, it has been the practice in this section of the country for a Master to call a brother to the chair to preside and do the work; but this can be done only in the presence of the Master, and the Master is really responsible for what happens, although while the brother is in the chair for the moment he exercises all the powers of Master. But the Master can resume the chair at any moment.

The second is that he holds that a brother suspended from membership, or deprived of membership, for non-payment of dues, is not in such standing that he can visit a lodge. Such is not the law in Maine, nor was it formerly in the other neighboring Grand Lodges, and we doubt if it is now. Depriving a brother of membership or suspending him from membership, deprives him of lodge rights, and he is precisely in the situation for the time being of any unaffiliated mason.

He believes that the convention plan prevailing in Maine, is the best plan for good results.

He endorses our Committee on the Condition of Masonry, as follows :

“In speaking of the quality of the material, the committee says: ‘Neglect of investigation—a passive reliance upon a general or specious reputation—a negative ignorance of anything *bad* without a positive knowledge of *good* qualities, is *not* sufficient investigation.’ We agree fully with this and commend it to the consideration of our lodges.”

He dissents from the views of Grand Master LOCKE, in which Bro. INGLESBY had concurred, in relation to the admission of Roman Catholics; but his dissent depends upon a question of fact which underlies the foundation of the whole matter. He seems to us to ignore the main fact, and that is, that *joining the masons is a direct violation of the law of the church*, and such a violation, if persisted in, would lead to excommunication.

He copies in full the encyclical letter issued by Grand Master DAVID RAMSAY during the Civil War. It will be remembered by our older brethren that when Grand Master PREBLE received this letter, he was so struck with its masonic tone and doctrine, that he caused it to be printed and a copy sent to every lodge to be posted in its hall.

A short time since a few copies of it came into our possession, and it occurred to us that the present generation in South Carolina might not be acquainted with that splendid document, and we therefore sent a copy to the Grand Secretary, with a brief note on it as to its history. We are greatly pleased that our expectations in relation to it were well founded. Of it, our brother in a note at the end of his report, says:

"The address of Grand Master Ramsay, written at a time when sectional strife was raging, when the North and South were unhappily engaged in the most terrible of wars, and when passion naturally ran high, is republished, as strong evidence of the universality of Masonry and of that feeling of brotherly love and fraternal duty which it inculcates and ever endeavors to maintain and perpetuate among its members. We commend the address to the attention of our brethren everywhere, and we trust that the sentiments which it contains will always be the guiding principle of our fraternity and the practice of all her members."

We join most earnestly in the sentiment of this note.

Of Grand Master RAMSAY, Bro. BELLINGER says:

"Grand Master Ramsay was G. M. in 1861-2. He was mortally wounded at Battery Wagner on Morris Island on July 18, 1863, while gallantly leading the Charleston Battalion, of which he was Major, to retake the Southeast Bastion of the Fort, which was occupied by the Federals, but who were all killed or captured by the Confederate forces. Major Ramsay was carried to Charleston and died there August 4th following. He was not quite 33 years of age. He had graduated at Charleston College and had completed his education at the Universities of Heidelberg and Gottingen, Germany. He was a grandson of David Ramsay, the S. C. Historian, and, on his mother's side, a great-grandson of the patriot and statesman, Henry Laurens."

But in this letter he has left a legacy to the fraternity well worth the work of a much longer life, and we are glad that it is printed in full in these Proceedings.

In his review of Maine, he says further:

"A number of Grand Representatives were in attendance, but there seems to be a vacancy, so far as we are concerned, and we trust that it will be filled by Grand Master Sheppard at once."

We note that South Carolina is absent in our list of representatives last year, and if it has not already been done, we trust that the vacancy will speedily be filled.

While we sincerely trust that Bro. INGLESBY has fully recovered so that he may be able to resume all his duties, yet it will be a pleasure to him to know that the reputation of his Grand Lodge is wholly sustained by his substitute, who prepared this report.

SOUTH DAKOTA, 1900.

The frontispiece is a portrait of WILLIAM H. RODDIE, the retiring Grand Master.

It was ascertained that the Grand Officers and the Representatives of a constitutional number of the subordinate lodges were present, and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Master of the local lodge welcomed the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master responded.

Grand Master RODDIE in his annual address thus refers to the quite wonderful growth of the craft in that jurisdiction:

“As an index of our increasing strength numerically, we have but to refer to the record, which shows that twenty-five years ago when this Grand Lodge was holding its first communication it consisted of six lodges with 195 members; in 1889 it had increased to 105 lodges with 4,595 members. When another State and Grand Lodge—that of North Dakota—was formed out of the original jurisdiction leaving us but 74 lodges with 3,385 members, while to-day we are 97 lodges with 4,661 members, a net increase of 224 members during the past year, and giving us a greater membership than before statehood and the division.”

He had made two decisions in relation to the reports of Investigating Committees, which we copy in full:

“Committee to whom a petition is referred should not report in writing, but must report favorable or unfavorable to the Master or Secretary in accordance with their findings.

“This is in accordance with the ruling of this Grand Lodge—that the committee's report is not proper matter to enter in the record of the proceedings—thus to make this report in writing would be inconsistent, inasmuch as the filing of the petition by the Secretary makes it as much a part of the record as the record book itself. Further, it is necessary that the report should be explicit; either favorable or unfavorable for the guidance of those members who have no personal knowledge of the applicant.

“The above questions grew out of the fact that discord and ill feeling frequently follow an unfavorable report and concluded by asking:

“Is there any way by which the committee can avoid disclosing the secrets of their ballot and still faithfully perform their duty?

“My first impression was that this might be avoided by a secret appointment and secret report, but on more careful consideration, it seems to me that such a course would only cheapen or place a lower value upon the promise we have all made and which should be inviolable. Thus my answer was ‘No.’ With the further advice to guard well the outer door, for our strength does not depend altogether on numbers, and should any brother so far forget as to be guilty of an unmasonic act because of the unfavorable report upon one whom he wished accepted, that the sooner he felt the strong arm of masonic discipline the better.”

We believe that the report should be made in writing in open lodge; that it should not be “put on file,” as that would make it more likely to be exposed to the public than if recorded, but that it should be destroyed.

But we agree fully in his conclusion. We have come to a very dangerous position, if Committees on Investigation cannot perform their duty faithfully

without danger of their action becoming known to the profane world; and the thinning out process ought to be commenced and carried on till that danger is at an end.

He gives the rule of physical qualification in that jurisdiction as follows:

“A petitioner for degrees must be physically able to literally comply, absolutely, with the requirements of the several degrees.”

Upon his recommendation the Grand Lodge purchased a surety company bond for the Grand Treasurer.

He attended the Washington Centennial Ceremonies, and like all others who attended, speaks in the highest terms of their good effect.

He pays an eloquent tribute to the soldiers from his State in the Philippines, saying that Past Grand Master J. Q. A. BRADEN and some others are still in the service.

Of the condition of the craft, he says:

“With very few exceptions all lodges in this jurisdiction have enjoyed prosperity during the year. More work has been done than in recent years, and the standard of qualifications in applicants has been well maintained, while the item of unpaid dues is less than formerly, which fact may to a great extent, I believe, be credited to the wise action and advice of my predecessor, M. W. Bro. Levoy.

“One most fruitful source of loss in my opinion is the failure to keep dues well paid up. Delinquency breeds lack of interest, non-attendance, a general backsliding, masonically, on the part of the delinquent, and consequent dismissal or suspension. Generally speaking the lodges whose dues are well kept up, are the thrifty, active, prosperous ones. This leads up to the idea that the Secretary is one of the most, if not the most important officer in a lodge. Choose carefully, and when you have once found the right man for the right place, keep him there; your success depends largely on him.”

If this could be posted in every lodge, so that it would be seen by all the members present at every meeting, the list of delinquent members would be much smaller; and if every lodge would have a Secretary who should be paid for calling on those who do not attend the lodge meetings we should reduce the non-paying members to those whose dues should be remitted and to those who are not worth keeping.

Of “Rotation in Office,” he says:

“Much has been said pro and con on this subject.

“With the exception of Secretary, I believe a judicious adherence to the rule would be beneficial—neither the extreme of changing every year, nor yet the opposite, of keeping the same brethren in office until every brother with a laudable ambition to advance has despaired of having an opportunity.

“By adopting a middle course, the Master will seldom lack for a bright man to fill an office on short notice, and all who have been Masters appreciate how important that it should be so.

“It is equally important to discourage the idea that because a brother has been elected or appointed to an office that he is therefore ‘in line,’ and that unless his promotion follows that he has been ‘turned down’ and has a grievance.

“Fitness only should recommend a brother for advancement. Mistakes are often made in electing or appointing, and, if made, should in the best interest

of the craft, be corrected at the first opportunity, and no brother who from neglect or inability fails to fill the place to which he has been advanced creditably, has cause for any stronger feeling than regret that he had not done better."

We agree fully in his views; but the trouble is that where the rotation doctrine prevails, it is enforced with an iron hand; the friends of every brother in the line combine in favor of all: we know an instance, and not in a subordinate body either, in which an officer has been promoted, election after election, by the votes of those, who say he is not fit for the position towards which he is traveling, but dare not vote against him for fear that their action would be taken as a precedent to injure the prospects of others who are following him in the same road.

The Grand Secretary reports that the returns had been made with more promptness than ever before, but *seven* lodges were in default, and he says:

"It seems, however, that some lodges, in regard to their Secretary, have the habit of 'passing the office around.' The result is disastrous. I hope the day will soon come when all members will recognize that the office of Secretary is the most important position in the subordinate lodge."

He says further:

"I have prepared and attached to this report a table of work done since the organization of this Grand Lodge, which may be interesting to many, and will call your attention to the fact that out of a list of sixty-seven past elective Grand Officers and in twenty-six years' time there have entered into rest but one Grand Master, two Deputy Grand Masters, one Senior Grand Warden, one Junior Grand Warden, three Grand Treasurers and one Grand Secretary."

The number of members returned is 4,668, and he says that it can be estimated from the returns that there are nearly half as many more masons in the State, eighty per cent. of which have never held membership in that jurisdiction.

P. G. Master WILLIAM BLATT sent a letter regretting his enforced absence, and resigning his office as Grand Lodge Historian. By vote of the Grand Lodge its regrets were forwarded by telegraph.

The son of Past Grand Master WELLS, of Minnesota, visited the Grand Lodge, and was greeted cordially for the affection which the craft in that jurisdiction have for his father, who succeeded in having Minnesota recognize this Grand Lodge after it had once refused to do so, because (as we remember) a lodge chartered by it in Dakota was not allowed to continue in *allegiance* to it.

The decision of the Grand Master in relation to the report of Investigating Committees was modified as follows:

"The committee upon a petition should endorse on the petition, the word favorable or unfavorable, as its finding warrants, returning said petition to the Secretary, who announces to the lodge that the report of the committee is favorable or unfavorable. This report must not appear upon the minutes, the petition itself being a part of the records and filed in the Archives of the lodge."

We refer to what we have already said in relation to this matter. Formerly it was supposed that if a lodge was not incorporated, it could not be compelled to produce its records in court; but this is not true now, if it ever was, and no record of any character should be kept, which will expose to the profane the names of the brethren who take any part in the rejection of a candidate.

Other jurisdictions have had occasion to adopt something like the following:

“Owing to the increased demand for our annual Proceedings, we would recommend that all requests for the same outside of the regular routine distribution, shall be made to the Grand Secretary, and he be instructed to dispose of them at cost, using his own judgment as to who are included in the routine distribution.”

The Report on Correspondence (136 pp.) was presented by Bro. SAMUEL A. BROWN.

Of the Washington matter he says:

“Our brethren of the Grand Lodge of Washington have finally receded from their threatening and perilous position of affiliation with clandestine Masonry. They have entertained motions to renew their edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and rescinded the resolution in favor of another Grand Lodge in the State of Washington.

“They declare that all of the Grand Lodges misunderstood them, that the resolutions which caused so much apprehension and disapproval did not mean that they would recognize as true masons any that are clandestine, and that their lodges are still at liberty to receive any visitors they please subject only to the vote of their own Grand Lodge. This last part of their new declaration dulls the pleasure of many Grand Lodges that are keen to forgive and forget, and no doubt it will be years before all wounds will be healed. But your committee has full confidence to believe that the masons in Washington are true-hearted brethren, and that they will yet so define their position that all can understand that they will not affiliate with the Prince Hall progeny, and that they will have nothing to do with clandestine masons simply because they are negroes, not for any other reason.”

While we have held that the *acts* and not the mere *declarations* of the Grand Lodge should be the test, we have shared the confidence of Bro. BROWN, and as these sheets are passing through the press, we learn that our confident hopes have been realized.

Of the practice of allowing one brother to “cast the vote of the lodge,” he well says:

“We have no doubt that it is a most reprehensible practice, and ought to be completely and formally abolished in every masonic body. It is mostly done in cases where the candidate has shown great fitness for the office, and in that case it has a harmless look, and appears to be a graceful compliment; but it is also a device sometimes resorted to when there is timid opposition, to suppress that opposition. If an officer has met the approval of the lodge the ballots will show it: and if not the ballots will show that instead.”

In his review of Canada he says:

“A special effort this year was made by all to restore to lodge membership those worthy brethren who are dimitted and those suspended for non-pay-

ment of dues. This effort did not show any appreciable effect in restoring the non-affiliates to membership, but it was a worthy, generous and truly masonic effort and we doubt not will have its influence in future. In fact we notice a falling off in the number of members admitted and suspended. The time to save money is when you have it and the time to keep members in the lodge is when you have them. We look forward to seeing this fine example followed with the best results by many United States Grand Lodges."

We find him supporting views in which we were almost alone in maintaining:

"He was none too severe in his handling of the lodge and Grand Lodge, who expelled some masons because they paid up their dues and asked for dimits, giving as their reason that the Bible teaches that it is wrong to be a mason, and that their connection with the lodge endangers their prospect of Heaven. The brethren were evidently sincere, and the lodge should have let them go with words of kindness and forbearance, that their last recollection of the craft should be that broad mantle of charity and brotherly love which our ancient brethren established as the distinguishing characteristic of Freemasonry."

He criticises quite severely lodges which have declined to return the deposit to a candidate who has been elected, but declined to take the degrees: but why is a deposit required? It seems to us that if it is proper to require a deposit with the petition it is just as proper to keep it under the circumstances stated.

He says further:

"To oppose the admission of an undesirable candidate is the right and duty of every mason, and the secrecy of the ballot, and of the objection, are to shield the mason's freedom. We hope soon to see the committee on investigation of character also freed from the duty of publicly opposing a candidate's election."

If masons keep the secrets of Masonry as they are bound to do, the committee is all right now. From what we read in these Proceedings upon this subject, we are of the opinion that some expulsions would benefit the craft.

He quotes:

"It is not where a candidate votes, but where he resides, that gives a lodge jurisdiction to receive a petition for degrees."

And adds:

"[Our own law. It is surprising how many masons take the opposite view.]"

But when the law allows a man to vote (as is the case in much the larger number of States) only where he resides, is not the act of voting pretty strong evidence as to his place of residence?

In his review of Maine, he says:

"His address is plain, practical and now and then political, as it should be. Ten dispensations were granted to lodges to attend divine service on June 26th, in observance of St. John's Day, and one to attend the Memorial Service of a deceased brother. Three dispensations to confer degrees on strangers, who had not resided the constitutional time within the State. We would approve

a dozen making of masons at sight rather than one stranger. There can be no occasion for hurry, except that the stranger is in haste to move on. The Grand Master doubtless satisfied himself that he did the craft no wrong, but we are troubled whenever such precedents are established or multiplied.

"It appears that a lodge is forbidden, in Maine, from conferring the degrees, at the request of a lodge in another State.

"Every Master Mason raised in a Maine lodge becomes a member of that lodge. It will do no harm, brethren, to be neighborly."

The first line we do not understand. The law requiring a year's residence in this State before a man is an eligible candidate is of very recent enactment; it is undoubtedly a wise one, but like all human laws it is not wise in every case, and for that reason we have made it subject to dispensation; the cases, in which dispensations were granted, were such that the craft had as full knowledge of the candidates as if they had resided in the State the required time: we believe that the discretion is safely vested in the Grand Master. Conferring the degrees by one lodge, at the request of another, may be neighborly but we in Maine holds it to be a dangerous innovation introduced within about forty years, at first, to rush through candidates faster than the lodge which accepted them could do the work. In Brother BROWN's words, we do not like to confer the degree on "strangers." The Grand Lodge grants to a lodge the power to confer the degrees upon a candidate accepted by it, and it cannot rightfully delegate this power. This was the old idea: of course a Grand Lodge can confer the additional power upon its lodges, but until the Grand Lodge does so, the lodge does not possess that power. Maine has never given that power to its lodges; it has not in terms forbidden the practice, but has decided that lodges cannot lawfully do it. Maine has not granted this power, because the practice is a departure from the old usage, and because it practically takes away from the members of the lodge the right of objection at any time before admission, and thus removes one of the established safeguards against the admission of the unworthy.

He says "There is only one kind of good masons." The context shows that he means that only members of lodges are good masons. As we do not measure goodness by the mere payment of money, we do not agree with him. If a mason is not able to pay the expenses of being a member of both lodge and commandery we are willing to let him have his choice to which he will belong, and we will measure his goodness by his "daily walk and conversation."

As to making masons at sight, he says:

He sees no objection to the Grand Master making masons at sight. And surely we ought not to entrust the high office of Grand Master to a mason who has not character and discretion enough to exercise this power, so peculiarly masonic, without injury to the craft. It is said that the mason who has for a great many years governed the Mother Grand Lodge of the World, was made a mason at sight, and it is said moreover that the craft in that jurisdiction, re-elects him annually without a dissenting vote."

He says further;

"South Dakota is advised to adopt the District Deputy Grand Master system.

"She is also warned that when we make a mason of a candidate rejected in a Grand Jurisdiction, like Michigan, where perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates is the law, that we fail to do our duty somewhere because the brother so made will meet with contempt when he revisits his old home. We are requested to give a formerly rejected applicant the *status* which he received where he was rejected, and not to accept a candidate rejected in Michigan without the consent of the rejecting lodge. We trust that the masonic advice of this able and devoted brother will be heeded in this matter. It has much to recommend it."

In relation to a matter in relation to which we have already quoted his views, he says:

"When a brother declares his belief that his Masonry stands in the way of his soul's welfare, the lodge should bid him go in peace, even if the brother's fanaticism should lead him into intemperate denunciation of the craft. Perhaps this is overstating Bro. Drummond, but it is right."

If such a person should violate any of his masonic obligations we would discipline him as if he had not renounced Masonry, but his mere denunciation, however intemperate, would be like "gnawing a file."

Our brother does not quite get our views as to the prerogatives of Grand Masters, but it is not of sufficient consequence to require discussion, and we must also pass over some other matters in his review of Maine.

We are glad to read the following:

"Our Michigan brethren are growing severe, and even hostile, to the member who does not pay up. They are excusable to some extent, for they have allowed a great deal of unmasonic rubbish to accumulate in the different apartments of the Temple. Eight thousand members are behind in their dues two years and over. But we hope and trust that this rubbish will soon be cleared out; then this feeling of resentment will subside—the masonic spirit will swell up again and float this decision away. Then a brother who has got behind in his dues and been suspended, but who has paid up since and died before the lodge has re-instated him, will not go to the grave unhonored by the brotherhood which may have been the dearest to his heart of all earthly things."

There are many other matters in this report which we would be glad to notice, but time and space forbid. Brother BROWN had to follow an able writer of these reports, but our discussion of it and quotations from it, show more clearly than words that in our opinion the craft are fortunate in his successor, and that the high character of these reports has been abundantly maintained.

We have an apology to make to our South Dakota brethren. In our last report we claimed that the law, that in the absence of the Master and Wardens of a lodge, it could not be opened, did not exist until a recent decision to that effect; but a brother has kindly informed us that in the Constitution of 1892 (which we had not seen and of which he kindly sent us a copy) this law is expressly stated. We take the first opportunity to correct our error, and to

express our regret at having fallen into it. In mitigation, we would say that the report which we criticised did not refer to the Constitution, but seemed to us to base the decision on the common law of Masonry.

TENNESSEE, 1901.

We have the portrait of Bro. ISAAC J. THURMAN, the incoming Grand Master, with a brief biographical sketch, together with a sketch of Bro. THOMAS J. SLOAN, the Junior Grand Warden.

In the Proceedings we first have a list of the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers and other members of the Grand Lodge present, including the representatives of lodges. It does not appear how this was ascertained, and there is no mention of the Committee on Credentials, but the list is given, and then it is stated that "there being present the representatives of a constitutional number of subordinate lodges," the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The number of lodges required to be represented, we understand to be ten.

The Grand Master, JAMES HENRY McCLISTER, delivered a brief but very compact address, in which he gives in the shortest terms possible an account of his official acts.

He announced the death of P. G. Master GEORGE H. MORGAN, to whose memory splendid tributes were paid by the Grand Lodge. Bro. MORGAN has been a very active man in all the walks of life and his death is a great loss to the craft.

Of the state of the Order, the Grand Master says:

"Our relations with other Grand Jurisdictions continue to be the most amicable and fraternal. In our own subordinate lodges more work has been done in the aggregate than for years. Nevertheless, we have some dead lodges. They seem to be in a state of lethargy, from which I have not been able to arouse them. My experience leads me to the conclusion that these dormant lodges are the ones that have persistently declined the instructions of the Lecturers. The greatest obstacle to the progress of Freemasonry is want of information; want of that knowledge which will enable the officers to confer the degrees in such a manner as to impress all, particularly the candidates, with the beautiful truths symbolized in our ritual."

While he had visited a very large number of lodges, more in fact than it would seem that any one man could possibly find time to visit, yet it is apparent that all he did does not fill the requirements. It is now too well settled by experience to be an open question that *the visitation of every lodge* under the authority of the Grand Lodge is necessary for the successful working of the lodges. A system is needed that would require the visitation of the smallest, weakest and poorest lodges, and if this is done at the expense of the Grand Lodge, it will not be long before its effect will be seen. We commend to our brethren of Tennessee a careful study of the District Deputy Grand Master system.

The Grand Master says that the Widow's and Orphan's Home has prospered well during the year, and at his suggestion the Grand Lodge visited the Home on the afternoon of the first day.

He had arranged for the exemplification of the first and third degrees and the work was exemplified before the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary, JOHN B. GARRETT, made a full report of the transactions of his office and gives an interesting history of the progress of the Grand Lodge during the century, referring to the men prominent in the councils of the Nation who had been masons, including three Presidents, seven Governors, many Judges, Congressmen, etc. Among them he names WILKINS TANNEHILL, author of the masonic Text Book of Tennessee. Of him he well says :

“ Words are inadequate to express his worth to Masonry. He has builded to himself a name more enduring than marble, and above his last resting place in the old City Cemetery, his brethren have erected a monument to testify their appreciation of his worth as a man and mason.”

We name this last brother, because, while he did not have a national reputation in other matters, his services for Masonry were exceeding great. We have his Text Book constantly at hand for frequent reference.

A full report of the operations, etc., of the Home is given, in which there were at the beginning of the year 107 and the same number at the close, an equal number having been received and discharged. A list of every inmate is given with their ages, and they are all stated to be in good health.

Upon the report of Committee on Jurisprudence, the Grand Lodge approved the dispensations issued by the Grand Master. We presume this approval is sentimental, for we do not suppose that if the Grand Lodge should disapprove the granting of a certain dispensation it would affect the action taken under it; and we question the propriety of acting upon them by the Grand Lodge, unless the Grand Master has saved some question for the Grand Lodge in a specific case.

Many of these dispensations were for the installation of officers, some of which were unnecessary, and the committee give the following as the rule :

“ Our Constitution requires installation to be performed before January 1st of each year; and hence, when an elected officer has not been duly installed before that date, dispensation is necessary.

“ But no dispensation is necessary to authorize an appointed officer to be installed; this ceremony may be performed by the Master at any time without dispensation.”

In Maine, in this respect, elective officers stand on the same footing as appointed officers, and no dispensation is necessary for the installation of any of them, and we have found no difficulty arising from it.

Of visitations, the committee say :

“ Your committee congratulates the Grand Lodge that its Grand Master was able and willing to perform his full duty in official visitations. Nothing contributes more to the prosperity of the lodges, and to the profit of the craft,

than official visitation by the Grand Master. It corrects errors, heals dissensions, stimulates interest, incites to labor, and exalts and magnifies Freemasonry in the minds of the brethren; it also attracts the attention of strangers to the methods, purposes, organization, and zeal of the Fraternity."

This is all true, and it need not be limited to visitations by the Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge of Western Australia was recognized, but the matter of the Grand Lodge of Costa Rica was postponed for further information.

We would be glad to copy from the splendid tributes to Bro. MORGAN, read by Past Grand Masters PRICE and SMALLWOOD, but it would be necessary to copy the whole, and for that we have not space.

P. G. Master THOMAS O. MORRIS, Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, announced the death of Queen Victoria, and Past Grand Master WILBUR F. FOSTER, for the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented a beautiful tribute to her memory, which was adopted by a rising vote.

An appropriation of \$110 was made for the purpose of "painting and framing" a portrait of the Grand Secretary.

The edict in relation to those engaged in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage, caused some commotion among the lodges; some claimed that it interfered with the inherent right of lodges to make masons, of those whom they pleased, but the Grand Lodge did not sustain the objection. Of this the committee says in part:

"The masonic code of Tennessee, page 34, declares subordinate lodges to have inherent jurisdiction 'to decide who shall be admitted to membership, or be initiated therein, of such as may be properly qualified.'

"This gives to subordinates undoubtedly the power to choose and decide what individual man in their territorial jurisdiction may become a mason. No person or body can force them to admit any one, and from their decision there is no appeal. In this they are all-powerful. But unless the individual is properly qualified they can not admit him. They have no inherent power to admit the unqualified or disqualified. They are exclusive judges of the individual qualifications of petitioners. They do say whether he measures up to the fixed standards. But they can not fix the standards. Each lodge is not a law unto itself. All are governed by general law establishing qualifications. Hence minors, women, atheists, idiots, libertines, and generally those fatally deficient physically, mentally, or morally, are excluded by the general law. The subordinates may only decide whether the petitioner belongs to any of these classes. Now, does an edict of the Grand Lodge disqualifying persons engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating beverages abridge any inherent right of the subordinate?"

* * * * *

"The Grand Lodge . . . has original and exclusive jurisdiction over all subjects of masonic legislation, . . . and its enactments and decisions upon all questions are the supreme masonic law of the State, when not in conflict with the "Ancient Landmarks of Masonry," nor in violation of the reserved rights of subordinate lodges. Under these restrictions the Grand Lodge may . . . do all things right and proper for the promotion of the honor and dignity of the Order and the good of the Fraternity."

"The Grand Lodge being composed of the past and present chief officers of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges, is assumed to have power to decide

what is for the honor and dignity of the Order and the good of the Fraternity. It may conclude that certain vocations do not tend to the good of the Order or that persons following them are likely to become demoralized and unworthy to be masons, or to injure rather than benefit the Fraternity. It has so decided with regard to trade in intoxicating beverages. And your committee is of opinion that in so doing it has not usurped power nor abridged the reserved or inherent rights or powers of subordinates, and, therefore, the edict is valid."

This is a conservative and correct view of the law of the case, and is clearly and forcibly stated.

The Report on Correspondence (153 pp.) was presented by Bro. HENRY H. INGERSOLL, Past Grand Master. Bro. MORGAN had prepared former reports, and we noticed last year his illness and hoped that his recovery would be speedy, but, as we have already stated, our hope was disappointed.

Bro. INGERSOLL gives an exceedingly fine abstract of the Proceedings with pertinent extracts, but with a very limited number of comments.

In his review of Maine, he says:

"Maine revels in twenty-five Deputy Grand Masters, each of whom submitted his report. True, they are only District Deputies, but for all that they rejoice in the title Grand Master, with prefixes. No complaint can arise against this goodly jurisdiction, surely, that it neglects the provision of a suitable staff, and their 60 pages of reports show that they are not merely ornamental, but contribute something to the prosperity of Freemasonry in the Sun-rise State."

We have spoken of this matter already in our notice of the address of the Grand Master, and we refer Bro. INGERSOLL to what we have already said. We would add, however, that the least of the duties of these officers is to be a "staff" for the Grand Master. Each one has the very important duty of visiting every lodge in his district. On the average each one has eight lodges to visit, but some have more and some have less, depending upon the amount of territory in the district. These brothers give their time, but their expenses are paid by the Grand Lodge, and it is their duty to visit and examine the condition in all respects of every lodge in their respective district. They are second in importance only to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, and if Bro. INGERSOLL could hear the special charge delivered to them at their installation, year after year, in our Grand Lodge, he would probably think that their duties are the most important of any in the State! We trust the time will soon come when the Grand Lodge of Tennessee can adopt this system and can carry it out as it needs to be in a jurisdiction having so many lodges.

Bro. INGERSOLL very kindly notices our remarks in relation to our visit to Tennessee in 1874, and in spite of the personal allusion we copy the following:

"And we can assure Bro. Drummond that there are masons still with us, not a few in number, who recall his genial presence in this goodly city a little more than a quarter century ago, when that memorable meeting of the General Grand Chapter was held, from which radiated to the remotest bounds of this Republic the genial rays of harmony, peace and concord which contributed so unmistakably to the restoration of genuine fraternity to the discordant states."

Those of us who were there and *those who met us there*, builded far better than they ever knew, and every year adds to our appreciation of the immense importance, not only to the craft but to the country, of that meeting of masons in Nashville.

TEXAS, 1900.

We have the portrait of N. M. WASHER, the incoming Grand Master.

Bro. WATSON follows the example of his predecessor and gives us initials for names to a larger extent than we wish he did.

We have a list of the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers present. Then the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and the M. W. Grand Master, being satisfied that there was a constitutional number of lodges present, declared the Grand Lodge ready for business.

He states that with the exception of the terrible calamity at Galveston, the craft have abundant reason to rejoice on account of the prosperity which has prevailed in that jurisdiction, not only among the brethren but among the people.

He announced the death of Past Grand Master FRANCIS B. SEXTON, who was present at the last session of the Grand Lodge, but was then in feeble health.

Bro. SEXTON was an active mason, and his influence has been felt through his connection with the Grand Lodge of Texas throughout the craft. While we never met him personally, yet his death comes to us as the loss of a personal friend. Less than one year our junior in age, he was made a mason, if the statement of the Grand Master is correct, three days after he became of age, and at once took an active part. He was Master of a lodge in 1853, and Grand Master in 1856, when only twenty-eight years of age, and from that time until his death, he has been, as already stated, a prominent factor in the Grand Lodge, and his loss will be severely felt.

The Grand Master devotes several pages to the Galveston calamity. We would like to make long extracts from it, but the newspapers have been so full of it, that brethren are quite familiar with it.

The masonic committee made a report in which they state that one of the lodges lost nine members, the other lodge six, and, besides, ten sojourning masons lost their lives, making twenty-five in all. The number of relatives of masons, including only father, mother, sister, brother, daughter, son, wife or widow, were seventy-eight. There were only four minor orphans of deceased brethren left, and they are being well cared for. The pecuniary loss of masons was over a million of dollars, based upon a careful estimate. Some of the country lodges also lost members and the masonic loss outside of Galveston was about \$150,000.

The masons were the first to form an organization for relief and they did a

vast deal of good, and they were aided very greatly by the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star. The Grand Master speaks in high terms of the efforts of the brethren in Galveston, in spite of their losses, to relieve the immediate necessities of others, and we are glad to notice, too, that this was done without regard to the fact that the brethren in distress were members in good standing or not. To us this fact is very gratifying. We have already believed, and so far experience has shown that when they really come to the test, our brethren in the jurisdiction which makes the most fuss about non-affiliated masons, show that Masonry prevails over technical law.

There was only one masonic burial, and that was the case of a brother who lost his life in saving the life of a brother mason's wife.

Many other instances of heroism and bravery on the part of the craft could be told, the Grand Master says, but time forbids.

He acknowledges the receipt of essential aid from the brethren throughout the country, and in this connection he mentions that the Grand Lodge Valle de Mexico, at the City of Mexico, held a lodge of sorrow in memory of the brethren who perished in Galveston, and of this the Grand Master says:

"This memorial of respect, friendship and brotherly love will be cherished by Texas Freemasons so long as life shall last; and it affords me exquisite pleasure to place on perpetual record our high appreciation of their sorrow, sympathy and kind expressions for our departed brethren."

We would like to dwell on this longer, but time and space forbids. Nine new lodges had been constituted, and dispensations for eight others had been issued.

The Grand Master gives an account of the dispensations which he had refused, and he seems quite severe in that direction, and in one case we think stood rather upon the technical law than upon the spirit.

He had issued twenty-one dispensations for lodges to appear in public and lay corner-stones. We somewhat doubt the propriety of these dispensations, as the work of laying corner-stones is peculiar to a Grand Lodge, as we understand it.

The Home takes up considerable space in these Proceedings, and it seems to be prosperous, and he makes a most eloquent appeal to furnish the means of carrying it on without intrenching upon the \$100,000 endowment fund.

Forty of the sixty-nine District Deputies had made reports, and he says that they had been active and vigilant in the discharge of their duties, and he says further:

"I can truthfully say, and it affords me great pleasure to be able to say it, that if anything has been accomplished during my administration that is praiseworthy or that may tend to promote the best interests of the Order in this State, it is largely attributable to the faithfulness and loyalty of my District Deputies."

He made quite a large number of decisions, but most of them are based on local law, which are of only local interest.

There is one exception. He had held up to the strict law in relation to physical qualifications, saying :

“The perfect man, without maim or defect, has always been the standard of physical qualification in this jurisdiction, and it has been adjudicated in so many of its phases and so often that there should not be any misunderstanding of the rule on the subject.”

It can only be said that the Texas brethren are a wonderful set of men, and he adds :

“A relaxation of the rule so long and so thoroughly established in this jurisdiction would be dangerous to the best interests of the craft ; and brethren had as well learn, once for all, that no one who falls short of the perfect man physically is entitled to the rights and privileges of Freemasonry in Texas.”

This will create a smile in the jurisdictions where the ability to do masonic work has been the test ever since Masonry was introduced into the country.

One singular case had been presented to him. A man received one degree, but on application for advancement was rejected and moved into Mississippi, where he again applied, just as if he had never applied before, and received two degrees, without the knowledge or consent of the Texas lodge, and without any knowledge on the part of the Mississippi lodge, that he had been rejected. The Mississippi lodge thereupon tried him and expelled him and the Texas lodge asked what effect that had on his standing in Texas. The Grand Master held that the action of the Mississippi lodge did not affect his status in Texas but was limited to his status in Mississippi, and advised the Texas lodge to file charges and expel him, perhaps thinking that as he had been initiated twice it would take two expulsions to get rid of him. But the Grand Lodge held, and properly as we think, that the expulsion by the Mississippi lodge deprived him of all masonic rights, and the Texas lodge should enter on its record a minute of the fact.

Among his suggestions is one to omit the printing the returns of lodges, but the Grand Lodge did not adopt the suggestion. These returns take up 288 closely printed pages in this volume, a little over one-half of it. We have had no actual experience as to the value of this publication, but it has always seemed to us as a useless expense, and we quite agree with the Grand Master in his statement that ten or twenty pages of biography or history would be worth more than the whole returns.

A very large amount of routine business was transacted, as is always the case in this Grand Lodge.

In the body of the *Proceedings* is a historical account of the first masonic monument in Texas, given in connection with the report of the Committee on History. It was erected to a stranger who came to the house of Bro. WM. MORTON in 1825, who took care of him until his death, and erected this monument to his memory. A cut of it is given. It has begun to fall to pieces somewhat, and we trust that the publication of this account of it will cause

measures to be taken for its preservation. Largely on account of this act of Bro. MORTON'S, when the lodge was chartered in the town of his residence, although after his death, it was called by his name.

The following resolution, looking to the modification of the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, was offered and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

"That after the period of five years shall have elapsed since the rejection of an applicant for the degrees in Masonry, he having moved into the jurisdiction of another lodge, either in this or any other Grand Jurisdiction, and having applied for the degrees, then the lodge applied to shall correspond with the rejecting lodge as to the former standing and character of the applicant, and if upon the information so obtained, he be deemed worthy, the lodge may proceed with the case without further reference to the action of the rejecting lodge."

We do not find that any report was made on it, so that it cannot be finally acted upon, as we understand it, until the expiration of two years.

The Report on Correspondence (90 pp.) was presented by Bro. THOMAS M. MATTHEWS. It is a very concise abstract of the Proceedings reviewed, with scarcely any quotations.

He discusses in various places the Washington matter, but as our latest intelligence is of such a character that there will be no more discussion, we simply refer to it generally.

He begins to have some misgivings apparently as to the law of his Grand Lodge in relation to physical qualifications, and in this report he says:

"When, some fifteen years ago, we began writing these reports and for several years thereafter, we were a strict constructionist of the doctrine, and, as earnestly as we could, upheld and contended therefor. We had been so taught. Took the teaching for granted and did not know any better then; but more mature thought and a more thorough critical study of the matter, with a little common sense and reason injected therein, convinced us that we had been and were in error. That our former construction of the ancient rule was too literal and strict. In fact, that the rule did not mean to teach the 'perfect youth' doctrine, because, if there were no other reason, *no man is absolutely physically perfect*. We have not, however, discussed the question, though we have not concealed our opinion, because our Grand Lodge held, and holds differently, and we did not, and do not now, think it right and proper that in these papers we should antagonize it. Neither did, nor do we think that honestly holding these views it was in any way obligatory upon us to defend the opposite. We believe that time will ultimately settle the question correctly, not only in our own Grand Lodge, but also in the five or six other Grand Lodges, if there be even so many, which hold like opinion."

We are indebted to him for kind personal mention and some good advice. Our appreciation of the wisdom of it is such that, as at present disposed, we shall follow it.

We would like to notice other matters, both in the Proceedings proper and in this report, but we are obliged to desist for want of time and in order not to delay the printer.

UTAH, 1901.

The frontispiece is a portrait of Bro. CHARLES WESLEY MORSE, with a brief biographical sketch by Bro. DIEHL.

The pamphlet also contains portraits of Past Grand Masters CHARLES W. DENNETT, JOHN S. SCOTT, WILLIAM F. JAMES, SAMUEL PAUL, ABBOTT R. HEYWOOD, ARVIS S. CHAPMAN and WILLIAM T. DALBY, with a brief sketch of each.

A copy of the Past Grand Master's jewel, approved for use in that jurisdiction, is also given.

At the opening, the Grand Officers and members took their places, and by order of the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary called the roll of lodges; and it having been ascertained that nine out of the ten lodges were represented, the Grand Master opened the Grand Lodge in ample form.

The Grand Master extended a welcome to all present, appointed a Committee on Credentials, received a visitor with the Grand Honors, and called off until afternoon, when the Committee on Credentials made its report and the regular committees were appointed.

The Grand Master, GEORGE W. SCHRAMM, then delivered his annual address. He briefly calls attention to the progress of Masonry in Utah during thirty years, refers to the fraternal dead of the year and speaks briefly of the Scofield disaster, in which a large number, including two masons, lost their lives by an explosion in a mine.

He issued an appeal to the lodges for aid and they promptly responded.

He was absent from the jurisdiction for considerable time, and in the mean time Bro. CHARLES W. MORSE acted as Grand Master, and upon his order the Grand Secretary forwarded \$100 to the Galveston sufferers.

He refers to the writing of the Report on Correspondence in topical form, and having considered the general opinion in relation to it, advised that it be abandoned.

In accordance with his suggestion, the Grand Secretary was directed to publish biographical sketches of Past Grand Masters until sketches of all of them should be published, together with a sketch of the Grand Master in office.

He urges each lodge to establish a masonic library, quoting Bro. MACKEY's argument in favor of it.

Of non-affiliates he says:

"Many non-affiliated masons reside in Utah.

"While they are always most welcome visitors at our lodges, they ought to be urged to make their masonic home where their other interests are. Because of peculiar local conditions, Utah Masonry needs the active co-operation of every mason in the jurisdiction."

He had made some official visits, and speaks well of the condition of the lodges.

The Deputy Grand Master made a brief report, but except the fact that he ordered \$100 sent to Galveston, it is of local interest.

Grand Secretary DIEHL makes an unusually interesting report.

He reports that lodges and brethren had contributed \$492.50 to relieve the sufferers at Scofield.

He reports that Bro. EDWIN G. DUDLEY had been appointed Representative near our Grand Lodge, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the venerable and M. W. Bro. HIRAM CHASE.

He gives a detailed account of the condition of the lodges, showing that there had been a healthy growth, and that the Grand Lodge has reason to be satisfied with the work that had been accomplished.

He calls to mind that while this was their thirtieth annual communication, the Grand Lodge was really but twenty-nine years old, because two annual communications were held in one year.

He gives an epitome of the growth of the craft during that time, and other matters connected with the history which must be of very great interest to the craft of the jurisdiction, and we trust that he will have time in the near future to complete the history of Masonry in Utah that he had been instructed to write.

The Grand Lecturer visited the lodges which he had been invited to visit, but makes no detailed report.

The routine business was harmoniously transacted.

One brother who had been expelled was restored with the consent of the lodge which expelled him.

The Grand Lodge of Western Australia was recognized, as well as the Grand Lodge of Costa Rica.

The question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of Porto Rico was postponed, and the application for recognition by the Grand Dieta of Mexico was denied.

The Grand Master decided that in the absence of the Master and Senior Warden of a lodge, the Junior Warden present can open the lodge himself, but cannot delegate that authority to another. The Committee on Jurisprudence divided, and the majority held that he could delegate the authority to another and the minority held that he could not, and after a discussion the report of the minority was adopted. The grounds of the action are not given. Whether it means that the Master being present cannot delegate the opening of the lodge to any one else, or whether that the Junior Warden in such cases has not the full powers of the Master, we are unable to determine. If it means that in such case the Junior Warden does not have the full powers of the Master we decidedly dissent from the decision. As to whether the Master can delegate the authority to open a lodge or not we give no opinion, as we have no time at all to consider the matter, much less to look into the books.

The Grand Master elect, Bro. CHARLES W. MORSE, was obliged to be absent

from the Grand Lodge on account of a trial before him as judge of one of the courts of an important case. By vote of the Grand Lodge he was notified of his election by special messenger, and he was able to be present for the purpose of installation.

By unanimous vote of the Grand Lodge the Grand Master was requested to grant a special dispensation to Mt. Moriah Lodge to receive and act on the petition of CHRISTOPHER BISMARCK DIEHL for the degrees in Masonry, and if elected to confer them upon him.

The Report on Correspondence (pp. 72) was presented by Bro. CHRISTOPHER DIEHL. As already indicated, this is in the topical form, and but for the conclusion it would scarcely be taken for one of his reports, and we fully believe that the Grand Lodge will never again show any inclination to interfere with him in the matter of the discharge of his duty.

His conclusion is quite a disquisition on non-affiliate masons. While we agree with him in nearly all that he has written in relation to this matter, we dissent in one particular, and that is, as we understand him, that he holds that a mason violates his O. B. unless he is, or tries to become, a member of a lodge. We believe the whole matter will take care of itself if our brethren were not so much concerned for the non-affiliate mason. They have rights under the fundamental law of Masonry, and in our judgment all laws which undertake to deprive them of these rights *in order to compel them to become members*, are in violation of the fundamental laws of Masonry, and moreover, do more harm than good.

In this report is copied a letter from Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, which has been published quite extensively, and which we desire to notice, and may as well do it in this connection as in any other. In that letter Bro. HUGHAN says:

"In reply, allow me to point out that the so-called 'Charges of a Freemason,' as arranged by Dr. Anderson and printed in the premier 'Book of Constitutions' of A. D. 1723 never existed before, but substantially the one in question as to physical qualifications occurred in all the veritable 'Old Charges' of the Operative Fraternity, as I explain fully in my two works on the subject, 1872 and 1895.

"Now it is an undoubted fact, from 1723 to the present time, that the Grand Lodge of England has never accepted these 'Charges' as possessing any legislative authority or as representing the laws for the government of the modern Brotherhood,* but only as indicative of the obsolete 'Old Charges' of the operative regime. With occasional alterations the 'Charges' of 1722 have been inserted in all our Books of Constitutions from 1723 to 1896, but never as Regulations passed for the guidance and control of the Craft.

"This being so, it is clear that these 'Charges' are simply and exclusively intended as specimens, archeologically considered, of the usages and customs of the society anterior to the Grand Lodge era, but which, even prior to the

* The 'Atholl Masons' appear to have adopted the 'physical qualification, in part from 1756 or so, and then introduced the usage into America; but the Free Masonry in your great country prior to that period, and all since obtained from the premier Grand Lodge, was never so ordered, required or used by the Grand Lodge regulations that were for actual legislative objects."

last century, were looked upon as obsolete and were not used as obligatory laws, as formerly."

From what we have written from time to time it will undoubtedly be understood that we utterly dissent from his conclusion in the first paragraph. After 150 or 200 years the action of the Grand Lodge of England in having Dr. ANDERSON compile the charges and formally approving his compilation, is conclusive evidence as to the correctness of those charges. Because the masonic historians of the present day, nearly 200 years later, cannot find those old charges and do find others, is no evidence at all that the compilation then adopted was not the correct one. The second and third paragraphs are utterly erroneous statements of masonic law and jurisprudence. It is true that these old charges were never formally enacted as such by the Grand Lodge of England, and if they had been, such enactment would destroy their force.

But it was a principle of masonic law in those days that those old charges were indicative of the ancient usages of the craft and absolutely binding upon the craft as law; and when the Grand Lodge of England had those charges compiled and approved the compilation and had them published as such in its books of law, it recognized them as the old law of which we have spoken, and made them *absolutely binding upon the craft*.

The fact that they have been inserted in all the books of the Constitution of that Grand Lodge from 1723 down, shows that they are still recognized as law, although, as Bro. HUGHAN says, it did not recognize them as regulations passed for the guidance and control of the craft. But it did recognize them as law superior to all such regulations.

That in some respects they have been changed has raised the question of the power of the Grand Lodge to do so; and very many masonic jurists hold that it did not have the *rightful* power to do that, but that having undertaken to do it the lodges of its obedience were forcibly *obliged* to recognize the changes.

VERMONT, 1900.

Our Vermont brethren give us an excellent portrait of Rev. Bro. EDWIN WHELOCK, Grand Chaplain for many years, with a brief biographical sketch by Bro. MARSH O. PERKINS. He has served as Grand Chaplain for over thirty years.

The Grand Officers took their places, and evidently also the other members of the Grand Lodge. The roll of Grand Officers was then called by the Grand Secretary and all found to be present, and there also being present "a quorum of officers of lodges," the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Grand Master JOSEPH E. MOORE, of New Jersey, Past Grand Masters JOSIAH

W. EWAN, of New Jersey, and JOSEPH A. LOCKE, of Maine, visited the Grand Lodge, and were received with the Honors and invited to seats in the East.

Vacancies in the standing committees were then filled, and then the report of the Committee on Credentials was presented but referred back, as is done in Maine, for additions and corrections.

The Grand Master, WINFIELD S. NAY, delivered a full and interesting address. He announced that harmony had prevailed with all other Grand Lodges, including the Grand Lodge of Washington, of whose action at that time he thus speaks:

“While I regret that a more fraternal spirit could not have been manifested in undoing the wrong, yet with all due respect to the wise discretion which prompted the later action of our misguided brethren, we hope that again they may have an experimental knowledge of ‘how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.’ I am pleased to inform you that at their request an exchange of representatives has been arranged between our respective Grand Lodges, which action may harmonize the discords of the past.”

He gives an account of the District Deputy meetings, speaking in high terms of their effects.

He holds that there are grammatical errors in the ritual that ought to be corrected, and from the two specimens which he gives, we fully agree with him that measures ought to be taken to correct the inaccuracies.

He had had a great deal of trouble with the law requiring a year's residence in the State before the petition of a candidate could be received, because, as he correctly holds, a lodge, from whose jurisdiction a candidate removes, can take no action in the premises, as when the candidate moves away, it loses jurisdiction of every kind, although in some places, the reverse seems to be held; and the Grand Master thinks it is best that in all such cases the candidate should wait the required time.

He notices the Washington centennial, and in closing well says:

“If I was capable of uttering them, words would be insufficient to indicate the significance of this international testimony to the memory of the ‘Father of his Country’ whose influence as a mason is still extending, inspiring and uplifting the seeker for light.

“Masonic history does not record so large an assembly of representatives from the several Grand Lodges, and as has been well said ‘the craft has written a great chapter in its history.’ New interest has been awakened among masons, and many will be actuated by an increased desire to emulate the virtues of so faithful a brother, and lasting impressions will prevail of a nation's idol.”

He speaks very pleasant words also of the reception of the visitors on that occasion, by the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

The year before, when he was elected and installed Grand Master, his father was present and was invited to sit on the platform during the election, which of course was very gratifying to Bro. NAY, but he had the sad news to announce that during the year his father had died.

He had installed in public the officers of three different lodges, and of this he says:

"I am persuaded that these public gatherings in the lodge room, for installation of officers, are of great benefit to the members of the lodge, while to the public a clearer conception is given of the intents, purposes and beauties of Freemasonry, which may have been misunderstood."

He had had many routine duties to perform of which he gives full statement.

In relation to the Grand Orient, of Belgium, he says:

"Your recommendation of one year ago, to comply with the request of the Grand Orient of Belgium for fraternal recognition, has been complied with on our part as far as possible, a commission having been sent to Bro. Albert Kruger as our representative. Our recommendation has not, up to the present time, received their attention, as no commission for a representative near this Grand Lodge has come to hand.

"Early in April of this year, I received a communication from M. W. Silas B. Wright, Grand Master of Florida, announcing that an interpretation of the Bulletin of the Grand Orient of Belgium revealed the fact that they had exchanged representatives with the Grand Orient of France, and were in fraternal correspondence with the French, and also asking if we had arranged an exchange of representatives.

"I immediately directed the Grand Secretary to communicate with Bro. Kruger in reference to the subject, to which he has not received a reply. Your further action relative to the matter is desired at this time."

The Grand Lodge upon the report of the committee, rescinded its recognition of that Grand Lodge.

He gives a letter from a brother in North Carolina, showing how much Masonry has done to restore fraternal feelings between the north and the south.

He pays a very merited compliment to the Report on Correspondence of Bro. MARSH O. PERKINS, and urges that it be read by brethren, and especially in the lodges.

His whole address shows that he had been an active, able officer, and that the craft in Vermont is pursuing its usual course of harmony and prosperity.

The Grand Secretary announced that he had the material for the Grand Lodge register collected and ready to be put in permanent form.

He proposed to use the card system for the alphabetical list. An appropriation had been made to carry this part into effect, but the Grand Secretary, finding that the amount was not sufficient, had not used it, and asked for a larger appropriation.

The Grand Secretary says: "In brief, the condition of Free Masonry in Vermont to-day is better, clearer and stronger than ever."

The appropriation for the register was made but the proposition to increase the *per capita* tax was rejected upon the report to the effect by the Committee on Finance. The debt has been reduced \$2,000 during the year, and

there was a fair prospect that a still further reduction would be made the next year without increasing the tax.

We quote the following action in relation to the Grand Orient of Belgium :

"Your committee must confess themselves to have been under a misapprehension, last year, as to the attitude of the Grand Orient of Belgium relative to the Grand Orient of France, a purported masonic organization, but outside the pale of pure Freemasonry by reason of its action in striking from its ritual the sacred name of Deity, and substituting on its altars the Book of Constitutions for the Great Light of Masonry.

Your committee fully appreciate the efforts of the Grand Orient of Belgium in its struggle for the right and for humanity, and is in the fullest sympathy with its request for encouragement in its endeavors to promulgate and establish the tenets of pure Freemasonry. But it has ever been the belief of the masons of Vermont that there is no middle road between right and wrong, and that no entangling alliances should be held by a Grand Body, requesting the recognition of this Grand Lodge, with any organization that has deliberately rejected the very foundation stone of Freemasonry.

"With regret that the Grand Orient of Belgium does not now see its way clear to sever its present relations with the so-called Grand Orient of France, and the hearty assurance that when the former shall align itself with this Grand Lodge in the declaration that no Grand Body that has rejected the corner-stone of pure Freemasonry can be construed as masonic, or its creations as kin to the great masonic family, the Grand Lodge of Vermont will fully and heartily lend its aid, support and encouragement, your committee can but recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz :

"Resolved, That the action of this Grand Lodge, at its annual communication last year, in extending fraternal recognition to the Grand Orient of Belgium be rescinded, and that the incoming M. W. Grand Master be requested to withdraw the commission of the representative of this Grand Body near the aforesaid Grand Orient of Belgium."

A proposition had been made to consolidate two lodges, and of this the committee says :

"As our Grand Lodge at its organization declared that it was 'sovereign and independent, governed solely by its own laws,' the committee is of the opinion that it has full authority to act upon the question without general regulations, as it does not infringe the Constitution or general law of Masonry, providing the necessary steps have been taken by the lodges in interest, and that such consolidation will be for the best interests of Freemasonry."

Thereupon the necessary action was taken. Maine has a general regulation upon that subject, and in order to prevent misapprehension, we would say that we in Maine agree with the committee, but as more than one application was made for consolidation of lodges, and it appearing that others would be made, we adopted a general regulation prescribing the manner in which that might be done.

The Report on Correspondence (140 pp.) was presented by Bro. MARSH. O. PERKINS, who has now performed that duty for many years.

He gives a very carefully and patiently prepared abstract of the important matters, with few extracts; the most time-consuming kind of a report that is written. The result is a report that fully justifies the commendation of the Grand Master.

In his review of Alabama, he says :

"One of the decisions is based on a constitutional amendment requiring the Master of a lodge to cause the Secretary at the regular communication preceding the festival in June, to write *suspended* opposite the name of each member in arrearage for dues for two years. The Grand Master held, that this included a W. M., himself, if thus in arrears, but the learned committee found 'an entirely novel question' in the situation, and requested permission, which was granted, to ponder over the same until the next annual. If nothing happens, we shall then know whether a W. M. in Alabama is above, and beyond, the Constitution or not."

We think the case shows the absolute absurdity and error of the Alabama law, but the act of the Master is really a judicial act, and how a judge can sit in judgment on himself, is a thing that has not yet been discovered. And even under the law of Alabama, erroneous as it is, we hold that the Master should not be allowed to act, but that it is a case for which the law has omitted to make provision.

In relation to another matter he well says :

"One of his decisions defines the conditions under which the right of visitation may be exercised by strangers, viz : 'That strict trial without the production of satisfactory paper credentials is insufficient proof of the right to visit.' Unquestionably correct in these days of masonic tramps, dead beats and advocates of an unlimited number of Grand Lodges within a jurisdiction. The knowledge of the esoterics without proper credentials should be looked upon with suspicion, while the possession of the latter without the former should be ground for a rigid investigation, as to the legitimacy of the source from which the papers emanated, and the right of possession of the same."

Under the lead of ritualists, examinations were assumed to be only for the purpose of ascertaining if the visitor was a mason, and the equally necessary part of the requirement, whether he was made in a regular lodge, was omitted, and the necessity of proving that ridiculed.

Referring to Bro. ROBBINS, of Illinois, he says :

"His disclaimer as to ever posing as a champion of Cerneauism is best answered by his own writings, from which the leaders of that peculiar branch of disturbers of the masonic peace and harmony of the country have repeatedly derived comfort and encouragement. It has been their delight to quote him as authority 'in season and out of season.' But it is unnecessary to dwell longer on this. We have the utmost respect and the highest fraternal esteem for our brother and only regret that anything he may have written at any time in his zeal to defend his position could have possibly been open to 'misconstruction,' either by loyal masons, or anarchists breeding discord and ruin under masonic colors."

We had marked for copy, his review of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Washington, but in view of the action this year by that body, we omit it because we know that Bro. PERKINS will be among the first to hail this action in the highest terms of commendation.

VIRGINIA, 1900.

The frontispiece is a portrait of H. OSCAR KERNS, the incoming Grand Master.

Names of the Grand Officers, representatives of lodges, and other members of the Grand Lodge are given, and then it is stated that the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Grand Master, GEORGE W. WRIGHT, devotes his address largely to the Temple Association, which is in bad financial condition, and from which, we are sorry to learn, the Grand Lodge is likely to lose very largely. It was stated that there was danger that the Temple itself would be lost, but the Grand Lodge made such provision that if it should be sold on foreclosure proceedings, the Grand Lodge would purchase it.

It was decided that a lodge cannot hold a session without the presence of the charter or dispensation in the lodge room or ante-room during the session, and if a meeting was held without it, the meeting would be held to be void.

In connection with this it was decided that a lodge cannot be disciplined for refusing to obey an order of a District Deputy Grand Master when he is a member of a lodge and is not visiting it in his official capacity.

Upon the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, the Grand Lodges of Cuba, Costa Rica and Western Australia were recognized.

The Committee on Centennial made their report, from which it appears that after payment of all expenses there was a surplus in their hands of about \$600, and the Grand Lodge voted to devote this amount to the publication of a full account of the Centennial Exercises. We trust that this account will not be limited to what the surplus will pay for, for we believe the craft all over the country will be very glad to have as full an account as possible and will gladly pay to have it.

The following in regard to the Grand Orient of Belgium was adopted :

“ *Whereas*, The Grand Orient of Belgium seems to be in fraternal relation with the Grand Orient of France, and at least one Grand Lodge in the United States has withdrawn its recognition for this reason ; therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is hereby directed to correspond with the Grand Orient of Belgium on this subject, and make report at our next Grand Annual Communication.”

A resolution was presented directing the Grand Secretary to prepare the Proceedings from 1823 onward for re-print, but the matter was referred, as we understand it, to get at the cost of this undertaking. The Proceedings have been re-printed down to 1823, and we trust that our Virginia brethren will print another volume as early as practicable, even if it shall not be deemed best to reprint them down to the present time.

The Committee on the Masonic Home was instructed to formulate some plan for increasing the endowment fund for the Home up to \$100,000.

We find that the historian of the Centennial Committee, S. J. QUINN, was

directed to prepare the work, obtain estimates as to its cost, and report at the next annual communication.

The District Deputies nearly all made reports.

Many of them had visited every lodge in their jurisdiction, and as a rule they are reported to be in good condition,

In accordance with the custom of this Grand Lodge, a historical sketch of one lodge is printed with the Proceedings, as well as the Report of the Trustees of the Home.

The Report on Correspondence (131 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOSEPH W. EGGLESTON.

In relation to membership he says :

“ Our law allowing a mason to declare himself a member when raised has always been construed to mean that he has the right to declare himself a member of his mother lodge, no matter what lodge does the work by request. A simple statement in the certificate sent his mother lodge, that ‘ he declared himself a member ’ ends the matter. We never could see why masons should sign the by-laws, a custom adopted from other modern societies. They are as much law to him before as after signing.”

This illustrates the difference in the customs, etc., in the different sections of the country. In this section, long before the advent of “ modern societies,” it was the invariable custom for a member to sign the by-laws and it was regarded as the final act in the process of becoming a member.

We have always supposed that it was intended as evidence that the brother was not only admitted to membership but had accepted it. It is true, however, now, that signing the by-laws is not required of a brother raised in the lodge, but it is the duty of the Secretary to enter the name of every brother raised in the lodge on the list of members. This has grown out of our law which makes a brother a member of a lodge which confers the third degree upon him.

We have spoken against the publication of the returns. Of this he says :

“ With our experience, as a much older jurisdiction, probably, no one in the Grand Lodge of Virginia who knows the great trouble our Grand Secretary is put to in looking up—and often not finding—the name of some brother of long ago, where it is to him or his family important to show his masonic status, would agree with Grand Master Angellotti in his opinion that it would be a good plan to abolish printing the full rosters of the subordinate lodges in the Proceedings. It becomes, as the years go by, more and more important for reference, and no other record can be made so available all over the jurisdiction.”

Under our system, each lodge should have a copy in its archives, or rather a triplicate of the annual returns to the Grand Lodge, and those returns are bound in volumes and kept in the office of the Grand Secretary. Under our system of allowing a man to be a member of but one lodge, this has proved to be sufficient for all practical purposes, and we cannot see how cases enough can arise to justify the great expense of printing them annually. A very small part of that expense applied to give assistance to the Grand Secretary, if needed, would, it seems to us, take away the reason which our brother gives.

Regarding the proposition of some one to have our fees raised to a sufficient sum to pay for a life membership, he says :

“ This may, at first blush, look like the solution of this vexed question, but it has the one weak point of increasing the desire for new members, which is already our greatest evil. Once let it become true that each new member adds materially to the wealth of a lodge, and it would result in greater disposition to give the candidate the benefit of all doubt as to his fitness, instead of giving it, as we should do, to the institution. It would be the greatest good that could come to us if no material advantage accrued to any lodge by the acquisition of new members. Indeed, the very sifting out of worthless material by s. n. p. d. is of itself a benefit. This subject, is, of course, disagreeable, but it is our sewer, and sewers are never pleasant to think about.”

In addition to the reason stated by him, experience shows that such funds are apt to be wasted or spent in extravagancies : in addition it is very certain that it would decrease the number of initiates largely, not because they are not fit to be masons or unable to pay annual dues, but simply on the line of pecuniary ability.

In Virginia they do not have Committees on Investigation, but every member is under obligation to satisfy himself that a candidate is worthy and casts his ballot accordingly.

Without any experience under this system it would seem that the searching investigation into the character of candidates that ought to be made and should be made by a committee specially charged with the purpose, would be likely to be neglected.

He thus explains their system of lodge membership, which differs from that of almost every other Grand Lodge in the country. The restriction to one lodge seems to be quite universal and whether experience led to the change or not we are unable to say. But their system seems to work well in Virginia.

“ We, like England, permit what is called dual membership. A mason in good standing can apply verbally for membership in any lodge without fee, and can belong to as many as will elect him by unanimous ballot. He can withdraw from any lodge at any time, if clear of the books and not under charges. Hence, if a member of only one lodge, and wishing to change, he can apply to the new lodge and be elected, and then withdraw from the old one, or he can withdraw first and then apply to the new one. We require no dimits, recognize them only as evidence of non-indebtedness, and issue them on request, largely because our members, moving to other jurisdictions, need them. Suspension in any one lodge, for any cause, suspends the brother in all to which he belongs.”

He thinks that if we should use the term “ Present Master ” instead of “ Past Master,” all the fuss about that degree, as it is called, would be allayed. But we doubt it, for it mostly arises because brethren will not understand that two different things may have the same name. We regard the whole trouble that is made about it as an absurdity any way.

He speaks very highly of the address of Grand Master CHOATE in 1900, quoting fully from it, noting as he goes along that in Virginia they suspend

from the rights of Masonry for non-payment of dues instead of suspending from membership, as we do here in Maine.

The difference is founded upon the Maine doctrine, recognized elsewhere also, that a man may be a mason without being a member of the lodge, but if he is not a member he loses the rights which membership gives him, but only those rights.

He mentions the Past Master's degree several times. The only additional observation we have to make is that the fact that some other organization has adopted one of our names, does not seem to us to be a reason for changing the name.

We fully agree with him in the following :

"Another remarkable case was one in which a mason was expelled, appealed, and Grand Lodge annulled the expulsion, but *suspended* him for three years. At the end of the three years the Grand Master was asked to define his status. He sensibly held that he was where he *was suspended from*—a member in good standing; but the Jurisprudence Committee decided that he was, by the expiration of the term, re-instated to good masonic standing, but not to membership. This looks strange to us. If he was suspended for a definite time it would seem that at the expiration of the period fixed he would of necessity, return to exactly the position from which he was suspended, unless there is some local statute providing otherwise, and even then the term *suspended* would hardly apply, unless they use a different dictionary west of the Mississippi from those in use with us."

Regarding the required bond of masonic officers, he says :

"As elsewhere stated in this report, we do not like this modern idea at all, that brother masons are not to be trusted without official bonds. It is lowering our high standard before the world. The committee did not approve of the recommendation, but adhered to the official bond only. We prefer the practice of only requiring money to be deposited as a separate fund, to be paid out on checks which show that the fund is a trust, and thus prevent danger of loss by confusion with private or business deposits. To bond a Grand Treasurer, and not require masonic moneys kept as a trust, permits and encourages his lending them out for his own profit, and incidentally suggests his postponing payments in order to use these moneys as his own as long as possible. We see evil, and only evil, in this course, and nothing that looks like Masonry."

The custom has arisen undoubtedly because it has been found by experience that even masons elected to office are not invariably honest enough or wise enough to avoid the loss of funds committed to them. We do not understand that requiring the bond from the Grand Treasurer gives him any more rights or powers to use the moneys than if he did not give the bond. It is undoubtedly true that in business life and masonic life such formerly was the idea, but now everywhere, so far as we know, trust funds are required to be kept separate from individual funds, and the requirement of a bond from a Grand Officer does not allow him to use the funds for himself. Making embezzlement a *crime* is of quite recent origin, but almost everywhere it *is* a crime now.

In relation to the incorporating of lodges, he says :

"A striking lesson is given of the folly of incorporating masonic lodges, Grand or Subordinate, in the report of the judgment of the Supreme Court, in the case of Robert Kopp vs. George W. White, Grand Treasurer. The action was instituted by the plaintiff, an expelled mason, asking that the Grand Lodge be compelled to re-instate him. The offence and the particulars of the trial, including errors alleged, on which appeal was taken, are, of course, interesting, but are too voluminous to quote here. The point of the whole matter is the utter failure of the plaintiff, owing to the fact that the Grand Lodge was not incorporated, and the probability that, had it been, its most secret proceedings might easily have been brought out in court, and possibly a suspended, or expelled, member re-instated by civil process, on account of rights claimed. It is clear that the court was animated by a high sense of justice, and free from prejudice against Masonry; but can this be said of all courts?"

We were somewhat startled upon reading this, for we do not so understand the opinion in the case. The reasoning in the opinion refers, as we understand it, wholly to *business* corporations, those created for making money, and does not refer to charitable or benevolent corporations, and under the words of the opinion itself it does not apply to corporations of which a person cannot become a member except "by the consent of that corporation." In other States, also, the fact that a body was incorporated was held to make no difference whatever—the corporation being only for benevolent purposes. Of course we are not prepared to state what the law is in Virginia, but we have based our remarks upon the law as it has been declared in our own section, and we gravely doubt whether our brother's remarks in relation to bringing our records into court, even in Virginia, would not apply to an unincorporated body as fully as to an incorporated body.

Of the Wisconsin proposition, he well says:

"The Wisconsin proposition of a few years ago, which was so generally rejected, would have reduced our institution to the basis and level of modern mutual benefit societies. The great reason which actuated Grand Lodges in refusing to adopt it was that our relief would have been no longer either masonic or charity. To be masonic it must be prompted by the motive of brotherly love, without the hope of fee or reward, and to be charity it must be voluntarily and freely given. If a lodge anywhere could relieve the wants of a brother, with the assurance of being repaid by his own lodge, they would only be *transacting business*, and not exercising their finer feelings. If a lodge were compelled to pay another lodge for having relieved one of their brethren, they would be paying (often unwillingly) a debt, but would in no sense be doing a charity. As has been well said, 'Charity never creates a debt.' Many a poor lodge would, under the Wisconsin plan, be utterly bankrupted, without an opportunity to say whether they were willing, or even able, to extend the relief which some other lodge or Board of Relief might think only right and proper."

WASHINGTON, 1900.

The frontispiece is a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, WILLIAM MORRIS SEEMAN, and the portrait of Past Grand Master WILLIAM HENRY UPTON is given in connection with his Report on Correspondence.

The Grand Lodge was called to order, prayer was offered, the roll called,

the places of absent officers filled, and the Grand Lodge opened in ample form.

Grand Master SEEMAN announced the deaths of several brethren, among them the Grand Treasurer, who was also Past D. Grand Master, and Past Grand Masters PLATT A. PRESTON and JAMES E. EDMISTON.

Of foreign relations he says :

“It gives me pleasure to report that our relations with all Grand Lodges with which we are in communication, continue to be most cordial and fraternal. Of the Grand Lodges which severed fraternal relations with us in 1898 and 1899, seven have repealed their edicts of non-intercourse. This Grand Lodge, of course, resumes with pleasure relations which it never had any desire to see interrupted.

“I have had correspondence with Grand Masters of other jurisdictions looking to a restoration of fraternal relations, and I deem it essential to the best interests of Masonry, that my successor be left free to continue this correspondence unhampered by any further expressions by the Grand Lodge, at this communication, upon any of the subjects out of which their edicts of non-intercourse arose.”

Among the Representatives which he had appointed was ENOCH O. GREENLEAF, for Maine, and he had received the credentials of Bro. LEVI ANKENY, representative from Maine.

He had granted dispensations for three new lodges, to which he recommended that charters be issued, as well as to a lodge which had been continued under dispensation.

He had issued dispensations to lodges to elect and install officers in place of brethren who had been elected but declined to be installed. It seems that the propriety of this kind of dispensations had been denied by the Grand Lodge, but he found that every one of the committee which reported the decision, had, while Grand Master, issued precisely the same kind of dispensations; and he did it for the purpose of either having the by-laws changed or the former decision reversed.

He had refused some dispensations which Grand Masters generally have the power to grant, on the ground that he had no such power.

He rendered several decisions, among them that a blank ballot is not a vote, and that one lodge has no right to incur indebtedness for another lodge, without authority to do so.

Observances of the Centennial of the death of Washington were held at his suggestion in many of the lodges.

He states that the present mode of instructing the craft in the standard work and lectures does not give the satisfaction hoped for, and that it is not the fault of their lecturers, but, as he thinks, the fault of the system. We would suggest that the Grand Lodge try the District Deputy Grand Master system, and see if there is any reason why that would not work in Washington as well as in other jurisdictions.

The Grand Secretary's report shows that, with rare exceptions, the financial

condition of the lodges is excellent; that the number "dropped" has fallen off, and that there is a net gain in membership.

Bro. REED also makes a pretty full report in relation to the Washington Centennial Exercises, speaking in high terms of the proceedings.

Upon the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, recognition was refused to the Grand Dieta, and the question in relation to Peru and Porto Rico was deferred.

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

The committee also presented a long report in relation to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, recommending that the rescinding resolution be not adopted, and that other resolutions be adopted in their stead; but action was deferred until the next communication of the Grand Lodge. While we have not information in relation to the specific action upon the report, we are able to say that it was not adopted, but that the old *status* was revived, so that Washington is now in full accord with New York.

An effort was made to repeal the resolutions against saloon keepers, and the majority of the committee reported in favor of it, but the minority reported that no change be made in the legislation, and that was adopted.

It was decided that Alaska is open territory, in which the Grand Lodge of Washington has the right to establish lodges.

The Grand Lodge voted in favor of establishing a Masonic Home, and a committee was appointed to report upon it at the next annual communication, with power to receive subscriptions.

The Report on Correspondence (236 pp.) was submitted by Past Grand Master UPTON.

It is chiefly devoted to a discussion of the former action of the Grand Lodge which has caused so much excitement, to extolling himself, and to abusing others who differ from him, especially the writer of this report.

He is very careful not to give what anybody else says, but in place of them substitutes his false and perverted statements of them, and he is foolish enough in this report to make allegations that everybody knows are false.

At the last session of the Grand Lodge he had met with a severe defeat, and in this report, wholly or nearly all written afterwards, he gives voice to his spite; but at the recent session of his Grand Lodge he was again defeated more overwhelmingly than before.

In his conclusion, he says:

"It may be that a few years hence may see me back again at the round table; but for the present—perhaps with the hearty and contributory sanction of the R. W. Brother whom we intend to elect Grand Master a few days from now,—I shall retire."

He could well say this, for it was not written until, in spite of the frantic efforts of his few friends, the Grand Master had absolutely refused to appoint him upon the committee.

He poses as a martyr and thinks he is a greatly abused man, whereas the reflections made upon him personally by all the writers combined are not a tithe of the space which he has spent in personally denouncing others, and in every case that has come to our notice *he has been the first aggressor*. But we believe that our Washington brethren have now come to learn his real character and that his days for mischief are ended.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1900.

We have portraits with brief biographical sketches of ARTHUR D. W. STRICKLER, the incoming Grand Master, and of BRO. M. M. WARREN, District Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge held a large number of special communications to constitute lodges and lay corner-stones. At some of them exceedingly interesting addresses were made, but we have not room to notice them.

The ceremonies were invariably performed by the Grand Lodge opened in ample form and closed when the ceremonies were finished.

At the annual communication the record gives the names of those who were present, and the Grand Secretary having announced that a quorum was present, the Grand Master opened the Grand Lodge in ample form, and announced that a constitutional number of the lodges were represented and the Grand Lodge was ready for business.

The representative of sister Grand Lodges were then introduced and welcomed, after which the Grand Master, NEIL ROBINSON, proceeded with his address.

A very large number of matters had come before him for action. Among his decisions was one to the effect that the initiation of a candidate by a lodge other than the one in whose jurisdiction he resides, was absolutely void, and that he can petition over again to any lodge which at the time has jurisdiction over him. Very few will concur with him in this.

The Centennial of Washington's death was observed by the lodges in different parts of the state.

Other matters of a routine character came before him, but none of general interest.

The Grand Secretary in his report says:

"The most important event of the year, was the celebration at Mount Vernon, Virginia, Dec. 14, 1899, of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of the greatest American statesman, patriot and Freemason, George Washington, the first President of the American Republic. Masons were present from all portions of the civilized world. On the whole, it was a memorable occasion, and it undoubtedly made a strong impression upon the country. In my last report on Foreign Correspondence, I discussed the subject in all of its phases and bearings, and I will not, therefore, say more at this time than to add that our oldest and most distinguished surviving Past Grand Master—M. W.

Brother Robert White—was Grand Marshal of the historic parade. He handled himself with such skill and judgment in the discharge of his exacting duties, as to reflect credit upon himself and honor upon this M. W. Grand Lodge. M. W. Brother Neil Robinson, our presiding Grand Master, and a goodly number of our West Virginia brethren, myself included, participated in the celebration."

We desire to endorse emphatically what is said by Bro. ATKINSON in relation to Bro. ROBERT WHITE. All who were present were under great obligations to him.

The Deputy Grand Masters submitted reports directly to the Grand Lodge, which were referred to the committee without reading, with the reports also of the Deputy Grand Lecturers. Most of the reports are brief, but they suggest the inquiry why the two offices cannot be combined, as is done in Maine, in one brother: and why the reports cannot be made in advance to the Grand Master.

The reports show a rather prosperous condition of the lodges.

In relation to the Past Master's degree, so called, the record says:

"The amendment which was adopted at the last session of the Grand Lodge, looking to the abolishing of the degree of Past Master in subordinate lodges, was acted upon at the present session, and less than two-thirds of the representatives present having voted in the affirmative, it was declared rejected, and the Past Master's degree is therefore retained in this Grand Jurisdiction."

The Committee on Correspondence submitted the following report, which was adopted:

"Your committee has had under consideration for some time past, the question of recognition of the Gran Dieta Symbolica, of the Republic of Mexico. While of late the perplexities of Mexican Masonry to masons of the United States have greatly improved, and many of the objections to the establishment of fraternal relations with that Grand Body of Freemasons, have disappeared, yet we do not, at this time, feel entirely justifiable in recommending recognition, and therefore ask that the matter may go over for another year.

"We also ask further time for a more complete investigation of the applications of the Grand Lodges of Costa Rica and Western Australia for recognition by this M. W. Grand Lodge, which applications have been referred to this committee for consideration."

Efforts were inaugurated looking to the establishment of a Masonic Home.

The Report on Correspondence (198 pp.) was presented, as heretofore, by brother GEORGE W. ATKINSON.

He gives a very full though concisely written abstract of the proceedings with few comments.

Of the reports of the District Deputies of the Grand Lodge of Canada, he says:

"Every Deputy makes it a rule to visit each lodge in his district, and he never fails to submit a tabulated statement showing the exact condition of each lodge he visits. These reports and tables should be accepted as models by the District Deputy Grand Masters of every Grand Lodge in the world.

No item, however small, is overlooked, and when all of these items are united, the report becomes perfect in every feature of information of importance and value to the craft. With such a body of men constantly working and persistently looking after the interests of the Fraternity, it is no wonder that Freemasonry in Canada progresses with rapid speed. When anything gets out of joint in a particular lodge, the District Deputy, if not present at the time, will soon be there to adjust it and to place the machinery in running order."

This is what we try to do in Maine, and we commend it, as he does, to the attention of his own Grand Lodge.

He believes, contrary to all our observation and experience, that the Grand Lodge ritual can be transmitted orally, from generation to generation, without change.

In his review of Maine, he says:

"One of the local lodges exemplified the work of the Third degree in the presence of the Grand Lodge, and a vote of thanks was extended to the lodge for the exceptionally fine rendition of the work. This is something out of the ordinary line in Grand Lodge proceedings, but it seems to me is the right thing, and it should be encouraged. In this way a lodge situated in the city where the Grand Lodge meets will be stimulated to thoroughly post its officers in the ritual, and thus encourage them to raise the standard of lodge work."

It is not "out of the ordinary line" in Maine, and the occasion is one of very great interest.

We had the pleasure of a call from our brother last summer, and we are hopefully looking forward to a repetition of the pleasure. Our only regret was that we did not know in advance that he was coming, and so could not get up sufficient force to hold him a prisoner for a while, and go about over Maine a little with him.

Of the Washington matter he says:

"Much discussion has been had over the action and reaction of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Washington *in re* Negro-made Freemasons. It is evidently the wish of all of the Grand Lodges that this question may be considered settled, and may forever be relegated to the rear, notwithstanding the rescinding act of the alleged offending Grand Lodge is unquestionably incomplete; and yet, the writings of M. W. Brother W. H. Upton, the one who apparently 'scratched up the snake,' are so rabid and severe that the ghost will not down, until he slackens his pace and 'buries his hatchet.' I trust that he will hereafter be more considerate in his utterances toward his brethren, whose judgments and opinions do not run along the same grooves in which he sees fit to move and vibrate."

He had failed to receive the Proceedings of some of the Grand Lodges, but with those exceptions he had gone faithfully over the Proceedings and prepared a report that is of exceeding interest to the craft of his jurisdiction.

WISCONSIN, 1900.

Without any preliminary proceedings, as stated in the record, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Committee on Credentials was appointed, and the Grand Master, CHARLES E. WHELAN, immediately delivered his annual address.

Of the past year, he says:

"The year has shown a conservative, healthful growth, in the fraternity. Without the sound of trump or ostentation of any kind the fraternity to-day is richer by 198 members than it was a year ago. Not a large number, to be sure, but the very smallness of the net addition is a demonstration of the general care exercised to maintain the masonic doctrine of non-solicitation and guarding of the outer door. To-day the membership is reported by the Grand Secretary as 17,619."

He then devoted two pages to a most earnest appeal to the brethren to appreciate their individual responsibility for the success of Masonry; but for want of space we would copy the whole, but it is all based upon the idea that the individual walk and conversation of masons when outside the tiled door, gives the standard by which the institution is judged, and he enforces the individual duty of masons, as we have already said, with great force and eloquence.

He does not think that the time has yet come when the craft in his state can assume the burden of building and maintaining a Masonic Home; but he does think the time has come when an accumulation of a fund for that purpose should be commenced, and we note that Past Grand Master WASHBURN (a native of Maine) offered a resolution looking to that end, which was referred to the first four Grand Officers to report at the next annual communication.

In this connection, the Grand Master says:

"The Order of the Eastern Star, which is proving itself a worthy helpmeet to the Masonic Fraternity, has already taken the initiative in this matter in its Grand Chapter, as I am informed, and demonstrated its willingness to take upon itself a part of this burden. We can do no less than second these efforts, and if we work together with the women of our masonic households, in this worthy cause, I do not think there will be cause to regret. I give the subject into your keeping in the hope that we may at least make a start on an undertaking that will certainly be a continued blessing."

He states that the halls of four lodges had been destroyed by fire during the year and one by a cyclone. The circumstances in the case of one lodge, whose hall was destroyed by fire, were such that he permitted an appeal to the craft in that state for aid.

He announced the death of Bro. LEONARD BARRETT, who for thirty years had been Grand Tyler, and of the deaths of three Past Grand Wardens. The portrait of Bro BARRETT is given.

He urges lodges to celebrate St. John's Days, and in this connection he says that some brethren have formed mutual association for this purpose and he

speaks especially of one, and he hopes that new impulse will be given to these observances as they have been for some years past neglected. We fear that this is the case generally; and his plan of forming an association of several lodges for that purpose seems to us a very wise one.

We regret to learn from his address that the Grand Secretary, Bro. JOHN W. LAFLIN, had been compelled by ill health to have a rest, and he advises that he be given a vacation of two months or longer, upon full pay, and that authority be given the Grand Master to appoint an assistant during his absence, and it was so ordered.

He gives an account of the cyclone at New Richmond. Over \$10,000 had been contributed by the craft and distributed to the sufferers.

One case is so touching that we will state it more in detail.

A lodge owned a hall in the upper part of a building. It was mortgaged for \$1,750 and was utterly destroyed. The mortgage was held by a brother who was paralyzed from his waist down, so that he could not walk. The money loaned was the savings of himself and family for years and was absolutely essential to his support. Of course the security was utterly destroyed and the lodge was in such a condition that it could not possibly pay the money. The Grand Master therefore took \$1,500 of the funds contributed and discharged the obligation against the lodge, the brother holding it discounting the balance. Another case was that of a brother in Vermont who owned one of the buildings destroyed. He was an old man unable to earn anything, and dependent for his living, to a large extent, upon the income received from that building, and the Grand Master allotted to him \$240 out of the fund.

This is not exactly in accord with the Wisconsin doctrine of masonic charity, but it is precisely what we have always believed they would do when an occasion would arise. They did not turn Bro. WHITCOMB over to his own lodge or the Grand Lodge of Vermont, but relieved him in the true spirit of Masonry.

Of the Grand Lodge of Washington the Grand Master says:

“The Grand Lodge of Washington was in session at the same time as that of Wisconsin, and at its session it rescinded its action of the year before according to a telegram received by the Grand Secretary from the Grand Secretary of Washington, just prior to the publication of the proceedings. I therefore immediately issued an edict continuing our intercourse uninterrupted. Later we received the official report of the Washington Grand Lodge proceedings, and I read with much regret the resolutions adopted, which rescinded the letter of the former action, but in which the spirit of insistence upon the right of the offending position dominates. It would have been much more conducive to harmony and a restoration of perfect concord between the Grand Lodge of Washington and the brethren elsewhere, had more temperate language been used toward the jurisdiction which condemned the Washington action, and had a more positive abandonment of their unenviable position been promulgated. The resolutions, I am satisfied, do not voice the general sentiment of the membership in Washington, and I look for a more pronounced

declaration against the action of 1898 at the session of the Washington Grand Lodge this week, and one which will be fully acceptable to the brethren without the confines of that state. Brother Aldro Jenks, in his report as Correspondence Committee, will fully discuss this matter and express Wisconsin's position in his own able manner, and I think it safe in his hands."

He had found that there were several lodges that had been almost dormant, and he believes that, if a lodge will not hold meetings, it is not entitled to be continued, and he requested the committee to confer with the Grand Lecturer in relation to their condition.

He cautions the Grand Lodge also about issuing too many charters.

He found it necessary to protest most emphatically against innovations which some of the lodges are making in the work in spite of the edict of the Grand Lodge.

He laments the use of political methods in relation to offices in the lodge and in the Grand Lodge, and his remarks deserve careful consideration; they led to the passage of an edict of the Grand Lodge as follows:

"It is unmasonic for a mason to solicit for himself, either personally or by another, influence for votes to promote his election to any office in his lodge or in the Grand Lodge. It is unmasonic for a mason to try in any manner to influence the vote of another, either for or against any person for masonic office, but he may state whether or not in his judgment, a particular person is well qualified by good character and masonic knowledge to discharge the duties of the specified office."

We are not quite sure but that the last clause goes so far as to endanger making the whole a dead letter. The general statement allowed by it might be in many cases insufficient without the grounds of the statement being given. It is a matter in which it is exceedingly difficult to draw the line between what is proper and what is not proper, and the doubt should always be in favor of non-interference.

Among his decisions was the following:

"Waiver of jurisdiction by one lodge is sufficient to release jurisdiction where several lodges have concurrent rights over material."

This we have always held to be correct, but the committee says:

"That decision No. 5 be not approved for the reason, it is in conflict with a decision adopted by the Grand Lodge in 1897 (see page 11 of Transactions), in which it is held that a lodge has no jurisdiction of material, that has removed from its territorial jurisdiction."

We agree fully in the last two lines, but either the whole matter is not stated or else it does not seem to us to apply to the decision.

He also made the following decision:

"E was initiated in Lodge A. He removed to the jurisdiction of Lodge B, and applied to Lodge B for advancement. Lodge B asked Lodge A to 'release jurisdiction.' Lodge A, under seal, replies, 'You are authorized to confer the F. C. and M. M. degrees on E.' The degrees were conferred in 1897 and E was reported as a member of Lodge B. No claim was made by

Lodge A upon Lodge B on this matter until 1899, and E was not returned to the Grand Lodge as a member by Lodge A, although the record was published with E listed as a member of Lodge B without objection on the part of Lodge A, Lodge B, paying Grand Lodge tax all the time and Lodge A none.

"Held, that E is a member of Lodge B, Lodge A having confirmed Lodge B in its claim by acquiescing for two years in the record of E as a member of Lodge B and not returning him as a member of Lodge A."

This was approved, the committee, however, adding, "for Lodge A has surrendered its jurisdiction of it."

The following was also approved :

"A lodge cannot do work for another lodge against the objection of one of its own members."

We have always understood that such a request is granted by a majority vote, but if the law is as stated in this decision, it diminishes somewhat the danger of this method of proceeding.

The Grand Master says that the differences in the rituals in the different states are simply amazing, and while he is greatly opposed to a General Grand Lodge, he believes that there should be some kind of a conference of representatives of Grand Lodges to secure uniformity. But there is so much groundless fear of a General Grand Lodge, and so much unwillingness on the part of ritualists to admit that there should be any change in the ritual, *as they learned it*, such a conference, in our opinion, would avail nothing.

In fact the history of the conferences which have been held established this quite conclusively. The last one that was held had really less influence on the craft than any of the preceding ones.

The Committee on Grand Lodge Installation Service report forms for installation and they are published in the proceedings. They seem well adapted for the purpose, and have the commendable merit of brevity.

As usual, the Grand Lecturer, Bro. M. L. YOUNGS, had vigorously discharged his duty, and reports as a whole matters in a prosperous condition.

He says :

"Occasional deviations from, and interpolations in the work have come to my knowledge. In some instances they have been made through the ignorance of young Masters of the requirements, and who, at the instance of some fanciful and over-zealous brother, have permitted the introduction of excrescences, borrowed from lodges in neighboring jurisdictions, yet unknown to, and foreign to the ritual of that or any other Grand Lodge. Such, as a parody on one of the scenes in Hamlet recently introduced into a few lodges and other interpolations foreign to the ritual, tending to lighten the degree and make it tiresome to the candidate and all others as well as to mar the symmetry of our work and destroy its boasted uniformity. From personal observation and from information received, I am led to believe that at no time in the history of this Grand Lodge have the constituent lodges been, as a whole in a *more harmonious or prosperous condition than now.*"

We have copied the edict against electioneering, and yet we must add the remarks of the committee upon that subject :

"If there is any institution in the land that ought to be kept free from politics and political methods, it is the Masonic Lodge. Neither the principles or the objects of Free Masonry are in harmony with the practice of office-seeking. When left free and uninfluenced, the members of a lodge will almost invariably select for official positions 'those who best can work and best agree.' When a mason deems it necessary in order to obtain an official position, to use, either personally or through his friends, lobbying, intriguing and log-rolling methods to obtain it, it is a very sure indication that he does not possess those qualities of head and heart, that would naturally lead his brethren to select him for any important position. Free Masons will always beware of such an one. Even the highest position in Masonry, if obtained by solicitation, combinations and intriguing, does not bring honor to the occupant, but if without solicitation or suggestion on his part, one is selected by his brethren for an official position, 'there all the honor lies.' Office seeking in the lodge is apt to bring heart-burnings and discord. It does not tend to unite the membership 'into one sacred band or society of friends and brothers among whom no contention should ever exist.' Even this Grand Lodge in times past has been humiliated if not disgraced, by efforts to obtain office through lobbying methods, that ought to bring the blush of shame to the cheeks of those engaged therein."

We wish the committee had also given their views in relation to the promotion-in-line practice that is beginning to obtain a foothold in our Grand Lodges and lodges.

The daughter of our beloved brother, Past Grand Master WILLIAM C. SWAIN, wrote some verses to her father without the slightest idea of their being published, but they got into the columns of a masonic paper and the Grand Chaplain read them during the counting of the ballot, and the poem is published in the Proceedings "because of its merit and their fraternal regard for Bro. SWAIN.

The following resolution indicates that they have the same fault in their Grand Lodge as we have had in the past in ours, but, we are glad to say, it has considerably decreased:

"*Resolved*, That in case of absentees at roll call on the first and second days of the Annual Communication, such absentees shall be entitled to make excuses for their absence to the M. W. Grand Master and if in his judgment such excuses are valid and sufficient, the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorized to direct the payment to such absentee of his mileage and per diem the same as if such absence had not been noted."

In the closing moments of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, C. C. ROGERS, announced that a brother had, by will, left the sum of \$5,000 for a Masonic Home, and accompanied the announcement with remarks of much interest, especially to the Wisconsin brethren. They are too long to copy but we commend to our brethren to go to the library and read them.

The Report on Correspondence (pages 136) is again presented by Bro. ALDRO JENKS.

We are obliged to regret, that on account of an unexpected absence, the printer is so closely upon us to finish the publication of our proceedings, that

we cannot give the attention to it that we had planned when we read it for the purpose of review.

In his review of Arizona, he says :

"He quotes from a letter received from Grand Master Upton, of Washington, as follows : 'At its last communication the Grand Lodge of Washington made no change in its position, but it greatly modified its language in the hope that no excuse may longer exist for misunderstanding us or meddling with our affairs.'

"To our mind, this is, on Brother Upton's part, considerably like 'telling tales out of school.' Did the Grand Lodge of Washington desire the masonic world to understand that it had made no change in its position? If we construe their recent utterances aright, it endeavored to convey the impression that it had made a change in its position, but desired to do so in such language as would be really meaningless."

We commend the following to the most earnest attention of the craft everywhere, and we are glad to find our brother speaking so forcibly, and so fully in accord with the ancient law of Masonry :

"We have no fault to find with any of these decisions excepting the one which holds that the widow of an unaffiliated mason has no claim whatever on the craft. We have been taught to believe that it was a mason's obligation and not membership in a lodge which makes him a mason; that an unaffiliated mason is a mason in good standing with all the rights of a mason excepting such as pertain to lodge membership and subject to all the obligations of Masonry excepting such as are due to a particular lodge. While we believe that every mason ought to belong to some lodge, we do not believe that we can free ourselves from obligations to him, his widow and orphans, because he has not seen fit to affiliate with some lodge. His neglect to so affiliate may not have been his fault, poverty may have prevented or the lodge with which he would naturally affiliate might contain some brother less worthy than he, who through the secrecy of the ballot box might prevent affiliation. It is certainly unjust and unmasonic to say that the craft can relieve itself of its duties towards the widow and orphans of such a mason, simply because he was not affiliated with some lodge."

He commends Grand Master LOCKE for his able, business-like address and for "the practical good sense that permeates its utterances."

He says further :

"One of the decisions announced was to the effect that every candidate who receives the third degree in a lodge, becomes, under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, a member of said lodge, and that this is true where as a matter of courtesy the degree is conferred at the request of a lodge in another jurisdiction.

"We regret this ruling. It seems to us that where a degree is conferred as a matter of courtesy for a lodge in another jurisdiction, a brother raised should be held to be a member of the lodge making the request. Otherwise we fail to see where the courtesy comes in."

In explanation we would say that under our law no lodge can confer the degree for another lodge "as a matter of courtesy," as we hold that it is against the law of the craft and is really an innovation of modern times. We have given our reason elsewhere. The first lodge must surrender its jurisdiction, and the candidate be accepted by our lodge in the usual manner.

Referring to Bro. LOCKE'S remarks in relation to making Catholics masons, he says :

" In this state we have a number of enthusiastic masons who are Catholics, and among the number is one who at the time of his initiation, and for many years afterward, was a Roman Catholic Priest. We believe that he is such at the present day, and is still a member in good standing of one of our lodges, at least this was true a few years ago when we investigated the subject. The three degrees were conferred upon him at a communication of the lodge by virtue of a dispensation of the Grand Master of Wisconsin."

But is he still a Roman Catholic Priest, and if so, is the fact that he is a mason known to his superiors? We do not think so.

In this connection, we give the following from a leading Catholic magazine endorsed by the Bishop of the Diocese in which it is published :

Question. Has the Catholic Church ever officially condemned Masonry?

Answer. The Catholic Church has repeatedly condemned Freemasonry as essentially opposed to the belief in the personality of God, as subversive of legitimate authority, and finally as requiring an unrestricted oath from its members. Any conscientious man can see that this latter requirement is immoral. God has given us a confessor to clear our doubts and difficulties. The masonic oath forbids us to use even his aid.

" Five bulls have been directed against Freemasonry, viz: 'In eminenti,' Clement XII, 1738; 'Providas,' Benedict XIV, 1751; 'Ecclesiam, Jesus Christi,' Pius VII, 1821; 'Qui graviora,' Pius IX, 1864; and the latest from Leo XIII, entitled 'Humanum genus.'

" In this country the committee of Archbishops have named as forbidden societies, Freemasons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and the Sons of Temperance, more especially for the third reason given above."

The first reason does not exist: in the second, "legitimate authority" means that of the Catholic Church; and the third means that it interferes with the confessional.

We now desire to ask Bro. JENKS (what we have already asked others in vain), if he would feel safe in admitting a man who professes to support the doctrine above stated. Is it not a case of an attempt to serve two Masters?

We earnestly commend the following to the attention of all Committees on Appeals :

" Among decisions announced was one holding that a lodge has no right to appeal from its own decision to the Grand Lodge. To this we readily assent, but emphatically dissent from the further declaration that no appeal on the part of the accusers will lie nor can a new trial be granted. This portion of the decision we presume is in analogy to the constitutional guaranty that no person shall be twice put in jeopardy for the same offence. We have no such constitutional provision in Masonry. The ultimate trial jurisdiction as the general conservator of the welfare of the craft is vested in the Grand Lodge, which has delegated a part of its trial jurisdiction to the particular lodges. It may at any stage of the proceedings, however (without it is prevented by some local constitutional provision), resume its trial jurisdiction and proceed to a hearing in order that the craft may not suffer through a too lax administration of its penal code. Any brother may appeal to the Grand Lodge from a judgment of acquittal. This is only a method of calling the attention of the Grand Lodge to a particular case. The Grand Lodge may then proceed to

investigate the matter and take such steps as may be necessary in order to prevent the craft being brought to shame by an unlawful acquittal."

We pass very many matters marked for notice to refer to matters in his Conclusion.

We commend the following in relation to Masonic Homes to our enthusiastic brethren everywhere:

"The subject of Masonic Homes is one that is being considered by the Grand Lodges in the United States in many jurisdictions. Many of them possess institutions of this kind that are very efficient in the dispensation of masonic charity and in every way creditable. In many of the jurisdictions, however, work of this kind beyond the ability of the craft to carry out, has been undertaken to the great detriment of Masonry, resulting in serious financial embarrassment, the consequent inability to perform many of the ordinary functions of Masonry that should be discharged by Grand Lodges, and sometimes entailing serious loss of membership. Where a Grand Lodge is possessed of a large membership and ample funds, not only to build and equip, but also to maintain such an institution, work of this kind can be undertaken with safety and satisfaction, but where these conditions do not exist beyond peradventure, they would do well to hesitate long and consider the subject well before embarking in such an enterprise."

Of non-affiliates he well says:

"Regarding that class of masons known as non-affiliates, against whom in many jurisdictions harsh and unmasonic measures have at times been adopted, a reaction seems to have set in, and milder measures are being adopted. This is equally true of that class who for some reason neglect, refuse or find themselves unable to pay their dues to local lodges. While far from being universal, opinion seems to be crystalizing upon the doctrine that deprivation of lodge membership should be the only penalty attached to either class of these offenders, that as they came into the order of their own free will and accord, they should be equally as free to leave the lodge or the Institution should they find membership therein irksome or uncongenial."

Of the Grand Lodge of Washington, he says further:

"Concerning the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1899 purporting to rescind their objectionable resolutions of 1898, we find the feeling generally expressed, to be one of disappointment that it should have accompanied the formal rescinding of these resolutions with utterances of an obscure nature, that are open to the construction that it is still of the same opinion, and has not receded from the position assumed in 1898. Some Grand Lodges have, on this account, declined to revoke edicts of non-intercourse. In most Grand Jurisdictions, however, the ungracious language and indefinite utterances contained in their latest action have been overlooked with a view to promote harmony and con-fraternity.

"We think this is the spirit in which the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin should deal with the subject; that there is no further danger of our Washington brethren being led astray in the matter, and, as they say, that these objectionable resolutions are rescinded, we should take them at their word and treat the incident as closed."

We concurred in these views, but the recent action of that Grand Lodge takes away all occasion for any further hesitation, and we have no doubt that it will be highly commended by Bro. JENKS and his Grand Lodge.

He discusses at some length in this report, the matter of the "Ancient

Charges." We do not agree with him in his conclusion, and our reasons he will find stated in a former part of this report.

We find that we have omitted one thing. He mentions the difference between the charge in relation to physical qualifications in the Constitutions of 1723 and that in the Constitutions published in 1738. Referring to discussion of this matter in our review of Pennsylvania, we desire to add that in the Constitution approved in 1754 and published in 1756, the Old Charges of 1723 are given and those of 1738 are wholly ignored: and the same is true of those of 1769: these we have been able to examine, and we are informed on good authority that those of 1784 are the same. The result is that if the 1738 Constitutions were ever authority at all, they have been so for less than twenty years out of the time from 1723 to the present.

WYOMING, 1900.

We have a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, E. P. BOWMAN.

A special communication was held to lay the corner-stone of "Science Hall," Wyoming University.

In the record of the annual communication, a list of the Grand Officers is given, then it is stated that a sufficient number of lodges under the requirement of the Constitution being represented, the Grand Lodge was duly opened in ample form.

Grand Master BOWMAN delivered a brief business-like address, confined quite exclusively to an account of his official action and certain recommendations.

We quote all that he says in relation to his visitation of lodges:

"Visiting subordinate lodges is one of the most important duties of the Grand Master. I have endeavored to discharge it faithfully. During the last year I have had the good fortune to be able to visit all but two of our lodges. I believe there is much good to be derived from these visits, although there may be some who think that they are not necessary. In a jurisdiction like this of ours, where we have members of the craft who were made and instructed in the ritual in many different states, we are liable to have a diversified understanding and manner of performing the work. To correct this existing condition will require much labor for the succeeding officers of this Grand Body.

"The lodges visited I found in a good, healthy, growing condition, all doing some work, and in some cases the lodges had a great deal of work in sight. Everywhere the officers and members seemed to be imbued with the true spirit and were heart and soul in the work."

As we understand it, the visitations of the Grand Master are the only ones which the lodges receive in this jurisdiction.

He granted some dispensations to confer degrees out of order, but refused many of the requests he had received.

He decided that when a brother who has been suspended for non-payment

of dues sends in the money with a petition for re-instatement, and the lodge refuses to re-instate him, he still remains suspended, and the money should be returned to the petitioner, and the brother has no remedy.

We do not believe this is right, although of course it would seem just that if they should refuse to re-instate him they should return the money, but in our judgment, as often before stated, the system which allows this seems to us in violation of the masonic rights of individuals.

On the centennial of the death of WASHINGTON, in nearly every lodge in the State, the brethren assembled, and listened to exercises relating to the character of WASHINGTON.

The report of the Grand Secretary, W. L. KUYKENDALL, shows an energetic discharge of the duties of his office, and the general attention to the welfare of the craft in the jurisdiction.

He gives a roll of names of the masons of Wyoming who served in the recent war with Spain and in the Philippines, so far as he was able to obtain them.

The Committee on Masonic Home report that it is premature to take steps looking to the establishment of such an institution.

The Committee on Library report, urging each lodge to maintain a local masonic library so far as their means will permit. There is no doubt at all, that at a comparatively small expense, a library of great value to the members of the lodge might be maintained by it.

The Committee on Work presented a report, and after discussion the report was unanimously adopted and declared to be the official work of that jurisdiction. It is almost wonderful that this vote was unanimous, in view of the fact that very many Grand Jurisdictions are represented in the Grand Lodge.

The Washington matter was referred to a committee to report at the next annual session.

A resolution was adopted making the use of the official work obligatory and prohibiting the use of any other, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to make such arrangements as would secure the control of the work by the Grand Lodge and the promulgation thereof to the lodges.

The library of the Grand Lodge, which is now in the hall of Cheyenne Lodge, was placed in the keeping of that lodge until otherwise ordered, and the officers were requested to use necessary and due diligence in the care and maintenance of the same.

In accordance with a resolution to publish the portraits of all the Past Grand Masters, we have the portrait of Bro. EDWARD F. STAHL.

As usual, the proceedings terminated with a banquet, which the Grand Secretary says was a decided success.

He says, however, that while the toast-master seemed delighted in naming the martyrs to respond, the delight of the latter was of a negative quality! Really, or apparently?

The constitution, regulations, etc., of the Grand Lodge are published in these Proceedings, as is usually done, we believe.

The Report on Correspondence (121 pp.) was presented by Grand Secretary KUYKENDALL, as usual.

Of his plan of report he says :

“We have adhered to our usual rule by incorporating a few decisions under the head of each Grand Jurisdiction which are well worthy of consideration, and have endeavored to give as much of the doings of the Grand Lodges reviewed as our limited space would permit.”

He well says :

“We are pleased to note that British Columbia requires documentary evidence of good standing from those seeking to visit where they cannot be vouched for, instead of taking them in on their mere say so. This is as it should be everywhere and accords with our contention on that subject.”

The undertaking of certain brethren to establish the doctrine of only oral examination has signally failed.

In regard to uniformity of work, he says further :

“We agree with him that the law should be enforced, at the same time uniformity in the work is an impossibility so long as each Grand Lodge is a law unto itself. Uniformity will never be maintained in any jurisdiction until there is a supreme Grand Lodge, which in our opinion will never be organized and adhered to by all Grand Lodges as subordinates thereto. Therefore, all Grand Masters and others had as well cease making recommendations on the subject, and Grand Lodges should cease expending money to attain and maintain such uniformity. The latter cannot be maintained for reasons well known to all who have given the subject any thought. A close approach to it is all that can be expected or hoped for.”

We are not in favor of giving up the effort to obtain uniformity, because it has one effect at any rate—to prevent a greater divergency.

There has been an effort to increase the spectacular features of the work, but that is receiving so general condemnation, that we do not believe it will be allowed in any jurisdiction.

In his review of the District of Columbia, he says :

“We are surprised at the idea and would be more so at a law requiring or rather permitting anyone after receiving the M. M. degree to declare himself a member of the lodge conferring the same. We supposed that idea had been universally relegated out of existence. So far as our knowledge extends, not only the law but the ritual as well makes him a member of the lodge conferring the degree, except in the case of conferring that degree as an act of courtesy for another lodge. The making of unaffiliated masons would seem to be out of place in this day of lodges everywhere, and that is what it means now and then when it is left to the option of a newly made mason to declare himself a lodge member.”

We do not understand that there is anything in the *ritual* which makes him a member of the lodge. If there is, it is an innovation, for within our own recollection it was quite the universal practice in many of the older Grand Lodges to propose the newly raised brother for membership and elect him by

vote. Later on, a brother was allowed to signify his desire to become a member of the lodge. The old idea was, that making a man a Master Mason did not make him a member of the lodge, and it was entirely within his election, whether he would ask to join it.

It is true that now, and we think rightly, by enacted law in most of the jurisdictions, a man becomes a member of the lodge by receiving the third degree therein. But this law was enacted to obviate the evils which began to arise from the opposite course.

He insists that there is no law in relation to which corner a corner-stone is to be laid by masonic ceremonies. We hope that some of our ritualists will take this matter up and give us information.

In his review of Maine, he refers to our law in relation to suspension for non-payment of dues. We will only add that the suspension is merely from membership in the lodge, although the lodge may deprive the party of membership for that cause. If he is merely suspended, he has the right to reinstate himself by payment of the amount, but if he is deprived of membership he must pay the dues or have them remitted, and then apply for membership, and be elected as if he had never been a member.

In reply to us, he says:

“Our brother says that we arrive at ‘conclusions which we would not reach if we did not reject established rules of evidence and require a kind of evidence that could not possibly exist.’ Well, it may be so. This is evidently in reply to our statement that where a proposition is affirmed and asserted to be true the burden of proof is upon those who so assert. We stand by this statement. If our brother ever heard of a case won upon allegations set up as true, based upon the kind of ‘evidence that could not possibly exist’ or want of evidence of any kind material to the issue, he has certainly heard something we are unaware of. We have always supposed that where anything either in or out of court is alleged to be a fact, those making the allegation are supposed to produce evidence to support it or they have no case. Such has been our contention and we see no valid reason for changing. Further, we have a fixed recollection of many cases dismissed for want of evidence, some of which ‘could not possibly exist,’ and without the introduction of any evidence whatever to disprove the allegation. It would therefore seem that rules of evidence held to be sound in our mountain region, although applied from the same books as in Maine, are not held to be applicable in the same legal sense in the latter.”

Of course the burden of proof is upon any one asserting the statement, but what we objected to was that he disregards the rules of evidence which human wisdom has established in relation to transactions happening before the time of any who are now living. His rules are in the nature of requiring proof of a transaction that happened one hundred years ago by some one who was present, who will now come forward and testify in relation to the matter.

Of the Past Master's degree, he says:

“For our brother's information, will say that our installation ceremony does not and never did provide a ceremony for the so-called Past Master's degree. It is an annex not properly belonging to craft Masonry and is an absurdity

when conferred under that name at the beginning instead of close of the term, and more so when conferred upon the Junior and Senior Wardens as it is in some jurisdictions."

He is wrong in saying that it does not properly belong to craft Masonry, for craft Masonry has had it so long that "the memory of mah runneth not to the contrary," and it was taken *from* craft Masonry when it was put *into* the chapter, if it ever has been put there.

It may be that the degree is unfortunately named, and that the name of it ought to be "Present Master," but it would be an absurdity to confer it at the close of the term instead of at the beginning, under the terms of the ritual. It is based upon the old idea that a man who has been elected and qualified, and entered upon the discharge of the duties of any office, from that moment is entitled to the rank.

He says that Dr. ANDERSON stated that there were lodge secretaries in those days, and if we had read closely, we should have found it. We have failed to do so, and will be under great obligation to him if he will specify where such a statement may be found, as applied to any lodges existing in the days of operative Masonry.

He agrees with the committee of our Grand Lodge concerning the proposition to make all Past Masters honorary members, saying emphatically that the services rendered by a Master is more than repaid by the honor of presiding worthily in that position.

Of the Washington matter, he says :

"He handles the Washington affair in a very clever manner. The fact of the matter is that Brother Upton has manufactured and continues to manufacture a large amount of ammunition for local consumption and originally undertook to fire some of it at the fraternity throughout the country. The latter was a disastrous failure, as it only reached one isolated mason outside of Washington, so far as heard from."

There are other matters which we would like to notice, but time and space forbid. It is due to our brother to say, that he has contributed very greatly to the placing of his Grand Lodge in the front rank.

ADDITIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

ARIZONA, 1900.

The frontispiece is a portrait of the retiring Grand Master, WILLIAM F. NICHOLS.

In opening the Grand Lodge, the roll of officers was called and there was found to be present the representatives of eleven chartered lodges, and "there being a sufficient representation," the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Committee on Credentials reported later.

Grand Master NICHOLS in his annual address, states that the year had been a very prosperous one in that jurisdiction: there had been an increase in membership and the financial conditions were good.

He is able to announce that no member of the Grand Lodge had died during the year, although eleven masons had "gone before."

He gives a long correspondence in relation to a matter of some interest. A lodge in Mexico was unable to meet in its own hall for some reason, and hired a hall of the proper masonic owners of it across the line, and held meetings there and conferred degrees. The local lodge knowing all about it made no objections, but it appears that the Mexican lodge had received petitions from residents on this side of the line, and made masons of them. Afterwards it addressed a letter to the American lodge, saying that they were not aware that a waiver of jurisdiction was necessary and asking them for a waiver, at the same time assuring them that in the future the law of jurisdiction would not be violated. Thereupon the American lodge voted to waive jurisdiction as requested. The matter was referred to a committee, and of course it held that the local lodge had no authority to give permission to the Mexican lodge to meet in that jurisdiction. But as a whole, the transaction seemed to be in good faith, and the Grand Lodge substantially passed it over, except that it ordered that for the present the American residents should not be recognized.

The Grand Lodge, however, passed an edict forbidding the sub-letting of a masonic hall to a foreign masonic body but it went further, and declared that no lodge in Arizona has the right to waive jurisdiction in favor of a foreign lodge. This is contrary to the law held almost everywhere, except that in a good many jurisdictions, and we think properly, the assent of the Grand Master is required, and really the correspondence ought to be through him. In other jurisdictions it is held that it is a matter within the powers of the lodge alone.

We regret that the committee in Arizona did not go a little further and state how such waiver is to be had, for we do not think our brethren there would hold that jurisdiction should be waived without the consent of the local lodge.

Upon hearing of the disaster at Galveston, the Grand Master ordered \$150 sent for the relief of the sufferers, from the treasury of the Grand Lodge, and his action was confirmed. In addition, the lodges raised over \$200 and forwarded it.

The question of physical qualifications was presented to the Grand Master by a committee of a lodge, supported by a very able argument, except that unfortunately, the case actually presented did not come within the terms of the argument, and the Grand Master rightly held that in that particular case the candidate was not eligible, and the Grand Lodge sustained his position, on the ground that the candidate in question was not able to do masonic work.

The general question was presented and referred to a committee to be reported upon next year.

Upon the recommendation of the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge of Western Australia was recognized.

"A Monitor and Funeral Service" had been published and supplied to the lodges at twenty cents a copy, and we are glad to see that some of the lodges took fifty copies, others apparently one for each member; none took less than ten copies. In the olden times, it was deemed absolutely necessary for a newly made mason to have a monitor, and the result was, as we think, that the body of the craft were better informed on the average, than they are now, and we wish that it was the law that everywhere the Monitor of the jurisdiction should be furnished to every candidate.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and other officers confirm the statement of the Grand Master.

A fine oration was delivered by Bro. CHARLES D. BELDEN, worthy of careful reading and study.

He also presented a report in relation to the Washington matter, concluding that it was not necessary to do anything further. The report was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and on its report, was adopted. It is a very able presentation of the matter, but in view of the present condition of affairs, we refrain from quoting from it.

The usual routine business was harmoniously transacted.

The Grand Representatives were received with the Grand Honors and welcomed, and one of their members made a reply in behalf of all.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

CONNECTICUT, 1901.

We have a fine portrait of Bro. JOHN O. ROWLAND, the retiring Grand Master, and of Past Grand Master QUINTARD, the oldest surviving Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge met in the Masonic Hall, was welcomed by Bro. EDWARD G. CLARK, who presented a gavel "made from woods taken from some of our historic land marks."

The Grand Master replied; then follows the list of the Grand Officers and Permanent Members, Representatives of Grand Lodges; and then the statement "a quorum of lodges being represented by their lawful delegates," the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The opening hymn, composed by the late brother, JOSEPH K. WHEELER, was sung.

Then the report of the Committee on Credentials was presented, accepted so far as made, and recommended for additions and alterations.

The Grand Master says the year had been a most harmonious and satisfactory one.

He announces the deaths of Past Grand Master CHARLES BUCKINGHAM, and Past Grand Warden ARTHUR B. CALEF, whose portraits, with brief biographical sketches, are given in the Proceedings.

The address of the Grand Master is devoted to an account of his official routine acts and of his visitations.

One of his acts had been the restoration of a charter which had been sixty-two years in the archives of the Grand Lodge. This could not have been technical restoration of the charter, but the granting of it to new members.

Referring to decisions, he says :

“It has been my observation, in former years, that many of the questions which have gone up to the Grand Master for adjudication have been raised by want of a proper investigation on the part of the Master of the lodge where the question arose. I fully believe that it is becoming more and more the custom for Masters to study the law and to become familiar with the principles of masonic jurisprudence.”

This is true, and we believe it results in part from wise action upon the part of the Grand Lodge in furnishing lodges with copies of the Constitution and Proceedings. In many cases a Master comes into office without a means of investigation beyond a copy of the Constitution and amendments, and he is obliged to procure that from the Grand Secretary in order to have one. We believe in distributing that document very fully and widely, so that there can be no excuse for want of knowledge of its contents.

He gives a brief review of the reports of the District Deputies, which indicates that they had done their duty faithfully, and found the lodges in good condition.

He urges the importance of the work that is being done by the Masonic Home, and says that if any brother will visit it he will appreciate it so fully that he will never afterwards lose his interest in it.

The Deputy Grand Master made a brief address, referring especially to the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Hiram Lodge. Nothing is stated as to whether the addresses, of which he speaks in high terms, are to be published or not, but the larger part of the good of such celebrations is lost, unless the proceedings are preserved by publication in a form that can be easily retained in libraries.

The Grand Secretary makes his usual full report, but is obliged to say that he had not completed the Grand Lodge registry. He had nearly 13,000 names arranged, but he had been delayed in his work by want of co-operation of the Secretaries of some of the lodges.

He advises that lodges write up their histories.

Of the Grand Orient of Belgium, he says :

"At our annual communication in 1899, recognition was extended to this Grand Body on recommendation of the committee on correspondence, and in April last a commission as representative near the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, was forwarded to me from said Grand Orient. Before accepting the same, I was informed on good authority that said Grand Orient was in fraternal recognition and correspondence with the Grand Orient of France. I returned the commission, and would recommend that our resolution of recognition be rescinded."

The Finance Committee report in favor of a *per capita* tax of eighty cents, one-quarter for defraying the expenses of the Grand Lodge, and three-quarters for the benefit of the Masonic Charity Foundation Fund. But the report was amended, and the Grand Lodge ordered a *per capita* tax of one dollar, giving lodges the right, however, to deduct the number of masons who had been in good standing for thirty years. But a committee was appointed to consider and report at the next annual session an equitable basis for contributions by lodges for the requirements of the Grand Lodge.

The dues are to be paid as follows :

"Resolved, That the subordinate lodges be required to make their returns to the Grand Lodge as follows : One-half on or before the first day of July, 1901 ; one-half on or before the first day of January, 1902. The payment due July 1, 1901, to be based upon the returns made January 1, 1901, and the payment due January 1, 1902, to be based upon the returns made at that time."

A picture of the hall of Washington Lodge, of Monroe, erected in 1800, is given, with a brief sketch of it.

The Report on Correspondence (194 pp.) was presented by Bro. JOHN H. BARLOW.

As he himself says, it comprises such matters of general interest as he had gleaned from the Proceedings of several jurisdictions, "with such brief comments as were necessary to express our opinion on the subjects presented, which we trust have not been of an offensive nature."

While we would be glad to find further comments, yet in spite of that we hold his report to be of the high character of the preceding ones.

We find from his comments that he thinks a unanimous ballot should be required to waive jurisdiction of a rejected applicant ; that giving the title of Honorary Grand Master does not carry with it the title of Past Grand Master, which he holds can be given only for actual service ; that a man with a wooden foot is not physically qualified to receive the degrees. He is greatly surprised that there is any jurisdiction in which every Past Grand Master does not have a vote in the Grand Lodge. He holds that a brother sitting in a chapter or commandery with another can vouch for the latter in the lodge. He is inclined to the opinion, as we are, that the rule that an installed officer cannot resign should apply only to Masters and Wardens.

He says the practice of allowing one brother to cast "the vote of the Grand Lodge" in the election of officers is not allowed in Connecticut. He holds

that the effect given to a rejection in any jurisdiction follows the candidate everywhere he goes, and should be respected by sister jurisdictions.

In his review of Illinois, he says :

“ He holds that it would be unwise to establish a cast iron law relative to granting masonic burial to suicides, but that a lodge should decide each case according to circumstances. We fully agree, and believe that the brother's past life should, to a great extent, decide the matter, as in many cases insanity is brought on by dissipation.”

In his review of Kansas he expresses his full agreement with the view stated by Grand Master LOCKE in relation to the acceptance of candidates.

In his review of Maine, he quotes from the address of Grand Master CHOATE, the closing part of his allusion to the Centennial Celebration, which he denominates “ eloquent words.”

They pay no mileage or per diem.

He agrees with the views expressed by our Grand Lodge in relation to life membership, and thinks lodges should be extremely careful in making any regulations that exempt a portion of its members from annual dues, adding that the Connecticut law exempting those who have been thirty years a mason has had a bad effect.

Referring to a decision, he says :

“ When a brother, by mistake, casts a different ballot from what he intended to, it should not only be his right, but his duty, to announce his mistake before the ballot is declared ; it is the same principle as correcting a clerical error.”

If a brother discovers his mistake before the ballot is declared we have no objection ; but that was not the case before our Grand Lodge, and we hardly think that our brother would think it safe to allow a man after the ballot has been declared to announce that he had made a mistake and request to have the ballot taken over again.

He says further :

“ Under Kansas, he calls our attention to the words used in the installing service, on presenting the gavel to the newly installed Grand Master. We think the words used forcibly express the meaning we contend—that it is the hand that wields, or the power behind it that commands the obedience, rather than the instrument itself.”

Yes, but in Maine we are instructed that the gavel *is the emblem of power*, and indicates that the party who wields it *is possessed of the power* which commands obedience, and for that very reason we object to the use of a gavel by a Warden in the presence of the Master.

He agrees that a rejection for affiliation gives the rejecting lodge no future jurisdiction over the candidate whatever.

We take leave with reluctance of this exceedingly interesting report.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1900.

As usual, a large number of special communications were held for various purposes. One to attend the funeral of Past Grand Master, ISAAC L. JOHNSON. From the proceedings of another, we learn of the severe illness of P. G. Master NOBLE D. LARNER and of Grand Secretary WILLIAM R. SINGLETON; a resolution of sympathy for them was adopted unanimously by a rising vote. Their sickness continued and was again mentioned at the semi-annual communication, and since then, and indeed since these proceedings were published, we have the sad news of the death of Bro. SINGLETON. But we prefer to wait for the action of his Grand Lodge, before more particularly noticing his death.

The matter of the establishment of a Masonic Home was before the Grand Lodge, but it was determined that as they had embarked in the enterprise of building a new Masonic Temple, it was unwise to take any measures in relation to the Home,

It may be difficult hereafter for a visitor from Maine to secure admission as a visitor in the Grand Lodge in this jurisdiction, as an amendment to the Constitution was proposed, requiring every visitor to produce a receipt for dues *under seal* of the lodge, and as such use of the seal is contrary to masonic law in Maine, it will be difficult for our brethren to comply with that condition.

We do not quite understand the following:

“The M. W. Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge that he had appointed the Assistant Grand Secretary representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine near this Grand Lodge, and on motion of Past Master Howard M. Gillman, Benjamin B. French Lodge, No. 15, said officer was received and acknowledged as such representative.”

The brother referred to is Bro. WILLIAM A. GATLEY, whom we would be very proud to hail as our Representative, but how he could be appointed without a commission from our Grand Lodge, is what we do not understand.

A special communication was also called to make an appropriation for the Galveston sufferers and the Grand Lodge appropriated \$500, to which additions were made by the lodges, so that the total contribution was \$1,330.

At the annual communication, the Grand Master, WILLIAM G. HENDERSON, reports that unalloyed harmony had prevailed and prosperity had existed during the year.

The Grand Master reports the receipt of a letter from the Grand Master of Washington requesting an exchange of representatives, which he had referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and he closes by hoping that an honorable and peaceful solution may be reached. His hope has now been realized.

He had performed a large number of official acts, including the granting of quite a number of dispensations, but none out of the usual course.

He reports progress in relation to the new Masonic Temple. Subscriptions

to the amount of \$87,500 had been made, of which \$31,500 had been subscribed for by the Board of Control, and this the Board offered to give as a bonus to lodges for additional subscriptions, share for share.

He had visited every lodge at least once, and witnessed the conferring of the degrees frequently by the Past Masters of the lodge, which was done in strict accordance with the ritual, delivered in a most impressive manner.

He speaks in high terms of the school of instruction and of the Grand Visitations which it is the custom to make in that jurisdiction.

Some three pages of his address are devoted to the manner of going from one degree to another at the same communication, but as the method is substantially the same as that prevailing in this jurisdiction, we have no occasion to notice it further.

Instructions concerning the examination and admission of visitors had been issued to the lodges.

He submitted again the question of physical disabilities to the Grand Lodge. It was referred to the proper committee, but we do not find that a report was made.

He urges, as did his predecessor, the justice of granting a vote to each of the Past Grand Masters.

He states that quite a number of the copies of the reprint from 1810 to 1845 had been sold, and as there is but one copy on hand of the printed proceedings from 1845 to 1861, he urges that they be reprinted. We trust that this will be done.

A lodge attempted to violate indirectly a requirement of the Grand Lodge that only three degrees should be conferred at one communication, by calling a special communication to be held immediately upon the closing of the former one, but of course he held that this could not be done.

They had one curious question, but it may arise in any lodge. A brother absolutely refused to ballot on an application. But the ballot was taken and the candidate declared accepted. The Master, however, came to the conclusion that the ballot was null and void. Thereupon the brother who refused to ballot made some explanation and retired from the lodge. Then the ballot was again taken and, it being clear, the Master declared the candidate elected. The committee deemed the matter so important that they asked further time for its consideration.

He confirmed previous decisions of his Grand Lodge, to the effect that parties temporarily residing in Washington can apply for Masonry there, notwithstanding their real home is in another state, because such party has an established *habitation* in Washington. This is contrary to the law of almost every other jurisdiction and will ultimately result in a disturbance of harmony. The Grand Master held to the same doctrine, however, in a case in which it was claimed that a candidate was only temporarily residing in Virginia.

Quite a number of similar cases came up, but not of sufficient importance to require notice.

Of Grand Secretary SINGLETON, he says:

"The craft at large, and the officers of the lodges in particular, have sorely missed from his office and from all of the Grand Visitations of this fall, our dearly beloved Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, who has been confined to his home by illness the past ten months, with the exception of a few weeks during the summer months, when he was thought to be convalescent. May our Supreme Grand Master spare our dear brother to us for years to come, although he has passed his eighty-second birthday, in order that we may have the benefit of his wise counsel and enjoy the sunshine of his genial countenance."

The Grand Lodge of Western Australia was recognized, and masonic relations resumed with the Grand Lodge of Porto Rico, which had formerly been recognized. The application from Costa Rica was held for further examination, as well as the request of the Grand Lodge of Washington for an exchange of representatives.

A very interesting incident was the visit to the Grand Lodge by a committee of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, headed by Past Grand Master DUKK, who presented to the Grand Lodge the lamb skin apron, surrounded by engrossed resolution framed, which was used at the Washington Centennial exercises.

We find that the proposition of requiring a receipt for dues *under seal* was postponed for further consideration.

A long report on physical qualifications was read by the committee. They re-affirm substantially the law of this jurisdiction in relation to this matter, adding, however, that artificial appliances, no matter how well they can be used, cannot be considered in determining the question.

A petition was received that the Grand Lodge should prescribe a form of prayer to be used in lodges, but the Grand Lodge deemed it unwise.

We think this action was wise, and that masonic toleration requires that the Chaplain be allowed to pray according to his own conscientious convictions, whether other members of the lodge agree with those convictions or not.

The incoming Grand Master made a brief address, in which he urges the adoption of the amendment giving each Past Grand Master a vote, and upon another matter well saying:

"The past year has been one of unexampled prosperity in our jurisdiction, and the coming year is full of promise for a continuation of the same bright era. A word of caution would I utter. At this time, when many seek admission to the fraternity, there is danger that unworthy material may knock at our doors. The brethren owe it to themselves and to each other that they guard well our portals. Better far would it be for us that good men should be rejected than to allow one unworthy applicant to enter into our midst. One who could not understand or appreciate the teachings of Masonry might sow seeds of discord that would require years to uproot."

We find that in this Grand Lodge, each lodge votes as a unit: the vote is determined by the majority of the representatives, and if a majority does not agree the vote of the lodge is lost. We formerly had the same method in Maine. But we adopted the following method some years ago:

If all three representatives are present each has one vote;

If only two are present the senior officer has two votes and the other one vote;

If only one is present, he has three votes;

If no one of the chair officers are present, the proxy of the lodge has three votes.

The Report on Correspondence (76 pp.) was prepared by Bro. GEORGE W. BAIRD, with, as he says, some assistance from Bro. SINGLETON.

It is a very brief abstract along the lines of Bro. SINGLETON'S reports, and really would have been mistaken for his but for the express statement to the contrary.

His comments are very brief, but those, which he does make, cause us to wish for more.

In his conclusion he says:

"In making comments on our brother masons' proceedings, we beg to assure them that in all our masonic acts it is our purpose to banish all identity of the individual, keeping in mind only the purity and prosperity of the craft. It is the little emulation that proceeds from these observations of each others' acts that tends to keep us in the paths of masonic righteousness, and gives us a desire to lean more and more on the ancient landmarks and ancient charges, and will, we hope, ultimately induce a uniformity of ritual.

"The senior member of our correspondence committee (our venerable and much loved Brother Singleton) has been able to revise and correct the errors of the other members in this review, and to him great credit is due. So cheerful is he in his sickness, so happy in his methods of setting us right, that it makes us wish it would please the Almighty to let him live forever."

LOUISIANA, 1901.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, the Committee on Credentials appointed and the roll of lodges called.

The standing committees were thereupon announced, and later, the Committee on Credentials made their report, which follows in the pamphlet immediately after the record of their appointment.

The Grand Master, ROBERT H. CAGE, refers the history of the formation of his Grand Lodge and the issuing of charters by it to lodges in Texas, Arkansas and other southern states. He refers to it and to the growth since for the purpose of reminding the brethren what the Grand Lodge has done for Freemasonry, during the century just ending, and expresses the hope that the future will be in line with what was done in the past.

Of the condition of the craft he says:

"Judging from the returns of the constituent lodges that have come in up to the present time, I am pleased to note that the condition of the craft is in every way most satisfactory, a number of the lodges having conferred more degrees than ever before during the same period. Dispensations have been issued creating three new lodges U. D., who will, no doubt, apply for charters at this communication of the Grand Lodge. One lodge, Thomas Jefferson, No. 113, which has for a long time been in a state of decay, surrendered its charter August 2d."

He had granted quite a number of dispensations and had refused quite a number, of which the Grand Secretary in his report gives a full account.

When the news of the Galveston catastrophe was received, in spite of the condition of the treasury, he ordered \$500 forwarded at once. This was done, and contributions by lodges followed, making a total of \$1,185.

The statue of HENRY CLAY, the corner-stone of which was laid by the Grand Lodge in 1856, was moved to another part of the city, and the corner-stone was laid by the mayor, but a committee of the Grand Lodge attended and transferred the deposit to the new location. The box in which the first deposit was made was badly damaged, and we notice it for the purpose of suggesting that boxes for such purposes should be very carefully prepared, and, so far as practicable, of enduring materials.

He had made quite a number of visitations with good results.

He visited one dormant lodge which took measures towards being revived. It was the common case of the granting of a charter to a lodge in the locality in which there was one very earnest, hard working brother who sustains the lodge as long as he lives and remains there, but when such a brother dies or moves away, the lodge seems to begin to decay. In this case even the charter and books were lost, but the lodge had funds enough to pay its indebtedness and the brethren were very anxious to redeem themselves, and he granted a dispensation to work until the Grand Lodge should grant a charter.

We are very glad indeed to read the following under the head of Finance: "To the praise of the masons of Louisiana for their noble and self-sacrificing spirit I am enabled to report that the financial condition of this Grand Lodge is all that we could have hoped for and better than we expected, as is shown by the report of the Committee on Finance. On March the 7th the Finance Committee met in the office of the Grand Secretary and drew, by lot, \$10,000 worth of Grand Lodge bonds."

Those bonds were paid, reducing the debt that amount, and the Grand Master says that there was every reason to believe that in three years the indebtedness will be wiped out.

In his conclusion he says:

"To them, more than to any effort on my part, belong the honor and the credit or work well performed, and especially at this time do I desire to make public acknowledgment of my appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered me in the discharge of my duties by our worthy Grand Secretary, brother Richard Lambert. Always at the post of duty, kind, courteous and considerate, 'with a heart overflowing with the milk of human kindness' for every

one, zealous in guarding the 'Ancient Landmarks' of Freemasonry, he is, indeed, one that any Grand Master may feel proud to claim as his friend and brother, and one that this Grand Lodge may feel especially fortunate in having for its Grand Secretary. May he be spared to us for many years to come as Counsellor, Friend and Brother."

The brethren everywhere will repeat this wish.

The reports show that the financial condition of the Grand Lodge is rapidly improving, owing to the willingness of the craft to assume a larger burden temporarily until they shall be relieved by the payment of the Temple debt. The affairs of the Temple are in a better condition than before, but at the same time not in so good condition as could be wished, a part of the rentable part of it being vacant. They were also obliged to pay a tax of \$1,500 a year, which, when the Temple was built, was not expected.

The transactions are mostly of a routine character.

We note that the case in which the judgment of a lodge had been twice set aside for irregularities, came again before the Grand Lodge by appeal, but this time the action of the lodge in expelling the party was sustained.

A lodge applied for official interposition with the President of the United States for promotion of one of its members who was serving in a military capacity. But the committee reported emphatically that it was "at variance with the functional obligations of a masonic body" and the Grand Lodge declined to entertain the application.

The Grand Lecturer reported that he had devoted his entire time to visiting lodges, remaining with each of them a week, and he speaks in high terms of the condition of the craft, financially and otherwise.

The Grand Lodge granted the use of the Grand Lodge room to the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star to hold its meeting in June, and resolutions were presented authorizing lodges to sub-let their halls to any chapter of that Order, but they were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and it being near the close of the session, no report thereon was made.

The Report on Correspondence (pages 72) was presented by Bro. HERMAN C. DUNCAN. It is in a topical form, and of course is largely devoted to the discussion of various matters found in the proceedings.

We trust that our brother will be allowed to return, and will return to the old form.

He devoted several pages to a discussion of the decisions of various Grand Lodges.

He discusses somewhat the question of disciplining masons for conduct before admission. This is a matter which has arisen in various jurisdictions, and as we understand it, the rule is now pretty well established that a mason cannot be disciplined for conduct before his admission, unless in the application for admission he is guilty of fraud in relation to the matter.

Bro. DUNCAN suggests that if he has repented he ought not to be disciplined,

but the question of jurisdiction can scarcely turn upon that, and it need not, as we think, because if he continues his evil condition after admission, there is no need of going back to a time previous to his admission.

He dissents from a decision in California that a dispensation cannot be issued to a lodge to authorize it to hold a new election for officers simply because the result of the annual election is unsatisfactory to the members. We do not agree with him, however, because the very first question which would arise is, how many times such a process should be repeated if applications should continue, as very likely they would. When a lodge is constituted and the brethren have agreed in advance on their officers, the Grand Master asks if they remain satisfied with their choice. Presumably if they do not, he would order a new election, but this is *before they become a lodge*, and is a matter of individual agreement among themselves, and so far as we know, the question is limited to the first choice of officers made, as we have stated, before the lodge is constituted. In all other cases the question is limited to the party presented for installation, whether any one knows of any objection to that particular person which should prevent him from being installed into office.

It must be remembered that it is the duty of the out-going Master to install his successor, but he does not possess the power of a Grand Master and has no power to try objections. We have had cases in this state, and after full consideration the true rule was stated to be that the installing officer should examine the objection and determine whether it was of such a character as to cause the delay of the installation, and if so, to bring the matter to the attention of the Grand Master, who would appoint some one to try the charges and report the result to him.

This was done in our Grand Chapter, and after a hearing the Grand High Priest decided that the objections were sustained and forbade the installation.

The lodge is acting under by-laws approved by the Grand Lodge, and they provide in terms for the election and when it shall be. But we have never seen the by-laws yet that authorize any reconsideration of the election. We therefore hold that the California decision was exactly right, unless it is deemed necessary to add to it "except that an objection to the character of an elected officer should be entertained and determined."

We agree with him in his dissent from another California decision, that a dimit must be granted, even though the brother is under charges. Such is not the law in our jurisdiction or anywhere else, so far as we have noticed.

He dissents from another California decision, and we agree with his dissent if he understands the decision correctly. We are not able to refer to it, but we have the impression that in California as in Maine, a candidate must have resided in the State twelve months, and within the jurisdiction of the lodge six months. Of course the decision would be right as to the first part of this

law, but if it was applied to the second part we hold that it was erroneous, although the lodge was out of the State of California.

He quotes a decision from the District of Columbia, which we think he did not read correctly. We agree that the time for conferring a degree is entirely at the option of the Master, or in some jurisdictions the Master and the lodge. But that was not this case. The regular communication had been closed, and the Master, instead of re-opening, as perhaps he might have done, the regular communication, all the brethren being still present, he called a special communication of the lodge, without giving the notice required by the by-laws.

We notice in another place our brother holds that no business can be done at a special communication, except such as is mentioned in the notice calling it. It would follow, of course, that if no notice is given no business can be done, and this is the point upon which the decision in question was made.

Commenting upon another decision, he says :

“The act of signing of by-laws is not that that makes a member of the lodge, for oftentimes an old Master applies for membership, is elected, and never signs the by-laws. No one doubts his membership. How did he attain it? Surely by virtue of his election. The act of signing by-laws is not the means by which a mason becomes a member of a lodge, it is simply a symbol of his submission to them, nor is it the act of submission, for that takes place in his making, in his obligation.”

His statement may be correct as to some jurisdictions, but in the Grand Lodges in this section, it never has been the law until within a few years. It was always an absolute requirement that the parties must sign the by-laws, and we believe that still such is the rule in cases for application for affiliation, and the only exception is that when a candidate received the third degree, if he does not sign the by-laws it is the duty of the Secretary to enter his name upon the roll.

In another place he says :

“We have discussed elsewhere the question of effect of removal of residence upon the acquired material of a lodge in process of perfection, and we quote the above in order that the words of M. W. Bro. Bullock may be noted : ‘*A lodge cannot for a consideration part with their jurisdiction.*’ This is not in accord with prevailing doctrine, *i. e.*, that in waiving jurisdiction a lodge can attach the condition that it is to receive the fee, but we wish very much that it was our common law. We believe, as a matter of equity, that the lodge doing the work should receive the compensation. But the act of selling jurisdiction is a picture well worth the attention of a lodge disposed to meanness.

We doubt the correctness of his statement that this is the prevailing doctrine. It certainly is not the law in Maine and in many other jurisdictions, although we must admit that it is law in some jurisdictions.

In many the fee is not taken into account, and making merchandise of masons is discountenanced as far as possible.

We fully agree with him that the term “made a mason” applies only to the first degree.

He struggles with the question of investigating committees, but as we understand him he is not quite sure as to what the remedy for the evil is. He admits that it cannot be a secret committee, but he does suggest that they might make their report secretly to the Master, he being forbidden to disclose the character of the report. Of what good would a report so made be? What information does it give to the lodge? The object of an investigating committee is to give this information, and we do not see why the old practice should not be continued—that the committee make their report to the lodge, either orally or written, and if written, the report should be destroyed and the character not entered of record and its contents should be a masonic secret. In the olden times the duty of masons in regard to this was performed, and the evil arises now only from the violation by masons of their obligation to preserve the secrets of the lodge. We favor the continuance of the system, and if members violate their duty in this respect, we favor imposing upon them a severe punishment until they shall come to understand their duty, or at any rate, that we shall get rid of those who do not perform their duty.

He doubts the propriety of the decision that a letter signed by the W. M., attested by the Secretary of a lodge, that the party had been made a Master Mason therein, is lawful information, provided the identity of the party is established. Yet he admits that it would be proper to admit him on a voucher from a known brother. But what difference is there between a written voucher and an oral voucher if the party is identified? We have known of more than one case in which a brother, who had received the Master's degree, desired to go away from home before he could have time for completing his instruction, and we have never known any harm to result from vouching for such a brother, and we do not see why a written voucher, with proof of identity, is not at least as good as an oral voucher.

He objects to a decision of the Grand Master of Nebraska which we have before noticed, and which was in accordance with the law as held in much the larger part of our jurisdictions, as to the effect of an objection after the candidate has received the first degree. In a large number of jurisdictions, but one ballot is taken for all the degrees, and it is contrary to truth to say that when the petitioner files his petition he does not apply for and expect to receive all the degrees, as a matter of course. This is true, even when there is a ballot for each degree, and we hold that he is entitled to advancement justly and masonically, unless there is some well-grounded objection against his doing so. While a man is a profane, under our law, he has no rights, but the moment he "is made a mason," (as our brother forcibly shows in another place) he stands on a very different footing from a profane, and we hold, as he is a mason, we are under very different obligations to him from those we are under to a profane, and it is unmasonic that he should be shut out from his rights by the objection of a single member of the lodge, any more than that he

should be excluded from it by such an objection after he had received the other degrees.

He is a mason and entitled to visit the lodge when opened on the first degree, and no greater harm can come to the lodge or to the institution by his being recognized as a Master Mason than there is while he is in full possession of all the rights of a mason of the first degree. Practically, however, this single objection deprives him of all the rights which he has received, because no one with any sense of propriety would visit a lodge in which he had been precluded from having the remainder of the degrees. We therefore believe that the generally prevailing rule, as given by the Grand Master of Nebraska, is the correct rule and the only rule that is in accordance with masonic principles.

In his discussion of the recognition of the foreign bodies, he seems to us to lose sight of one important principle, the difference between the irregular action of a Grand Lodge and its recognition of clandestine masons. It is a law of Masonry that when a mason has masonic correspondence with a clandestine mason or a clandestine body, he becomes clandestine. So it is that inasmuch as the Grand Orient of France is held not to be a masonic body, parties recognizing it and corresponding with it as such, are guilty of an offence against Masonry which regular bodies cannot overlook, and therefore they cannot hold masonic intercourse with any masonic body which holds masonic intercourse with the Grand Orient.

The Grand Lodge of Washington, for the time being, laid itself open to the same objection, but when it rescinded its recognition of clandestine masons, although it did so in unfortunate and unmasonic language, it was entitled to be treated as a regular Grand Lodge, with which, however, any Grand Lodge might refuse to hold masonic intercourse, but without the right on their part to require other Grand Lodges to do the same.

However, the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, at its recent session, removes it from both categories.

There are other matters in this report to which we would like to refer but have not space.

We will say, however, that in his discussion of the recognition of other Grand Bodies he says it is too late to raise the question of the legitimacy of the Scottish Rite, saying, as we have heretofore stated, that the matter was foreclosed in Louisiana by their own action, as they amalgamated two Grand Lodges, one hailing under each Rite, and their present Grand Lodge is the result of their action.

MISSISSIPPI, 1901.

In our last report "Mississippi was made conspicuous by its absence," for the reason which we then explained, and have already stated in this report.

We had given up the hope which we expressed in our review of Mississippi for 1900, when, after our report was in the hands of the printer, and it was almost too late to get a notice, we have received the Proceedings of 1901, to learn with very great regret that they were delayed by the illness of Grand Secretary POWER, and they seem to have been issued by his Deputy. We think Bro. POWER must have recovered or we should have received some notice of his continued illness.

Receiving the Proceedings at a very late moment, we must be very brief with them, but we prefer to notice them briefly rather than to let them go for our next report, which would be about a year and a half after the session.

The frontispiece is a fine portrait of the retiring Grand Master, BENJAMIN V. WHITE.

The Proceedings also contain the portrait of Past Grand Master JOHN C. SMITH, of Illinois, the Representative of the jurisdiction near the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, who was present at this communication. It contains also the portraits of Past Grand Masters JOHN M. STONE, JOHN F. MCCORMICK and WILLIAM STARLING, who had died during the year, and by whose deaths Masonry sustains a severe loss.

The Grand Lodge held memorial services in their honor to which over twenty pages of these proceedings are devoted. Merited tributes were paid to their memory.

The Grand Lodge was welcomed as usual, but the addresses are given in the appendix and not in the body of the Proceedings.

A special communication had been held at Vicksburg to lay the corner-stone of an annex to the Vicksburg City Hospital, and the exercises on the occasion were of very great interest, but of course we can only refer to them.

Grand Master WHITE delivered a comparatively brief address, in which he gives an account of his official acts and dwells with great force upon the loss that Masonry had sustained during the year by the deaths to which we have referred.

Grand Secretary POWER, in his report, gives a fine summary of the history of the Grand Lodge of very great interest, and valuable to all interested in the history of Masonry.

He reports that the total amount of relief contributed and forwarded to the Galveston sufferers was about \$1,800.

In his report he says:

"The legislature, at its last session, passed an act 'that all of the property, real and personal, and the revenues derived therefrom belonging to any religious or charitable society or benevolent order on the lodge system, where no dividends are declared, and where the revenues thereof are used for fraternal and benevolent purposes, shall be exempt from all State, county and municipal taxes.'"

In a case concerning property held by an Odd Fellows' Lodge, among other things the court say:

"A large part of the funds of the society is paid for sick and burial benefits to the members of the order, whether rich or poor, and to this extent the funds are not used for charity, and the exemption could not be sustained, even if the statute had exempted the property from taxation when the profits are used exclusively for charity."

Upon this same principle, if the Wisconsin doctrine were masonic law, lodge property would not be exempt.

The Committee on Law made, as usual, a very able report, considering quite a number of questions, some of them of a very interesting character.

The question was asked, "What is the length of my cable tow," and a very able exposition of the views of various authors is given, but the committee conclude that it is only another form of saying that "he will do that which is within the spirit of a mason's obligation." We have always understood it as meaning within the reasonable scope of one's ability: being really a limitation upon what is laid down as a duty, and we think that Bro. SPEED's definition must mean substantially the same thing.

We find by another decision that in Mississippi the conferring of the Past Master's degree is a part of the installation ceremony. So far, Maine agrees. But the committee hold that if that part of the installation ceremony is omitted there is no installation, and all the acts of the Master are void. From this conclusion we are obliged to dissent very strongly. We believe that when the installation is concluded and the officer declared installed into office and the record thereof made, it is impossible to go behind the record and ascertain if all the details of the installation have been complied with. Parties may be punished for neglect, but to allow a record to be impeached by oral testimony as to the details of the installation is utterly inadmissible.

The rule in Maine is that if that ceremony is omitted it is a matter of instruction which the Master is entitled to receive at any time, and we think that if Bro. SPEED reviews this part of this decision he must come to the same conclusion.

It was also decided that if a lodge asks another lodge to confer a degree for it, the second lodge may decline to do so; and it seems that under the by-laws of that Grand Lodge, if a member of the second lodge objects previously to the preparation of the candidate, the degree can not be given, although such objection would have no effect in the lodge which elected the candidate. We are glad to see that the tendency now is towards the Maine rule of not allowing one lodge to confer the degrees for another.

The reports of the District Deputies, as well as that of the Grand Secretary, shows that the year had been a prosperous one, and as it is too late to include Mississippi in our table, we will say that the total gains during the year were 1172, and the total losses 903, showing a net gain of 279, and a total membership of 9177, in spite of an increase of about 100 in the suspensions for non-payment of dues.

The Report on Correspondence (109 pp) was presented as heretofore by Bro. ANDREW H. BARKLEY.

He recommends the recognition of the Grand Lodges of Belgium, Cuba, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and Western Australia. The latter was recognized, but consideration of the others was deferred until the next meeting.

Our brother gives a condensed account of the doings of other Grand Lodges, with few comments. We would be glad to give the whole of his introduction—a beautiful statement of what Masonry is and of the duty of masons—but our time fails.

BELGIUM.

We have received two pamphlets from the Grand Orient of Belgium, filled with very interesting reports, addresses and discussions.

It has been stated that this Grand Orient, which, so far as the administration of its own affairs is concerned, is a Grand Lodge like our own, has recognized the Grand Orient of France, and exchanged Representatives with it, and still maintains masonic correspondence with it. In the list of Grand Bodies with which it is in correspondence, is the Grand Orient of France.

But from the contents of these pamphlets, it would seem that the Grand Orient of France, with which it corresponds, is connected with the Supreme Council of France, which we have always understood to be antagonistic to the Grand Orient of France, which is generally held not to be a masonic body.

It will be necessary for us to re-examine the whole matter before we can recommend action by the Grand Lodge.

The character and standing of the Grand Orient of Belgium are such that we most earnestly hope that no obstacles to the continuance of masonic correspondence will be found.

COSTA RICA.

Freemasonry is said to have been first introduced in organized form in 1865, but that in 1887, all the lodges had become extinct.

The Grand Orient of Central America (Guatemala) chartered one lodge in 1888, another in 1892, another in 1897, (the account from which this is taken says 1887, but that is quite certainly a clerical error), and another in 1898, and in 1899, a dispensation for another lodge to work in English.

On December 7, 1899, representatives of these four lodges met and formed a Grand Lodge, the first Proceedings of which we have, as well as a neat pamphlet containing its "Constitution and Code."

The proceedings in the organization were regular: the lodges deposited their old charters with the Grand Secretary and new ones ordered to be

issued, as well as a charter to the lodge U. D. At a late session all five lodges were represented.

The Code was adopted and seven hundred copies—one-half of them in English and one half of them in Spanish—were ordered to be printed,

A notice was received from an Oklahoma lodge of the expulsion by it of a late resident of Costa Rica, and it was ordered that the lodges be notified accordingly and that they be advised to be specially cautious in the admission of foreign and unknown visitors.

A lodge being in debt had refused to issue dimitts until the applicants should have paid their share of the debts": the matter was referred to a committee, upon whose report the action of the lodge was sustained.

A dispensation for one new lodge had been granted. The returns of the other five show that all had done work, and four had increased their membership. The total membership of the five was 148; 48 had been initiated, 15 affiliated and one restored; but 25 had dimitted, 24 had been excluded and 3 had died: so that the net gain during 1900 was 12.

The "Constitution and Code" is an elaborate document, evidently patterned after that of some other jurisdiction, and probably, as stated in the Proceedings, upon that of Iowa, with occasional reference to that of England.

In the preamble the inherent right of the lodges in an independent political territory to form a Grand Lodge is asserted, and this is followed by the declaration that the Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction in Costa Rica: we regret to see, however, that in an official document approved by the Grand Lodge, it does not, as to other Grand Lodges, carry this doctrine to its logical results, but holds that in other jurisdictions, only such of the lodges existing when a Grand Lodge is formed as choose to recognize it, come under its government.

The Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and one delegate chosen by the lodge are members of the Grand Lodge, as well as the Present and Past Grand Officers and every Past Master: and each lodge has five votes to be thrown as a unit, as a majority of the six Representatives of the lodge may determine: the lodge may appoint a proxy for each representative to act in his absence. We regret that the old usage is departed from. The Master and Wardens have so long been the Representatives of the lodge, that we regret that this new Grand Lodge should, without so far as we know a single precedent, introduce this innovation. As to the manner of voting, we refer to our review of the District of Columbia.

Another thing is also greatly to be regretted. This code not only does not recognize the Ancient Landmarks, but really repudiates them. The Usages and Customs of the Craft are "Subject always to the limits imposed by this Constitution and to the special requirements of this jurisdiction as expressed in its laws."

The conservative Grand Lodges in the United States will hesitate to recognize this Grand Lodge if it persists in maintaining this doctrine.

A dimitted mason is in good standing: an "excluded" mason may, by the payment of arrearages, re-instate himself as a dimitted mason, by paying his dues and a fine, "exclusion" being the same as deprivation of membership in Maine, except the fine. A lodge may suspend from membership, but suspension and expulsion from masonic rights can only be inflicted by the Grand Lodge. The fine of an excluded mason is ten dollars; but the payment of his dues and the fine do not restore him to membership, but the lodge must give a dimit.

When a mason joins a lodge he is required to take an obligation—an innovation, and an entirely unnecessary one, infringing also upon the universality of Freemasonry.

In reply to Bro. DUNCAN, of Louisiana, it is stated officially that lodges may practice the American, English, Scottish, Irish and Scottish Rite Rituals: the only thing in the Code touching it is, that before a dispensation or charter shall be issued, the ritual proposed to be used must first be approved by the ritual committee of the Grand Lodge.

Decisions of the Grand Master in the recess practically amount to nothing, as in any particular case they are liable to be set aside by the Grand Lodge, and no provision is made as to what results if a decision is acted upon, and is afterwards set aside. There is no safety unless the Grand Master's decision is final in the particular case, though the Grand Lodge may not approve it as a rule for the future.

All paper ballots must be verified by the signature of the voter and, if not so verified, it shall not be counted. This destroys all the reason for a ballot, and the vote may as well be taken *viva voce*. Indeed, we notice that elections are made "by verbal vote," but five members may demand a paper ballot and scrutiny.

Failure to pay dues for three months "cause without further formality other than record, the exclusion of the offender."

We are glad to note that so far as amending its constitution is concerned this Grand Lodge is a sovereign Body and the source of all masonic power in Costa Rica.

We have had no time to investigate the correctness of the statement that all lodges in Costa Rica, except those which formed the Grand Lodge, had ceased to exist.

We have gone to this length, not for the purpose of criticism but to give our Grand Lodge, so far as practicable, the information necessary to enable it to act intelligently upon the question of recognition, and also to show the tendency to drift from the ancient moorings when the attempt is made to reform masonry or to make it conform to our ideas of civil law.

CUBA.

We have received the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge, but as our Spanish is rather rusty, we take the following from the report of Bro. HEDGES, of Montana:

"With great pleasure we acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, August 3, 1900, a handsome volume of about 130 pages, published in Havana, covering the transactions from March 28, 1899, to April 8, 1900. It contains a fine picture of Bro. JUAN B. HERNANDEZ, the present Grand Master, who was elected at the first re-union in March, 1899, succeeding Bro. SEGUNDO ALVAREZ. At the same time former Grand Secretary JOSE F. PELLON was elected Deputy Grand Master and Bro. AURELIO MIRANDA was chosen Grand Secretary. The volume is printed in Spanish, with which we are only partly familiar from our acquaintance with Latin, but we have been able by an occasional use of a Spanish Dictionary to make out the substance of the contents. This Grand Lodge was organized in 1859 and maintained its existence under the terrors of the civil, military and ecclesiastical Spanish authorities until 1895 when it was suppressed by order of the Spanish government. Through these four years of forced suppression there were faithful brethren who kept the altar lights burning. Freed from cruel oppression at length, though broken in fortune, widely scattered and many killed, the members joined hands once more and can look forward now to peaceful and prosperous days. The Grand Lodge of New York came nobly forward with timely relief, but we doubt not that those who only had words of sympathy and encouragement were gratefully recognized as true friends. It makes every citizen of our country proud to think that the strong arm of our government interposed in the fullness of time, and facing the peril of combined resistance from the great powers of Europe, save Great Britain alone, dealt the blow that forever paralyzed the arm of civil and ecclesiastical tyranny in the 'ever faithful island.'

"We are glad to notice that with a single exception every Grand Lodge in the country has extended a warm welcome to the revived Grand Lodge of Cuba. We are confident that a great work and great prosperity await its future. We are pleased to notice that Past Grand Master J. H. MCLEARY, of Texas, well known also in Montana, where he served four years as one of the judges of our Supreme Court, has taken so prominent and active a part in assisting the reorganization and recommending it to the confidence of the American Masons. The volume before us is full of evidence that the institution is in good hands to insure success and we most heartily congratulate the Cuban brothers on their good showing and prospects."

ENGLAND.

We have six pamphlets covering the proceedings for the year from April 1, 1900, to April 1, 1901, the Annual Grand Festival, four Especial and four Quarterly Communications.

The "contributions" by the lodges are made quarterly and the full lists are published, as well as other items of receipts and expenditures, so that much of the space is given to the financial reports.

A resolution congratulating His Royal Highness, the Grand Master, upon his escape from assassination, was carried, "all the Brethren rising and singing 'God save the Queen.'"

Twenty-five brethren were honored with past rank in commemoration of the Grand Master's twenty-five years of service.

The payments from the Fund of Benevolence during the first quarter of 1900 amounted to \$14,000 and nearly as much during each of the other quarters. The South Africa Masonic Relief Fund amounted to nearly \$60,000.

The Especial Meeting was held to adopt an address to the King on the occasion of the death of the Queen, and the retirement of the Grand Master from the office he had held for twenty-seven years. He had specially interested himself in the charities, and under his auspices about \$725,000 was secured as the Centenary Fund for the Boys' School. In leaving the Grand Mastership he assumes the position and title of "Protector of English Freemasons." The Grand Masters of Western Australia, of Ireland and Scotland, and the District Grand Master of the Transvaal, were present and spoke in support of the address.

The Duke of Connaught was nominated for Grand Master and at the next meeting he was elected by acclamation.

We notice that in the election of Grand Treasurer, there being two candidates, 2,771 votes were cast:

So much of the business is done by the Board of General Purposes, that few matters outside of the routine business come before the Grand Lodge for its action. The hour of meeting was fixed for six o'clock, so that the business can be finished in season for dinner at eight.

In connection with our review of this Grand Lodge we desire to speak again of a book of which we have already spoken—Bro. ROBERT FREKE GOULD'S History of Military Lodges. These lodges had so much to do with the introduction of Masonry into this country, that this work is not merely of great interest but is absolutely necessary for the student of masonic history: it is so written, also, as to command the attention of the general reader.

We are deeply pained to announce the sudden death of Bro. GEORGE W. SPETH, the Secretary, and a strong pillar of support of the lodge "Quartuor Coronati": in his death the craft have suffered the severest of losses.

IRELAND, 1900.

Instead of the usual leaflet which we have annually described, we have a pamphlet of thirty pages. The increased size grows out of a very wise practice which the Grand Lodge has recently adopted—having an address from the

acting Grand Master. We believe that our Irish brethren will find that this feature adds greatly to the interest of their meetings and will create a corresponding interest among the craft, and we know that the Proceedings will be eagerly looked for by her sister Grand Lodges as containing information which will be of great interest to them.

The address was delivered at the December communication in this instance by the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. JAMES CREED MEREDITH.

He refers to the visit of the Queen to Ireland, and as the Grand Master was absent, he was obliged to act in his place. A special meeting of the Grand Lodge was held and an address was adopted and prepared in due form.

On her Majesty's arrival, intimations of addresses poured in to such an extent that, considering her health, it was found impossible for her to receive all of them, but she did arrange to receive forty to be presented by deputations of two each, among which was the address of the Grand Lodge, which was presented by the Grand Master and his deputy.

The craft was surprised and delighted that the Queen intimated that she desired to visit the Masonic Orphan Girls' School, and she named a day, but as that day was in the vacation when the bulk of the children were away, she named a later day, and visited the school. She had the committee personally presented to her, the Deputy Grand Master being chairman. She evinced a great interest and made many inquiries. In the mean time the boys had been drawn up in line, and on her attention being called to them, she received them most graciously. The occasion was one of great interest and endeared the Queen very greatly to all who were present.

There is an association of officers of municipal corporations in Great Britain and it met in Dublin during the year, and those who were masons were formally entertained by a committee of the craft, and the occasion was a very enjoyable one.

He refers in a touching way to the war in South Africa, and to its consequences and to his hopes of peace.

He devotes considerable of his address to the appointment of representatives to and from other Grand Lodges. The honor is considered a high one, and great care is taken in their appointment.

The corner-stone of the new Masonic Boys' School for England was laid by the DUKE of CONNAUGHT, by deputation from the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, who could not be present.

In connection with this he says :

"It was especially interesting to me in this that the brother who appeared in his proper place as the Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England was the brother who is at this moment the actual Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, Viscount Templetown. I believe it is unique in the history of Masonry that the same brother should hold the position of Senior Grand Warden of two Grand Lodges at the same time. Our connection with the Grand Lodge of England has been close. Brethren who have

filled Grand Offices in one, have been afterwards called to important positions in the other, and upon one occasion our Senior Grand Warden was at the same time Junior Grand Warden of England, but Lord Templetown's case constitutes a record."

We were not aware of the facts thus stated, and it is of exceeding great interest, especially as it could happen nowhere else but in Great Britain.

Of the condition of the craft he says :

"The general progress of the craft continues to be eminently satisfactory. Our numbers are increasing, but of course we cannot expect the increase from year to year to be quite up to the increase of last year or the year before. The year before, you all know was a record year in the numbers who joined our society. Our numbers are continuing to increase, and that is a satisfactory and a healthy sign. Nine new Warrants were issued during the year. Of these two were for holding lodges in the City of Belfast, where the number of lodges working is much in excess of the number in the City of Dublin. Of course you all know that there is in Belfast a very much wider field from which to draw than there is in the City of Dublin. In Belfast the number of the population who would join the masonic Order is very much greater in proportion to the population of the city than is the number who would join in the City of Dublin. Four Warrants were issued for the Province of Down, and two for the Province of Derry and Donegal."

Of one of these he says further :

"The ninth new Warrant that was issued was one with reference to which I must say a word or two. There was in that distant part of the world, Siam, no masonic lodge whatever, but there were a number of brethren there—English brethren and Scotch brethren and Irish brethren—who were anxious to spread the light of Masonry in that country in which they had made their home, but the want of a Warrant prevented them from doing so. Fortunately there was amongst them a brother who was well known to our brother Chetwode Crawley, a brother who was known to many Dublin men as the son of a clergyman of the Church of Ireland, and himself a distinguished Trinity College graduate, brother Travers Drapes. He was joined by a number of other brethren in Bangkok, Siam, in an application to this Grand Lodge to grant them a Warrant to hold a lodge under our jurisdiction. That application was acceded to by the Grand Lodge, and a Warrant was sent out. It is but a few hours since I was sitting with my brother Chetwode Crawley when he was handed letters from that distant place. One of them conveyed the sad news that before the Warrant reached Siam, our brother Travers Drapes, who held an important position as a leader of the bar in Singapore, had been stricken down and died after a very short illness. The Warrant which you had here granted for holding a lodge there was returned by his widow in a most pathetic letter to our brother Chetwode Crawley, through whose hands it had been sent out."

We trust that the failure of the first warrant will not prevent the organization of the lodge. That will be a matter of world wide interest to the craft.

He announced that a lodge in Perth, Western Australia, had joined that Grand Lodge, and we are glad to find that the Grand Lodge of Ireland had recognized it.

It had been decided during the year that a brother who had been suspended and is restored to good standing is not thereby restored to membership in his lodge. The brethren in question were suspended indefinitely.

It was also held that the Worshipful Master cannot resign, and that a lodge cannot suspend its by-laws.

He again earnestly urges that canvassing for office in Grand Lodge or in subordinate lodges shall not be practiced.

His portrait had been presented to the Grand Lodge, and a present had been made to his wife on the day when his portrait was unveiled. The gift affected him very greatly but he speaks of it with exceeding modesty.

There are other matters discussed in his address which we cannot notice at length. But we must refer to the splendid exhibit made by the girls in the Girls' School. They have an annual examination, and out of 104, 73 were presented for examination and not one of them failed, and the girls took a very large number of prizes. We can only say that the results are splendid and justify the laudable pride of the Deputy Grand Master in referring to them.

He announced that the Century Fund for completing the Boys' School had reached the sum proposed and exceeded it, and it was quite certain that the amount would be \$35,000.

We congratulate our Irish brethren on the condition of the craft and the immense amount of work that they are doing.

MEXICO.

For a long time we have held that there is not enough available masonic material in the different States in Mexico to maintain a Grand Lodge in each State. We have held that the only method of establishing and maintaining Masonry in Mexico, in a manner consistent with the importance and dignity of the Institution, is to adopt the English system: that is to say, that there should be established a Grand Lodge for the Republic, with Provincial Grand Lodges in such of the States as could properly maintain one, and with lodges directly under the authority of the Grand Lodge in the others.

The establishment of a Grand Lodge which is likely to have only a few lodges and only a few hundred masons is, in our judgment, a positive injury to Masonry. It is well enough to establish a Grand Lodge in a new and rapidly growing country with a small obedience, because it is bound to keep pace with the growth of the country and soon have a respectable following. But in Mexico these conditions do not exist and the growth that may be reasonably expected will be small for many years, and the number of lodges and masons in the whole Republic would not much exceed that under our smaller Grand Lodges which have any considerable age. The system also works well under the British Grand Lodges in countries or districts which have even a large number of lodges.

We had hoped that the Gran Dieta would be able to take and hold this

position. We have had no sympathy with views which have been expressed that because it had, in the past, not conformed in some respects to regular Masonry, it must be forever put under the ban, nor with conclusions based upon the assertions of an expelled mason, who has abundantly shown that he is entitled to no credence. The only question with us has been whether the Gran Dieta has taken, and can maintain for the future, the position above indicated.

We learn from the report of Bro. JENKS, of Wisconsin, that, by its latest Constitution (that of December, 1899), which we have not seen, it does not even *attempt* to take that position, but proposes to be "a consulting body" and "a friendly mediator." According to Bro. JENKS, it has none of the qualities of a Sovereign Grand Lodge, but expressly concedes to the "Confederated Grand Lodges" all masonic powers. These statements are a great surprise to us, for we have always understood that there were lodges under the immediate jurisdiction of the Gran Dieta.

Within a few days comes the information through the newspapers that on April 30, 1901, the Gran Dieta voluntarily dissolved. We have not been able to verify the report.

But whether it is true or not, we omit our intended discussion of the question, because, under its present Constitution, it cannot be the Body which we think is absolutely necessary if Symbolic Masonry is to exist in Mexico under an independent local organization.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

We have the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge from June, 1899, to June, 1900. They remind one more of the volumes issued in this country than those of any other foreign Grand Lodge which we receive, and the Grand Lodge is making them of great interest, not merely to the craft in that jurisdiction, but to masons everywhere.

The Grand Lodge meets quarterly, and occasionally holds special or emergent communications.

There is a great deal more in this volume that we would be pleased to notice than we have space or time for.

We will first refer to the charitable and benevolent matters.

The Freemasons' Orphans' Society, although it has existed for twenty-one years, is now under the charge of the Grand Lodge, or sufficiently so to have its proceedings published in this volume. It has an invested fund of over \$100,000, and it spends over \$2,000 in the support of children to the extent of \$130 a year to each.

There is also the Freemasons' Benevolent Institution for the relief of distressed or infirm Freemasons and their wives and widows, supported entirely

by voluntary contributions. This volume contains its ninth report, and the amount of good which it does will be understood from the fact that it disbursed in relief during the year nearly \$3,000, largely contributed during the year by the brethren, and in addition, it has an invested fund of over \$20,000.

The Grand Lodge had a large amount of routine business to transact during the year, in addition to what was finally disposed of by the Board of General Purposes.

There was one unpleasant matter that agitated the brethren during the year, growing out of a disagreement between this Board and the M. W. Grand Master. The Board had twice refused to recommend the granting of a dispensation for a new lodge, and upon a new application again refused its recommendation.

Thereupon the Grand Master examined the matter carefully and was of the opinion that a dispensation ought to issue, and issued it accordingly. The Board protested on the grounds that it claimed that while the Grand Master was not obliged to grant a dispensation upon its recommendation, he had no power under the Constitution to grant such a dispensation without its recommendation. The matter excited considerable feeling, and was taken before the Grand Lodge and argued therein, the Grand Master also making a statement; he was sustained by an overwhelming majority. But the Board itself was divided, the President taking sides with the Grand Master and speaking to that effect in the Grand Lodge. Thereupon a resolution was offered in the Board of General Purposes, indirectly censuring him and he ruled it out of order, and the result was another test in the Grand Lodge and again the Grand Master was sustained. The practical question presented was that it is the duty of the President to report the action of the Board to the Grand Lodge, and other members objected that he had no right under such circumstances to speak against the report.

The matter was finally arranged, as we understand it, upon the advice of the Grand Master that when the President does not agree with the report it may be made by some other member, representing the views of the majority. As the President of the Board was re-elected without opposition, we infer that the matter has been satisfactorily arranged.

One decision was made which would not be sustained in this jurisdiction and we do not think that it ought to be valid law anywhere. Charges were made against an unaffiliated mason, which were tried before the Board of General Purposes, and he undertook to appeal to the Grand Lodge, and a point of order being raised as to whether an unaffiliated brother had the right to appeal,

“The M. W. the Grand Master upheld the point raised, and ruled that a brother who has been a member of a lodge under this constitution, but has ‘called off,’ has no right to come to this Grand Lodge, and asked to have his grievances redressed.”

It seems to us that the brother was not asking to have a grievance redressed, but simply defending himself against what may have been an unlawful sentence against him by the Board of General Purposes.

It was admitted by a trial that the brother accused was entitled to be heard and to have a trial, and that means that he shall have a lawful trial, and that means, in our judgment, that the question as to whether he had a lawful trial should be open to him as to others. The action of the Grand Lodge in this particular was to the effect that he was bound by the result of the trial, whether it was lawful or not.

The following from the address of the Grand Master will be read with pleasure by all the masons in this country :

“ Only one word more ere we proceed to the business of the evening. The sun which has just set over our Southern Continent is now rising over the United States of America where to-morrow the Freemasons of that grand country will join with visiting brethren from all lands in doing honour to the memory of the illustrious George Washington, on the hundredth anniversary of his death. It is much to be regretted that the other Grand Lodges of Australasia could not see their way to join with ours in sending a Special Ambassador on such a unique occasion. We have done what we could in entrusting our greetings to our Grand Representative nearest to the Grand Lodge of Virginia ; and I ask you now to rise, and stand to order, as a silent token of our fraternal feeling towards those who, whatever their nation, creed or tongue, hold fast to the mystic tie, which binds us all in love and amity, and which only death can sever.

“ The brethren, who had risen at the sound of the gavel, remained standing to order till the Grand Master finished speaking.”

This Grand Lodge insists upon exclusive jurisdiction in its territory.

We learn that there is one lodge that has not given in its adhesion, and of this the Grand Master says :

“ As bearing on this point, I am reminded to say that I was surprised at receiving, *not long ago*, a request, from some suburban brethren for permission to visit a meeting of those who so unhappily still refuse allegiance to our Grand Lodge. I do not desire to say more with regard to these mistaken though undoubtedly energetic masons, than that the edict of Grand Lodge, dated 14th December, 1898, against either visiting or receiving visits from any body of Freemasons in New South Wales not on our Register, has never been revoked.

“ I am still in correspondence with the Grand Lodge of England on the subject, and am not without hope that a peaceful solution of the difficulty, and an end to the schism, may yet be achieved.”

This is emphasized by the following from the report of the Committee on Correspondence in its review of Quebec. It is printed in italics :

“ We venture to express our sympathy with the Grand Lodge, and our regret that the matter remains unsettled. We have a similar trouble here, but with one lodge only, and hitherto the Grand Lodge of England has alternately concurred in and opposed the views of our own. In our case, all intercourse with the particular lodge is forbidden, and will remain so.”

We find a very able report on the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, in

which the principles on which the new Grand Lodges are organized are very ably set forth.

The body formed by "unattached" masons was said to be irregular, the committee coming to the conclusion, as we understand it, that a Grand Lodge can be formed only by a majority of the lodges in the proposed territory.

Of the Scottish body the report says:

"On December 28, 1899, the District Grand Lodge, S. C., held a meeting, and it was then announced that R. W. Bro. the Rev. G. E. Rowe had received from the Grand Lodge of Scotland his Patent of Office as Pro-Grand Master of Western Australia. The District Grand Lodge, S. C., was thereupon proclaimed to be the 'Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasonry in Western Australia,' and Grand Lodge officers were appointed."

But it was held that the Body was still a Provincial Grand Lodge only, and recognition was denied.

It was decided that the Grand Lodge formed October 11, 1899, by the English lodges was regularly formed by a majority of the lodges.

Upon examination of this report, we have had no hesitation in recommending the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia by our Grand Lodge.

The quarterly reports of the Grand Inspectors of Workings are still of great interest, showing a very able performance of the duties by the proper officers, and as a whole a very prosperous condition of the lodges.

We note that the visits are usually made for the purpose of installing the officers of the lodge. Whether the lodges are visited at other times or whether on such occasions any work is done, we are not certain, but according to our observation and experience visits for the inspection of the work are of very great importance.

When a vote had been taken upon the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, the Grand Master spoke at some length, saying among other things:

"I do not for one moment believe that if it were proved to be for the interests of Peace, Love and Harmony, that the Scottish lodges should join the newly-formed Grand Lodge, and if they were desirous of doing so, the slightest difficulty would be raised in Scotland. But in saying this I must remind you in the strongest possible terms that there is no necessity for masonic lodges to ask permission to form themselves into a Grand Lodge in any territory not already so occupied. No other Grand Lodge can either give or refuse permission for the formation of a new Grand Lodge. We asserted that very plainly in the case of our own. We neither asked nor waited for permission in 1838, but as representatives of a vast majority of the lodges in the territory, we met, and declared our Grand Lodge formed, elected our first Grand Master, and the very next day demanded, and in due course received, recognition from nearly all the Grand Lodges in the world."

The Report on Correspondence (128 pp.) is signed by the full committee, but according to the initials attached to each review it is the work of Bro.

JOHN B. TRIVETT, the chairman (also Deputy Grand Master), and Bro. W. H. SHORTLAND.

It follows the former style of giving a brief abstract with brief comments. The following extract "from the conclusion" is fully justified by the report:

"Modesty dictates the avoidance of mention of many kind references which we have experienced at the hands of brother reviewers, but we cannot refrain from the remark that the institution of the system of Foreign Correspondence by our Grand Lodge, and the consequent notice attracted to our proceedings from many distinguished writers by its agency during the last five years, have had the effect of placing New South Wales in a very favorable position in the estimation of sister Grand Lodges. Such a result, if reciprocal, will be productive of effects, seen and unseen, which must be of permanent advantage to our beloved Institution, and will far more than repay any labor which has been devoted towards such a consummation."

It will be seen by the extract already given that the committee are very strenuous in the support of Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and of course do not sustain the Grand Lodge of Washington in its action.

Of the question of dispute with the Grand Lodge of England in relation to the lodge which we have mentioned, Bro. TRIVETT says:

"The position of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales may be thus stated:

"The whole matter resolves itself into the question, Was the English warrant of Lodge Cambrian, No. 656, legally surrendered in 1888, and subsequently 'endorsed on the margin,' in the accordance with the request of the Grand Lodge of England?

"Our Grand Lodge maintains that it was. England practically assented to this for many years, but its Board of General Purposes now alleges that it was only a case of 'the majority of the lodge determining to retire from it.'

"Our records show no justification for assenting in any way to this allegation."

In his review of Maine he says:

"Respecting the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington as to 'Colored Masons,' a very temperate series of resolutions was adopted, condemning the Washington declaration, and counselling the brethren of that state to retrace their steps.

"It is pleasing to see that our Maine brethren did not resort at once to the violent extreme of declaring non-intercourse with Washington over this vexatious question; and more especially is the finding of the committee praiseworthy when we consider the more than warm sentiments which have been expressed by the Washington Chairman of Correspondence towards Bro. Drummond, the Chairman of the Maine Committee. Truly, brotherly love is a 'great and invaluable principle.'"

He also calls attention to what we had already discovered, that this Grand Lodge and our Grand Lodge do not appear to have exchanged representatives. Why, we cannot tell, unless it was overlooked by the Grand Master at the time we recognized the Grand Lodge. We do not think that another similar report in this respect will have to be made.

We desire to repeat our congratulations that this Grand Lodge is so splendidly carrying out its work.

The membership had increased during the year from 7,164 to 7,506 in 184 lodges.

NEW ZEALAND.

We have the Proceedings at the Half-Yearly and the Annual Communications—the latter held in April, 1901. The proceedings at both sessions are of much interest, especially as a report of the discussions is given.

This Grand Lodge allows the existence of lodges previously existing which have not given in their allegiance to it, and maintains masonic relations with them, even allowing them to issue circular appeals in behalf of poor families: later, restrictions, applicable to all lodges, were placed upon this privilege. As would be expected, many complications and dissensions grew out of this system of mixed government. One lodge refused to admit as visitors the members of a New Zealand lodge in the same town, and the matter was brought before the Grand Lodge, which, of course, could not interfere.

Beyond this the Scottish District Grand Lodge claimed the right to establish new lodges, and actually established one. The District Grand Master claimed to be supported in this by home authority, and letters are published which seem to imply that he could do as he saw fit. This is a great surprise to everybody, for Scotland had recognized New Zealand in the following terms:

“It is a great pleasure to me to intimate to you that Grand Lodge has resolved to recognize the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and to open fraternal relations with it, under the declaration and reservation that the Grand Lodge of Scotland retains its jurisdiction unimpaired over its lodges in New Zealand who may choose to continue their allegiance to it; and also that the rights and jurisdiction of the three Scottish District Grand Lodges in New Zealand over such lodges and Scottish interests be reserved.”

We do not believe that the Grand Lodge of Scotland will be guilty of the bad faith of establishing new lodges after so explicit a recognition.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand properly forbade masonic intercourse with the new lodge and all concerned in forming it: and at the last accounts, the lodge seemed in a dying condition. We believe that it was unwise in this Grand Lodge to accept qualified recognition by any other masonic authority: it is probably true that for the time being it secured harmony, but only to be disturbed continually afterwards.

The Constitution of the Board of General Purposes occasioned quite a discussion. It seems that the Grand Lodge and Grand Secretary's office is itinerant, and it has been the custom to elect the Board from among the masons in the locality where the Grand Secretary's office is for the time being. Of course this produced dissatisfaction and even dissension.

There was also an attempt to locate the Grand Secretary's office: the question was submitted to the lodges and they decided in favor of locating it at

Wellington, by a vote of nearly two to one : but there are three other cities, and apparently there are unfortunate local jealousies : the result was that the Grand Lodge voted to have the office two years at each of the four places, in a prescribed order.

The Grand Lodge had the usual struggle with the ritual, which was not made mandatory, but recommended to the lodges for use.

A revised Constitution was reported by a committee, discussed and adopted.

A proxy system had prevailed which had been so grossly abused, that it was entirely abolished, not even saving to a lodge the privilege of being represented by a proxy when its usual representatives cannot be present. But as all Past Masters are members of the Grand Lodge, there may not be so much necessity for proxy representation as there is with us. Still we think it would have been wise to allow a lodge to elect one of its own members its proxy to cast its three votes, when not represented by its Master and Wardens or one of them.

We are glad to note in this connection that actual service *in any jurisdiction* entitles a Past Master to membership in the Grand Lodge upon becoming a member of one of its subordinates.

After two long discussions, the title of "Grand Superintendent" was changed to "Provincial Grand Master" and then changed back again, an attempt to change it to "District Deputy Grand Master" (the one in general use in this country, and, as we think, the correct one) having failed.

Every brother elected or appointed to office in the Grand Lodge has to pay a fee before investiture, to the Fund of Benevolence : if he fails for three months to do so, he forfeits his office and becomes ineligible to office in Grand Lodge, unless the disability is removed by special action of the Grand Lodge. If the Grand Master is absent from any session of the Grand Lodge, the Immediate Past Grand Master, or in his absence the Senior Past Grand Master present, takes precedence of the Deputy Grand Master in presiding.

A visitor must be vouched for, or pass an examination and produce proper vouchers that he was made in a regular lodge, with proof of identity.

The Master and Wardens are *ex officio* the Committee of Investigation and must report upon every candidate : but lodges may provide for additional members who shall be Past Masters. As a rule no candidate can be initiated at the same meeting at which he is elected. This provision would have saved trouble in many cases in Maine if we had had it. The following is a clause from the prescribed form of petition for initiation :

"That I am possessed of sufficient means to enable me to meet the charges of my initiation and the support of my membership in the Craft, without detriment to my family and connections."

We believe that the following should be the practice in all lodges :

"Every brother shall be supplied with a printed copy of the by-laws of the lodge when he becomes a member, and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed to be a declaration of submission thereto. A copy of the Book of Constitution shall also be given to every brother on his initiation."

A communication was received, the object of which was to ascertain the views of the Grand Lodge in relation to reviving an Irish lodge that was dormant when the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was organized. The question involved was of great consequence as there was a large number of dormant lodges in the Colony, the revival of some of which would practically ruin New Zealand lodges, more recently formed: on the other hand, the Grand Lodge desired to treat the Grand Lodge of Ireland with great courtesy. The matter was referred to the Board, to point out to the Grand Lodge of Ireland the consequences, believing that that Grand Lodge would waive its request.

It was suggested that the Grand Master should present an address on behalf of the Grand Lodge to the Duke of Cornwall on his arrival, but "The Grand Master said he would not appear in regalia. It was sufficient to do that on proper occasions. If it was decided to present an address, he would be happy to undertake the duty."

The matter of the improper publication of masonic matters was presented by a request to the Grand Master for a decision as to the law upon this subject:

"No brother shall print or publish, or cause to be printed or published, the proceedings of any lodge, or any part thereof, except in the recognized organ of the craft, without the consent of the Grand Master; or print or publish, or cause to be published, anything which by the laws and regulations of Freemasonry is improper to be published."

After remarks concerning some publications that had been made, the subject was dropped.

We hardly appreciate, at this distance, the size and importance of the Grand Lodges in this far away part of the world.

This Grand Lodge has 121 lodges on its roll, with a membership of 5,385, having made a net gain of 204 during the year. Its three Charity Funds amount to about \$16,000.

QUEENSLAND.

The District Grand Lodge of Queensland, under the Grand Lodge of England, sends us three pamphlets, the first two marked "For private circulation only": we understand this to mean "among masons," and we feel at liberty to take from them some matters of information, which we know will be interesting to our brethren.

These District Grand Lodges have substantially the powers of Grand Lodges, but they are under the supervision of the Grand Lodge and an appeal

lies from them to the Grand Lodge: their by-laws must be approved by the M. W. Grand Master.

These Proceedings read very much like those of the Grand Lodges. We are disappointed in not finding a list of the lodges and statistics of their membership: but from various partial lists we find that there must be nearly *forty* and perhaps more.

The Proceedings of other Grand Lodges are acknowledged—among them some from the United States.

Emergent communications were held to lay corner-stones and dedicate masonic halls.

Large amounts are disbursed in charity and quite an amount contributed to the South African Relief Fund.

This Grand Lodge had occasion to censure improper publications in the public press.

A brother who had "passed the chair" very much as is done in Pennsylvania, was elected Master of a lodge, but the District Grand Master decided that the election was void because the Constitution provides that no one can be Master who has not "served one year in the office of Master or Warden of a regular lodge." The brother appealed to the Grand Lodge of England and the decision of the District Grand Master was sustained, on the ground that in that jurisdiction installation confers only the rank of "Installed Master," who must serve as such for a year before he becomes entitled to the rank of Past Master.

The improper publication of masonic matters in newspapers was again discussed at considerable length. A newspaper man, who was present, stated that so far as his paper was concerned, a very large proportion of the Masters had asked him to publish installation proceedings. He had endeavored to conform to the law, and whenever lodges did not desire publicity they did not get it. Sometimes invitation cards had been sent to newspaper offices, and that had been taken as an intimation that a report was required. In late years, also, reports had been sent to the offices for publication.

The law requires the approval of the District Grand Master, and he stated that if they would consult him he would let them fully understand his views: there was no objection to a report of simple matters, but there was a point at which these published reports should terminate, and the brethren would understand that the matter should be brought within bounds.

We trust that the publication and exchange of Proceedings will be continued.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Proceedings for the year ending April, 1900, include those of the semi-annual Communication in October, 1899, and the annual, April, 1900.

The business done was of an entirely routine character. Nearly \$800 had

been paid out in charity during the first half of the year and nearly \$600 in the last half.

The Grand Lodge of Western Australia was recognized. We notice that Representatives to other Grand Lodges are elected by the Grand Lodge and nominations of Brethren to be Representatives from other Grand Lodges are made by the Grand Lodge.

Over \$1,000 was paid from the Benevolent Fund to Brethren and Widows, less than \$400 of which went to brethren of their own lodges; about \$340 to English lodges; \$15.00, California lodge; \$15.00, New York lodges; \$175, Scotch lodges and \$120 Victoria lodges.

There are 43 lodges with a membership of 2,485, against 2,405 last year.

TASMANIA.

Annual Communication, Feb. 22, 1900, and August 30, 1900, the former on the anniversary of Washington's birthday, and the latter on ours!

The Reports of the different Boards, Grand Master and other Grand Officers and addresses are given in these pamphlets: the addresses are of a very high character and are worthy of being studied. We could make quite a full report by copying from them.

The death of Rev. R. D. POULETT-HARRIS, the first Grand Master, is announced with fitting tributes to his memory.

The Board of Benevolence reports the disbursement of over \$900 in relief and that the Fund is growing by voluntary contributions and over \$1,000 lodge dues.

The Pro-Grand Master (R. J. SADLER) made a brief report: he had visited quite a number of the lodges. As a whole, a fair year's work had been done and unanimity and concord had prevailed.

The Inspectors of Lodges report favorable conditions, but one says that a uniform ritual is needed to secure the best results.

A motion to contribute \$125 to the South African Fund was carried unanimously and "all present then joined in singing the National Anthem."

The Grand Master, C. E. DAVIES, had been honored by appointment as Past Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England. He remarks in his address that he will be excused for noting "that three brothers—rather unique in the annals of Freemasonry—occupy such prominent positions amongst Freemasons." We believe that the Deputy Grand Master, J. G. DAVIES, is his brother, as is FRANK DAVIES, the Representative of the Grand Lodge near that of Victoria, who has recently been honored with the rank of Past Deputy Grand Master of that Grand Lodge for special services rendered to it: and a fourth brother is Past Master of a leading Victoria lodge.

He calls attention to the circular of the Grand Lodge of England in relation

to the attempted creation of a lodge in London by the Grand Orient of France, "not having any jurisdiction to establish a Lodge of Freemasons in England."

This Grand Lodge has twenty-four lodges on its roll, but the total membership is not given.

VICTORIA.

We have a book in which are five pamphlets issued during the year 1900; and we also have the Proceedings for March, 1901, which seems to be the annual meeting.

During the year ending in March, 1900, the Board of Benevolence had received 185 applications for aid, 47 of which had been refused and 138 had been granted to the extent of over \$3,600, of which \$160 had been refunded, without solicitation. We judge that appeals to lodges are allowed only in special cases.

A question was raised whether a certain matter in the report of the Board of General Purposes could be discussed in the presence of the Wardens, and the Grand Master ruled that the Wardens are members of the Grand Lodge, and, therefore, are entitled to participate in all its deliberations. The matter, however, was postponed, and at the next session the Grand Master announced that after consideration, he had come to the conclusion that it was one that could not be discussed in open Grand Lodge, and he must consider it further, but he hoped to be able to make an announcement at the next quarterly communication that would be satisfactory. The matter referred to the Installation Ceremony.

It was decided that it is irregular to install an "Acting Officer."

A question had been asked in relation to which inquiry of other Grand Lodges was made, and finally the ruling of the Grand Lodge of England was adopted as follows:

"That the Master's light is never to be extinguished while the lodge was open, nor was it by any means to be shaded or obscured, and that no lantern or other device was to be permitted as a substitute."

During the year the Board of Benevolence had received 229 applications, of which 155 had been granted to the extent of about \$5,000.

From the report of the Grand Secretary we find that the number of lodges on the roll is 186, nine of which are "Amalgated and Defunct," two "In Abeyance": the number of "Financial Members" was 8,094, an increase of 354; the Initiations had been 804; Joinings, 372; Resignations, 594; Exclusions, 102; Deaths, 98; Suspensions, 2; Expulsions, 9; Re-instatements, 40. The Fund of Benevolence had increased during the year about \$6,000.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

We have the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge from February 27, 1900, when the Grand Lodge was organized by the installation of the Grand Master, to April, 1901. They have come to hand since the session of our Grand Lodge and its recognition of the new Grand Lodge. We, therefore, shall not review them in detail. The history of its organization is given, and does not vary substantially from what we have already given in this report.

In March following a Constitution was discussed and adopted.

"It was resolved that the Antient Charges *as embodied in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England* be adopted."

At the April communication, much business in perfecting the organization was transacted in a manner highly creditable to all concerned.

The "Fees of Office" of the Grand Master were fixed at ten guineas and of the Pro-Grand Master and Deputy at seven guineas each. The Fund of Benevolence starts off with a contribution of some \$300 from the Fees of Office; as an amendment that only a half fee shall be paid on re-appointment was defeated, we infer that this amount will be paid annually.

The Board made a very interesting report as to what is being done elsewhere in this respect. Its length precludes our copying it, especially as we have already partially covered the same ground. At the different communications report was made of progress, but we prefer to give the result of the year.

The Pro-Grand Master, J. W. HACKETT, was having a friendly correspondence with the District Scottish Master, in which the former protested against the formation of new Scottish lodges. We fear that his efforts will be without effect. The Grand Lodge voted that visitation of the Scottish lodges should be encouraged.

One decision was made which will find little support in this country: a lodge used over \$100.00 of its funds to defray the expense of a ball given at the installation of its Master. A member contended that lodge funds are *trust* funds and cannot legitimately be used for such a purpose, but the Grand Lodge decided that every lodge has the right to manage its own affairs in its own way and can spend its funds as it pleases.

This Grand Lodge was organized by 33 of the 34 English lodges: in April, 1901, there were 50 lodges, including one to which a dispensation had been granted: the other English lodge, one Irish lodge and two or three Scottish lodges had given in their adhesion; the other lodges making up the fifty were apparently new lodges; we say "apparently" for we regret to say that the granting of charters is not always given in the Proceedings; so that we cannot tell how many of the fifty are new lodges: omitting the new lodge not set at work the total membership is 2,584.

It was voted to have the Grand Lodge regalia embroidered with two native flowers instead of the wheat and acacia.

It is with rejoicing that we find that a proposition came from the Scottish lodges for a joint committee to consider the question of a union of the two Constitutions. The committees were appointed, and at the next communication the Grand Master announced that four meetings had been held and much progress had been made, and if matters continued to proceed as smoothly as they were then progressing, it might be necessary for him to call a special communication of the Grand Lodge to act upon the report of the committee. This was the last of April and is the latest information received.

We have very strong hopes that the union has been fully consummated.

In any event, this new Grand Lodge has at once come to the front among her sister Grand Lodges, and is entering upon a splendid career of prosperity and usefulness.

LAW OF TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.

A document having an important bearing upon this matter has been published during the year by Bro. W. J. CHETWODE CRAWLEY, of Ireland, in the "Masonic Voice and Review," and copied into the "Trestle Board" for September, 1900.

He takes it from the archives of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and it purports to be an "International Compact" adopted by the representatives of the Grand Lodges of Ireland, Scotland and England after the union of the Grand Lodges in 1813, at a conference held in 1814.

Bro. CRAWLEY is so eager in his argument in support of his own views, that it is difficult to get at the precise historical facts which led to the conference. But it *was* held, and they came to eight resolutions unanimously, which were to be reported to the several Grand Lodges for confirmation. The Grand Lodge of Ireland did confirm them and it is presumed that the others did, though that seems not to be known, and, so far as appears, the document had never before been printed.

The fourth article is as follows:

"4th. That each Grand Lodge shall preserve its own limits, and no warrant shall be granted or revived by any one of these parties for the holding of a lodge within the jurisdiction of either of the others. That in case any one of their respective Military Lodges, being in the course of service resident, for a time, within the limits of either of the others, it shall continue to make its return to its own Grand Lodge, but shall be recognized, visited and have the rights of visitation and intercourse with the regular lodges where it may happen to be; it being understood, and positively stipulated and enacted, that no such Military Lodge shall initiate, pass or raise any person or brother who does not actually belong to the battalion or regiment to which the said lodge is confined; and, further, that the present practice, with

respect to lodges established in distant parts under either of the three Grand Lodges, shall continue on the present footing."

It will be noted that, *so far as it goes*, this is the precise doctrine which has been supposed to be of American origin and in force only in this country. It will be further noted that each Grand Lodge then had "its own limits," showing conclusively that the doctrine had been previously recognized by them all and acted upon. This is sustained by history: we have been unable to find that the Grand Lodge of England, Ireland or Scotland established a lodge in the territory of either of the others for many years before 1814, if in fact such a thing was ever done.

Bro. CRAWLEY thus comments:

"The resolution dealing with military lodges is peculiarly interesting to Irish Freemasons. The first Military Warrant ever issued came from the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1732, and the succession of Irish Military Warrants outnumbered those of all other Constitutions put together. The earliest regulations dealing with Army Lodges are to be found in the Irish Code of 1768, and incidentally contained the first attempt at limiting the jurisdiction of each Grand Lodge to its own country. The doctrine of exclusive and perpetual jurisdiction is carried to such an outrageous extent by some American Grand Lodges that it must be a sore blow to them to find that the limits of jurisdiction are really based on mere convenience, and that the first hint of any such legislation dates from the Irish Regulations of 1768."

He gives no copy of that 1768 regulation, so we are unable to determine how far it goes in the direction indicated: especially whether it relates wholly to army lodges, and so is a recognition of the law of jurisdiction and an enactment applying to Army Lodges, or is a general enactment; his statement of it, however, indicates very clearly that it was the former.

But the following extract from the fifth article settles the question:

"And the Grand Secretaries having laid before this assembly a letter from a person of the name of 'A. Seton,' describing himself as 'the Deputy Grand Secretary' of the society calling themselves 'the Ulster Grand Lodge,' which has been set up without the sanction or authority of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, it was unanimously resolved and agreed that members from Ireland, holding and possessing certificates from the Grand Lodge of which his grace the Duke of Leinster is the present Grand Master, can alone be admitted to any Lodge of Fraternity of Masons holding of the three Grand Lodges, or be entitled to relief from the funds of any one of them; it being the practice and invariable law that there can be but one Grand or Mother Lodge holden in each of the three countries: and that no assembly, convocation, meeting or lodge, called or held in any place within the jurisdiction of either of the three established Grand Lodges without their several warrants will be recognized or suffered to exist, the same being contrary to the Ancient Laws and Constitutions of the Fraternity."

"There can be but one Grand or Mother Lodge holden in each of the three countries."

"No assembly, convocation, meeting or lodge called or held in any place within the jurisdiction of either of the three established Grand Lodges, without their several warrants, will be recognized or suffered to exist."

But why?

“THE SAME BEING CONTRARY TO THE ANCIENT LAWS AND CONSTITUTIONS OF THE FRATERNITY.”

But the idea of territorial jurisdiction of masonic bodies existed, and was acted upon, before 1768. The original jurisdiction of masonic bodies was *wholly personal*: the theoretical idea of masonic government was that there should be only one Grand Master for all the craft: and when the Grand Lodge system was adopted, that there should be but one Grand Lodge. But that idea soon gave way to necessity. It was found practically that it was impossible for one Grand Lodge to be the sole governing Body of the craft. Then the system of Provincial Grand Lodges was invented and adopted. With that system came (and necessarily came), for the first time, the idea of *territorial* jurisdiction of masonic bodies. Every Provincial Grand Master was appointed for certain territory, and so far as his Grand Lodge was concerned, he had exclusive jurisdiction in that territory. Beyond question the organization of the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland grew out of the same idea: the fact of their organization and their names conclusively establish this. Of course Grand Lodges are the peers of each other. When governing Bodies, the peers of each other, have a particular territorial jurisdiction, it is a principle of natural law that no one of them shall interfere in the territory of another, but that each has exclusive jurisdiction in its own territory. This principle was first asserted (so far as we know) as applicable to Grand Lodges, by Massachusetts Grand Lodge in 1782, and, as we have seen, it was expressly recognized by the Representatives of the three British Grand Lodges in 1814, and apparently expressly confirmed by all those Grand Lodges; and, moreover, declared in effect to be prescribed by “the Ancient Laws and Constitutions of the Fraternity.” While we have not the means of ascertaining the location of all the lodges chartered by these Grand Lodges, we have gone far enough to justify the belief that no lodge has been established within the “limits” of either of these Grand Lodges, save by the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction, since it was organized; and that neither of them had done what, in 1814, they all declared to be “contrary to the Ancient Laws and Constitutions of the Fraternity.”

What Bro. CRAWLEY means by “the doctrine of exclusive and perpetual jurisdiction,” we do not know, and cannot even guess: it is sufficient to say that no such doctrine prevails in any American jurisdiction. The difference between the doctrine of the British Grand Lodges and that of the American Grand Lodges is not great: all agree that no Grand Lodge can do or authorize to be done, any masonic act within the territory of another Grand Lodge: the American Grand Lodges hold further, that no Grand Lodge has the right to make a mason of a resident of another jurisdiction, and send him back there to enjoy masonic privileges; they claim that this comes within the rule,

and that it is practically doing a masonic act within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge; the Grand Lodge of England, while not attempting to answer the reason, contents itself by saying that it has never restricted its lodges in respect to the residence of their candidates; almost all the Grand Lodges in the Dependencies of the Crown recognize and enforce the former doctrine, and we believe that the time is coming when the British Grand Lodges will do the same.

Replying to our brother's suggestion as to the "sore blow," we can assure him that he has no need to lose any sleep in sympathizing with his American brethren upon the effects of it: for instead of finding "that the limits of jurisdiction are really based on mere convenience," we find that he has discovered and brought to light an express recognition of the *law* of territorial jurisdiction by the British Grand Lodges nearly fifty years earlier than any previously known; has produced conclusive evidence that they had practically recognized that law previously, and in all probability from the date of the respective organizations of the two younger of them; and, best of all, their express declaration that an act in violation of this law is "CONTRARY TO THE ANCIENT LAWS AND CONSTITUTIONS OF THE FRATERNITY."

Bro. CRAWLEY has "built better than he knew"; and in behalf of his American brethren, we tender him the congratulations and thanks which he has so justly earned.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	G. Lodges. 1901.	Totals. 1901.	G. Lodges. 1900.	Totals. 1900.	G. Lodges. 1899.	Totals. 1899.
Members,	57	881,531	57	854,209	57	827,740
Raised,	56	54,309	57	46,175	55	40,131
Admissions, &c.,	56	23,759	55	21,325	56	20,667
Dimissions,	56	17,857	56	16,603	56	16,647
Expulsions,	54	376	54	335	55	383
Suspensions,	57	304	40	262	38	332
" npt dues,	56	16,558	56	16,844	56	19,342
Deaths,	56	13,767	56	13,507	56	12,493

STATISTICS.

We append our usual table.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Revised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Susp'd for non-payment of dues.	Died.
Alabama,	12,110	802	838	572	6	25	447	283
Arizona,	828	69	63	43	1	0	14	11
Arkansas,	11,386	678	457	442	13	15	417	247
British Columbia,	1,889	213	106	64	0	0	34	17
California,	21,759	1,573	676	394	2	....	*304	417
Canada,	25,922	1,586	636	568	0	5	536	252
Colorado,	8,392	490	349	178	7	....	*123	113
Connecticut,	17,397	753	115	82	3	3	489	332
Delaware,	2,320	126	17	17	0	....	*7	34
Dist. of Columbia,	5,891	434	106	49	0	0	74	74
Florida,	4,460	332	288	201	5	....	*129	106
Georgia,	19,332	1,888	....	....	....	....	....	....
Idaho,	1,310	87	100	31	1	....	*9	23
Illinois,	57,325	3,821	1,395	1,225	18	....	*504	845
Indiana,	32,122	2,052	904	662	27	38	483	522
Indian Territory,	3,780	308	265	260	6	....	*87	80
Iowa,	29,328	1,761	899	857	15	12	538	387
Kansas,	21,622	1,527	734	816	10	....	*393	260
Kentucky,	19,870	1,670	1,021	723	15	....	*714	342
Louisiana,	5,757	462	178	145	5	....	*120	150
Maine,	22,690	1,038	167	151	1	2	293	399
Manitoba,	3,091	222	158	122	0	1	28	21
Maryland,	8,575	182	37	55	2	2	30	50
Massachusetts,	41,019	2,046	376	326	0	0	345	617
Michigan,	43,742	2,467	966	576	0	....	*437	651
Minnesota,	16,886	1,003	454	510	3	4	317	216
Mississippi,	9,177	701	471	353	10	7	302	231
Missouri,	33,366	2,128	1,394	913	30	34	611	538
Montana,	3,144	210	130	70	2	1	88	35
Nebraska,	12,361	685	467	327	4	....	*167	167
Nevada,	858	57	33	24	0	....	*16	15
New Brunswick,	1,817	95	27	25	0	....	*35	30
New Hampshire,	9,328	....	387	64	12	0	12	182
New Jersey,	18,100	1,177	292	161	5	1	296	292
New Mexico,	922	56	46	32	0	0	7	14
New York,	101,548	6,585	1,972	926	22	0	2,617	1,629
North Carolina,	10,726	683	333	248	11	38	219	217
North Dakota,	3,492	259	87	168	0	0	44	23
Nova Scotia,	3,572	195	73	93	0	2	85	65
Ohio,	46,348	3,116	1,590	716	11	11	1,171	650
Oklahoma,	2,312	297	215	140	3	....	*21	24
Oregon,	5,344	325	226	133	5	2	73	83
Pennsylvania,	54,890	3,099	471	326	....	....	1746	1,054
P. E. Island,	535	20	9	8	0	0	4	8
Quebec,	3,668	188	51	90	0	0	74	30
Rhode Island,	5,322	263	3	20	0	0	52	29
South Carolina,	6,249	484	....	182	....	....	138	121

GRAND LODGES.	M.	R.	A. & R.	W.	E.	S.	S. for n. p. d.	D.
South Dakota,	4,677	304	154	182	0	1	95	41
Tennessee,	17,343	975	681	639	14	23	341	400
Texas,	31,879	1,073	1,692	1,727	72	59	546	562
Utah,	907	57	45	22	1	0	25	15
Vermont,	10,193	434	85	113	3	....	*88	167
Virginia,	13,444	762	530	398	8	8	267	241
Washington,	5,399	405	409	146	4	0	109	91
West Virginia,	6,990	543	193	124	6	10	77	80
Wisconsin,	17,709	860	361	387	12	....	342	282
Wyoming,	1,098	83	27	31	1	1	18	4
Total,	881,531	54,309	23,759	17,857	376	304	16,558	13,769

* Including suspensions for unmasonic conduct.

† Including expulsions.

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

The following Table gives the Proceedings reviewed, the date and length of the annual communication, and the page of these Proceedings upon which the review of each commences.

Grand Lodge.	Date and Length of Annual Communication.	Page.
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Arizona,	November 13 to 15, 1900,	543
Arkansas,	November 20 and 21, 1900,	297
British Columbia,	June 21 to 23, 1900,	299
California,	October 9 to 13, 1900,	305
Canada,	July 18 and 19, 1900,	312
Colorado,	September 18 and 19, 1900,	316
Connecticut,	January 16 and 17, 1901,	545
Delaware,	October 3 and 4, 1900,	321
District of Columbia,	December 5, 1900,	549
Florida,	January 15 to 17, 1901,	324
Georgia,	October 30 to November 1, 1900,	327
Idaho,	September 11 to 13, 1900,	332
Illinois,	October 2 to 4, 1900,	335
Indiana,	May 22 and 23, 1900,	348
Indian Territory,	August 14 and 15, 1900,	352
Iowa,	June 5 to 7, 1900, 1	356
Kansas,	February 20 and 21, 1901,	366
Kentucky,	October 16 to 18, 1900,	369
Louisiana,	February 11, to 13, 1901,	552
Manitoba,	June 13 and 14, 1900,	377

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Maryland,	November 20, 1900,	381
Massachusetts,	December 27, 1900,	386
Michigan,	January 22 and 23, 1901,	390
Minnesota,	January 23 and 24, 1901,	396
Mississippi,	February 21 and 22, 1900,	399
Mississippi,	1901,	558
Missouri,	October 16 to 18, 1900,	404
Montana,	September 19 and 20, 1900,	413
Nebraska,	June 6 and 7, 1900,	420
Nevada,	June 12 and 13, 1900,	426
New Brunswick,	August 28 and 29, 1900,	428
New Hampshire,	May 16, 1900,	430
New Jersey,	January 23 and 24, 1901,	434
New Mexico,	October 15 and 16, 1900,	439
New York,	May 1 to 3, 1900,	444
North Carolina,	January 8 to 10, 1901,	450
North Dakota,	June 19 and 20, 1900,	456
Nova Scotia,	June 13 and 14, 1900,	459
Ohio,	October 24 and 25, 1900,	462
Oklahoma,	February 12 and 13, 1901,	466
Oregon,	June 13 and 14, 1900,	469
Pennsylvania,	December 27, 1900,	474
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CONCLUSION.

We have the pleasure of presenting a review of all the United States and Dominion Grand Lodges, and of a larger number of Foreign Grand Lodges than ever before: in fact, all of the English speaking Grand Lodges except Scotland.

We have given, in nearly all cases, the method of opening the Grand Lodge for information and comparison. The large majority adopt the method which we deem to be the correct one; the Grand Master ascertains in his own way if there are members enough present, under its law, to open the Grand Lodge and then opens it: then, upon the report of the Committee on Credentials, the Grand Lodge officially determines who are entitled to act therein.

We are closing our report in deep sadness and sorrow. In the list of Grand Secretaries published by Bro. BERRY in our Proceedings of 1900 were *six names* which will not be found in his list for 1901. *Six Grand Secretaries have died within less than a year.* Moreover, the death of no one of them is announced in the Proceedings which we have reviewed, as every one of them died after the Proceedings of his Grand Lodge had been published. Every one of them, too, was a veteran in masonic service: they are

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG, of Alabama,
 EDWARD CARROLL PARMELEE, of Colorado,
 WILLIAM REYNOLDS SINGLETON, of District of Columbia,
 THEODORE SUTTON PARVIN, of Iowa,
 EDWIN BAKER, of Rhode Island,
 JOHN WARREN LAFLIN, of Wisconsin.

With all of them our relations have been of the most pleasant character and with some of them for over thirty years. Young men cannot appreciate what the severance of relations so long maintained, means.

But we await the proceedings of their several Grand Lodges before saying more in relation to them.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, }
 EDWARD P. BURNHAM, } *Committee.*
 ALBEO E. CHASE, }

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